



# Land Reform and Socio-Economic Impacts in Kenya: An Action Research Study in East Africa

Ooko Siti<sup>1,2</sup>, Kasaine Cheron<sup>3</sup>, Kibogo Cheptoo<sup>3</sup>

<sup>1</sup> Department of Advanced Studies, Moi University

<sup>2</sup> Department of Interdisciplinary Studies, International Centre of Insect Physiology and Ecology (ICIPE), Nairobi

<sup>3</sup> Kenya Agricultural and Livestock Research Organization (KALRO)

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**Correspondence:** [ositi@aol.com](mailto:ositi@aol.com)

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## Author notes

*Ooko Siti is affiliated with Department of Advanced Studies, Moi University and focuses on African Studies research in Africa.*

*Kasaine Cheron is affiliated with Kenya Agricultural and Livestock Research Organization (KALRO) and focuses on African Studies research in Africa.*

*Kibogo Cheptoo is affiliated with Kenya Agricultural and Livestock Research Organization (KALRO) and focuses on African Studies research in Africa.*

## Abstract

Land reform in Kenya has been a contentious issue since independence, with varying impacts on rural communities and agricultural productivity. The research employed participatory action research methods involving key informant interviews, focus group discussions, and household surveys among affected communities to gather qualitative insights into the impacts of land reform policies. Findings indicate that while some farmers benefited from increased access to arable lands, others faced challenges such as loss of traditional livelihoods due to policy changes, leading to mixed outcomes in terms of agricultural productivity and community stability. The study highlights the complex interplay between land reform policies and socio-economic conditions, emphasising the need for nuanced approaches that consider local contexts and potential long-term impacts. Recommendations include incorporating more equitable distribution mechanisms into future reforms to mitigate adverse effects on vulnerable groups, alongside strengthening support systems for affected communities.

**Keywords:** *Kenyan, Participatory, Community-Based, Developmental, Landscapes, Empowerment, Sustainability*

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