

Role of national and county governments in the formulation and implementation of agriculture sector policies in Kenya

Presentation during the Food Security Workshop organized by Heinrich Böll Stiftung at Sirikwa Hotel:

By L.C. ROTICH,

County Director of Agriculture - Ministry of Agriculture, Livestock & Fisheries

Uasin Gishu

Background Information – Uasin Gishu County

- Area 3,327.8 sq. Km.
- Arable land 2,603.2 sq. Km.
- Non arable land 682.6 sq. Km
- Human population 894,179 (2009 census)
- Population density 269 persons per sq. km.
- Poverty index 46%

Climatic conditions

- Rainfall: - 900mm-1200mm p.a.
- Altitude: - 1500m to 2700m above sea level
- Temperature: - Ranges from 8.4° C to 26.1° C with a mean of 18° C.
- Soils: - Red loams, brown loams, red clay and brown clay
- Agro-ecological Zones: - Upper Highlands, Lower Highlands and Upper Midlands

Food Crops production – 2012/13

Enterprise	Area (Ha)	Yield (Bags/Ha)	Production (Bags) 2012	Market Value (Ksh)	Marketing channels
Maize	91,010	50 bags	4,550,500 bags	9,101,000,000	NCPB, WFP, Millers, Institutions, Traders
Wheat	26,865	30	805,950	209,547,000	NCPB, Millers, Traders
Beans	22,115	3	72,292	361,460,000	Institutions, Traders
Finger Millet	616	18	11,088	53,222,400	Traders
Sorghum	124	15	1922	7,688,000	Traders
Irish potatoes	1060	140	148,400	296,800,000	Traders

County Agricultural Sector Organizational Structure

- County Executive Member
- County Chief Officer
- County Directors (4)
- Sub County Officers (24)
- Ward Extension Officers (1-4/department)

- Funding : Total allocation to sector to be reviewed upwards – Currently Ksh. 0.5B

- Development programs include: Cereal milling plant, Rehabilitation of dams, Grain Drying and Storage facilities, Horticulture Cold Storage facilities, Communal Dipping rehabilitation, Agro processing Cottage units, Milk cold storage units.

Role of County and National Government in policy implementation

- Pursuant to the Fourth schedule of the Constitution—the county governments will implement the national government policies to the extent that the policies relate to the county and in particular shall be responsible for
 - Crop and animal husbandry
 - Livestock Sale Yards (Markets)
 - Abattoirs`
 - Plant and Animal Diseases
 - Fisheries
- In order to achieve the objects and purposes of this Act, it is the duty of the national and county governments to provide an enabling environment for the development of the crop subsector.
- The national and county governments shall determine and promote the implementation of agricultural policies and measures in a manner designed to promote, support and enhance productivity in the sector.

Role of County and National Government in policy implementation

- Each county government shall be responsible for agricultural matters in accordance with Part 2 of Fourth Schedule.
- The national government, in accordance with Part 1 of section 29 of the Fourth Schedule, shall be responsible for agricultural policy and for assisting the county governments on agricultural matters.

Role of County and National Government in policy implementation

- Each county government shall, for purposes of ensuring uniformity and national standards in the agricultural sector, through its legislation and administrative action, implement and act in accordance with national policy guidelines.

Transfer of functions listed in the Fourth Schedule, Constitution of Kenya 2010

	Transferred Function	Unbundled	Agric Sector Policy
	Agriculture, including a) Crop and Animal husbandry b) Plant and animal disease control; and c) Fisheries	a) Crop Husbandry Provide agricultural extension services/farmer advisory services	National Agriculture Extension Policy; Amendments' to this policy as may be deemed by County Government
		Develop and implement programs in the agricultural sector to address food security	On-going programs between national government and donor partners remain until completion
		Construction of regional grain storage structures	Will be devolved on completion by 2016/17
		Enforce regulations and standards on quality control of inputs, produce and products	The setting of regulations and standards and coordination of enforcement remain function of national government

Transfer of functions listed in the Fourth Schedule, Constitution of Kenya 2010

Transferred Function	Unbundled	Agric Sector Policy
Agriculture, including a) Crop and Animal husbandry b) Plant and animal disease control; and c) Fisheries	Avail farm inputs such as seeds, fertilizers and other planting materials (cassava cuttings, sweet potato vines etc) to farmers	National policies and legislations together with county specific regulations yet to be enacted
	Develop programs to intervene on soil and water management and conservation	County specific regulations yet to be enacted
	Promote market access for agricultural products	Promotion of trade in agricultural commodities remains a national function
	Provide infrastructure to promote agricultural production , marketing and agro processing	On-going programs promoting this functions will remain national until end of project
	Enhance access to affordable credit and insurance packages for farmers	National agricultural financing initiatives and institutions like AFC remain a national function

Transfer of functions listed in the Fourth Schedule, Constitution of Kenya 2010

Transferred Function	Unbundled	Agric Sector Policy
Agriculture, including a) Crop and Animal husbandry b) Plant and animal disease control; and c) Fisheries	Management of Agricultural Training Centers and Agricultural Mechanization Services	Remain national institutions for 6 months from the effective date 9 th August 2013, then will be County institutions
	Land development services such as construction of water pans and horticultural production for food security	Function undertaken by Agricultural Mechanization Services
	Formulate and review county specific policies	County Government responsibility
	Develop and enact bills and regulatory frameworks for county specific policies	County Government responsibility
	Implement national and county specific policies and legislations	County Government responsibility

Transfer of functions listed in the Fourth Schedule, Constitution of Kenya 2010

Transferred Function	Unbundled	Agric Sector Policy
Agriculture, including a) Crop and Animal husbandry b) Plant and animal disease control; and c) Fisheries	a) Animal Husbandry Livestock extension to deliver technologies through field days, demonstrations, FFS, agricultural shows, farm visits, farmer training courses, barazas, tours, print, mass media ICTs, posters, brochures etc	Both national policies and those to be legislated by specific County Government
	b) Plant Disease Control Control plant diseases/noxious weeds that are specific to counties	Both national policies and those to be legislated by specific County Government
	c) Fisheries Fisheries extension services County fish seed bulking units	County to strengthen capacity Rehabilitation on-going, remain national until completion
	Development of fish auction sites	EU contract , remain national until completion but counties to construct new sites
	Zonation of aquaculture – County specific disease control Aquaculture training and contracted farmers	Remain national, to be transferred at later date

Transfer of functions listed in the Fourth Schedule, Constitution of Kenya 2010

Transferred Function	Unbundled	Agric Sector Policy
Agriculture, including a) Crop and Animal husbandry b) Plant and animal disease control; and c) Fisheries	c) Fisheries Fish trade, licensing, and fish movement permits	Review of existing regulations at county
	Enforcement of fisheries regulations and compliance with management measures	National government to enact Fisheries Bill while County to make regulations
	Implementation of Fisheries policy, fisheries management measures and regulation Fisheries monitoring and control	County government to make County specific policy based on international regulations
	b) Animal diseases control Carry out/coordinate/oversee communal dipping and spraying operations and vaccination campaigns	National policies and legislations and County specifics policies to be enacted

Conclusion

- The County government needs the collective engagement of all stakeholders within the agricultural sector to fully perform its role of formulating county specific legislations, implementing sector policies.
- The programs being implemented by Heinrich Böll Stiftung to mobilize, empower and improve the livelihood of small scale cereal growers contributes towards ensuring food security among communities in the project areas.
- The national government and indeed the county government is concerned by the high post harvest losses incurred by our farmers and recognizes efforts by the private sector to join together with us in eliminating these losses through grain drying, storage and marketing interventions. The Ministry is currently constructing two grain storage facilities in Uasin Gishu County each with a capacity of 20,000bags costing Ksh. 30.4million per unit. Two mobile Dryers have also been procured .
- The County is currently undertaking the County Integrated Development Plan and all stakeholders (Private and public Sector) are invited to incorporate their inputs for it to be owned by all.

**By powers bestowed upon me, I
hereby declare this Food Security
Workshop officially opened!**