

Challenges of African development in the era of climate change

Expectations towards TICAD IV/G8

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Presentation overview

- Contextualizing climate change and resource scarcity
- Realities
- Defining Rural development in Africa.
- Recommendations to TICAD/G8

What is the era of climate change/resource scarcity?

It is Global phenomena characterized by:

- Less predictability and form of weather patters.
- Dying farm lands due to rapid desertification
- Both dwindling and un-controllable waters
- New disease and unexplainable epidemics worsening already vulnerable communities.
- Changing world climate which makes all countries vulnerable.
- Global realities!

Climate and resource scarcity- Local level

- Higher temperatures more mosquitoes hence more incidences of illnesses eg malaria.
- Massive erosions as waters erode snow caped mountains and hence silting water bodies. (snowy caps of Kilimanjaro, Elgon, Kenya, Rwenzori are melting, shorelines of Lake Victoria, Chad, Tanganyika are receding, Lake Chad is 1/20 the size it was 35 years ago.
- Reduced available arable lands leading to more pressures and conflict.
- Greater consumption of bio mass eg for firewood and charcoal to earn a living hence greater contribution to carbon emission!
- Further marginalisation /hostility towards small holder /family farmers by national policy-makers and multilateral/bilateral economic co-operations because they are considered unviable in an era of increasing resource scarcity

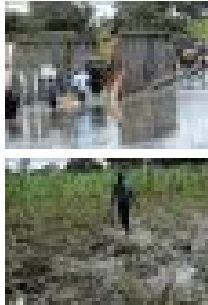
Resource scarcity and climate change - national level

- Few /no resources for infrastructure development
- No resources for energy production.
- Farming sector destroyed will lead to increase in poverty levels.
- Less capital development as the amounts of public expenditure in relief increase.
- Less national income as less products marketed.
- Further global marginalisation of Africa as a helpless place.
- Increasing shipments and dumping into Africa of low quality products.

Evolving realities- Dwindling fisheries



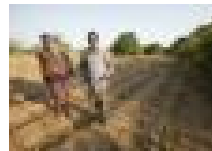
Evolving realities- The case of the 2007 east to west Africa floods!



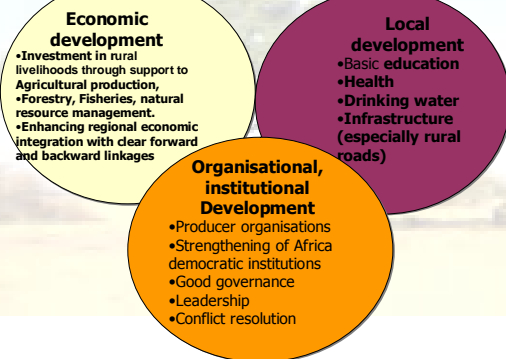
Run for dear life



Evolving realities- lived experiences



The main pillars for rural development in Africa TICAD /G8 should support



Expectations towards TICAD/G8 for African Development

Key issues: Coping and adaptation

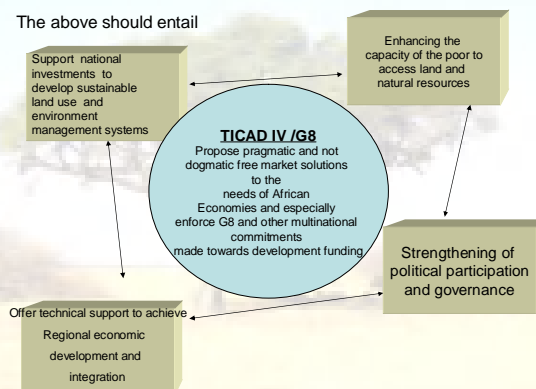
Explore future perspectives in rural areas esp. for young people- support local coping mechanisms

Responses to increasing migration due to environmental degradation eg pro-poor carbon trading

Viable economic options based on local resources and capacities and driven by national and regional markets.

Solutions to Africa Human capacity retention (Brain drain in search of greener pastures)- investment

The above should entail



Outcomes

- If the poor are guaranteed of land tenure they will be more responsive and receptive to development programs and interventions and less inclined to migrate to urban centres.
- Stable and well organised communities will effectively link with other economic sectors both nationally and within the regions.
- National and regional governments and bodies will essentially enact agricultural policies in favour of smallholder farmers and ecological sustainable land use systems and support for food production and domestic markets
- Other service sectors will equally develop relevant products eg affordable rural finance, banking investment in alternative energy.

Thank you

