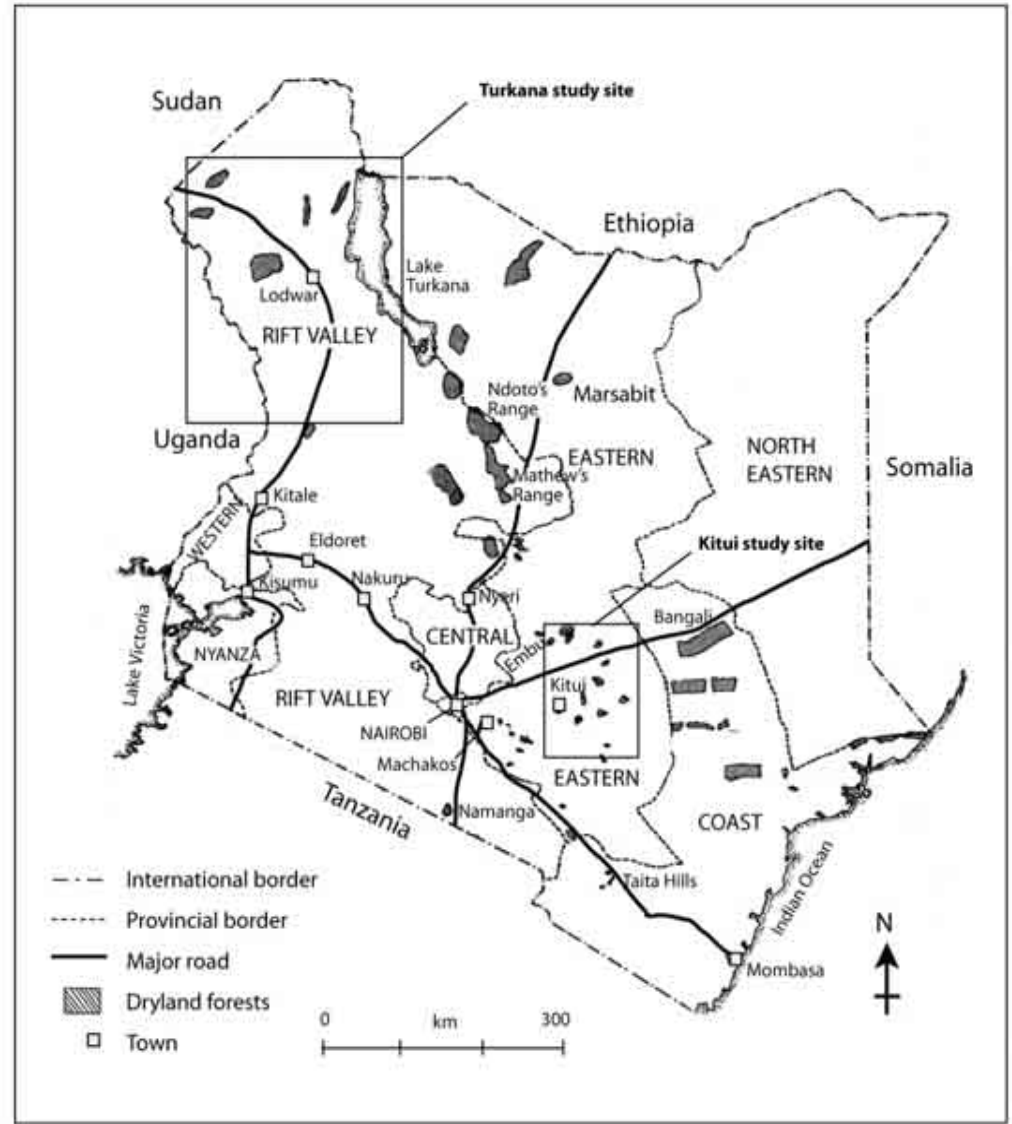


Adaptation in an environment of conflict: The case of dryland populations in Kitui, Kenya

Presentation at the Development and Adaptation Days
Nairobi, 12th November 2006

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 - African Centre for Technology Studies (Nairobi)
 - Ethnographic Museum, University of Oslo
 - CICERO, Oslo
- Funded by the Research Council of Norway



Endau hill: importance in adaptation to drought

- Rains and microclimate
- Cultivation
- Forest products
- Drought grazing
- Source of water



Effect of conflict on adaptation

- 1) Eviction by the government and lack of access to forest
 - Reduced agricultural production and food stocks
 - Less diversity of crops
 - Less diversity of forest products
 - Reduced incomes
 - Migration
 - Landlessness and destitution
- 2) Raiding 1970s – 1990s
 - Grazing areas unsafe
 - Destitution
 - Disrupted farming
 - Migration and landlessness
- 3) Interaction between settled farmers and pastoralist groups
 - Competition and collaboration over water during drought



Access to shallow wells by:

- Settled kamba farmers – a few well-owners and many without wells
- Kamba pastoralists from other areas
- Orma pastoralists
- Kenyan Somali pastoralists – enhance trade and incomes of well-owners



- Interaction a potential for enhanced drought incomes
- Motives of individuals influential with government administration – demand exclusion of pastoralists based on ethnicity
- Overcharging of Somalis
- Killing of Somali camels to provoke conflict
- Theft of Somali goats
- Peace committees and civil society
- Threats to drought access and trade incomes:
 - Dismantling of security (Anti-Stock Theft Unit)
 - Development of a ranch limiting mobility
 - Elections next year

Conclusions

- Adaptation in this area would be
 - Conflict resolution/civil society strengthening
 - Provision of water and services in grazing areas
 - Provision of security
 - Social welfare support
- Collaboration and competition two sides of the same coin
- Interaction can become a conflict through political instigation, inequality, exclusion and underdevelopment
- Destitution and inequality (within and between villages) is a barrier to adaptation
 - Makes many people unable to adapt
 - Inequality currently low on the political agenda. Politicians even instigate conflicts to divert attention from poverty
- There is a lack of active harnessing of opportunities
 - Trade (roads, markets, water points)
 - Mobility of pastoralists, securing access to drought resources
 - Water on hill
 - Forest resources
- Gap between local needs and adaptation interventions?
 - Most areas like Endau are not part of adaptation projects, nor are the types of measures suggested above included