ABSTRACT

The study analyzed the land use consolidation program in Rwanda. It was carried out in Mimuli sector, Nyagatare District, Eastern province Rwanda. The underlying concern was that faced with the increasing agricultural productivity in Rwanda. The Rwandan government initiated different program and policy approaches to address agricultural sector in Rwanda in order to improve the agricultural productivity, among these was land use program, an agricultural approach which involves consolidation of different farm lands with a purpose of growing a particular crop on a large scale. The government has adopted consolidated agricultural practices as an appropriate approach to fatten agriculture’s productivity. Around 80 percent of the population depending on agriculture for their livelihoods however availability is scarce with high population density. Government has implemented various programs to tackle the constraints of agricultural modernization limited land available, soil erosion and high population density though these present difficult challenges, there have been great achievements due to the hard work of MINAGRI, supporting agencies, private sector and a willingness of farmers to improve their livelihoods. Questionnaire and interview guides were used to cover 62 respondents. All respondents who participated were selected using both simple random and purposive sampling. The research findings revealed that despite to meaningfully improve the agricultural productivity through the two out of three models (cooperatives arrangement and farming contracts/ individuals) of land use consolidation chosen by the farmers of Mimuli sector. Firstly it provides a solid base for economic expansion in Rwanda- with agricultural growth 3.2% in the FY 2010-2011 (NISR). As a share of GDP, the agriculture sector makes up 31%. Land use consolidation has succeeded in Mimuli sector according to the progress of productivity where the yield increased up twice of kg/per hector and arable land consolidated is 4,327 hectares out of 5,726.44 hectares of total area in Mimuli sector. Land use program is the best program at the national level to use for boosting the agricultural productivity.