Surname: Sibomana
Other Names: Vincent
Reg No: 09/F/MADS/038/PG
Gender: Male
Programme: Master of Arts in Development Studies
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Supervisor: Karungi Monica
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ABSTRACT

The purpose of this study was to analyze the effectiveness and efficiency of Land Use Consolidation in agrarian Rwanda to find out its impact on Rwandan economic development. The study was carried out between June and August 2011 among 120 farmers in agricultural cooperatives in Land Use Consolidation Programme in Nyanza District. The research used comparative method. A semi-structured questionnaire was used to collect data from respondents. The data was tabulated to clearly show a comparison of production before and after the implementation of Land Use Consolidation. Documentation (especially reports) was used to assess how production had increased after implementation of the Land Use Consolidation Programme. Findings of this study indicate that the land consolidation program increased land under cultivation of majority of respondent. Household income of majority of the respondents was reported to have increased after the implementation of the programme and this reduced the number of households that were living below poverty line. Also, majority of the respondents reported that they had constructed better shelter, were having more meals as a result of agricultural surplus. The study also revealed that prices of crops had reduced. For example, the price of cassava reduced by 40% in 2009 and 33.3% in 2010. This showed that the land use consolidation programme was more productive than the disjointed land system. This study recommends that other parts of Rwanda which have not yet embraced the land consolidation programme should do so to improve people’s welfare.

Key words

Land use consolidation, agrarian development, Nyanza, Rwanda