This study investigated the contribution of tea plantation on socioeconomic development of Rwandan local populations at large, and Manihira sector population in particular between 2006-2011. The specific objectives of the study were to determine the contribution of tea plantation to social development, assess the extent to which tea plantation contributes on economic development, and make suggestions on how to improve the livelihood of Manihira sector population. The study targeted 100 respondents selected from the tea plantation cooperative members, including youth (50, equally 25 boys and 25 boys), men (25) and women (25). Both qualitative and quantitative approaches were used and questionnaires, interviews and content analysis were used in data collection. The study discovered that tea plantation has contributed to socioeconomic development of Rwandan local populations. Socially, tea plantation helped respondents to have access to schools, health insurance, basic facilities such as clean water, transport means, and provision or improvement of shelter. Economically, tea plantation served as the source of income to local communities, providing employment opportunities, access to bank loans for investment expansion of business individually and in cooperatives and life skills development. The researcher made some recommendations to the ministry of Education, Ministry of commerce, ministry of infrastructure, Local government authorities and local population to initiate relevant and effective interventions in order to maximize benefits from tea plantation. The study findings should also form the basis for advocacy and lobbying initiatives in tea sector.