

Impacts of Carbon Projects on Community Land in Kenya

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SUMMARY

Global efforts to address challenges of climate change occasioned development of mechanisms for International Cooperation aimed at achieving emissions reduction. The Paris Agreement under United Nations Framework Convention on Climate Change (UNFCCC) particularly establishes a mechanism for voluntary collaboration between countries through Nationally Determined Contributions (NDC's). This set the stage for emergence of carbon markets where carbon credits are traded. As a consequence, Projects to establish carbon credits portfolio are increasing being developed. This has in turn escalated the demand for land upon which these projects are established. □ It is important to analyze how these projects are implemented with an aim of ascertaining whether the processes and practices meet the goals of Sustainable Development (SDG's) in with respect to land tenure security, food security, equity and participation of the people, within the context of affected communities. This would provide relevant feedback for effective policy development and projects design. □ This paper discusses the emerging practices and implications of carbon projects on community rights in Kenya. In addition, the effects of land use shifts on communities and their livelihoods are assessed. Policy recommendations to address arising gaps are canvassed. □