



Washington University in St. Louis

GEORGE WARREN BROWN SCHOOL OF SOCIAL WORK

**Longitudinal Analysis of the Impact of
Land Privatization on Samburu
Pastoralist Livelihood Strategies:
2000-2005**

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Background

- Pastoralists utilize extensive areas of range land
 - Have developed rules for access and use
 - System has provided livelihood for centuries
- Since 1980s, some demand for privatization of range land
 - Alternative uses like farming or tourism
 - Perception that private = modern
- What is the impact of privatization on pastoralist livelihoods?

Aims of Presentation

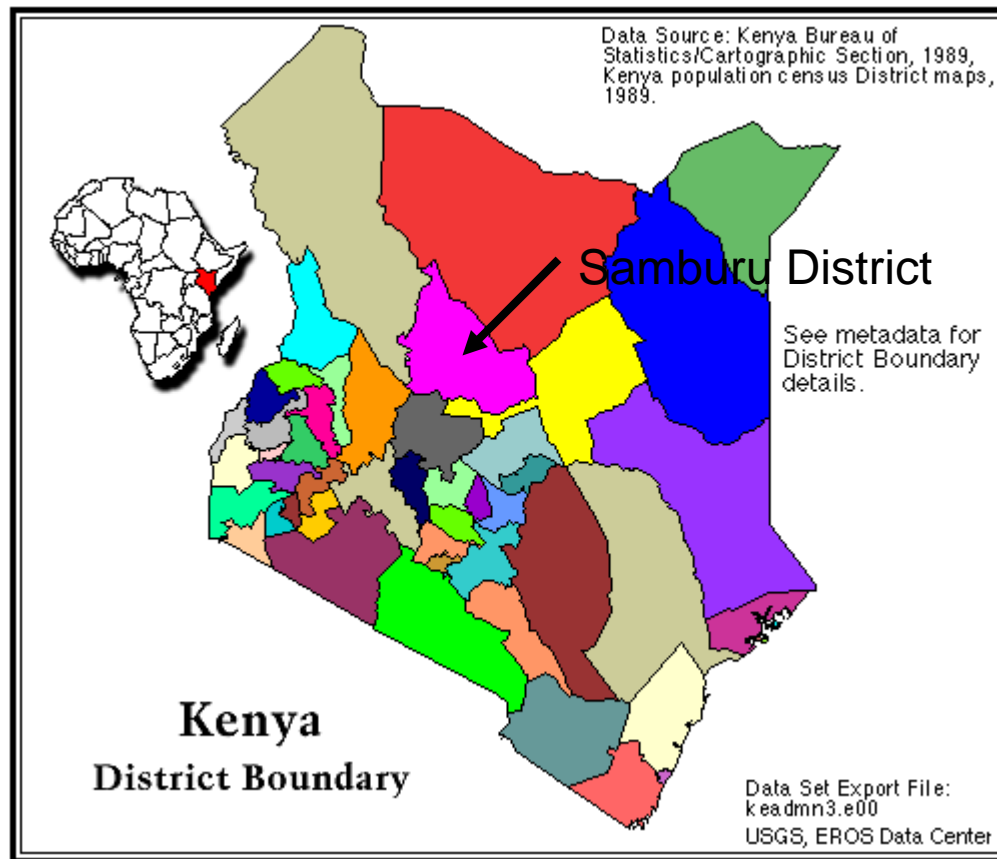
- Discuss research findings on Samburu livelihoods from 2000-2005
 - Comparison of privatized and communal area
 - Wealth, Income, Stratification
 - Livelihood strategies
 - Emergence of land inheritance norms
- Policy recommendations

Three Questions

- How have wealth and income distributions changed over last five years?
- What are the livelihood strategies of better off and worse off households—have these changed since 2000?
- Is there consensus on social norms related to land inheritance in (privatized) Siambu?

Samburu Pastoralism

- Population about 200,000
- Cattle, sheep, goats, some camels
- Highland and lowland resources
- Privatization occurred in Siambu in late 1980s
- Mbaringon: group ranch, use communal





Mbaringon 2005

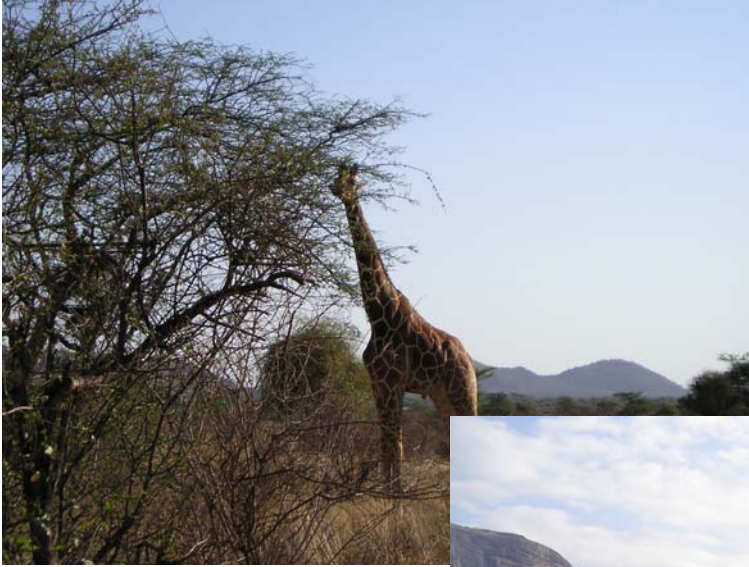


Mbaringon cattle



Research team in Siambu 2005

Land Uses



Game Reserves



**Agriculture-
Siambu**



Government Forests

Household Economic Survey: Sample and Methods

- Part of larger project on changing property rights and social norms
- **First phase: 2000-2001**
- 100 randomly selected households each from Siambu and Mbaringon
- Demographic variables, wealth (livestock), income, expenditure, food consumption, agriculture/land use
- **Second Phase: 2005**
- Repeat survey—reached 70 households in Siambu, 89 in Mbaringon
- New questions on land inheritance and education

Wealth: Recovery and Continued Stratification

Table 1: Per Capita TLU 2000 and 2005

Per Capita TLU	Siambu 2000 n=70	Mbaringon 2000 n=89	Siambu 2005 n=70	Mbaringon 2005 n=89
Mean	3.28	2.71	3.69	4.28
Median	2.47	1.85	2.39	2.74
Mode	0	0	.00	.02
Std. Deviation	3.28	2.71	4.35	4.40

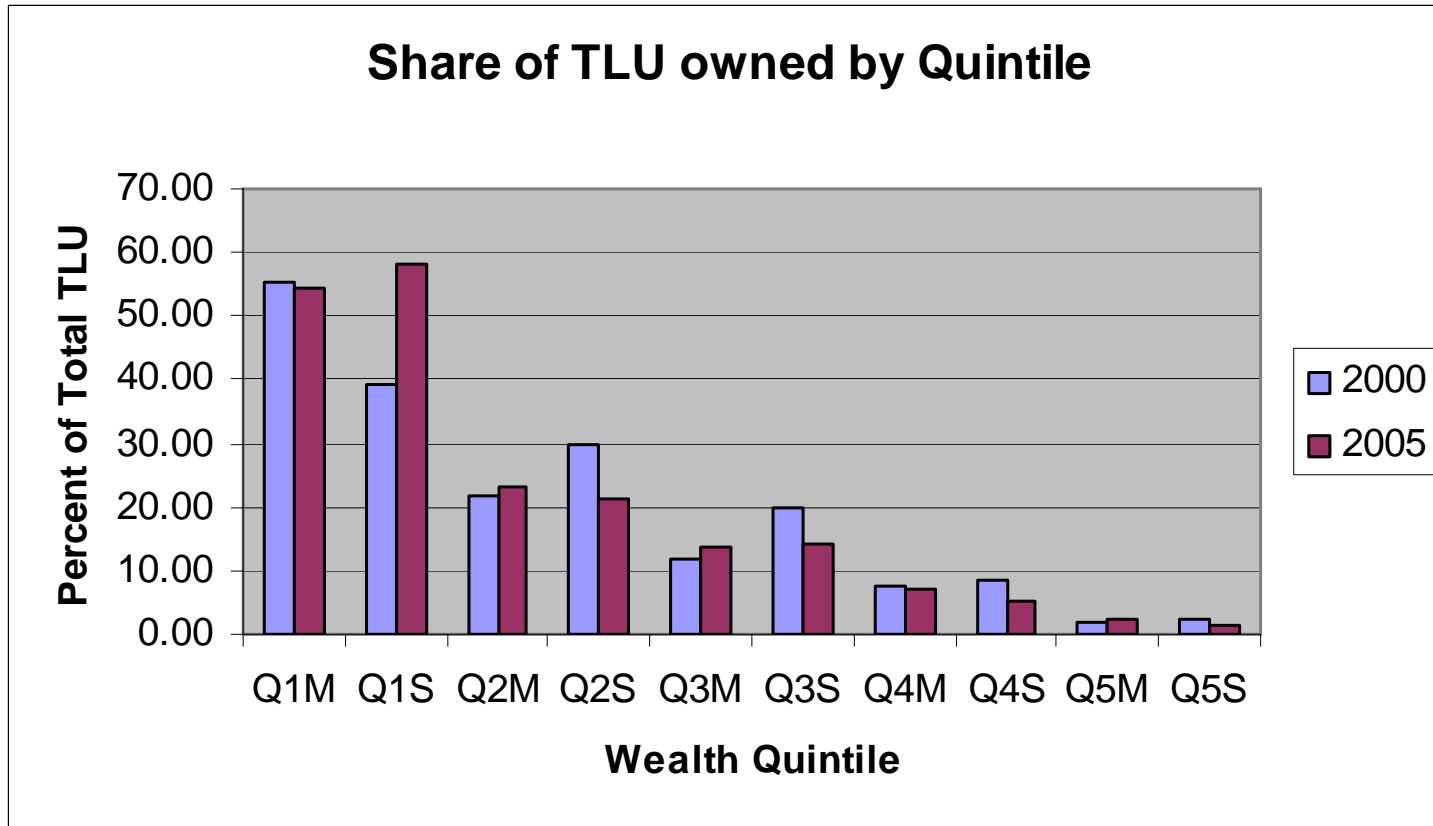
Wealth changes

- Increases in wealth in both communities
- Increase greater in Mbaringon
- Reflects recovery from 2000 drought (Mbaringon experienced greater losses)
- Less change in median wealth levels
- Differences in wealth not significant at .05 level
 - Increase from 2000-2005 for whole sample is significant
- Privatization does not appear to have led to greater poverty

Stratification

- Ranked households according to wealth
- Compare quintiles by share of livestock owned
- Richest quintile owns about 50%
- Poorest quintile owns about 2%
- Considerable stratification in both communities--mitigated by mobility

Chart 1: Share of TLU by Quintile



Income: Diverse Sources

- Most households rely on non-livestock sources of income in addition to livestock and livestock product sales
- Wage labor (watchmen, casual, civ serv)
- Trade (livestock, hides/skins, tobacco, timber, small dukas, brewing)
- Crops and leasing (Siambu)
- Gifts and remittances

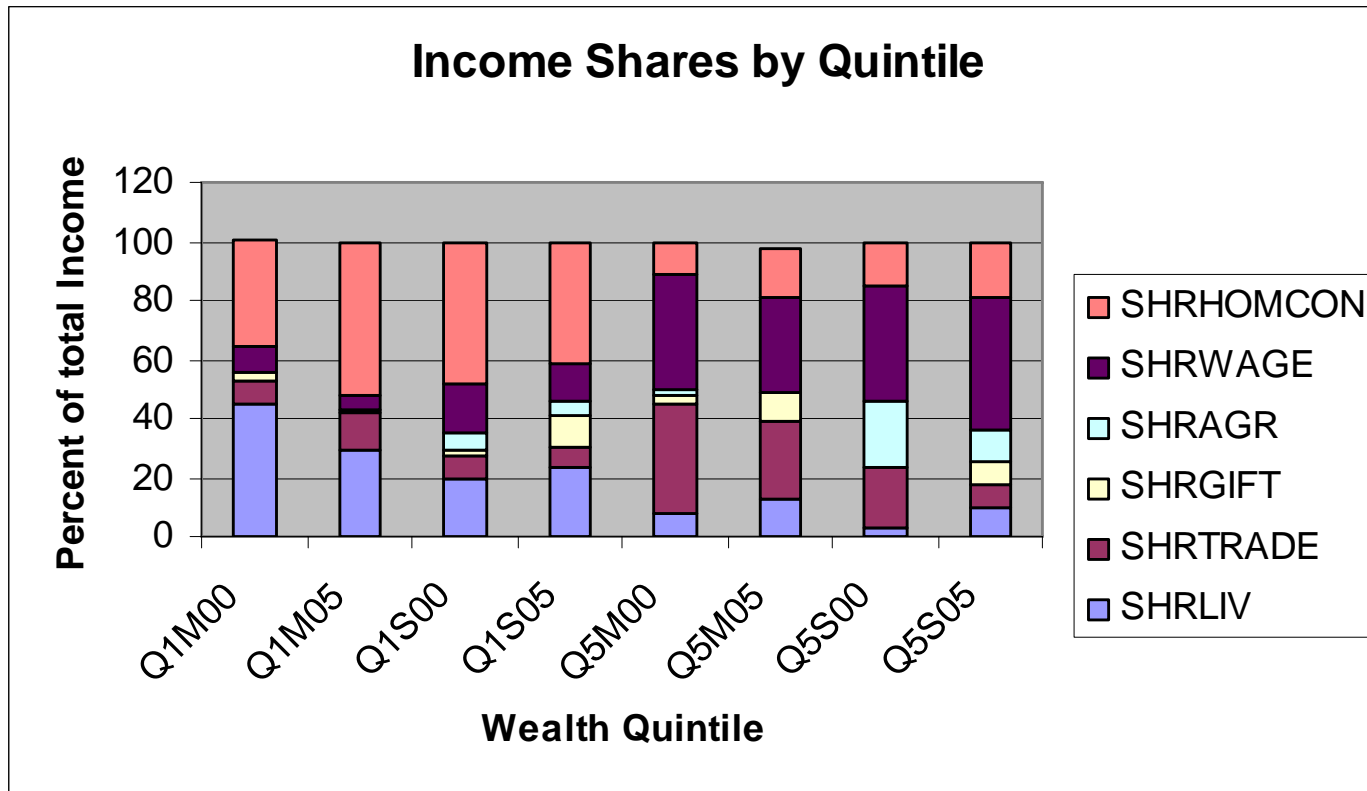
Table 2: Per Capita Income 2000 and 2005

Per Capita Income (Ksh)	Mbaringon 2000	Siambu 2000	Mbaringon 2005	Siambu 2005	Diff Mean 2000 (t)	Diff Means 2005 (t)
Mean	16311	21658	22056	20622	-2.32*	.377
Median	14524	16936	14704	16262		
SD	10914	17918	29409	13666		

Different Livelihood Strategies

- 2000 survey showed wealthier households rely more on livestock sales and home consumption of crops and milk
- Poorer households rely more on wage labor and trade
- Agriculture important in Siambu

Chart 2: Income Shares by Quintile



Signs of drought recovery?

- Mbaringon:
 - Richer quintile preserving livestock and gaining home consumption from more milk
 - Poorer quintile increasing sales, increasing home consumption, reducing wage labor
- Siambu:
 - Richer quintile: little change-- less home consumption due to recent poor harvests
 - Poorer quintile: more sales, less crops

Land Inheritance Norms

- With private land, inheritance becomes issue with consequences for access to key resources
- Earlier research suggested 3 competing norms for inheriting father's land:
 - Oldest son inherits (livestock norm)
 - Youngest son inherits
 - All sons inherit equally

Norm rankings in 2005

Norm/Rank	1 n=69	2 n=66	3 n=65	4 n=5
Oldest son inherits	58%	35%	6%	0%
Youngest son inherits	10%	58%	28%	40%
All sons inherit equally	28%	6%	66%	40%
Other	4%	2%	0%	20%

Policy Implications

- Tailor policies to needs of various groups
 - Wealthier:
 - Livestock marketing, animal health
 - Poorer:
 - Asset building (restocking, improved breeds)
 - Quality education and skill training for employment and trade
 - Employment opportunities needed in area
 - Need for agencies to understand intra-community diversity

Land Tenure

- Privatization not necessarily disastrous
 - Equal sub-division has worked reasonably well in Siambu
 - Remain pastoralists but diversify into crop production
 - Few sales of land (less than 2% of area)
 - Communities develop new norms and practices to deal with change
 - Need to understand how changing tenure affects access to resources for various groups

More investment needed

- Overall poverty in area requires greater investment in basic infrastructure
- Problems of drought and insecurity continue to be inadequately addressed, yet are preconditions for poverty reduction

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