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The Role of Agricultural Growth on Millenium Development Goals in Kenya: A Strategy of Poverty Reduction

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Abstract

Agricultural is the backbone of Kenyan economy. Its growth is a prerequisite for rural development, hence poverty reduction. The agricultural sector is required to absorb an increasing number of employees and income generation of the people occupied in the agricultural sector, hence increasing the purchasing power of the people. This paper examines the role of agriculture on millennium development growth in Kenya. Kenya being a developing country has developed millennium goals to achieve in vision 2030 and it is in ground this paper wants to look at the role of agricultural growth in achieving those visions. In this paper data from Africa development indicators from World Bank are considered for graphical analysis to study the trend and annual pattern of behavior which supports the hypothesis of the paper that agricultural growth is important on achieving the goals. On the basis of the research findings agriculture sector is an important player in helping Kenya in achieving its millennium goals. Based on the participation of all parties involved eliminating the challenges that may face it, and benefits all citizens and the nation. It is expected that this study will benefit the government and the parties concern to ensure that the millennium goals are achieved and more so the improving of living standards of Kenyans and academicians in filling the knowledge gap and lay foundation for further research.

Keywords: millenium development goals, poverty, poverty eradication, agricultural growth.

INTRODUCTION

Agricultural growth is a prerequisite for rural development, hence poverty reduction. The agricultural sector is required to absorb an increasing number of employees and income generation of the people occupied in the agricultural sector, hence increasing the purchasing power of the people. The agricultural growth has to be attained through the concomitant process: an increase in the total employment capacity and an increase in the efficiency of production i.e. the added value of production per unit of labour. Broad based agricultural growth in low income countries is essential to reach the millennium development goals (MDGs) of halving the number of people in extreme poverty and cutting hunger in half by 2015. More over agriculture is a crucial sector for realizing the (MDGs) of gender equality and environmental sustainability nowhere are these challenges greater than in sub-Saharan Africa where the number of poor people increased by 34% between 1990 and 2000 World Bank Development Report 2002 pp.24.

Agricultural growth contributes to the MDGs through improving people's access to more and better quality food, raising farm incomes, creating employment on and off of the farm empowering poor and marginalized groups including women, it can also promote the sustainable management of natural resources.

Agricultural growth is yet to make large strides in other parts of the world especially in sub-Saharan Africa, agricultural growth has spurred overall economic growth and successfully reduced poverty in Chile, Ghana, India, Thailand and Vietnam. Rapid agricultural growth is essential if the world is to meet the Millennium Development Goals (MDGs) in the coming decade. Therefore, this paper argues that if Sub-Saharan Africa and Kenya in particular is to achieve the first goal of MDGs which is poverty alienation then, the country must reorganize and reorganize the agricultural sector to grow substantially.

There are large differences in standard of living across the globe. Gross national income (GNI) per capita which measures the average income of residents of an economy, ranges from a few hundred dollars a year in the poorest countries to more than $ 40,000 a year in the richest, countries of the first world.

Although 85% of the world's populations live in developing countries their residents receive about 46% of global income in 2005. (World Bank

Development Report, 2002). The World Bank classifies countries according to their average income in their GNI per capita; countries with average in incomes of less than $10,752 in 2005 are classified developing (low and middle income economies). Countries with average incomes of $ 10,752 or more in 2005 are classified as developed (high income economies).

In 2005 the one billion people in high income economies had an average income of $ 35,130, while the 5.4 billion people in developing economies earned $ 1,750 per capita or less. The 3.1 billion in economies classified as middle income had an average income of $ 2,640, while 2.4 billion people in low income economies earned only $ 580 on average with some earning as little as $ 100 a person per year (World Bank- Atlas of Global Development: pg 8). Low income countries are concentrated in Sub-Saharan Africa and Asia of the poorest 40 countries, 29 are in Sub-Saharan Africa, 10 are in Asia and one is in Latin America and Caribbean. Therefore this indicates that poverty challenge is more in Sub-Saharan Africa than any other area of the world.

A poverty line set at $ 1.08 a day (in 1993 purchasing power) commonly called $1 a day is often used as the working definition of extreme poverty. Many obstacles threaten to trap hundreds of millions of people in poverty especially in South Asia and Sub-Saharan Africa. Poor health and lack of education deprive people of productive employment; environmental resources have been depleted and corruption, conflict and poor-governance has waste the public resources and private investment.

POVERTY

Lancaster (1999) in the introduction in her book, “Aid to Africa”, posses the question: why after four decades and billions of dollars in foreign aid, has Africa failed to develop? How is it that Africa has not effectively tackled the problem of poverty despite immense natural resources, including oil, diamonds, gold and other base metals and agricultural and tourism potentials a declared commitment to development and the talent of its people?

Poverty is multi-dimensional. The quantitative approach defines poverty as the inability to meet their basic needs. This approach associates poverty with features such as lack of land, unemployment, inability to feed oneself and ones family, lack of proper housing, poor health and inability to educate one’s children and to pay medical bills. While different people and communities define poverty differently, but poverty was invariably associated with inability to meet/ afford sustain basic needs.

The overall national incident of absolute poverty in Kenya was estimated at 52% based on welfare monitoring survey (WMSIII of 1997). The numbers of poor increased from 3.7 million in 1992 to 11.5 million in 1994. It is now estimated 15 million people in Kenya are poor and three quarters of the poor live in rural areas.

Table 1: Overall poverty in absolute numbers.

Region / Town	**The Poor**	
	House Holds below poverty line	**Individuals below poverty line**
Central Rural	216,047	1,126,826
Coast Rural	138,691	883,667
Eastern Rural	382,037	2,280,334
Nyanza Rural	507,720	2,678,518
Rift Valley Rural	485,182	2,691,909
Western Rural	315,074	1,739,131
Nairobi	238,328	959,973
Mombasa	53,438	217,402
Kisumu	31,832	140,407
Nakuru	26,378	113,674
Other Towns combined	142,469	562,446
Total	**2,537,197**	**13,394,287**

Source: Poverty reduction Strategy paper for the period 2001 - 2008

In Kenya, the poor are clustered in certain social categories such as: The landless, people with disabilities, Pastoralists in drought prone ASAL districts, Unskilled and Semiskilled casual laborers, HIV/AIDS orphans, Street children and beggars, Subsistence farmers, urban slum dwellers and Unemployed youths.

Causes of Poverty:

Different communities had different perceptions of the causes of poverty. The following were identified by most communities as the main causes of poverty:-

(i) Low agricultural productivity and poor marketing

It is attributed to traditional farming methods low soil fertility, unpredicted droughts and floods, poor services, high cost of inputs, low quality of seeds and lack of credit facilities. Mismanagement and collapse of agricultural institutions such as Agricultural Finance Co-operation, irrigation schemes, Agricultural development co-operations, National cereals and produce board and Kenya creameries co-operatives have contributed to poor Marketing and low incomes. Livestock production is also a major source of livelihood for many communities especially in ASAL areas, and low productivity in this sector has contributed to poverty.

(ii) Insecurity

Security is manifested through banditry, raiding and stock theft, robbery rape and murder. The immediate consequence is loss and destruction of material property such as shelter clothing and livestock.

(iii) Unemployment and Low Wages.

Lack of opportunity and skills for gainful employment and lack of crucial resource for production such as electricity has led to poverty.

(iv) Bad governance

This manifests itself in lack of transparency and accountability in management of resources and funds meant to benefit communities. This has tainted self-help programs and increased poverty.

(v) Land issues

Rural communities are dependent on land for production. However, many people have been rendered landless or squatters. The cause of landlessness varies from community to community. In some communities, it is as a result of high population growth while in others it is due to poor land tenure systems such as communal land ownership. Ownership and access to land in rural areas is a critically influenced by the interplay of customary and civil law. Although women can legally inherit land, many cultures do not guarantee a woman the right to own land or to inherit her husband's property upon his death. This makes women more vulnerable to poverty.

(vi) Inadequate socio-economical infrastructures

Lack of proper road makes access to schools, market and hospitals impossible or very difficult. Inadequate education and health facilities also cause poverty to communities as they perpetuate high rate of illiteracy and low productivity.

vii) HIV/AIDS

Communities cited HIV/AIDS as a recent development problem causing poverty. Prostitution, especially in urban areas, wife inheritance in some communities, use of communal/traditional circumcision tools, lack of awareness of the diseases were given as some of the major causes of HIV/AIDS. The disease has aggravated poverty mainly, because those affected leave behind widows and orphans who become dependant on other members of the family. Those who are afflicted with HIV/AIDS also consume resources as they require drugs and drugs and special food. Children and widows are left vulnerable to poverty in society.

(viii) Disability

People with disability (PWD) were reported to be socially marginalized, neglected and intimidated in many parts of the country.

PWDs are poorly represented in many decision making bodies/institutions hence their interests are not catered for. PWDs have been denied equal access to public utilities, good healthcare, basic education and vital information leading to lack of employment opportunities resulting from lack of relevant skills and knowledge leading them to be dependent of relatives.

MILLENIUM DEVELOPMENT GOALS

MDGS came into existence in September 2000 in New York by United Nations organization and World Bank The 1992 earth summit in *Rio de Janeiro.* The famous (agenda 21 for the 21st century) provided the main framework of the millennium development goals. It recognized combating poverty as a basic condition for ensuring sustainability - social, economic and even environmental. A number of world conferences organized by the United Nations following the Rio act summit discussed the so called International development goals (IDGs), were meant to help focus and co-ordinate the effort of donor countries, International development agencies and governments of developing countries. In September 2000, many of those goals were incorporated into the resolution of the UN Millennium general assembly (Also called the Millennium summit) and endorsed by 189 countries as Millennium Development Goals. (MDGs)

The first millennium development goal (MBG) calls for the development community to reduce the global rate of extreme income poverty - measured by the share of the population living in less than a dollar per day - by a half between the year 1990 - 2015. This international development goal of poverty eradication fits within the wider Kenyan developmental goal since the attainment of independence (1963). One of the principle goals of the Kenya's development efforts since independence has to reduce poverty among its citizens. The government has pursued this goal through several policy pronouncement and development strategies.

The developing world as whole is predicted to meet the poverty (MDG). The latest projection is that the share of developing countries population leaving on under a dollar per day will fall from 27.9% in 1990 to 10.2% in 2015

Table 2: Millenium Development Goal 1: Eradicate Extreme Poverty

COUTRIES	Shares of population below National poverty line		Share of population below ppp & 1 a day		Poverty gap ratio at & 1 A day		Prevalence of child malnutrition, underweight % -of children under age (5)	
	Survey Yr	%	Survey Yr	%	Survey Yr	%		
KENYA	1997	52.0	1997	22.8	1997	5.9	22.5	19.9
UGANDA	2003	37.7	-	-	-	-	23.0	32.9
TANZANIA	2000-01	35.7	2000-01	57.8	2000-01	20.7	28.9	-
ETHOPIA	2000	44.2	2000	23.0	2000	4.8	47.7	47.2
ZIMBABWE	1996	34.9	1995	56.1	1995	24.2	15.5	--
BOTSWANA	-	-	1993	23.5	1993	7.7	-	12.5
ZAMBIA	1998	72.9	2002-03	75.8	2002-03	36.4	25.2	23.0
S. AFRICA	-	-	2000	10.7	2000	1.7	-	-
SENEGAL	1992	33.4	1995	22.3	1995	5.7	22.2	22.7
RWANDA	1999	60.3	2000	51.7	2000	20.0	29.4	24.3
NIGERIA	1992	34.1	2003	70.8	2003	34.5	39.1	28.7

Table two has tried to explain the effort that African countries South of Sahara have put forward towards the implementation of the MDG goal no. one. For instance, in Kenya, in 1997, 52.0 % of the total population was living below the national poverty line. Subsequently, we would like to know what has happened since the introduction of the MDGs. We are a half way the targeted period of 2015 yet, Kenyan population national poverty has not yet dropped below 50 percent.

Agricultural Growth

Poverty is increasingly assuming an African face, and eradicating it has become a predominately African challenge. Although the region currently accounts for only 10 percent of the world's population, it now accommodates 30 percent of the world poor. The world as a whole has made remarkable progress in reducing extreme poverty over the past three decades, cutting it by nearly two thirds between 1970 and 2000. In contrast the trend in sub-Saharan Africa has been in the opposite direction increasing from the 36 percent of the population in 1979 to 50 percent in 2000 as a result 300 million people in Africa are poor spending less than a dollar per day on basic necessities of life.

African slow and erratic growth performance particularly when compared with other developing regions has been identified as the single most important reason it is lagging in eradicating poverty. Since 1960 Africa's per capital income grew at about one fifth of the average rate for other developing countries. Although in 1960 per capital income for Africa and East Asia were virtually the same as a result of this growth difference by 2004 the Gross Domestic Products (GPD) per capital in East Asia was five times higher than that in Africa (Figure 1).

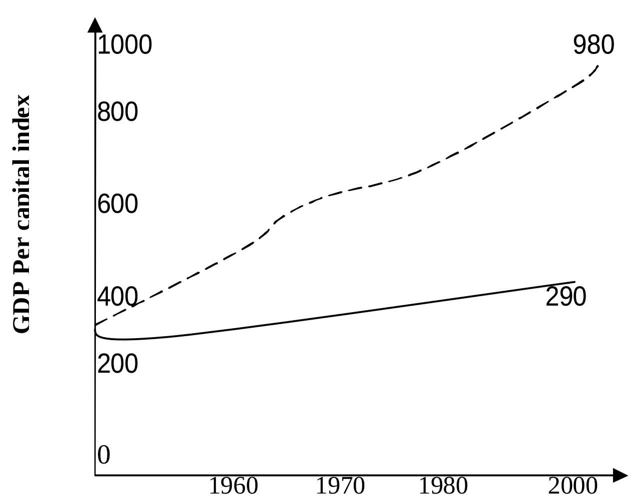

Fig 1 Comparative per capital income growth path in Sub-Saharan Africa verses East Asia
Source: World Bank, African Development Indicators 2006

Table 4: Gross Domestic Product Growth: Annual Growth%

	1960	1990	1996	1999	2000	2001	2002	2003	2004	Annual average		
SUB-SAHARAN AFRICA	4.2	1.1	2.3	2.6	3.3	3.5	3.4	4.1	5.1	1960-89	1990-99	2000-04
KENYA	5.6	4.2	3.3	2.3	0.5	4.4	0.4	2.8	4.3	1.8	2.4	4.0
UGANDA	-	6.5	4.9	801	5.6	4.9	6.5	4.4	5.6	4.1	2.2	2.7
TANZANIA	-	7.0	3.7	3.5	5.1	6.2	7.2	7.1	6.7	2.3	7.2	5.4
SWAZILAND	12.4	8.6	3.3	3.5	2.0	1.8	2.9	2.4	2.1	-	2.7	6.9
SUDAN	1.5	-5.5	6.4	6.5	6.1	6.0	6.0	6.0	6.0	6.5	3.3	2.4
SENEGAL	-3.3	3.9	4.5	6.2	3.0	4.7	1.1	6.5	6.2	2.4	5.3	6.0
RWANDA	9.0	-2.4	8.9	7.8	6.0	6.7	9.4	0.9	4.0	3.2	3.0	4.4
NIGERIA	4.2	8.2	1.9	1.1	4.2	3.1	1.5	10.9	6.0	2.5	-1.6	5.2
BOTSWANA	12.0	6.8	6.0	5.4	7.6	5.2	5.0	6.7	4.9	0.8	2.4	5.4
ETHIOPIA	-	2.1	-4.3	5.4	6.0	8.8	1.9	-3.7	13.4	10.9	4.7	5.5
SOUTH AFRICA	6.6	-0.4	0.5	2.4	4.2	2.7	3.7	3.0	4.5	2.1	4.0	3.7
ZIMBABWE	14.4	7.0	2.9	-3.6	-7.9	-2.7	-4.4	-10.4	-4.2	1.4	2.0	3.4
										3.3	2.7	-5.9

Source: World Bank. African Development Indicators 2006

Table 4: Gross Domestic Product Per Capital Growth Annual Growth%

	1960	1990	1996	1999	2000	2001	2002	2003	2004 .	Annual average		
										1960-89	1990-99	2000-04
SUB-SAHARAN AFRICA	1.1	-1.8	-0.2	0.1	0.8	1.0	1.0	1.8	2.9	-0.8	-0.6	1.5
KENYA	1.7	0.8	0.9	0.0	-1.6	2.1	-1.7	0.5	2.0	0.5	-0.6	0.3
UGANDA	-	2.7	1.8	4.8	2.4	2.4	1.6	3.0	0.9	-0.6	3.5	2.0
TANZANIA	-	3.5	1.4	1.3	2.9	4.0	5.1	6.0	4.7	0.4	0.2	4.4
SWAZILAND	9.0	5.2	0.0	0.6	-0.4	-0.4	1.0	0.8	0.6	3.6	0.6	0.3
SUDAN	-1.7	-7.5	4.0	4.0	4.3	4.0	4.0	4.0	4.0	0.6	2.1	4.1
SENEGAL	-5.8	0.9	1.9	3.5	0.5	2.2	-1.3	4.0	3.7	-0.4	0.4	1.6
RWANDA	5.5	-2.1	-1.7	-1.8	-1.0	2.2	6.5	-0.8	2.5	-0.3	1.2	1.9
NIGERIA	1.2	5.1	-0.6	-1.3	1.8	0.7	-0.7	8.3	3.7	-1.9	0.4	2.7
BOTSWANA	8.2	3.9	4.2	3.9	6.5	4.6	4.7	6.7	5.0	8.0	2.8	5.5
ETHIOPIA	-	-1.6	-6.7	4.0	2.9	5.5	-2.2	-5.1	10.1	-0.9	-0.1	2.3
SOUTH AFRICA	4.2	-2.3	-1.8	-0.1	1.6	0.9	2.5	1.9	5.2	-0.3	-0.6	2.4
ZIMBABWE	10.5	3.8	1.6	-4.7	-8.8	-3.5	-5.1	-10.9	-4.7	1.4	0.6	-6.6

Source: World Bank. African Development Indicators 2006

Judging from figures on both tables 3 &4, shows that sub-Saharan Africa GDP as well as GDP per capita are both slow and erratic. Kenya's Economic growth in 1990 was 5.6% but this has fallen to 0.4% in 2002. The GDP per capita growth in Kenya in 1960 was 1.7% but this fell to -1.7% in 2002.

One sector which has been playing crucial role in accelerating the economic growth in sub-Saharan Africa and shall continue to do so in the years to come is the Agricultural sector therefore, if the sub-Saharan African countries are to get started on a high growth path, they need a big push in the Agricultural sector

Factors Determining Agricultural Growth

1) Agricultural Inputs – Fertilizers, Seedling.
2) Agricultural Prices.
3) Technology
4) Agricultural Extension Services

Natural Disasters, I. Floods, Land Slides, drought

Table 5: Agricultural Sectors

	Agriculture value Added GDP) (% of	Crop production index (1999-2001 =100)	Cereal Production (thousand of metric tons)	Livestock production index (1999 - 2001=100)	Agricultural exports ($ millions)	Permanent cropland (thousand Hectares)	Irrigated land (% of crop land)	Fertilizer consumption (hundred grams per Hector of Land)	Agricultural machinery (tractors 100 hectors of per arable land)
SUB-SAHARAN AFRICA	2004	2004	2004	2004	2004	2003	2003	2002	2003
Kenya	23.9	102	2,709	109	1296	562	2.0	310.3	0.3
Uganda	29.5	109	2,625	110	369	2150	0.1	18.2	0.1
Tanzania	42.3	107	4,458	110	481	1100	3.6	17.9	0.2
Rwanda	41.2	113	319	110	34	270	0.6	137.1	0.0
Sudan	33.2	110	3,792	107	395	420	10.7	42.8	0.1
Ethiopia	41.4	111	9,260	116	380	713	2.5	151.0	0.0
Botswana	2.3	113	45	102	52	3	0.3	122.0	1.6
Swaziland	6.5	101	71	111	269	14	26.0	393.3	2.2
South Africa	2.7	103	12,225	109	3421	969	9.5	664.2	0.4
Senegal	17.0	77	1,200	101	182	47	4.8	136.1	0.0
Nigeria	16.3	106	22,783	109	487	2900	0.8	55.0	0.1
Zimbabwe	14.2	66	1,227	99	846	130	5.2	341.6	0.7
Zambia	18.8	108	1,364	99	201	29	2.9	123.9	0.0

Source: World Bank Development indicators 2006

Table 5 above shows that agricultural sector although is vital to accelerate economic growth and hence poverty eradication in Africa the sector has not been put into full utilization. Therefore this paper tends to analyze whether the introduction of the millennium development goals (MDGS) in the twenty first century have given the agricultural sector a big -push to overcome its challeng3eds to create opportunities to accelerate growth, hence assist in the poverty eradication

Challenges of Agricultural Growth to Eradicate Poverty

Agriculture plays a great role in meeting the millennium development goals. Four of the MDGS relate directly to the agricultural sector. The remaining MDGS have important indirect links to agricultural growth. There are a number of challenges facing the agricultural sector in Kenya like; relatively low rate of capital accumulation, Low productivity growth rate, Land policy-land tenure system etc. These constraints are illustrated on table-5 the last three columns, which portray the irrigated land fertilizer consumption and agricultural machinery used in various countries in Africa as well as in Kenya extremely low. This explains the relatively low capital accumulation poor technology and also the factor that in Africa the fate of agriculture is left to nature or weather, which is erratic.

Opportunities or Strategies for Agricultural Growth

i) Historical institutional or policy constraints:- such as neo-colonialism in Africa, weak institutions and poor policies can be acted upon in the context of public policy. These constraints affect investment incentives the action needed is sustained macroeconomic stability that is prudent exchange rate policy to support export-led growth and ensuring good governance and bureaucratic efficiency and the effective provision of those goods and services.

ii) Embarking on a "big push" in infrastructure investment with a particular emphasis on transportation and energy to partly compensate for disadvantage arising from Africa's unfavorable geography to reduce transport costs, and to improve firm level profitability.

iii) Embarking on a "big push" in adaptation of modern technology and efficiency by encouraging education to alleviate high rate of illiteracy hence, advance technology adaptation and at the same time investing the health facilities to encourage labour efficiency.

iv) Increasing institutional capacity by targeting a few priority areas; enforcements of contracts, enhanced revenue transparency and reduction of corruption.

Agriculture is a major domestic supplier of food and source of income earning. A Key strategic challenge is to make efforts in agriculture worthwhile by raising the sectors profitability. This is achieved by:-

a. Ensuring better prices and policy environment
b. Reducing transaction costs in investment production and marketing and
c. Raising labour and land productivity through technological innovations.

The, latter challenge is particularly critical if the region is to embark on a successful **"green revolution"** to raise the productivity of agriculture. This will require a combination of actions to:

i) To increase the area under irrigation
ii) To increase the use of high yielding varieties,
iii) Improve crop husbandry through extension services,
iv) Integrate markets and
v) Rejuvenate Africa's farmlands

Roy (2006) presents some striking facts about how far Africa has been left behind in agricultural productivity and how denuded African farmlands are of key nutrients. Fertilizer use in Africa is the lowest of any region in the world. In 2002/2003, sub-Saharan Africa used 8 kilograms of fertilizer pr hectare compared to 80kgs for Latin America, 98kgs for North America, 175kgs for Western Europe and 202kgs for East Asia. Sub-Saharan Africa's consumption of fertilizer, at 2million tons is less than what Bangladesh alone consumes at 3.4million tons a year (Roy 2006).

Mr. Kofji Annan, the former secretary general UN launched (July 2007) the alliance for green revolution in Africa (AGRA) with its headquarters in Nairobi - Kenya, aiming at bringing Green Revolution in Africa make Africa Self-sufficient in food production.

Kenya's Experience with MDG

By the end of 20th century and even at the beginning of 21st century, Kenya's general economic growth was extremely low. For instance, in 2000 and 2001 it was 0.4 percent. This implies that even growth in the agricultural sector were also low. As such, poverty eradication strategies adopted during this period, could not realize the required goals.

However, the NARC government took over in 2003; there has been a steady improvement on agricultural growth in particular. For instance, Kenyan economy had grown by 2.4 percent in 2003, 3.5 percent in 2005 and 6.1 percent in 2006.

During the year 2006, agricultural sector grew by 8.5 percent. The NARC government also tried to streamline the resource management in the country and also to emphasize on transparency and accountability in the public sector. The government, during the same period, had put into place, the mechanism to implement the millennium Development Goals by launching the free primary education in 2003 and the vision 2030 in 2006.

Despite, these attempts by the government very little has been achieved in terms of accelerating the agricultural growth. A number of challenges remained to be tackled.

i) The benefits of the improved economic growth have not yet trickled down to the mass or people.
ii) Agricultural growth during the period and future in the country has been restricted by high prices of the fertilizer and high yield seedling which may improve yields, hence income and finally reduction in poverty.
iii) Status of the socio-economic infrastructures in the country, especially, road network remains a challenge to agricultural growth.
iv) High rate of illiteracy also has remained a challenge in the agricultural sector
v) Mismanagement of the available resources, lack of transparency, accountability and good governance to alleviate corruption in the public sector also remains a challenge in the agricultural sector.

CONCLUSION

In conclusion, this paper, recommends the following, especially, in the agricultural sector to be done the (MDG) goal of poverty eradication strategy is to be attained.

i) Kenya government needs to emphasize on the development and improvement of the state of roads and other infrastructure facilities through the country especially in the rural area where agriculture is significant.
ii) To encourage farmers to adapt to the modern technology which is a prerequisites for agricultural growth hence poverty reduction, fertilizers and high yielding seedlings prices are to be looked into.
iii) Agricultural extension services need be provided to the farmers.
iv) Revival of collapsed irrigation schemes, whose management should be put on the hands of highly qualified and competent personnel. Mismanagement, tribalism and nepotism in hiring these personnel must be avoided.
v) Land tenure system or appropriate land policies are necessary to stimulate agricultural and livestock production in the pastoral and coastal areas.
vi) Credit facilities should be made available. This would encourage farmers of large scale producers to mechanize their farmers, while, small- scale producers to intensify their production through the application of fertilizers and high yielding seedling.

Kenya has opportunity to overcome various challenges mentioned above if the e political goodwill shown by the NARC government since 2003 is carried. It is through the proper management of the available resources, accountability and transparency in the public sector, improvement of socio-economic infrastructure and the adaptation of advance technology alone that the (MDGs) goals would be achieved through the agricultural sector growth

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