Natural Resources and Local Livelihoods in the Great Lakes Region of Africa

A Political Economy Perspective

Edited by

An Ansoms
Lecturer in Development Studies, Centre for Development Studies, Université Catholique de Louvain, Belgium

Stefaan Marysse
Professor Emeritus of Political Economy, Institute of Development Policy and Management (IDPM), University of Antwerp, Belgium
Contents

List of Tables and Figures xi
List of Abbreviations xii
Preface xv
Foreword xix
Notes on the Contributors xxiv

Part I Land Relations and Local Livelihoods in the Great Lakes Region

1 Land Relations and Local Livelihoods in the Great Lakes Region 3
   An Ansoms and Klara Claessens
   1.1 Land and development: a disputed relationship 3
   1.2 Access to land in the Great Lakes Region: from local to global challenges 4
       1.2.1 Demographic pressures and the degradation of land 4
       1.2.2 Dealing with a legacy of violence and conflict 6
       1.2.3 The commercialisation of space: land grabbing by large-scale actors 10
       1.2.4 Any alternatives for securing rural livelihoods? 11
   1.3 Agrarian reforms: is there a future for small-scale farming? 12
   1.4 Land reforms: operating in a context of legal pluralism 16
   1.5 Conclusion 19
   Notes 21
   References 22

2 Reconciling Custom, State and Local Livelihoods: Decentralised Land Management in South Kivu (DRC) 26
   Innocent Utshudi Ona and An Ansoms
   2.1 Introduction 26
   2.2 Land practices in South Kivu: operating between custom and law 28
## Contents

2.3 Three case studies 31
  2.3.1 Mwanda, territory of Kabare 31
  2.3.2 Kamituga, territory of Mwenga 35
  2.3.3 Ruzizi plains, territory of Uvira 38
  2.3.4 Land relations in South Kivu: a more general perspective 40

2.4 Decentralisation in the DRC: an opportunity for locally embedded land management and dispute settlement 41

Notes 46
References 47

3 A Legacy from the Past Hindering the Future: Land Conflicts in Ituri (DRC) 49
Joost Van Puijenbroek and An Ansoms

3.1 Introduction 49
3.2 The territory of Aru: violent land conflicts in an obscure politico-commercial context 50
3.3 Djugu and Irumu: land conflicts in the context of the Hema–Lendu conflict 54
  3.3.1 The territory of Djugu 54
  3.3.2 The territory of Irumu 56
  3.3.3 Dispute settlement in Djugu and Irumu 58

3.4 The overpopulation of Mahagi 59
3.5 The illegal exploitation of the forest and land conflicts in Mambasa 60
3.6 Conclusions and recommendations 62
Notes 63
References 66

4 Governance of Urban Agricultural Space: Struggle for Land in Kinshasa (DRC) 68
Inge Wagemakers and Oracle Makangu Diki

4.1 Introduction 68
4.2 Land use and land property: a plurality of rules 70
4.3 Customary leadership, state agents and plural norms on the Mokali site 73
4.4 Vulnerability of gardeners and residents on the Mokali site 75
4.5 Conclusion: an open moment for customary authorities, gardeners and the state 78
5 In Quest of Legitimacy: Changes in Land Law and Legal Reform in Burundi
Dominik Kohlhagen
5.1 Introduction 83
5.2 Manipulated legality: the instrumental use of statutory law 85
5.3 Eroded normativity: ancient customs in present-day reality 88
5.4 Undefined policy: the non-response of Burundi's elite 92
5.5 Conclusion 97
Notes 99
References 100

6 Sharing Scarcity: Issues of Land Tenure in South-east Rwanda
Margot Leegwater
6.1 Introduction 104
6.2 Research setting and methodology 105
6.2.1 Research setting 106
6.2.2 Methodological issues 106
6.3 Externally induced policies imposed on the local level 108
6.3.1 Land-sharing policy 108
6.3.2 Villagisation policy 112
6.4 Land dynamics as social relations: the impact of land-sharing and villagisation policies on the social fabric 115
6.4.1 Strained social relations 115
6.4.2 Land access and land conflicts 117
6.5 Conclusion 118
Notes 119
References 120

7 Views from Below on the Pro-poor Growth Challenge: Agrarian Policies in the Context of Rural Rwanda
An Ansoms’
7.1 Introduction 123
7.2 Socio-economic dynamics at the local level 126
7.3 The impact of national policies: why do small-scale peasants participate so little in growth strategies? 130
  7.3.1 Monocropping and regional specialisation 131
  7.3.2 Land registration and consolidation 134
  7.3.3 The reorganisation of swamplands 136
7.4 Conclusions: different layers of pro-poor growth 139
Notes 142
References 143

Part II Mineral Resources and Local Livelihoods in the Great Lakes Region

8 Local Livelihoods, Global Interests and the State in the Congolese Mining Sector 149
  Sara Geenen
  8.1 Mining and development: a disputed relationship 149
  8.2 Congo’s minerals: their importance in globalisation and national development 151
    8.2.1 Copper and cobalt 151
    8.2.2 Diamonds 153
    8.2.3 Coltan 154
    8.2.4 Tin (cassiterite) 155
    8.2.5 Gold 156
    8.2.6 Other reserves 157
  8.3 Congo’s political economy: drifting between industrial and artisanal mining 157
  8.4 Industrial and artisanal mining: coexistence, limits and opportunities 161
  8.5 Conclusion: livelihoods of artisanal miners and global interests in Congo 164
Notes 166
References 167

9 The New Gold Rush: Post-conflict Mining and Trading in the Kilo Belt (DRC) 170
  Dan Fahey
  9.1 Introduction 170
  9.2 Historical background 173
  9.3 Contemporary mining in the Kilo belt 176
    9.3.1 Modes of production 176
    9.3.2 Artisanal mining as a livelihood strategy 177
    9.3.3 Artisanal mining in post-conflict Ituri 179
9.4 The trade in the Kilo belt’s gold 181
  9.4.1 Structure of the gold trade 182
  9.4.2 Government formalisation efforts 182
  9.4.3 Effects of industrial mining 183
  9.4.4 Effects of UN sanctions 184
9.5 Conclusion 185
Notes 187
References 188

10 Constraints, Opportunities and Hope: Artisanal Gold Mining and Trade in South Kivu (DRC) 192
  Sara Geenen
  10.1 Introducing agency and constraints 192
  10.2 The historical trajectory of a mining town 193
    10.2.1 Early industrial development and the dawn of artisanal mining 194
    10.2.2 The consequences of liberalisation 195
    10.2.3 Crisis and war 195
    10.2.4 Mineral resources for development? 197
  10.3 Agency and constraints in exploitation and trade 198
    10.3.1 ‘This is our land’: legal pluralism and property rights in mining sites 198
    10.3.2 ‘It’s teamwork’: the organisation of reef mining 200
    10.3.3 ‘Who seeks, finds’: constraints, opportunities and hope in reef mining 201
    10.3.4 ‘It’s a never-ending process’: the processing of auriferous rocks 204
    10.3.5 ‘The gold passes through many hands’: the network of gold traders 206
    10.3.6 The tentative absence of industrial actors 209
  10.4 Conclusion 210
Notes 212
References 212

11 Between Hammer and Anvil: The Predicament of Artisanal Miners in Katanga 215
  Jeroen Cuvelier
  11.1 Introduction 215
  11.2 ‘Bulongo ni ya bankambo’: the mine of Mbola 220
    11.2.1 The fluidity of power relations in Mbola 221
11.2.2 The field of tension between 'controlled sovereignty' and 'paternalism' in Mbola 222
11.2.3 The rupture between the 'hidden' and 'public transcript' in Mbola 225
11.3 'Bulongo ni ya bankambo': the mine of Kalabi 227
  11.3.1 The fluidity of power relations in Kalabi 229
  11.3.2 The field of tension between 'controlled sovereignty' and 'paternalism' in Kalabi 230
  11.3.3 The rupture between the 'hidden' and 'public transcript' in Kalabi 232
11.4 Conclusion 233
Note 234
References 234

12 Triangular Arm Wrestling: Analysis and Revision of the Sino-Congolese Agreements 237
Stefaan Marysse and Sara Geenen
12.1 Introduction 237
12.2 The Congolese political economy: extraversion, shocks and fragile recovery 238
12.3 Analysis of the 2007 'Protocol' and the 2008 'Convention' 240
  12.3.1 Terms of reimbursement 242
  12.3.2 Tax exemptions 243
  12.3.3 Guarantees 244
  12.3.4 Impact on Congolese development 244
12.4 Revision of the agreement 245
12.5 Conclusion 248
Notes 249
References 250

Index 252