

Effects of Climate Change, E.g. Droughts, Flooding and Strategies to Govern These Effects with Special Reference to Kenya

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SUMMARY

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The last day of October 2019 is here, with rains throughout Kenya. Kenya has a phenomenon of heavy rains, that is chaotic throughout the land. Lost Lives of both people and livestock, some rendered homeless and foodless. The challenges are so dire that we need to declare a state of emergency. Prior to that, we had a long spell of drought, leading to deaths. I see a trend and patterns here. In both scenarios (floods and drought) we are helplessly hopeless. The GDP has grown at 6%, yet we are at crisis point. In a certain language I know, crisis means danger, but it also means opportunity....

Being smart surveyors the opportunity is now for us to conduct several studies on the environmental, economic, social and technological fronts and establish counter-measures to prevent the deaths and loss of investments. The greatest challenges for us as a developing nation are food, shelter, security and safety. Kenya's economy is agricultural. Majority of the people live in the rural areas. Of late, more and more rural folk are moving to cities and urban areas. This causes a strain on the infrastructure and public spaces. Rural areas are deprived of able-bodied people that could make a difference in agricultural productivity and production.

We need to take measures to protect our environment, the land on which we depend for food while we explore ways and means of preparing ourselves for these inevitable climate change phenomena. Schools, colleges and universities ought to collaborate with government and private sector to devise evidence based solutions that will address the

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following:

1. Food insecurity
2. Shelter needs as per the constitution
3. Forest cover to international standards of 10%
4. Arid and Semi Arid lands (ASAL) form 80% of our land.
5. Climate Change phenomenon that leads to floods, then droughts. I seek to analyze the Cause and Effect of this stranger than fiction paradox.

This conference is taking place in the Netherlands, a country that has a third of their land at 22 feet below Sea level..

I am aware that during the colonial period the Mau Mau political Detainees were engaged to dig a canal from just outside Thika City to convey water to the Kitui area which is part of the ASAL (Arid and Semi Arid Lands) area that forms 80% of our land. Why was this just a one off, yet the need persists. With the benefit of technology and knowhow from ourselves, in collaboration with the people of Holland, and perhaps Israel and Egypt, we can have several canals constructed crisscrossing the country to harvest rainwater, store it and deliver it where and when it is needed. .

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