

MODULE 1: Structure of Agriculture and Agricultural Policies

LESSON 4: Specific Applications and Impacts of Agricultural Policies

TIME: 1 HR 36 minutes

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This lesson was made possible with the assistance of the following organisations:



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LESSON

4

SPECIFIC APPLICATIONS AND IMPACTS OF AGRICULTURAL POLICIES



TIME:

**1 HR 36
minutes**

AUTHOR:

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OUTCOMES:

By the end of this lesson you will:

- Be aware of policy implementation at various levels.
- Describe the strengths and any shortcomings of policies at the production level.

INTRODUCTION:

It is important for those involved in agricultural production to increase their awareness of specific policies related to their production systems. From the experiences of two farmers, Simon in Mwingi and Beatrice in Chepsono, it will be possible to identify the effectiveness of policies.

IDENTIFICATION OF POLICY IMPLEMENTATION SPECIFIC TO PRODUCTION SYSTEMS

This part of the lesson relies on information in the two case study videos. Attention should be paid to the words of each farmer in interviews with regard to how agricultural policies affect the ways in which they finance the farming activities, market their produce and assistance available to them from extension agricultural officers.



Simon's and Beatrice's case studies can be accessed from the course CD ROM. See *Resources Index | Module 1 | Case Study*.

It will also be necessary to look at the *Agricultural Sector Development Strategy (ASDS), Kenya (2010 –2020)* document again. This can be accessed under *Resources Index | Module 1| ASDS*



Activity 1



Policy on the Ground

1. After reviewing Simon's case study identify areas where policy impacts on his daily operations.
2. Review farmer Beatrice's' activities and then pair up her activities with any policy provisions of which you are aware.

IMPACTS OF POLICIES

Policies should normally enhance production and act as a motivating tool for farmers. The lesson segment will examine the two farmers and identify positive impacts of any of the policies learnt so far and point out any shortcomings.

Activity 2



Positive Impacts of Policy



1. Describe any impacts that the policies have on the farming activities of the two farmers.
2. Identify any policy shortcomings for the farming activities of the two farmers.
3. Relate the policy issues discussed to your own farming experience.

Conclusion



After a comparison between Simon's, Beatrice's and your own experiences you will notice that while the intention of the policy is to support agriculture and farmers in general, it also wants to steer or direct activities to support national priorities. It does not always support you fully nor unconditionally. Policy imposes various structures and processes on the way you need to operate. We do, however, need to appreciate that while the intention is good on a national level policy is not designed to support you unreservedly. It will on occasion impose certain restrictions on you.

References



Government of Kenya. (2010). *Agricultural Sector Development Strategy 2010-2020*.

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www.kilimo.go.ke/kilimo_docs/pdf/ASDS_Final.pdf. Accessed 18/02/2011.