

## The Effects of Diaspora Remittances on Household Agro Farming in Kericho County, Kenya

<sup>1</sup>Victor Sang & <sup>2</sup>Felix Kiruthu

<sup>1,2</sup>Kenyatta University

Corresponding Email: sangvictor265@gmail.com

How to cite this article: Sang, V., & Kiruthu, F. (2024). The Effects of Diaspora Remittances on Household Agro Farming in Kericho County, Kenya. *Journal of Public Policy and Governance*, 4(1), 1-13.

---

### Abstract

The diaspora constitutes millions of people from developing countries living outside their country of birth. These people have migrated to other countries in search of better opportunities or as a result of socioeconomic and political challenges. As part of maintaining their connections with relatives in their home country, these migrants continuously send money to their families for support. Remittances channeled by persons living in the diaspora into their indigenous jurisdictions have become a source of capital in under-developing economies which have significantly enhanced socio-welfare as well presenting families with better opportunities for income generation. The current study sought to examine how these Diaspora remittances affect livelihoods in Kericho County. The study specifically examined the effects of diaspora remittances on household agro-farming and their subsequent effect on promotion of livelihoods in Kericho County Kenya. The focus of the study was the residents of Kericho County who are beneficiaries of diaspora remittances. The study was anchored on pure altruism and rational choice theories. A descriptive research design was employed. A total of 1393 households of the emigrants were targeted. From the target population, the study sampled 10% (139 respondents) who were selected using a convenience sampling technique. The study obtained a 98% response rate. The research findings showed that household agro-farming had a positive effect on the livelihood promotion within Kericho County at 92.2% (adjusted  $R^2=0.922$ ). The study concludes that diaspora remittances have a positive effect on the agro-farming aspects of livelihood promotion among residents of Kericho County who received them. The study thus concludes that diaspora remittances improved the economic lives of recipients by improving their agricultural productivity and giving them access to agro-products. The study recommends that there is need for the Kenyan government to work towards ensuring policies that ensures smooth flow of diaspora remittances and come up with ways of motivating and attracting remittances into Kenyan economy. The study also recommends that the Kenyan government comes up with interventions and incentives to encourage foreign remittances as it increases Agro Farmers disposable income and the utilize it to improve Agro farming. Finally, the study recommends that Kenyans living in Diaspora invest their income in their mother land by sending remittances.

**Keywords:** *Diaspora Remittances, Households, Agro Farming, Livelihoods*

---

## 1.0 Introduction

Dynamics in the globe have made it possible for citizens of a country to immigrate to other countries in search of greener pastures (Opong, 2012). People have been moving from their countries of origin to other countries. This has been due to employment or any other reason such as hostility in their host countries. Those moving from one country to another may be seeking a means through which they can enhance their livelihoods and maybe improve the livelihoods also for their families in their parent countries. The people who migrate from one country to another may send money from the country in which they are immigrants to their native countries in the form of remittances (Aboulezz, 2015).

About 140 immigrants from third-world countries live outside their native countries (IOM, 2015). The financial resources that are channeled by this constituency back to their countries have become their main source of private capitulation in dozens of developing economies. Skeldon (2008) argues that at the heart of development at all times are remittances. Statistics show that Kenya has about 4 million Kenyans living abroad. These Kenyans still have strong family ties back home and it is expected that when their living standards improve, they need to support their relatives back in Kenya to also find means of raising their living standards. One way of supporting family members back home is by remitting financial resources, which they can use to purchase more land for farming, educating children, starting businesses, and buying property (Skeldon, 2008).

According to Hietala and Singh (2014), the concept of livelihood implies living in a manner that helps another person obtain the necessities of life. Livelihood looks at how living is obtained by focusing on the activities, assets, and capabilities by which it is obtained. It also looks at the basis through which the rural population provides for its members. Sahal and Bahal (2016) explain that livelihood diversification is a means by which many people around the world try to improve their well-being. It may be a means through which those in poorer countries practice diversification of activities to be able to obtain a better income which they may use to improve their way of living. The rich also practice livelihood diversification where they may seek opportunities that will enable them to earn extra money. Haan (2012) explains that livelihood studies were made to be part of development studies during the late 1990s and at the onset of the millennium. British State Development Agency – Department for International Development – enhanced strongly the framework for sustainable livelihood.

Maldonado et al. (2012) state that the International Monetary Fund and the International Development Fund define remittances as money transferred by emigrants to their homeland. The financial resources that are channeled by the indigenous living in the diaspora to their home country could be utilized for the benefit of improving their livelihoods. Remittances have helped boost some of the countries' development (Bett, 2013). In Nepal, remittances in proportion to the GDP in 2013 were the highest at 28.8 percent. The country has a total of 7.2% of its population abroad and the remittances that they transfer back home are crucial for poverty reduction. The importance of remittances to Nepal in relation to its national development agenda has helped shed light upon the global development agenda in the last decades. This emphasizes the importance of remittances to the national development of countries in the global arena. The total amount of remittances transferred to Nepal in 2013 almost exceeded the amount of the total income from Nepal's exports of goods and services. This states the importance of the diaspora remittances to the development of the various countries' economies. Nepal's remittances stood for 28.8 percent of Nepal's total Gross Domestic Product in 2013

and the total amount of money remitted back to Nepal has gone up by 40 times in proportion to Nepal's total GDP in the year 1991-2008 (Wagle, 2012).

According to Blue (2013) migration in Cuba is closely monitored by the government and mainly in regulatory terms. Cubans have been able to earn currency and increase their household standard of living without having to migrate permanently or seek a rise in their salaries. This has been mainly due to the international collaborations that they have with various countries. Migrants who work temporarily on government-contracted missions have shaped Cuba through the resources that they have got through working abroad and these resources may be in terms of working capital or through the transfer of technological skills (Blue, 2013). Cuban health workers, for example, have volunteered to serve in public health missions abroad initiated by their government. While abroad, they earn more than they would have made in their mother nations and they send most of these monies back home. These funds may be used for economic activities while other Cubans use the remittances to improve their standard of living.

The percentage of migration from poorer states is high. The poorer states may be states which are not able to provide for the welfare of their citizens. Due to the situation of families with lower income distribution, individuals living in the diaspora are prompted to channel money as a way of empowering these units (Parida et al., 2015). The families may therefore use the remittances to improve their standards of living. The migration will therefore help reduce poverty rates. By reducing on poverty rates it would have helped enhance livelihood promotion. In India for example the higher spending of mostly the diaspora remittances in education and healthcare helps improve the human capital which will in turn provide a healthy and skilled labor force (Parida et al., 2015).

Remittances are a significant ingredient in the development of an economy. Ratha (2013) while examining the impacts of remittances on economic growth and poverty reduction explains that remittances can increase household incomes and can be used to reduce poverty levels. Remittances may also increase when there is an economic, or political crisis or when there is a national disaster such as floods. The diaspora remittances help countries' economies that may be emerging from war and those that are yet to gain foreign investor confidence. Ratha (2013) explains that Egypt serves as an example where remittances provide for a family in need during a time of crisis. When there was political instability in Egypt, investors and donors pulled out while remittances increased. Lubambu (2014) while focusing on developing countries, studied the impacts of remittances and explained that remittances have been able to constantly earn developing jurisdictions foreign income apart from other capital inflows. This expounds on the importance of remittances to developing countries.

According to Laura (2013), paramount to the growth of the economies are remittances. Further, families have been singled out to rely on the remittances for their livelihoods. Kioko (2016) in Kenya, the growth of agricultural output is driven by remittances received from the diaspora and findings suggest a statistically significant association between the levels of diaspora remittance and agricultural output growth. Bett (2013) examined Diaspora remittances' impact on the growth of the economy, and the research came to conclusion that Kenya's economic growth is largely driven by remittances from the diaspora.

Kenya is ranked third in Sub-Saharan Africa in receiving diaspora remittances. In the year 2022 alone, diaspora remittances totaled \$4.027 billion having risen by 8.34% from the previous year. Remittances in Kenya are a very important source of foreign exchange in the country coming only second to the foreign exchange brought in by exports which in 2022 stood at \$5.77

billion. Thus, diaspora remittance in the country is a very large source of funds that has attracted the attention of the Central Bank of Kenya which is hoping to somehow capitalize on them for use in the economy because of their sheer volume and the fact that they thus far maintain the country's foreign exchange reserves. There is thus recognition of the fact that these remittances can be used to improve the economic lives of those who receive them and also of the country because they increase the purchasing power parity of the recipients (Stanbic Bank, 2023). However, misuse of funds in consumption and leisure activities within families does not promote socio-welfare and thus the question remains if diaspora remittances do improve the socio-economic welfare of the recipients.

### **1.1 Problem Statement**

Karagoz (2009) in his research paper Economic Growth in Light of Remittances from Workers depicts that remittances that are foreign are potential tools of accelerating socioeconomic growth across the recipients' countries. Foreign remittances can help in aiding consumption levels, savings structure, income distribution, and poverty eradication across the society. On the other hand, Gupta and Smita (2007) in their article, Making Remittances Work for Africa acknowledges that despite diaspora remittances acting as a tool of economic growth it's not obvious that they will result in long-term socio-welfare growth due to exogenous factors for example usage of the funds. However, none of the above studies examined diaspora remittances in the context of the Kenyan state.

International remittance prices are high because of the situation where migrants find difficulty in obtaining the much-needed identification document to be in the financial mainstream. The other factor that also keeps the remittances high is the undeveloped financial infrastructure in some countries which are both the sending and receiving countries (Cirasino 2015). The costs that diaspora incur in transferring remittances are covered in the fees they charge the company's profit margin, how the company transfers the remittance as in whether it uses more labor or capital, exchange rate used, cost of the operation level of competition in the market (both sending and receiving areas) (Opong, 2012). According to G20 (2015), the National Remittance plans to reduce costs and also open remittance markets. The G20 is implementing policies that favor emerging technologies on remittances, increase protection of consumers dealing with remittance transfers, and also increase its (remittance transfers) transparency.

The remittances are in the form of individual initiatives and the need to improve or participate in in changing lives in their country of origin. This is mainly in the form of migrant groups or diaspora associations in countries of destination. Empirical evidence on diaspora remittances on Kenya's economic growth, Bett (2013) explains that by the fact that remittances are many; they can stimulate local economies and also improve the lives of those at the receiving countries.

However, the aforementioned studies all highlight the fact that scholars do not agree on the effects of diaspora remittances on the livelihoods of those who receive the funds. Further, there are few studies examining the remittances from the diaspora in the Kenyan State. Thus, there is a need for specific Research focusing on Diaspora Remittances in Kenya and their effect on livelihood promotion in the country. To that end, this research study investigated the effects of diaspora remittances on agro farming in Kericho, County Kenya.

### **1.2 Study Objective**

The objective of this study was to find out the effect of diaspora remittances on household-level agro-farming livelihoods in Kericho County.

## **2.0 Literature Review**

### **2.1 Theoretical Review**

#### **2.1.1 Pure Altruism Theory**

The proponent of the theory is Becker 1974. The major tenet of the theory is that the decision of the workers to wire remittances to their relatives is a function of their income needs. The theory offers an insight that act of immigrants remitting money back home is a result of the enjoyment that comes with the act and the satisfaction brought about by the utilities of those left behind. According to Cherono (2013), remittances enable households to smoothen their consumption due to the effects of economic turmoil. The flow of remittances is majorly motivated by expenditure factors. For instance, during an economic meltdown, they rise and in seasons of economic growth, they decline. The theory explains that remittances are majorly utilized for consumption purposes and more often agricultural productivity and investment share an indirect relationship with remittances. This theory was utilized in highlighting how diaspora remittances can be utilized by the family in their consumption and investment decisions.

#### **2.1.2 Rational Choice Theory**

George Homans formulated the theory in 1961. According to the theory, people anticipate the results of different options and can come up with sound decisions which fully meet their expectations. The rational choice theory exhibits various strengths, including generality, wherein a single set of assumptions about an actor is compatible with any assumptions about the environmental context of the act; parsimony, as it considers preferences and beliefs as the sole relevant variables influencing action; and predictiveness, where the theory's assumptions have generated other influential theories, whose predictions refute what is commonly accepted as improbable (Ogu, 2013).

Burns and Roszkowska (2016) disassociation of an individual from society, assumptions that are psychological in nature and the cognitive that is so unrealistic, sum up the limitations of the rational choice theory. This theory highlights the importance of rational choice within households in deciding how to utilize remittance received for livelihood promotion hence crucial in the current study. The theory also provides an overview of why diaspora members send remittances.

### **2.2 Empirical Review**

The remittances are normally sent from one person to another person and they are tied to the needs of the recipient. According to Gayle et al. (2013) in the paper Leveraging and Tapping the Diaspora for Remittances and Development, the remittances sent to developing countries provide a means for the recipients to tackle the challenge of poverty. The migrants help finance projects that aid in the improvement of the living conditions of the recipients in their home countries. In so doing the migrants promote the livelihoods of the recipients by providing them with capital which they can use to finance activities related to livelihood promotion.

According to Gonzalez-Velosa (2011) in the study seeking to find out how agricultural remittances were affected by emigration, observed that the agricultural sector is projected to register booming benefits as a result of more remittances trickling in from the indigenous who reside abroad. Lucas (2006), in his study on migration and economic development in Africa, argued that remittances bring about food security since they foster stable farming activities and endeavor to ensure more agricultural productivity is registered. The scholar further argues that

economies are renewed and industrial activities decentralized as a result of the investment of remittances.

At the heart of sustainable development of majority of Sub-Saharan African countries is agriculture (Ouma & Groote, 2011). The scholars posit that agricultural activities have helped these countries to solve food insecurity and abject poverty predicaments. On the other hand, the rural projects initiated by the World Bank in the Republic of Senegal revealed a positive but significant influence on internal, diaspora migrations, diaspora remittances, and adoption of new farming technologies (Tshikala & Fonsah, 2014). However, the survey projected a decline in agricultural production due to farming activities negligence brought about by labor scarcity at the upcountry.

In rural Punjab India, Kaur and Brar (2022) conducted a study on remittance flow to farm households. Generally, the study observed that the income of households was substantially contributed by remittances. The study revealed that a small portion of remittances were directed towards machinery and agricultural land as a good number of households were noted to lease out their land hence indicating remittances had practically bypassed the agricultural sector. The study above was conducted in India, an international context therefore its inferences cannot be generalized locally.

In Chikombedzi Zimbabwe, Caven and Saratiel (2017) conducted a study on the role played by diaspora migrants in ensuring communities back home mitigate the effects of climate change. The study was a qualitative one and in-depth interviews and key informant approaches were relied on to meet the objectives of the study. The study utilized snowball sampling to tap data from 30 volunteered participants. The study revealed that in diversified ways small-scale agricultural activities of native families were sustained and supported by diaspora remittances. The study above was however carried out in Zimbabwe therefore its inferences cannot be generalized locally.

In Zimbabwe, Mazwi (2021) explored the impact of migratory practices on food security and asset accumulation. The units of observation were 1090 households. This observation postulated that asset accumulation and food security were not automatically stimulated by remittances. The study further suggested that though remittances were utilized to meet the basic needs they were however curtailed by growing economic crisis and massive deterioration of work conditions. The study above was however carried out in Zimbabwe therefore its inferences cannot be generalized locally.

In Kenya, Kioko (2016) from the period 1983-2015 sought to unravel the growth of agricultural output that is as a result of remittances trickling from the diaspora. The study specifically examined diaspora remittances and agricultural sector causal link, and the effects agricultural output growth had from diaspora remittances. The study revealed that diaspora remittances and agricultural output shared unidirectional causality with a 1 percent significant level. Further, the study suggested that agricultural input was not influenced by the respective interactions between technological development and human capital. The study above was comparative.

### **3.0 Methodology**

The research adopted a descriptive research design since it offers an accurate explanation of groups, persons, or situations and characteristics. Kericho County, Kenya was the geographical location from which the current study was carried out. It focused on homes that have members living abroad and receive remittances from them. The main socioeconomic activities in the region include agriculture and livestock farming. The records indicate that Kericho County has 1393 emigrants (Kenya National Bureau of Statistics, 2012). These emigrants may send

remittances to their families back at home. Simple Random Sampling was employed in the study as it provides an equal chance of inclusion for each element in the population (Taherdoost, 2016). To ensure fair representation, each household with an emigrant abroad was given an equal opportunity of being selected. Considering the population of interest which falls within the range of 1000-10,000, a sample size equivalent to 10% of the target population is deemed adequate and representative (Mugenda & Mugenda, 2003). Thus, the sample size for the study was 139 respondents.

Primary and secondary approaches to data collection were adopted by the study. Semi-structured questionnaires collected primary data. To guarantee genuine and truthful responses, questionnaires were distributed and collected, allowing the respondents sufficient time to provide their answers. Quantitative techniques involve generating numerical data or transforming observed, reported, or recorded information into quantifiable units (Denscombe, 2003). The collected quantitative data was coded and analyzed using SPSS 23 software, facilitating descriptive and inferential statistical analyses. Descriptive statistical techniques, including calculating the mean, standard deviation, percentages, and frequency distribution, were used to summarize and describe the datasets. Multiple linear regression was conducted between the independent and dependent variables.

Before commencing the study, the researcher diligently obtained the necessary approvals from relevant authorities including the National Commission for Science, Technology, and Innovation (NACOSTI) to conduct the research study in Kenya and approval from Kenyatta University as well as from the Ministry of Education department in Kericho County. Once all necessary approvals were obtained, the researcher sought the consent of the study participants in a voluntary manner. Participants were assured that their data was only to be used for purposes of academia and confidentiality would be highly observed at all times. Furthermore, the study guaranteed the anonymity of their responses to ensure the privacy and comfort of the participants throughout the research process.

## 4.0 Results and Discussions

### 4.1 Response Rate

The survey's primary aim was to gather responses from 125 participants. Ultimately, the research successfully acquired 98% (N=122) of the targeted responses, with only a minor 2% of the participants opting not to participate. As indicated by Cooper and Schindler (2006), a response rate exceeding 60% is deemed satisfactory for statistical analysis.

### 4.2 Demographics

Age, gender, level of education, and number of years as a diaspora remittance recipient were all asked of the respondents. The results are indicated in Table 1.

**Table 1: Respondent Demographics**

Demographic	Frequency	Percentage
<b>Age</b>		
Below 25 years	17	13.9%
25-35 years	57	46.7%
36 years and above	48	39.9%
<b>Total</b>	<b>122</b>	<b>100%</b>
<b>Gender</b>		

Male	66	54%
Female	56	46%
<b>Total</b>	<b>122</b>	<b>100%</b>
<b>Education Level</b>		
O-Level	33	27%
Diploma	26	21.3%
Graduate	48	39.3%
Post-Graduate	15	12.3%
<b>Total</b>	<b>122</b>	<b>100%</b>
<b>Number of Years as A Recipient</b>		
0-3years	25	20.5%
3-6years	31	25.4%
6-9years	28	23%
Over 9 years	38	31.1%
<b>Total</b>	<b>122</b>	<b>100%</b>

As observed from the research results, majority of respondents (47%) were aged between 25-35 years. Additionally, 39% of the respondents were 36 years and older, whereas only a minority, comprising 14% of the subjects, aged below 25 years. The majority (54%) of respondents were male, while females accounted for 46% of the subjects.

The results also showed that a large number of participants 39% were degree holders, 27% had attained O-level education, 21% had attained Diploma with 12% of subjects had attained Postgraduate level education. This shows that the data presented in Table 4.2 indicates that the respondents possessed the necessary understanding of the research's objectives.

Most of the participants (31%) had received remittances for over 9 years, 25% had received remittances for 3-6 years, 23% had received remittances for 6-9 years while 21% of the recipient had received remittances for 0-3 years as shown on Table 4.3 above. This indicates that the respondents had adequate experience as recipients of diaspora remittances which played a crucial role in providing dependable information to address the research problem effectively.

### 4.3 Descriptive Analysis

A 5-Likert scale questionnaire was employed in the research, and the gathered data was subjected to analysis using summation, means, and standard deviations. The results were then presented in tables organized according to the research themes. Mean interpretation was based on the following criteria: strongly disagree (0-1.50), disagree (1.51-2.50), moderate agreement (2.51-3.50), agree (3.51-4.50), and strongly agree (4.51-5.00).

#### 4.3.1 Livelihood Promotion

The dependent variable for the research was livelihood promotion. Table 2 below shows the research findings;



**Table 2: Livelihood Promotion Descriptive**

Variable	N	Sum	Mean	SD
There is better agricultural productivity within the community	122	454.00	3.7213	.70725
There is higher academic achievement among the members of the community	122	495.00	4.0574	.71926
There is better access to healthcare services within the community	122	472.00	3.8689	.70360

The study's results revealed that participants generally agreed on various aspects. For instance, there was consensus on the presence of improved agricultural productivity within the community, as illustrated by a mean of 3.7213 and a deviation of .70725, implying moderate variation in responses. Additionally, the outcomes showed agreement among participants regarding higher academic achievement among community members, with a mean of 4.0574 and a variation of .71926. Furthermore, there was concurrence among participants regarding better access to healthcare services within the community, as reflected by a mean of 3.8689 and a variation of .70360.

The obtained results align with the findings of Sahal and Bahal (2016), who also reported that diversification of human needs, enhanced the family's livelihood. Barajas et al, (2009) indicated that increased remittance increased the income and opportunities within the households which improved their livelihood.

The research respondents further indicated that other key measures of livelihood promotion within the community are the increased consumption level, increased involvement in income-generating activities, improved access to social amenities, increased investment levels, improved access to formal financial services, and modernization of their social trends.

#### 4.3.2 Household Agro farming

Table 3 displays the research findings related to the first variable, which is household Agro farming in the community.

**Table 3: Household Agro farming Descriptive**

Variable	N	Sum	Mean	SD
There is ease in access to agro products among families	122	451.00	3.6967	.69102
There is access to agricultural machines and facilities	122	389.00	3.1885	.70806
There is greater improvement in agro-farming productivity	122	454.00	3.7213	.69547
There is an enhanced capacity to engage in large-scale farming	122	380.00	3.1148	.75182

Regarding household agro farming, participants agreed that there is ease in access to agro products among families, as evidenced by a mean of 3.6967 and a variation of .69102. Moreover, concerning access to agricultural machines and facilities, there was moderate agreement among participants with a mean of 3.1885 and a variation of .70806. Gonzalez-Velosa (2011) indicated that remittances improved the potential of the agriculture sector. The results showed there was agreement that there is greater improvement in agro-farming productivity as indicated by 3.7213 mean and a 0.69547 variation therefore indicating minimal variation in responses. There is moderate consensus among respondents of enhanced capacity to engage in large-scale farming as demonstrated by a mean of 3.1148 and a variation of .75182. The outcome resonated with Gayle et al. (2013) whose views suggested that remittances within developing economies helped improve agricultural opportunities within households.

The respondents of the study further indicated that diaspora remittances have not only increased access to modern farming practices but have led to the introduction of new farming techniques and diversification of the farming process. Further, farmers have been able to access extension services and the formation of cooperative societies within the community due to the modernization of their farming. The respondents further indicated there has been an improvement in access to fertilizers and modern seedlings which has improved production.

#### 4.4 Multiple Regression

Multiple regression was carried out between the household agro farming and livelihood promotion. The results are shown in table 4.

**Table 4: Multiple regression**

<b>Household Agro Farming and Livelihood Promotion</b>			
<b>Model Summary:</b> R=0.962 R Square=0.925 Adjusted R Square=0.922 Std. error estimate=0.18691			
<b>ANOVA:</b> F=360.933 sig=0.000			
<b>Variable</b>	<b>Coefficient</b>	<b>t-statistic</b>	<b>p-value</b>
Constant	0.140	1.309	0.193
Ease of access to agro products	0.821	22.184	0.000
Access to agricultural machines and facilities	0.013	0.208	0.835
Greater improvement in agro-farming productivity	0.141	3.23	0.000
Enhanced ability to engage in large-scale farming	0.005	0.097	0.23

The value of adjusted R Squared was 0.922 indicating that 92.2% of livelihood promotion was as a result of agro farming at the household level. The ANOVA F value was 360.933 (p=0.000) indicating that this was a useful model and that agro-farming was an indicator of livelihood promotion. Two of the variables were found to be statistically significant to the model. These were ease of access to agro products by families and greater improvements in agro-farming

productivity. A unit increase in ease of access to agro products would result in a 0.821 increase in livelihood promotion while a unit increase in improvements in agro productivity would lead to a 0.141 increase in livelihood promotion. The constant for this model was not significant indicating that agro-farming as a variable on its own greatly influenced livelihood promotion among respondents. The equation for this would be rewritten as:

$$Y=0.821x_1+0.141x_3$$

## 5.0 Conclusion

Diaspora remittance was found to have an effect on the agro-farming aspects of livelihood promotion among residents of Kericho County who received them. This was evidenced by the fact that diaspora remittances gave them greater access to agricultural products, machines, and facilities and helped them improve their farm productivity. Of these, ease of access to agricultural products and improvements to farming productivity were found to have the most significant effects on livelihood promotion. Thus, it can be concluded that diaspora remittances improved the economic lives of recipients by improving their agricultural productivity and giving them access to agro-products. These in turn promote their livelihoods.

## 6.0 Recommendations

1. Diaspora remittances had a positive and notable effect on household agro-farming in Kenya and there is need of Kenyan government working towards ensuring policies that ensures smooth flow of diaspora remittances and come up with ways of motivating and attracting remittances into Kenyan economy
2. Kenyan government needs to come up with interventions and incentives in encouraging foreign remittances as it increases Agro Farmers disposable income and the utilize it to improve Agro farming
3. Kenyans living in Diaspora needs to invest in their mother land by sending remittances. There remittances support economic growth, though there might be challenges such as depreciating currency but there is great opportunities in investing in Agro farming and there is maximum returns.

## References

- Aboulez, N. (2015). Remittances and Economic Growth Nexus: Empirical Evidence from Kenya. *International Journal of Academic Research in Business and Social Sciences*, Vol.5, No. 12.
- Barajas, A., Gapen, M., Chami R., Montiel, P., & Fullenkamp, C. (2009). Do Workers' Remittances Promote Economic Growth? IMF Working Paper WP/09/153
- Bett, L. J. (2013). *The Effect of Diaspora Remittances on Economic Growth in Kenya*. University of Nairobi, unpublished thesis.
- Blue S. A. (2013). International Remittances: The Impact of Temporary Migration on the Cuban Society. *International Journal of Cuban Studies*, 5(1) pp. 41-60.
- Burns, T. & Roszkowska, E. (2016). Rational Choice Theory: Towards Psychological, Social, and Material Contextualization of Human Choice Behavior. *Theoretical Economics Letters*, 6, 195-207.
- Caven, M., & Saratiel, Z. (2017). The role of diaspora migrants in helping communities to mitigate the effects of climate in their home communities: a case of Chikombedzi community. *Russian Journal of Agricultural and Socio-Economic Sciences*, 62(2), 187-194.

- Cherono, M. R. (2013). The effect of remittances and financial development on private investment in Kenya. *Unpublished MA project. University of Nairobi.*
- Cirasino M (2015) Reducing the Costs of Transferring Remittances: How Realistic is the Proposed Target for Post-2015? The 13<sup>th</sup> Coordination Meeting on International Migration. New York
- Cooper D. R & Schindler P.S (2003). *Business Research Methods (8<sup>th</sup> Edition).* McGraw-Hill. The USA.
- Descombe M (2003): *The Good Research Guide: For Small Scale Research Projects: Second Edition.* Buckingham: Open University Press.
- Gayle N, Navarro D., Murukezi P. & Barchue A. (2013). Leveraging and Tapping the Diaspora and Remittances for Development. IFAD Conference.
- Gonzalez-Velosa, C. (2011). The effects of emigration and remittances on agriculture: Evidence from the Philippines. *Job Market Paper.* 1-55.
- G20 (2015). National Remittance Plans. Global Partnership for Financial Inclusion.
- Gupta, S., Catherine, P., & Smita, W. (2007). Making Remittances Work for Africa. *Finance and Development*, 44(2), 1-9.
- Haan D.L, (2012). The Livelihood Approach: A Critical Exploration. *Erdkunde*, 66(4)345-357. Retrieved from: <http://www.jstor.org/stable/41759104>. Retrieved on 15/06/2017.
- Hietala, R. & Singh, R.B (2014) Livelihood Security in Changing Socio-Economic Environment: Summary and Policy Recommendations. In *livelihood security in Northwestern Himalaya* (pp 249-258). Springer. Japan
- International Organization for Migration. (2015). Migration in Kenya. A country profile. *Developing capacity in migration management.*, pp 156-169.
- Karagoz. (2009). Workers' Remittances and Economic Growth: Evidence from Turkey. Kaur, G., & Brar, J. S. (2022). Remittances flow to farm households in rural Punjab: an empirical analysis. *South Asian Diaspora*, 1-14.
- Kaur, G., & Brar, J. S. (2022). Remittances flow to farm households in rural Punjab: an empirical analysis. *South Asian Diaspora*, 1-14.
- Kioko, B. K. (2016). The impact of diaspora remittances on agricultural output growth in Kenya (1983-2015). *University of Nairobi.*
- Laura, H. L. (2013). the impact of foreign remittances on the economic growth of Kenya. *University of Nairobi.*
- Lubambu K. M. K. (2014). *The Impacts of Remittances on Developing Countries.* Directorate-General for External Policies of the Union. Policy Department. European Parliament.
- Mazwi, F. (2021). The impact of migratory practices on food security and asset accumulation in Zimbabwe: a study. *African Geographical Review*, 1-12.
- Ministry of Foreign Affairs and International Trade (2014). Kenya Ministry of Foreign Affairs Diaspora Database, December 2014.
- Mugenda O. M & Mugenda A, G (2003). *Research Methods*, Acts Press. Nairobi.
- Ogu, M.I. (2013). Rational Choice Theory: Assumptions, Strengths, and Greatest Weaknesses in application outside the Western Milieu context. *Arabian*
- Opong, K. K. (2012, 10 14). *Prospect Theory and Migrant Decision Making.* Retrieved from Adam Smith Business School, University of Glasgow: <http://ssrn.com/abstract=21276154>
- Ouma J & Groote D. H (2011) Determinants of improved Maize Seed and Fertilizer Adoption in Kenya. *Journal of Development and Agricultural Economics.* 3. 529-536.

- Parida J., Mohanty S, & Raman K (2015). Remittances, Household Expenditure and Investment in Rural India. Evidence from NSS data. *Indian Economic Review*, 50 (1), New Series.
- Ratha, D. (2013). The impact of remittances on economic growth and poverty reduction. *Migration Policy Institute.*, Pp 1-14.
- Sahal B. & Bahal R. (2016). Constraints Impeding Diversification of Farmers in West Bengal. *Indian Research of Journal of Extension Education* 12(2), 59-63.
- Skeldon, R. (2008). International Migration as a Tool in Development Policy: A Passing Phase. *Population and Development Review*, , 34(1),1-18
- Stanbic Bank (2023). Remittances and Diaspora. Retrieved from Stanbic Bank, [www.stanbicbank.co.ke](http://www.stanbicbank.co.ke)
- Taherdoost, H. (2016). Sampling methods in research methodology; how to choose a sampling technique for research. *How to choose a sampling technique for research (April 10, 2016)*.
- Tshikala, S., & Fonsah, E. (2014). Assessing the impact of migration and remittances on technology adoption in rural Senegal. *Southern Agricultural Economics Association Annual Meeting*.
- Wagle U.R, (2012). Socioeconomic Implications of Increasing Foreign Remittance to Nepal. Evidence from the Nepal Living Standard Survey. *International Migration*, 50 (4) 187-207.