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AFRIKA-STUDIENSTELLE

Agricultural Development in Tanganyika

By

HANS RUTHENBERG

With one Map and 33 Tables



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Preface

In early 1961 the Ifo-Institut für Wirtschaftsforschung (Ifo-Institute for Economic Research) established an "African Studies Centre" *with the support of the Fritz-Thyssen-Foundation* to conduct research into the economic and political problems of developing countries, with special reference to the African nations. By means of investigations into the structure and prospects of development in the developing countries, the Studies Centre will aim at contributing towards the creation of a factual groundwork, on the basis of which the Federal Republic's development policy can be carried out effectively.

In this "age of development" the social and economic sciences are confronted with manifold tasks. In solving these, *interdisciplinary co-operation* will prove advantageous and even essential, if wrong and narrow judgements are to be avoided. Co-operation between scientists and institutes engaged in different branches of research will make possible a better understanding of the complex functional relationship which determine economic events and their mutations outside Western industrial society than could be normally achieved by an isolated approach. Intelligent overall economic planning, for example, requires technological analysis just as much as a precise knowledge of social structure or physical context. At this point the economist must co-operate closely with the engineer if he wishes to avoid losing his way in general patterns of growth. For, "dès lors que nous parlons (du développement) en quantités *globales*, nous ne parlons de *rien*" (LOUIS-JOSEPH LEBRET). It is no less important for the economist to take into consideration the results of, for instance, sociological or geographical research.

When, in 1961, the Ifo-Institute decided to include in its research activities questions concerning developing countries and development policies, it intended not only to confine itself to purely economic considerations but to bring together all related disciplines. *Agriculture* has so far made the largest contribution to the gross domestic product of the individual economies of Africa, and in the foreseeable future the success or failure of all the efforts of politicians concerned with the development of their country will basically depend on a meaningful use of agricultural resources. The first logical consequence of this for the African Studies Centre of the Ifo-

Institute was to seek support from the side of agricultural and economic research. In this desire it was supported by the *Institut für ausländische Landwirtschaft in Berlin* (Institute for Foreign Agriculture in Berlin) which was guided by similar considerations. In 1961 the two institutes agreed upon close co-operation — both in matters of personnel and research — in their work in Africa and this has since borne fruit.

In volume 2 of “Afrika-Studien” an investigation by HANS RUTHENBERG of “Agricultural Development in Tanganyika” will be presented as a first result of this co-operation. It is a description of agricultural conditions prevailing in Tanganyika and of the measures taken to encourage African peasant farming. It comprises an evaluation of experiences gained under British colonial administration and an outline of the changes brought about since the accession to independence. In 1961 the IBRD published the first comprehensive study on the economic and cultural situation in Tanganyika. The study by HANS RUTHENBERG may be regarded as supplementing that work. It focusses attention on peasant production. It indicates how progress in farming was and is encouraged in Tanganyika, which measures proved successful, which a failure, and the aims of government policy since independence. In a final chapter questions of principle in regard to agricultural development aid are discussed with special reference to Tanganyika. Thanks are due to many Africans, Europeans and Indians in Tanganyika who discussed with the author their position, their problems and their intentions and whose ideas are reflected in this publication.

Further investigations undertaken in co-operation with the Institutes for Foreign Agriculture in Berlin and Göttingen and the Institut für landwirtschaftliche Betriebs- und Arbeitslehre at Göttingen (Institute for Agricultural Methodology), have been started or are in preparation. The results of these studies will also be published in this series.

Our attempt at interdisciplinary co-operation through close working contacts with related branches of science was fortunately not limited to purely economic (in the narrower sense) and agricultural research. Thanks to the generous support received from the *Fritz-Thyssen Foundation* co-ordination of research activities in East Africa was also achieved with the *Max-Planck-Institutes* for Nutrition Physiology and Behavioural Science. Contacts were established with ethnologists, sociologists, geographers, lawyers, veterinary scientists, botanists and zoologists. Thus a research project within a regionally limited area — East Africa — came into being, aimed at throwing light on the principles of economic development and the discovery of the most efficient methods of coping with the new tasks. The establishment of a research programme leads to a better understanding of the importance of the task and of the difficulties involved. It will not be possible to cope with the problems facing us by adopting a “comprehensive approach” right from the start. Individual problems must be tackled

regionally and in accordance with the facts. This may easily give the impression of a scattered collection of individual data lacking a unifying purpose. We are fully aware of this danger; but we are confident that it will be possible to blend the individual components into a single whole. Let us not forget that we are only at the beginning. After a few studies have been presented the reader will obtain a clearer picture of the ideas on which our programme is based than is possible at the moment. The institutes and scientists co-operating in this work will do their best to fill in gaps and to present a broad canvas. In the furtherance and promotion of these objectives the African Studies Centre will act as co-ordinator.

After this promising initial period of co-operation in the German scientific sphere it will also be our concern to establish close contacts with non-German, international and African scientists and institutes. To this end prospects are favourable. We are well aware of the limited scope of our national facilities for research, hence the regional limitation of co-operation between the different branches of science to the Federal Republic. Numerous research projects can only be effectively carried out on an *international* level, and others only attain their full importance if measured by universal standards.

A French institute recently attempted to ascertain the most important subjects necessary to an international research project on problems of economic and social development. In a preliminary report MICHEL DEBEAUVAIS¹ made the following statement: "Les sciences humaines doivent jouer un rôle essentiel dans l'étude du sous-développement. Elles sont actuellement *très en retard* sur les progrès des sciences exactes et des sciences naturelles, parce qu'elles répondent à des besoins moins *directement ressentis*, que le nombre des chercheurs y est encore restreint, qu'elles se trouvent à des degrés inégaux de développement et d'organisation, que les résultats de leurs recherches sont *mal connus* par les spécialistes des autres disciplines, mêmes voisines."

In our "Afrika-Studien" series we will try to ensure that at least the last sentence of the above criticism is less justified in the future — as far as our own field of activities is concerned. If the "Afrika-Studien" should develop into a wellknown source of information for research in Africa and contribute towards broadening the quite often narrow scope of the various branches of social science our efforts would be fully rewarded.

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¹ TIERS MONDE, Paris, Nr. 5/1961, p. 45.

Summary of recent and forthcoming publications under the African Research Programme

At the end of July 1964 the overall research programme included the following studies dealing with general and particular economic problems. In order to keep readers informed of changes, supplementary work and the progress made towards publication each volume of "Afrika-Studien" will contain a summary of the programme as a whole. Some of the studies will appear in English or French and the rest in German.

General Economic Studies

a) Tropical Africa

- N. AHMAD/E. BECHER: Development Banks and Companies in Tropical Africa (being printed as volume 1).
- R. GÜSTEN/H. HELMSCHROTT: National Accounting Systems in Tropical Africa (being printed as volume 3).
- N. AHMAD/E. BECHER/E. HARDER: Economic Planning and Development Plans in Tropical Africa (nearly ready).

b) East Africa

- L. SCHNITTGER: Tax Systems and Fiscal Policy as an Instrument of Economic Development in East Africa (nearly ready).
- R. GÜSTEN: On Problems in Connection with Economic Union in East Africa (in preparation).
- R. VENDE: Methods and Results of Economic Planning in East Africa (in preparation).
- F. GOLL: Israeli Aid to Developing Countries with Special Reference to East Africa (in preparation).

Agricultural Studies

a) Tropical Africa

- A. REITHINGER: Possibilities of Diversifying Agricultural Production in Tropical Africa (nearly ready).
- (Various): The Effects of the European Common Market Regulation of Agricultural Products on the Export Trade of Developing Countries (in preparation).

H. PÖSSINGER: Results and Problems of Agricultural Development in Portuguese Africa (ready).

b) East Africa

1. Comprehensive Basic Studies

H. RUTHENBERG: Agricultural Development in Tanganyika (appearing as volume 2).

H. RUTHENBERG: Peasant Production in Kenya and Measures to Promote it (in preparation).

2. Botanical, Breeding and Economic Aspects of Cattle Farming in East Africa

H. LEIPPERT: Natural Planting Associations in the Arid Areas of East Africa (in preparation).

K. MENN: Meat Production in the Arid Areas of East Africa (in preparation).

N. NEWIGER: Communal Forms of Animal Husbandry (and Soil Husbandry) in East Africa (in preparation).

E. RADDATZ: The Organization of African Peasant Farms and Dairy Farming in Kenya (in preparation).

B. ENGEL: The Organization of Meat and Milk Markets in East Africa (in preparation).

3. The Organization of Peasant Farming Systems in East Africa

D. v. ROTENHAN: The Organization of Land Use in Sukumaland (cotton) (nearly ready).

H. PÖSSINGER: The Possibilities and Limitations of Peasant Sisal in East Africa (in preparation).

S. GROENEVELD: The Organization of Cattle/Coconut Palm Farms near Tanga (in preparation).

W. SCHEFFLER/A. v. GAGERN: Managerial and Sociological Problems of Peasant Tobacco Production in Tanganyika (in preparation).

K. FRIEDRICH/H. JÜRGENS: The Organization of Land Use and Animal Husbandry in the Coffee-growing Area near Bukoba, Tanganyika (in preparation).

E. BAUM: The Organization of Farm and Household among the Coffee-Banana-Milk Peasants on Mt. Kilimanjaro (in preparation).

4. Other Investigations in Connection with Agricultural Development

H. FLIEDNER: The Economic and Social Impact of Land Tenure Reform in Kenya (ready).

- M. PAULUS: The Role of Co-operatives in the Economic Development of East Africa, and especially of Tanganyika (nearly ready).
- N. N.: Nutritional Habits and Food Shortages in Northern Tanganyika (in preparation).
- F. DIETERLEN/P. KUNKEL: Tropical Rodents and Birds as Agricultural Parasites (in preparation).
- W. KÜHNE: A Study of Animal Behaviour in the Serengeti (in preparation).

Studies in Commerce and Trade

- H. KAINZBAUER: Trade in the Economic Development of Tanganyika (in preparation).
- K. SCHÄDLER: Handicrafts in the Economic Development of Tanganyika (in preparation).

Sociological Studies

- A. v. MOLNOS: Methods and Results of Sociological Research in East Africa (nearly ready).
- H. HARLANDER/A. v. MOLNOS: The Role of Women in the Economic and Social Development of East Africa (in preparation).
- O. RAUM: The African's Willingness and Ability to Adapt himself to the Modern Economy, with special reference to the Kilombero Valley, Tanganyika (in preparation).
- N. N.: The African as a worker in Industry in East Africa (in preparation).

Various Regional Studies

- W. MARQUARDT: The Interrelations between Man, Nature and Economic Organization with special reference to Madagascar (in preparation).
- R. GÜSTEN: Problems of Economic Development as instanced in the Sudan (ready).
- O.-O. NEUHOFF: The Economics of Raw Material in the Development Planning of the Republic of Gabon (nearly ready).
- H. JÜRGENS: Contributions to Domestic Migration and Population Development in Liberia (appearing as volume 4).
- H. D. LUDWIG: Ukara — a Development Study in Economic Geography (in preparation).
- K. SCHÄDLER/N. N.: Development Possibilities in Ulanga-District, Tanganyika (in preparation).

Bibliographies

- D. MEZGER/E. LITTICH: Recent English and American Economic Research in East Africa. A Selected Bibliography (in preparation).

Contents

Chapter A

The Role of Agriculture in the Economic Development of Tanganyika . . .	1
I. Land and Population	1
II. The Position of Agriculture in the Economy	2
III. Objectives of an Agricultural Development Policy	4
1. Meeting the Home Demand	4
2. Export	5
3. Increased Productivity	5
4. Agriculture's Contribution to the Formation of Capital	6
5. Conclusions	7

Chapter B

A Brief Survey of the Agricultural Situation in Tanganyika	7
I. Climate, Soil and Vegetation	7
1. Rainfall	7
2. Soil and Water	8
3. Vegetation	10
II. Prices and Markets	11
III. Organization of Farming	13
1. The Estate Economy	13
2. Peasant Farming	17
3. Some Specific Information about African Farming	23
a) Cotton Farms in Sukumaland	23
b) Coffee Banana Farms of the Wachagga	26
c) Wheat Farms in the Northern Region	28
d) Mixed Farming on Ukara	29
e) Some Examples of Traditional Methods of Manuring	33
4. Animal Husbandry — Peasants and Herdsmen	34

Chapter C

Achievements of Tanganyika's Agriculture	37
I. Production	37
II. Agricultural Exports and Imports	40
III. Inter-territorial Agricultural Trade	43

Chapter D

Agricultural Development Policy under British Administration	45
I. Development Policy until 1950	45
II. The Early 1950's — Administrative Ordinances as an Instrument of Development	48

1. Additional Development Services	48
2. Improvement through Compulsion	49
3. The Priority of Erosion Control	52
4. Increased Cash Crop Production: Cotton in Sukumaland	54
5. Summary of the Early Fifties	59
III. The Late 1950's — A Strategy for Agricultural Development	60
1. Extension Work on the Principle of "Persistent Persuasion"	61
a) Basic Considerations	61
b) Objective: More Cash Crop Production	61
c) The Means: Introduction of Popular Innovations	62
d) Instruments for the Spread of Innovation	63
e) Operational Procedure: Concentration of Effort	68
f) Examples of Successful Extension Work	69
2. Production under "Close Supervision"	77
a) Settlements on Non-Irrigated Land	78
α) Unplanned Settlements Subject to Certain Rules	78
β) Planned Settlements on New Land	78
γ) Settlements of the Tanganyika Agricultural Corporation	80
b) Plantation Crops under "Close Supervision"	89
α) Peasant Tea	89
β) African Sisal	91
c) Irrigation and "Close Supervision"	93
d) Summary of Production under "Close Supervision"	96
3. Market Co-operatives	99
4. Summarizing Agricultural Development Efforts in the Last Decade of British Administration	103
IV. The Development Plan for 1961/62—1963/64	104

Chapter E

Agricultural Development Policy in the first Years of Independence	109
I. Africanization	109
II. African Socialism	112
III. The "People's Plan"	114
1. Institutions	114
2. Some Beginnings and Achievements	116
a) Capital Formation through Unpaid Labour	116
b) Cultivation Targets	117
c) Co-operative Land Use	119
d) Co-operative Trade	123
e) Community Development	124
3. Some Difficulties	125
a) Shortage of Personnel	125
b) The Economics of Self-Help Schemes	126
c) Limits of Cultivation Targets	127
d) Problems of Co-operative Land Use	127
e) US Maize — a Danger to Self-Help	129
f) A Change in Agricultural Administration and Extension	130
g) Stagnation in Land Tenure	132
h) The Estate Economy and African Socialism	132

IV. The Principal Objective: Change in Social and Economic Attitudes . . .	134
V. Thoughts on Future Development Policy	135
VI. Conclusions	138

Chapter F

Agricultural Development Aid: Some General Observations Based on Conditions in Tanganyika	139
I. Some Fundamental Points	139
1. Aims and Dangers of Development Aid in Agriculture	139
2. Agricultural versus Non-agricultural Development Aid	143
3. Criteria for Agricultural Aid	148
a) Fiscal Profitableness	148
b) Continuity of Stimuli	149
c) African Responsibility	149
d) Social Pragmatism	150
e) Political Considerations	150
f) Institutional Suitability	151
II. Particular Spheres of Agricultural Development Aid	152
1. Agricultural Research	152
2. Agricultural Education	154
3. Agricultural Extension	158
4. Settlements and Production under "Close Supervision"	161
5. State Farms	162
6. Industries Processing Agricultural Raw Materials	164
7. Development Aid and Irrigation	165
III. A General Proposal Concerning the Technique of Selecting a Project . .	167
IV. Summary	168

Appendix A

Technical-Economic Approaches to Agricultural Development in Tanganyika	170
I. Cultivation of Crops	170
II. Animal Husbandry	178
III. Irrigation Schemes	179
a) Areas with Great Water Potential	180
b) Input-Output Ratio of Irrigation	181
IV. Ox-Ploughs and Motorization	183
a) The Ox-Plough	183
b) Motorization	186

Appendix B

Marketing Boards and Market Controls	187
1. Marketing Boards	187
2. Market Controls	189
a) Wheat and Sugar	189
b) Cattle Markets	190
c) Milk and Dairy Products	190
Bibliography	190

List of Tables

Table 1	The Gross National Product of Tanganyika	2
Table 2	Factories Processing Agricultural Products	3
Table 3	Land Distribution	9
Table 4	Prices for Principal Crops	12
Table 5	Land in the Estate Economy	14
Table 6	Long Term Rights of Occupancy	15
Table 7	Type of Farm by Predominant Activity (1958)	16
Table 8	Estimated Agricultural Production, Acreage and Value (1954) . .	18
Table 9	Some Results of the Sample Survey of African Agriculture, Tanganyika, 1950	20
Table 10	Organization of Cotton Farms in Sukumaland	24
Table 11	Productivity of Hoe Cultivation in Sukumaland	25
Table 12	Organization of Coffee Banana Farms at Mt. Kilimanjaro . . .	27
Table 13	Livestock Population in 1,000 head	35
Table 14	Production and Market Sales of Principal Crops in 1,000 tons .	38
Table 15	An Estimate of Animal Production 1960	39
Table 16	Development of Cattle Sales	40
Table 17	Development of Agricultural Exports	41
Table 18	Export of Agricultural Products	42
Table 19	Net Import of some Important Agricultural Products in 1000 £ (international trade excluded)	43
Table 20	Inter-territorial Trade in some Important Agricultural Products	44
Table 21	Staff of the Agricultural Department 1950—1960	49
Table 22	Development of Cotton Production in the Lake Region	55
Table 23	Coffee Production Figures of the Members of the Tanganyika Co-operative Trading Agency (TACTA)	70
Table 24	Results of Nachingwea Settlement Scheme	82
Table 25	Development of Tobacco at Urambo	84
Table 26	Development of Kongwa Settlement	87
Table 27	Growth of the Kilimanjaro Native Co-operative Union Ltd. . .	100
Table 28	Expenses of the Kilimanjaro Native Co-operative Union . . .	101
Table 29	Expenses of Cotton Marketing	102
Table 30	Development Plan 1961/62—1963/64	106
Table 31	Agricultural Projects of the Development Plan 1961/62—1963/64	107
Table 32	FAO Plans for Irrigation in the Rufiji Basin	180
Table 33	Agricultural Market Organizations in Tanganyika	188