

**THE ROLE OF MULTINATIONAL CORPORATIONS IN SOCIO-
ECONOMIC DEVELOPMENT OF KENYA: A CASE STUDY OF
DOMINION FARMS (K) LTD (2003 -2017)**

BY

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DECLARATION

This research project is my original work and has not been submitted to any other University for academic award.

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This project has been submitted for examination with my approval as the appointed university supervisor.

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LIST OF ABBREVIATIONS/ACRONYMS

BAT	British American Tobacco
CSR	Corporate Social Responsibility
FDI	Foreign Direct Investment
IBM	(IBM Kenya) Software company in Nairobi
IFRI	International Food Policy Research Institute
LBDA	Lake Basin Development Authority
MCA	Member of County Assembly
MNC	Multinational Corporation
MoU	Memorandum of Understanding
NACOSTI	National Commission for Science, Technology and Innovation
NGO	Non-Governmental Organization
SPSS	Statistical Package for Social Sciences
UK	United Kingdom
UNCTAD	United Nations Conference on Trade and Development
US (USA)	United States of America
WTO	World Trade Organization

ABSTRACT

In this study, the author attempted to delve into the debate on the viability of Multinational Corporations in host nations. Dominion Farms (K) Ltd was the model MNC through which fundamental questions on its role on food production and Corporate Social Responsibility can be answered, especially on their impact on socio-economic development in Siaya County. The answers to these questions were aimed at establishing the possibility of a positive relationship between Dominion's food production and socio-economic development.

Another possibility that required confirmation was the positive relationship between the company's Corporate Social Responsibility and socio-economic development. A descriptive survey design was adopted on a population of rural small-scale farmers who stay within a distance of at least two kilometres from Dominion's central operation Centre at Ratuoro. Purposive sampling was used to select five villages, and stratified random sampling was applied whereupon, the population was divided into groups or strata representing the five villages. Each population unit represented households in the five villages. Purposive sampling was also used to select former staff of Dominion.

The study found that Dominion had a major contribution in irrigation farming that produced mainly rice, and indirectly improved the socio-economic development of Siaya County. In Corporate Social Responsibility, the company's policy had minimal influence on socio-economic development of the County. The study recommended that there should be more incorporation of the community and other stakeholders in future MNC activities to avoid conflicts. Future investors were expected to recognize the status of Yala swamp as an important national resource capable of producing enough food for the Country. It was also recommended that Siaya County Government should come up with policies that incorporate close working relations with Multinational Corporations or any investor in the area.

CHAPTER ONE: INTRODUCTION

1.1 Background to the Study

The role of Multinational Corporations (MNCs) in domestic economies of states is determined by many factors, key among them being political environments that have strong democratic institutions (Jensen, 2006). This is because MNCs need a favourable environment for successful business operations.

MNCs are business enterprises which establish investments in more than one country and exercise direct control of the investments for value addition. According to Root (1994), Multinational Corporations are parent companies that engage in production of goods and services through their affiliates located in several countries and engage in transnational business transactions. MNCs are spread all over the world, and most of them have their headquarters in economically advanced countries, including Denmark, South Korea, Germany, Japan and the US. They are also actively present in developing countries such as China, India and Brazil (Roach, 2005). A total of 75,000 MNCs were actively in operation in the year 2005 (The United Nations Conference on Trade and Development UNCTAD, 2006). It has been observed that MNCs occupy a central position in socio-economic progress of a country. In the US, MNCs are the leading contributors to economic prosperity among the private sector organizations (Cummings & Manyika, 2010).

Some studies have shown that most large economies of the world are dominated by MNCs, and not particular countries as one would have expected (Anderson & Cavanagh, 2000). It is believed that a big portion of direct foreign investment in the third world is initiated by the MNCs. Notable areas for such investments include mining industries, agricultural sector development, and service industries. For the developing countries, MNCs provide useful sources of revenue, employment creation, foreign exchange earnings and other positive contributions to economic development.

Africa has also provided an attractive avenue for Multinational Corporations. According to Bende-Nabende (2002), the most dominant long run determinants of Foreign Direct Investments (FDI) in Sub Saharan Africa are market growth, export orientation policy, and FDI liberalization. Southern Africa attracts about one third of FDI projects in Africa especially in the energy sector. The US and UK are South Africa's largest investors (Bijaoui,

2017). Further expansion of MNC activities have been manifested in the increased operation of Chinese business enterprises in Africa, in particular, their visible presence in petroleum and gas industry, as well as infrastructure development (Alden & Davies, 2006).

It has been generally observed that some key transformations in socio-economic development of Kenya since colonial time have been largely attributed to the role played by the Multinational Corporations especially in the agricultural sector. The colonial settlers in Kenya relied on extraction of raw materials from their expansive farms to boost the country's economic development and encourage trade and investment ties with their mother country, the United Kingdom. This created a fertile ground for emergence of many Multinational companies that continued to collaborate with emerging elites who controlled the direction of political and economic development after independence (Langdon, 1981). Notable MNCs in this category included Delmonte for processed fruit, Brook bond in the tea industry and several companies in the cut flower production industry (Cleaver, 1993). Some companies such as Cocacola and Kenya Breweries are involved in processing of soft drinks and beer respectively in Kenya so that their products can attract markets in industrialised countries. Others are Google, Microsoft, Toyota, Safaricom, Airtel, BAT, Kenol Kobil and Kenya Commercial Bank. These firms are mainly in the manufacturing, service, oil extraction, automobile and telecommunication industry (Kaplinsky, 1979). The contribution of these companies to Kenya's socio-economic development is mainly on their ability to create employment and being a source of huge tax revenue to the exchequer. The impact of these benefits to the ordinary Kenyan citizens is still a subject of debate. It has been argued for instance that the introduction of advanced technology for enhanced production of goods and services by the MNCs retards the natural development of local industries, and creates a fertile ground for export to the international market. This leaves majority entrepreneurs and the ordinary people in the host countries at a disadvantage due to their inability to compete with the MNCs (Tirimba & Macharia, 2014).

Most of these MNCs are mainly based in Kenya's capital city, Nairobi. The implication of this location is that the rural areas where there are many socio-economic challenges have not provided serious attraction to the MNCs. However, recent developments in the operations of MNCs have shown that they are increasingly getting involved in agricultural activities. This is the right avenue through which the MNCs would be expected to create a positive impact on the socio-economic conditions of the underprivileged people in the rural areas. It is against

this background that Dominion Farms (K) Ltd was chosen for this study as an example of a Multinational Corporation which could provide answers on the socio-economic impact of its agricultural activities on the poor rural people in Siaya County whose main economy depends on peasant farming.

Dominion Farms (K) Ltd was the only Multinational Corporation in Siaya County during the period covered in this study from 2003 to 2017. The company was privileged to undertake large scale crop production in 2004 after signing a Memorandum of Understanding (MoU) and Lease agreement with the defunct Siaya and Bondo County Councils respectively (Siaya County Assembly, 2015). Since then, the achievements and failures of the company have elicited diverse reactions. On one hand are those who appreciate the transfer of advanced technology by Dominion to Kenya in the form of farm equipment and heavy machinery that converted the swamp into dry land (Burgess, 2017). On the other hand, are the proponents of Marxists and dependency theory orientation who believe that Dominion was simply involved in land grabbing and their investment in agricultural activities would only benefit the company and not the local people. Hence many people in the community, the environmentalists and NGOs have expressed their negative attitude towards the new large-scale farming project (Kinaro, 2008).

When Dominion Farm was beginning its operations in the region, it was expected to transform the region by creating jobs, improving infrastructure, and transfer of farming technology and other development skills to the locals. Over the years, the area appears to have undergone some changes which may be related to the existence of Dominion Farm. A casual observation reveals that the employment of many local people in the farm may have resulted into improved conditions of life for their families. Circulation of money in the area may have also improved due to purchasing power of the workers leading to transformation of local trading centres in the area. Similarly, the conditions of schools, health centres and the state of livestock underwent significant transformation. Dominion also constructed new factories and attempted to give attention on improvement of infrastructure in the area.

It is in view of the above that this study will evaluate the extent to which Dominion Farms (K) Ltd has enabled its host nation, Kenya, to benefit socially and economically from the investment returns during the period of the Company's operation from 2003 to 2017.

1.2 Statement of the Research Problem

There is a debate to be unravelled about the possible relationship between operations of Multinational Corporations and socio-economic development in their areas of operation. It has been argued for example, that by transferring advanced technology to their host nations, MNCs have contributed to expansion of productivity and hence rapid socio- economic development (Pietrobelli & Rabellotti, 2011)

Some scholars especially of Marxist and dependency theory orientation have expressed their misgivings about the activities of MNCs. They have time and again deliberated on the rising number of MNCs in third world countries as a sham, and likely to bring undesirable results to economies of these countries (Barnett & Ronald, 1974). The argument goes further that since several MNCs trace their parent companies from the developed and technologically advanced countries, their role has appeared to be more of propagating and promoting socio- economic and cultural interests of their mother countries, and not to assist in economic development of their host nations and save them from abject poverty. It has also been alleged that MNCs send bulk of their profit to their countries through a process known as capital flight rather than re-investing the same in the economy where they operate in order to enhance socio-economic development (Kojima, 1978). It is further alleged that some MNCs avoid payment of taxes to their host countries by under-declaring their profit (Dunning, 2012). Yet other scholars appreciate the socio-economic benefits that MNCs have brought to the third world and therefore deserve all the necessary support from the host nations for their success (Ahiakpor, 2010). The choice of one MNC in Kenya for this study is one way by which we can understand the issues generated in the debate. In this context, Dominion Farms (K) Ltd was the model MNC whose fundamental role was to address the problems associated with poverty in Siaya County.

Yala swamp area which was the main centre of Dominion's operations was found to be one of the poorest localities in Siaya County. By the time Dominion arrived in the area, the only major source of income for the inhabitants was subsistence farming despite the abundant irrigation potential in the area. Poverty was attributed to poor soil fertility that led to low yields; over – reliance on traditional methods of agricultural production, unpredictable rainfall, high mortality levels, collapse of cash crop enterprises, lack of industries and outdated cultural beliefs. Poverty in the area was reflected in poor health, constraints on marketing, limited purchasing power and lack of extension services. This study examined

how two activities of Dominion ie Food production and Corporate Social Responsibility addressed the problems associated with poverty in the area, and their impact on socio-economic development. The new ideas generated from the study will be useful in transforming the living conditions of the people.

1.3 Research Questions

The expectation of this study was to provide answers to inquiries raised as follows:

- i. How has Dominion's role in food production influenced socio-economic development in the area?
- ii. To what extent has the application of Corporate Social Responsibility by Dominion Farms influenced socio-economic development in the area?

1.4 Objectives of the Study

1.4.1 General Objectives

To evaluate the role played by Multinational Corporations in socio-economic development of Kenya.

1.4.2 Specific Objectives

To look at the role of the MNCs in terms of:

- i. Establishing food production and its contribution in socio-economic development.
- ii. Evaluating the relationship between Corporate Social Responsibility and socio-economic development.

1.5 Justification of the Study

Academic Justification

In the area of academics, notable scholarly works on Dominion Farms have to a large extent been on the impact of acquisition of community land by foreign owned companies. It has been argued that Dominion type of 'land grab' is where the Government privatizes communal land and leases it to an American Multinational Company (Gausset & Whyte, 2012). Due to their inability to use the swamp for farming and grazing of livestock, the community feels that they are unable to continue to pursue diversified livelihood strategies to the satisfaction

of their families (Kinaro, 2008). In pursuit of this argument, some studies have been done on the effect of Dominion project on environmental conservation, and it has been found that there has been massive environmental degradation in the area (Owiyo & Sutter, 2014) & (Ochieng', 2010). Other studies have looked at the issues of Dominion from both the local ethnic perspective and the investor's perspective (Schubiger, 2015). It has been noted that most academic works on Dominion Farms have not adequately covered Dominion's role in food production and Corporate Social Responsibility, and how these relate to socio-economic development. This study attempts to realize this objective. Researchers and Scholars can use this information as additional source of knowledge in their understanding of the activities of MNCs.

Policy justification

This study will assist policy makers and development planners to comprehend the level of contribution of Multinational Corporations to the people's social wellbeing. The viability of Dominion farms was the subject of discussion in Parliament during the early years of its inception, when the Government gave it a green light to go on with its investment activities (National Assembly, 2003). After more than ten years in operation, the viability of this project again arose at Siaya County, where the leaders raised certain specific issues of concerns to the people living in the area where Dominion is located (Siaya County Assembly, 2015). The findings of this study will assist the Government at national and county levels to re-examine their perspectives about Dominion Farms. This will further offer the basis for the link with future research on the same subject. It will also produce new comparative knowledge to the existing literature on political and policy issues in the operations of Multinational Corporations. The empirical data generated will enable the Government to formulate a policy framework that would define the role of MNCs in stimulating socio-economic development.

1.6 Scope and Limitations of the Study

This study identified the role of Multinational Corporations as the subject of focus in relation to socio-economic development. In doing this, cognizance was taken of the fact that the activities of MNCs cover wide areas whose study may not yield desirable results due to resource constraints. For this reason, it was found necessary to limit the study to one MNC, the Dominion Farms (K) Ltd. It was also convenient to confine the study to Food Production

and Corporate Social Responsibility. The period covered in the study was from 2003 when Dominion came and signed the Memorandum of Understanding with representatives of Local Authorities, to 2017 when the company terminated its operations. The time frame covered by the research was three months from 28th January to 30th April 2019. By this time Dominion Company had closed all offices. This compromised primary data collection since there was no formal office where senior management staff could be found for interview or other forms of assistance. Consequently, more time had to be taken to look for any former staff that could be easily traced from the area.

1.7 Definition and operationalization of Variables

The following variables formed the core basis of the study, and their definitions are explained below:

Multinational Corporation

A multinational Corporation is a business enterprise operating in several Countries but managed from one (home) Country. According to Spero (2010), MNCs establish their investments in several Countries but still control and direct them from their respective headquarters for profit gain. In this study, Dominion which is a subsidiary of its parent company in the USA, is the MNC at the point of focus with particular attention given to its role in food production and Corporate Social Responsibility.

Food Production

This is defined as the ability of the MNC to engage in large scale commercial farming on community land leased from the host state. The varieties of food are produced for the local consumption and for export.

Corporate Social Responsibility

This is defined as the ability of the MNC to address some aspect of the welfare of staff and the local people in recognition of the fact that it owed its existence and success to the goodwill of these people (David & Aras, 2008). In the context of this study, they include good employee welfare programmes; level of assistance to health and educational institutions; infrastructure improvement; provision of free or subsidized farm produce to the local community; provision of water for domestic consumption, and availability of parcels of land to the community for food production on agreed terms. Mobilization of farmers to form

cooperative society is yet another example of creation of a good environment for the Multinational Corporation and the stakeholders (Quak & Vander Veen, 2012).

Socio-economic development

This is defined as a transformation which takes cognisance of existence of wide spread poverty, hunger and misery. It is followed by measures taken to address these challenges with the objective of decreasing poverty and malnutrition, reducing inequality and creating employment (Szirmai, 2015). In this study, it is operationalized by indicators such as transformation of productivity of the community, increased literacy level, eradication of hunger, industrial growth, and infrastructure improvement.

CHAPTER TWO: LITERATURE REVIEW

2.0 Introduction

This chapter gives historical evolution of Multinational Corporations and their worldwide spread in developing countries including Kenya, the host nation for the MNC which is the subject of this study. It reviews existing literature covering the main thematic areas relevant to the research problem, the research questions and the objectives of the study with the aim of detecting significant knowledge gaps that can enable the study explore new information.

2.1 Historical evolution of MNC operations in developing countries

Most Multinational Corporations in developing countries first appeared as subsidiary branches of their main companies based in industrialized richer countries. According to Maxon (1992), the MNCs being the main channels for foreign capital represented a network of business enterprise which strived to extend their operations into less developed parts of the world. Some of these activities were more widespread after the Second World War before most of these countries were independent from colonial domination. During colonial period the MNCs were actively engaged in investments related to extraction of raw materials such as mining and petroleum. After the colonies attained their independence, the MNCs started engagement in manufacture of consumer goods which were oriented to the internal markets of the new nations. MNC operations in Kenya generally fall into this category. Langdon (1981) conducted a study on Kenyan society focusing first on the historical pattern of Kenyan incorporation into the international economy; second on the shaping of Kenyan social relations as the country's links with the international economy changed in the context of decolonization; and third, on the post-independence structure of the Kenyan economy as shaped by external-internal interplay. The study also outlined the position of the MNC sector within that framework. His findings were that there were economic structural changes both in the rural and urban areas after independence. For example there was increased peasant production in the rural areas due to government policies that encouraged the rural people to engage in cash crop production and other forms of plantation farming. In urban areas there was accelerated pattern of import substituting industrialization coupled with government policy of Africanizing external relationship in Kenya. These trends brought an increasing number of MNCs in Kenya, as the commercial firms often used their external trade links to

attract manufacturing multinationals into joint ventures. The changes also gave an opening to multinationals from other countries to penetrate the Kenyan market which had previously been dominated by British companies and capture a large share of it by taking measures such as locating industrial subsidiaries in Kenya. The British companies lost economic privileges and monopolies that they had enjoyed during colonial time. These companies found that the only way to protect their market in Kenya was to locate to Kenya through their subsidiary companies.

The post-independence period in Kenya witnessed significant developments which were occasioned by globalization. This refers to the integration of markets within the world economy. As a result, sovereign states have been thrust into world system where markets within their economies have been interconnected. Multinational Corporations have utilized this connectedness to suit their operations within multiple countries. This background sets the ground for literature review on the main variables in this study i.e. Food Production, Corporate Social Responsibility and Socio-Economic Development.

2.2 Food Production and Socio-Economic Development

A significant number of MNCs have developed an increasing interest in agricultural activities all over the world. Factors which have led to this development include availability of land and water in identified areas, coupled with fast growing demand and rising imports of food crops in various countries such as Brazil, China, India and the Republic of Korea which are well known for their large populations. Other countries such Bahrain, Kuwait, Oman, Qatar, Saudi Arabia, and the United Arab Emirates, (member states of the Gulf Cooperation council) whose land and water are scarce, have also attracted MNCs. International demand for agricultural commodities has also been encouraged by other factors such as growing demand for biofuel around the world, resulting in a spate of investments in developing countries in the cultivation of sugar cane, grains (maize) and oilseeds (soya beans). It has also been observed that there is a rapid rise in the cost of food, and shortages in other food commodities such as rice (UNCTAD, 2009).

The MNCs have targeted their agricultural produce in specific areas. For example, in South American countries, they have invested in products such as wheat, rice, sugarcane, fruits, flowers, soya beans, meat and poultry: while in Central American countries, the focus is mainly on fruits and sugarcane. In Africa, foreign investors have shown a particular interest

in staple crops such as rice, wheat and oil crops. In South Asia, foreign investors have shown a particular interest in the large-scale production of rice and wheat (UNCTAD, 2009).

In most developing countries where engagement in food production by MNCs is rampant, a raging debate has developed over the impact of this investment on alleviation of hunger and malnutrition on the local inhabitants of these regions. Preliminary results from research of the International Food Policy Research Institute (IFPRI) in Malaysia, India, and Africa Kumar (1981) and Pinstруп – Andersen (1985) indicate a strong positive relationship between increased food production and calorie consumption by the poor. It has also been found that increases in per capita food production and reduction in the price of food can be achieved only through affordable technological change in agriculture (Mellor & Desai, 1985). Further findings have shown that the sharp decline in food production in Sub-Saharan Africa is caused on one hand by a series of poor crop years, low government investment in agriculture, and unfavourable public agricultural policies (Eicher, 1982). On the other hand, the crisis includes the notable absence of any proven technological packages for small farmers in most of the rain fed farming systems of Africa.

The MNCs are associated with agricultural development that involves the use of advanced technology whose end results include increased labour opportunities and enhanced purchasing power for the local population to enable them to consume or purchase more food for their families. Studies in Asia (Bell & Hazell, 1980), (Hazell & Roell, 1983), have suggested that typically 40% of increments of income for farmers are spent on locally produced non-agricultural goods and services. It is still debatable whether by their involvement in production of food and other agricultural crops, the MNCs have assisted local farmers to get employment, enhance their purchasing power and enable them buy other essential products for their livelihood. Some studies suggest that MNCs are not very keen on economic welfare of the local people but have other interests and as such, use various strategies to extend their influence on global affairs and their impact on the host societies (Rahman, 2007). According to Rahman (2007) the economic power is the most significant motivating force for Multinational Corporations in collaboration with rich countries to be dominant in world economic transformation in the era of globalization. Due to poor conditions of infrastructure and other social amenities in the host nations, the MNC's role becomes handy as a benefactor in addressing these challenges, and in the process gradually gets entangled in the politics of the host nation. His study noted that MNCs promoted a new

habit of widespread use of their produced goods and services by investing heavily on marketing of their products, and in the process influencing consumers to discard their traditional food products. Consequently, many people have changed their eating habits, preferring to feed on modern junk diet instead of sticking to traditional organic food. In this scenario, it is difficult to strike a balance between two forces of varying interests. On one hand is the Multinational Corporation whose motivation is to reap maximum profit from the host nation. On the other hand is the host nation whose main expectation is to see collaboration of the MNCs with the local people for improvement of their social conditions. The study recommends the need for sensitization of MNCs on priority needs of the local people, so that a portion of their profits can be channeled to critical areas that can improve lives of the people. The study however, does not give strong recommendations on increased food production in the host societies which are mainly agricultural economies. One would be interested to know how the introduction of new variety of food crops and changing consumption habits affect traditional food production in host countries.

Dunning and Lundan (2008), carried out a research on Multinational enterprises and the global economy. They observed that due to MNCs' market dominance in agricultural input and production, they channeled small-scale farmers towards a small variety of inputs that were tightly controlled by the same Corporations at the expense of a diversity of regionally appropriate seeds. This was a drain on farmers' pockets and reduced genetic diversity in seed stock.

MNCs also often dictated the type of crops to be grown. For example MNCs' demand for sugar (as a cheap bulking agent) had implications on where and how it was grown, using up farm land and valuable environmental resources which could otherwise be used to grow nutrient- dense foods; processed into foods, traded and consumed. The study noted that this had a knock-on effect through out the food system.

Moreover, MNCs used their power as the main buyers of crops (such as grains and sugar) to fix at low levels direct purchasing prices on consumers. In this way they maximized their profits, thus punishing producers, operators and consumers. According to the study, the MNCs are keen on establishing capital intensive processing industries whose raw materials may be supplied by other or the same investors in the primary sector. The study however, does not quantify the level of contribution in food production by MNCs arising from their

dominance in agricultural input and production. In addition, there is knowledge gap on the effect of food production on socio-economic development of host countries inhabited by small farmers. The study is also silent on how maximization of profits has positively assisted in enhanced socio-economic status of the people.

Another study on the impact of globalization on Agriculture was documented by Leonard (2006). The concerns raised in this study bear similar resemblance to the previous study on the impact of MNCs on food production. According to the study, globalization has completely changed the system of production, processing and marketing of various commodities. It has witnessed many countries developing interest in new export crops and foodstuff that are in high demand in the world market, and preoccupied too with agro-processing activities. The net result is that globalization has diverted attention which had hitherto been given to production of traditional food, considered to be a significant factor in alleviation of hunger and malnutrition. The study points out that as a result of the above developments, the agricultural sector has undergone massive structural transformation. On one hand the acquisition of large parcels of land has mainly focused on production of one dominant crop with the intention of meeting the standards of the cash crop market for export. On the other hand majority of the underprivileged members of society who still practice subsistence farming face food security threat due to mounting pressure exerted on them to embrace new cash crops at the expense of their traditional skills in food crop production.

At the World Trade forums on agriculture, major policy decisions still favour producers of large agricultural commodities for export. This has given an opportunity for Multinational Corporations to dominate the process of food production for export, beginning from ownership of large farms, establishment of fast food processing industries, marketing and advertising.

This study has not pointed out the socio economic gains achieved by the local people from proceeds realized by MNCs from sale of export products. It has also not discussed policy interventions by the host countries that may compel the MNCs to transform the socio-economic status of the population and rescue them from increased poverty arising from globalized economy.

2.3 Multinational Corporations and Corporate Social Responsibility

Some studies have been done on the ability of MNCs to undertake Corporate Social Responsibility (CSR), and relating this to socio-economic development. Ibrahim and Sayim (2014), investigated the role of Multinational Corporations and their impact on sustainable socio-economic development in Palestine. The study found out that integrating Corporate Social Responsibility (CSR) into MNCs' core business would improve the organization's financial and social performance. At societal level, this would address the socio-economic challenges facing Palestine with the following outcomes: Generation of employment to alleviate poverty, support capacity building, support health care provisions, promote infrastructure development, help peace building, rebuild weak government institutions, institutionalize political reforms and preserve human rights.

This study was mainly confined to companies that operated at the time in Palestine, a country which is known to be politically volatile and socially turbulent. The study however, lacked evidence of participants from ordinary people who are the beneficiaries of CSR measures to confirm how this would improve their livelihood, thus making the findings and conclusion of the study a clear reflection of views expressed from the perspective of the companies. It may also be necessary to undertake a comparative study of the role of CSR in socio-economic development of a less politically volatile and stable nation in contrast to Palestine.

Another study by Wijerathna and Gajanayaka (2014), sought to examine the practise of Corporate Social Responsibility by tea manufacturing companies in Srilanka, and how this has benefited employees and smallholders both socially and economically. The study established that even though there is a positive relationship between Corporate Social Responsibility by the manufacturing company and the socio- economic development of employees and smallholders, the practice observed in the company did not support this fact. The study therefore recommended to the companies the need to do so. This study however, did not adequately explore the perception of the larger society on the socio-economic benefits the people have gained from CSR programmes initiated by the tea manufacturing companies.

A similar study on Corporate Social Responsibility was carried out by Rwabizambuga (2008) on a company known as Royal Dutch Shell, whose operations were in the Nigerian oil sector. The study findings indicated that there were complexities between the firm's Corporate Social Responsibility policies and expectations of stakeholders. This study however, created

a knowledge gap by not bringing out any socio- economic benefits that the local community had gained from the company's CSR programmes save for incessant bitter protests and violence directed at the company's facilities. Further, there is no evidence that CSR programmes were started out of Management's own volition, but was due to reaction from restlessness and pressure from the local stakeholders over many grievances.

Another study on the same subject was done, based on observation from local companies in Nigeria (Amaeshi, Bongo, & Chris, 2006) with the objective of establishing whether the meaning of the concept Corporate Social Responsibility was understood by the local people. It was found that the local people perceive CSR as a socially entrenched concept which is more of philanthropy than an obligatory responsibility. This finding however, lacks the true meaning of Corporate Social Responsibility in the context of modern Multinational Corporations where CSR programmes respond to pressing demands from the stakeholders aimed at addressing their socio-economic conditions, and not for philanthropic reasons. In this scenario it is possible for MNCs in Nigeria to take advantage of the communities' minimal demands due to lack of capacity to comprehend the true meaning of CSR. As a result, the management policy on CSR is likely to be more inclined to philanthropic activities as opposed to addressing serious socio-economic problems.

2.4 Theoretical Framework

2.4.1 World Systems Theory

This study was guided by World Systems Theory whose proponent was Wallerstein. The background of this theory can be traced from the emergence of Modern Capitalism, and bears relationship with the prediction of Marx and Engels (1977) that a time would come when the Bourgeoisie would spread all over the world and establish strong links through which capitalism would expand and take firm control. Wallerstein (1976) argued that all existing countries in the world are controlled by capitalism which he describes as the highest level of social system that evolved from mini systems and expanded to world empires. It thrives on taking away of surplus resources from different categories of states especially under-developed Peripheral areas. Other resources come from the fairly developed Semi Peripheral areas and the economically advanced Core states.

This theory explains the evolution of Multinational Corporations as products of massive capital accumulation mainly in the rich industrialized countries which are referred to as the core states. As they extend their operations beyond their countries of origin, they have been historically linked to the world system. This places them in a position of operations at two levels, one being at the host nations where their daily business operations are carried out and the other being their activities in the world system which presently has given meaning to the concept of globalization. With less control of host nation States and more involvement in the world economy through global institutions such as the World Trade Organizations (WTO), the vital question posed is how the MNCs fulfill their socio- economic obligations to the nationals of their host countries. These questions particularly focus on four factors that are relevant to this study.

First is the transfer of technology from the core nations to the periphery nations with an aim of improved productivity which should not only lead to realization of higher profits by MNCs but should also improve the socio- economic status of the people. When this is applied to Dominion Farms, one would expect increased food production due to introduction of modern farming and better irrigation equipment to be profitable to both Dominion Farms and the local community. Secondly, the exploitation of the nationals of host nations as providers of cheap labour should open up further debate as to whether the labourers have acquired any tangible benefits in the long run that can be attributed to the existence of the MNCs. Dominion employed hundreds of Kenyans as providers of cheap labour in their plantation. The third factor is the outcome of the relationship between MNCs and Globalization in the World System which has created new developments in food production and land use. This has forced nationals of host nations to grow particular crops and use recommended inputs that are at variance with their traditional food production practices. There is a need to find out how this has affected the socio-economic status of the people. In the case of Dominion, the new crops introduced are rice, soya bean and sugarcane.

Finally it may be necessary to mention a phenomenon known as Land Grab, introduced by the world system. This is a new development in which MNCs and countries acquire large farms in different parts of the world to grow crops for their consumption and trade in the world market. (White et al., 2012). There is need to find out the extent to which activities in these large farms have led to environmental degradation and disruption in socio-economic activities of the people in areas where these farms are located. Many studies have been done

to show how the establishment of Dominion Farm has led to the exclusion of the local community in enjoyment of the natural resources in the area and the environmental degradation that the people have experienced (Schubiger, 2015)

2.4.2 Relevance of World Systems Theory to the study of Dominion Farms

Dominion Farms (K) Ltd was established as an extension of its parent company based in Oklahoma, USA. Once it identified Kenya as an appropriate host nation for its investment, the company transferred its technology by relocating key construction, maintenance, agricultural and management personnel to Dominion Farms. According to the Company's report, it also shipped more than 500 tonnes of state of the art construction and farming equipment from the US and Brazil (The Dominion Group, 2010). Its massive irrigation programme and increased production enhanced its capability to play a major role in transacting trade in cereals (rice), fish and sugarcane both at local and international markets. The farm created employment to more than 300 Kenyans who were engaged in management, construction, and harvesting activities. In spite of these gains, the community also appears to have suffered major losses arising from the fact that they were no longer allowed to make use of the Yala swamp, which they had all along depended on for their water source, grazing area and firewood (Kinaro, 2008). There were also persistent complaints from the local people and environmental conservationists about massive environmental degradation occasioned by Dominion Farms.

The World Systems theory therefore, explains the inception of Dominion Farms as a potential source of business profit for its mother company in the US. Most activities on this farm such as rice and fish farming appeared to have been undertaken with more focus on the international business transactions and less on the accrued benefits by the host nation. This scenario has persuaded some scholars to believe that MNCs constitute a new organizational order of the world economy (Bornschiefer & Chase-Dunn, 1985).

2.5 Conceptual Framework

The conceptual framework in this study explains the link between the role of Multinational Corporations (in this case represented by Dominion Farms) and socio-economic development that is achieved specifically from food production and Corporate Social Responsibility. The interrelationship between the two variables is illustrated in the following figure:

INDEPENDENT VARIABLE

DEPENDENT VARIABLE



Figure1. Conceptual Framework

2.6 Research Hypotheses

- I. There is a positive relationship between food production by the Dominion Farms and socio-economic development of Siaya.
- II. There is a positive relationship between Dominion Farms' Corporate Social Responsibility and socio-economic development of Siaya.

CHAPTER THREE: RESEARCH METHODOLOGY

3.0 Introduction

This chapter covers the research methods that were applied and how the data collected was analysed. The study entails a descriptive survey design; the population of peasant farmers and employees of Dominion Farms (K) Ltd; sample design; data collection methods, and data analysis and interpretation.

3.1 Research Design

This study adopted a Descriptive Survey design which was found appropriate, as it utilized both qualitative and quantitative research methodology derived from structured questionnaires and interviews. It involved the researcher gathering data that described the characteristics of persons, situations or events and then organized, depicted and tabulated the data collected without having any control over the variables (Kothari, 2004). Using this design, the people who were interviewed were able to express their views on the strengths and weaknesses of Dominion Farm's food production practises and the impact of its Corporate Social Responsibility policies, and how these were related to socio-economic development.

3.2.0 Data Collection Methods

3.2.1 Target Population

The target population used in this study was the community living in the area where Dominion Farms (K) Ltd had been carrying out its agricultural and other development activities in Siaya County. This population comprised of local farmers, former employees of Dominion Farms and opinion leaders. Others were representatives of faith based organizations, Government agencies and County Government. The survey mainly targeted farmers who were living in villages within a distance of two kilometres from Dominion Farms, and have directly or indirectly been affected by developments in the farm. According to the chief of the area, (South Central Alego Location) there are eight such villages. Purposive sampling method was used to select five villages which appeared to have more farmers. A random tour of the area and participant observation revealed that most farmers were homogeneous in their socio-cultural life and economic status.

3.2.2 Sample Size

Stratified random sampling technique was adopted to divide the population into groups or strata representing five villages. According to Som (1995), stratified random sampling is a method where the population is divided into subgroups and then a separate sample unit is selected from each subgroup in order to obtain results with less variability. Out of sixty six respondents who formed the study sample, fifteen were identified by use of non-probability sampling (purposive). Fifty one respondents were selected by use of Stratified random sampling (probability sampling). All the 51 respondents formed sampling units, each representing a similar number of households from all the five villages. The distribution was as follows:

Two religious leaders were chosen to represent members of the dominant religious denominations in the area who are mostly Protestants and Catholics. It was believed that they have a big influence on their followers. Two opinion leaders were also identified from influential personalities who have been active participants at leadership forums and development meetings; among these was the area member of the County Assembly. The government was also represented by two officials, one of whom was the Divisional Crops Officer who was chosen due to his technical expertise in matters related to agriculture and the capacity of food production by Dominion Farms, and the community. The other government official was the chief of South Central Alego, where Dominion Farm is located. Having stayed in the area since the days before Dominion arrived, the chief was found to be very resourceful and knowledgeable on many issues about Dominion Farm. Seven former staff of Dominion were also chosen for the interview due to their institutional memory on matters that required knowledge from an insider perspective. Since there was no formal office after operations came to a halt, these were the only staff who could be traced at the time of the survey. Another group which participated in the survey were those who engage in trade or various types of businesses in the area. They were represented by two prominent traders who are well known in the area and operate their businesses in local trading centres. The remaining fifty one respondents represented fifty one households randomly chosen from five villages and two kilometre distance from Dominion headquarters. Each village was represented by at least ten respondents. The table 1 below summarizes the total number of respondents.

Table1.Sample Population

Target population	Sample size	Percentage
Small scale farmers	51	77.2
Opinion leaders	2	3
Government officials	2	3
Dominion staff	7	11
Religious leaders	2	3
Local traders	2	3
Total	66	100

Snowball sampling method was applied by use of opinion leaders to identify participants and venues for focus group discussions.

3.2.3 Research Instruments / Questionnaire

This study, being at the stage of primary data collection, used questionnaire as the most preferable tool. It was close-ended for simplicity of inquiry. Moreover it was appropriate for quantitative analysis which was considered relevant for this study. The questionnaire consisted of two sections; the first section dealt with demographic statistics such as name, age occupation etc. This information provided data to be used in analysing the personal statistics based on gender, age, marital status, level of education, etc. Subsequent section sought information on various variables based on objectives. The respondents were requested to specify the preference choice from five options using the likert scale on their perception of the various variables under study. Likert scaling is a technique intended to quantify attitudes. (Nachmias & Nachmias, 1996). It involves compiling a series of items that bring out variety of attitudes ranging from one extreme alternative to the other. Separate structured questions were prepared for Key informants and Focus Groups.

3.2.4 Data Collection Procedure

The structured questionnaires were used in primary data collection. The drop and pick approach was used to administer the questions on government officials and Dominion Farm workers because of their busy schedule. Face to face interview (researcher assisted) and focus group discussions were also used especially on the community and influential members of society. The outcome of discussions with focus groups and key informants were recorded in field notebooks. Two research assistants were hired to help in distribution and collection of the questionnaire.

Secondary data was obtained from Government offices, specifically the Siaya County Agricultural Office, the County Information and Documentation Centre and the office of the Chief South Central Alego. Other Secondary sources were found from information perused from the internet.

3.3 Data Analysis and Interpretation

The information gathered was analysed qualitatively and quantitatively. First scrutiny of the questionnaires was done to confirm that the questions were completely and accurately filled. The questionnaires were then serialised and coded using the SPSS (statistical package for social sciences) software to enable the information to be manipulated quantitatively. The coded data was then edited to eliminate discrepancies before analysis.

3.4 Ethical Consideration

Ethics has been defined as standards of conduct that direct moral choices connected with interpersonal relationship (Cooper & Schindler, 2003). They include confidentiality of the information, formal introduction of the researcher to the respondents, voluntary participation of the respondents and omission of names of the respondents for security reasons. Apart from all these principles being adhered to, a permit from NACOSTI (National Commission for Science, Technology and Innovation) and an introductory letter from the County Commissioner Siaya were shown to the respondents as evidence of authenticity of this research.

CHAPTER FOUR: FINDINGS, ANALYSIS AND DISCUSSION

4.0 Introduction

This chapter is divided into three subsections in which the main topics appear under Findings, Data Analysis, and Discussion. The first sub section presents findings on relationship between food production by Dominion Farms and socio-economic development of Siaya. The second sub section presents findings on possible relationship between the practice of Corporate Social Responsibility by Dominion and socio-economic development. The third sub-section gives detailed analysis and discussion of findings.

4.1 Findings

Demographics

During the survey process, two categories of respondents were identified. In the first category were fifty-nine respondents most of whom were small scale farmers who due to their proximity to Dominion farms were able to provide useful information that were of great benefit to the study. Their characteristics were analysed through examination of various variables which included age, gender, level of education, marital status and occupation. It was found that majority of the respondents were in the age bracket twenty-nine years and above with families. This was important because it is generally believed that a person who has a family is likely to be more involved in food production activities in order to provide food for the family. On gender, there was almost equal number of male and female respondents (male 45.8% and female 54.2%). Majority of the respondents had only gone through primary school education, which was a reflection of the level of illiteracy in the area. On occupation, majority of the respondents (64.4%) were small scale farmers.

The second category of respondents were seven former staff of Dominion Farms who mainly belonged to the junior cadre. These were mainly masons, plant operators, security personnel and clerical officers. Though they provided an insider perspective on the operations of the company, there was a visible lack of knowledge on technical and policy matters that required the input of senior management staff. Each group of respondents were interviewed by use of different survey tools which covered the same variables.

Findings from the first category of respondents (farmers etc.) on food production

The first category which formed the largest group of respondents was asked to respond to the view that Dominion Farms (K) Ltd helped the community to improve in food production. There was divided opinion among respondents on the role played by Dominion in improvement of food production by the community. Out of 59 respondents interviewed, 37.3% strongly agreed with the statement while 25.4% disagreed. This was a reflection of the views on the ground where there was a strong divided opinion between those who supported the contribution of Dominion on food production and those whose perceptions were very negative (see the Figure2 below)

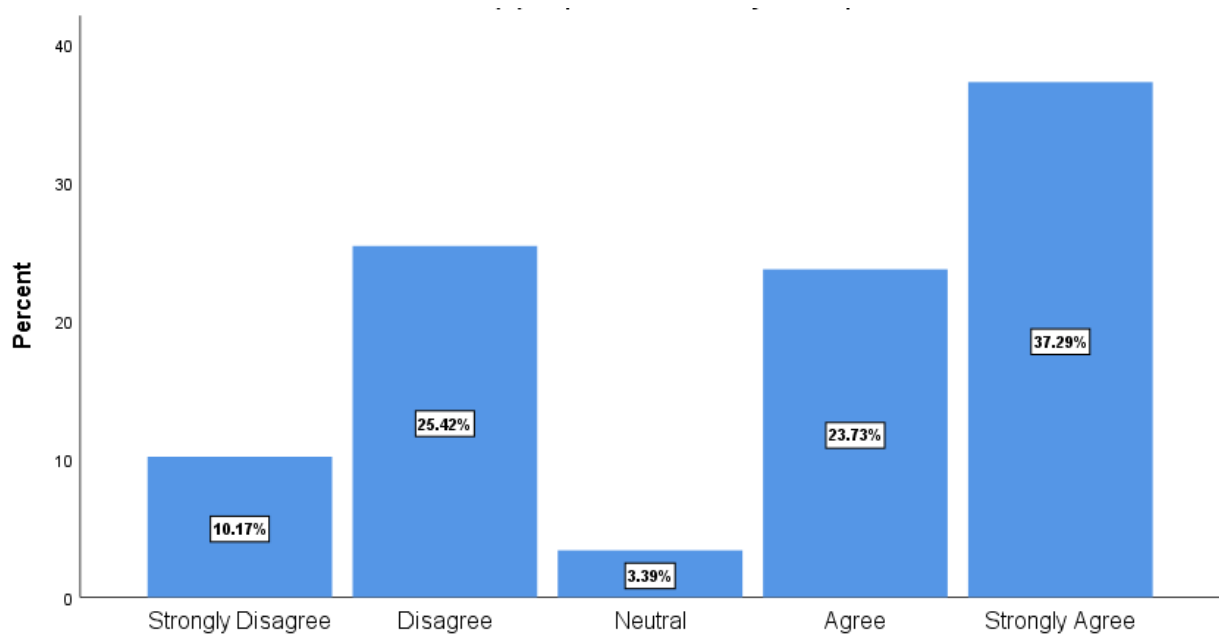


Figure 2. The graph showing the extent to which Dominion Farms helped the community to improve in food production.

Source the Author, 2019.

Those in support of the contribution of Dominion gave several reasons to support the position they had taken. They said that Dominion drained the swampy land and gave a portion to the community for cultivation, thus increasing food production. Others argued that salaries paid to employees of Dominion enabled them to buy more food produced in the area. This encouraged farmers to increase their production of maize, sorghum, beans and vegetable. They argued further that the company introduced new methods of farming which the farmers learnt. This enabled them to achieve higher yields in contrast to the traditional system where

maize and millet were planted concurrently as expressed by one respondent, ‘we cultivated a combination of maize and sorghum’.

On the contrary there are those who disagreed with this view and gave their reasons for taking that position. One respondent gave the following comment; ‘more food was produced by the community before Dominion came to grab our productive land and turning the people into squatters’. These sentiments were strongly expressed at Gendro village during focus group discussion session. Others said that Dominion paid more attention to rice production which was not a popular food among locals. Another issue was the introduction of new crops which were previously not grown in the area. Respondents were asked to express their opinion on whether apart from rice, Dominion introduced any other crop. There was almost a general consensus that Dominion Farms introduced other crops apart from rice. 47.4% of the respondents agreed with this view while 30.51% strongly agreed (see figure 3 below). The crops mentioned by respondents were soybean, sorghum, sweet potatoes, and sunflower, horticultural crops such as cabbages, tomatoes, onions, kales, and watermelon. Others were sugarcane, exotic maize, bananas, beekeeping and fish farming.

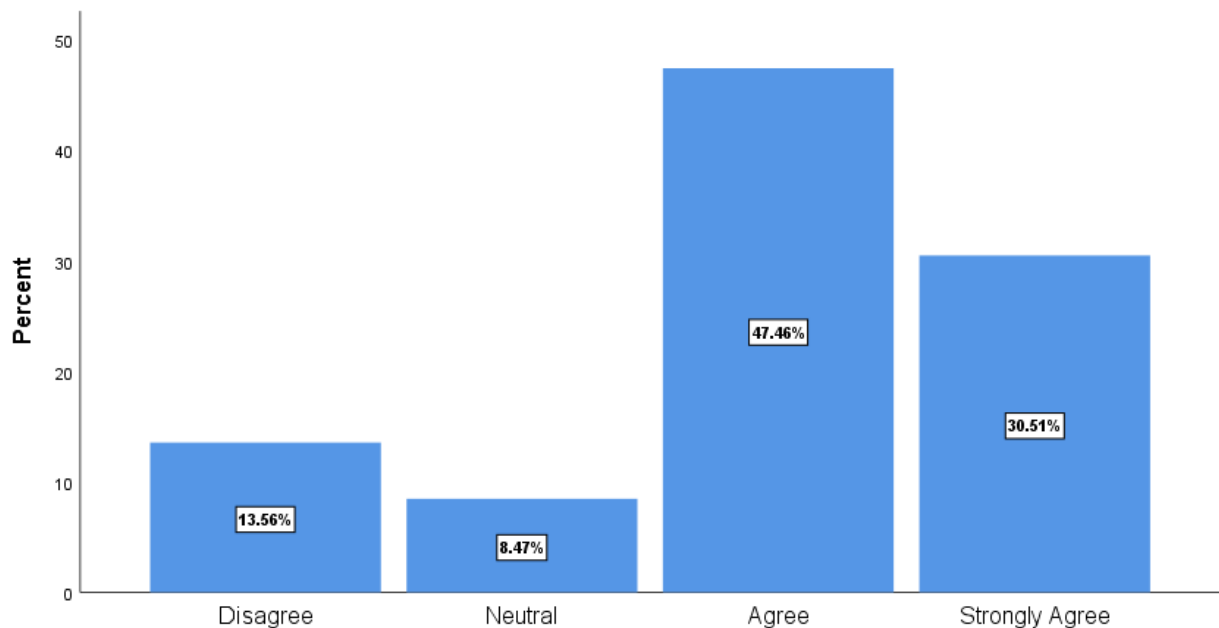


Figure 3 graph. Opinions on whether Dominion planted other crops in addition to rice.

Source the Author, 2019

On farming methods, respondents were asked to give their opinion on the view that Dominion Farm Management introduced new farming methods which led to increased food production in the community. Majority of the respondents (38.98%) disagreed with this statement as shown in figure4 below.

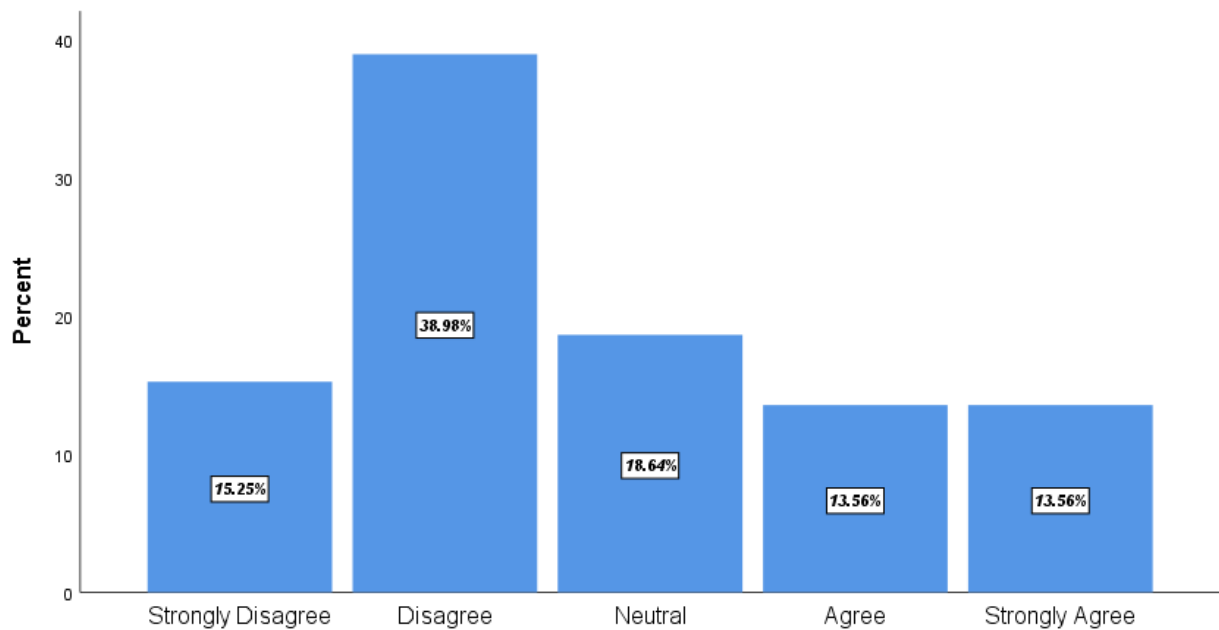


Figure 4. Graph showing opinion on whether Dominion introduced new farming methods.

Source Author, 2019.

Some of the views they expressed were that Dominion did not introduce any new farming idea to the community, since the company did not consult the people on anything. Others said that the new farming methods only benefitted Dominion Company. On the other hand, a few respondents expressed positive views on this issue. They gave the example of the introduction of the use of fertilizer by Dominion as one way by which farmers improved the production of their food crops. Another example was the massive irrigation done by Dominion in the area which opened up new areas for cultivation by the community. Furthermore, the community benefitted from new planting system introduced by Dominion which increased their harvest.

On change of eating habits, respondents were asked whether they agreed with the view that as a result of the establishment of Dominion farms people started eating new variety of food instead of the traditional foods. This was aimed at testing the impact of the newly introduced food being one of the main variables in the study. Their response as indicated in the chart below shows that 61% either agreed or strongly agreed with the statement as shown in figure 5 below. Majority of the respondents mentioned rice, soybeans and horticultural crops as the new variety of food introduced to them. This, however, did not prevent them from eating their traditional food. Some respondents said that the new food was mainly used by salaried employees of Dominion Farms and the few economically advantaged members of the community.

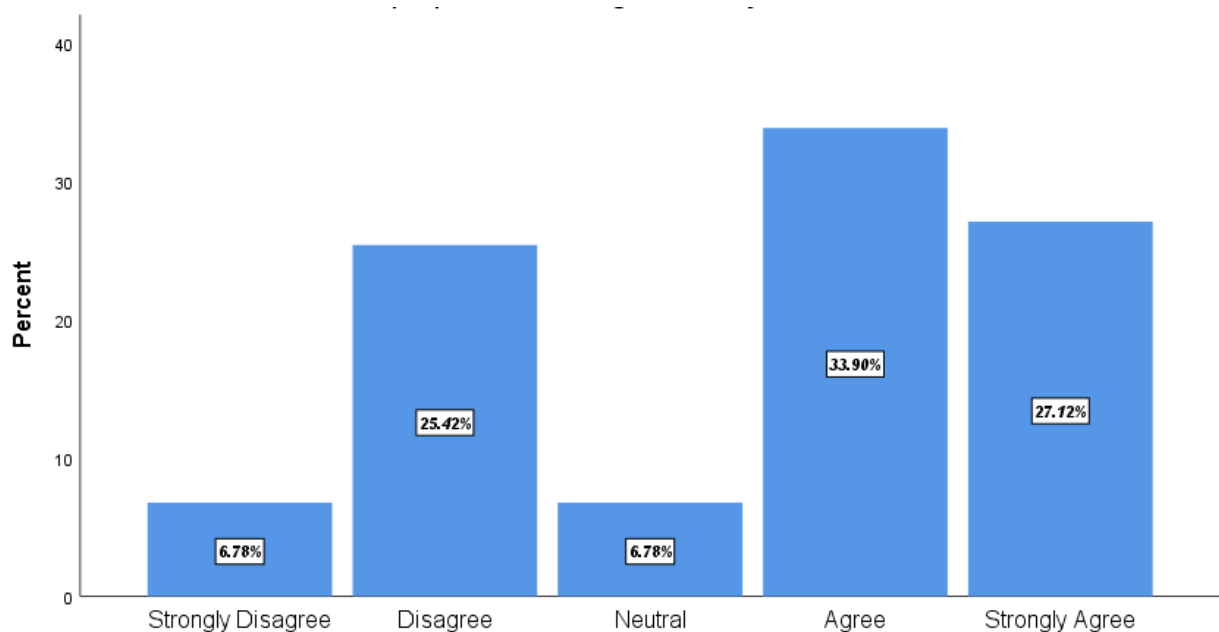


Figure 5. Graph showing whether Dominion's new crops changed people's eating habits.

Source Author, 2019

On training, respondents were asked to give their comments on the view that Dominion trained farmers on better methods of food production. As can be seen on figure 6 below, majority of the respondents (37.29%) disagreed with the statement. During discussion with key informants and focus groups; the general view of the people was that the community did not get any training from Dominion on better methods of farming. The only training they mentioned was on fish farming which benefitted a few local farmers. However it was noted that the fish ponds started by these farmers were not sustained after Dominion left. The only

beneficiaries of training were employees of Dominion Farms from the local community who used their skills to develop their own farms.

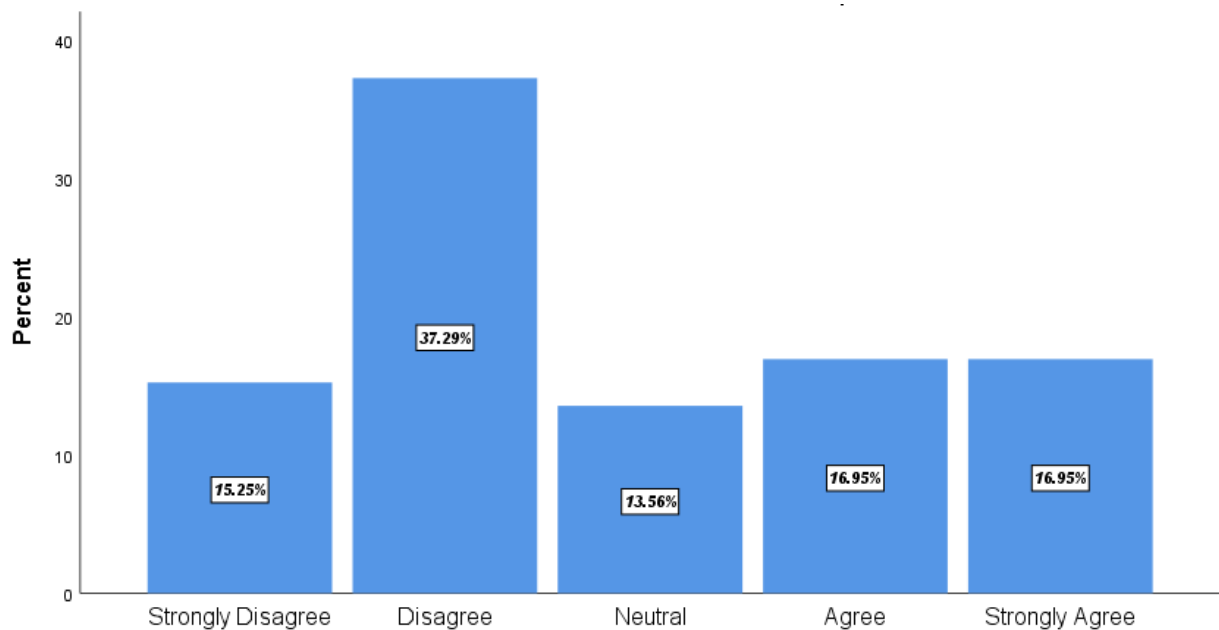


Figure 6 graph showing opinion on whether Dominion trained farmers on better methods of food production.

Source Author, 2019

Another related issue was training on livestock rearing. Respondents were asked to express their views on whether Dominion trained farmers on better methods of cattle rearing and increased milk production. This was aimed at testing the role of Dominion in transforming the people's habit of keeping the traditional zebu cattle whose economic value and milk production capacity is very minimal. Figure7 below shows that there was divergence of opinion by respondents with 33.9% disagreeing about any training being done, and 22% strongly agreeing. Respondents who disagreed said that Dominion started the programme of improved cattle rearing within the farm and only extended this programme to a few farmers in the community who were very influential. Those who strongly agreed praised Dominion for starting cattle exchange program in collaboration with the local farmers with an aim of improving the local variety in order to increase milk production. The success of this programme would help in the establishment of a milk processing plant that would open the market for the local people and hence increase their economic power .They regretted that Dominion left before this programme could take off.

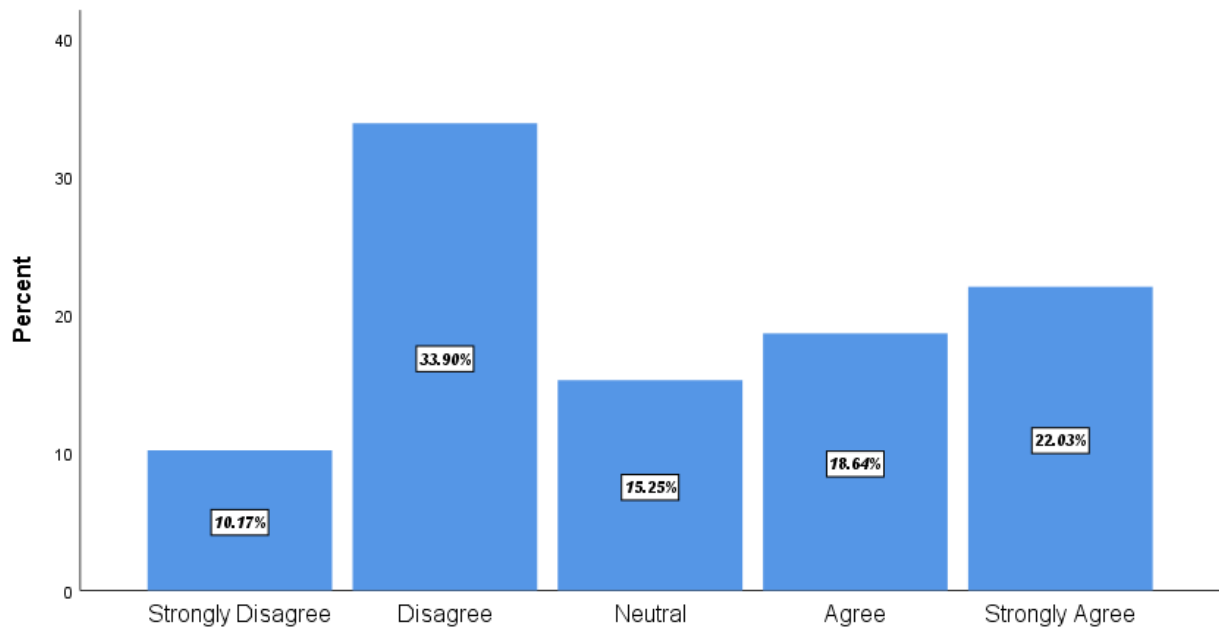


Figure 7. Graph showing views on whether Dominion trained farmers on better methods of cattle rearing and increased milk production.

Source Author, 2019

On the issue of partnership, respondents were asked whether Dominion’s fish farming project involved in fish farming project, was done in collaboration with the local fishermen. The study wanted to establish the level of consumption of fish in the community. The following graph (figure 8) shows that a big percentage of respondents (40.7%) disagreed with this statement. They said that Dominion Company was fully involved in production of fish and construction of ponds without involving the local people. One of the artisans who were hired by Dominion to construct the ponds confirmed this position. The implication of this on food security was that only the company benefitted from fish business. When they were asked whether the fish produced by the company was sold to the community a big percentage of respondents (59.32%) agreed. Most respondents, as shown in figure 9, confirmed that Dominion sold fish to the community at affordable price, and the rest were transported to external markets. Some respondents also said that most beneficiaries of the fish sold by Dominion were local traders who were buying fish in bulk to be sold in local trading centres. One may therefore argue that though there was no collaboration with the local fishermen in production of fish, Dominion made it possible for the supply of more fish in the area for local consumption.

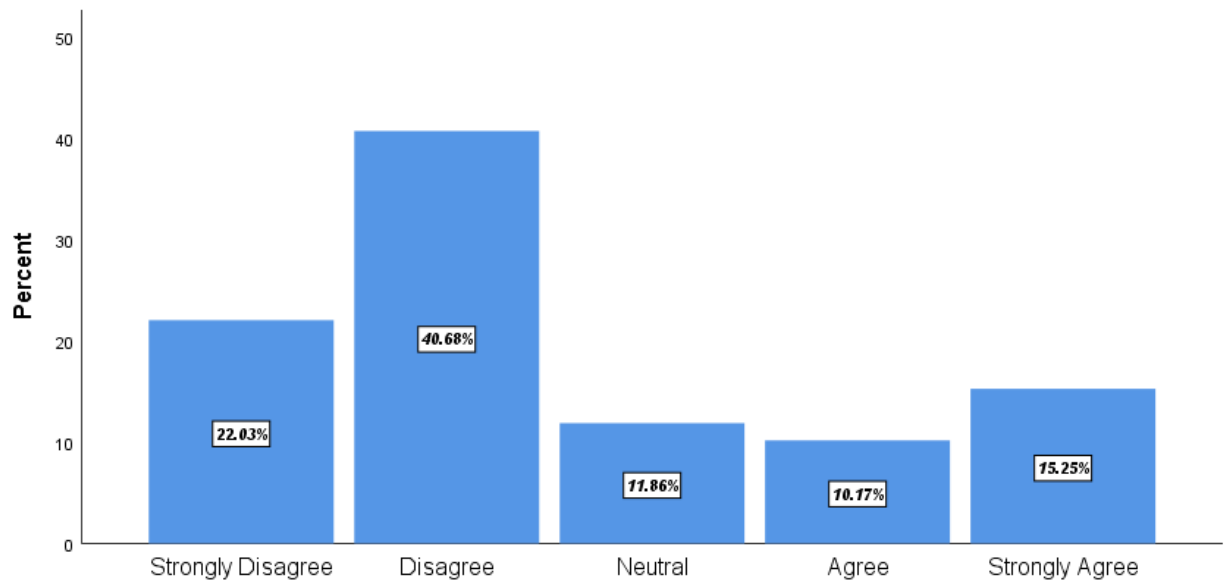


Figure 8.Graph showing opinion on whether Dominion fish farming was done in collaboration with the local fishermen.

Source Author, 2019

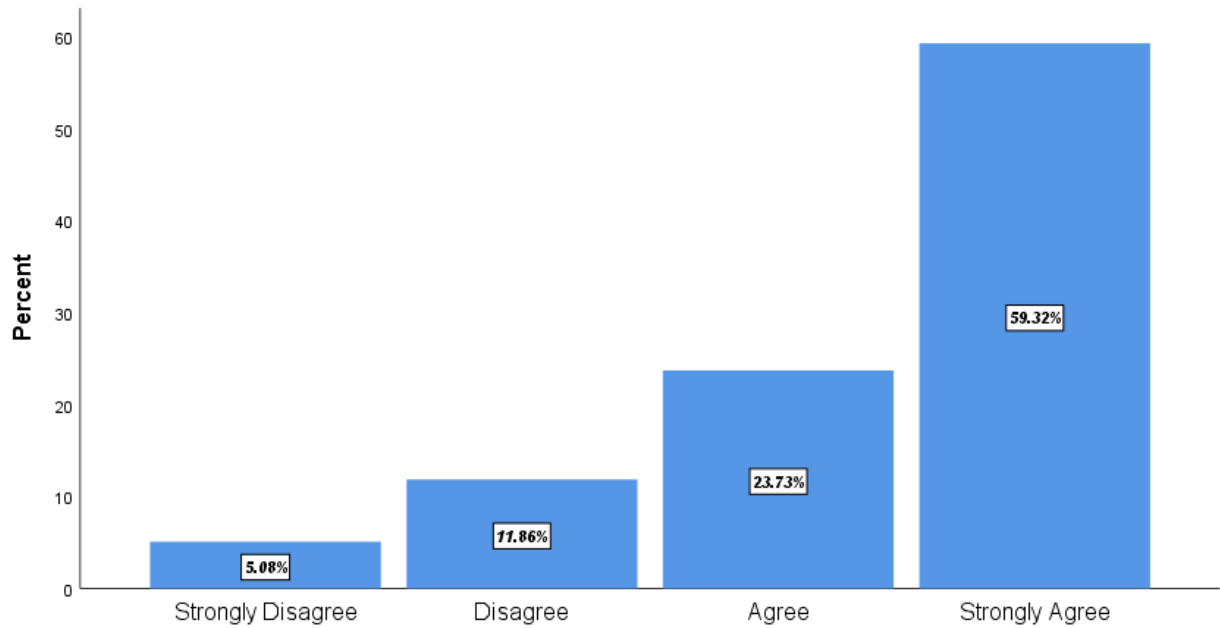


Figure 9. Graph showing opinion on the view that fish produced by Dominion farms was sold to the community.

Source Author, 2019

Another issue was on assistance to farmers to get seeds and fertilizer. Respondents were asked to give their opinion on whether or not Dominion assisted farmers to get seeds and fertilizer. An overwhelming number of respondents (83%) shown in figure10 below, did not believe that Dominion gave any assistance to farmers to get farm inputs .Only a few farmers who were contracted to plant sugarcane were assisted with farm inputs on loan basis

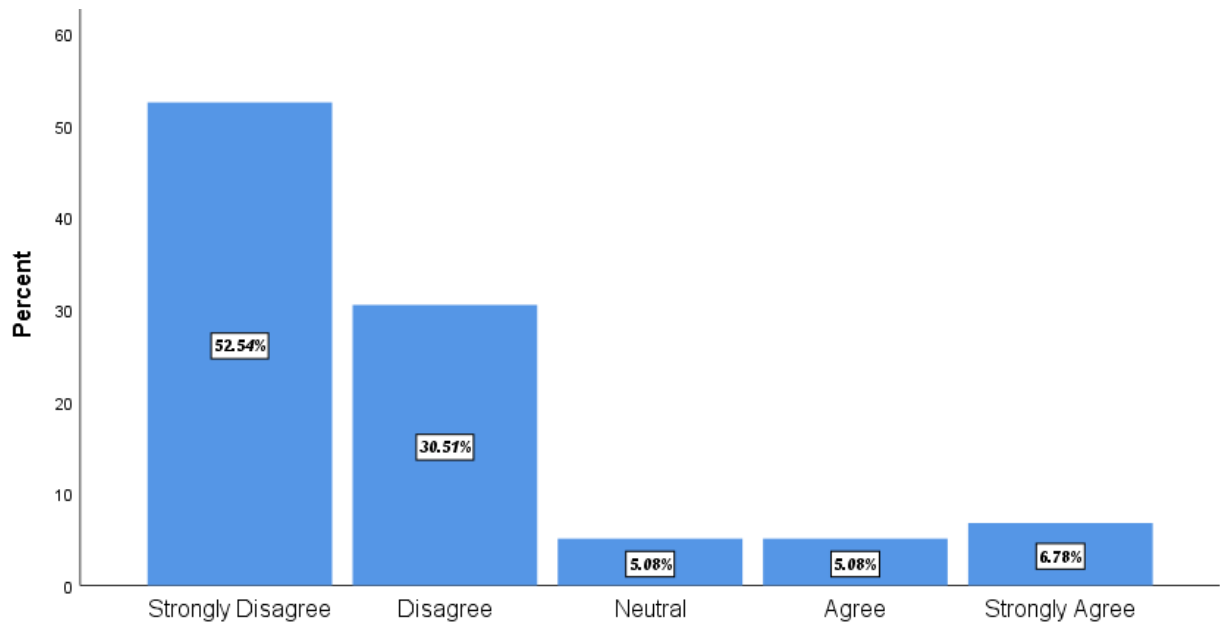


Figure 10. Graph showing opinion on the view that Dominion assisted farmers to get seeds and fertiliser.

Source Author, 2019

Respondents were also asked to express their reaction on the statement that Dominion assisted the community to plough their farms. As in the previous chart, a big percentage of respondents (78%) either disagreed or strongly disagreed with the statement. They said that Dominion only assisted sugarcane out growers to plough their farms. Some of them said that only the County government of Siaya provided tractor hire services to a few farmers at affordable price (see figure 11 below)

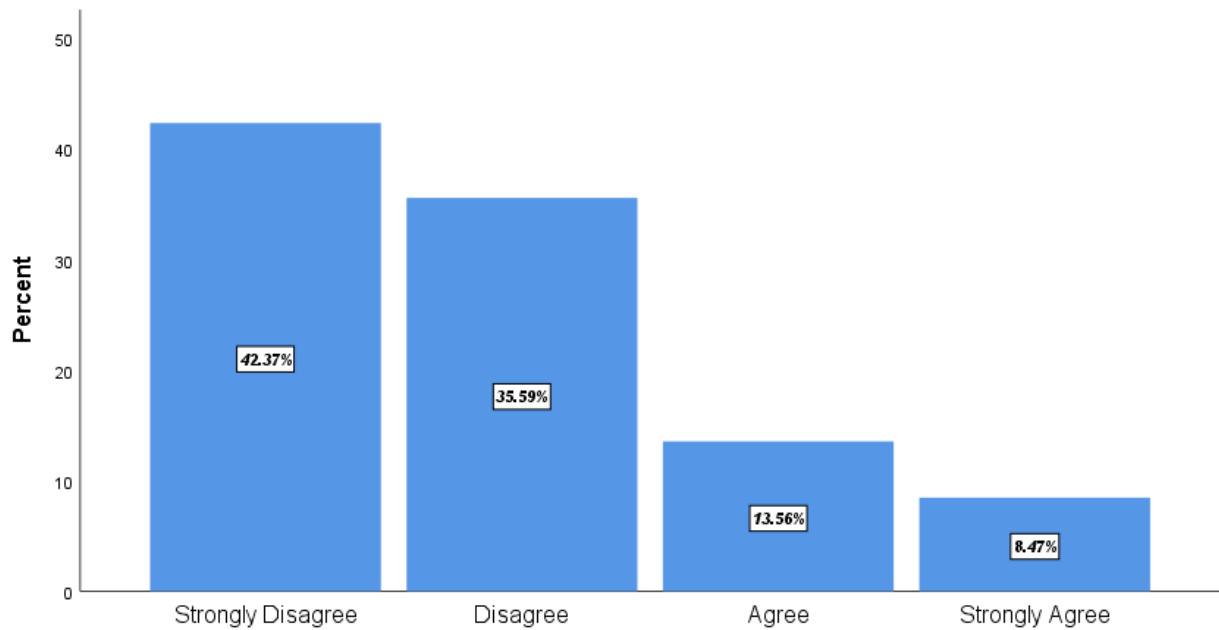


Figure 11. Graph showing opinion on the view that Dominion assisted the community to plough their farms.

Source Author, 2019

There was the controversial issue of the introduction of sugarcane growing. The decision by Dominion to introduce sugarcane was expected to increase farmers' income and thus enable households to use their income to buy or produce more food. Figure 12 below shows that there was diverse opinion from farmers, even though majority of the respondents (57.6%) either disagreed or strongly disagreed with the statement. During focus group discussions and other informal personal discussions with the respondents, the following views were expressed; 'majority of the people including the area member of County Assembly (MCA) cannot accept to grow sugarcane because it is one way by which Dominion company would like to grab our land'. Others said that their small pieces of land were not enough for cultivation of the crop due to the long duration before harvest and there is no sufficient food to be eaten during the waiting period. They further said that sugar plantation will create insecurity since they will be the hiding places for criminals, wild animals and night runners (a reference to what the local people know as 'jojuogi' who are known for nocturnal activities that create fear to the villagers).

Those supporting the idea of growing of sugarcane in the area said that it will create many opportunities for employment. Others said that it is more profitable compared to other food crops.

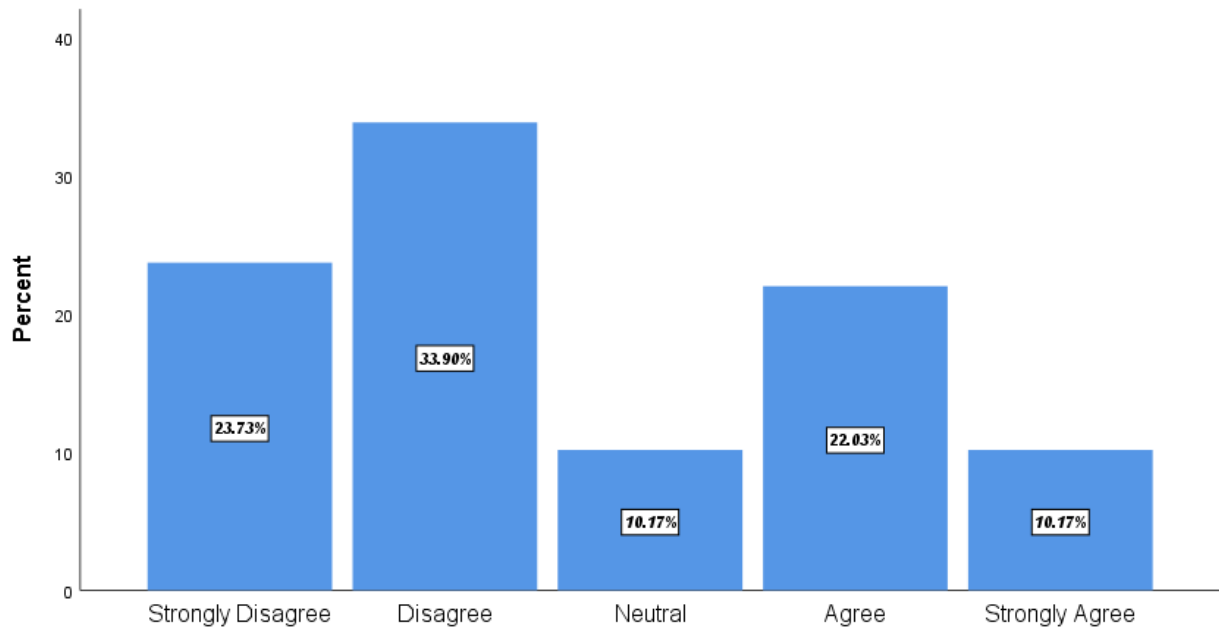


Figure 12. Graph showing views expressed on whether or not the introduction of sugarcane as a cash crop was given support by the community.

Source Author, 2019

When further asked whether the community would like to grow sugarcane as compared to food crops a big percentage of respondents (69.5%) either disagreed or strongly disagreed with the statement (see figure 13 below).

Some of the reasons given for reluctance to grow sugarcane were because it requires hard labour which was difficult especially for women who were more active in farming. Others said that sugarcane plantation would encourage many people to engage in witchcraft practices. One farmer succinctly captured this expression in *Dholuo* "Ok wadwar niang' nikech obiro kelonwa jok magalagala mabiro nego ji to wito e puoth niang.' .Loosely translated, "we are against the growing of sugarcane because it will bring evil minded people who will kill people and throw the bodies in sugarcane farms'.

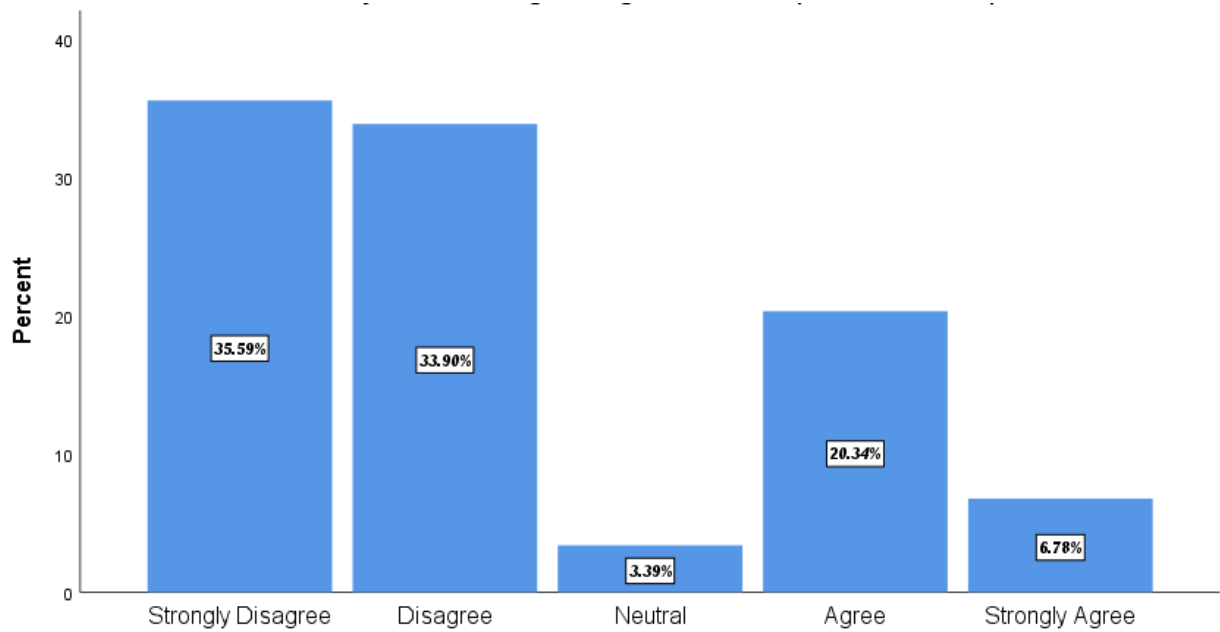


Figure 13. Graph showing opinion on the view that the community would like to grow sugarcane as a cash crop instead of growing food crops.

Source Author, 2019

Respondents were also asked to give their opinion on whether the community would like to provide their land to be leased by Dominion for sugarcane production of which 69.5% of the respondents either disagreed or strongly disagreed. This reinforced the previous negative reception of sugarcane growing in the area (see figure 14 below)

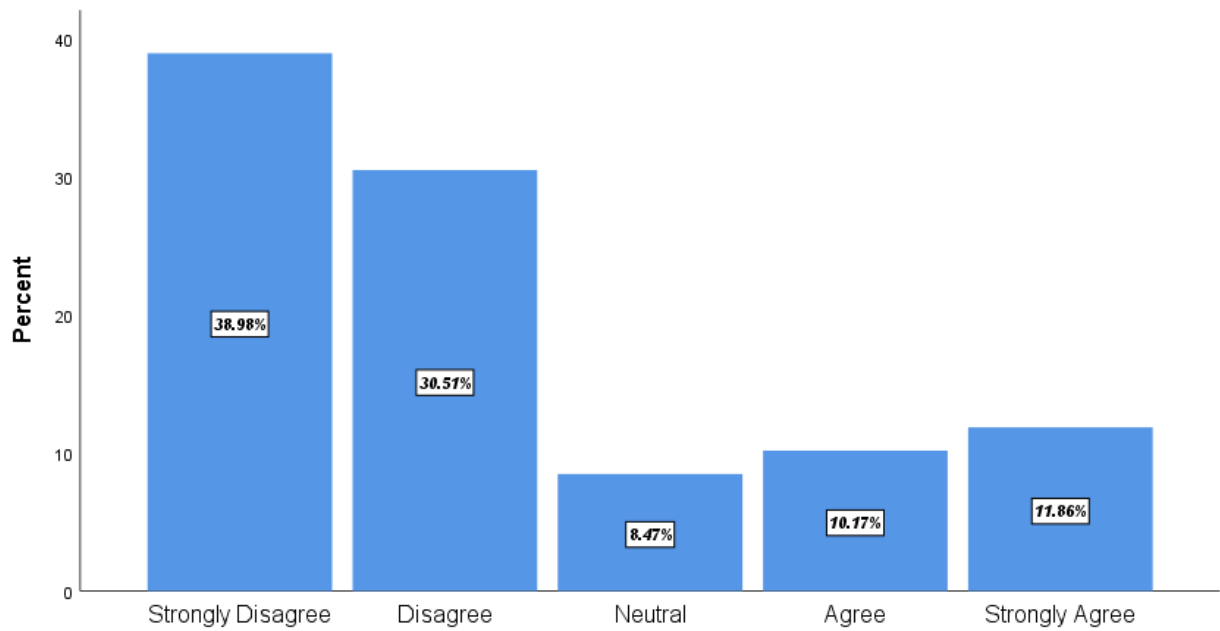


Figure 14. Graph showing opinion on whether the community would like to provide their land to be leased by Dominion for sugarcane plantation.

Source Author, 2019

On marketing of food crops, respondents were asked to comment on whether food crops produced by the community were easily sold in the local market. Figure 15 below shows that a big percentage of the respondents (52.5%) strongly agreed with the statement while another significant percentage (27.12%) agreed. This was aimed at testing availability of the market for their farm produce. It was noted that the growth of the market was due to the existence of Dominion Farms, which stimulated exchange of goods and services. The local market was the centre for supply of foodstuff produced by Dominion as well as the local community. Both benefitted from customers whose social status improved due to circulation of money in the area.

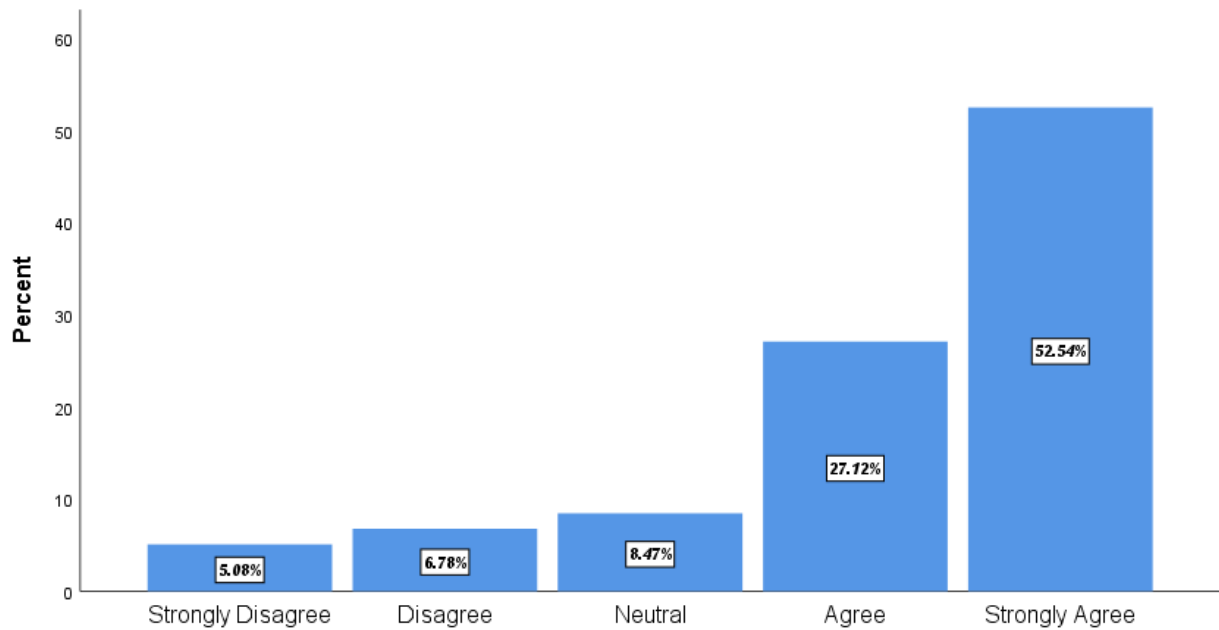


Figure 15. Graph showing opinions on the view that food crops produced by the community are easily sold in the market.

Source Author, 2019

There was also the issue of production of poultry feed. Respondents were asked to give their opinion on the statement that Dominion produced poultry feed which benefitted the community. This was aimed at confirming the ability of the community to increase the quality of poultry produced. Figure 16 shows that a big percentage of the respondents (67.8%) either agreed or strongly agreed with the statement. Some of those who agreed said that the feeds which were mainly remains collected after milling rice helped the community to feed poultry especially during drought or famine season. As a result, there was increased production of eggs. Other people had a contrary opinion on the benefits to the community. They said that poultry feed only benefitted a few people and that only Dominion Company benefitted from use of poultry feed.

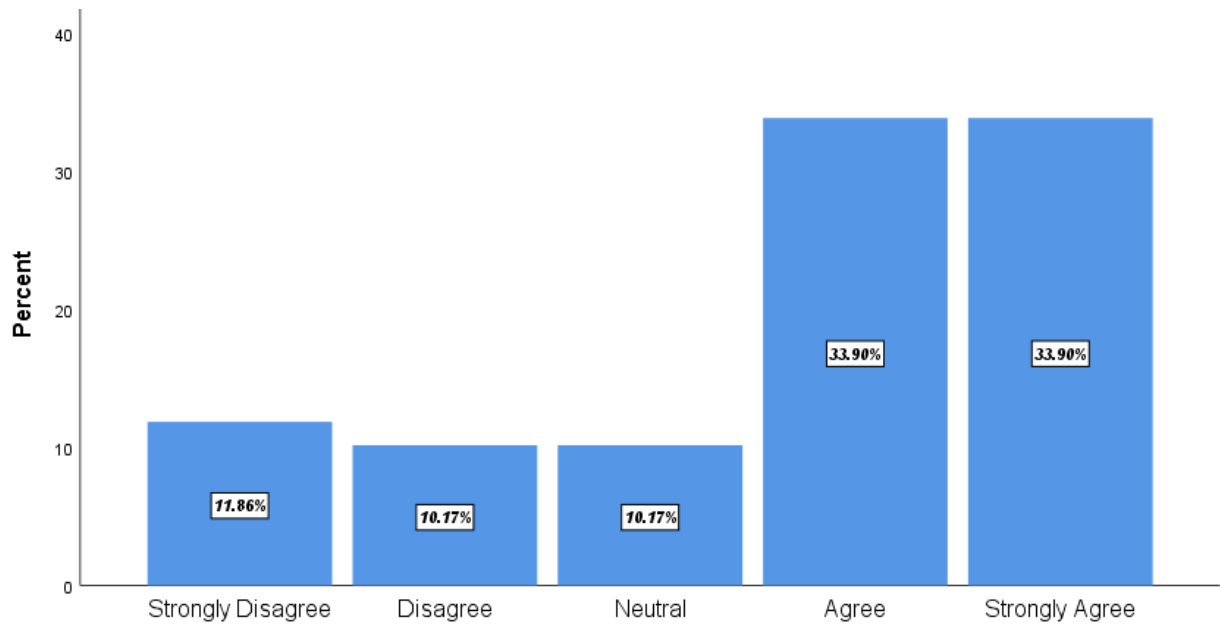


Figure 16. Graph showing opinions on the view that Dominion produced poultry feeds which benefitted the community.

Source Author, 2019

Dominion's contribution to national food security was also discussed. Respondents were asked whether they agreed with the statement that Dominion made a big contribution in supplying locally sustained cereal grains for consumption by the nation. This was aimed at testing their capacity in understanding the contribution of Dominion to food production at the national level. It was noted as shown in figure 17 that majority of the respondents (38.98%) took a neutral position though a significant number (32.2%) agreed. This result and other informal discussions with the respondents showed that they were more conversant with activities in their immediate environment at the local level. Issues touching on national matters could have better been addressed by the management of Dominion farms.

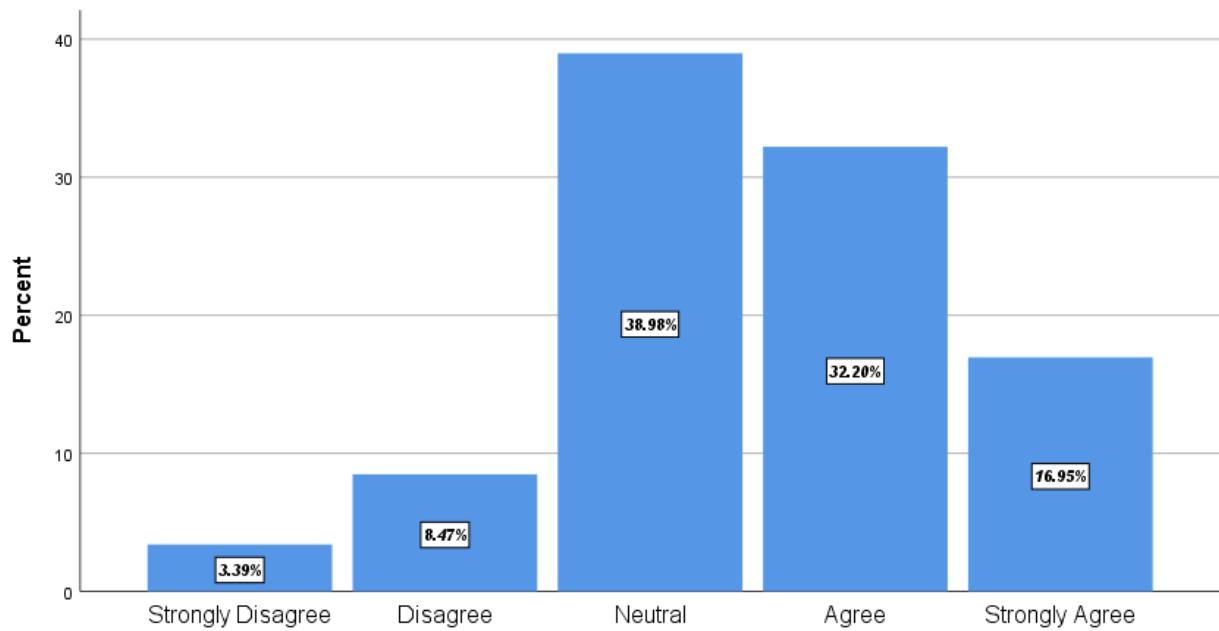


Figure 17. Graph showing opinions on the view that Dominion made a big contribution in supplying cereals for National consumption.

Source Author, 2019

On the socio-economic status of the community, respondents were asked to give their opinion on the statement that since the arrival of Dominion, the socio-economic status of the community has improved. Their reaction as indicated in figure 18 shows that 33.9% agreed while 44.99% of the respondents strongly agreed with the statement. However other people who were found during informal discussions and focus group sessions had divergent views. Among these were those who believed that only those who were employed by Dominion farm improved in their socio-economic status while the rest of the community had nothing to gain from Dominion due to their failure to respect the terms of the contract in which they agreed on benefits to be extended to the community. Those who supported the view said that Dominion Company played a big role in supporting the people. They gave examples of some of the benefits the community achieved such as many rental houses constructed in local trading centres for company employees and improvement in health institutions and schools.

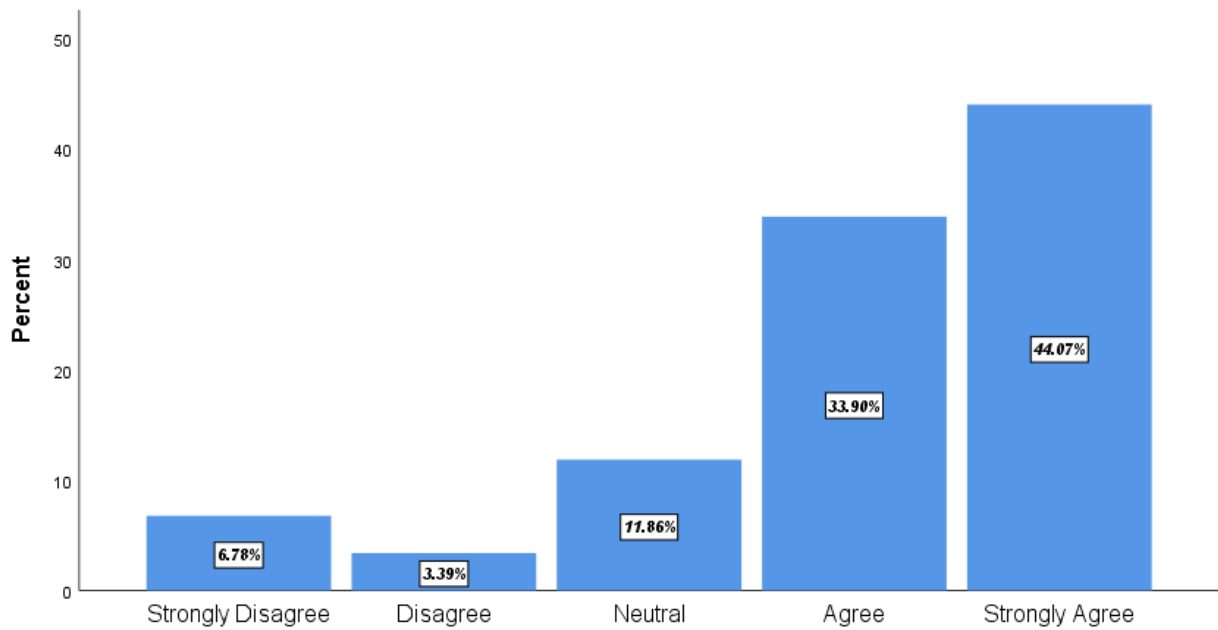


Figure 18. Graph showing opinions on the view that since the arrival of Dominion, the socio-economic status of the community has improved.

Source Author, 2019

Views from the second category of respondents (Dominion’s former members of staff) on food production

1. Introduction of advanced technology

Dominion staff were asked to give their opinion on the tatement that intoduction of advanced technology by Dominion increased food production. Out of seven(7) respondents who were former staff of Dominion 87.5% were in agreement that the company introduced advanced technology in farming which increased food production.They gave examples of technology in the use of machinery and farm inputs.

On training, Majority of the staff strongly agreed that Dominion trained farmers in modern agricultural practises. Some of them said that the training was not intensive. This view contradicted the position of farmers who said that they did not benefit from any training by Dominion.

On acceptance of cattle exchange program, 62.50% of the staff strongly agreed that majority of the local farmers accepted the cattle exchange programme. According to the staff, many farmers participated in this programme which saw their livestock upgraded.

Respondents were divided in their opinion on whether there was a need to set up a research unit to get new knowledge. Those who agreed, strongly agreed, or were neutral, all scored 25%. Some of those who agreed gave the example of the training centre which the company established for capacity building and generation of new knowledge.

There was also the issue on whether Dominion made profit from its food products. Majority of the respondents strongly supported the view that the company made profit. Some of the reasons given for this achievement was the expansion of most of its agricultural programmes. On the issue of production of food for local consumption and export, majority of the respondents (50%) strongly agreed, and others (37.5%) agreed with the statement. They gave an example of the company's food products such as Prime Harvest Rice which was readily available in local shops and supermarkets. When asked whether they agreed with the view that Dominion assisted local farmers to sell their food in countries outside Kenya, a big percentage of the staff interviewed (62.5%) strongly disagreed with the statement. Some of them remained neutral. From the discussions, the staff confirmed that local farmers were not assisted to sell their food outside Kenya. Other issues were on establishment of food processing facilities and rice mills. Respondents were asked to express their reaction on the view that the company established food processing facilities and rice mills. Majority of the staff strongly agreed with the statement. Some of the staff took the research team on a tour of the sites where some of the facilities such as the rice milling plant were.

4.2 Findings on corporate social responsibility

This section looks at information from respondents that were related to Hypothesis two. Its aim was to establish whether there is a positive relationship between Dominion Farm's corporate social responsibility and socio-economic development of Siaya. The relevant thematic areas were captured in the following charts and diagrams.

Views from first category of respondents (farmers etc) on corporate social responsibility

Respondents were asked to express their opinion on the statement that the community were incorporated in development programmes undertaken by Dominion. In their reply, some of the views expressed by respondents were that at the initial stages of the programme, Dominion involved the community but later stopped. Some were of the view that Dominion only consulted the local leadership such as chiefs and the county government. A few respondents supported the fact that people were involved through community forums and it was due to such forums that some members of the community were able to be employed by the company (see figure 19 below).

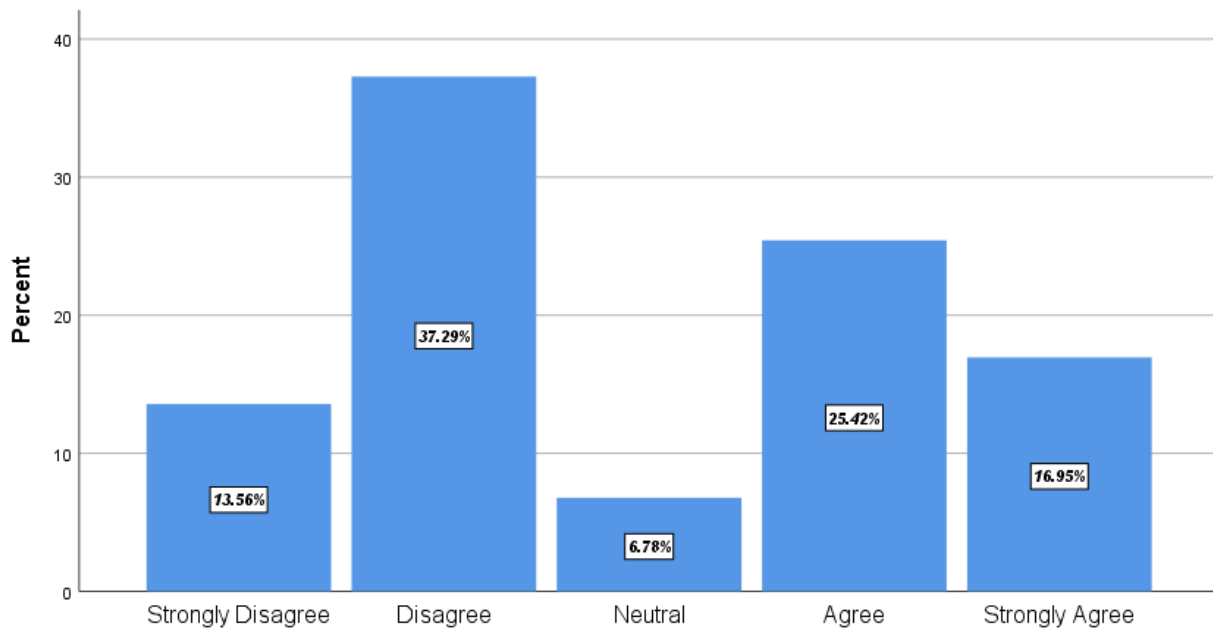


Figure 19. Graph showing opinions expressed on the view that development programmes of Dominion were done with the involvement of the local community.

Source Author, 2019

On education matters, respondents were asked whether they agreed with the view that Dominion constructed new school buildings and improved facilities in the schools. Majority of the respondents strongly agreed some of the schools that the respondents mentioned which were constructed by Dominion were Magungu primary school, Nyalula primary school and Gendro primary school (see figure 20 below).

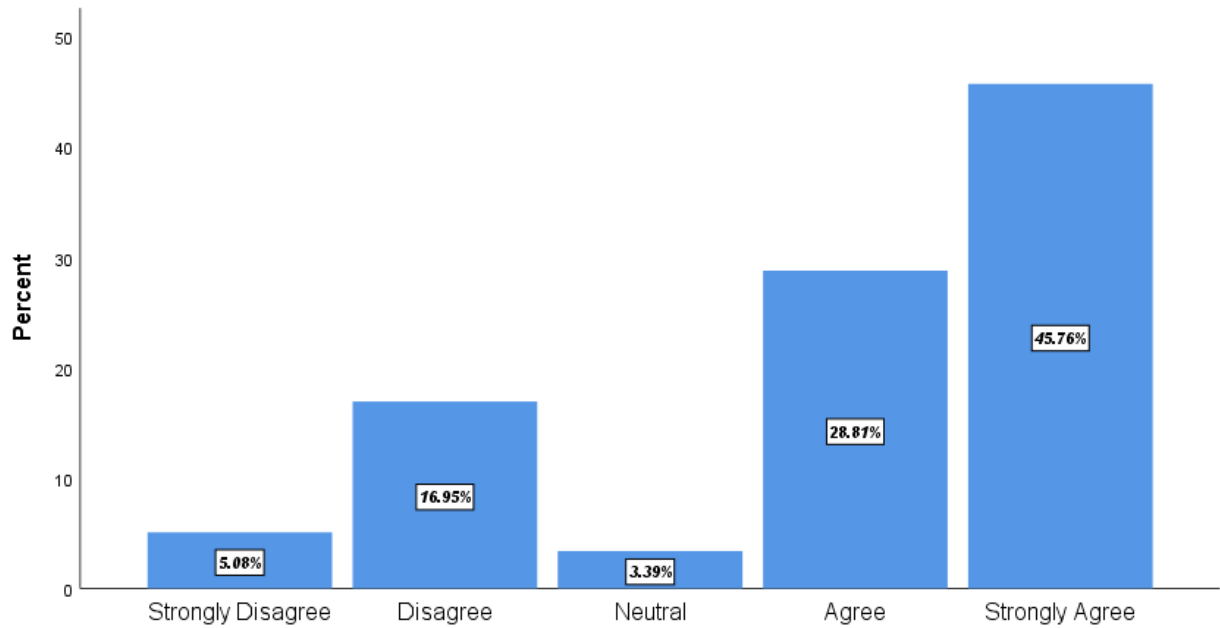


Figure 20. Graph showing opinions expressed on the view that Dominion constructed new school buildings and improved facility in the schools.

Source Author, 2019

On improvement of health facilities, respondents were asked to comment on the view that since the arrival of Dominion, health facilities have improved due to support that the company provided. Those in support of this view said that Dominion provided transport and supplied medicine at Ratuoro health centre. Others who were against this view said that Dominion contributed to increased health problems affecting the people. They gave the example of chemicals used by Dominion to spray their farms which had a detrimental effect on the lives of people and poultry (see figure 21 below).

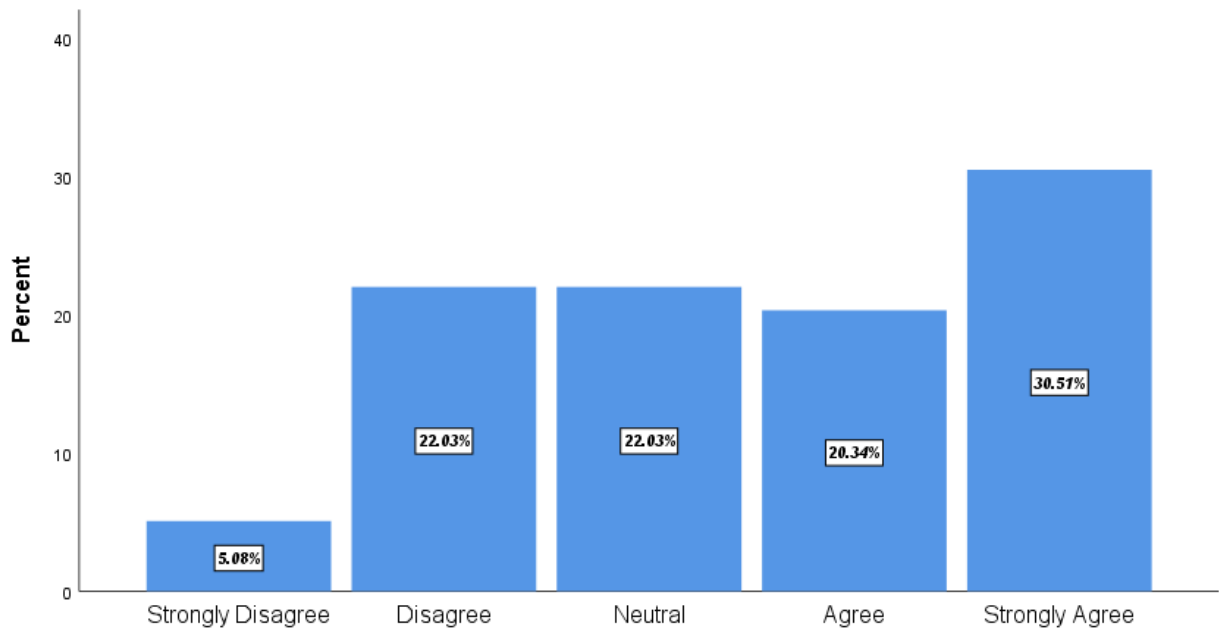


Figure 21. Graph showing opinions on the view that since the arrival of Dominion health facilities have improved due to the support that the company provided.

Source Author, 2019

Another issue for discussion was on infrastructure development. Respondents were asked whether they agreed with the statement that Dominion made a big improvement on the roads around the area. Majority of the respondents (73%) were in agreement with the statement while 20.3% disagreed. Those who supported the statement mentioned improvement of Ratuoro-Siaya road (also known as Dominion- Siaya Road); Kadenge-Kaugagi road; Ratuoro-Yimbo road; Otuto-Gendro road and Gendro-Kaugagi road. Those who held contrary views on this issue argued that Dominion concentrated more on improvements of roads within their own farm, and did very little to improve roads in other areas surrounding the farm (see figure 22 below)

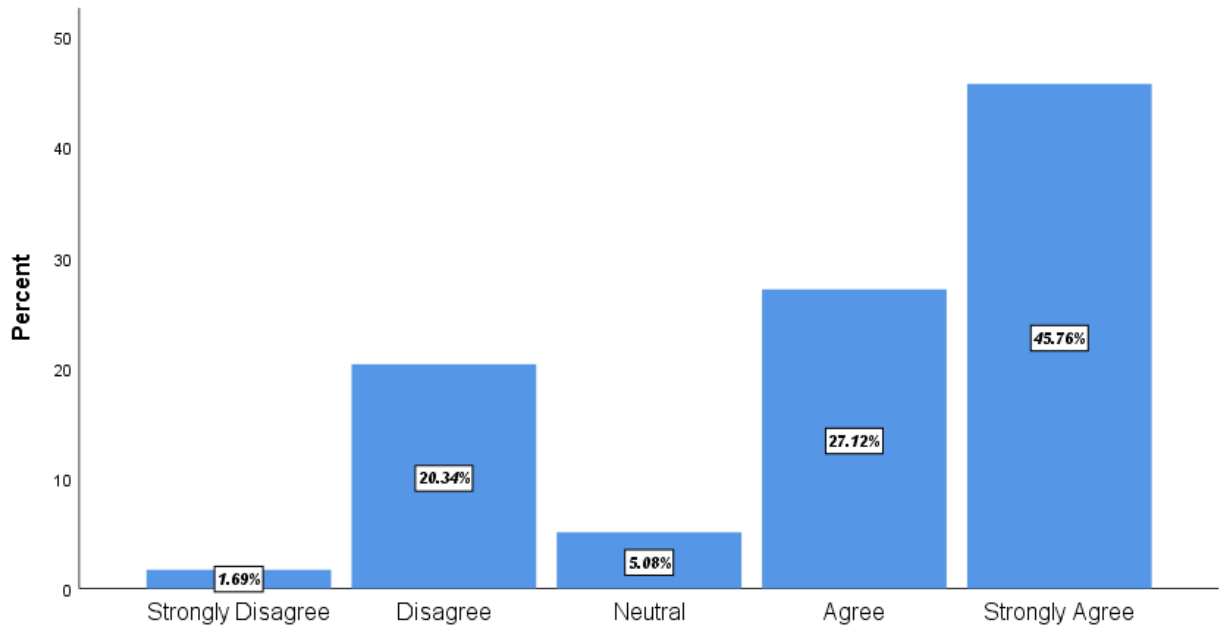


Figure 22. Graph showing opinions on the view that Dominion made a big improvement on condition of roads around the area.

Source Author, 2019

In order to test the people’s understanding of Corporate Social Responsibility, respondents were asked whether they agreed that what Dominion did to them was due to their sympathy for the poor conditions of the community. A big percentage of the respondents (30.5%) strongly agreed with the statement while 22% agreed (see figure 23 below). Those who agreed said that Dominion had good intentions for the community. One respondent remembers the warm welcome that was given to CEO of Dominion company, Calvin Burgess whom they nicknamed as “Okoth min chiemo” (Okoth the mother of food. Loosely translated, the name Okoth symbolised rain which is associated with availability of food). They believed that programmes of Dominion would give them plenty of food similar to what the rains could bring. Other respondents dismissed this view saying that Dominion had no sympathy with the local people and did nothing to improve people’s welfare.

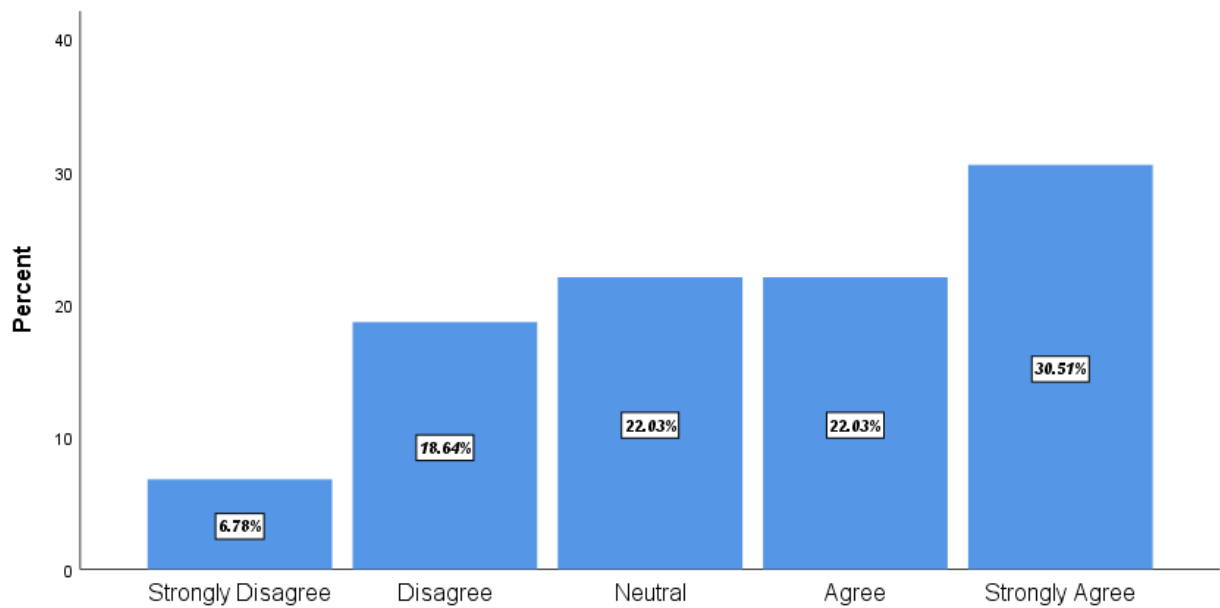


Figure 23. Graph showing opinions on whether any development assistance from Dominion was due to their sympathy for the community.

Source Author, 2019

Respondents were also asked to give their comments on the statement that it is the responsibility of Dominion farms to assist the community in developing the area. As in the previous question they did not seem to realise that they deserve development as their right. Some of those who supported this view said that since Dominion had taken community land, it was their responsibility to pay back in kind by assisting the community (see figure 24 below).

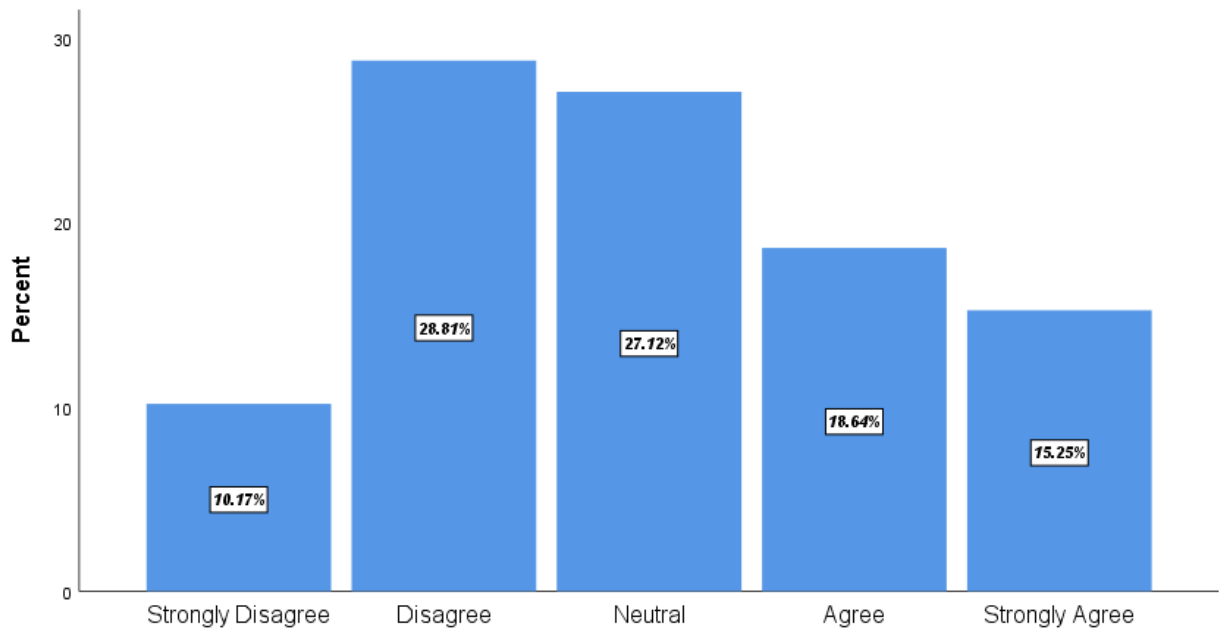


Figure 24. Graph showing opinions on the view that it is the responsibility of Dominion to assist the community in developing the area.

Source Author, 2019

On sharing of farm produce with the community respondents were asked to give their comments on the statement that Dominion shared with the community a portion of food that they produced. 47.5% of the respondents strongly agreed with the statement as shown in figure 25. However, this was done during the early years when Dominion first arrived. They issued rice and maize initially but later stopped the program.

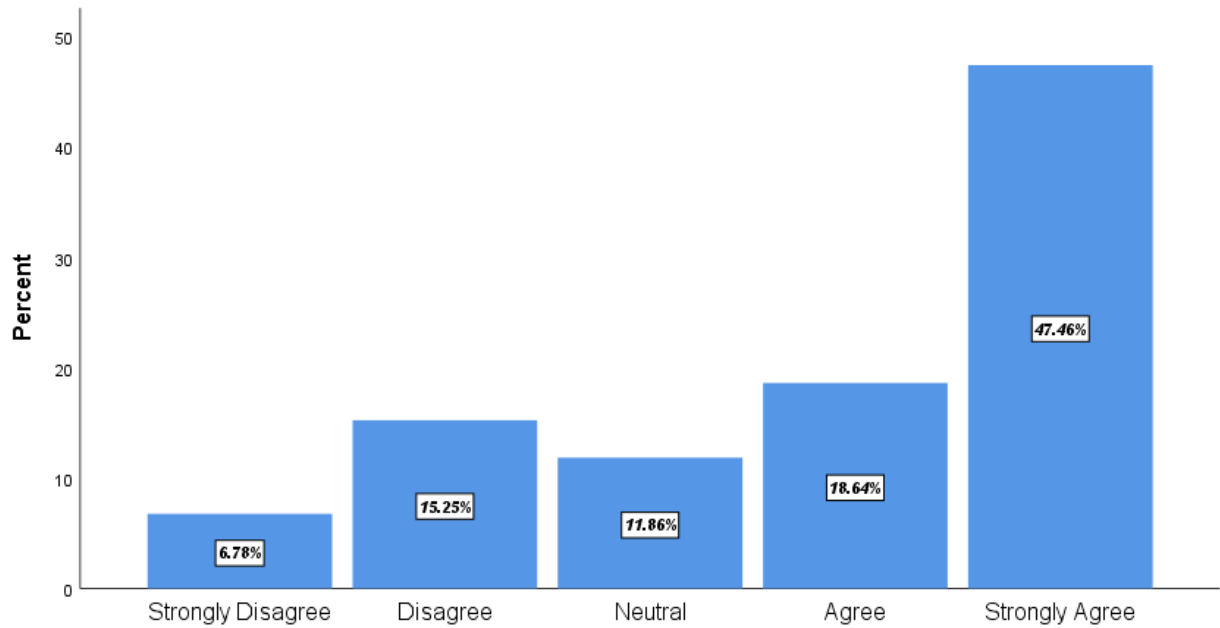


Figure 25. Graph showing opinions on the view that Dominion shared with the community a portion of food produced.

Source Author, 2019

Another issue was on assistance to students with scholarships and bursaries. Respondents were asked to give their opinion on whether Dominion provided scholarships and other benefits to school going children in the area. There was a divided opinion among the respondents. Some respondents confirmed that Dominion paid school fees to some secondary school children. Others said that there was no such assistance (see figure 26 below)

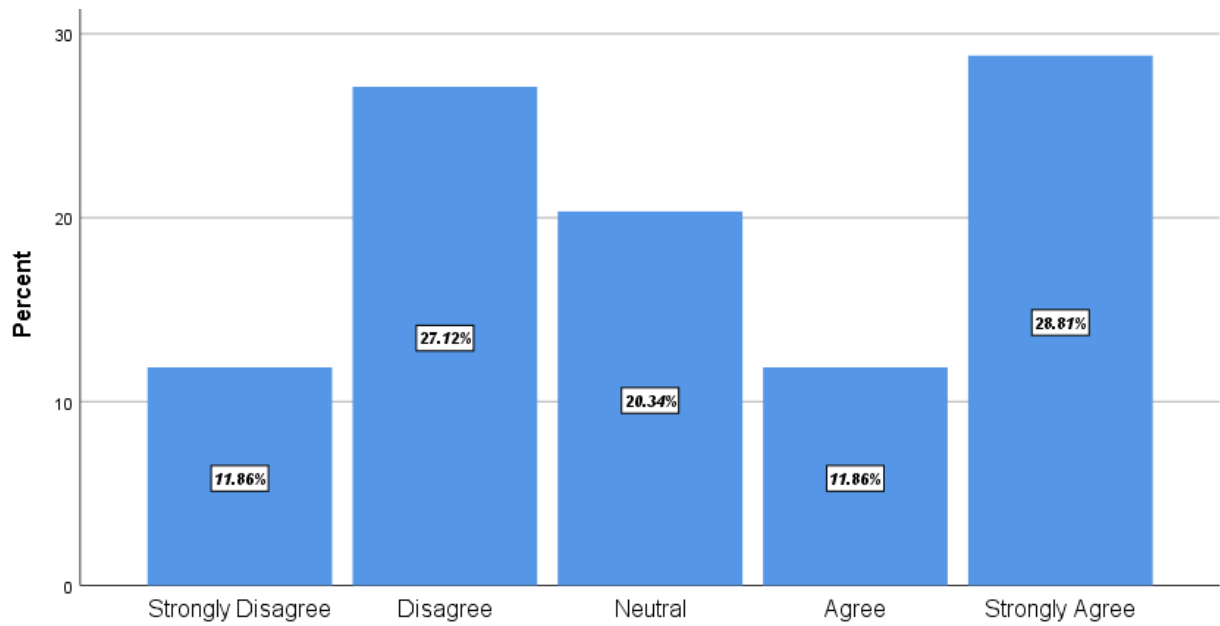


Figure 26. Graph showing opinions on the view that Dominion provided scholarships and other benefits to school going children in the area.

Source Author, 2019

On social welfare facilities, respondents were asked to confirm whether Dominion was actively involved in availing them. The responses shown on figure 27 confirmed that Dominion Improved Ratuoro football pitch and constructed Nyalula secondary school football pitch.

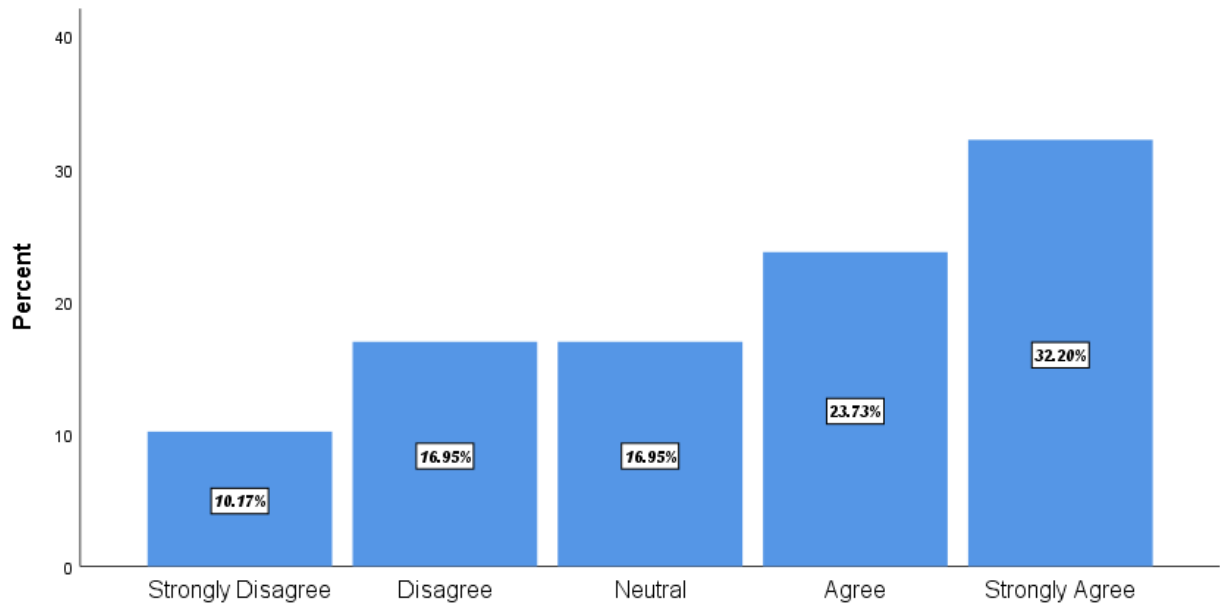


Figure 27. Graph showing opinions expressed on the view that Dominion put up social welfare facilities for the benefit of the locals.

Source Author, 2019

Respondents were also asked whether the community was assisted by Dominion to get farm inputs and veterinary services at subsidized costs. They said that no such assistance was given with the exception of sugarcane where a few out growers were assisted with farm inputs on credit basis. (see figure 28)

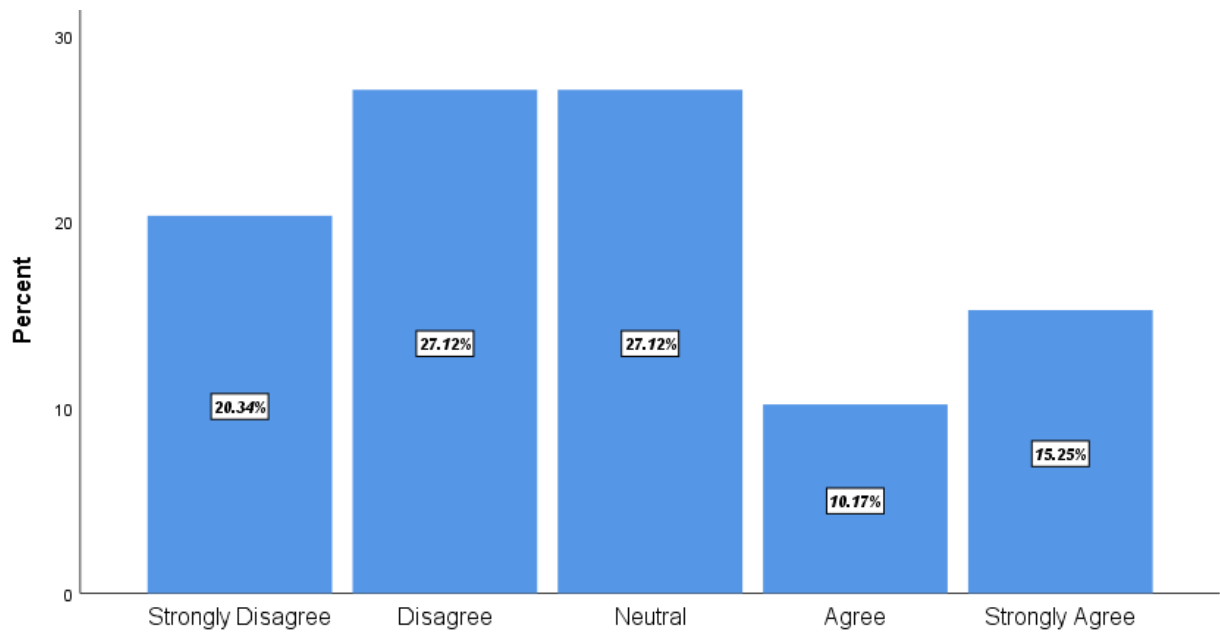


Figure 28. Graph showing opinions expressed on the view that the community was assisted by Dominion to get farm inputs and veterinary services at subsidized costs.

Source Author, 2019

On the issue of viability of cattle exchange program there was a general consensus among respondents that this was a popular programme accepted by the people. However, those with divergent views said that only a small group of people successfully achieved their expectations in the programme in the short period of the program's existence (see figure 29)

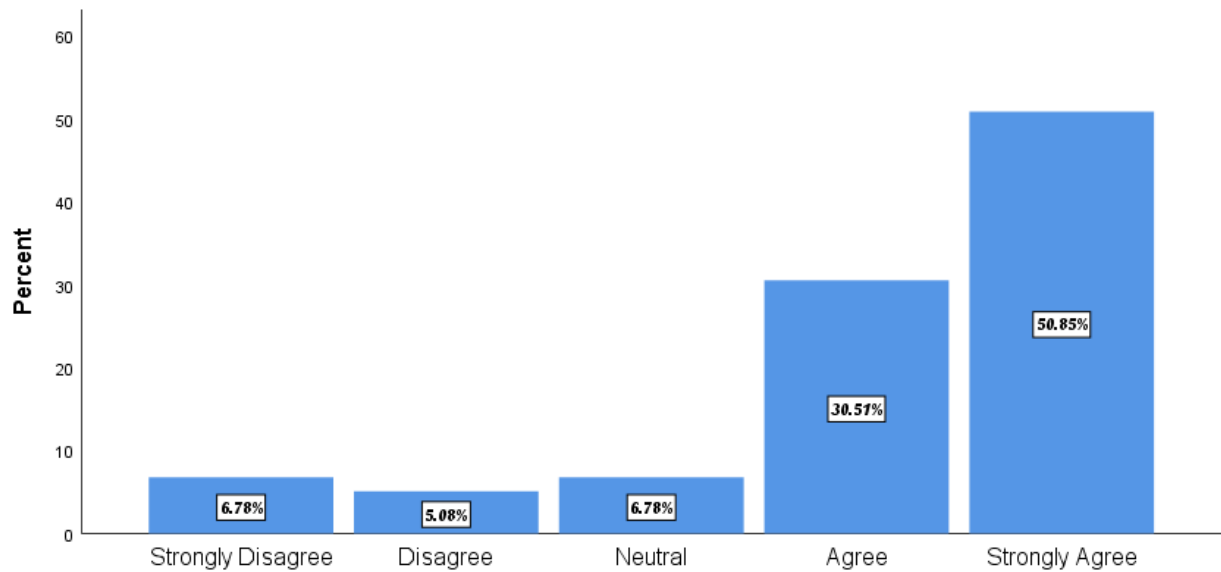


Figure 29. Graph showing opinions expressed on the view that cattle exchange program introduced by Dominion was a good idea acceptable by the community.

Source Author, 2019

Views from dominion’s former members of staff on corporate social responsibility

Dominion’s former staff were asked to give their opinion on whether Dominion management integrated the Corporate Social Responsibility (CSR) into their core business. A big percentage of the respondents (50%) supported this view. They said that meetings for stakeholders were called during which proposals from community representatives on corporate social responsibility were noted. They were further to give their views on whether CSR programmes have assisted the community in generation of employment. Majority of the respondents (75%) were in agreement. Some respondents were of the view that only a few people got employment opportunities. On training and capacity building respondents were asked whether the company had put in place programs for training and capacity building for the staff and community. 75% of the respondents strongly agreed that there was such a program. They mentioned as an example the establishment of the training centre by the company. Another issue for discussion was on health facilities where respondents were asked to give their opinion on the statement that the CSR programs have improved health facilities. There was divergent opinion on this issue, with 50% strongly agreeing and 37.5% taking a neutral position. Those who supported this view said that Dominion Company gave a big contribution in building, renovating and equipping health facilities, e.g. Ratuoro health centre

which they said was a success story. On condition of roads respondents were asked whether they agreed with the view that Dominion Company had made great contributions in improvement of roads .37.5% of the respondents agreed and 25% strongly agreed. They said that the improvement of roads was mainly by grading them. Some of the staff said that grading of roads was later discontinued, so its impact on the community was not as big as it had been before. They were also asked to comment on the statement that school buildings and facilities had improved due to the company's effort. This statement was unanimously supported by all respondents, with 37.5% agreeing and 62.5% strongly agreeing. They supported this position by saying that a number of schools had classrooms built and sport facilities upgraded. Examples of such schools were Nyalula primary school and Gendro primary school. About collaboration with Government agencies respondents were asked to give their views as to whether there was regular consultation with relevant government departments during the implementation of Corporate Social Responsibility. This was confirmed by 50% of the respondents and 37.5% took a neutral position. Some respondents denied that such consultations were regularly done. On conducive labour environment, respondents were asked whether they agreed that the company created a good labour environment to the staff and the community.37.5% remained neutral, while 37% either agreed or strongly agreed. Some respondents said that there was no good labour environment since the habit of terminating the services of workers was rampant in the company. They added that the company discouraged membership of workers union. The staff lacked security to enable them join workers welfare.

4.3 Analysis and discussion of findings

Introduction

In this section analysis of findings was done through the lens of World Systems Theory which guides discussions on the impact of Food Production and Corporate Social Responsibility on socio-economic development.

Food Production

Due to global demand for food, Yala swamp in Kenya's Siaya County was incorporated into the world business system through Dominion Multinational Corporation. The area became a victim of the common practice of MNCs that tend to decide the type of crops to be grown in

an area to suit world market demand, and not what the people want. In the case of Dominion Farms, the study established that the following crops were grown:

Maize was the earliest crop to be grown after the company had cleared the bush and reclaimed the swamp in 2003. This was done at a time when there was food insecurity because of inadequate food production from farmers' fields. Maize crop was grown during the early stages when the company was still draining the swamp in preparation for large scale farming. After harvest, the company distributed a share of the maize to the villagers. At a later stage, the people were encouraged to grow their own maize on a portion of the leased land which the company set aside for this purpose. The company gave out a total of 300 acres of land to be cultivated by people living in both Alego and Yimbo locations (150 acres for each location). Influx of more workers led to higher demand for food and hence increased production of maize by the local farmers. In times of scarcity, Dominion company sold maize to the community at subsidized price.

Farmers who were employed by Dominion acquired new farming skills especially on modern ways of planting maize and became models for other farmers in the community. This led to increased productivity, increased income and socio-economic improvement of the community. In this case one can argue that even though the community land attracted the Multinational Corporation the same community were able to get a small share of food.

Rice was another food crop introduced by Dominion in the area. After the initial period of land preparation, Dominion embarked on production of a new variety of rice known as Prime Harvest. This was after Dominion moved to irrigated agriculture in 2006. Most of rice operations involved heavy mechanized equipment for tilling, planting and harvesting. There were 3500 acres of land under rice which were harvested twice a year thus, giving a total of 7000 acres of the crop.

Dominion set up a rice milling plant which began operation in 2006. It had a capacity of milling 10,000 tonnes of rice per day and 78 million kilos of rice a year. At the mill the rice was first dried, then it was processed. The mill first removed large and small impurities in the rice, and Dominion sold the small impurities as chicken feed. Rice bran and other byproducts were sold as animal feed. The rice byproducts benefited the community in improving the health of their livestock. Quite a number of farmers engaged in poultry farming because of the availability of poultry feeds. It was noted that the rice milling plant was set up on the

same farm where the raw materials were coming from. This was to ensure that the MNC had full control of all factors of production, and the raw materials.

The study found that Dominion also specialized in production of tilapia, both full sized fish and fingerlings. By the year 2011 Dominion was the main contract supplier for the Kenyan government's Economic Stimulus Programme providing it with 2.5 million fingerlings per month. At the time, the farm operated eight trial fish ponds each with the capacity of holding 80,000 fish. By 2015 the area covered by fish farming was 200 acres with 14 ponds and a projected production of 2 tons per month and one million pieces of fingerlings per month. The farm thus contributed immensely in supplementing the governments effort to promote fish farming. This was an indirect contribution of fish business in the world market where Kenya is a well known exporter of fish particularly in European Union countries.

In addition to rice and tilapia, Dominion also produced bananas (10 acres) and soyabeans (600 acres). The soya beans provided ingredients in the production of fish, chicken and dog feeds. The fish feed was used in the farm and the rest sold commercially. The company installed fish feed milling plant with a high production capacity. Dominion started a pilot sorghum project aimed at producing seeds which would go to outgrowers who would in turn sell the same back to the company. The sorghum stems were used to make alcohol while other farmers grew the crop for seeds and for food. It should be noted that sorghum is one of the drought resistant crops which is ideal for the inhabitants of this dry area.

The area where Dominion farm is located has insufficient milk and beef production because almost all livestock owned by the people are indigenous Zebu type. This variety of animals produce very little milk, grow slowly and produce poor quality of beef. By 2011 Dominion company had acquired a herd of 100 heifers in a test programme for dairy and beef production with plans to build a herd of 600 cattle for milk and beef production in the future. Dominion later started a programme of assisting the local people to upgrade their Zebu cattle through cross breeding. In this programme the local people were encouraged to take their heifer to the company for cross breeding after which the offspring would be an improved breed capable of producing more milk. There was a plan to set up a milk processing factory where the beneficiaries of this programme were expected to sell their milk. The study confirmed that this was a popular programme which was readily embraced by the people.

The study established that Dominion had the advantage of advanced technology which enabled the company to accomplish most of their development programmes. This applied particularly in reclamation of the natural swamp and construction of 12 kilometres of dykes. The company was also able to complete the construction of a weir located on the Yala river resulting in a new reservoir for flood control purposes, irrigation water supply and a fishing ground for the local people.

Dominion also applied advanced technology in fish farming. The company put up a laboratory and a team of experts researching growth rates, best feeds and how to avoid fish inbreeding. These activities in addition to establishment of rice milling plant show that the use of advanced technology by MNCs give them advantage in productivity and therefore, the ability to make good profit in the world business transactions beyond the capacity of the host nation states. It confirms the expansion of capitalism beyond the boundaries of states and elevates such companies to the realm of the world. This provides an example where the tenets of the World Systems Theory are fulfilled.

Apart from farm employees who acquired skills in modern farming, the study did not get any reliable evidence to show that local farmers were trained through extensive field extension programmes or agricultural demonstrations organized by the company. However a few farmers were able to take advantage of the ready market for their agricultural produce by enhancing their productivity in areas such as maize growing, poultry keeping, soyabeans farming and growing of horticultural crops. The farm established a residential vocational training centre to train youth in modern agricultural skills in rice, dairy, poultry farming and aquaculture. The training centre focused on youth out of school and farmers to advance their capacity and to equip them with entrepreneurship skills in farming. It was located on 200 acres of land with livestock, fish ponds, poultry houses and horticultural farms for training. It also had a spacious repair workshop for electrical, welding, motor mechanics and tractor maintenance works. The limited number of local people who benefited from training offered by the training centre could perhaps be attributed to their inability to afford the high cost of training which was Kshs 6,500 per month.

Perhaps the lasting legacy of Dominion's food production was the change in eating habits of the indigenous people. After Dominion farm was established in the area, rice was always available among other food products. The local inhabitants were able to get rice at subsidized

cost. On certain occasions during harvest, the company distributed rice to selected villages at no cost. Rice byproducts were also available as poultry feed especially the local birds. The vast swampy area of the land that Dominion prepared for farming also benefited the local people who were given some portions for cultivation of their own crops. This contributed to increased food production. Employment of unskilled workers was done to clear papyrus reeds during the state of land preparation. Other opportunities were opened for both skilled and unskilled workers to be employed to construct houses, some were employed as drivers and heavy machine operators. Majority of the locals were employed to scare birds and keep them away from destroying rice from the farm. Even though Dominion is credited for introducing new food varieties in the area, the study found that the local people still preferred eating their traditional food in which maize was the main cereal given special recognition. This was a confirmation that the attempt by the MNC to introduce new type of food to the local inhabitants had not been successful.

The study found that Dominion made minimum effort to assist the local farmers with farm input and other facilities such as tractors to prepare their land. However selected farmers were assisted to grow soyabeans on contractual basis with the company. The harvested soyabeans were then sold to the company as fish feeds. Other farmers were assisted by the company to engage in small holder fish farming in which the company gave assistance to the locals in establishing fish ponds and purchase of fingerlings. They were also supported by extension workers who advised about marketing.

The study also found that introduction of sugarcane farming by Dominion generated heated debate among the community and their political leaders. Though the company tried to encourage the local people to grow sugarcane, majority of them developed a negative attitude about the idea. It appeared that there was no adequate sensitization given by the local leaders on the benefits of sugarcane farming. Many people feared that sugarcane would deprive them of the use of their land to grow food crops and thus cause food shortage in the area. It was noted however that a few farmers embraced the idea of growing sugarcane and through the assistance of Dominion Farms, they were successful in planting sugarcane. The company constructed a sugar factory which was at advanced stage of completion by the time Dominion left in 2017. In spite of resistance from the local outgrowers, the company planted its own sugarcane in a portion of the leased land covering an area of 400 acres. On completion, the sugar factory was expected to produce 9000 bags of sugar per day. It should be noted that

sugarcane is one of the crops which Multinational Companies target in the world system for profitable business with possible consequences of dispossessing communities of arable land for other traditional food crops with long term negative effect on food security.

Socio-Economic Impact of Food production

Due to increased production of food, farmers were able to market their produce in the local trading centres where purchasing power increased with introduction of cash economy by Dominion Farms. Employees of Dominion Farms spent their income in purchasing items from the same trading centres thus, contributing to further expansion of business. As a result, there was rapid growth of Nyalula and Ratuoro trading centres where rental houses were in high demand. Investors in hotel business also got good income. Many farmers were able to take their children to school. A visit made to primary schools in the area established that the existense of Dominion Farms led to increased school enrolment due to the fact that many employees from other parts of Kenya enrolled their children in the nearby schools. Those who were employed from local communities and local farmers had better income, which made it easier for them to take their children to school. Other forms of assistance came from Dominion Company. These included food and book donations; improvement of conditions of roads which created easy accessibility to schools especially during rainy seasons; control of floods that destroyed farmers crops during rainy season leading to better yield for their crops and hence more income and ability to take children to school. Dominion started a school known as Prime Harvest Academy from Baby class to class six by 2016. This was a school started for the children of the farm workers but also benefited the local community. Dominion also built a training college for agriculture, horticulture ,mechanics and plant operators. The college attracted many visitors from other parts of Kenya and abroad.

Apart from achievements in education, Dominion's activities in food production contributed in promoting local tourism by being a popular destination of many visitors from within or outside the country who were interested in learning new ideas about farming. Due to savings by employees, Dominion also contributed to good business performance by banks in Siaya County. The culture of savings and spending money was a new practice in an area where majority of people had previously understood wealth to mean livestock, maize, millet e.t.c which previously did not have a reliable market.

Another positive development in people's livelihood was the construction of decent houses in the area by majority of people who previously owned tiny grass thatched houses. Other observed economic indicators were factories for soyabeans oil, rice, sugar (incomplete) and machinery spare parts e.t.c. These factories provided employment for Kenyans, majority of whom were from the local community. Dominion also assisted in provision of electricity to trading centres, hospitals and schools.

Analysis on Corporate Social Responsibility

The study established that Dominion farms had a programme of Corporate Social Responsibility in its policy. These fall under different variables as discussed as follows;

Dominion assisted Nyalula primary school in development of the sports ground, installed modern football goal posts and placed murrum on the road leading to the school. The school also had regular supply of free rice and books donated by Dominion. Dominion also constructed two classrooms and desks at Gendro primary school and improved sports facilities in the school.

On scholarships to students, the company assisted a few students to get free scholarship to pursue their studies in primary and secondary schools under Dominion Foundation programme. More details about these scholarships could not be obtained due to the inability to meet the company's senior management. In the area of social services, apart from improvement of sporting facilities in nearby schools, Dominion also assisted in improvement of football pitch and other sports facilities in the nearby trading centres such as Ratuoro. In the health sector, Dominion assisted Ratuoro health centre in construction of one building block and provided medical equipment to the hospital. The company also extended electricity and water to the hospital. In 2004 Dominion constructed a new laboratory building for the clinic and supplied medical equipment such as wheelchairs and walkers. Dominion also supplied dental and x-ray equipment to local hospitals. These equipments were given by US donors.

In the sector of water, Dominion drilled several water supply wells (boreholes) and built private shower stalls along the Yala river near the farm compound. Due to Dominions' efforts, the community was able to get clean drinking water for the first time. The company also dug canals to take water to 200 acres given to the local community (Kanyango and Gendro) and a further 45 acres for Bondo. In the road construction sector, Dominion

company included in its programme, regular maintenance of roads around the area for the benefit of the public. Notable among them is the Dominion-Siaya road which benefited from combined effort of the Government and Dominion road maintenance units. As a result there was free movement of people even during the worst times of the rainy season. Also as part of its Corporate Social Responsibility Dominion had a programme of free supply of maize and rice to the community. Unfortunately this program was not sustainable due to internal challenges. However the company assisted farmers by encouraging them to grow their own food on 300 acres of the company's land.

Socio-economic impact of Corporate Social Responsibility

Analysis of socio-economic impact occasioned by Corporate Social Responsibility shows that this was a narrow area compared to the previous achievements under food production. Some of the achievements were increased enrolment of students due to assistance extended to schools by Dominion and the decreased dropout rate among school going children was an indicator of good progress in education. In the long run the area whose majority of the population lacked better education was expected to open up, and to be at par in literacy with other parts of the country it should be noted however, that the general feeling of the people was that the contributions of Dominion to education in the area was very minimal as compared to what the company was expected to do as per the Memorandum of Understanding with the local authorities which included building and renovation of schools in order to elevate their physical appearance to a much higher scale than what was actually achieved.

The role of Dominion in promoting sports by improving sports grounds and providing sports facilities was one way of improving the economy of the people. Sports activities and events, sports facilities, sports volunteering, sports leadership, sports training and sports employment schemes all help to develop the knowledge, skills and productivity of individuals and communities and create strong and vibrant neighbourhoods. As a result of this, Dominion encouraged the youth to be involved in many sporting engagements. This reduced idleness among the youth which is a sure breeding ground for unproductive and criminal activities. The contribution of Dominion in improving health facilities had a positive impact on the health of the community. Records held at the local health centre show that malaria is the leading disease affecting the inhabitants of the area. By draining water from a large portion of the swamp and turning it into dry land for cultivation, Dominion significantly reduced

mosquito breeding grounds. With reduced mosquitoes it was expected that the number of people infected by malaria would reduce. A healthy population means more productivity from the people and hence more economic development.

The supply of clean water to the community was a major achievement in economic development, as this is an important resource in all aspects of life. However, the local community complained that due to aerial spraying done by Dominion, and the use of other chemicals on the farm, their main source of water has been polluted thus, endangering the lives of human beings and livestock.

Dominion's role in free food supply mitigated cases of famine, enhanced food security and hence contributed to productivity and economic development. The impact of food distribution could not be fully established since this programme was not sustained for long.

The role of Dominion in improving the roads used by the community was yet another contribution to economic development. The community relied on these roads for easy transportation of their farm produce to various destinations for marketing. The main observation on the ground shows that most road works by Dominion were concentrated along the ring road within the farm.

CHAPTER FIVE: SUMMARY OF FINDINGS, CONCLUSION AND RECOMMENDATIONS

5.0 Introduction

This chapter gives a summary of key findings from objectives and hypotheses.

5.1 Dominion Food Production and its Contribution to Socio-Economic Development

From the findings it is apparent that Dominion had made a major contribution in irrigation farming which was a landmark in Kenya's food production. Due to insufficient arable land in Kenya and over reliance on rainfed water for agriculture, Kenya cannot hope to grow enough food without relying on irrigation of its productive land for commercial agricultural purposes. According to the state department of irrigation, Kenya's irrigated based farming is still limited. Of the total land area under agriculture which is 2.9 million ha, irrigation accounts for only 4% but contributes 3% of the GDP and provides 18% of the value of all agricultural produce (Ministry of Water and Irrigation, 2017).

Dominion's irrigation process involved 80 miles of canals, flood control dykes and the necessary infrastructure for growing, drying, milling and storage of rice and other commodity grains. It provided an example of technology-based irrigated agriculture and a model for progressive farmers who would like to develop the water resources and expand the land under cultivation that is needed to sustain the fast growing Kenyan population. Unlike the state funded irrigation projects, Dominion farm was an example of a well managed project capable of supplementing in a big way Governments effort in addressing food security challenge. It can however, be argued that the potential of this project for sufficient food production for the people of Kenya is contradicted by the position of the MNC in the world system. In this era of globalization, the desire by Dominion to develop more interest in economic power at the international business level may give less attention to the food priority needs of the people of Kenya.

Dominion grew varieties of rice which provided high yields and matured quickly. It has been noted that there is increased population of people in Kenya who consume rice to supplement other known staple food such as maize. According to statistics available, the consumption of rice increases at the rate of 12% per year. The estimated rice production is at 150,000 metric

tons against annual consumption of approximately 550,000 metric tons (Kenya National Bureau of Statistics, 2016). Since annual consumption of rice outweighs production, Kenya has been forced to import a lot of rice from India, Pakistan and South East Asia to cater for the deficit.

The role of Dominion therefore, was crucial in addressing the food security problem as an intervention measure to boost the production of rice and reduce the country's expenditure on imported rice. Another important contribution of Dominion in rice production was the establishment of rice mills which began operation in 2006. The milling plant had a capacity of 78 million kilograms of rice a year. It is believed that this plant alone could mill rice for all the rice producers in Kenya (Omari, 2011). As production of rice increased, many young Kenyans had the opportunity of being engaged as distributors to various destinations. Others provided transport and contributed to booming business in motorcycle taxis commonly known as bodaboda. The high consumption of rice raises other issues on business operations of MNCs in the world system. One issue of concern is that many MNCs are more interested in marketing of their products all over the world for maximum profit. Since the era of globalization has minimized state control of consumer commodity products, there is a possibility of an MNC such as Dominion selling its rice to other countries whose price may be higher and therefore more profitable than what they would gain by selling the same commodities in Kenyan market. In this scenario the main losers are the Kenyan community who are the real owners of the land used for production. The other issue is the threat of future survival of Kenyan staple food which the local people have embraced for a long time. Increased demand for rice means increased success of rice business in the world system. The MNCs such as Dominion are likely to channel most of their resources in promoting the production of only this crop. This may lead to less attention given to other types of food that people are used to. As a result, the people may find themselves incorporated in the world system where their business strength will not be of any significance. This is because the local farmers can not compete with large farms such as Dominion who are both producers and retailers, with processing industries and raw materials based in the same farm.

The contribution of Dominion in fish farming is significant in socio-economic development of Kenya. Fisheries sector contributes 0.7 percent to the country's Gross Domestic Product (GDP). According to the Ministry of Agriculture, Livestock and Fisheries, (2015) the government had come up with a nationwide fish farming initiative and developed a fish

breeding improvement programme. Dominion's major contribution to the realization of this objective was the fact that it was the main supplier to the government of quality fingerlings across Kenya, notably Central region, Western and Lake basin region.

Dominion also provided support for small holder fish farmers by training them and providing material supplies, to enable them start their own fish ponds and identifying markets for the fish produced. Other benefits that were achieved due to fish farming included establishment of a hatchery that had the capacity to produce excess fish that could be used to restock local lakes and rivers to benefit the local population. Fish processing plant had also been constructed on site. It can therefore be concluded that Dominion's activities in controlling the flow of water in Yala river, and construction of canals improved the volume of water in the nearby lakes which increased the restocking of fish. However there were no reliable statistics to confirm the specific quantity of fish that could be attributed to the existence of Dominion. The same case can also be argued on private fish ponds. It was observed that most fish farmers who relied on Dominion for assistance did not sustain the production of fish from their ponds when Dominion left them on their own. As has been argued in the case of rice, the accurate assessment of benefits of fish production depends on the market forces at play on fish business in the world system.

Dominion devised ways of assisting the local people to improve on livestock production. In this area the people were involved in rearing of beef and dairy cattle, poultry, sheep, goats and pigs. Due to increased population, demand for dairy products such as milk is high. Dominion availed sufficient food for poultry farmers from by-products of their rice produce. The introduction of cattle exchange programme with the local people through cross breeding was aimed at increasing the quality and quantity of milk produced. The programme would be more enhanced with the construction of a milk processing plant which Dominion had planned to do. In the long run the people's health would improve due to increased protein from milk, beef and poultry. Supply and distribution of milk would also open up other business opportunities for the youth in retail and transport sectors. Unfortunately the impact of socio-economic benefits in livestock production was not felt because Dominion did not continue with their planned activities.

Most livestock farmers who were interviewed during the survey blamed Dominion for not providing sufficient grazing ground for their animals. As a result, some people forcefully encroached on Dominion Farm in order to avail grass for the animals. This action brought conflict between Dominion and the locals leading to some ugly incidents which led to arrest of the people and their animals and all taken to Siaya police station. This provides an example of conflict between an MNC and the host nation. This was unavoidable since both the state and the MNC were fighting for control of resources. This kind of conflict was not healthy for the success of the MNC in satisfying the demands of the people. It is a conflict between forces representing international capital created by the world system against the indigenous owners of land who had entrusted their Government to be the custodian of their property. With less state control of MNC operations in the world system, the main losers are the people. It should be noted that these kind of conflicts and many more with local leaders provided obstacles that largely contributed to the decline and eventual termination of Dominion's operations.

5.1.2 Dominion's Corporate Social Responsibility and Socio-Economic Development

The study found that Corporate Social Responsibility policy was practised by Dominion though to a limited extent. This can be explained by the world systems theory which emphasizes the main motive of capitalism being to create maximum profit and expand in growth. In this context one can argue that if Dominion was to channel more resources on CSR programmes, the company could not be able to reach its profit target, and as a subsidiary of its parent company in the US, failure to make profit would jeopardize its continued presence in Kenya. The inclusion of CSR policy in Dominion's operation programmes was a decision based more on fulfillment of the requirements of the M O U than genuine concerns of the main problems facing the people. The study was unable to find any strong link between Dominion's Corporate Social Responsibility policies and employee welfare. Most employees were overworked, taking long hours at their places of work. They were not provided with the necessary work clothing and gear such as gumboots, and had no recognized trade union body to fight for their welfare.

The policy of setting aside a portion of Dominion's land to be cultivated by the local community was a good example of the company's Corporate Social Responsibility. This provided some challenges such as lack of clear boundary demarcation between the land to be

farmed by the community and the portion to be left to the company. This led to frequent conflicts between the two parties. Some farmers complained that after working hard to prepare their farms and planting crops, Dominion would later come to carry out their activities on the same farm and destroy crops already planted by the community.

The company's attempt to distribute famine relief food to the people whose farms were destroyed by floods was a good CSR gesture. However this was short lived and not many people benefitted from it. Moreover it was not well coordinated thus leaving out many deserving cases. In some areas there were complaints that farmers were unable to cultivate their land due to artificial flooding that they sometimes experienced when Dominion opened sluice gates that control the flow of water from the weir, resulting into flooding of nearby community farms and destroying their crops. Such farmers don't appreciate the economic benefits of the existence of Dominion but instead see Dominion as a liability to their food security.

The role of Dominion in assisting schools, hospitals, and establishment of recreation centres was noted. However information gathered from participant observation, opinion leaders and focus group discussions did not give a positive picture of expectations of people on the developments that Dominion was to undertake in accordance with the Memorandum of understanding. Generally the people felt that Dominion benefitted more from exploitation of resources in the area without sharing the accrued profit for the development of the area to uplift their socio-economic development. A similar position was taken in a report submitted to Siaya County Assembly by a joint committee on Yala Swamp (Siaya County Assembly, 2015).

5.2.0 Conclusions Derived from the Study

This study identified Dominion Farms (K) Ltd as the only Multinational Corporation operating in Siaya county from the year 2003 to 2017. The study has confirmed in Dominion, some characteristics that are synonymous with other Multinational Corporations. These were noted in the following observations;

Like other MNCs, Dominion transferred advanced technology in the form of heavy machinery equipment and skilled personnel from advanced countries to Kenya. This made it easier for the company to successfully complete irrigation program and apply advanced

methods of largescale plantation of cereals and fish farming. The returns achieved from this investment was mostly geared towards maximum profit for Dominion Farms as opposed to the benefits expected by the inhabitants of the host country. Dominion is credited for reinvesting their profit in production plants and factories. This led to increased productivity and hence increased employment of the people from the host nation. Dominion's activities related to land acquisition and the conflict it has created with the local people provides a reminder of what many scholars had written about MNCs appetite for land in order to start large-scale farming and disadvantages this is causing to the indigenous people.

Like other MNCs Dominion had also developed interest in cultivation of crops such as rice, oilcrops (soyabeans) and sugarcane with future focus on the international liberalised market. The conflict with the locals over sugarcane production attests to this. Dominion has Corporate Social Responsibility policy which appeared to have been conditional due to the memorandum of understanding between Dominion and the Government represented by local authorities. Though it appears that the company fulfilled some of the CSR commitments contained in the MOU there was still a lot of pending work expected by the host communities.

It is therefore safe to conclude that :

- ❖ The study has confirmed Hypothesis one, that there is a positive relationship between food production by Dominion Farms (K) Ltd and socio-economic development in Siaya county, first by making profits to the company leading to the expansion of its productive activities and indirectly stimulating socioeconomic development through off-farm activities such as activating money economy, encouraging farmers to develop interest in farming, better market for agricultural produce, more school enrollment, rapid growth of the local trading centres, support for education and health institutions and infrastructure development.
- ❖ Hypothesis two of this study as to whether there is a positive relationship between Dominion's Corporate Social Responsibility and socio-economic development of Siaya has not been supported by sufficient facts. The study has shown that the few programmes initiated by Dominion under the CSR only created minimal impact on the socio-economic development of the people. For

example the people expected better policies such as distribution by Dominion of good quality seeds, fertilizer and other farm inputs. The people were also not satisfied with the limited achievements of Dominion in improvement of schools, hospitals and infrastructure. As a result, the impact of the CSR policy was not felt by the beneficiaries who on most occasions found themselves in conflict with Dominion leadership. Furthermore this policy had not been embraced by the people as their entitlement, thus leaving all plans at the discretion of Dominion management.

5.2.1 Recommendations of Findings

From the findings one can say that the community had a lot to learn from farming practises of Dominion in order to improve their socio-economic conditions. Unfortunately the community did not properly integrate with the company. Only those who were employed by the company were in a better position to learn new skills. It is recommended that any Multinational Corporation intending to do business should incorporate the community through their leaders. Dominion had this idea in mind when they proposed the establishment of community cooperative society with an aim of consolidating individual parcels of land and to create a large farm where meaningful agricultural activities would be practised (Dominion Farms, 2007).

Secondly the community through their leaders should identify all issues that create conflict with the company such as land ownership, grazing rights, employment of the locals and implementation of Corporate Social Responsibility commitments. An amicable understanding should exist between the two parties so that the company's operations are not interrupted by negative activities of the community and their leaders arising from unresolved grievances. Thirdly there is need for extensive sensitization of the community on the benefits of new crops such as sugarcane, rice and soyabeans. It was realized that a sizeable number of the community were apprehensive about the introduction of sugarcane because no serious effort was made by the authorities, leaders and Dominion management to create a forum where such sensitization could be done. The sensitization should be more focused on positive and sustainable socio-economic benefits of the people as opposed to the demands of international business networks.

The findings show that for any Multinational Company to succeed in its operations, there has to be close working relations with the host government. For instance, activities on food production needed close collaboration between Dominion Farms and Government institutions which perform agricultural functions. There was no such office with reliable data on Dominion. The County Government should be in the forefront in resolving issues such as communal land disputes. The company also requires maximum protection from the government through provision of adequate security personnel and creation of strong administrative institutions for resolving conflicts between the community and the company. The government should also ensure that the commitments of the Company that are contained in the Corporate Social Responsibility policy are strictly implemented. This requires close collaboration between the company and the line ministries such as Education, Water, Health and Roads. It is recommended that action plan with completion timelines on CSR programmes be discussed and agreed upon by both the government and MNC leadership.

Any future investor in Yala swamp should be conversant with its status as an important national resource. It is a biodiversity conservation habitat for indigenous and endangered fish, bird and rare animal species such as Sitatunga antelope. It is a very productive ecosystem and thus, an important source of livelihood to the local communities. This is a potential source of plenty of food supply which the whole country can rely on for food security. Any activity of Multinational Corporations aimed at converting part of the swamp into a large scale industrial agricultural operation should involve all the relevant stakeholders so that the value and the importance of the swamp is preserved for the benefit of future generations.

5.3 Suggestions for Further Study

The study did not exhaustively explore the intended areas of relevant information due to the fact that Dominion Company had left the area by the time of data collection in January-February 2019. As a result, there was no authoritative person to give information from the perspective of senior management. It may be necessary therefore to carry out further studies on how Dominion activities and programmes impacted people on education, health and the contracted local farmers.

Further studies may also be necessary on Dominion's proposed development of community farms on 100 acres and above which would be farmed cooperatively and the perception of the community of this idea of embracing modern technologies on a population with traditional mind set. More studies may also take place on employment policy of Multinational Corporations and the role of local employees on the management of the company's resources. The issue of communal land versus Multinational Corporations and its impact on food production should also form a subject of future study.

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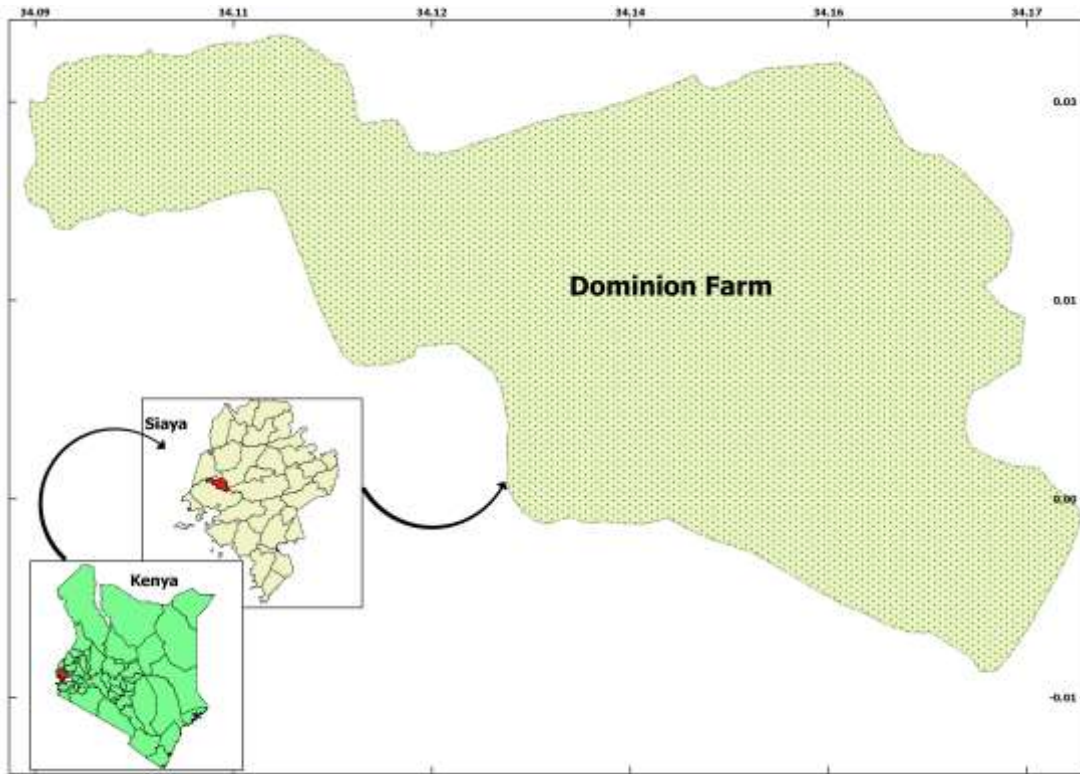
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APPENDICES

APPENDIX A: MAP OF DOMINION FARM



Source: <http://www.earth.google.com>

APPENDIX B: RESEARCH PERMIT



NATIONAL COMMISSION FOR SCIENCE, TECHNOLOGY AND INNOVATION

Telephone: +254-20-2213471,
2241349,3310571,2219420
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Email: dg@nacosti.go.ke
Website : www.nacosti.go.ke
When replying please quote

NACOSTI, Upper Kabete
Off Waiyaki Way
P.O. Box 30623-00100
NAIROBI-KENYA

Ref. No. **NACOSTI/P/19/78471/27447**

Date: **14th January, 2019**

Karoli Olloya Ooko
University of Nairobi
P.O. Box 30197-00100
NAIROBI.

RE: RESEARCH AUTHORIZATION

Following your application for authority to carry out research on "*The role of multinational corporations in socio-economic development of Kenya: A case study of Dominion Farms(K) Ltd, 2003-2017*" I am pleased to inform you that you have been authorized to undertake research in **Siaya County** for the period ending **14th January, 2020.**

You are advised to report to **the County Commissioner and the County Director of Education, Siaya County** before embarking on the research project.

Kindly note that, as an applicant who has been licensed under the Science, Technology and Innovation Act, 2013 to conduct research in Kenya, you shall deposit a **copy** of the final research report to the Commission within **one year** of completion. The soft copy of the same should be submitted through the Online Research Information System.


GODFREY P. KALERWA MSc., MBA, MKIM
FOR: DIRECTOR-GENERAL/CEO

Copy to:

The County Commissioner
Siaya County.

The County Director of Education
Siaya County.

Republic of Kenya: National Commission for Science, Technology and Innovation, P.O. Box 30623-00100, Nairobi

**THIS IS TO CERTIFY THAT:
MR. KAROLI OLLOYA OOKO
of UNIVERSITY OF NAIROBI, 1966-100
NAIROBI, has been permitted to conduct
research in Siaya County**

**Permit No : NACOSTI/P/19/78471/27447
Date Of Issue : 14th January, 2019
Fee Received :Ksh 1000**

**on the topic: THE ROLE OF
MULTINATIONAL CORPORATIONS IN
SOCIO-ECONOMIC DEVELOPMENT OF
KENYA: A CASE STUDY OF DOMINION
FARMS(K) LTD, 2003-2017 .**

**for the period ending:
14th January, 2020**



**Applicant's
Signature**



**Director General
National Commission for Science,
Technology & Innovation**

APPENDIX C: SURVEY INSTRUMENTS

SECTION A

Please answer all the questions honestly and exhaustively. All the information given will be strictly used for academic purposes and research. It will be treated with utmost confidentiality.

BIODATA

Age bracket

Gender – Male /Female

Education- Masters, Degree, KCSE, KCPE, others (qualifications below KCPE)

Marital status -Married, single, divorced

Designation-Top Management, others (positions below management)

SECTION B

PART 1: ROLE OF DOMINION FARM IN FOOD PRODUCTION AND IT'S INFLUENCE IN SOCIO-ECONOMIC DEVELOPMENT IN SIAYA COUNTY

Q1: Please indicate the extent to which you either agree or disagree with each of the statements by selecting one category that mostly corresponds to your desire.

Use the following likert scale:

5: Strongly agree

4: Agree

3: Neutral

2: Disagree

1: Strongly disagree

NO	STATEMENTS	5	4	3	2	1
1	Dominion farms(k) ltd has helped the community to improve in food production.					
2	Apart from rice production Dominion farms has produced other types of food which were previously not grown in the area.					
3	Dominion farm management introduced new farming methods which have led to increased food production by farmers.					
4	As a result of the arrival of Dominion farms, many people started eating new variety of food instead of the traditional food.					
5	Dominion has trained many farmers on better methods of food production.					
6	Dominion has trained farmers on better methods of cattle rearing and increased production of milk.					
7	Dominion fish farming activities have been done in collaboration with the local fisherman.					
8	Fish produced by dominion farm has been sold to the community.					
9	Dominion has assisted farmers to get to seeds and fertilizer.					
10	Dominion has assisted the community to plough their farms.					
11	The introduction of sugarcane as a cash crop by Dominion was given support by the community.					
12	The community would like to grow sugarcane as compared to food crops.					
13	The community would like to provide their land to be leased by Dominion for sugarcane production.					
14	Food produced by Dominion is sold to the community at					

	affordable price.					
15	Food crops produced by the community are easily sold in the market.					
16	Dominion has produced poultry feed which has benefitted the community.					
17	Dominion has made a big contribution in supplying a locally sustained cereal grains for consumption by the nation.					
18	Since the arrival of Dominion the socio-economic status of the community has improved.					

PART TWO: DOMINION FARMS CORPORATE SOCIAL RESPONSIBILITY AND IT'S INFLUENCE ON SOCIO-ECONOMIC DEVELOPMENT

Q2: Please indicate the extent to which you either agree or disagree with each of the statements by selecting one category that mostly corresponds to your desire.

Use the following Likert scale:

5: Strongly agree

4: Agree

3: Neutral

2: Disagree

1: Strongly disagree

NO	STATEMENTS	5	4	3	2	1
1	Development programs of Dominion farms are done with the involvement of the local community.					
2	Dominion has constructed new school buildings and improved					

	facilities in the schools.					
3	Since the arrival of Dominion the health facilities have improved due to the support that the company has provided.					
4	Dominion has made a big improvement on the roads around the area.					
5	Any development assistance that Dominion extends to the community is due to their sympathy for the community.					
6	It is the responsibility of Dominion farms to assist the community in developing the area.					
7	Dominion shares with the community a portion of the food produced.					
8	Dominion provides scholarship and other benefits to school going children in the area.					
9	Dominion has put up social welfare facilities such as libraries, sporting facilities and community centres for the benefit of the locals.					
10	The community has been assisted by Dominion to get farm inputs and veterinary services at subsidised cost.					
11	Cattle exchange program introduced by Dominion to assist the community to improve the dairy animals was a good idea acceptable by the community.					

DOMINION COMPANY STAFF

FOOD PRODUCTION QUESTIONNAIRE

Please indicate the extent to which you either agree or disagree with each of the statements by selecting one category that mostly corresponds to your desire.

Use the following likert scale:

5: Strongly agree

4: Agree

3: Neutral

2: Disagree

1: Strongly disagree

NO	STATEMENT	5	4	3	2	1
1	The contribution of Dominion Farms to the community in food production has been a great success.					
2	Apart from rice production the company has embarked on production of other types of food which were previously not in the area.					
3	The company has introduced advanced technology in farming which has increased production of food.					
4	The company has received substantial assistance from foreign countries.					
5	Training of local farmers in modern agricultural practices has been done.					
6	There has been improved production of food crops arising from new skills acquired by farmers.					
7	Dairy exchange programme with the local farmers was accepted by the majority of the farmers.					
8	The company used agricultural extension officers to train farmers.					
9	The company set up mechanisms to resolve conflicts between the computing and the company on issues of					

	food production.					
10	The company has made special arrangements with the community on supply of farm inputs.					
11	The company has set up a research unit to get new knowledge in order to meet expectations of the people.					
12	The company has introduced new variety of food in the area.					
13	The people have reacted positively in consumption of new food.					
14	The company has made profit for its food products.					
15	The company produces food for local consumption and for export					
16	The company has assisted local farmers to sell their food in countries outside Kenya					
17	The company contributes a substantial portion of it's profit to the exchequer in form of taxes.					
18	The company's investment in sugar production has produced good results.					
19	Local farmers are enthusiastic about planting sugarcane on their farms.					
20	The company has established food processing facilities and rice mills.					
21	The food processing facilities and rice mills have also been assisting the local community.					

DOMINION COMPANY STAFF

CORPORATE SOCIAL RESPONSIBILITY QUESTIONNAIRE

NO	STATEMENTS	5	4	3	2	1
1	Dominion management has integrated the corporate social responsibility into their core business.					
2	Due to the practice of corporate social responsibility there is a positive impact on the company's financial and social performance.					
3	The CSR programmes have assisted the community in generation of employment.					
4	The CSR programme has resulted into alleviation of poverty within the community.					
5	The company has put in place programmes for capacity building for staff and the community.					
6	The CSR programmes have improved health facilities.					
7	The company has made great contribution in improvements of roads.					
8	School buildings and facilities have improved due to the company's effort.					
9	The company has created a mechanism for good coexistence between the company and other stakeholders in the community.					
10	Regular consultations with relevant government departments have been done during implementation of corporate social responsibility					
11	The company employees have enjoyed welfare programmes initiated by the company.					
12	The company has created a good labour environment to the staff and the community.					

KEY INFORMANT INTERVIEW

1. Do you come from Yala swamp area? If yes, how long have you stayed there?
2. Do you remember when Dominion Farms (K) Ltd first came to the area and the varieties of food products they introduced in the area?
3. In your opinion what can you say about the state of food production before, and after Dominion Farms were established in the area?
4. What was the state of food production by the time Dominion Farms management left in 2017?
5. Apart from food crops which were mainly rice and maize, what other food and agricultural activities was Dominion Farms involved in?
6. What are the major development activities that Dominion completed in areas such as health, education, water, infrastructure (roads) etc.?
7. Do you remember anybody who acquired skills from training offered by Dominion Farms in agriculture, aquaculture, cattle rearing and other technical areas?
8. Did Dominion Farms have any plans for the less vulnerable people (such as the poor who had previously depended on the swamp for farming and grazing of animals)?
9. Did Dominion Farms establish factories? If yes what did the factories produce?
10. How did business activities in trading centres around Dominion farms perform before the establishment of the farms, during the period of the farms operations and after the departure of the management?

FOCUS GROUP DISCUSSION GUIDE

1. Can you remember when Dominion Company first arrived at Yala swamp? If so, what can you say about the production of food then, and how can you compare it with the food situation by the time Dominion left in 2017?
2. How were the local people in Yala swamp area producing their food at the time of Dominion's arrival?
3. Was there any change in their food production method after Dominion's arrival?
4. What difference did Dominion bring in food production?

5. In your opinion did the quantity of food produced in the area increase or decrease after the arrival of Dominion?
6. In your opinion was there any difference in people's way of life and their economic status by the time dominion left in 2017?
7. Do you remember any development programme that Dominion Company initiated in areas such as education, health, water and roads?
8. Do you remember individuals or groups that benefited from training programmes that were started by Dominion?

PHOTOGRAPH OF FOCUS GROUP DISCUSSION SESSION



A focus group meeting at Gendro village