

Interactive comment on “Actors and networks in resource conflict resolution under climate change in rural Kenya” by G . W. Ngaruiya and J . Scheffran

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We would like to appreciate comments from the anonymous referee who highlighted the need to change the administrative titles of the actors to reflect the current Kenyan Constitution that created Counties and Sub-Counties instead of Districts.

In addition, the other suggested specific comments guided our reply and changes to the manuscript as follows;

1. Line 100 on page 4. I suggest replacing “radically with colonial” with “radically by colonial” – accepted change.
2. Page 4 lines 120 – 125. It will be important to include references/examples of sites

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where poor outcomes have been recorded – Accepted review. For clarity, we have edited the sentence as “However, the “one-size-fits-all” governance approach introduced by colonialists gave poor outcomes especially in the water, wildlife and forest sectors, thereby necessitating establishment of rural community-based conservation and participatory resource management approaches in developing countries (Berkes, 2004).”

3. Pages 7, lines 201 to 205. It is implied that once land becomes the only economic asset remaining, the land owner sub-divides for sale to “outsiders”. This needs to be clarified - The statement is given in relation to figure 1 which assumes that majority of the community becomes impoverished due to local drought impacts and the “outsiders” have higher capability of enhancing the “locals” economic status. Consequently, the sentence has been changed to clarify the circumstance under which land is sold to outsiders.

4. The fact that sale of land to “outsiders” leads to reduced land holdings, reduced grazing area, increased incidences of overgrazing, fencing – all these lead to reduced adaptive capacity. This needs to be highlighted. Accepted idea as it emphasizes the need for effective holistic adaptation practices in a community. This suggested sentence has been included in the paragraph.

5. Page 11. Lines 332. Sentence starting on line 332 needs to be broken. I suggest “Unmonitored land subdivision and climate variability, increased cases of wildlife poaching and human-wildlife conflicts.” Accepted change, the sentence now reads “Interestingly, unmonitored land subdivision and climate variability, increased cases of wildlife poaching and human-wildlife conflicts but have also created opportunities for establishment of several wildlife organizations that promote conservation of local biodiversity”

6. Page 15: lines 469 to 472. Replace “District Agricultural Officer (DAO), District Kenya Wildlife Service (DKWS), District Livestock Officer (DLO), District Local Govern-

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ment (DLG), Social Development Officer (DSDO), District Water Officer (DWO), District Kenya Forest Service (DKFS) and game scouts” with “District Agricultural Officer (DAO), District Kenya Wildlife Service (DKWS) officer, District Livestock Officer (DLO) Officer, District Local Government (DLG) officer Social Development Officer (DSDO), District Water Officer (DWO), District Kenya Forest Service (DKFS) officer and game scouts. Accepted, I have included the term officer in the actors.

7. You also need to confirm the titles for the officers since the title District is no longer applicable – we have counties and sub-counties. There is need to confirm this and change throughout the paper. Accepted change from District to Sub-County officers (SCO) to concur with current government administrative structures.

8. Page 16 lines 493 – 497 “Since conflict sensitive adaptation processes must be approached using a multi-dimensional system that incorporates different levels, both administrative and societal (Tänzler et al., 2013). Then, this study postulates that central actors, who hold the network together in times of distress, also have potential to influence adaptation information quality and flow in the network.” Needs rephrasing. I suggest “Conflict-sensitive adaptation processes must be approached using a multi-dimensional system that incorporates different levels, both administrative and societal (Tänzler et al., 2013). This study postulates that central actors, who hold the network together in times of distress, also have potential to influence adaptation information quality and flow in the network.” Accepted sentence flow change.

9. Page 16 – lines 501 – 502 and also other parts of the paper – We no longer have districts in Kenya but Counties and Sub-counties. The authors’ needs to find out Loitoktok is now a sub-county. Accepted change from Loitoktok District to Sub-County to correspond with the current government administrative unit.

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