

Title	Preface
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Citation	African study monographs. Supplementary issue (2018), 55: 1-3
Issue Date	2018-03
URL	https://doi.org/10.14989/230161
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Type	Departmental Bulletin Paper
Textversion	publisher

PREFACE

This supplementary issue of *African Study Monographs* presents part of the results of two 5-year research projects funded by a Grant-in-Aid for Scientific Research from the Japan Society for the Promotion of Science. The first is titled “An Empirical Study on vitalizing African Local Economies with Sustainable Resource Management: With Special Reference to Tanzania” (Project No. 25257107, organized by Jun Ikeno, Kyoto University, Japan) and was conducted from 2013 to 2017. The second is titled “Enhancing Diversification and Stabilization of Livelihood Systems through Horizontal Transfer of Technologies and Knowledge in Afro-Eurasia under Poverty” (Project No. 24251005, organized by Ueru Tanaka, Research Institute for Humanity and Nature, Kyoto, Japan) and was conducted from 2012 to 2016.

Since the middle of the 2000s, most African countries have experienced rapid economic growth, and Tanzania is no exception. Compared with previous patterns of development, local areas distant from major urban hubs are involved in the current trend, although their involvement is not always positive. The aim of this supplementary issue is to examine the impact of this recent economic development on local societies in Tanzania, with specific focus on four important resources, which are not only natural resources but also the products of human activities. These resources have supported and vitalized development in local areas; however, their use has also degraded and endangered the environment. Instead of examining resources such as land and staple food crops, we wanted to highlight other important resources, and so this special issue is split into four sections with each section focused on one of four resources: timber wood, fruit trees, water, and fish.

At the initial stage of preparation for this supplementary issue, we intended to investigate the resources at one local location from social science and natural science viewpoints. However, we ultimately decided to conduct field studies at several different areas each with their own challenges and unique resource utilizations so that we could provide a broader snapshot of the current situation rather than a multi-dimensional analysis of one specific area. As their research sites, the authors featured in this supplementary issue selected areas where they already had experience of conducting fieldwork. For instance, I chose a small town in north-eastern Tanzania where I have conducted fieldwork for more than twenty years; G. Ueda continued his long-term fieldwork in Mt. Meru; and D. Mhando and M. Sheikh conducted research in their home areas of Muheza District in mainland Tanzania and Zanzibar, respectively.

To share and exchange ideas, two workshops were held on the chosen research topics. The first, which was supported financially by Ueru Tanaka’s research fund,

was titled “Livelihood and Landscape Management in Trans-Indian Ocean Perspective with Special Reference to Tanzania, Indonesia and Vietnam” and was held at Kyoto University, Japan, in 2015. The second, which was supported by my research fund, was titled “Emerging the ‘Local Initiative’ with the resource management in Tanzania” and was held at Sokoine University of Agriculture, Tanzania, in 2017.

In this supplementary issue, chapters 1 and 2 deal with timber wood used for making buildings and furniture. Chapter 1 examines the timber wood producers and sellers, with G. Ueda explaining the rational considerations behind the selling of premature timber by villagers in Mt. Meru. Chapter 2 examines traders and artisans as timber consumers, with S. Ogawa explaining the strategies used by furniture-makers in Arusha city to counter the recent flood of cheap furniture imported from China.

Chapters 3 and 4 deal with fruit trees. Chapter 3 is a natural science article that includes a detailed historical perspective, with H. Higuchi and K. Takata examining the genetic origins of banana, jackfruit, and mango in the Uluguru Mountains in comparison with those of varieties in the Tanzanian Northern Highlands and Indonesia. This article provides a socio-economic overview of trans-Indian Ocean trade. Chapter 4 is an analysis of the current situation of orange production and marketing in a northern coastal area of mainland Tanzania, with D. Mhando investigating the complicated, multi-ethnic situation from a social science viewpoint.

Chapters 5 and 6 deal with water in northeastern Tanzania and coastal areas of Unguja Island in Zanzibar from social and natural science viewpoints, respectively. In chapter 5, I shed light on the competition for water use in a small local town undergoing domestic and international socio-economic transformations under a climate of rapid urbanization, promotion of secondary education, and a low producer price for coffee. In contrast, in Zanzibar, the expansion of tourist hotels and irrigation agriculture is bringing another high stress to the water balance of the coral island. In chapter 6, M. Sheikh et al. examines the quality of groundwater in more than 110 open-wells near the coastline of Unguja Island.

Chapter 7 deals with current developments in the fish industry. M. Fujimoto examines a newly opened processing site of small fish on the western shore of Unguja Island. The background of this development is the emerging high demand for high-protein fish products in neighboring countries. The economic impact of this new industry on a small village is examined and is supported by empirical data.

We hope that these articles will contribute to bridging our theoretical perception of resources and the real-world situation in order to provide a more solid foundation on which sustainable development of local societies in Tanzania, and in Africa in general, can progress.

Finally, we greatly appreciate the assistance of many organizations and individuals who helped us at our research sites in Tanzania, Zanzibar, Indonesia, and Japan. In particular, we thank the Commission for Science and Technology of Tanzania for allowing us to conduct research in the Northern Highlands, the Northern Coast and the Uluguru Mountains; the Revolutionary Government of

Zanzibar for granting research permits for the collection of groundwater and tree-crop samples; and the local people at our research sites who were kind enough to take the time to answer our questions. Without their generous support, we could not have started or continued our research. We are also greatly indebted to Kyoto University; the Research Institute for Humanities and Nature, Kyoto; and Sokoine University of Agriculture, Tanzania, for their offers to host workshops and for their provision of access to analytical instruments. The editorial work for this issue was supported by Dr. M. Fujimoto, Ms. H. Kawaguchi, and Mr. S. Niwayama under the general instruction of Ms. A. Kishida, Editorial Assistant, *African Study Monographs*. All authors are responsible for the opinions expressed in these articles and the digital data contained in this supplementary issue.

On behalf of the editors of
Supplementary Issue No. 55,
Jun IKENO