

# UDADISI: Rethinking in Action



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## LAND ACQUISITIONS AND THE POLITICS OF RENAMING



### RENAMING COMPANIES AND DEALING IN LAND: FROM INFENERGY TO AGRICA

By Chambi Chachage

In May 2006 InfEnergy Tanzania Limited agreed to buy 5835 hectares of land in Tanzania at the purchase price of USD 2,550,000. This private company incorporated with limited liability in the country only came into being in September 2005. However, InfEnergy UK Limited is also named as the purchaser in the land sale agreement indicating that the former is a local subsidiary.

This craft of renaming companies is at the heart of Foreign Direct Investments (FDIs) in Tanzania. It is generally used to circumvent the laws of the land that restricts and prohibits foreign ownership of land[1]. Renaming can also be used to disguise investors' original intentions.

According to the *Annual Report and Financial Statements for the Year Ended 30 June 2008* of the African Agricultural Capital Limited (AAC), one of the companies that enabled InfEnergy to acquire an estate and financed its initial development phase in the country, this foreign-cum-local "was established in Tanzania to exploit the opportunity to create biodiesel businesses in developing markets". "However", AAC further noted, "in the light of" of the then "recent increases in food prices, the business is now committed to growing only food crops (predominantly oil palm and rice) in the short term and will review the potential production of biofuels periodically". It also observed that "through its Tanzania subsidiary Kilombero Plantations", InfEnergy had "acquired a substantial estate (about 8,000 hectares" at Mngeta in the Kilombero Valley" and that it had "established an oil palm nursery" and planned "to plant 7,500 hectares to oil palm (net of infrastructure) over the next five years". "During the development phase" AAC noted, it

Tafuta(Search)

Search

Tafsiri(Translate)

Wasomaji(Reader s)

Takwimu(Statistic s)



701549

Ramani (Map)



Blogu(Blogs)

Michuzi



Utambulisho wa video mpya ya Chereko Chereko - CPwaa - \*Uzinduzi wa Video mpya ya CPwaa "Chereko Chereko" utafanyika Jumapili hii (8/6/2014) ndani ya New Maisha Club Club. sambamba na uzinduzi huo kundi la was...

Mtaa Kwa Mtaa



ATEMBELEA KIWANDA CHA COCACOLA MWANZA KATIKA MAADHIMISHO YA KILELE CHA SIKU YA MAZINGIRA DUNIANI - \*Makamu wa Rais wa Jamhuri ya Muungano wa Tanzania, Dkt. Mohammed Gharib Bilal, akiongozana na baadhi ya viongozi wa Mkoa wa Mwanza na wa Kiwanda cha Cocac...

SwahiliVilla

Polisi nchini Canada wamkamata mtuhumiwa aliyeya askari watatu - [Image: Justin Bourque mtuhumiwa aliyekamatwa akihushiswa na yhuma za mauaji ya askari polisi watatu wa Canada]Justin Bourque mtuhumiwa aliyekamatwa akihu...

ZANews

Louis CK - Being White - "I'm not saying white people are better. I'm saying that being white is clearly better - who could even argue?"

Pendwa(Popular)



ALIOYASEMA EDWARD MORINGE SOKOINE Ndugu

Edward Moringe Sokoine (01/08/1938-12/04/1984) alikuwa Waziri Mkuu wa aina yake nchini Tanzania. Aliongoza katika kipindi ambacho nch...



Sudi ya Ajali Mbili za Meli

Tanzania/Zanzibar AJALI YA MV SPICE ISLANDER - 2011: <http://issamichuzi.blogspot.com/2011/09/picha-za-matukio-katika-ajali-ya-kuzama.htm> <http://www.jamiifo...>



Serikali Tatu zitaondoa Kero ya (Wana)jeshi? Serikali Tatu

zitaondoa Kero ya (Wana)jeshi? Chambi Chachage Aliyekuwa Mwenyekiti wa Tume ya Mabadiliko ya Katiba ameibuka tena...



To Resist What Persists To Resist What

Persists Diana Kamara It is not the first time someone walks to me and says "What kind of a

estate"[2].

The UK-cum-Tanzania company indeed acquired from the Rufiji Basin Development Authority (RUBADA) an estate that constituted: Farm No. 411 Mngeta, with all its buildings, measuring 5818 hectares; all parcel of land and buildings opposite Mngeta farm on the side of TAZARA railway measuring about 7 hectares; all parcel of land, with buildings therein, located in Isamo and in near the Chimbi Falls on the Mngeta River (where there is a hydro-electric power station and a dam) that measure about 30 hectares; and a number of movable assets and equipment.

It also presented itself as primarily interested in biofuel. IIED study in 2009 that interviewed Mr. Carter Coleman and described him as the Director of InfEnergy UK Ltd presented the company as cultivating "rice while growing oil palm"[3]. In WWF's 2009 study that consulted and described Carter Coleman and the "Managing Director" and Graham Anderson as the "Business Development Director", InfEnergy is presented as a biofuel company "owned by Capricorn LLC, a USD \$5 billion Silicon Valley SRI and a large UK based investor"[4]. The company has now been renamed and thus described in the AAC website: "Agrica Ltd was established in Tanzania in September 2005 to exploit the opportunity to create biodiesel businesses in developing markets. Given the current global debate about food security, food versus fuel, the company is committed to growing only food crops (including vegetable oils) in the short term and will review the potential production of biofuels periodically "[5]. But the biofuel narrative has changed. (Cf. <http://farmlandgrab.org/post/view/18822> and <http://udadisi.blogspot.com/2011/10/jk-what-did-kpl-show-you-and-what-did.html>)

It is now rebranded as a company that was started in 2005 to develop "sustainable agribusinesses in Africa". Its rationale for doing so in East Africa is no longer presented as biofuel but, rather, "the near absence of commercial farming, the high prices and the large and burgeoning demand of their internal markets—a region where the consumption of staples is rising with fast-growing populations; where in some countries 95% of current production is from inefficient smallholders with limited access to inputs or modern farming methods; and where high import tariffs are entrenched by the necessity of maintaining a rural economy and food security". Its rice project in Mngeta farm that commenced in 2007 is celebrated as the largest in the country and in October 2011 **President Jakaya Kikwete** paid it an official visit[6], declaring Kilombero as one of the three districts that the government will support to take the lead in producing rice in the country.[7] In May 2011 at the World Economic Forum (WEF) his government showcased it as a model farm in the Southern Agricultural Growth Corridor of Tanzania (SAGCOT)[8], a public-private partnership with international partners such as Diageo, DuPont, General Mills, Monsanto, SAB, Syngenta, Norfund, Unilever, USAID, Yara International, the Irish Embassy, AGRA and FAO[9].

[1][http://www.eed.de/fix/files/doc/110406\\_Land\\_Acquisition\\_Tanzania.pdf](http://www.eed.de/fix/files/doc/110406_Land_Acquisition_Tanzania.pdf)

[2] [http://www.aac.co.ke/news/AAC\\_Annual\\_Report\\_08.pdf](http://www.aac.co.ke/news/AAC_Annual_Report_08.pdf)

[3] <http://pubs.iied.org/pdfs/12560IIED.pdf>

[4] [http://files.theecologist.org/resources/E-INFO-WWF-TPO\\_Biofuel\\_Industry\\_Study\\_Tanzania.pdf](http://files.theecologist.org/resources/E-INFO-WWF-TPO_Biofuel_Industry_Study_Tanzania.pdf)

[5] <http://www.aac.co.ke/web/investment-portfolio/tanzania.html>

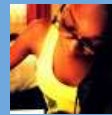
[6] <http://issamichuzi.blogspot.com/2011/10/ik-atembelelea-shamba-la-mpunga-la.html>



Buriani Shida  
Binti Salum  
Safari ya  
Shida Salum  
katika dunia

hii iliyojaa dhiki na simanzi imefikia tamati. Amepumzika sasa. Kadri historia ya Taifa hili inavyoand...

wosia wa kanumba kuhusu upendo, kifo na lugha



Tanzanian in Writivism Short Story Prize Longlist "Inside

Outside (Nyachiro Lydia Kasese - Tanzania)" - <http://writivism.wordpress.com/2014/05/15/announcing-the-2014-writivism...>



BEYOND TWO

GOVERNMENTS IN TANZANIA

It is indeed a hot seat. They say it was especially set up for someone who never sat, nay, stood, on it. Indeed little did the current Prime...



Harvard University Visits Tanzania - 4 May 2014



Kilombero Sugar

Company/Illovo-Economically Sabotaged? I have just read this scathing editorial from the Daily News: <http://www.dailynews.co.tz/index.php/dailynews/1271-blunders-in-sugar-cane-pro...>

### Linki(Links)

ACAS - Association of Concerned African Scholars

ADF - African Democracy Forum

ADRA Tanzania - Adventist Development and Relief Agency Tanzania

AEGIS - Africa-Europe Group for Interdisciplinary Studies

Africa's Anti-Imperialism

sp - showed up Loui...

### Mbeya Yetu



MKUU WA MKOA MBEYA ABBAS

KANDORO AZINDUA HOTEL YA KISASA JIJINI MBEYA - \*PAZD HOTEL MBEYA\* Mkuu wa mkoa Mbeya Abbas Kandoro akikata utepe kuzindua hotel ya Padz Hotel jijini Mbeya kushoto ni mkurugenzi wa Padz Hotel Patric D. Za...

### Jiachie



warembo

wanaowania taji la Miss Arusha 2014 watembela hospital ya maria stopes jijini humo - \*Baadhi ya Warembo wanaowania taji ya Ulimbende la Jiji la Arusha,wakimsikiliza kwa makini Dr,Sober Mzighani wa Hospitali ya Maria Stopes ya jijini humo ...

### HakiNgowi



Kipanya LEO -

### FrancisGodwin

KIWANJA KINAUZIWA ENEO LA MIYOMBONI - Kiwanja hiki kipo jirani na Hospital ya Aga Khan mjini Iringa eneo la jirani na Uhindini katikati ya mji wa Iringa skinauzwa Tsh milioni 75 maelewano Y...

### BukobaWadau



PICHANI SIO CHUI NI MGONGO WA

BINADAMU KAMA MIMI NA WEWE!! - Jamani jamani jamani nimesikitika sanaa vile binadamu anaweza kuwa katili kwa binadamu mwenzake.Huu mgongo unavyoonekana ni alama za meno,kuchomwa pasi n...

### AfricanArguments

Bringing Our Girls Back - By Elsie Eyakuze - When the editor of this site suggested for my next piece (this one) that I try tackling the Chibok kidnapping,