Mapping donor investments against Spatial indicators

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Why Mapping Donor Investments?

Rural development and in particular the agricultural strategies in the COMESA region focus on interventions that are intended to ultimately have impacts on the poor. Thus, most donors aim at poverty reduction, in accordance with the Millennium Development Goal (MDG) #1. While broad-based agricultural growth strategies continue to be important in fighting poverty, investment programs must be increasingly targeted to ensure maximum impacts on the poor (World Bank, 2004). Key mechanisms for targeting to directly improve the incomes of the poor include focusing investments on: commodities or rural development strategies that are important to the poor or regions where extremely poor people are concentrated.

Mapping donor investments is a tool for visualising spatial distribution of the investments which in turn may help in:
• Assessing how various development efforts been distributed in relation to the spatial criteria (e.g. poverty, development domains (DD), vulnerability and others).
•Showing project locations against the poverty background may help decide location of future investments to enhance equitable development.
•Assessing which intervention is viable in specific localities. This is important because project investments must increasingly be adapted to various DD. Thus, mapping investments over DD gives an additional consideration for locating donor investments in future.

An Example of Investment mapping work

This poster provides an example of investment mapping of the USAID rural development projects in Uganda and Kenya. This was made possible through data sharing by the USAID missions in the two countries and mapping done by ReSAKSS-ECA in December, 2006. In this exercise data on USAID investments were mapped against two criteria; Poverty and DD.
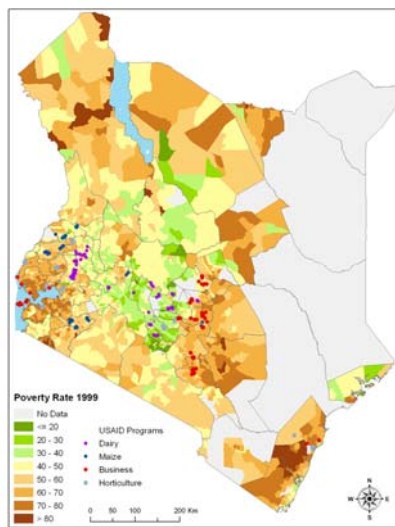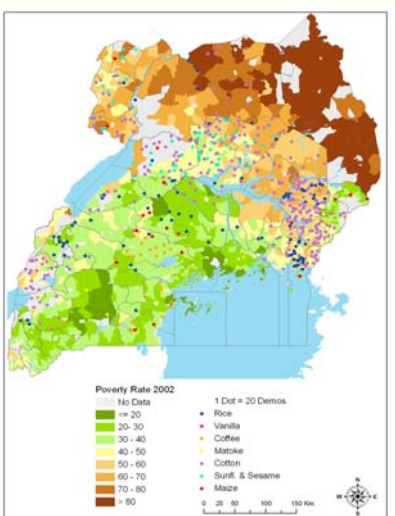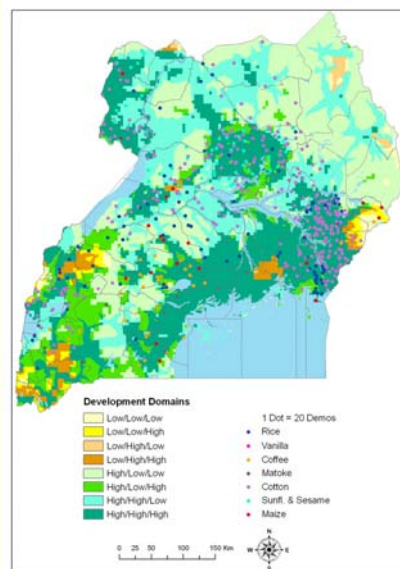

USAID investments and poverty in Kenya
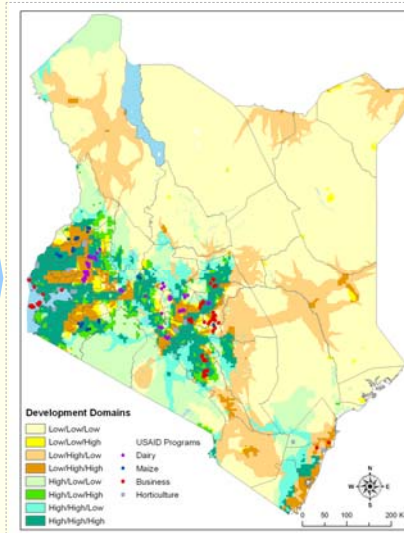
USAID investments and DD in Kenya

What does Development domains mean?

•Geographic areas/regions sharing broadly similar agricultural and rural development constrains or opportunities

•Areas where specific development policies, investments, livelihood options, technologies are likely to be most effective

•DD map presented here constitutes 3 criteria; i) agricultural potential, ii) market access and iii) human population density

•The legend indicates whether the above criteria are low or high

USAID investments and poverty in Uganda

USAID investments and DD in Uganda

What is needed to map donor investments?

•Data on donor investments and their spatial locations

•Identification of spatial criteria to be used in collaboration with the donors. Poverty and development domains are just examples of such criteria, other criteria relevant to the donors can also be mapped

•Collaborative brainstorming between ReSAKSS officials and the interested donors, to establish how to accurately represent investment initiatives spatially to provide meaningful and useful messages to the donors as well as other stakeholders