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Tracing inclusivity: Contribution of the Dutch private sector to inclusive development in Kenya. Case study of Unilever Tea Kenya Ltd., the flower sector and Lake Turkana Wind Power project

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Citation

Kazimierczuk, A. H. (2020, October 22). *Tracing inclusivity: Contribution of the Dutch private sector to inclusive development in Kenya. Case study of Unilever Tea Kenya Ltd., the flower sector and Lake Turkana Wind Power project*. Retrieved from <https://hdl.handle.net/1887/137215>

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Issue date: 2020-10-22

PROPOSITIONS

belonging to the thesis of Agnieszka Helena Kazimierczuk

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1. Inclusive development aims to reduce poverty and inequality. It has economic, socio-cultural, spatial, ecological, and political dimensions. It is important to distinguish between inclusive, exclusive, but also 'occlusive' development outcomes and processes.
2. 'Occlusive development' is a long and exclusive political process that happens behind closed doors among groups of strategic actors.
3. The Sustainable Development Goals (SDG) agenda identified the private sector as one of the main strategic partners for achieving inclusive development, but the way foreign firms work in countries like Kenya often results in 'occlusive development processes', even if the outcomes are inclusive.
4. The private sector can contribute to inclusive development predominantly by generating (productive) employment and providing corporate social responsibility (CSR) programmes to the communities they work with.
5. The Dutch government has been supporting policies and initiatives stimulating private sector and economic development in developing countries since the inception of its bilateral aid.
6. Kenya has been one of the largest recipients of Dutch aid and investment amongst Dutch partner countries in Africa.
7. Kenya's political economy is characterized by inextricable links between political and economic interests demonstrated by the deep involvement of politicians in business affairs.
8. The researched Dutch multinational companies operating in the tea, flower, and renewable energy sectors in Kenya have been capable of generating (some) inclusive outcomes in economic, socio-cultural, spatial, and ecologic dimensions; however, the (political) process that leads to these outcomes has been lengthy and often 'occlusive' in nature.
9. Support given to the private sector in developing countries by foreign governments through private sector development policies must be more realistic about what the private sector, in the specific context and timeframe, can actually do to contribute to inclusive development in a country.
10. Achieving fully inclusive development will only be possible in a world where everything is available to everyone on the same terms. According to Manu Saadia (2016) "Treconomics", the science fiction 'Star Trek' saga offers such vision of a society living without scarcity. In the 24th century, they have overcome hunger and greed thanks to open-access replicator technology. The so-called 'replicators' can reconstitute matter and produce everything that is needed out of pure energy. In this world, the only way to gain status is by cultivating talent and intellect. The vision of fully inclusive development and society will therefore require serious social and technological advancement from us.