



Repositioning Rural Livelihoods Towards the Fundamental Conquest of Income Poverty Alleviation in the South African Context

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Abstract

The purpose of this paper is to comprehensively examine ways to reposition rural livelihoods towards the fundamental conquest of income poverty alleviation conceptually. The paper's objectives were to analyse the types, characteristics and challenges of rural livelihoods; to examine the determinants of income poverty alleviation and to uncover ways to reposition rural livelihoods towards the fundamental conquest of income poverty alleviation. The research question this paper seeks is: how to reposition rural livelihoods towards the fundamental conquest of income poverty alleviation in the South African context? The paper argues that, just like many developing countries such as Nigeria, and Venezuela, South Africa comprises many rural inhabitants who engage in numerous rural livelihood practices as a conquest to reduce income poverty. Despite the capacity and potential rural livelihoods possess in their variety of on-farm, off-farm, and non-farm activities to greatly keep income poverty at bay, the prevalent reality is constituted of its persistence which manifests through undesirable living conditions, poor purchasing power, food insecurities, and so on. Through a qualitative desktop-based method, data was analysed through thematic content analysis, this paper highlights how rural livelihoods play a role towards the fundamental conquest of income poverty alleviation. The findings of the study revealed that one of the greatest detriments that impede the progression of rural livelihoods is over-reliance on on-farm activities in South Africa. Challenges encountered encompass poor-micro financing, infrastructural inadequacies, and poor access to the market in rural areas. They are also derailed by lack of efficient support systems by the local government. All these challenges derive a multiplicity of implications that exacerbate income poverty. The study recommends that rural livelihoods should be prioritised in local municipal planning, this should encompass skills acquisition training programs, efficient support systems, and the integration of value-added goods to prospective rural livelihoods. The paper further recommends diversification of rural livelihoods over sole dependence on farming activities to greatly alleviate income poverty.

Keywords: Income Poverty Alleviation, Rural Livelihoods, Support Systems and On-Farm Activities, Municipal Planning

INTRODUCTION

Third-world countries such as South Africa are faced with the challenge of income poverty, which is much more rampant in rural areas (Letsoalo, 2019; Deng, Li & Zhang, 2020). This is one of the reasons most rural inhabitants have resorted to rural livelihoods as a strategy to alleviate income poverty around (Sanders, 2021). Various scholars such as (Van Niekerk, 2014; Maake, 2017) have demonstrated that rural livelihoods have the potential to increase the food security and



purchasing power of rural inhabitants which helps alleviate income poverty. Consequently, when their performance is suboptimal, it necessitates viably new ideas and practices to reposition them towards income poverty alleviation because them having the potential to ameliorate it, does not automatically mean that it is always the case (Moraba, 2022). Especially when income poverty persists at such an alarming rate. Diale, (2018); Monama and Mokoele (2023) posit that this staggering persistence makes it necessary to focus on identifying the gaps in knowledge.

According to Lebopa (2023), rural livelihoods vary across different rural areas, the distinctive elements inclined with them depend on the resource endowment of the area as well as the Indigenous practices that people have utilized towards livelihoods creation. Despite the differences, they share a common goal which is to afford the people a better standard of living through materialising income poverty alleviation (Owusu & Asante, 2020). The variation of these rural livelihoods encompasses agriculturally inclined activities such as crop production, livestock, and fishing, (Maenetja & Kgoebe, 2024). Additionally, it is fundamentally crucial to take note of the fact that rural livelihood strategies used to alleviate income poverty transcend agricultural activities. They also entail non-farming activities such as local business trades, and food processing, and creative activities such as crafting and repairs.

The White Paper on Local Government of 1998 is one of the significant legislative frameworks aimed at empowering municipalities to engage in the formulation of the integrated development planning, and local economic development strategies such as rural livelihoods to attain income poverty alleviation (Republic of South Africa, 1998). Initiatives such as the Department of Provincial and Local Government (DPLG), Comprehensive Rural Development Programme (CRDP), The Integrated Sustainable Rural Development Strategy of 2000, Agriculture Black Economic Empowerment (AgriBEE) are intended for the empowerment of rural livelihoods and the materialization of income poverty alleviation (Winny, 2022; Moraba, 2022; Diale, 2018). The local government ought to exercise LED initiatives concerning section 153 of the Constitution of the Republic of South Africa 1996 and section 26 of the Local Government: Municipal Systems Act No.32 of 2000 (Republic of South Africa, 2000). Despite all these legislations and initiatives, income poverty persists, as rural livelihoods struggle to ameliorate it. To this extent, the purpose of the study is to reveal ways to reposition rural livelihoods towards income-poverty alleviation in the South African context.

PROBLEM STATEMENT

The problem inclined with the study is that there is very limited understanding and potential when it comes to utilising rural livelihoods towards the regeneration of income and positioning them well for alleviation of income poverty (Diale, 2018). This is manifested in the inability to greatly optimize their potential and practising rural livelihoods on a need for survival level, as opposed to taking over the market on a larger scale (Mashamaite, 2023). They are mostly practising largely for subsistence pursuits whereas they are commercially limited. These



livelihoods are mostly dealing with primary goods, mostly in form of agriculture, and limited viability when it comes to value added goods. Numerable households in rural areas do not possess leverage in terms of investment such as human, financial, and communal capital to effectively transform their livelihoods towards income poverty alleviation (Lebopa, 2023). These challenges encompass poor positioning and lack of knowledge and exposure to support systems such as LED initiatives, Agriculture Black Economic Empowerment (AgriBEE), Rural Enterprise Industrial Development (REID), and the Comprehensive Rural Development Programme (CRDP) intended to empower rural livelihoods and the overall standard of living (Van Niekerk, 2014; Moraba, 2022). In most instances wherein rural people were beneficiaries, they unfortunately failed to manage and utilize them properly exacerbating income poverty rather than ameliorating it. Most rural livelihood practitioners are not even aware of them to begin with. The research gap is centred on the persistence of income poverty while they possess so much resource endowment aligned with their rural livelihoods.

AIM OF THE STUDY

The aim of this study was to investigate the ways to reposition rural livelihoods towards income-poverty alleviation in South Africa.

RESEARCH OBJECTIVES

- To analyse the types, characteristics and challenges of rural livelihoods.
- To examine the determinants of income poverty alleviation;
- To uncover ways to reposition rural livelihoods towards the fundamental conquest of income poverty alleviation in South Africa.

RESEARCH QUESTION

The initial question that the paper seeks to answer is: how to reposition rural livelihoods towards the fundamental conquest of income poverty alleviation in the South African context?

METHODOLOGY

The study used a desktop-based qualitative research methodology to achieve the stated research objectives. Researching, looking through, analysing, and summarising pertinent academic material from journal articles, book chapters, and conference proceedings are all part of this process (Bamford & Palaeontology, 2011). This style is thorough and includes the synthesis of qualitative results from studies carried out using qualitative research that has already been done (Zhou & Nunes, 2016). The study included a thorough analysis of the literature from a variety of sources that are centred on rural livelihoods and repositioning them towards income poverty alleviation with a specific focus on the rampant challenges impeding them in South Africa. The



data collected from the literature was qualitatively analysed using thematic content analysis, which led to the development of the themes at hand. Consequently, this kind of analysis was applied as a research instrument to pinpoint terms, ideas, or themes in qualitative data like text (Blumberg, Cooper & Schindler, 2014). Using content analysis, researchers measured and looked at the frequency, relevance, and connections of particular words, topics, or concepts to meet the paper's goal. To give the topics that were created some context, certain recommendations and deductions were made.

LITERATURE REVIEW

The Theoretical Framework

Asset-Based Community Development (ABCD) approach

The theoretical framework that underpins is the Asset-Based Community Development (ABDC), founded on the principles of analysing a community's resources, skills, and human capital towards capacity development of the area in the pursuit of enhancing people's standards of living (Kretzmann & McKnight, 1993). Its roots trace back to the early 1990s, founded by community development proponents, Kretzmann and McKnight, collectively working in the pursuit of elevating a community's diverse assets by building it in and out (Winny, 2020). The founders carried the optimism that a community must be viewed for what it could become through the potential it possesses, as opposed to what it currently is. This theoretical framework provides a comprehensive lens for the community's rural livelihoods capacity building rather than the deficits surrounding them. Furthermore, the ABCD theoretical puts a strong emphasis on elevating the existing rural livelihoods people rely on to generate income and as well as sustaining them. The nuanced kinds of assets encapsulate the human, financial, social, and natural assets (Van Niekerk, 2014). The lens provided by the ABCD theoretical framework paves the way for the utilisation of different rural livelihoods such as farming activities, off-farm activities, non-farming activities.

Fundamentally, the ABDC approach advances rural livelihoods rural livelihoods and makes them income-generating powerhouses that provides the rural people self-reliance and a sense of ownership of their development (Letsoalo, 2019). Concurringly, it advocates for the encouragement of rural livelihood practitioners to confidently take decisive charge of their capacities, and resources that would otherwise have been unrecognized or ignored. Similarly, repositioning rural livelihoods towards sustainable regeneration of income. Fundamentally, it provides a lens the local government to be aware of and engage the rural dwellers in the identification of available assets within the community when formulating the rural development initiatives, to greatly encompass ways to strengthen the existential rural livelihoods to alleviate household income poverty (Mashamaite, 2023).



Various Types, Characteristics and Challenges of Rural Livelihoods

Rural Livelihoods encompass a variety of means and activities rural inhabitants' resort to for social-economic enhancement and income generation through their capabilities, capacity, and assets materially viable to secure income and means of living (Meso, 2017). They can also be regarded as multi-spatial practices such as on-farm, off-farm, and non-farm activities traded and leveraged through the local capacity and capabilities monetizing rural prospects and income-diversity towards the attainment of means and economic strategies that sustain amidst challenges, shocks, threats, and even pandemics. According to Maake (2017), there are various typologies of rural livelihoods, these are farming activities, off-farm activities, non-farming activities. Letsoalo (2019), asserts that farming practices refer to agriculturally inclined productions, and harvesting. Notably, off-farm practices greatly correlate with rural inhabitants who are occupied in permanent, seasonal, or casual jobs eligible for wages. In addition, non-farming activities are the creative ways people rely on to make income such as repairing, crafting, artwork, processing food and traditional beers as well as traditional healing and so on (Diale, 2023).

Characteristics and Challenges of On-Farm Activities

Farming activities are immensely correlated with agricultural outputs such as crop farming, livestock, poultry farming, on-farm small-scale post-harvesting, and the processing of farming activities (Jerumeh, 2023). In addition, farming activities, more especially smaller-scale farming activities are predominantly viewed and practiced as a sole engine for enhancing the living standards of the rural inhabitants across various African households, as made evident through countries such as Uganda, Malawi, and Nigeria (Van Niekerk, 2014; Kurnokova, 2019). Undesirably, they have encountered several stressors and impediments such as infertility of the soil, inadequate infrastructure, and rain seasonality which impinged them from effectively alleviating income poverty. Crop farming is an integral element of farming activities, it includes staple foods such as spinach, maize meal, and cabbages and is mostly intended for selling. There is an emerging consensus that the degree of agricultural output is gradually diminishing in most developing countries (Diale, 2018; Owusu & Asante, 2020). Poultry and livestock form an integral element of farming activities in the rural areas. Several constraints such as water scarcities, feed supply, infrastructural deficiencies, and climatic conditions largely impede the likes of poultry farming. Ultimately, these rural inhabitants practicing livestock and poultry farming get outmuscled by advanced competition from [TR13] commercial farms as well (Bless, Higson-Smith & Sithole, 2013).

The Dynamics Surrounding Off-Farm activities

Many rural development proponents have contested that off-farm rural livelihood activities are a crucial way of generating income in the pursuit of income poverty alleviation (Mashamaite, 2022; Mugano & Dorasamy, 2023). Off-farm activities are well-nuanced and multi-faceted, they



encompass permanent, seasonal, or casual jobs, wages, and work in neighbouring commercial farms. Numerous studies have shown that agriculture alone is insufficient to reduce income poverty; therefore, off-farm employment in rural areas can be crucial in reducing income poverty (Maake, 2017; Selelo, 2023). Undesirably, the unemployment rate in South Africa is the highest in the world, recorded at 32.9% in the first quarter of 2024 (Stats SA, 2024). Such issues cumulatively make it harder for rural households to greatly exploit off-farm activities as opportunities of their kind are not easy to find in such economic hardships (Meso, 2017). Additionally, the inability to find off-farm opportunities pushes the slide toward rural-urban migration which is a rampant challenge that perpetually contributes to rural stagnation (Winny, 2020). According to Owusu and Asante, 2020; Jimu, 2022; Rafael, 2023 off-farm activities as one of the rural livelihoods should also be viewed to diversify livelihoods as opposed to it being the sole pursuit. Meso (2017) posits that retail stores employ a huge chunk of rural households and play a huge role towards alleviating income poverty as it helps them generate income, whether it truly alleviates income poverty leaves a lot to be desired given the varying contestations. In as much as this income helps them, it is certainly not enough to enable them to access various necessities of life (Jimu, 2022; Mokoena, 2022).

The State and Prospects of Non-Farm Activities

Non-farm rural livelihood activities possess enormous potential in terms of income poverty alleviation. In concurrence, they are the creative and indigenous strategies people rely on to make income such as repairing, crafting, artwork, processing food and traditional beers as well as traditional healing, and so on (Lebopa, 2023; Mashamaite, 2023). The different sentiments in the literature have birthed divergent views regarding non-farm activities. Notably, Diale (2018), posits that non-farm pursuits by themselves are insufficient to support a household and, in the long run, cannot reduce income poverty. Contrarily, scholars such as Jerumeh (2022) contend empowering and supporting non-farm activities creates vast capacity for them to sustain rural livelihoods beyond subsistence basis and make a path for sustaining local economies. On-farm activities encompass rural economies engaged in rural secondary, and tertiary sector practices as well (Mugano & Dorasamy, 2023). There is a low rate of this kind in the rural areas, in many ways this proliferates stagnation. Given the enormous agricultural harvesting the rural households produce, non-farm activities should be exceedingly booming in the sense that many of these naturally inclined outputs are processed in the areas as non-farm activities (Wang et al, 2013). A major challenge is that they are constantly transferred to markets in urban areas largely as raw materials, and when they are utilised locally its often subsistence inclined basis (Mokoena, 2022).

The Determinants of Income Poverty Alleviation

According to Mashamaite (2023), many South African households are confronted with the issue of income poverty and find it tremendously hard to meet their needs, stuck in unsanitary conditions which are aggravated by the persistent unemployment problem. Letsoalo (2019),



posits that the prevalence of income poverty in rural areas has been largely due to the tendency of basing dependence upon subsistence agriculture. Some households find themselves suffering from income poverty due to ounces of marginalization embedded in terms of making decisions and distribution of resources regarding rural development and poverty reduction policies, more especially women (Owusu & Asante, 2020). The year 2015 marked a fateful pursuit that was put forth through the SDGs in the collectivism of different nations (Mashamaite, 2023). The primary goal is to alleviate all forms of poverty as demonstrated in goal 1 of the SDGs. Contrarily, income poverty persists mostly in rural areas, (Lebopa, 2023). It is deeply pivotal to take into cognizance that income poverty is more rampant in the southern hemisphere than it is in the northern hemisphere, particularly in two continents, namely South America and Africa (Meso, 2017; Wang et al, 2021). In the South African context, this challenge is mostly rampant in Limpopo, Eastern Cape, Kwazulu-Natal and the likes of Mpumalanga, as households are easily exposed to economic shocks, and these provinces are largely rural.

it is undeniably and distinctively clear that the reality of poverty is multi-dimensional in a sense that transcends monetary connotations in the contextual reality of rural development (Rafael, 2023). Notably, social entrepreneurship has become a more recent model of poverty reduction that is receiving a lot of attention in developing nations as a result of the widespread use of microlending (Selelo, 2023; Rafael, 2023). The provision of credit facilities to rural dwellers has gained impetus universality as it regarded as a fundamental socio-economic transformation enabler (Sanders, 2021). Micro-finance programs make provision of financial services to the needy through capital, business training and other business development services to support their rural livelihoods (Winny, 2020). Unfortunately, many rural livelihoods practitioners are not aware of such or the appropriate channels to follow to get this support they are further stifled by not having collateral for taking loans (Owusu & Asante, 2020). Various scholars such as Mokoena (2022) have demonstrated that it is significant to pay immense attention on the perpetually rising positive changes private businesses are bringing towards income poverty alleviation in rural areas. The promotion of Corporate Social Responsibility (CSR) is immensely correlated with better standards of living for rural households (Maenetja & Kgobe, 2024). Challenges associated with the income poverty trap encompass land tenure challenges. Employment opportunities, access to income-generating assets, access to land, and educational attainments are crucial components of income poverty alleviation.

Repositioning Rural Livelihoods

Moraba (2022) contends that the pursuit of repositioning rural livelihoods towards the fundamental conquest of income poverty alleviation is founded on the principles of advancing the ability of sustainable and transcending the challenges they face. In South Africa, municipalities are mandated to take responsibility to centre on the accomplishment of governmental constitutional development in the pursuit of organizing local economic initiatives, rural livelihoods are part of local economic initiatives, unfortunately, they are seldom prioritized



(Mashamaite, 2023). According to Deng et al (2020), most rural livelihoods practitioners are not aware of the support systems the government has put in place to empower them. Post the COVID-19 pandemic, scholars have intensified research on rural livelihoods in provinces such as Kwazulu-Natal, Limpopo, and Eastern Cape, in the pursuit of curbing income poverty alleviation, especially given that these provinces are predominantly rural (Nengovhela, 2022; Owusu & Asante, 2020). Several constataions have been put forth that agriculture alone is not substantially, viably enough to alleviate income poverty in rural areas, this is due to a plethora of reasons such as erratic climatic changes and aberrations of less rainfall, and floods, lack of arable land and crop failure, advanced equipment infrastructural inadequacy and poor access to the market.

To reposition rural livelihoods, livelihood diversification must be made a priority (Moraba, 2022). This pursuit must be supported It by the availability of efficient infrastructure projects such as electricity grids, roadways, trains, and communication networks as these are the predictors of economic development in rural areas (Rafeal, 2023; Sanders, 2021). Local economic development is a crucial instrument to reposition rural livelihoods towards the fundamental conquest of income poverty alleviation, through means such as the Local Economic Development Agency (LEDA), Small Enterprise Development Agency (SEDA) and AgriBEE (Mashamaite, 2023). Thus, the LED must also be repositioned to being inclusive, offering assistance and opportunities to rural households with rural livelihoods that fit the imperatives. To promote rural livelihood activities, the must be strengthened cooperation between local authorities, the private sector, other public sector agents, and civil society (Sanders, 2021; Maenetja & Kgobe, 2024). This can manifest in various ways, such as the social economy enterprises which advocate for the needs of underprivileged rural households (Kurnikova, 2019).

The Pursuit of Rural Livelihood Diversification

Rural livelihood diversification is fundamentally important in the conquest of repositioning rural livelihoods towards income poverty alleviation. Sanders (2021) argues that solely relying on on-farm activities, especially crop farming, is undesirable given its associated challenges such as erratic climatic conditions, lack of efficient equipment to make productive agricultural outputs (Mamagobo, 2021). Undesirably, relying on one source of income hinders their ability attain stable income, making households susceptible to various shocks and threats economically inclined (Makgamatha, 2021). Rural livelihood diversification can be attained through strategic means materialized in ways that rather than just producing corns for instance, they can also establish maize meal producing firms. The diversification encompasses employment opportunities, investments, on farm activities such as producing value added goods that have more market value; however, it is also revealed that such means of diversification will also require efficient support from the local government (Nkoana & Mashamaite, 2024). Livelihood diversifications make leeway for financial stability and great escape from income poverty, as it is synonymous to multiple streams of income.



Footprints of Value-Added-Goods inclined with Rural Livelihoods

Repositioning rural livelihoods towards the conquest of income poverty alleviation requires the exploration of value-added goods and looking beyond primary goods as they possess very limited value in the market (Owusu & Asante, 2020). It is important to note that the utilisation of value-added activities is a pursuit that is still in its infancy in terms of most rural livelihoods in the South African rural context (Sanders, 2021). Concurring, many off-farm rural livelihoods have enormous potential in terms of producing value-added goods. Already, there is a plethora of value-added goods which resemble secondary goods that possess value attained through their innovative abilities, creativity, and Indigenous Knowledge Systems (IKS), practical examples are traditional herbs, traditional weaving, sewing, crafting, among others. Undesirably, the goods they produce lack efficient packaging and the niche to compete in larger markets, thus they majorly trade in informal economies (Lebopa, 2023). The local government should prioritize mainstreaming such rural livelihoods. This should be done in collaboration with rural livelihoods owners, to promote well-packaging or structuring their goods in the most desirable ways they deem fit. There should be access to the latest and efficient technology to increase the value and shelf life of these products, so that they are not easily composed or poorly packaged (Selelo, 2023). This encompasses the integration of modern techniques of manufacturing and packaging standards. The local government should assist rural livelihoods owners by dismantling market barriers that hinder such new products from penetrating the market, barriers such as monopolistic blockages put by well established companies wanting to limit competition. Positioning rural livelihoods this way plants the seed for the footprints of rural industrialization which would be synonymous to immense income poverty alleviation.

FINDINGS AND DISCUSSIONS

The study has found that agriculture alone is not substantially, viably enough to alleviate income poverty in rural areas, this is due to a plethora of reasons such as erratic climatic changes and aberrations of less rainfall, floods, lack of arable land and crop failure and advanced green revolution equipment infrastructural inadequacy and poor access to the market, a notable discovery is that agricultural outputs are gradually declining. The study revealed that rural livelihood diversification is fundamentally important for the reduction of income poverty. Similarly, the study uncovered that value added goods rural livelihoods are very few and rare as most of them are primarily inclined, in addition, several rural livelihoods such as traditional brewing, sewing, weaving, traditional herbs, crafting resemble secondary and value-added goods, however struggle with efficient packaging, support and technological installations to make them commercially viable with an enhanced shelf life.

The study uncovered that lack of efficient support systems by the local government and poor LED coordination and implementation have derailed the prospects of positioning rural livelihoods towards the fundamental conquest of income poverty alleviation. The inability of



rural livelihoods to greatly alleviate income poverty was also attributed to a lack of exposure to financing programs that make provision of financial services to the needy through capital, business training, and other business development services to support their start-ups. Subsequently, the study revealed that many rural inhabitants engaged in several rural livelihoods are impoverished, thus when applying for loans from commercial banks, they do not possess collateral security which leads to rejection. Concurringly, such challenges hinder expansions.

The findings have indicated practices inclined with unstructured income distribution, poor reinvestment plans, inadequate financial management, inability to track earnings and the not integrating fundamental accounting principles and financial management skills which exacerbate unrecorded cash inflows and outflows. Uncertain financial management practices make it difficult for rural livelihoods to grow and generate enough money. Challenges such as poor road infrastructure, poor access to productive land have emerged as some of the most undesirable in terms of attaining income poverty alleviation.

RECOMMENDATIONS AND CONCLUSION

Fundamentally rural livelihoods diversification emerged as one of the sustainable ways to curb income poverty, to ensure that there is a plethora of opportunities such as non-farm and off-farming activities. Agricultural equipment should be provided to farmers who have demonstrated viable capacity and capacity to bring macroeconomic opportunities such as more job creation as this leads to income poverty alleviation in their communities. In addition, initiatives such as LED should be repositioned towards empowering rural livelihoods. The local government should restructure its planning and implementation processes to support systems intended to support rural livelihoods. Local government should provide various forms of financial support such as credit facilities, equity, venture or guarantees through its financial institutions, to help rural livelihood practitioners excel and expand their prospects and ultimately reduce income poverty. Some of the means to enhance access to finance encompass awareness, dialogue, education and enterprise support centres in rural areas.

Bodies and institutions put in place to facilitate government financial support injections, the likes of SEDA, LEDA, SEFA should have programs of going into different communities to spread awareness about their offers. Importantly, rural livelihood owners operating in the rural economy can benefit from programs like the Rural and Township Economy Programme (TREP) of SEDA, which is run by the Department of Small Business Development at the federal level. Consequently, the Municipality must revitalise structures like the LED forum and LED committee to afford rural livelihood owners' pragmatic expression in deciding the fate of their livelihoods towards a progressive future.

Local municipalities as the organizers and regulators of LED, they ought to give rural livelihood practitioners a sense of priority, include them into its plans and programs, and encourage rural



livelihood owners to participate in LED conferences and events. Such collaborations of support networks would be beneficial for rural livelihood owners in disseminating information about LED opportunities, projects and initiatives. They should also include infrastructure development. This pursuit should be supported by the availability of efficient infrastructure such as electricity grids, roadways, trains, and communication networks as these are the predictors of economic development in rural areas. It is recommended that local government should prioritize road infrastructure and maintenance, this helps many rural livelihood practitioners trade their goods to different markets much easier. Strategies such as REID, and the Comprehensive CRDP should be positioned towards the promotion of infrastructure development, mostly roads to attain income poverty alleviation.

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