

## Propositions

Attached to the thesis

### Standards and Development: Perspectives from Kenya's Horticultural Export Industry

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1. Global value chains especially those associated with production and export of food products are characterized by complex and heterogeneous standards that are dynamic and determine the way these global value chains are governed (this thesis).
2. Firms and farmers in global value chains are linked by a variety of sourcing and contracting relationships. From the transaction (cost) perspective, transactions between these players are governed under conditions of bounded rationality and opportunism of the actors involved. Transaction characteristics are largely explanatory of governance structures in a value chain including the distribution of rent (this thesis)
3. Smallholder farmers' access to evolving agricultural markets – especially to global value chains – is commonly constrained by geographic barriers (such as remoteness); or biophysical limits to productivity (e.g. due to water availability) or market requirements (e.g. standards). These limitations may make it too costly to participate in modern marketing channels. However institutions and intermediaries may provide means by which farmers can enter into and participate in these markets by providing support for contract enforcement, upgrading, access to credit and insurance; access to information and most importantly lowering transaction costs ( this thesis).
4. Producer organizations are important local level institutions for organizing fragmented producers into economical units of transactions therefore lowering transaction costs, improving access to information and markets and meeting required standards including traceability (this thesis).
5. Supply side constraints are related to domestic production constraints; macro-economic environment and developed country market requirements such as standards; which may negatively affect exports. Thus, three basic policy thrusts—namely, the creation of a sound macroeconomic and investment environment; building supply capacity and competitiveness, and the effective and controlled management of integration with the global economy are key to ensuring developing countries benefit from global trading opportunities ( this thesis).
6. As a result of key policy challenges and changes over the last couple of decades; the trade poverty debate has changed from **“whether to participate in global trade to reduce poverty”**, to **“how to do so in a manner that augments the productive capabilities and incomes of producers in general, and the poor in particular”**.
7. Although the impacts of climate change are specific to location and to the level of development, most sectors of the global economy are expected to be affected and these impacts will often have implications for trade specifically agriculture, tourism and trade infrastructure.
8. Food is both agent and victim of environmental harms – because the stability and security of our food system today is underpinned by its environmental resource base; which is being depleted in many ways by the current food production and distribution systems.
9. Perspectives matter – if we change the way we look at things, the things we look at change (Wayne Dyer, 2008)
10. Although social media relationships can have a positive effect on us emotionally, numerous studies have been conducted linking social networking to depression, social isolation, eliciting feelings of envy, insecurity and poor self-esteem ( Psychologist Dr. Paula Durlinsky)
11. “The fact that some geniuses were laughed at does not imply that all who are laughed at are geniuses. They laughed at Columbus, they laughed at Fulton, they laughed at the Wright brothers, and they laughed at Bill Gates and Steve Jobs. But they also laughed at Bozo the Clown”.