

Questionnaire on Tribal Relations and Economics

Information Sheet

The purpose of this study is to understand the influence (both positive and negative) of tribe and associated factors on the socio-economic development of Kenyan citizens. We hope that the experiences and insights from individuals will provide context that will contribute to improving management and development economics literature.

Some direct quotes of responses may be used as evidence of any theory that may emerge from the study, however no identifiers will be used. Some of the questions may be sensitive and you are free to let me know if it makes you uncomfortable. All information given is confidential. Once the data from all the respondents has been collected, the responses will be saved in the University of Southampton Cloud depository for analysis by the lead researcher.

The data will then be destroyed, one year after the collection date, when the submission process is expected to be completed. Please ask questions if anything is not clear or you would like more information before you decide to take part in this research.

Definitions:

Tribal Identity – The perceived cultural belonging an individual may have towards a certain tribe, or be categorized into a tribe, while also showing membership to the tribe through the adherence to specific values and the reappropriation of a tribe.

Tribal Relations – How individuals from various tribal backgrounds deem similarities and/or differences between tribes in a given social context.

Participant Description Form

Age: 33

Sex: Male

Occupational background: Construction management

Highest level of education: Undergraduate degree

Tribe: Kikuyu

Questions

1. Briefly tell me more about:
 - i. What are your life goals in terms of your social and economic life?
Malengo yako ya maisha ni yapi?

Ans: Self sufficiency and leading comfortable life; having agency and ability to engage in social activities that interest me.

- ii. What does success mean to you?
Mafanikio kwako ni nini?

Ans: Meeting the goals that I've set for myself.

Probe:

- a. Do you consider yourself successful? Why?
Unawezajiona kama mtu aliyefanikiwa?

Ans: To some extent, yes. I've been able to achieve some of the goals I've set, but still working to achieve others.

- b. Do you consider yourself un-successful? Why?
Unawezajiona kama mtu aliyefanikiwa?

2. Briefly, tell me about your views on tribe(s) in Kenya and their influence on:
- i. Social life
 - i. Positive?
 - ii. Negative?

Ans: Both negative and positive. People have been able to build bonds based on shared culture/tribe. However, the shared culture/tribe sometimes leads to others from different tribes to be ostracised due to the cultural differences.

- ii. Economic life
 - i. Positive?
 - ii. Negative?

Ans: Similar to above – both positive and negative. People have been able to build business relationships based on shared culture/tribe. However, building business relationships with people outside one's tribe is sometimes seen as a "betrayal" to the tribe, considering some may feel that economic opportunities should always be offered to their clansmen first before venturing out to people of different tribes.

3. Tell me about your views on the historic and present influence of tribal identity in Kenya.

Probe:

- i. Historically, has tribal identity benefitted individual's a). socially and b). economically? Tell me more.
- ii. Historically, has tribal identity marginalised individual's a). socially and b). economically? Tell me more.

Ans (for i & ii): Depending on what government is in power, certain communities tend/appear to be favoured over others because government leaders are of the same tribe as themselves. However, there are certain communities/tribes that always seem to be marginalised, regardless of the government in power – perhaps because they may be thought to be "too small" to be considered.

- iii. In your opinion, does tribal identity influence the kind of economic life one pursues? Explain

Kabila linaadhiri kiuchumi hali ya maisha ambayo mtu anaishi?

Ans: To some extent, yes. People of certain tribes are generally known to settle in certain areas of the country and as a result engage in economic activities specific to those areas, e.g. tea farming in the Rift Valley, miraa farming in the Mt. Kenya region.

- iv. In your opinion, does tribe permeate:
- i. The informal sector? How?
 - ii. The formal sector? How?
 - iii. Gendered roles? How?

Ans (for i-iii): Yes, tribe does permeate both the formal and informal sectors. People are sometimes able to secure employment by virtue of being the same tribe as those in decision making positions. For gendered roles however, I feel that expectations are generally similar across tribes, so the effect of tribe on these roles isn't as great.

4. Tell me about the role your tribal identity has played in your social life. Think about:
- i. Your ambitions and success
 - ii. Decision making capabilities
 - iii. Social interactions

Probe (for each question above):

- a. Positively?
- b. Negatively?

Ans (for i-iii): I wouldn't say that tribal identity has impacted my social decision-making capabilities or ambitions. Tribal identity has probably led to some positive social interactions since the shared culture/tribe has provided relatability in some of the social settings I have been in.

5. Tell me about the role your tribal identity has played in your economic life. Think about:
- i. Your ambitions and success
 - ii. Decision making capabilities
 - iii. Economic interaction e.g. in the workplace, in business, in money-making opportunities etc

Probe:

- c. Positively?
- d. Negatively?

Ans (for i-iii): Tribal identity generally hasn't affected my economic life.

6. Tell me about the role that tribal identity has played in your access to any financing or microfinancing products such as those from Microfinance Institutions such as Sumac, Rafiki, KWFT (Kenya Women Microfinance Bank), Faulu?,

Probe:

- a. What financing or microfinancing products do you frequently access?
- b. What has been the impact (positive or negative) of being able to access these products?
- c. How has tribal identity influenced access to these products?

Ans (for a-c): N/A

7. In your own words, can you describe what you understand by the term 'tribal economics'?

Unaelewa vipi neno uchumi wa kikabila?

Ans: Economic activity that someone/group of people engage in because of tribal/regional influence.

8. In your opinion, what can be done to better tribal identities and relations in Kenya?
- i. By you as an individual?
 - ii. By others in society?
 - iii. By the government?

Ans (for i-iii): I think that people generally have a good sense of belonging to their tribes, so I don't think much has to be done to improve that. The focus should be on tribal relations, where individuals and society as a whole works to understand that people are not good/bad because of the tribes they belong to – people should instead be judged on their actions. From the government's side, services, employment, tenders, etc, should be awarded/provided on merit and not by leaders favouring their tribes/communities.