A Land System Atlas of Western Kenya


This atlas is a continuation of the work begun in Uganda and later extended to Swaziland. The area covered in Western Kenya includes 200,000 sq km, extending west and south from Lake Rudolph to Lake Victoria and including the area around Nairobi, Mount Kenya, and the Rift Valley. The atlas also includes the adjacent parts of Tanzania and Uganda.

The area is divided into land units, with each unit having its own development potential and providing a guide to regional planning. The framework for the systematic collection and indexing of information on the natural resources is provided in tabular form. The basic unit of the classification is the land facet, which is a recognizable part of the landscape (usually with simple form) with a combination of a particular rock, soil, and water regime that is either uniform over the whole area of the facet or varies in a simple and predictable way. Land facets are mapped into land systems, which are defined as a recurring assemblage of land facets constituting a land system.

Books and journals are included in the bibliographies for further information on the topic. The annotated bibliographies on soils and fertilizer will be of interest to those engaged in agricultural research and education. The atlas also provides information on the natural resources and their utilization in the region.