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Gender and Rural Agricultural Entrepreneurial Practices in Uganda

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Abstract

In an entrepreneur centric view such as Drucker's (1985,p.42),the entrepreneur always searches for change, responds to it, and exploits it as an opportunity,” emphasis is upon the agential role in change (a subject-object epistemology).We know that entrepreneurship is produced in social interactions (Chell,200),that entrepreneurship uses change as opportunity and that it creates change, though the momentum for change lies outside the entrepreneur. Context shapes what becomes entrepreneurial.Feminist approaches recognise male dominance in social arrangements, Calas et al. (2007), and are based on an ontological assumption that women are disadvantaged because of their condition as women in this perspective gender refers to specifically sexed bodies while the post-modern characterises gendering processes and practices as the product of power relations which have emerged from historical processes, dominant discourses, institutions and epistemological argument.

A highly political model of gender relations in Africa is that rural women usually wives are seen as the victims of exploitative male behaviour,(Whitehead,200).

Rural places are small and relatively transparent but characterised by concentrated interactions (Korsgaard,Muller and Tanvig,2015).It becomes easier to trace out interaction,effects,processes and consequences in the bounded entity of a rural place (Glover,2010)

Uganda's economy is predominantly agrarian with agriculture accounting for 23.7% of GDP,81% of employed labour force and 31% of export earnings. Considering that over 85% of Uganda's population lives in rural areas, and yet there are still significant barriers to increasing production and productivity, as well as value addition, especially to the export crops. These statistics combined qualifies and necessities this intended study.

Study objectives.

i. To discuss the relationship gender, rural agricultural entrepreneurial practices and rural livelihood in Uganda

ii. To examine the rural agricultural entrepreneurial financing opportunities viable in rural communities of Uganda

Methodology

The study will target small enterprise start-ups in Agricultural industry in Busia-Uganda; Busia has been deliberately chosen because it's the largest commodity produce market in East Africa

Selection of the sample will be done through purposive sampling based on a screening criteria developed by the investigator. The selected enterprises will be formally registered small enterprise start-ups that have operated for more than 3 years since their registration

Keywords: Entrepreneurship, gender, Rural

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