



Tropentag, September 17-19, 2018, Ghent

“Global food security and food safety:
The role of universities”

Market Chain of *Carapa procera* Oil and its Contribution to Income and Poverty Alleviation in Mali

URBAIN DEMBELE¹, YÉNIZIÉ KONE¹, ANNE METTE LYKKE², BINO TEME¹, AMADOU MALÉ
KOUYATE¹

¹*Institute of Rural Economy (IER), Mali*

²*Aarhus University, Dept. of Bioscience, Denmark*

Abstract

This study characterized the market chain of *Carapa procera* oil in Mali. This oil is sought for its therapeutic properties, cosmetics, insecticides and repellents. The data were collected in four markets based on their importance using semi-structured individual interviews, focus groups and participant observations. Data collection focused on socio-economic characteristics, source and method of supply, quantities marketed, quality of oil marketed, purchase and sale prices, factors of price variation, measuring instruments, marketing costs, marketing constraints and opportunities and source of funding of activities. Three sources of oil supply were identified. The marketing margins and profit share among the actors were analysed in eight marketing channels. Market concentration ratio showed an oligopoly market structure that indicates the market is not competitive. Commercialisation of the oil is profitable with an average profit of US \$ 2.19 per liter. The average annual income of traders in marketing of *C. procera* oil was estimated to US \$ 221.53, which represented 63.3% of the poverty level estimated at US \$ 350 in 2014 in Mali. Sixteen per cent of traders generated an annual income above the poverty line. However, there is a potential for much higher gains and a more efficient marketing system is wanting. The marketing of *C. procera* oil represents an option to diversify and improve the income of traders and therefore other stakeholders in the value chain. For the export prospects of the oil, there is an opportunity of substantial income for the national economy. Given its potential valuation, investment actions by national authorities in promoting the value chain of *C. procera* oil are required.

Keywords: *Carapa procera*, commercialisation, income, NTFP, profit margin, sub-Saharan Africa