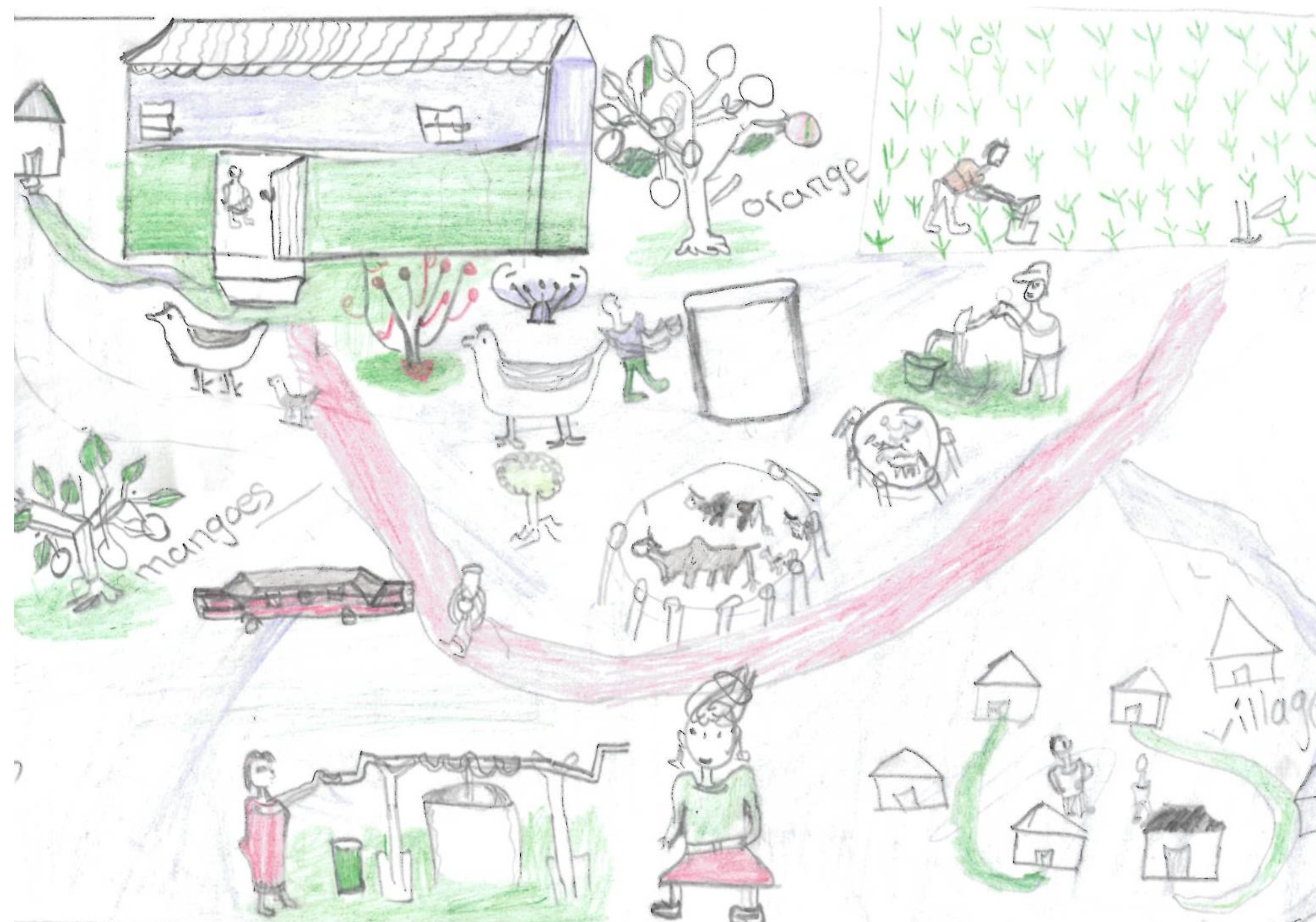




Of bulls and bulbs - Aspirations and perceptions of rural youth in Zambia (Daum, 2018)

Background

- Policymakers focus heavily on making farming attractive for the rural youth
- Policy formulation is constrained by a lack of empirical evidence and by policy belief
- How do young people think about farming, rural life and urban areas?



Illustrative Quotes

- "Farming jobs are hard. You can easily get leathery"* (Male, 17)
- "Through farming I find food and energy to work again"* (Male, 19)
- "We do not pay for maize, land, water and fruits. In town they need to pay for everything"* (Female, 15)
- "Some people do not have respect in town. They are poisoned by alcohol and they fight and smoke"* (Male, 15)

Methods

- 53 in-depth interviews
- 115 drawings from primary school students
 - avoid researcher bias
 - access to hard-to-put-into-words aspects
 - proof of research findings

Selected themes	Frequency (%) during drawing exercises			Frequency (%) during interviews		
	Σ	♂	♀	Σ	♂	♀

Farm Diversity

Fruits	22	2	21	17	2	15
Vegetables	40	13	27	15	2	13
Trees	37	14	22	19	4	15

Animal Husbandry

Chicken	44	16	29	10	2	8
Cows	40	22	17	21	9	11

Land Expansion

More Inputs	2	0	2	38	23	15
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Farm Technology

Hand Tools	16	3	13	0	0	0
Animal Traction	44	25	19	49	30	19
Tractors	6	5	2	9	6	4

Living standard

Car/Van	24	14	10	6	4	2
Upgraded House	86	37	49	45	21	25
Electricity	13	8	5	8	6	2
Phone / TV	10	5	5	11	8	4
Water-pump/Tap	49	19	30	15	8	8



Results



Conclusion

- Rural youth has competing views on farming, rural life and urban areas
- ... and diverse aspirations - some which are neglected by policy discourse (e.g. social and environmental aspects)
- Policymakers need to pay more attention to actual aspirations to avoid misguided policies