Livelihood Strategies and the Role of Baobab (Adansonia digitata L.) Fruit in Poverty Alleviation in the Dry lands of Sudan

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Background

- Rural households in developing countries are heterogeneous: their socioeconomic characteristics and asset endowments differ as do their allocation of assets to income-generating activities.
- The problem of rural poverty cannot be solved with a uniform package of policy measures.
- Policy makers need to consider sub-groups of the rural poor population in formulating policy aimed at poverty reduction and rural development.

Results

- Baobab contributes to 7% and 18% of total annual income in the study areas.
- The additional income from baobab contributed in reduction of poverty headcount index and income inequality in the three study sites.
- Four, four and three livelihood strategies were identified by clustering analysis in West, Blue Nile and North Kordofan respectively.
- These clusters are non-farm (wage), farm (livestock), farm (crops), off-farm (labour), non-farm (baobab), farm-non-farm (livestock-baobab), farm-non-farm (farm-business) and non-farm (business) strategies pursued by rural households in Sudan.
- Household head's characteristics to household characteristics, household access to livelihood capital, and condition factor (distance to market) influenced a household's choice of livelihood strategies.

Conclusions

- Random multi stage sampling of 95, 79 and 200 household heads from North Kordofan, West Kordofan and Blue Nile Sudan (2017 and 2018).
- Mixed farming system with crop and livestock
- Rotation cropping with gum and baobab production

Objectives of the Study

1. to assess the contribution of baobab income to rural income and poverty alleviation;
2. to analyse livelihood strategies pursued by rural households;
3. to identify factors that influence households' choice livelihood strategies in rural Sudan.

Table 1. Poverty incidence income inequality with and without baobab income

Table 2. Determinants of livelihood strategy by multinomial logit estimation (reference category farm-non-farm and Non-farm (Baobab) in WK and NK, respectively)

Note: ***, * and * are 1%, 5% and 10% respectively.

Table 2. Determinants of livelihood strategy by multinomial logit estimation (reference category farm-non-farm and Non-farm (Baobab) in WK and NK, respectively)

Table 1. Poverty incidence income inequality with and without baobab income

Fig 1. Conceptual framework: The livelihood approach

Fig 2. Author, assistants and village leader

Fig 3. Study area

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