Background

- The potentials of value chain development for edible insects are seen in (van Huis and Oonincx, 2017):
  - nutritional benefits: rich in proteins, vitamins, and minerals
  - environmental sustainability: lower emission of green houses
  - economic opportunities: creation of employment, incomes
- However, high seasonality, perishability and limited value addition hamper retailers from harnessing economic opportunities from the grasshopper value chain (Odongo et al., 2018).

Research Questions

1. How does value addition affect retailers’ participation in off-season market?
2. What other factors affect retailers’ participation in off-season market?

Methods

- Study areas: Kampala and Masaka Districts of Central Uganda
- Sample size: 500 grasshopper retailers
- Sampling technique: Multistage cluster sampling
- Data collection technique: Digital survey questionnaire using KoboTool Box Mobile App
- Data analysis: Descriptive statistics, binary Probit model

Results

- Table 1: Price differentials across seasons and grasshopper products
- Table 2: Effects of value addition on off-season market participation

Conclusion

- Valued-added grasshoppers command higher premium prices, particularly when sold in off-season market.
- While frying and drying of grasshopper increase retailers' participation in off-season market, plucking decreases it.
- Location, age, annual income and storage constraint of retailers reduce their participation in off-season market.
- Female and educated retailers are more likely to participate in off-season market.
- Membership in association and ownership of vehicle increases retailers' participation in off-season market.

Acknowledgement:
The Ento-Economy Project (01DG10823): Food systems and edible insects is funded by LEAP-Agr and Federal Ministry of Education and Research (BMBF).

Poster presented at Tropentag 2020 from 9th – 11 September 2020 via online

Contact:
Dr. Emmanuel Donkor, Agrifood Chain Management Group, Humboldt University of Berlin, Germany. Email: emmanuel.donkor@hu-berlin.de