



# Intergenerationality, Gender and Youth Aspirations in Zambia: Shifting agricultural paradigms for a sustainable future

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## 1. Introduction

- Agriculture can help generate the much-needed jobs in Africa's growing population
- Several studies have explored youth aspirations towards farming to support this dominant narrative
- However, little is known about the intergenerational factors and actors shaping youth aspirations, in particular the role of gender differences
- RESEARCH QUESTION: To what extent do parent's aspirations - as well as other factors and actors - shape youth aspirations?

## 2. Conceptual framework

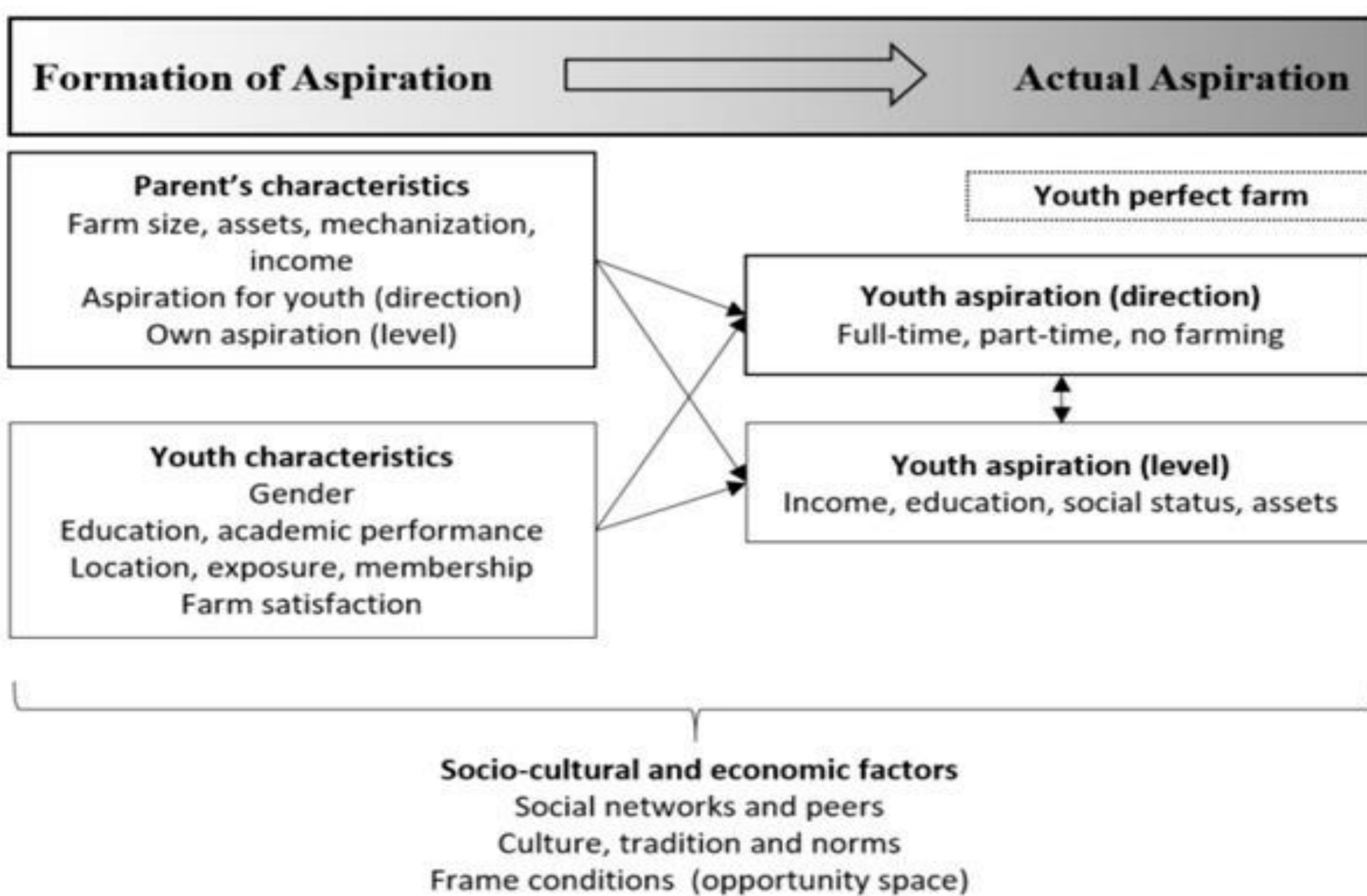


Fig 1. Factors that can influence the formation and actual aspirations of youth

## 3. Methods

- Field research June and August 2019 in rural Zambia
- Study adopted mixed-method of data collection that follows a unique "whole family" approach
- Survey with 348 respondents (Fig 2) made up of parents (household heads and spouses) and adolescents (boys and girls)

District	Households	Men	Women	Boys	Girls	Total
Lundazi	27	27	27	27	27	108
Mambwe	30	30	30	30	30	120
Vubwi	30	30	30	30	30	120
<b>Total</b>	<b>87</b>	<b>87</b>	<b>87</b>	<b>87</b>	<b>87</b>	<b>348</b>

Table 1. Distribution of the study sample size

## 4. Results

- Parents strongly shape children's aspirations and are more influential than siblings, peers, or media
- Male youth are more likely to envision a career in farming (full or part-time)
- Female youth are more likely to envision a non-farming-based livelihood
- Farm satisfaction and desired place of residence (rural or urban) are significant predictors of youth envisioning a career in farming
- Parent's farm characteristics such as degree of mechanization are also associated with aspirations in agriculture

Actors influence youth aspirations towards farming by gender

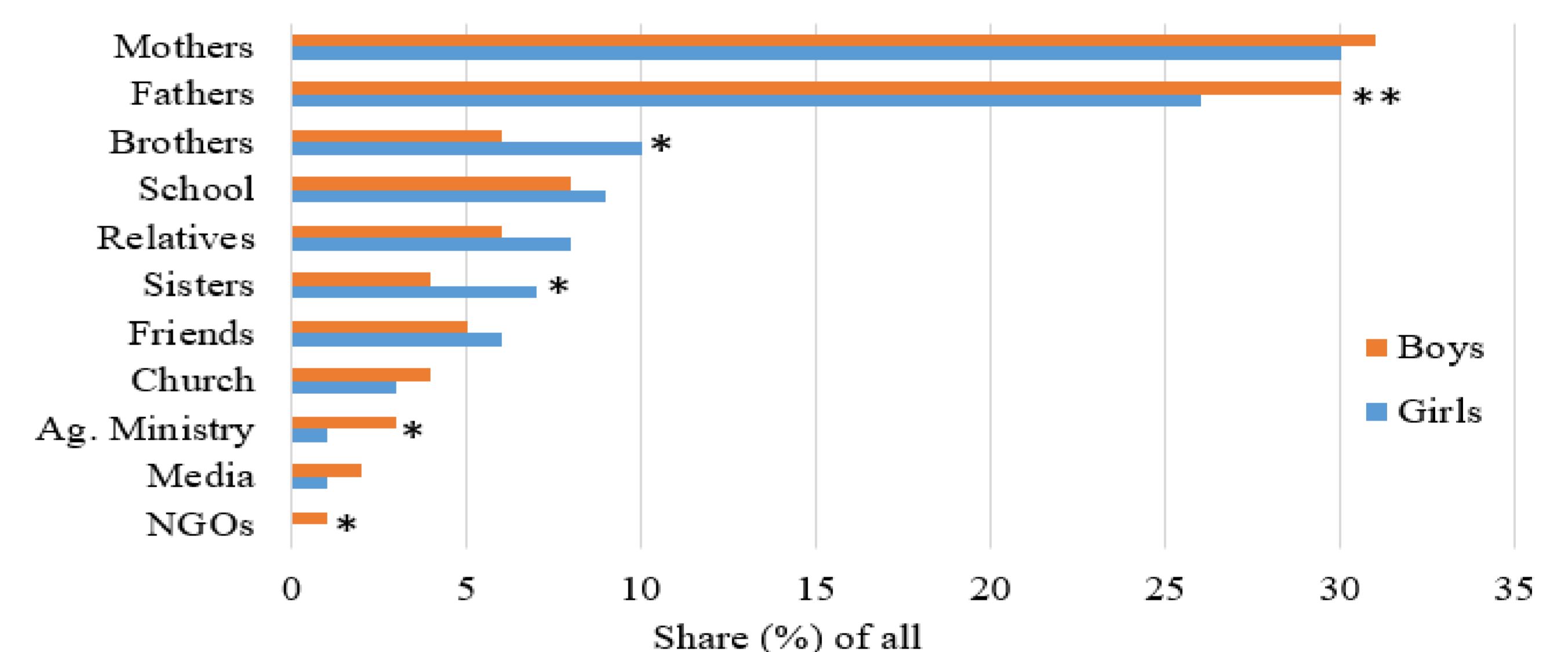
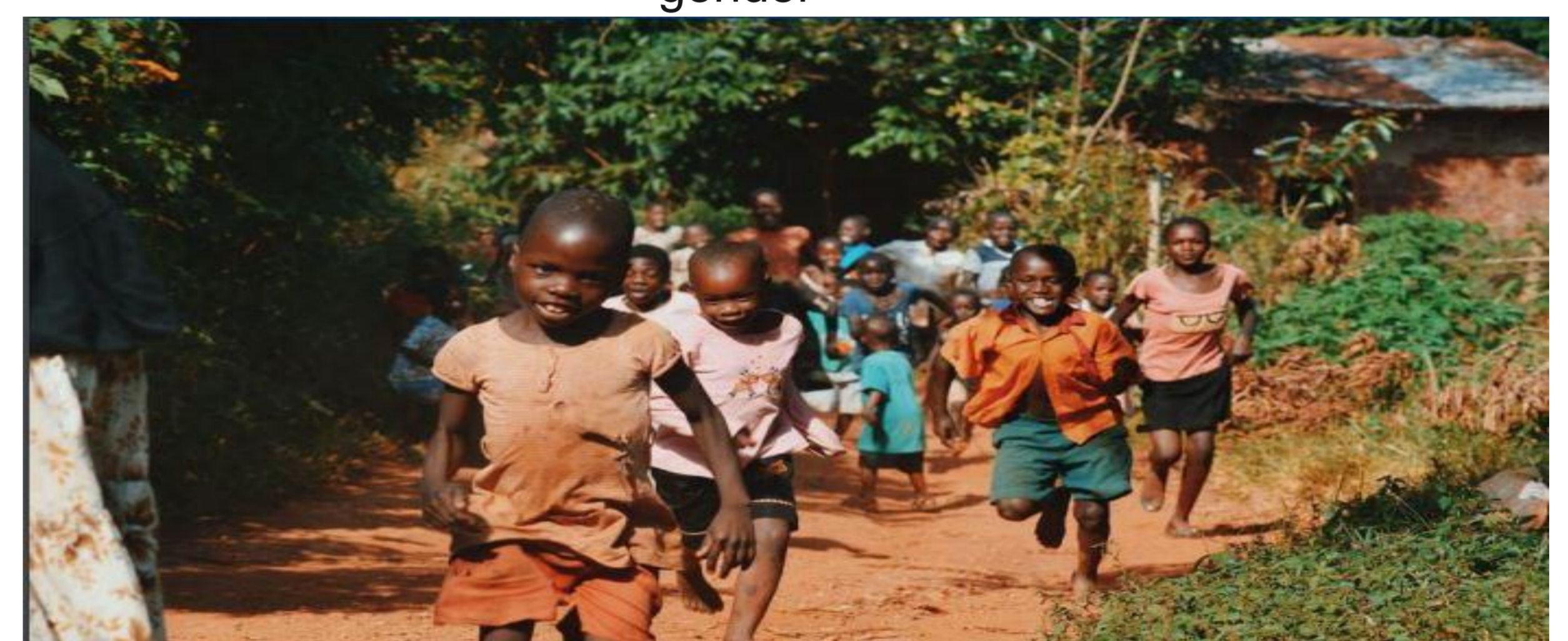


Fig 2. Actors' influence on youth aspirations towards farming by gender



Source: [https://unsplash.com/photos/zf9\\_yiAekJs](https://unsplash.com/photos/zf9_yiAekJs)

## 5. Conclusion

- Study recommends a "whole family" approach, which acknowledges the influential role of parents, for policies and programs for rural youth in agriculture.
- Study also reinforces the importance of a stronger focus on gender dimensions of youth participation in agriculture.

**Acknowledgement:-** This research was funded by the Program of Accompanying Research for Agricultural Innovation (PARI), which receives funds from the German Federal Ministry of Economic Cooperation and Development (BMZ)

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