Gender and age groups forest benefits and management incentive in Usambara, Tanzania

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Introduction

Mountaneous forests are known to improve community welfare and offer ecosystem services that support agro-ecological practices.

Notwithstanding, forest literature in Tanzania is short of evidence on forest benefits flow, forest related poverty influence and forest management dynamics for community groups.

Objective:

Based on gender and age groups, this study intended to compare:

- Benefits flow
- Poverty dynamics
- Forest management motivation

Plate 1: Beekeeping initiative in Usambara

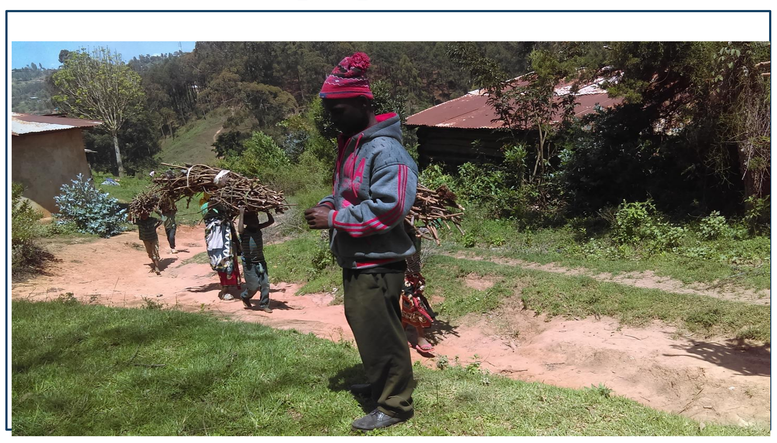

Plate 2: Community with forest products

Conclusion

- ❖ **Community profiling into age and gender groups makes better understanding of forest benefits flow to the community.**
- ❖ **NTFPs income should be considered into poverty reduction programmes at the community and villages.**
- ❖ **Profiling community groups is important to understand forest management initiatives by forest fringe communities**

Outlook

- ✓ **Future studies should profile age and gender groups in other parts of Tanzania beyond Usambara.**
- ✓ **Linkages between MMI and forest benefits needs better understanding**

Results and Discussion

Table 1: NTFPs share of total income for age groups and gender

	Youth	Older	Mean (Youth)	Mean (Older)	dif	St Err	t value	p value
NTFPshare by Age (CBFM)	23	57	0.072	.034	.038	.017	2.3	.023
NTFPshare by Age (JFM)	20	59	0.112	.123	.011	.023	-0.45	.64
	Male	Female	Mean (Male)	Mean (Female)				
NTFPshare by gender (CBFM)	46	34	0.033	0.06	-.028	.015	-1.85	.07
NTFPshare by gender (JFM)	37	42	0.109	0.13	-.021	.02	-1.05	.308

*Note: ** p<0.05 is significant at 5%*

Table 2: NTFPs income influence on poverty indicators for age groups

	Headcount	Poverty gap	Poverty severity
a. Pooled (without NTFPs)	0.620	0.281	0.160
b. AGEGROUPS			
Youth	0.550	0.224	0.118
Older	0.644	0.301	0.174
c. Pooled (with NTFPs)	0.595	0.228	0.118
d. AGEGROUPS			
Youth	0.550	0.174	0.081
Older	0.610	0.246	0.130
e. Pooled (10% NTFPs)	0.532	0.195	0.098
f. AGEGROUPS			
Youth	0.450	0.141	0.065
Older	0.559	0.213	0.109

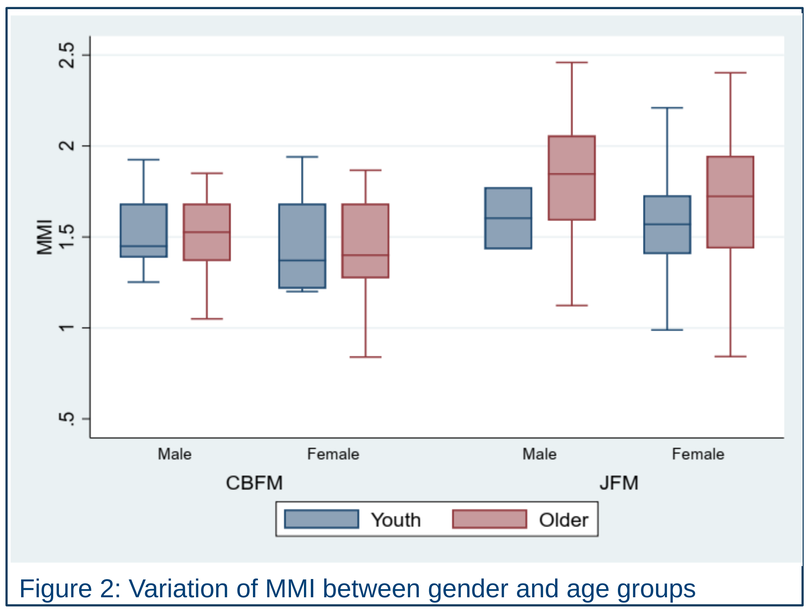

Figure 2: Variation of MMI between gender and age groups

- High NTFPs income share for youth as compared to older groups in CBFM regime as well as for female households.
- High NTFPs income for females in JFM and CBFM regimes

➢ Small but important contribution of NTFPs income

➢ More dependency of NTFPs income by youth and female headed households

- NTFPs income reduced HC by 0%, PG by 5% and PS by 3%; and by 3% HC, 6% PG and 4% PS for youth and older groups respectively.
- Improving NTFPs income by 10% reduce HC by 10% for youth: 8% for older; PG by 8% for youth: 9% for older and PS by 5% for youth: 7% for older.

➢ NTFPs have influence in households poverty reduction.

➢ Investment in forest regeneration is important for improving forest products provisioning.

- The older (1.77) households compared to youth (1.56) and male (1.81) households compared to female (1.64) scored high MMI
- High MMI on JFM compared to CBFM.

➢ Generally, high NTFPs income give better MMI score at institution regime level

➢ At household level, NTFPs income do not directly translate to improved MMI

Material and Methods

A sample of 159 households as NTFPs users were selected in Sunga, Goka, Viti and Kibaoni households in West Usambara

(i) Income accounting for a share of forest income: NTFPs income/Total income.

(ii) Poverty indicators: head count; poverty gap and poverty depth.

(iii) Management motivation index (MMI) = aggregate index of ecological and economic benefits and protection efforts.

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