

DETERMINANTS OF ADOPTION OF SUSTAINABLE LAND MANAGEMENT
PRACTICES IN RELATION TO GENDER IN MAYUGE DISTRICT, UGANDA

BY

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Declaration

I hereby declare that, to the best of my knowledge and belief, I am the sole author of this dissertation. The work presented in this dissertation has never been submitted to any University for the award of a degree or other Higher Institution of Learning for any academic award.

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Approval

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Dedication

To my beloved Mother Monic Balidawa and my child Alpha not forgetting my Aunt (Arinaitwe Charity) and my Brother (Kabogoza Samuel) who tirelessly struggled to make me what I am.

Acknowledgement

Though I did this work alone, I was socially and technically offered support from a number of people that I feel I should thank.

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List of abbreviations

ASAL	Arid and Semi-Arid Land
CDO	Community Development Officer
CWD	Coffee Wilt Disease
FAO	Food and Agricultural Organization
GDP	Gross Domestic Product
GEF	Global Environmental Facility
IFAD	International Fund for Agricultural Development
MFI	Microfinance Institutions
NEMA	National Environment Management Authority
NPP	Net Primary Production
NRO	Natural Resource Officer
SDG	Sustainable Development Goals
SLM	Sustainable Land Management
SLMP	Sustainable Land Management Practice
SSA	Sub-Saharan Africa
UBOS	Uganda National Bureau of Statistics
UNDP	United Nations Development Program
UNEP	United Nations Environment Program

ABSTRACT

The purpose of this study was to establish the determinants of adoption of sustainable land management (SLMP) in relation to gender using Malongo Sub-County in Mayuge district, Eastern Uganda as the case study. The Specific objectives were: to establish the different factors that contribute to land degradation; to assess the effect of farmers' gender on the adoption of sustainable land management practices; and to establish the impact of sustainable land management practices on agriculture and food production. The researcher applied both quantitative and qualitative methods of data collection using a sample of 106 respondents. The study findings are; land use practices carried out in the area include; crop growing (57.40%), cattle keeping (24.26%) brick making (7.10%), charcoal burning (8.88%) and mining (2.37%). Households' gender significantly affects the adoption of sustainable land management practices like reforestation ($P=0.018$), manure use (0.030), and agro forestry (0.04). The study also found out that, households' age does not significantly impact on the adoption of SLMP while household's education level significantly influence SLMP like reforestation (0.029), manure use (0.002) and mulching (0.025) at 5% level of significance. On the other hand household's farm size significantly influence the practice of agro forestry (0.020), bush fallowing (0.000) and reforestation (0.003) at 5% level of significance. Household's income size influence the practice of manure use (0.004) and the practice of deep ploughing (0.001) at 5% level of significance. The study also found out that sustainable land management practices have significantly contributed to increased involvement in agriculture ($P=0.013$), controlled pests and diseases ($P=0.001$), reduced labor requirements for agriculture ($P=0.000$), pieces of land have being cultivated ($P=0.016$) and to positive attitude towards agriculture ($P=0.000$). SLM has continued to increase quantities of crop yields produced ($P=0.000$) production of quality yields ($P=0.000$) and increase in people's income as well as livelihoods (0.009). Gender does not influence the access to agricultural extension services however results indicated that gender influence land ownership and participation of women and men in agriculture. The study therefore recommended that; there should be education and sensitization of the community about SLM and how it be done effectively. Equal distribution of gender roles and burdens, Government support through provision of loans to the local people, Improving on transport systems and Adopting climate mitigation measures for example Tree planting, energy switching from nonrenewable to renewable sources of energy among others to combat climate change can help to increase the adoption and use of SLMP which in turn boosts agriculture and food production in the area.

CHAPTER ONE

INTRODUCTION

1.1 Background

Land is a vital resource for producing food and other ecosystem goods and services. (Samandari, 2017b). Ecosystem services include; biodiversity conservation, regulation of hydrological regimes, cycling soil nutrients and storing carbon among others. Productive land is the most significant geo resource or natural capital asset that human beings possess. (Kamal, et al 2015).

Land comprises all elements of the physical environment to the extent that these influence the potential for land use (Jouanjean, et al 2014). Thus, land refers to soil, landforms, geology, climate and hydrology, the plant cover, and fauna including insects and microorganisms. The nature of utilization under which land is currently put or the possible kinds of uses under consideration for the future is referred to as Land Use (Samandari, 2017b).

Most communities depend on land for their survival and sustainability of their livelihoods through different activities like crop growing and livestock keeping (agriculture), charcoal burning among others (World bank, 2016). Agriculture plays valuable roles in our day to day life by not only providing us with food but also by maintaining a strong economy. On a worldwide basis, most people are more involved in agriculture than in all other occupations combined (William, 2016). Agriculture is America's largest industry not computers or cars employing more than 20 million people in agriculture related jobs (Appleton, 2018).

About 60 percent of Uganda's population is engaged in Agriculture. Agriculture has grown at an average rate of 2.8% per year for the last 8 years and it is the dominant sector in Uganda's economy (Balafoutis et al., 2016; Uganda Bureau of Statistics, 2016). This sector grew at an average of 3.7% over 1990-99 compared to others. The agricultural sector employs 82% of the workforce, accounts for 90% of export earnings, and provided 44% of the GDP in 1999. Uganda is able to rely on agriculture due to the

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