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GENDER PARTICIPATION IN SMALL HOLDER SWINE PRODUCTION IN MPARA SUB-
COUNTY, KYEGEGWA DISTRICT

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DEDICATION

I dedicate this dissertation to my Mother Ms. Margret Akiiki.

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I take this opportunity to utter my gratitude to the Almighty God for the gift of life all through.

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LIST OF ABBREVIATIONS

NAADS- National Agriculture Advisory Services

UBOS- Uganda Bureau of Standards

ILO- International Labour Organization

FAO- Food and Agriculture Organization

MAAIF- Ministry of Agriculture Animal Industry and Fisheries

MDGs- Millennium Development Goals

UPE-Universal Primary Education

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ABSTRACT

A study was conducted in Mpara subcounty from February-May 2015 to establish gender participation in smallholder swine production with peculiar emphasis on comparison of gender and socio-economic characteristics of pig rearing households, gender and decision making regarding the selling and use of revenue from pigs.

Four parishes, 2 villages per parish and 12 pig rearing households per village were randomly selected through a multistage random selection procedure where both qualitative and quantitative research approaches were employed and data analyzed using spss software with $p < 0.05$ taken as a significant level

The study found that the major gender influenced socio-economic characteristics of pig rearing households are primary education (63.9%) and ($p = 0.009$), marriage (73.7%) and ($p = 0.001$), provision of labor (62.5%) and ($p = 0.0017$), male dominated pig ownership (54.6%). Pig selling decisions were mainly made by men and women (68.75%) and significantly dependent on gender ($p = 0.037$). Those regarding use of obtained revenue were made by women and men mostly (67%) with a statistically significant relationship with gender ($p = 0.008$).

It was concluded that the major gender influenced characteristics of pig rearing households are education, marriage, income source, pig ownership, provision of labor and gender significantly influences decision making regarding selling of pigs and use of revenue obtained. It was also recommended that gender emancipation campaigns should be enhanced since it affects many of the socio-economic characteristics of pig rearing households and the way decisions are made.

Chapter one:

1.1 Back ground

Throughout the world, women are engaged in a range of productive activities essential to household welfare, agricultural productivity, and economic growth (Olawoye *et al.*, 1994). Research indicates that women in the United States are also most active in the small-farm sector and on high technology export oriented farms whilst In Central America, women comprise of at least more than 50% of the workforce in the agricultural sector and spend average of four hours a day on agricultural activities (Chiriboga 1995). In Africa large numbers of women are involved in agriculture with an estimate ranging from 70%-80% of the total population of African women (Valentine, 1995). It is worth-noting that women contribute 60-80% of food for domestic consumption hence boosting the livelihood of households. (Driciru, 2007). Unfortunately women farmers neither receive social support they needed to perform these critical roles nor receive due-rewards from their contributions (FAO 1992). FAO, (1993) and UNDP, (1991) reported that in Latin America and the Caribbean, an average of only 5% of extension services are directed towards women farmers while less than 10% of women have access to improved pig breeds, and management trainings yet the World Bank in 1992 reported that Information and knowledge are essential components for improving agricultural productivity by farmers in Latin America. A study by Ijere, (1991) indicated that in Nigeria women actively participate in pig production but they are often excluded or marginalized during the marketing processes. This agrees with Ikwapt *et al.*, (2014) who noted that women are less involved in decision making like when to sell the pigs. Mukasa *et al.*, (2004) further postulates that though women perform most of the tasks in swine production, men fully control the pig selling, purchasing of inputs like feeds hence gain control over the revenue and the inputs purchased. Hence although the pig sector in Uganda has steadily grown from 1.6 million in 2002 to 3.2 million in 2008 with 91.9% of the labour provided by women and children (UBOS,2009) with pigs argued to play an important role in risk diversification and livelihood security of smallholder and poor households by generating income for school fees payment, purchase of farm inputs and covering emergency cash needs while the manure is used in fertilization of the crop fields (Muhanguzi *et al.*, 2012), many rural households in Uganda are still locked up in poverty.

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