

Master thesis

Title: A gendered analysis of farmers' preferences for companion trees in coffee agroforestry systems in Uganda

Language: German or English (English preferred)

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Background:

In recent years, Uganda has experienced widespread forest loss and degradation, mainly driven by agricultural expansion and rising demand for forest products. The adoption of agroforestry is regarded as one of the key strategies in forest landscape restoration in agriculture. While the benefits of agroforestry are widely acknowledged, adoption among smallholder farmers is sluggish. A better understanding of farmers' preferences regarding the preferred features of shade trees is essential to designing context-specific agroforestry options to increase the adoption of trees on farms in a manner that is congruent with and responsive to farmers' needs and preferences. However, gender-specific differences in preferences have not been adequately considered or studied in depth.

Objective

The objective is to analyze gender preferences for companion trees in coffee agroforestry systems in farm households and answer the following research questions: What features or attributes of companion trees in coffee agroforestry increase or reduce utility of adoption? What factors explain the heterogeneous preferences within the sample studied? What is the farmers' willingness to pay (WTP) for the adoption of companion trees? Do men and women have different preferences for attributes of companion trees?

Approach

- Gender-disaggregated survey/experimental data of coffee-producing households (n=319) in eastern Uganda
- Cross-sectional data was collected in 2019
- Discrete choice analysis: Mixed logit model estimations, willingness to pay (WTP)

References:

Blare, T., & Useche, P. (2019). Differences in women's and men's conservation of cacao agroforests in coastal Ecuador. *Environmental Conservation*, 46(4), 302-309.

<https://doi.org/10.1017/S0376892919000237>

Blare, T., & Useche, P. (2015). Is there a choice? Choice experiment to determine the value men and women place on cacao agroforests in coastal Ecuador. *International Forestry Review*, 17(S4), 46-60.

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Ihli, H. J., Chiputwa, B., Winter, E., & Gassner, A. (2022). Risk and time preferences for participating in forest landscape restoration: The case of coffee farmers in Uganda. *World Development*, 150, 105713. <https://doi.org/10.1016/j.worlddev.2021.105713>