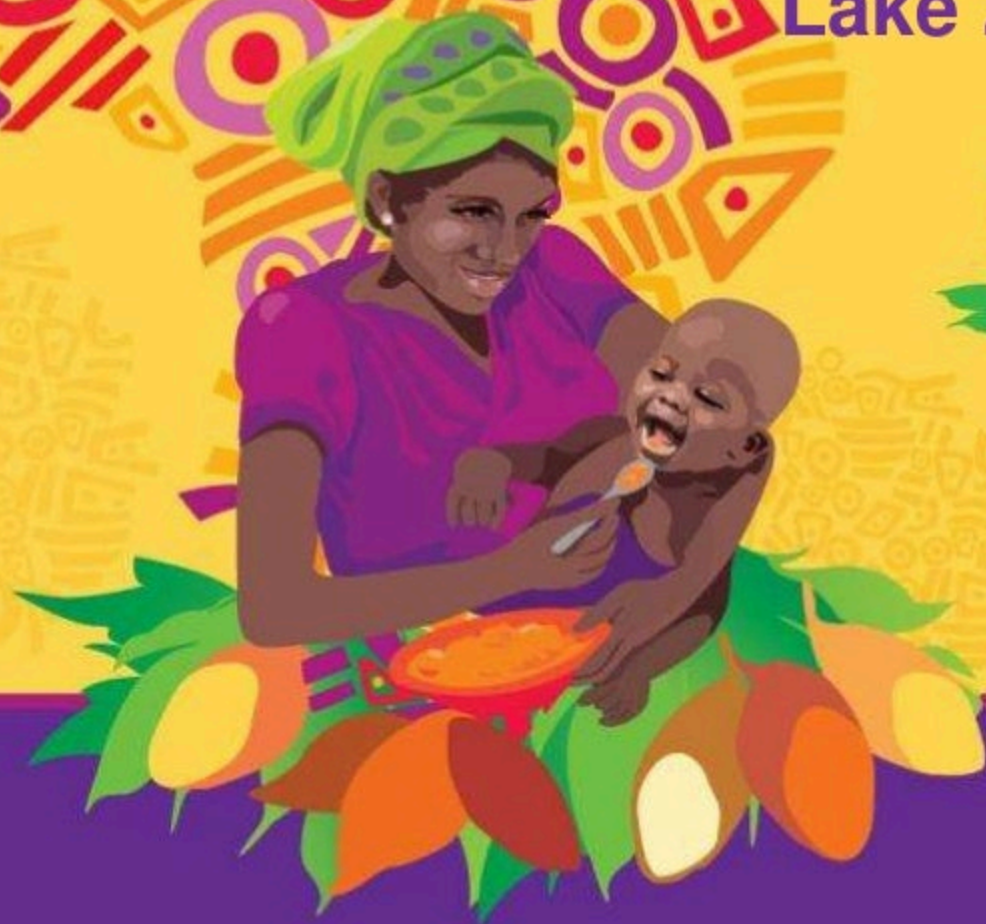


Study: Gender & the Moral Economy of Sweetpotato Vines in Lake Zone, Tanzania



Margaret McEwan (CIP-SSA, RTB)
CGIAR Collaborative Platform for Gender Research
Annual Scientific Conference and
Capacity Development Workshop
KIT, Amsterdam 4-8 December 2017

Background

- **Seed:** more than 90% of seed is sourced from farmers' own fields, farmer-to-farmer, local markets
- **Women** playing key roles in sourcing, selection & conservation
- Efforts to improve access to **quality seed** by small scale farmers have tested **different approaches**
- **Characteristics of RTB crop seed:**
 - perishability, bulkiness, low multiplication rate
- **Emphasis** on market economy reasoning to address supply and, or demand side constraints
- Follow up study (SASHA Marando Bora) implemented between 2009-2012 in Lake Zone, Tanzania



"Marando Bora": branding and marketing for decentralized vine multipliers, Lake Zone, Tanzania. Credit: M.McEwan

Study objectives

- How has **gender** influenced the evolution, survival, and sustainability of DVMs; and how do different types of DVMs and farmers sourcing seed, mediate the **intersection of the moral and cash economy for sweetpotato vines**?
 - What role does gender played in DVMs sustaining decentralised vine multiplication business?
 - How gender responsive are individual or group approaches for commercial decentralised seed multiplication?
 - What are farmer socio-economic characteristics that influence their demand for quality sweetpotato seed and how do social relations and marketing strategies influence the movement of seed within a decentralised system?



Harvesting sweetpotato vines, Lake Zone, Tanzania. Credit: M.McEwan

- How does gender influence farmers' **seed sourcing** characteristics?
- How do **gender roles change** as seed systems become **commercially orientated**?
- How **gender responsive** are different **seed production** and **delivery models**, and what unintended effects arise?
- What are **the gender based constraints** for specific seed technologies?
- What are women's **empowerment** levels under individual or group seed multiplication and dissemination models;

Specialized seed production techniques: rapid multiplication, KIMKUMAKA, Lake Zone, Tanzania.
Credit: M.McEwan



What irrigation technologies work for who? Credit: L. Laizer (top) M.McEwan (below)



Framing: the moral economy

- “Informal” and “formal” seed systems are often presented as a dichotomy
- Moral economy – *the social norms & values which underpin relations and non monetary transactions; but also shape economic relations*
 - “to steal seed is not a sin”
- What is the moral economy for sweetpotato vines – and how does it interact with and affect the business case for vine multiplication?

- How do gender roles, and relations influence the interface between the informal and formal seed systems?



Mrs Salome, local multiplier beside Lake Victoria, Sengerema District. Tanzania. (L); Tangazo board with prices of vines, OFSP and WFSP roots. Mr Kibipi (DVM) (R). Credit: M. McEwan

MUNGA WASHO LETA SIRIMU VITI TINI		
M U V I 30/11/2012		
1 MUHOGO	DUMU/1	TSH 9,000/-
2 ALIZETI	KG. 1	TSH 4,000/-
3 NYANYA	DUMU/1	TSH 10,000/-
4 MA HINDI	DUMU/1	TSH 3,000/-
5 MALANDO BORI	GUMU/1	TSH 7,000/-
6 MIPUNGA	DUMU/1	TSH 3,000/-
7 WAZI LISHE	DUMU/1	TSH 15,000/-
8 WAZI TAMU PUNGU	UH/1	TSH 5,000/-

Methods

- Inventory: the 88 DMVs contacted by cell phone to determine the current status of their vine multiplication activities
- Introductions and key informant interviews will be conducted with village leaders and district agricultural extension staff:
 - general farming systems, trends in sweetpotato production, market characteristics for vines and roots, gender and social norms and practices on seed purchases, seed enterprises.
- Continuing, non-continuing DVMs, and local vine multipliers will be selected:
 - agro-ecology, market access, gender and individual or group organization;

Methods

- Three rounds of visits will be made to DVMs, their customers and non-vine buying farmers over a period of 16 months:
 - during the peak demand period for planting material October-November 2017 (short rains);
 - second period of demand March-April 2018 (long rains), and
 - October – November 2018 (short rains).
- The survey will use semi-structured interviews, observations, multiplier records and quantitative data.
- Gender based constraints analysis & decision making tools to be adapted



Understanding quality assurance practices used by vine multipliers during project implementation. Nungwe Group, Geita, Lake Zone, Tanzania. Credit: M.McEwan

Telephone interviews - preliminary

- 44/88 (50%) contacted by telephone
- 43 agreed to interview:
 - M:77%; F: 23%
 - Individual: 35%;
Group: 65%
 - Stopped multiplying:
52%
 - Continuing: 48% (for
own use & for sale)



Own constructed water source for the PCI multiplier, Bunda District. Lake Zone, Tanzania. Credit: K. Ogero

Telephone interviews - preliminary



Start up meeting for Study on Gender & the Moral Economy, Lake Zone, Tanzania. Mwanza 13/11/17 Credit: K.Ogero

- Start up meeting with District & NGO colleagues
- Brief on study prepared
- Tool development & testing in progress – some challenges....
 - Normative vs practice
 - Decision making/empowerment questions
 - Breadth vs depth & length of interviews

Acknowledgements



- The team:
 - LZARDI: E.Lukonge, Chirimi Baker, Mariana Massawe
 - Regional PHO: D. Lusheshanija
 - WUR: C. Almekinders, M. Silas
 - CIP: M.McEwan, K.Ogero, S.Mayanja
 - TAHEA, KIMKUMAKA, BRAC, DAICOs.



This study is undertaken as part of the CGIAR Research Programs on Roots, Tubers and Bananas (RTB) and Policies, Institutions, and Markets (PIM). Implementation is led by CIP and LZARDI. Funding support is provided by SASHA 2 project, Wageningen University and Research (WUR) and the CGIAR Collaborative Platform for Gender Research.