

Determinants of youth employment in three agribusiness models in Cameroon: A multinomial logit analysis

Larissa NAWO *

*Research Fellow IFAD-IITA CARE Project
University of Dschang, Cameroon*

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Abstract

While many researches have found agribusiness as strategical path to address youth unemployment issue specially in developing world, however factors that may drive youth to engage and stay in agribusiness and take it as a consistent career are not yet clearly uncover. Thus, what are determinants of youth engagement in three agribusiness models name: plantations, contract farming, and commercial farming? To answer this question, a multinomial logit model analysis is used for regression. For the case study, we survey a sample of 500 youths agripreneurs in Centre region of Cameroon. Regressions suggest the core determinants of youth engagement in agribusiness include: exposure to Short-term campaigns in agribusiness, gender, education level, land access and size, difficulties accessing public service as a public servant. Moreover, results indicate that regardless the gender, in the youth are mainly engaged in commercial farming rather than plantations or contract farming. This can being explain by the fact with commercial farming, youth agripreneurs may a relative full control of their business without too much constraints of a third party while having access to credits. However, young female are less advantaged than male when it come to plantations and they are more present in contract farming. This can be explained by the difficulties of access to land and more generally to purchase and get land ownership rights. This can reduce the bargaining power of women who are forced to make agreements to ensure the sale of their products and earn living. We conclude that policy should design programs that enhance and accompany youth specially female to enhance their engagement as agripreneurs in plantations as sustainable form of earnings and career to definitely consider.

*Corresponding author: nawo.larissa@gmail.com

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