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Impacts of Rice Growing To the Socio-Economic Transformation of Communities, a Case Study of Mazimasa Sub County Butaleja District.

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Abstract: *The study's goal was to evaluate how rice growing affected the communities in Mazimasa Sub County Butaleja District in terms of socioeconomic transformation. The study employed the cross-sectional methodology. The survey sample included 50 participants, all of whom were rice farmers. They were chosen by means of random sampling. The core data for the study was gathered via questionnaires given to the respondents who were chosen for the study. Microsoft Excel was used to exhibit the data in tables, graphs, and as a percentage contribution. The study identified several ways in which the Doho Rice Scheme's cultivation of rice affects people's wellbeing, including the ways in which high wages on rice farms enhance people's income and welfare and low wages decrease people's earning. Using current rice-growing techniques boosts crop attributes including productivity, quality, and profits. from land tenancy Rice production, poor farming practices diminish output harvested and earnings from rice production, high, high yields of rice enhance farmers' output and earnings, while low yields of rice harvested lower farmers' output and earnings. The report attested to the reality of the difficulties experienced by rice farmers. They include unfavorable climate as the main issue, inadequate storage facilities, a bad system of land tenure, poor farming practices, low wages, low rice prices, and other noted variations in agricultural pricing. Also, it was shown that government pricing controls for agricultural products, notably rice, can improve rice production by preventing fluctuations in farmers' income. Adoption of the minimum wage, as well as calls from others for the government to revise the land act, build an irrigation system, and build storage facilities for rice farmers. The study suggested that in order to increase productivity and farmer welfare, financial institutions should be persuaded to finance large-scale agriculture, such as rice farming in Abyssinia. By providing finance and other services, the institution can improve agriculture and help farmers become more productive.*

Background of the study.

More than any other crop, rice has been grown both by men and women worldwide for 10,000 years (Kenmore P, 2003). The world's total area under rice farming is estimated to be 150,000,000ha, with an average yearly yield of 500metric tons (Tsuboi, 2004).

Rice accounts for 29% of the global grain production (Xuental, 2003).

Africa is additionally growing into a more and more popular place to raise rice. 16 million metric tons of rice are consumed in Africa each year, while only 14 million metric tons are produced, leaving a 2 million metric ton shortage. Currently rice is grown in over 75% of the African countries with over 800 million people .Rice is a staple food of the populations of people in Cape Verde, Comoros ,Gambia, Guinea, Guinea Bissau, Liberia, and others .

In addition, rice has become an important food security factor in Angola, Benin, Burkina Faso, Chad, Ghana and Uganda.

Growing rice in Uganda began in 1942, mostly to feed the fighting forces, but because of a variety of obstacles, production was only moderate until a farmer asked the government for help in 1974. In response, the government located the Doho marshes and, with the aid of Chinese experts, built the Doho Rice Irrigation System (DRS). According to nutritional study, rice provides 27% of the daily requirement for energy and 20% of the daily requirement for protein (Edoka et al., 2009). It is used to make a variety of regional cuisines that are consumed in many houses, especially during celebrations and festivities (Ekelemeet al., 2008). • In Butaleja, rice is grown on a vast scale in both designated schemes (Doho 1 and 2) and other discrete areas.Today rice is grown mainly by small scale farmers almost throughout the country, but also with large scale farmers in few places. Total production is estimated at 165,000metric tones. Total rice consumption is estimated at 225,000metric tones.

Statement of the problem.

From 27,000 tons in 1980 to an estimated over 180,000 tons today, rich growth has steadily increased, making it one of the most extensively cultivated food crops in the nation (MAAIF, 2008, Bureau of statistics Report, 2008). One of Uganda's top rice producers, Doho Rice Plan is located in the Butaleja area (JICA, 2006). The primary source of revenue and employment in the area is rice farming, which also makes a significant contribution to the income of individuals and households (UBOS, 2012).
Yet, the poor housing facilities, bad roads, and the fact that some people are still living in grass-thatched dwellings demonstrate that rice farming has not improved the social and economic conditions of the populace. The study therefore sought to establish the contradiction by analyzing the impacts of rice growing towards the socio-economic transformation of communities in the region.

Specific objectives.

1. To examine the impacts of rice growing to the socioeconomic transformation of communities in mazimasa sub county.
2. To find out the challenges faced by rice growing farmers in mazimasa sub county.
3. To find out contributions of rice growing to the communities in mazimasa sub county.

Research questions.

1. What are the impacts of rice growing to the socioeconomic transformation of communities in Mazimasa Sub County?
2. What are the challenges faced by rice growing farmers in mazimasa sub county?
3. What are the contributions of rice growing to the community in mazimasa sub county?

Methodology
Research design

The research used as a descriptive survey design because the study intends at studying views, perceptions and attitudes of the respondents about the study by exploring the impacts of rice farming to the socio-economic transformation of communities in Mazimasa sub- county Butaleja District

Study population

The study population consisted of rice farmers, local leaders and other community members within Butaleja; a sample of 50 respondents was selected to participate in the study.

Sampling size and strategy

50 people responded to the study in total; of these, 30 were rice farmers, 5 were local leaders, and 15 were extension agents and agrarian officers in the Mazimasa Sub County. Sampling technique was used to choose the local leaders because it was believed that they would be informed about the subject matter. Simple random sampling was used for both agricultural producers and community people since it ensures that respondents have an equal probability of being chosen.

Questionnaires,

One of the instruments used to collect data was a semi-structured questionnaire with both open-ended and closed-ended questions. Because they are easier to use and provide respondents adequate time to provide thorough responses, these questionnaires were created for local leaders.

Interview guide,

This was carried out with employees of organizations. The involved face to face interaction between the researcher and respondents. Interview scheduled for an in depth investigation into the research problem were used to capture data from the respondents and this helped to check on accuracy of data from the respondents. This method was suitable because it allows deep explanation into the topic under study.

Data processing Presentation and Analysis.

Data was processed using percentages and tables and they were analyzed using SPSS

Validity and reliability.

In order to ensure validity and reliability of Data, the researcher self-administered all the
questionnaires and observed the process and procedures which she noted down that was compared with the data collected from the respondents that helped reduce data collection entry errors.

RESULTS

Background characteristics of the respondents.

Table 1: Showing Gender of Respondents

Gender	Frequency	Percentage (%)
Male	32	64

Female	18	36

Source; Primary Date.
Table 1 above shows the respondents' gender breakdown. At this instance, there were 28 women and 32 men (or 64% each). Growing rice involves both sexes. The study was gender sensitive as a result. Men and women both work as rice farmers, and both of their welfares are heavily reliant on the crop. In comparison to women, males can devote more time to rice cultivation since they are physically more active and have fewer domestic responsibilities, such as cleaning the house and caring for the kids. As a result, they stand to gain more from increased revenue and output from rice production.

Table 2: Showing age Distribution of Respondents.

Age(years)	Frequency	Percentage (%)
18	3	6
24	10	20
28	15	30
30(above)	22	44

Source' Primary Data.
The demographics of all responders are shown in table 2 above; 3 (6%) were under the age of 18, 10(205) were between the ages of 24 and 28, 15(30%) were between the ages of 28 and 30, and 2 (44%) were over the age of 30. The age distribution demonstrates that the study's target respondents were among rice farmers. Aging has an impact on persons who receive advantages from rice farming since it impacts rice productivity.

Owing to the physically demanding aspect of cultivating rice, as a rice planter gets older, their income and welfare impact from rice production will decrease as a result of their physical abilities deteriorating. Younger people will be more productive and make more money, which will have better welfare impacts.

Table 3: Showing Level of Education of Respondents.

Education level	Frequency	Percentage (%)
Un educated	12	24
Primary	20	40
Secondary	10	20
Diploma	5	10
Degree holder	9	15

Source: Primary Data.
The table 3 above shows respondents education levels; 12(24%) were totally u educated and therefore literate, 20 (40%) were primary school dropouts, 10(20%) attained a maximum of secondary education
Secondary education, 5(10%) had attained diplomas and 9(15%) were degree holders as noted, most rice growers had relatively low levels of education that rendered them less competitive in the formal labor, So they resorted to farming as a key source of income, employment and livelihood. It's important to note that, the level of education affects attitude to rice growing practices and farming methods and ability to use modern technologies like tractors and irrigations that can increase output. All in all, the highly educated will be able to adopt and use modern methods and technologies of rice growing and many opt for other employment, save more and buy more income generating assets thus improving their welfare.
Table 4: Showing marital status of respondents.

Status	Frequency	Percentage (%)
Single	14	28
Married	29	58
Widowed	7	14
Total	50	100

Source: Primary Data.
The marital status of the respondents is seen in Table 4 above; 14 (28%) were single, 29 (58%) were married, and 7 (14%) were widowed. Hence, participants in the study represented a range of marital status. As the majority of them were married, it is obvious that they have family duties to fulfill. It is also likely that they have higher consumption levels or demands for things like food, shelter, or education. As a result, these rice growers earn less money and accumulate fewer assets, which diminishes the welfare

advantages of rice farming. This may encourage saving and asset acquisition for the unmarried consumption levels, which are low since they have fewer obligations associated to raising a family.

Table 5: showing variety of rice growing by the people

Types	Frequency	Percentage (%)
Local	38	76
Improved	12	24

Source: Primary Data.

Varieties of rice grown by rice growers are presented on table 5 above. Here, The majority of rice growers 3 8(76%) grew local varieties of rice while 12(24%) grew modern or improved rice varieties. The variety of rice grown by rice growers is significantly in determining people's welfare as it affects the level of output, quality, pricing and earning / incomes. Thus people growing the superior improved variety benefit more than those growing the inferior local variety

Table 6: showing period spent in rice growing.

Period(years)	Frequency	Percentage (%)
1	4	8
2	13	26
3	10	20
0ver 4	23	46

Source: Primary Data.

The table 6 above shows the period spent in rice growing by rice growers is presented as below, 4(8%) had spent 1 year in rice growing, 13(26%) had spent 2 years, 10(20%) had spent 3 years and 23(46%) had spent over 4 years in rice production. The majority of the rice respondents were relatively not new in the activity of rice growing. Therefore, the period spent in rice growing affects people's welfare because it directly affects output level, quality, Pricing and earnings basing on the experience of the rice grower and adoption of new farming methods thus influencing the welfare the benefits from rice activity.

Table 7: Showing acreage of rice growing.

Acers of rice	Frequency	Percentage (%)
1	9	18
2	15	30
3	7	14
Over 4	19	38

Source: Primary Data.

From table 7, 9(18%) add one acre of rice, 15(30%) add 2 acres, 7(14%) add 3 acres andl9 (38%) add over 4 acres of rice. The acreage of rice grown is a direct indicator of the quantity of rice harvested by the rice growers; this intern affects their earnings from the output realized. Therefore, given the price of rice, the larger the acreage of rice grown, the higher the output house incomes and welfare effect from rice production

Table 8: showing quantity of rice harvested.

Quantity of harvest(kg)	Frequency	Percentage (%)
20	4	8
40	23	456
50	26	32
Above 60	7	14

Source; Primary Data.

From table 8, above, the quantity of rice harvested a day is presented as shown, 4(85) did harvest 8Kgs, 23(46&) harvested 40 kg, 16(32%) harvested 5OKgs and 7(14%) harvested over 6OKgs. The quantity of harvest also depends on the acreage and affects the output released and earnings of the rice growers thus affecting their welfare so farmer's benefits differently from rice production depending on their harvest, the higher the quantity of rice harvested, the higher the output and earnings and so are the benefits.

Table 9: Showing kilogram of rice sold.

Price of rice(shs)	Frequency	Percentage (%)
Between 1000-2000	29	58
Between 2000-3000	12	24
Above 4000	9	18

Source: Primary Data.

From table 9 above, 29(58%) of rice growers sold their rice at a price between 1000- 2000Shs, 12(24%) sold between 2000-3000Shs, while 9(18%) sold above 4000 Shs. The above findings indicates that the majority of the residents sold their rice at a low price. Between 1000 to 2000Shs.

Table 10: Showing challenges faced by rice growers.

Challenges	Frequency	Percentage (%)
Unfavorable weather conditions	50	100
Poor storage facilities	50	100
Poor land tenure system	7	14
Poor farming methods	50	100
Low prices	9	14
Low wages	11	22
Agricultural price fluctuations	50	100

Source: primary data

Table 10 above shows the challenges faced by rice growers, 50(100%) reported unfavorable climate as their major challenge, 50(100%) reported poor storage facilities, 7(14%) also reported poor land tenure system, 50(100%) noted poor farming methods, and 11(22%) reported low wages and 99(18%) low prices perceptively while 50(100%) pointed out agricultural fluctuations.

Table 11: Showing how rice growing has improved household income.

Responses	Frequency	Percentage (%)
Having plenty of rice has enabled us to sell some hence having personal save.	50	100
Provides raw materials	50	100
Rice growing encourages food security among house holds	50	
Rice growing helps farmers in finance in terms of loans or 5 micro-credit	20	100
Rice growing creates employment opportunities	50	100
Rice growing creates more commercialized and market based due to liberal policy reforms.	20	40

Table 11 above shows how rice farming has contributed people in the community; 50(100%) agreed that having plenty of rice encourages people to sell and save money. 50(100%) provides employment income. 50(100) increases food security. 50(100%) helps Farmers in financial and micro financing in terms of security in banks. 20(40%) create more commercialized markets inform of legal policies.

Conclusion

The study discovered that having an abundance of rice made it possible to sell some of it, leading to personal savings. It also revealed that rice farming wants to encourage food security among households, assists farmers with financing in the form of loans or credit,

creates employment opportunities, and makes rice farming more commercialized and market-based as a result of liberal policy reforms.

The survey also revealed that there are a number of difficulties experienced by rice farmers, including harsh weather, poor or nonexistent storage facilities, a flawed system of land tenure, subpar farming practices, low pay, low rice prices, changes in agricultural prices, and difficulties. The study also found out other strategies to improve house hold income and these were offering loans to farmers, formation of farmers SACCOs, practicing modern farming types, lowing the bank interest on loan and creating markets for the product of the local people.

Recommendations of the study

Financial institutions should finance large scale agriculture like rice growing in big o boost production and farmers welfare. The institution can enhance agriculture by extending credit and other services to enable farmers to improve productivity

Farmers should make every effort to raise the caliber of the rice they produce, and one way to do this is by storing the grain properly.

Merchants should make an effort to prevent price changes since this will encourage farmers to manufacture higher-quality goods.

The leaders of the community should see to it that rice farmers are educated about new farming methods, rice varieties, market opportunities, and other pertinent information that can help them increase and improve output levels.

In order to enhance farmers' incomes from their output, the government should support minimum price legislation for rice. This measure would encourage more individuals to plant rice and, over time, would lead to a greater commercialization of large-scale agriculture.

Similarly, the government is recommended to ensure rural infrastructure development to reverse the looming problem of limited access to better market for agriculture produce. Amenities like roads and electricity will enable rice growers increase output and sell in better marketing.

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