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主 論 文 の 要 旨

論文題目	<p>Direct Agricultural Production Assets Transfer and Poverty Upward Mobility in Rural Zambia: A Domestic Life Cycle Perspective (ザンビア農村における農業生産資産の直接移転と貧困軽減：家族ライフサイクルの視点から)</p>
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論 文 内 容 の 要 旨

CHAPTER 1 – INTRODUCTION

Provision of agricultural production assets to the rural poor represents a coordinated push that should dramatically increase their productive capital towards the threshold necessary to take the first step out of poverty. In Zambia, the effect of agricultural production assets transfer in realizing substantial poverty upward mobility has been hindered by a myriad of factors including poor targeting, failure to understand the poor’s poverty situation with regards to household defining characteristics and asset accumulation dynamics

Among a number of multidimensional measures used to gain insight into elements of poverty, participatory measures bring on board the experiences of the poor themselves in disaggregating the different forms of deprivation. A household’s capacity to stand in the face of poverty varies with a number of factors including its stage in the domestic life cycle. Understanding households’ preferences among feasible sets of livelihood strategies can provide important insight into what type of interventions may be effective in reducing poverty, and also provide basis for predicting whether they will continue living in a poverty trap, or escape from it.

The objective of this study is to define perceptions and experiences of poverty among households according to the different stages of the domestic life cycle using participatory measures. The study further seeks to determine the defining household characteristics that could influence household livelihood strategies, and clarify the structure of poverty dimensions involved in upward mobility following acquisition of agricultural production assets.

CHAPTER 2 – POVERTY IN ZAMBIA AND ITS MITIGATION INTERVENTIONS

A comparison between the 2006 and 2010 Zambia Living Conditions Monitoring Survey (LCMS) results shows that poverty levels remained persistently high, with the extremely poor

accounting for about 42% of the total population. Poverty in Zambia has continued to be more of a rural than urban phenomenon, with levels of rural poverty being more than twice that obtaining in urban areas. Poverty mapping studies in Zambia have shown strong correlation between incidence of poverty and various household characteristics. The studies have revealed that the majority of females attain their household headship as a result of inadvertent loss of a spouse to death or divorce. A comparison of data results from the LCMS of 2006 and 2010 indicated that rural poverty levels were higher among female than male headed households. The data also revealed that the problem of poverty was rife among households headed by elderly persons in rural areas than in urban areas and that there is an inverse relationship between the level of education attained and the poverty rate. In line with the Zambian Government desire to reduce the high poverty levels among the rural population, a number of social investment programs have been put into operation including income transfers, crops input support and agricultural production assets transfer.

CHAPTER 3 – METHODOLOGY

Information rich cases were selected from Kalabo and Shangombo districts of the Western Province of Zambia. According to the 2006 LCMS, the Western Province is the poorest in the country and Shangombo District is the poorest in the province followed by Kalabo District. In this study the pre and post development intervention refers to assets transfer versus non-assets transfer scenarios. Assets disbursed during development intervention included brooder chickens to individual households and animal draft power packages (oxen and accompanying equipment) kept communally at village level. A total of 300 individuals were interviewed from 75 households each in asset benefitting and non-asset benefitting villages. Semi-structured questionnaires were used to collect data on perceptions and experiences of poverty among asset and non-asset benefitting households. In-Depth Interviews were also used for data collection. For this constructivist study, participatory poverty profiling was used to enlist the perceptions and experiences of poverty among village members in target districts. A rapid appraisal was conducted with local key informants to solicit opinions regarding defining household characteristics which they perceived to have potential influence on household livelihood strategies and effective utilization of granted agricultural production assets. Data analysis was done using the Statistical Package for Social Sciences (SPSS), and inductive reasoning processes were used to interpret the data.

CHAPTER 4 - POVERTY PERCEPTIONS AND EXPERIENCES IN ISOLATED AREAS OF ZAMBIA- A DOMESTIC LIFE CYCLE PERSPECTIVE

Using the perceived needs approach, a participatory group brainstorming exercise was conducted from which eight key dimensions of perceived poverty were determined. While perceptions of poverty in the three domestic life cycle stages were similar, experiences of poverty

differed between the domestic life cycle stages, and the different experiences were also reflected at the household level. The reproductive life cycle stage mostly experienced consumption based poverty while the intermediate life cycle stage mostly experienced welfare based poverty. Among the 8 poverty dimensions, dietary carbohydrate and clothes poverty had the strongest association with the domestic life cycle stages and their extreme experiences were most noted in the dispersion life cycle stage which represents old age. The domestic life cycle which should be characterized by family expansion, maturity and dispersion is distorted by poverty due to the inward migration of kinsmen, and the prevalence of much younger female spouses in the dispersion life cycle stage.

CHAPTER 5 - POVERTY UPWARD MOBILITY IN ISOLATED AREAS OF ZAMBIA: A DOMESTIC LIFE CYCLE PERSPECTIVE

Limiting to 5 asset benefiting villages and another 5 non-asset benefiting villages, randomly selected households indicated which level on the participatory poverty profile they experienced poverty under the different dimensions with view to compare the experiences between beneficiary and non-beneficiary households. Agricultural production assets transfer to poor rural households can help uplift their livelihoods by changing their experienced poverty for the better. However, the responses by households to agricultural production assets transfer varied according to the domestic life cycle stages, and were neither shared equally nor uniformly, with some life cycle stages showing more pronounced responses among households in some poverty dimensions than others, suggesting that the upward mobility steps out of poverty did not spontaneously cover all poverty dimensions at the same time. The varied responses to agricultural production assets transfer imply that different domestic life cycle stages have got unique defining characteristics that condition their ability to utilize availed agricultural production assets effectively. Within the households in the same life cycle stage, there were differences in perceived experiences of poverty between spouses both in lighter and worse poverty situations. Among the domestic life cycle stages, spouses within the same household had the least differences in perceived poverty experience in the intermediate life cycle stage, suggesting more equitable access to domestic resources than other life cycle stages.

CHAPTER 6 – DIVERSIFICATION, POVERTY DIMENSIONALITY STRUCTURE AND THE DEFINING HOUSEHOLD CHARACTERISTICS

Households in agricultural production assets benefiting villages which indicated lighter poverty experience across the domestic life cycle stages in at least 50% of the poverty dimensions after assets acquisition were selected for determination of their potential defining household characteristics, and clarification of combinations of poverty dimensions in which they showed the lighter poverty experiences. While beneficiaries of agricultural production assets commonly

diversified by investing returns to agricultural production assets transfer into various activity portfolios, the diversification strategies were neither similar nor uniform across the domestic life cycle stages, and some areas of diversification had potential predictors which were unique to particular domestic life cycle stages. Beneficiaries of agricultural production assets transfer did not all use returns from diversified income portfolios to achieve positive experiences in poverty dimensions that favour asset creation and accumulation. Instead there was a bifurcation into those who did and others who committed to smoothening domestic consumption. This bifurcation in the use of returns to diversified income portfolios is important in understanding why beneficiaries of agricultural production assets transfer don't all eventually move out of poverty. A good comprehension of key defining household characteristics could be helpful not only in selecting and determining which households may have the potential to quickly make the first steps out of poverty, but also designing follow up programs to prop up the poorest with most disadvantaged attributes.

CHAPTER 7 - CONCLUSION AND RECOMMENDATIONS

The domestic life cycle which should be characterized by family expansion, maturity and dispersion is distorted by poverty due to the inward migration of kinsmen, and the prevalence of much younger female spouses in the dispersion domestic life cycle stage. While perceptions of poverty in the three domestic life cycle stages are similar, experiences of poverty as well as responses to agricultural production assets transferred differ. Within the households in the same life cycle stage, there are differences in perceived experiences of poverty between spouses both in lighter and worse poverty, and the male spouse has a more optimistic view of the perceived poverty experiences. Among the domestic life cycle stages, spouses within the same household have the least differences in perceived poverty experience in the intermediate life cycle stage, suggesting more equitable access to domestic resources than the reproductive and dispersion life cycle stages. A good comprehension of the defining household characteristics could be helpful in managing micro-level anti-poverty programs. There is a bifurcation among assets beneficiaries between those who commit to asset creation and accumulation and others who commit to smoothening domestic consumption. This bifurcation in the use of returns to diversified income portfolios is important in predicting whether an individual or household will continue living in poverty, or escapes it in the foreseeable future. Conceptually, this study provides basis for an early warning mechanism to predict whether households are on course to make the first step out of poverty. It further provides additional empirical evidence to support need for policy makers to tailor interventions to specific need areas that may respond most to particular development interventions.