

NORGLOBAL - 186798/H30

Tittel	Linkages between Rural Institutions and Redistributive Networks: Ag. Marketing Coops, Corruption, and Patrimonialism in East Africa	Linkages between Rural Institutions and Redistributive Networks: Ag. Marketing Coops, Corruption, and Patrimonialism in East Africa
Prosjektansvarlig	-	HØGSKOLEN I MOLDE
Prosjektleder	Heidi Hogset	Heidi Hogset
Prosjektperiode	01.08.08 - 01.03.13	01.08.08 - 01.03.13

År	Søkt beløp	Bevilgning fra Norges forskningsråd
2007	60 000	0
2008	392 000	315 000
2009	397 000	445 000
2010	360 000	449 000
2011	0	0
2012	0	0
2013	0	0
Sum:	1 209 000	1 209 000

Målsetning

The main objective of this study is to investigate elite capture of agricultural marketing cooperatives in East Africa, and search for linkages between captured cooperatives and redistributive networks in rural communities. The study will assess the extent of elite capture present in agricultural cooperatives in the study sites, to determine how important this problem is for collective action in rural communities. Provided that patrimonial redistribution is observed, the study will assess its importance as a source of informal insurance to the poor. The ultimate objective is to identify Pareto improving institutional reforms that may reduce the burden of corruption on agricultural marketing institutions and make them less prone to elite capture without compromising social safety nets for the most vulnerable members of the community. Moreover, to understand how rural patrimonialism is sustained, the study will seek to describe how patrons and clients derive mutual benefits from it.

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Prosjektsammendrag

The research subjects of this study are poor African farmers and the marketing institutions that are available to them. These institutions may be any of a range of marketing institutions, from single individuals who serve as intermediaries between farmers and markets, who buy agricultural output at the farm gates and sell in town, to organizations such as marketing cooperatives or commercial retailers. The basic data this study requires need to describe these two groups. Then, the study needs to identify the linkages, both formal and informal, that exist between them. A random sampling procedure is only needed to identify the first group. The second group, the marketing institutions, is given by the first. All data can be collected using surveys.

The relevant basic variables are quite standard for socioeconomic studies. To capture social mobility, in particular transitions into or out of poverty, it is desirable to use panel data. To economize on data collection and generate synergies with existing studies, the study will be linked to other socioeconomic studies under way in East Africa, conducted by ICRISAT in Nairobi, Kenya. These studies are conducted in Ethiopia, Kenya, and Malawi. The study sites differ wrt. key variables, in particular socioeconomic variables, such as market access, opportunities for agricultural commercialization, access to off-farm income, average poverty levels, and access to external social safety-nets programs (like Food-For-Work), while they are similar wrt. predominant livelihoods, i.e., having a sedentary population engaged in pure cropping, or mixed crop-livestock systems. This study will complement the other studies by collecting data on vertical social networks and elite capture of agricultural marketing cooperatives.

NORGLOBAL - 196324/H30

Tittel	How formalization closed the gender land gap in Peru and the impact on women's empowerment
Prosjektansvarlig	NORSK INSTITUTT FOR BY- OG REGIONFORSKNING
Prosjektleder	Henrik Wiig
Prosjektperiode	01.01.10 - 31.03.13

År	Søkt beløp	Bevilgning fra Norges forskningsråd
2010	302 000	93 000
2011	68 000	229 000
2012	0	48 000
2013	0	249 000
Sum:	370 000	619 000

Målsetning

To investigate the effects of this comprehensive and prompt land titling process on gender relations in order to improve supporting policies and institutions within Peru and bring their experiences to other developing countries.

We analyze the unexpected large amount of joint titles were achieved and whether this has led to (i) de facto joint ownership, (ii) increased female decision-making power (iii) more efficient intra-household resource allocation (iv) more cooperation based on consensus, and (iv) c hanges in community decision-making and organizational practices.

I apply for RCN CGIAR grant to finance collaboration CIP which represents important agricultural technical expertise in Peru that the project members lack, and with IFPRI since our project will constitute an input to their world wide project on "Capital and gender"

NORGLOBAL - 196324/H30

Prosjektsammendrag

The Special Land Titling and Cadastre Project (PETT) in Peru has over the last decade issued titles for over 5.8 million agricultural plots, unique in the world when it comes to the extent and speed of the process. Fifty-six per cent of all plots belonging to households with couples became jointly titled, something which represents a top-down, institutionally induced gender revolution since men were normally considered the owner under customary tenure. Our main aim is to investigate how joint titling has affected, and hopefully improved, the position of women when it concerns decision-making, both within the family and in their communities.

Our research strategy is to apply both qualitative and quantitative methods. A household questionnaire survey on land use, perceived ownership, female bargaining and decision-making power, access to credit, etc., will be conducted in districts where both individually titled and nontitled communities co-exist. There is a historical explanation for PETT's exclusion of the latter from individual titling, something which carries little impact on land tenure in practice, and they hence become the perfect control groups. The involved researchers, doctoral or master's degree students will conduct qualitative research interviews with the same households and other key informants both at the community and regional levels.

NORGLOBAL - 196328/H30

Tittel	How formalization closed the gender land gap in Peru and the impact on women's empowerment - REISESTIP
Prosjektansvarlig	NORSK INSTITUTT FOR BY- OG REGIONFORSKNING
Prosjektleder	Henrik Wiig
Prosjektperiode	01.05.10 - 30.06.13

År	Søkt beløp	Bevilgning fra Norges forskningsråd
2010	69 000	138 000
2011	96 000	180 000
2012	0	0
2013	0	-69 000
Sum:	165 000	249 000

Målsetning

To investigate the effects of this comprehensive and prompt land titling process on gender relations in order to improve supporting policies and institutions within Peru and bring their experiences to other developing countries.

We analyze the unexpected large amount of joint titles were achieved and whether this has led to (i) de facto joint ownership, (ii) increased female decision-making power (iii) more efficient intra-household resource allocation (iv) more cooperation based on consensus, and (iv) c hanges in community decision-making and organizational practices.

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NORGLOBAL - 196328/H30

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NORGLOBAL - 203348/H30

Tittel	Large land deals in Africa: Gendered processes of tenure security, resource capture and collective action
Prosjektansvarlig	Institutt for internasjonale miljø- og utviklingsstudier, Noragric
Prosjektleder	Poul Wisborg
Prosjektperiode	01.11.10 - 01.03.13

År	Søkt beløp	Bevilgning fra Norges forskningsråd
2010	176 000	176 000
2011	1 337 000	1 362 000
2012	723 000	765 000
2013	0	0
Sum:	2 236 000	2 303 000

Målsetning

The primary objective is to contribute to the knowledge about gendered processes and outcomes of large transnational land deals in Africa.

The secondary objectives are to develop empirical and theoretical insights into sub-issues of the primary theme, namely: (1) How the projects involve, affect and empower women and men in different ways. (2) How land and water tenure is recognized and affected by the deals. (3) What specific steps and mechanisms of resource capture are observed. (4) How power relations, diverse sources of power and governance processes promote participation or exclusion. (5) Whether and how land holders or others engaged in collective action to resist or affect the deals. (6) How actors assess the land deals and how they may be analyzed in terms of gender equality and other human rights and capabilities.

NORGLOBAL - 203348/H30

Prosjektsammendrag

For centuries global economic expansion has led to conflicts over land tenure and changes in production systems. In recent years a wave of international land investments or 'land grabs', driven by global food, energy and climate change crises, have received media attention and led to new research and policy initiatives concerned with the threats to human rights and social stability. Several gaps exist in the empirical and theoretical understanding of the land deals: There are few well-documented cases and gendered relations, processes and outcomes are rarely well understood. Research on the trajectories of change caused by a wide variety of transnational deals and possible alternative scenarios and strategies is called for. The normative evaluation of the projects requires reflection on the human capabilities and rights of the groups and individuals involved. This two-year research project is carried out in collaboration between the Norwegian University of Life Sciences and the Program on Collective Action and Property Rights (CAPRI) of the International Food Policy Research Institute (IFPRI). It aims to contribute to policy-relevant research capacity and knowledge on the land deals and will focus on how the projects affect women and men in different ways; how land and water tenure are recognized and affected; how resource capture takes place; how power relations and collective action by land users and others affect the deals. The research combines analysis of media content and secondary sources with a comparative case study of projects in two African countries. Normative evaluation will draw on the values that actors evoke, existing and emerging guidelines, and human rights. Academic and policy outputs will be shared with CAPRI/IFPRI partners and other organizations and networks working on the large transnational land deals in Africa, schemes that embody both promises of development and threats to human rights and capabilities.

NORGLOBAL - 208340/H30

Tittel	Breeding for Fusarium resistance in wheat. Post doctoral fellowship in CIMMYT for Dr. Xinyao He
Prosjektansvarlig	Institutt for miljøvitenskap
Prosjektleder	Morten Lillemo
Prosjektperiode	01.07.11 - 01.03.14

År	Søkt beløp	Bevilgning fra Norges forskningsråd
2011	569 000	581 500
2012	1 107 000	1 158 000
2013	569 000	501 500
2014	0	105 500
Sum:	2 245 000	2 346 500

Målsetning

Enrich the FHB resistance source through the identification of the genetic factors for non-Sumai 3 resistance in CIMMYT wheat germplasms and develop molecular markers for these resistances that can be used in Norwegian and CIMMYT wheat breeding.

Secondary objectives:

1. Characterize and map Fusarium resistance in the CIMMYT wheat population IVAN/6/SABUF/5/BCN/4/RABI//GS/CRA/3/AE.SQUARROSA (190)/7/OCORONI F86,
2. Dissect relationships between FHB QTLs and dwarfing genes and anther extrusion
3. Validate markers for FHB resistances for wheat breeding through a Norwegian cross using the same source

NORGLOBAL - 208340/H30

Prosjektsammendrag

Fusarium Head Blight (FHB) has become a destructive fungal disease of wheat worldwide, leading to great yield losses as well as the accumulation of mycotoxins harmful to humans and animals. The main reasons are reduced tillage, warmer and moister climates during the growing season and susceptible cultivars. Breeding wheat cultivars resistant to FHB is the most economically viable and efficient solution. However it is time-consuming due to the need of accurate phenotyping. Marker-Assisted Selection (MAS) offers a new and efficient way to do genotypic selection. The Chinese Sumai 3 and its derivatives are the most popular resistance sources, having provided major resistance QTLs for breeding programs around the world, incl. in CIMMYT and Norwegian wheat breeding. However, it is unwise and even dangerous to rely exclusively on one source of resistance. To broaden the genetic base for FHB resistance, a CIMMYT DH population carrying non-Sumai 3 resistance will be mapped in this project and molecular markers closely linked to major resistance QTLs will be identified. Then, a Norwegian RIL population derived from the same resistance source will be used for the validation of newly identified markers. This will accelerate the introgression of non-Sumai 3 resistance into CIMMYT and Norwegian wheat germplasm. In addition, it has recently been shown that both dwarfing genes and anther extrusion may influence FHB resistance, and the two traits will also be tested in this project to seek their relations with FHB resistance in new genetic and epidemic backgrounds. The project will strengthen ongoing informal research collaboration between UMB and CIMMYT through staff exchange, like provided by the NFR CGIAR programme in the past to both Norwegian investigators. It would allow molecular studies to identify unknown QTLs and molecular markers in wheat populations recently developed in Norway and CIMMYT, and be very beneficial to strengthen collaboration between both institutions.

NORGLOBAL - 208540/H30

Tittel	Community- based solutions for agricultural risk mitigation and transfer to enhance adaptation to climate change in Ethiopia
Prosjektansvarlig	Handelshøyskolen ved NMBU
Prosjektleder	Million Tadesse
Prosjektperiode	01.02.11 - 01.03.14

År	Søkt beløp	Bevilgning fra Norges forskningsråd
2011	946 000	970 000
2012	1 075 000	1 126 000
2013	89 000	20 000
2014	0	75 200
Sum:	2 110 000	2 191 200

Målsetning

Primary objectives: To assess smallholders vulnerability and risks in the face of current and future climate changes, and determine the impact of different drought insurance products on technology adoption and food security.

Secondary objectives: (1) To determine the sources of vulnerability and risks (correlated and uncorrelated), coping strategies and the relative importance; (2) Identify the potential demand for different types of insurance products (IFW and standard index-insurance) to address the problem of correlated and uncorrelated risks; (3) To develop a mechanism for rolling out preferred insurance products; (4) To identify the role of risk aversion on the choice of different insurance products; (5) To determine whether bundling insurance products with credit enables farmers to adopt high return (but risky) technologies; (6) What is the extent of maize and wheat losses/gains as a result of current and future climate change (rainfall variability), using micro level data

NORGLOBAL - 208540/H30

Prosjektsammendrag

Agriculture is the primary sources of economic development in Ethiopia, however its role in alleviating poverty and food insecurity is undermined by a multitude of factors including the recent climate change such as drought and floods. Agricultural insurance is seen as one of the best strategies to address farm risks and encourage farmers to embrace modern production practices with greater potential for better and quality yields. While traditional forms of agricultural insurance have a dismal record of failure in less developing economies, recent advances in the design and rollout of index based insurance products has the potential to address farm risks and encourage farmers to adopt agricultural technologies. Recently, in Northern part of Ethiopia, a consortium of development partners in collaboration with regional government introduced a risk management strategies called insurance for work (IFW). This allows cash constrained small farmers to pay for part or all of their drought insurance premium with labor (mainly) in the off-season. An insurance certificate be issued to farmers who invest his/her labor in natural resource management practices such as tree planting. However, its impact, constraints and feasibility are not yet investigated. The main objective of this study is to identify the role of different micro-insurance products including (IFW) on maize and wheat technology adoption and food security and assessing smallholders vulnerability and risks in the face of current and future climate change scenarios in East Africa, in Ethiopia. Experimental methods will be used eliciting farmers choice of different hypothetical insurance products. To mention, econometrics methods will be used to investigate potential factors influencing the choice of insurance products, the impact of climate change on technology adoption and food security and assess farmers vulnerability and risks in a changing climate. We will draw policy implications for climate change adaptation.

NORGLOBAL - 212945/H30

Tittel	Plant virus elimination by inducing RNA silencing in-vitro
Prosjektansvarlig	BIOFORSK PLANTEHELSE
Prosjektleder	Carl Spetz
Prosjektperiode	01.05.12 - 31.03.14

År	Søkt beløp	Bevilgning fra Norges forskningsråd
2012	1 263 000	707 000
2013	1 238 000	693 000
2014	0	100 000
Sum:	2 501 000	1 500 000

Målsetning

Primary objective: Develop a non-transgenic, RNA silencing-based method for the generation of virus-free planting material.

The primary objective will be accomplished by fulfilling the following secondary objectives:

- (1) Determine if plants can uptake siRNA and/or dsRNA from the growth media and induce RNA silencing.
- (2) Determine if the dosage of siRNA/dsRNA, growth conditions and tissue type, and the addition of SAR inducing agents have an effect on the silencing response.
- (3) Determine if viruses can be eliminated from infected plants utilizing this approach.

NORGLOBAL - 212945/H30

Prosjektsammendrag

Potato is an important and vegetatively propagated crop species that is affected by many viruses, which tend to build up in crops in subsequent cycles of vegetative propagation. Unlike diseases caused by fungi and bacteria, viral diseases cannot be controlled with the use of fungicides or chemical agents. Once a plant is infected the only possible way to eliminate the virus is by meristem-tip culture in combination with heat-treatment. However, the downside of this method is that it is time consuming and laborious. During the last couple of years, great advances have been made in utilizing RNA silencing as an antiviral tool. High levels of resistance toward virus infection have been obtained utilizing this mechanism in transgenic plants, demonstrating the robustness of this defense response. However, due to the current negative attitude to transgenic plants, the full potential of RNA silencing as an antiviral tool has not been achieved. Nevertheless, the study presented in this proposal is collaborative effort between the International Potato Center and Bioforsk to further exploit this technology and develop a non-transgenic, RNA silencing-based method for the generation of virus-free planting material.

NORGLOBAL - 212949/H30

Tittel	Assessing maize genetic resources for smallholder agriculture -A grant application for research fellowship at CIMMYT, CGIAR
Prosjektansvarlig	Senter for utvikling og miljø
Prosjektleder	Ola Tvetereid Westengen
Prosjektperiode	10.01.12 - 01.03.14

År	Søkt beløp	Bevilgning fra Norges forskningsråd
2012	210 000	210 000
2013	0	0
2014	0	-210 000
Sum:	210 000	0

Målsetning

The primary objective of this proposal is to achieve the necessary means for the PhD candidate to be a visiting researcher at the world leading maize research institute, CIMMYT, based in Mexico. The candidate will participate in, and contribute to, the project "Seeds of Discovery".

The research objective of the project manager's research is to advance the understanding of adaptation to climatic stress in African seed systems, the following objectives will be addressed:

- Analyse the genetic diversity of local maize varieties from across Africa - Reveal phylogeographic patterns in African maize in a global maize diversity context - Analyse genetic diversity and gene flow between local and modern varieties of maize at a local scale in Tanzania
- Analyse the constitution of seed systems of households in the local gene flow study area in Tanzania - Identify germplasm of importance for appropriate and realistic adaptive strategies at local scale in Africa.

NORGLOBAL - 212949/H30

Prosjektsammendrag

This is an application for a fellowship for six month's stay at the CGIAR centre, CIMMYT, in Mexico. The applicant is in the final phase of the PhD working on data analysis and writing. CIMMYT is a world leading research and development agency with a specific mandate for maize research. The applicants research project fits perfectly with a major new project at CIMMYT entitled "Seeds of Discovery". The applicant will be working in a team of maize geneticists with common research questions and methodologies. The project leadership at CIMMYT strongly supports this application and expresses that the applicant will be an important contribution to the project team.

Brief description of research project: Agrobiodiversity and crop genetic resources are among the most fundamental assets supporting rural livelihoods in Africa. At the regional African spatial scale, we will assess the genetic diversity within local varieties of maize from across the continent to look for associations between climatic variables and genetic make-up. At the local spatial scale, we will study of genetic diversity and gene flow between populations of local varieties of maize in semi-arid areas of Morogoro and Dodoma in Tanzania. The local scale study includes a socio-economic survey to reveal the constitution of the local seed systems in the area. The project relies on collaboration with several institutions in Africa, particularly in Tanzania. We use single nucleotide polymorphim (SNP) markers to analyze the genetic samples. The outcome of the genetic survey will be analyzed in collaboration with a leading public maize genomics programme at CIMMYT. The aim is to advance the understanding of the dynamics of adaptation to climatic stress in African seed systems, both at the biological and the social level, and thereby contribute to the analytical framework and toolbox available for researchers, practitioners and policy makers concerned with rural livelihood adaptation to climate change in Africa.

NORGLOBAL - 212952/H30

Tittel	Aquaculture of genetically improved fish
Prosjektansvarlig	NOFIMA AS AVD TROMSØ
Prosjektleder	Ingrid Olesen
Prosjektperiode	01.01.12 - 01.03.13

År	Søkt beløp	Bevilgning fra Norges forskningsråd
2012	256 000	256 000
2013	0	0
Sum:	256 000	256 000

Målsetning

Primary objective: Increased aquaculture production of genetically improved and domesticated animals, and integration of disease resistance in the breeding objectives for farmed fish

Secondary objectives:

1. Understanding about the causes of lacking competence and training in aquaculture breeding and genetics
2. Understanding about specific reasons for actors reluctance to invest in aquaculture breeding programs
3. Understanding and knowledge about the reasons for hatcheries and fish farmers? low demand for genetically improved animals
4. Recommendations for overcoming challenges of establishing and managing fish breeding programmes for more efficient and animal friendly aquaculture
5. Improved scientific quality of related on-going projects at Nofima, the World Fish Center and Institute of Biological Sciences, University of Malaya.
6. Collaboration project on genetic disease resistance of tilapia established, and need for a similar project for freshwater prawn explored.

NORGLOBAL - 212952/H30

Prosjektsammendrag

Substantial long term selection responses of 10-20% higher growth rate per generation have been documented for several species of farmed fish. In spite of the tremendous benefit/cost ratios and value creation for the society in terms of more efficient fish production and lower fish prices, only a small percentage (< 10%) of the current world aquaculture production is based on genetically improved material from modern breeding programs. As a result, the majority of aquaculture production is still based on wild animals, which are poorly adapted to a life in captivity. Farming of genetically improved fish will improve fish welfare, reduce losses and costs and increase income of small scale and poor household farmers.

The overall objective of this project is increased aquaculture production of genetically improved and domesticated animals, and integration of disease resistance in the breeding objectives for farmed tilapia. Furthermore, it aims at gaining more knowledge and a greater understanding of the specific causes of the lacking use of domesticated and genetically improved animals in aquaculture in South East Asia where the majority of the aquaculture production takes place.

Furthermore, the research grant will allow for extended collaboration on on-going projects with related research topics in Nofima and WorldFish Center and for the establishment of new collaborating projects. The objective of this stay is therefore also to take advantage on this by exchanging knowledge and experience on on-going projects on genetic effects on social interactions in farmed cod (Breedwell in Nofima) and tilapia (WorldFish Center). Finally, the aim of establishing a collaboration project on genetic disease resistance in tilapia can be addressed during this stay.

Collaboration on genetic studies on giant fresh water prawn with researchers at the University of Malaya will also be facilitated during the stay in Malaysia, as well as contributions to training and lectures.

NORGLOBAL - 236209/H30

Tittel	Visiting research stay at the International Food Policy Research Institute (IFPRI), Washington, DC., USA.
Prosjektansvarlig	DET SAMFUNNSVITENSKAPELIGE FAKULTET
Prosjektleder	Tor Halvorsen
Prosjektperiode	01.10.14 - 30.04.15

År	Søkt beløp	Bevilgning fra Norges forskningsråd
2014	200 000	158 593,1
2015	0	41 406,9
Sum:	200 000	200 000

Målsetning

The primary objective of the project is to collect and process data about the changing roles of the organizations within the international agricultural development policy sector, and to produce high quality research within the host institution's research area. The IFPRI is recognized as a highly competent knowledge production organization related to agriculture, governance and globalization, a research field at the core of my research project. This organizational context will provide the best condition for producing and disseminate my research results. A secondary objective is to establish research networks between IFPRI/ CGIAR and research institutions in Norway, especially with the UiB and the CMI. The two latter will benefit from a more developed arrangement of collaboration with the worldwide IFPRI/CGIAR complex. For the CGIAR it is of significant interest to develop further cooperation with researchers in Norway, which has greater potential than realized so far.

NORGLOBAL - 236209/H30

Prosjektsammendrag

This research visit at the International Food Policy Research (IFPRI) is an integral and the final part of my phd. project. Prior to the visit I will have conducted and finished fieldworks and data collecting activities related to other organizations within the international agricultural development policy sector. (For more details, see the attached project description). I will thus enter IFPRI with a comprehensive data set.

The planned stay at IFPRI will be utilized to collect and process the data sets, and to turn them into articles. The goal is to publish them in renowned journals within the research field. In this regard the stay at IFPRI will be highly instrumental, as the organization represents a research institute at the research front. The scientific knowledge environment at IFPRI creates the best conditions for producing high quality research within my topic. For IFPRI the benefit of my visit will be added knowledge about the changing roles of the international organizations within the policy sector, including the role of the IFPRI/CGIAR itself, as well as about the changing role of knowledge related to governance in the process of contemporary globalization.

Also, the IFPRI is part of a worldwide network of research institutions within agriculture. Situated at IFPRI, this gives me the access to this extensive network of different actors in the sector, and the opportunity to disseminate my research results to a variety of target groups within and/or relevant to agriculture. The stay will create new links between this global research institution and research organizations in Norway, in particular the University of Bergen and the Christian Michelsen Institute (CMI). This makes further collaborations a likely outcome. As such, the project will continue to add value after the visit.

NORGLOBAL - 239514/H30

Tittel	Upgrading the Nicaraguan dual purpose value chain through system dynamic modelling
Prosjektansvarlig	NORGES MILJØ- OG BIOVITENSKAPLIGE UNIVERSITET (NMBU)
Prosjektleder	Gry Synnevåg
Prosjektperiode	12.01.15 - 17.07.15

År	Søkt beløp	Bevilgning fra Norges forskningsråd
2015	217 000	217 000
Sum:	217 000	217 000

Målsetning

Primary objective:

The principle long term focus of the L&F CGIAR program in Nicaragua is to improve the competitiveness and incomes of small and medium cattle farmers in Nicaragua through creation and strengthening of sustainable dairy and beef value chains, to increase access to high-quality animal source products for poor consumers, and diversify products for national and regional markets.

The secondary objectives focusing on main anticipated impacts and outcomes are:

1. Sustainable and competitive dual-purpose value chain in Nicaragua,
2. Improved access to (niche) export markets,
3. Improved access to dairy products for poor urban and rural households,
4. Better household income and high asset ownership resulting from sustained intensification,
5. Minimized negative environmental impacts.

NORGLOBAL - 239514/H30

Prosjektsammendrag

In Nicaragua, dairy and beef production is often the most important household income source. Several factors, however, limit the participation of small scale cattle farmers in cattle value chains. The quantity of milk produced by small scale farmers is usually low, characterized by high seasonal fluctuations in availability and prices, with markedly reduced production levels during the dry season, and is often of poor quality. Income from beef production is low, with cash income mostly coming from selling steers at weaning age with hardly any added value.

The main long term focus of the Livestock and Fish (L&F) CGIAR program in Nicaragua is to improve the competitiveness and income of small and medium cattle farmers in Nicaragua through the creation and strengthening of sustainable dairy and beef value chains, to increase access to high-quality animal source products for poor consumers, and diversify products for national and regional markets.

This research grant will specifically support establishment of a system dynamics (SD) model that adequately represents the current dual purpose value chain to test potential areas of improvement. Developing an SD model helps to understand complex systems, can be used as a tool to analyze and evaluate strategies and policies, and can test theories. To construct a system dynamics model data will be collected using a value chain survey involving the different actors in the value chain: input-suppliers, producers, processors, traders, consumers. Additionally, a group modeling technique will be used, which involves participants and other stakeholders in the enabling environment in the chain, in model construction, testing and predictions of effect of decisions.

The research team focuses strongly on dissemination of results to all stakeholders involved in the dual purpose value chain, as well as internationally, to be able to reach the set research objectives.

NORGLOBAL - 244957/H30

Tittel	Gender and the sustainable intensification of agriculture
Prosjektansvarlig	NORGES MILJØ- OG BIOVITENSKAPLIGE UNIVERSITET (NMBU)
Prosjektleder	Ruth Haug
Prosjektperiode	02.02.15 - 31.07.15

År	Søkt beløp	Bevilgning fra Norges forskningsråd
2015	208 000	208 000
Sum:	208 000	208 000

Målsetning

The primary objective of the research is to carryout in-depth quantitative and qualitative analysis on the effect of gender on the sustainable intensification of agriculture in Eastern and Southern African countries. Based on this the specific objectives include:

1. Investigating the attributes of the technologies and practices in sustainable agricultural intensification and the implication for their adoption by male and female farmers
2. Exploring how the returns from sustainable agricultural intensification are distributed between the gender groups
3. Studying the institutional environment of sustainable agricultural intensification and its gender implications

NORGLOBAL - 244957/H30

Prosjektsammendrag

There is a renewed interest to close the agricultural productivity gap in Africa. Donors and African governments alike share this enthusiasm with the African Union declaring 2014 as the year of agriculture and food security, and for feeding Africa through new technologies. The call for an African green revolution is being made with a commitment to make smallholder farmers the core agents-of-change. Unlike other regions, women play a major role in agriculture in SSA and make up the majority of the smallholder farmers. Despite their centrality in agriculture, women's role continues to get second place in sub-Saharan Africa. This is reflected in the consistent gap experienced by women on landownership, access to skills, services, technology, finances, and infrastructure.

FAO estimates that closing the gender gap in agriculture will contribute to increase in agricultural productivity by 20-30% on women's farms and will reduce the number of hungry by 12-17 %. The current doctoral study focuses on investigating the role of gender in the uptake of technologies and improved practices for the sustainable intensification of maize-legume production. The doctoral research will be carried out based on a CIMMYT-led Sustainable Intensification project being implemented in east and southern Africa. The specific research objectives include

1. Investigating the attributes of the technologies and practices in sustainable agricultural intensification and the implication for their adoption by male and female farmers
2. Exploring how the returns from sustainable agricultural intensification are distributed
3. Studying the institutional environment of sustainable agricultural intensification and its gender implications

The study will contribute to an academic understanding of the role of gender and power relations in the uptake and effect of agricultural intensification measures. The study will also contribute to a more accurate understanding of the concept of gender productivity gap.

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Tittel	Agricultural Carbon Finance, Food Security, and the World Bank's Kenya Agricultural Carbon Project (KACP)
Prosjektansvarlig	NORGES MILJØ- OG BIOVITENSKAPLIGE UNIVERSITET (NMBU)
Prosjektleder	Tor Arve Benjaminsen
Prosjektperiode	01.01.15 - 31.12.15

År	Søkt beløp	Bevilgning fra Norges forskningsråd
2015	180 000	180 000
Sum:	180 000	180 000

Målsetning

Primary objective: To ascertain the impacts of the KACP on participating farmers' livelihoods and agricultural practices relative to its 'triple win' rhetoric, thereby exploring the potential for Sustainable Agricultural Land Management (SALM) methodologies to contribute to a broader 'landscape approach' to climate change adaptation and mitigation in the nascent 'Green Economy'.

RQ 1: What impact, if any, do histories of agrarian change and resistance to agrarian reforms in Western Kenya have on the nature and implementation of the KACP?

RQ 2: Through what mechanisms are SALM carbon offset revenues shared with local people, and what is the significance of these payments relative to labour, land, and capital expended on conservation agriculture?

RQ 3: How do processes of certification, auditing, and evaluation affect both KACP farmers' agricultural practices and the behaviour of the implementing NGO?

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Prosjektsammendrag

Recognizing the challenges that interrelated fuel, environmental, and financial crises pose to the global food system, a range of actors have begun to explore possibilities for promoting the 'sustainable intensification of agriculture'. Specifically, and in acknowledgement of the risks for smallholding farmers entailed by global processes of large-scale land acquisitions, progressive organizations increasingly seek to do so in ways that ameliorate rather than exacerbate tenure insecurity. One such approach is increasingly known as 'agricultural carbon finance', or, in terms of its carbon offsetting methodology, as Sustainable Agricultural Land Management (SALM). Simply put, agricultural carbon finance refers to a broad suite of mechanisms for minimizing emissions of carbon dioxide from agricultural production in ways that increase or otherwise secure crop yields for smallholding farmers.

In this context, the overarching goal of this research project is to examine the potential for SALM methodologies to both improve the livelihoods of smallholding farmers and contribute to climate change mitigation through an analysis of the 'crucial case' of the World Bank-BioCarbon Fund's Kenya Agricultural Carbon Project (KACP). Unveiled in November 2010 by the World Bank, the Kenyan government, and the Swedish Cooperative Centre-Vi Agroforestry Programme (SCC-ViA), these actors currently promote the KACP as a shining example of the triple-win promise of SALM. In short, the project involves 60,000 farmers and 45,000 hectares of land spread throughout the Kisumu, Siaya, and Bungoma districts of western Kenya. As of 2012, this methodology has received certification from the Verified Carbon Standard (VCS) agency, and, if successfully implemented, promises to provide an example of how agriculture might be linked with REDD+ under a broader 'landscape approach' to climate change mitigation and adaptation in the nascent 'Green Economy'.