

RDR 2019



Rural Development Report 2019

Investing in rural youth

Youth Access to Land, Migration, and Employment Opportunities

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1. Overarching objective

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To shed light on the intersections between youth access to land, migration decisions, and employment opportunities.

1. synthesize evidence on changing farm structure in Africa → implications for youth access to land
2. Document changes over time in young people's engagement in farming, broader agrifood system and non-farm employment disaggregated by age/gender category
3. Use existing panel data to assess how access to land influences youth employment and migration decisions

Specific questions (continued)

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4. Assess importance of land rental markets as means for youth to gain access to land, the factors influencing their ability to utilize land rental markets, and the impacts on their welfare resulting from participation in land rental markets.
5. Identify policy options for promoting youth access to land and employment opportunities, taking cognizance of other important economic process underway in the region

- Synthesis of existing studies
- Descriptive statistics on employment based on 5-yr age/gender categories, stratified by population density, market access conditions, agro-ecological potential
- New econometric evidence using LSMS-type individual panel data

Modeling framework for estimating impact of access to land on youth employment / migration decisions

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First stage: Land access by individual i :

$$land_{jit} = mem'_{jit}\alpha_1 + hhid'_{jit}\alpha_2 + comm'_{jit}\alpha_3 + hist'_{jit}\alpha_4 + c_{1ij} + \mu_{jit} \quad (1)$$

Second stage: Youth's decision to migrate equation:

$$migrate_{jit} = \beta_1 land_{jit} + mem'_{jit}\beta_2 + hhid'_{jit}\beta_3 + comm'_{jit}\beta_4 + \theta \hat{\mu}_{jit} + c_{2ij} + \varepsilon_{jit} \quad (2)$$

land: land controlled by individual i , in household j , year t .

migrate: binary response variable where *migrate*=1 if a youth migrated between 1st and 2nd survey

mem : vector of youth's individual characteristics,

hhid : vector of household-level variables,

comm: vector of community-level variables,

hist : vector of family history characteristics likely to influence youth access to

land. *hist* contains at least one variable that satisfy exogeneity criteria to serve as instruments for youth access to land.

Thank you

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