

Theme

PRODUCTION

Linking agroecological practices and human well-being in Tanzania

Lead Author

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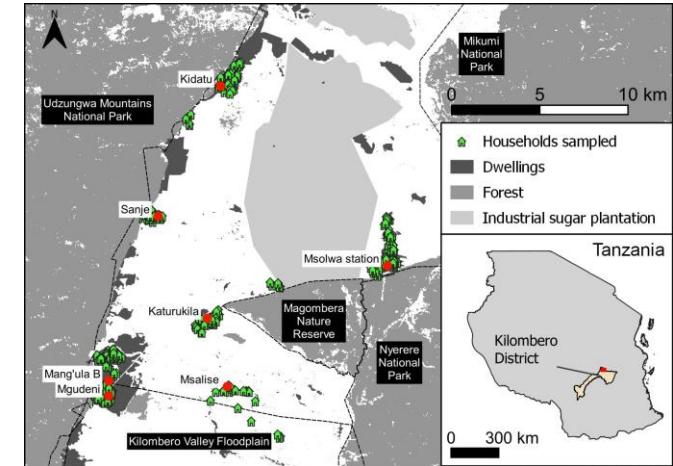
Authors

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- More calls to shift measurement of development outcomes away from simplistic economic metrics towards impacts on human well-being (e.g., Dasgupta, 2021; Stiglitz et al., 2009)
- Growing concerns on long term sustainability of industrialised farming models, but also on our capacity to meet future food demand
- Agroecological practices can help accomplish a transition towards more sustainable food systems without compromising production
- **Knowledge gap:** Limited empirical evidence of the impact of different land use management strategies on the well-being of smallholder farmers in tropical and sub-tropical landscapes



- This research aims to produce new empirical evidence on the link between agroecology and human well-being in rural Tanzania, while also identifying which factors drive the uptake of those practices
- More specifically, our research questions are:
 - ❖ Do farmer socioeconomic factors and perceptions drive the uptake of agroecological practices?
 - ❖ Is higher uptake of agroecological practices contributing to farmer well-being?
- Study area is Northern Kilombero District, Morogoro Region, Tanzania:
 - ❖ Kilombero Cluster of the Southern Agricultural Growth Corridor of Tanzania
 - ❖ Important corridor for wildlife, including large mammals, due to its strategic location between different protected areas
- Well-being index using 20 indicators along 5 different dimensions (MEA, 2003; Loveridge et al., 2020)
- A total of 420 valid household surveys collected
- Data analysis using linear mixed effects models fitted by maximum likelihood and with village as random effect

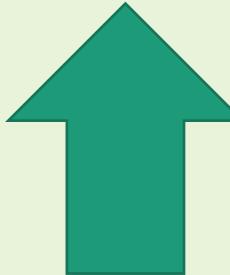


- ✓ women
- ✓ higher perception of benefits from nature
- ✓ received farming advice
- ✓ landowner
- ✓ use of synthetic inputs in the farm



Agroecological Practice Uptake

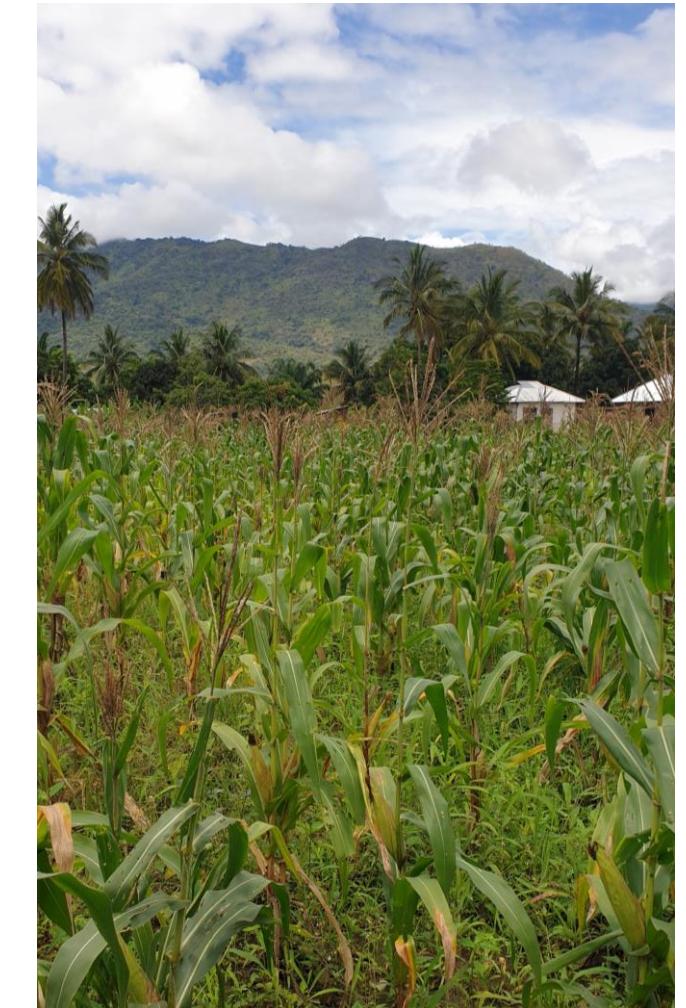
- ✓ younger age
- ✓ men
- ✓ having village responsibility
- ✓ being member of a group/association
- ✓ food security
- ✓ use of synthetic inputs in the farm
- ✓ more agroecological practices in the farm



Farmer Well-being

Contributions to the Congress

- Additional **empirical evidence** in support of the **well-being benefits** to smallholder farmers of the implementation of **agroecological practices** in their farms
- Combined **application of both conventional and agroecological practices** (i.e., partial transition to agroecology) can still be beneficial to farmer well-being
- Smallholder farmer **training and capacity building** is fundamental to increase the uptake of sustainable practices
- More research needed on **incentives and interventions** that **maximise benefits from agriculture to human well-being** integrating food production and nature conservation goals, **under diverse environmental, social, and economic conditions**
- Multidimensional **well-being metrics can be a valuable tool** for measuring the impacts of nature-positive solutions



Thank you

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