

Theme

PRODUCTION

Linking agroecological practices and human well-being in Tanzania

Lead Author

Sergio Milheiras

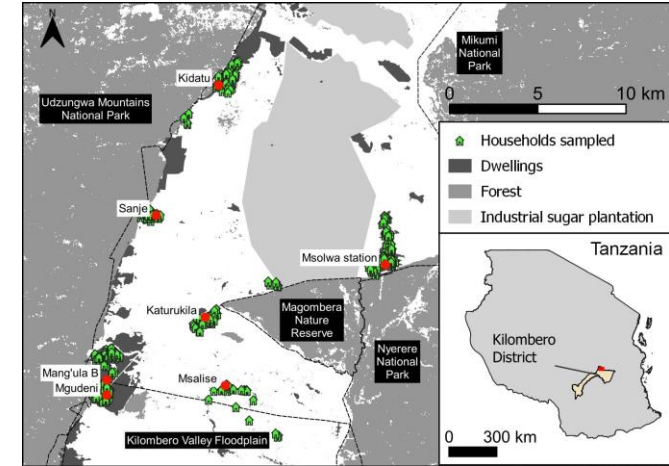
Authors

Susannah Sallu, Robin Loveridge, Deo Shirima, Andrew R. Marshall, Marion Pfeifer

- 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**

- 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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Susannah Sallu, Marion Pfeifer, Deo D. Shirima, Andrew R. Marshall, Robin Loveridge, Margherita Lala, Eleanor Moore, Jessica Ward

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