



# Methodological Evaluation of Field Research Station Systems in Tanzania: A Randomized Field Trial for System Reliability Evaluation

Yusuf Yohana<sup>1</sup>, Seyi Ssemogerere<sup>2</sup>, Kassim Simiyu<sup>1</sup>

<sup>1</sup> Mkwawa University College of Education

<sup>2</sup> Department of Software Engineering, Muhimbili University of Health and Allied Sciences (MUHAS), Dar es Salaam

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Correspondence: [yyohana@aol.com](mailto:yyohana@aol.com)

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## Author notes

Yusuf Yohana is affiliated with Mkwawa University College of Education and focuses on Computer Science research in Africa.

Seyi Ssemogerere is affiliated with Department of Software Engineering, Muhimbili University of Health and Allied Sciences (MUHAS), Dar es Salaam and focuses on Computer Science research in Africa.

Kassim Simiyu is affiliated with Mkwawa University College of Education and focuses on Computer Science research in Africa.

## Abstract

Field research stations in Tanzania are pivotal for advancing energy systems and sustainable technologies. However, their reliability and efficiency are often subject to variability and unpredictability. A randomized field trial was conducted to assess the reliability of field research station systems. The trial included a control group and an experimental group, with each group receiving different interventions designed to improve system performance. The analysis revealed that the intervention in the experimental group led to a statistically significant increase in system uptime by 15% (95% CI: [7%, 23%]) compared to the control group. This study provides empirical evidence on how methodological adjustments can enhance the reliability of field research station systems in Tanzania, offering insights for future research and policy development. Based on the findings, policymakers should consider implementing similar intervention strategies in other field stations to improve overall system performance. Model estimation used  $\hat{\theta} = \underset{\theta}{\operatorname{argmin}} \{ \sum_{i=1}^n \text{sumiell}(y_i, f\theta(\xi)) + \lambda lVert\theta rVert^2 \}$ , with performance evaluated using out-of-sample error.

**Keywords:** Tanzania, Geographic Information Systems (GIS), Randomized Controlled Trials (RCTs), Data Collection Methods, Field Studies, Precision Agriculture, Statistical Analysis

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