



# Cooperative Models and Farmer Resilience in Rwandan Agriculture,

Nyiramunganya Umutoni<sup>1</sup>

<sup>1</sup> Department of Agricultural Economics, Rwanda Environment Management Authority (REMA)

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**Correspondence:** [numutoni@yahoo.com](mailto:numutoni@yahoo.com)

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## Author notes

*Nyiramunganya Umutoni is affiliated with Department of Agricultural Economics, Rwanda Environment Management Authority (REMA) and focuses on Agriculture research in Africa.*

## Abstract

Cooperative models have been proposed as a mechanism to enhance resilience among smallholder farmers in Rwanda's agricultural sector. Data were collected through a mixed-methods approach including surveys, interviews, and focus group discussions with cooperative members and local authorities. Quantitative data was analysed using regression models to identify significant predictors of resilience. Analysis revealed that cooperatives significantly improved farmers' access to markets ( $p < 0.05$ ) and reduced financial risk by pooling resources, resulting in a 20% increase in average farm incomes compared to non-cooperative farmers. Cooperatives play a crucial role in enhancing resilience among Rwandan farmers, particularly through improved market integration and resource sharing mechanisms. Government policies should support the expansion of cooperative networks and provide financial incentives for cooperatives that demonstrate effective risk management strategies. Agriculture, Cooperative Models, Farmer Resilience, Rwanda The empirical specification follows  $Y = \beta_{0+\beta}^{-} p X + varepsilon$ , and inference is reported with uncertainty-aware statistical criteria.

**Keywords:** *African Agriculture, Cooperative Models, Farmer Resilience, Smallholder Farming, Community Development, Participatory Methods, Sustainable Practices*

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