



Inclusive Finance Programmes and Food Security Strategies for Small Farmer Women in Côte d'Ivoire: A Policy Analysis

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Abstract

In Côte d'Ivoire, small farmer women face significant challenges in achieving food security due to limited access to financial resources and infrastructure. The analysis employs a mixed-methods approach combining qualitative interviews with quantitative data from government databases and surveys conducted among beneficiaries of inclusive finance initiatives. Inclusive finance programmes have shown a positive correlation with increased crop yields by an average of 15% in the first year, leading to significant income stability for participating women farmers. While initial results indicate promising outcomes, further longitudinal studies are recommended to assess long-term sustainability and scalability of these financial interventions. Policy makers should prioritise expanding access to inclusive finance programmes, particularly targeting rural areas with high concentrations of small farmer women. Additionally, integrating agricultural extension services could enhance the effectiveness of these initiatives.

Keywords: *African Geography, Smallholder Farmers, Gender Equity, Microfinance, Rural Development, Impact Evaluation, Participatory Approaches*

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