



Labour Supply Shifts in Urban-Rural Migration Patterns and Their Influence on Agricultural Productivity in Southern Tanzania,

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Abstract

Urban-rural migration patterns in Southern Tanzania have shifted over time due to economic opportunities, leading to significant changes in labour supply within agricultural sectors. Qualitative and quantitative data from surveys conducted among farmers in selected districts were analysed using regression analysis to assess the impact of migration on crop yields. The study identified a notable decrease (approximately 15%) in labour supply in agricultural fields due to higher wages offered in urban areas, which affected productivity negatively but allowed for increased specialization and mechanization. Urban-rural migration patterns have significantly impacted the balance of labour within agricultural systems, necessitating policy adjustments to support rural economies sustainably. Implementing targeted training programmes for rural farmers and developing alternative livelihood options in urban areas are recommended strategies to mitigate adverse effects on agriculture.

Keywords: *Tanzania, Migration Dynamics, Labour Supply, Agricultural Productivity, Rural-Urban Shifts, Community Development Approaches, Participatory Research Methods*

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