

**Contribution of Agricultural Marketing Co-operatives Towards Improving
Household Welfare
Experience from Moshi District, Tanzania
By
Marijani Mrope
Master of Arts in Co-operative and Community Development
Moshi Co-operative University (MoCU), 2018**

Agricultural marketing co-operatives are seen as fundamental organisations towards improving members and their household welfare. However, for the past few decades these organisations have got challenges in achieving its goals and objectives which brought the need of this dissertation to analyse the extent to which agricultural marketing co-operatives have contributed towards improving members' household welfare among the rural small-scale farmers from four villages in Moshi Rural District. A cross-sectional design was adopted whereby purposive and simple random sampling methods were used. In total, the study involved 100 respondents (AMCOS members and non-members). Data were collected through survey method where semi-structured questionnaire as well as key informant interview where interview checklist was used as a tool. Both qualitative (content) and quantitative (descriptive) methods of data analysis were performed with the aid of SPSS. In descriptive analysis, statistics such as frequencies, mean and percentages were computed. T-test was also applied. The findings of the study showed that crop and animal husbandry were most preferred farming activities by AMCOS members and non-members. Also, the T-test analysis revealed that AMCOS members' income contribution to household was statistically significant as compared to incomes of non-members at $P < 0.05$. The findings also indicated that agricultural marketing co-operatives provided access to agricultural markets to their members above all other services. In general, the study observed that AMCOS have more positive contribution in improving the welfare of the

members in terms of improving income, asset ownership, and capacity to access social services, improving their housing conditions and enhance food security compared to status of the same issues on non-members.