

Contribution Of Agricultural Marketing Co-Operatives Towards Improving Household Welfare

Experience From Moshi District, Tanzania

By

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Agricultural marketing cooperatives 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 for this dissertation to analyse the extent to which agricultural marketing cooperatives 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 techniques were used. In total, the study involved respondents AMCOs members and non-member. Data were collected through survey method whereby semi-structured questionnaire as well as key informant interview where interview checklist was used as a tool. Both quantitative (descriptive) and qualitative (content) methods of data analysis were used with an aid of SPSS. In descriptive analysis, statistics such as frequencies, mean and percentages were computed. T-test was also applied. 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 income contribution to household was statistically significant compared to income of non-members at $P < 0.05$. The findings also indicated that agricultural marketing cooperatives provided access to agricultural markets to their members above all services. In general, the study observed that AMCOs have more positive contribution in improving the welfare of the members in terms of improving income, assets ownership, and capacity to access social services, improving their household conditions, and enhance food security compared to non-members.