What was the impact of dairy goats distributed by the Crop-Goat-Project in Tanzania?

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Tropentag 2016 ‘Solidarity in a competing world - fair use of resources’, BOKU Vienna, September 18-21, 2016

Introduction

Study objective
- Evaluate impacts of goat distribution on diet, income and assets using Crop-Goat-Project as a case study.

Statement of problem
- In Tanzania, most goat production is extensive and aimed at selling live animals with limited direct impact on food security and nutrition.

Crop-Goat-Project – objective & activities
- Support poor farmers through dairy goats and root crops (with the opportunity for synergies)
- Transfer of 229 pure-bred dairy goats to 108 households in 4 villages in Morogoro region, central Tanzania
- Introduction of improved cassava and sweet potato varieties and extension services

Conceptual framework

Programme participation

Dairy goat production

Food expenditure

Increased milk production

Diet composition

Income

Assets

Nutrition

Results

Statistical comparison
- At base-line, children in treated households had higher food consumption scores than in control hh.
- At end line, children and adults in treated households had higher food consumption and dairy product consumption than in control hh.

Difference in Difference regression
Dairy goats increased:
- food consumption score of respondents by 20%.
- frequency of dairy product consumption of respondents and children by 100% and 67% respectively per week.
No impacts on diet diversity, income and assets detected.

Propensity score weighted regression
Dairy goats increased
- frequency of dairy product consumption of respondent by 2 times per week.

No impacts on diet diversity, income and assets detected

Conclusion
- Dairy goats introduced in households that rely on crop based diets improves dairy product consumption
- The pathway of dairy goat benefits is through direct milk consumption, and not through income.
- In the medium term there is no benefit to non-dairy goat keeping households
- The poorest are excluded because of inability to raise vulnerable pure-bred dairy goats
- Dual purpose goat breeds would require less maintenance and labour.

Further reading