

Labor Outmigration, Agriculture and Women's Role in Agriculture

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- Introduction
- Problem statement
- Rationale of the study
- Methodology
- Summary and conclusion

Introduction

- Migration is predominantly a male phenomenon
- Past studies focused on those who migrate but less attention has been paid to those who are left behind, many of whom, in most regions, are women and children

Introduction

- Females experience hardships to perform tasks such as plowing when male members are absent (Nandini 1999).
- Increase in women's and children's work burden is often discussed (Palmer 1985)
- On the other hand, evidence also suggest women empowerment due to male migration

Research Problem

- Building on the labor loss and labor substitution hypotheses, we argue that loss of labor due to male outmigration is likely to increase women's and children's participation in farming
- We examine changes in women's and children's labor force participation, their time allocation as well as empowerment due to male outmigration in the household.

Research Question

- To what extent does labor outmigration influence women's participation in farming?
- Does male labor outmigration influence women's empowerment?

Methodology

Multi-pronged research strategy:

- (1) Existing CVFS panel data; and
- (2) Collecting new data.

New data collection:

- Population Events and Women's Participation in Farming – Monthly collection migration and women's and children's time use
- Seasonal Agriculture Survey (3 times in a year for 2 years)

Methodology contd..

Measures

- Migration
- Women's Participation in Farming
 - Number of days worked in farming each month of the past year
 - Number of hours per day in the past week

Expected Output

- Evidence of the consequences of labor outmigration on women's time use and their empowerment

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