Liberia - Global Agriculture and Food Security Project Impact Evaluation 2017

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Identification

SURVEY ID NUMBER
LBR_2017_GAFSPIE-BL_v01_M

TITLE
Global Agriculture and Food Security Project Impact Evaluation 2017

SUBTITLE
Baseline Survey

COUNTRY/ECONOMY

Name	Country code
Liberia	LBR

STUDY TYPE
Impact Evaluation

ABSTRACT
The continued development of Liberia's agricultural sector is crucial to Liberia's economic growth and food security. A focus on smallholder farmers helps to ensure pro-poor growth; over 70% of Liberia's population is involved in farming and the vast majority of this population practice cultivation at the subsistence level, utilizing traditional techniques. The Smallholder Agricultural Productivity Enhancement and Commercialization project (SAPEC) aims to improve the productivity, income and nutritional outcomes of beneficiary farmers in 12 of Liberia's 15 counties. SAPEC provides farmers with agricultural technologies, constructs and rehabilitates infrastructure to support value-chains and market linkages, as well is working to improve the institutional capacity of the Ministry of Agriculture and associated research institutions. The impact evaluation focuses most directly through the most rigorous methods on the input delivery component. SAPEC's design incorporates a focus on women, youth and the disabled to better integrate these groups into the agricultural sector and improve their capacity. Given Liberia's relatively low life expectancy and high youth population (42% below age 15; LISGIS 2011), it is particularly important to encourage youth participation in agriculture. Declining youth participation in the agriculture sector across Africa prompts concerns that if youth are the most open to new technologies, programs promoting new agricultural methods and varieties may struggle to convince farmers to try these new methods unless they can recruit young farmers.

We propose to study the impact of seed and tool distribution on the take-up of modern farming inputs and the use of productivity enhancing tools, thereby resulting in higher agricultural yields and improved nutritional outcomes, as measured by dietary diversity scores. The wide geographic scope of SAPEC and its focus on smallholder farmers offer a unique opportunity to generate data that can be more robustly extrapolated to the wider Liberian population. We will use data from a 2016 registration of Liberian farmers to randomly select 1,000 Liberian farmers from 100 randomly selected communities in Liberian districts serviced by SAPEC.

Using a randomization at multiple levels, we seek to determine whether the provision of 91%-subsidized improved seeds, tools, and fertilizer promote the take-up of modern farming inputs and improve diets. We will also study whether particular beneficiary sub-groups (by age and gender) are more likely to respond to SMS messaging with an agricultural focus and whether small adjustments to the content of these messages can result in relatively greater improvements in take-up by youth.

KIND OF DATA
Sample survey data [ssd]

UNIT OF ANALYSIS
This study describes:

- Households

Version

VERSION DESCRIPTION
- v0.1: Edited anonymous dataset for public distribution

Scope

NOTES

The scope of the study includes:

- Household Member Roster

- Personality Traits

- Farm Roster & Details

- Input Use

- Technology Use

- Labor for Basic Agricultural Activities

- Storage and Marketing

- Crop Production Cycle

- Farmer Organizations

- Kitchen (Backyard) Gardens

- Assets

- Informal Saving

- Bank Account

- Credit

- Section Respondent/Consent

- Dietary Diversity

- Global Food Insecurity Experience Scale- Individually Referenced

- Ebola Incidence

Coverage

GEOGRAPHIC COVERAGE

The Smallholder Agriculture Productivity Enhancement and Comercialization (SAPEC) project was conducted in 12 of Liberia's counties and across 97 communities. Counties included in the sample are Bomi, Gbarpolu, Grand Bassa , Grand Cape Mount, Grand Gedeh, Grand Kru, Margibi, Maryland, Montserrado, River Cess, River Gee and Sinoe.

Producers and sponsors

PRIMARY INVESTIGATORS

Name	Affiliation
Paul Christian	The World Bank

FUNDING AGENCY/SPONSOR

Name	Abbreviation
Global Agriculture Food Security Program	GAFSP
The Smallholder Agricultural Productivity Enhancement and Commercialization project	SAPEC

Sampling

SAMPLING PROCEDURE
The SAPEC project was conducted in 12 of Liberia's counties and across 97 communities. In most of the communities, 10-11 farmers were randomly selected to receive the SAPEC benefits while another 10 farmers were randomly chosen to not receive benefits during the 2017 round of distribution. Randomization was done at the community level for which communities will receive the SAPEC benefits then randomly chosen at the farmer level.

Before the baseline survey was launched, the study was piloted extensively in the field based on a rapid response survey that was commissioned by SAPEC, designed by DIME, and implemented with 570 households in 2016. The e-platform developed by LATA was used to compose the sample frame. For each community a sample of 10 farmers were randomly selected in the 50 randomly selected communities to receive the SAPEC benefits. The sampling frame was coordinated closely with the focal SAPEC official in each community in order to ensure that sampled households were able to receive the SAPEC benefits.

Data Collection

DATES OF DATA COLLECTION

Start	End
2017-06-15	2017-08-30

DATA COLLECTION MODE
Computer Assisted Personal Interview [capi]

SUPERVISION
The DIME field coordinator (Aurelie Rigaud) oversaw the process for selecting beneficiaries from the e-registration and the systems for tracking the administrative data on invitations, registration and receipt of inputs from SAPEC. In addition, the field coordinator also ensures the quality of the survey instrument, trains the surveyors and checks the quality and accuracy of data collected on a daily basis.

DATA COLLECTION NOTES
Research Solutions Africa, Ltd implemented the baseline survey from June to August 2017. The survey was conducted on android tablets using SurveyCTO - a data collection software which allowed the data to be submitted electronically. The survey focused on agricultural production and food security, and contained modules on housing, labor, education, food security, income, expenditures, personality trait, and assets.

DATA COLLECTORS

Name	Affiliation
Aurelie Rigaud	The World Bank

Questionnaires

QUESTIONNAIRES
The questionnaire is in English and it is provided as a Related Material.

Access policy

CONTACTS

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CITATION REQUIREMENTS
Use of the dataset must be acknowledged using a citation which would include:
- the Identification of the Primary Investigator
- the title of the survey (including country, acronym and year of implementation)
- the survey reference number
- the source and date of download

Example:

Paul Christian, The World Bank. Liberia - Global Agriculture and Food Security Project Impact Evaluation (GAFSPIE-BL) 2017, Baseline Survey. Ref. LBR_2017_GAFSPIE-BL_v01_M. Dataset downloaded from [URL] on [date].

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Metadata production

DDI DOCUMENT ID
DDI_LBR_2017_GAFSPIE-BL_v01_M_WB

PRODUCERS

Name	Abbreviation	Affiliation	Role
Development Data Group	DECDG	World Bank	Documentation of the DDI

DATE OF METADATA PRODUCTION
2019-01-11

DDI DOCUMENT VERSION
v01 (November 2019)

Data Dictionary

Data file	Cases	Variables
microdata_baseline Data collected from Liberia Global Agriculture and Food Security Project Impact Evaluation 2017 (Baseline Survey)	1116	4529

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microdata_baseline Data collected from Liberia Global Agriculture and Food Security Project Impact Evaluation 2017 (Baseline Survey)	1116	4529