

**FACTORS AFFECTING YOUTH PARTICIPATION IN MICRO AND SMALL AGRIBUSINESS:
THE CASE OF KUYU DISTRICT, NORTH SHEWA ZONE OF OROMIA REGIONAL STATE,
ETHIOPIA**

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ABSTRACT

Agribusiness remains fundamental to poverty reduction in this century by employing large number of population throughout the world. Even though agribusiness plays great role in employing people, youth are getting challenged by many problems while engaging in agribusiness. Insufficient access to education, low agricultural productivity, seasonality of agricultural incomes, limited access to land, inadequate access to financial services, and climate change are some of the challenges for youth involvement and advancement in agriculture and other related business. This study has addressed three specific objectives: role of micro and small agribusiness in employment creation for youth, types of micro and small agribusiness in which youth are engaging, and factors affecting youth participation in micro and small agribusiness. The data was collected from both primary and secondary sources. The primary data for this study was collected from purposively selected 155 youth through application of structured questionnaire. Data was analyzed by descriptive analysis and logit model. It was found that about 62.6% of respondent youth were participating in crop production, cattle production, cattle fattening, cattle trading, dairy production, wood work and others. The result of the logistic regression model indicated that youth participation in micro and small agribusiness is significantly affected by land availability, access to extension contact, access to credit, and career ambition of youth. From the regression result it was found that extension contact, land availability and credit access were found significantly and positively affecting youth participation whereas career ambition found negatively and significantly found in affecting youth participation in micro and small agribusiness. Therefore, providing improved credit system, equally distributing available land and aiding youth to conserve soil, improving extension system through providing incentives to participants and creating more awareness in changing way youth think about agriculture are recommended to accelerate their participation in micro and small agribusiness.

Key words: Youth, Youth Participation, Kuyyu district, Micro and Small Enterprises, Logit Model

INTRODUCTION

Despite agricultural sector creates employment opportunity, it is long left by the young people in Ethiopia. Youth are influenced by many factors in order not to take part in agriculture and any related business in the country. Majority of them are not planning to take agriculture as their main livelihood with only 9% planning to work in the sector due to many challenging problems (Bezu and Holden, 2014). Agriculture is not attractive to youth due to high risks that may involve in it, intensive nature and low profitability of the sector (FAO, 2012). Several factors that impede youths' involvement in agriculture include educational background, access to land, low agricultural productivity, seasonality of agricultural incomes, lack of public investment in agriculture and the low use of innovation and technology (Njenga *et al.*, 2012).

In Ethiopia; there are many researches those have been done to capture factors affecting youth participation in agriculture and related business. For instance Bezu and Holden (2014) have studied factors affecting youth participation at only farm gate, rural agriculture in southern Ethiopia without stating size of business. Sergio (2014) has also studied rural youth aspiration in rural agriculture of northern Ethiopia by concentrating only on their aspiration; no more other variables were concerned. But both did not study the sector by paying attention to business size; like stating micro and small agribusiness but whole business was concerned. They did not study factors affecting youth participation in agribusiness at micro and small business size, specifying the size of the business which makes the current research unique from others and also it is research that is for the area regarding the issue concerned.

In general, there are no as such enough reports on factors affecting participation of youth in micro and small agribusiness in Ethiopia. Specifically, limited attentions have been given to youth in relation to micro and small agribusiness throughout Kuyyu district which was witnessed through assessed reports. Over all, there are no empirical researches done on factors affecting participation of youth in micro and small agribusiness in the study area. This shows absence of problem identification on youth participation in micro and small agribusiness.

Therefore, this study provides us an investigation of the reasons why youth are not participating in micro and small agri-business and what challenged them while working; particularly in Kuyyu district by incorporating some more variables and providing some recommendation so that the problems can be encountered.

Objectives

The general objective of this study was assessing factors affecting youth participation in micro and small agri-business in Kuyyu district.

The specific objectives of the study were:

- To assess contribution of micro and small agribusiness in creating employment for youth in the study area
- To identify types of micro and small agribusiness in which youth are involved in study area

- To identify factors affecting youth participation in micro and small agri-business in the study area

Significance of the Study

The importance of this study will be serving as guidance for other researchers, whom may deal on similar topic. The study will also be used to identify problems in the study area and help the actors to focus on problems as one of the intervention for enhancing youth so they become input for the industry and use from the sector.

RESEARCH METHODOLOGY

The study was done in Kuyyu located at 156 km to the north west of Finfinnee along the way to Amhara region at altitudinal range of 1200-2800m above sea level.

The study used both primary and secondary data. The study also used both quantitative and qualitative data types. Qualitative data was collected on variables that are dummy or nominal in their nature (marital status, land availability, sex, off farm income, migration plan, credit access and career ambition), where quantitative data were collected on variables that are continuous (access to agricultural information, education level, extension contact and age of respondent).

Structured questionnaire was designed and administered to the samples as tool of data collection. Interview was taken to collect information from district's officer of micro and small agribusiness, Sport & Youth Officer, and manager of Oromia credit and saving institution purposively. Focus group discussion was also held with randomly selected members consisting 8 to 10 youth and adults from each kebele.

In selection of sample respondents purposive and simple random sampling techniques were through the study. The selection of Kebeles involved purposive sampling in which 01kebele, 02 kebele, Wuye Gose kebele, and Halelu Cheri kebele were included due to reasons like the selected Kebeles do have good land escapes in most cases, best infrastructure, and center of most agribusiness out of 25 Kebeles under the district despite youth are not fully using agribusiness in the area. The other method was random sampling technique in which every youth had equal chance of being chosen. Through that 155 youth were selected from four selected Kebeles based on proportion of their population.

Sample Size

In the sample kebeles there are about 11688 youth population (4874 from Dawicha Kerensa, 2758 from Halelu Cheri, 2126 from Wuye Gose, and 1930 from kare kura kebele) as stated by Director of Sport and Youth of Kuyyu district based on data they had collected in 2013. Determination of sample size was resolved by means of Yamane (1967) sampling formula using 92% confidence interval.

$$n = \frac{N}{1 + N(e)^2} \dots \dots \dots \text{eqn(1)}$$

Where, n=total sample size

N= total number of Youth population

e= error, which is 0.08 in case of this research.

Taking the total population of youth 11688, the sample was determined as follow:

$$n = \frac{11688}{1+11688(0.08)^2} = \frac{11688}{1+11688(0.0064)} = \frac{11688}{1+74.8032} = \frac{11688}{75.8032} = 155$$

Data Analysis and Presentation

Data was analyzed using descriptive and econometric model. The descriptive statistics such as mean, frequency and percentage of distributions were used to analyze data obtained regarding factors affecting participation of youth in micro and small agribusiness. The collected data was also organized, edited and analyzed using SPSS-20 and STATA-13 statistical packages.

Model Specification

In dummy regression variable models, it is assumed that the dependent variable, “Y” is dichotomous in nature, taking a yes (1) or no (0) value. The most commonly used approaches for estimating such models are the linear probability model, logit model and the probit model from which logit model was used for this study due to cases that logit model reach convergence fairly well than probit model and linear probability model (Gujarati, 2004).

Logit Model

Logit regression analysis is a technique which allows for estimating the probability that an event occurs or not, by predicting a binary dependent outcome from a set of independent variables. In this regression model, the dependent variable is binary in nature, taking a 1 or 0 value. Youth in Kuyyu district is either participating (1) or not (0) in any of micro and small agribusiness. Hence, the dependent variable (participation in micro and small agribusiness) can take only one of the two values (Gujarati, 2004).

Following Gujarati (2004), the logit model is specified as:

$$P_i = P(Y = 1/X_i) = \beta_0 + \beta_1 X_i + \varepsilon_i, i = 1, 2, \dots, n \dots \dots \dots \text{eqn(2)}$$

Where; $P_i = P(Y = 1/X_i)$ is the probability of n^{th} youth to participate in micro and small agribusiness and $Y=1$ means participating: $Y=0$ otherwise, X_i =explanatory variables,

β_0 =the intercept

β_1 =the corresponding coefficients

n=the sample size,

X_1 =sex, X_2 =age... X_{11} =career ambition

RESULTS AND DISCUSSION

Socio-Demographic Characteristics of Respondents

Out of the total sample size of respondents handled during the survey, 35.5% were female where as 64.5% were male in the study area. This implies that more male are participating in micro and small agribusiness than female which was due to the case that female fears to take responsibility in undertaking agribusiness. Specifically, it was found that 61.9% of participant respondents were male and 38.1% were female whereas 31.0% are female and 69.0% were male from those

identified as non participants during the survey. Over all, sex was found insignificant, implying that there was no significant difference between participant and non participant by sex of respondents (Table 2).

Out of respondents participating in micro and small agribusinesses, it was found that 62.9% were single, 34% were married, and 3.1% were divorced. On another hand, it was also found as 67.2% non participants were single, 24.1% were married, and only 8.6% were divorced. Over all, marital status was found to have no significant affect between participant and non participants of micro and small agribusiness (Table 2). From the result, it was found 57.5% of participant respondents were planned to leave their current resident area whereas only about 42.5% wanted to live in their current living area. On another hand, it was also found that 63.8% of nonparticipant respondents planned to leave area, where the rest are still planning to live there. Statistically, migration plan was found insignificant in creating difference between participant and non participant of micro and small agribusiness in the study area (Table 2).

Table 1: Socio demographic characteristics of respondents (for dummy and categorical variables)

Variables	Item	Participant		Non participant		Total			χ^2 -value
		N	%	N	%	N	%	%	
Sex	Female	37	38.1	18	31.0	55	35.5		1.80
	Male	60	61.9	40	69.0	100	64.5		
Migration plan	Yes	56	57.5	37	63.8	93	60.0		0.56
	No	41	42.5	21	36.2	62	40.0		
Marital status	Single	61	62.9	39	67.2	100	64.5		3.43
	Married	33	34.0	14	24.1	47	30.3		
	Divorced	3	3.1	5	8.6	8	5.2		

Source: own survey result, 2017

From the study, it is found that the age of respondents on average was 24.67 years, which is stage of highly productive age. The mean age for participant was 24.75 and 24.54 years for non participants and they are non-significant (Table 3).

The level of education is also believed to influence participation of youth in micro and small agribusiness. On average, the surveyed youth had introduction of secondary education (8.40 grades). It was also found that mean education (in years) was 8.69 and 7.95 grades for participants and non-participants respectively and it is not significant (Table 3).

Table 2: Socio demographic characteristics of respondents (for continuous variables)

Variable	Mean for Participants	Mean for Non Participants	Total mean	t-value
Age	24.75	24.54	24.67	0.49
Education	8.69	7.95	8.41	1.26

Source: own survey result, 2017

Institutional characteristics of respondents

Access to farm credit is among the essential factors needed for agricultural production, and with it, farmers can secure farm inputs such as; farm equipments and hired labor (Odoh, *et al.*, 2009). The result of this study showed only 64.5% of sample respondents took credit before the study from any source like Oromia credit and saving institution, relatives, friends & money lenders, whereas, 35.5% of respondents have not taken any credit before. The non formal financial institution, especially money lenders also known as *arata abadari* are serving people in the area with its high interest rate for borrowers. Youth were challenged in getting credit to run business, as there are no sufficient micro financial sources of credit. In the study area it was identified as Oromia credit and saving institution was the only formal micro financial institution providing credit service for youth. In getting credit from Oromia credit and saving institution, youth had to deposit 20% of total credit they want. is very difficult for them. As credit access is further concerned in this study, it was found that 89.7% of participant respondents took credit from any of the available credit sources; whereas about 10.3% of participant respondents took nothing. At another side; out of those not participating in micro and small agribusiness, 22.4% of them replied saying they have taken credit before, whereas the rest did not. Statistically, it was found as there was significant difference between participants and non participants by credit access; hence its statistical chi-square shows significance difference at 1% significance level (Table 4).

Table 3: Summary of credit access of respondents

Variables	Item	Participant		Non participant		Total		χ^2 -value
		N	%	N	%	N	%	
Credit access	Yes	87	89.7	13	22.4	100	64.5	71.76***
	No	10	10.3	45	77.6	55	35.4	

Source: own survey result, 2017

*** is significant at 1% significance level

Agricultural market information plays an important role for success of agribusiness in many parts of the world. Through this study, it was found that each respondent listened agricultural information one times per week on average which was very much low attendance. When concerned in separate, information mean for both participants and non participants was one times per week in which it was found to be insignificant and hence didn't create significant difference between participants and non participants of micro and small agribusiness (Table 5).

In this study, respondents were asked number of their contact with extension agent per month, and it is found that the mean of the contact for participants is 1.89, which is almost two times contact per month and 1.48 which is approximately not far from one times contact per month for non participants. This is an indication of low attendance that has to be given attention from all parties dealing with it. Looking to the two mean, there is significant difference between the two mean

values of participants and non participants of micro and small agribusiness at 1% significance level. It means that extension contact makes difference between participants and non participants, hence those with the service participates more than those who didn't get the assistance (Table 5).

Table 4: Return of agricultural information

Variable	Mean for Participants	for	Mean for Non Participants	Total mean	t-value
Market information per week	1.18		1.10	1.12	0.480
Extension contact per month	1.89		1.48	1.74	16.31***

Source: own survey result, 2017

*** is significant at 1% significance level

Socio economic characteristics of respondents (for dummy variables)

Land availability was considered to enhance positively and significantly youth participation in micro and small agribusiness. The respondents were asked to state whether enough land is available or not from their experience in their living area which is important for agribusiness. From the table 6, it can be seen; 61.9% of participant respondents replied availability of land in the study area; whereas 38.1% of participant respondents replied that not enough land is available. On other hand, it was found 22.4% of non-participants replied saying, enough land is available, whereas, 77.6% of non participants replied not enough land is available. Over all land availability was found significant 1% level to create difference between participants and non- participants. (Table 6).

Respondents were asked whether they have income from nonfarm business, and 43.9% of respondents replied that they are getting off farm income from sources like petty trading, house rent in the town, remittance, and guarding clinics and schools, whereas 56.1% respondents were not. These imply off farm income playing its own role in enhancing youth participation in agribusiness, in which incomes from off farm business help them in purchasing farm inputs. Off farm income was also found significant at 1% significant level, implying that there was significant difference about off farm income of respondent between participant and non participant. It was found that 58.8% of participant respondents were getting off farm income whereas 41.2% of participants were not. Contrary, 19.0% of non participant respondents were getting off farm income whereas 81.0% of non participants were not (Table 6).

Concerning career interest (ambition), respondents were asked about the career they would like to join in the future as their means of livelihood. Accordingly, eighty three respondents (53.5%) replied that they have predetermined to join and continue enjoying agribusiness career as their means of future livelihood, means that they have an interest to continue working in agribusiness whereas 46.5% respondents want to join non agribusiness career. These imply agribusiness is still

not preferred by all young people to be their means of future livelihood which may be due to fear of risks, the business is tedious in its nature and youths' lack of awareness which calls for intervention in developing their awareness about the sector. Career ambition also found to be significant in creating difference between participants and non participants at 1% significant level. From participants, it was found that 64.9% were planning to continue with agribusiness as their means of livelihood, whereas about 35.1% of participant respondents are hoping to leave agribusiness in their plan stating many reasons. It was also found as less non participants (34.5%) were planning to join agribusiness even though more are again to be far from agribusiness (Table 6).

Table 5: Summary of land availability, off farm income and Career ambition

Variables	Item	Participant		Non participant		Total		χ^2 -value
		N	%	N	%	N	%	
Land availability	Yes	60	61.9	13	22.4	73	47.1	22.66***
	No	37	38.1	45	77.6	82	52.9	
Off farm income	Yes	57	58.8	11	19.0	68	43.9	23.35***
	No	40	41.2	47	81.0	87	56.1	
Career ambition	Agribusiness	63	64.9	20	34.5	83	53.5	13.54***
	Non agribusiness	34	35.1	38	65.5	72	46.5	

Source: own survey result, 2017

Note: *** is statistically significant at 1% probability level

Micro and small agribusiness in creating employment opportunity for youth

It was also found that in Kuyyu district (the study area) micro and small agribusiness is playing important role in being the main economic activity serving population. It is serving community being the top job sector from which people are fulfilling their daily wants and demands.

From the result of the survey, it was found as 62.6% of the respondents were participating in any one of the micro and small agribusiness (Table 7). They are engaging in different types of the business where it is clear that the business has wide range of activities employing many people especially youth throughout the district. Micro and small agribusiness in the area is one of the main business areas in the district in which graduates are also working after completion of their higher education. Some educated individuals are also now diverting their plan to work in micro and small agribusiness, because of its potential making people wealthy.

According to the interview held with manager of micro and small agribusiness of the district, 94 youth from which most are graduated from educational institutions have been engaging in different types of micro and small agribusiness like cattle fattening, crop production, forest protection, animal feed production, wood work and sheep production by being cooperated and registered under office of MSE of the district in area covered by the study. This was another role of micro and small agribusiness in creating employment opportunity for young graduates being

working in different types of micro and small agribusiness within the study area. It is an important report especially for new graduates from higher education who need to join agribusiness. There are some business areas in which graduated young are not exploiting throughout the area, which can make them economically powerful if done over with supplement of their profession, as the educated person have more awareness about managing business and risk minimization.

Table 6: Summary of participants and non participants in MSA

Description	Frequency	Percent
Non participant	58	37.4%
Participant	97	62.6%
Total	155	100.0%

Source: result of own survey, 2017

Types of micro and small agribusiness in which youth are participating

In this study, identifying types of micro and small agribusiness, especially the main types of micro and small agribusiness in which youth are involving, was one of the specific objectives. Accordingly many types of micro and small agribusiness were indentified in which many young people are engaging in the area. It was found that the followings are the main types of micro and small agribusiness on which young are relying for their livelihood. These include cattle fattening, cattle feed production, animal production, cattle trading, dairy production, forest protection, sheep production, wood work, crop production, Sheep production and trading were the types of micro and small agribusiness in which youth have been engaging (Table 8).

Crop production was the leading business in the area, in which it was found almost all individuals undertake the business. In the area teff, wheat, barley, maize to some extent, sorghum type cereal crops locally called *Zengada* and *xurketa* are the main cereal crop types produced in the area. In the production of crop throughout the study area, animals were the main source power to plough land even though human power also plays its own role in digging land in some areas.

Vegetables like potatoes, onions and tomatoes are also produced in the area especially during winter by application of small irrigation. Animal production along with crop production is also the main economic activity undertaken in the study area. Goat, sheep, cattle and even poultry are produced in the area. Cattle fattening in which youth are involving are also playing important role in serving people in the area. Mostly oxen are fattened by owners in the area in which people buy oxen with low quality and bring for market after an improvement in quality. They sell the fattened oxen in all local markets like to Ejere and Garba Guracha market, in which some collectors bring their product for Finfinne market whereas some are sold for home hotels in the main market, Kuyyu town.

Dairy production, milk production for both market and home consumption was also the main economic activity in the area, in which both local and hybrid cows are source of milk. Especially the newly introduced breeds are serving the people by providing high yield compared to local one. Producers of milk product provide their product for local collectors in which they have stated that

they are not capturing enough profit as compared to other actors. This area is found to be the main source of milk for market of Finfinne, in which collectors take the product daily to the city after collecting from individual producers (Table 8).

Cattle trading were also a good business of people throughout the study area. This is almost related to activity of rotating cattle from market to market in which they also keep animals for some period of time to capture better benefit by proving to better market. Cattle feed production (like hey or grass production) is also part of economic activity in the area, in which producers bring the product in fresh and dry forms for market. Sheep is the main small ruminant produced in the area as found by the study and there was also an extent in which people trade sheep for market. Finally it was also found that, people in the area are producing different types of furniture as wood work. In the area some people bring raw wood product for market where some individuals also produce home furniture like chair and bed. Forest protection and production are also one type of businesses in the study area. They produce different types of plant seedlings and make it available for market at plantation period especially during June, July and August. The activity of forest protection involves keeping the reserved forest from unwanted deforestation and damages from animals (Table 8).

Table 7: Summary of agribusinesses in which youth are participating

Major types of micro and small agribusiness	Frequency	Percent (%)
Animal and crop production	9	9.3
Cattle fattening	7	7.2
Cattle fattening and crop production	4	4.1
Cattle fattening and dairy production	1	1.0
Cattle trading and crop production	1	1.0
Cattle and crop production	4	4.1
Cattle and cattle feed production	1	1.0
Crop production	37	38.1
Dairy and crop production	6	6.2
Forest protection and crop production	3	3.1
Sheep and crop production	15	15.6
Sheep and dairy production	1	1.0
sheep trading and crop production	2	2.1
wood work	6	6.2
Total	97	100.0

Source: Computation from own survey data, 2017

Econometric Analysis Result

Before running the regression, data was tested and found there was no serious problem of multicollinearity. The results of empirical estimation of logit model showing the coefficients,

standard errors, significance levels, marginal effects, LR Chi-Square, and Pseudo R-square are presented in table 9 below. The result of Logit regression shows, log likelihood ratio (LR chi2) is significant at 1%; meaning that the explanatory variables included in the model jointly explain the probability of youth to participate in the micro and small agribusiness. A Pseudo R-square of 0.5213 implies that all the explanatory variables included in the model were able to explain about 52.13% of the variations in the dependent variable, participation in micro and small agribusiness.

Table 8: logistic regression result

Participation	B	S.E.	Sig.	dy/dx
Sex	-0.949	0.594	0.110	-0.1719
Marital status	-0.243	0.417	0.561	-0.0472
Age	-0.63	0.079	0.419	-0.0124
Extension	0.565**	0.243	0.020	0.1100
Education	0.125	0.078	0.109	0.0244
Off farm income	0.929	0.631	0.141	0.1751
Land	1.932***	0.596	0.001	0.3575
Credit	3.347***	0.618	0.000	0.6585
Market information	-0.161	0.245	0.512	-0.0313
Migration	-0.284	0.561	0.613	-0.0553
Career	-1.658***	0.605	0.006	-0.3227
Constant	1.043	2.403	0.664	

Source: Result from own data regression, 2017

Note: *** and ** are statistically significant at 1%, and 5% probability levels respectively.

LR chi2(11) = 106.84

Prob > chi2 = 0.0000

Pseudo R2 = 0.5213

Number of obs = 155

The variable; extension contact was found to be significant at 5% significance level and the other variables: land availability, credit access and career ambition were found significant at 1% significance level; hence influenced youth participation in micro and small agribusiness. Extension contact, credit access, and land availability were found to be positively related to participation of youth in micro and small agribusiness, whereas career ambition of youth was found to be negatively related with participation of youth in micro and small agribusiness.

As stated above, extension contact was found significant at 5% significance level with marginal effect of 0.110. The coefficient of extension contact is positive and implies that extension contact positively affects probability of youth participation in micro and small agribusiness. With its marginal effect it implies that as extension contact increase by a unit, the probability of youth participation in micro and small agribusiness increases by 11.0%, keeping other variables constant.

Land availability was also found significant at 1% significance level with its marginal effect of 0.3575. The coefficient of land availability is positive which implies that land availability positively affects probability of youth participation in micro and small agribusiness. With its marginal effect it implies that land availability will increase the probability of youth participation in micro and small agribusiness by 35.75%, keeping other variables constant. This means that youth whom land is made available for, have a higher probability of participating in micro and small agribusiness than their counterparts. This was consistent with the result reported by Tura *et al* (2016) in which land access was positively related to the youth involvement in agriculture at 10% significance level.

Access to credit was another variable found significant at 1% significance level with marginal effect of 0.6585. The coefficient of access to credit is positive and implies that access to credit positively affects probability of youth participation in micro and small agribusiness. With its marginal effect, it shows that having access to credit will increase the probability of youth participation in micro and small agribusiness increases by 65.85% keeping other variables constant.

It was also found that career ambition become significant at 1% significance level with marginal effect of -0.3227. The coefficient of career ambition is negative and implies that career ambition negatively affects probability of youth participation in micro and small agribusiness. With its marginal effect it implies that for those who did not want to make agribusiness their profession, their probability of youth participation in micro and small agribusiness will decrease by 32.27% than their counterparts, keeping other variables constant. This means that youth who didn't have plan to make agribusiness their means of livelihood in future have a lower probability of participating in micro and small agribusiness than those who want to make agribusiness their means of livelihood in future . This is similar to the study of Akpan *et al* (2015) in which three-quarters of the students had bad perception of agriculture and did not think to embrace (accept) agricultural career as their means of live in the future.

Conclusion

Micro and small agribusiness enterprises at the study area employed so many people in which youth are playing their own shares in the business. From total sample size of respondents handled during the survey, it was found that 62.6% of youth are participating in micro and small agribusiness in the study area from which 38.1% were female whereas 61.9% were male from participants. They are engaging mainly in crop production, animal production, animal trading, cattle fattening, dairy production, forest protection and production, and wood work. Even though youth are engaging in micro and small agribusiness, it is not to mean some problems are not challenging them while working in the business.

The result of logit regression analysis shows that youth participation in micro and small agribusiness is significantly affected by extension contact, land availability, credit access, and career ambition of youth. The study indicated that agricultural extension contact indeed influences youth involvement in micro and small agribusiness. It was found in positively affecting

youth participation in micro and small agribusiness which was found significant at 5% significance level. That means as extension contact increases, the participation of youth in micro and small agribusiness increases, which is an implication of that most farmers (youth) are contacting with development agent. Land availability was also found in positively affecting youth participation in micro and small agribusiness from output of logit regression at 1% significance level. That means as land is made available for youth, their participation in micro and small agribusiness increases.

Agribusiness just like any other entrepreneurial entity requires capital for either start-up or working and hence access to credit facility is crucial for young people who want to join agribusiness. From the same research, credit access was also found significant (at 1% significance level) in enhancing in micro and small agribusiness. It is an implication of that if youth gets credit they can engage more in micro and small agribusiness. That is because as credit is source of money for youth which helps them in purchasing farm inputs. As career ambition of youth is concerned, it was found significant (at 1% significance level) in negatively affecting youth participation in micro and small agribusiness, which is an implication of that youth are planning not to engage in agribusiness from over all regression result.

Therefore, all these findings call for an intervention regarding the issues under consideration by strengthening positive findings and by encountering (tackling) negative findings. For overall, these variables should be targeted for improvement in order to further increase participation of youth in the business.

Recommendation

The recommendations drawn from this study are based on the significant variables from the analysis of present study. Land is the single most important natural resource in the sense that it affects every aspect of a people's live. This variable was found significant in positively affecting youth participation in MSA. As it is concerned, government has to take control over land use; government and nongovernmental sector have to give more attention again in soil management work via funding them. As some respondents replied scarcity of land, so led to problem in producing land intensive agricultural production, local government has to more intensify agribusiness practices that can give more products per small plot of land, like cattle fattening and dairy production behind others via improving access to extension contact, and improving access to input.

Secondly, the result of econometric analysis also indicates youth participation in micro and small agribusiness is positively and significantly affected by access to credit service. In the study area, the Oromia credit and saving institution was the only formal micro financial institution providing credit service for youth. In getting credit from Oromia Credit and Saving Institution, youth were requested to deposit 20% of total credit they want. But most youth were unable to deposit this for getting credit. Therefore it seems better if youth get the credit through easy way and lower deposit as collateral for which government should facilitate more simple strategy for youth in giving credit.

Thirdly, youth participation in micro and small agribusiness enterprises is significantly and positively affected by access to extension contact. To enhance (support) youth, there is a need to formulate more specific policy within the local agricultural department on how agriculture extension services can be delivered to the youth in agribusiness. Therefore, government has to strengthen extension agents by supporting them more than what have been observed; by giving continuous capacity building trainings and extra incentives so that they do more in assisting youth to be involved and become successful in micro and small agribusiness.

Lastly, youth participation in micro and small agribusiness is significantly and negatively affected by their career ambition about engaging in agribusiness. Most youth preferred non agricultural/ non agribusiness career as their means of future livelihood giving low value for agri-business profession. That was not the only, but also families of youth are having less awareness about accepting agribusiness profession as business that has potential in creating difference in economy. They want their children to be out of agribusiness profession and prefer non agribusiness profession as means of their livelihood in the future. Therefore, district's youth officers, Kebele leaders and development agents have to provide more awareness for youth and their family so let agribusiness be accepted more between people.

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