Attributes Empowering Women in the Sub-Saharan Africa Agricultural Industry: Utilizing a Content Analysis to Assess the UN's Sustainable Development Goals

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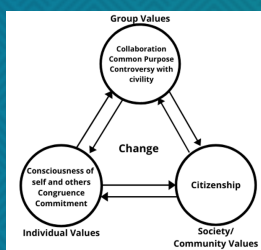AGRICULTURAL LEADERSHIP EDUCATION & COMMUNICATIONS — TEXAS A&M UNIVERSITY

Introduction/Theoretical Framework

Africa has the fastest-growing population (Rosenberg, 2018). Key place to implement concepts empowering women to feed families and nations

Social Change Model (SCM) applied to understand social change impacts on working women. (Komives & Wagner , 2017)

Purpose and Objectives

Describe social change impacts on working women to and understand what Sub-Saharan Africa is doing to achieve Zero Hunger, and Gender Equality

Methods

Content analysis found common themes highlighting current United Nations SDGs (UNDP, n.d). Thematic areas investigated "women empowerment", "gender equality", "Sub-Saharan Africa", and "agriculture."

Results

Four themes found

Land
- Women own less land
- Mobile phone use linked to women controlling more assets

Cooperative Membership/Groups
- Social collaboration increases women's sense of empowerment
- Information is obtained faster

Education
- Agriculture education increasing in secondary education
- Extension services focused on gender
- Increased productivity, earnings, and household food security

Technology
- Technology correlates to better gender equality, nutrition, and household income (Sekbira & Qaim, 2017).
- Technology can improve training, crop production, and provide opportunities for entrepreneurship

Recommendations

Cooperatives or groups + Education or Government Institutions + Technology = Women gain critical information for their farms faster

A quasi-experimental design should focus on three villages where women are all a part of a cooperative or farming organization.

Agricultural Extension and educational programs and policies should be enacted to implement more technology into rural communities to help empower women farmers.

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