

**AGRICULTURE AND RURAL DEVELOPMENT OF PEOPLE IN FORT PORTAL
CITY: A CASE STUDY OF KARAMBI WARD, NORTHERN DIVISION.**

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ABSTRACT

The topic of study is Agriculture and rural development of people in Fort Portal City: A case study of Karambi ward, Northern division. The major objective of this study lied in finding out whether there is a relationship between Agriculture and Rural Development of people in Fort Portal city, specifically in Karambi ward, Northern division. Other objectives of this study included; to find out the level of rural development of people in Fort Portal City, Karambi ward, Northern division; to find out the type of agriculture carried out by the highest Percentage of farmers in Karambi village, Northern division; to find out the percentage of people whose major source of income is agriculture in Karambi village, Northern division.

Utilizing Slovin's formula, the study used a descriptive research approach and a straightforward random chance method of sampling to achieve a sample size of forty-four participants from the intended population of fifty participants. According to the results, 50% of respondents said that the level of agricultural development in the Karambi ward is low, 20% declared that it is reasonable, 17.5% said that it is very low, 7.5% said that it is high, 5% said that they don't know anything about the level of rural expansion in the Karambi ward, and nobody said that it is very high. The researcher recommends that farmers should shift from subsistence agriculture to commercial farming in order to boost their incomes, thus improving rural development of the nation and in the areas where they live.

Key words: agriculture and rural development

Background of the study

Globally, agriculture is extremely important to most communities, particularly those in countries that are developing. For rural inhabitants, it serves as their primary source of food, income, and work. To achieve adequate nutrition, poverty reduction, and overall economic development that is sustainable, agriculture production must be increased (United Nations, 2014). Over 70% of the world's poor, who depend mostly on agricultural for work and income, reside in rural areas, as reported by the World Bank (2014). Nearly 870 million people worldwide—or one in every eight—were experiencing persistent malnutrition in 2010-2012, according to FAO (2012) and The World Bank (2014). Almost majority of the world's hungry (852 million) reside in developing nations, making up 15% of their overall population. In affluent nations, there are 16 million malnourished persons (FAO, 2012). In addition, the World Bank (2014) calculated that the average definition of poverty in countries that are developing was around 2.4 billion people living on less than US \$2 per day.

Although it accounts for less than 15% of Uganda's economic production, agriculture employs over 73 percent of all workers in the nation. Farmers typically live in rural areas and have poorer standards of living than people employed in other parts of the economy. (2000) (MFPED)

Smallholder agricultural activities, with the hand hoe as the primary means of production, is what makes the nations agricultural unique. Farmers engage in agricultural activities for subsistence, producing a variety of goods primarily for their own personal use. In addition to a variety of pulses, fruits, and vegetables, the main food crops are plantains (bananas), maize, millet, sorghum, cassava, potatoes, and rice as mainstays. All eight of these products have low yields (IFAD, 2013).

Agricultural appears to be the most prevalent rural economic activity and the main source of income in the research area (Karambi Ward, Northern Division Fort Portal City). In Karambi Ward, Northern Division of Fort Portal City, plant crops along with cattle and animal products improve crop production for commercial purposes,

resulting in improving the livelihoods of people. In light of the foregoing, this study will be carried out to close the knowledge gap by demonstrating the connection between agricultural and rural human development in Fort Portal, Northern Division Karambi Ward.

Statement of the Problem

The problem lied in finding out whether there is a relationship between agriculture and rural development of people in Fort Portal City, Northern Division Karambi Ward.

Specific objectives of the study

- 1. To find out the percentage of farmers who practice each type of agriculture in Karambi Ward, Northern Division Fort Portal City.*
- 2. To determine the percentage of people whose major source of income is agriculture specifically in Fort Portal City, Northern Division Karambi Ward.*
- 3. To determine the level of rural development of people in Fort Portal City, Northern Division Karambi Ward.*
- 4. To find out whether there a relationship between agriculture and rural development of people in Fort Portal City, Northern Division Karambi Ward.*

Research questions

- 1. Is agriculture your major source of income?*
- 2. What is the level of rural development of people in your community (Fort portal city, Northern Division Karambi yard)?*
- 3. What is the relationship between agriculture and rural development of people in your area (Fort Portal City, Northern Division Karambi Ward.)?*

Methodology

Research Design

The study used the method of descriptive research in an effort to address an issue under investigation on the interactions between different variables. It depicted circumstances and occurrences in a way that allowed an observer to watch an event or situation unfold and then try to explain it as best they could. When gathering data for the study, both qualitative and quantitative methods were used. While a quantitative technique allowed the investigator to build statistical models in an effort to explain the findings, a qualitative approach allowed the investigator to give a thorough, comprehensive account of the phenomena. Comparative analysis and statistical data aggregation were supplied via a quantitative methodology.

Study Population

The target population for the study was 50 households of farmers since they were considered as having relevant data for the study.

Sampling Procedure

Sample Size

A Sample is a set number of respondents selected from a larger population to give information about the whole. A sample is a finite part of a statistical population whose properties are studied to gain information about the matter (Webster, 1985). Simple random sampling design was adopted and this was to provide equal chance to all respondents. A total of 44 respondents were selected randomly from Karambi ward, Northern division Fort portal city using the Slovin's formula below;

$$n = \frac{N}{1 + Ne^2}$$

Where n= Sample size,

N= Total population and e= error tolerance of 0.05

$$n = \frac{50}{1 + 50(0.05)^2}$$

$$n = \frac{50}{1 + 50(0.0025)}$$

$$n = \frac{50}{1.125}$$

$n = 44$ respondents

Sampling techniques

Ahuja Ram (2010), defines sampling as the act or process of selecting a suitable sample from the population for the purpose of determining parameters or characteristics of the whole population, and these can be either probability or non-probability sampling techniques.

I used both purposive and simple random sampling techniques.

Simple random sampling technique

The respondents in this study were farmers as primary respondents, agriculture officer and a local council chairperson as the key informants. Simple random sampling was used to select respondents in the group of farmers in the study area.

Purposive sampling technique

The agriculture officer of Northern division, Karambi ward, and the local council chairperson were chosen as sample units using a purposeful sampling technique. This method is based on the study's goals as well as the demographics of the population. This strategy was employed by the investigator because it is particularly helpful in circumstances when you must swiftly reach a specified sample and where sampling for symmetry is not the primary objective.

Selecting only those people who are pertinent to the investigation's design through purposeful sampling is somewhat less expensive, easier to access, and more comfortable. In addition, there was no way to guarantee that the sample was genuinely accurately representing the population, therefore the capacity of the investigator to evaluate the data was given additional weight.

Data collection methods and instruments

The data for this study was collected using and questionnaires for farmers and interviews for the agricultural officer and the chairperson LC1 of Karambi ward Northern division.

Questionnaire method of data collection

Questionnaires were used in the study to solicit data from farmers. The questionnaires were in three sections: Section A to collect demographic and personal data about the farmers. Such information included sex, age, and academic level. Section B had solicited information about agriculture and section C solicited data rural development of people in Karambi ward, Northern division Fort portal city. All these were in line with the objectives of the study.

Interview method of data collection

In accordance with Gill et al. (2008), it is essential to ask inquiries that will be able satisfy the primary goals and objectives of the investigation as well as be likely to generate as much knowledge on the phenomenon under investigation as feasible while developing an interview schedule. The person conducting the interview has the ability that no other instrument has to follow up on concepts, provide appropriate responses, and look into motivations and emotions. When performed by a skilled

interviewer, the way an answer is delivered can provide details which the written reply would hide (Borg & Gall, 1989: 415). Questions that were open-ended were employed in the piece of writing interviews that made up the study. There weren't many farmers interviewed.

Data analysis

The study produced both quantitative and qualitative data. Data analysis entailed examining the gathered knowledge and drawing conclusions (Kombo & Tromp, 2006). According to the study's topics and goals, the data collected through surveys was arranged, coded, categorized, divided, and labeled. The topics were then linked by significant linkages that were related to the study's goals. The data was analyzed using Microsoft Excel and the SPSS application (Statistical Package for the Social Sciences). The results were computed using statistical indicators, such as proportions, and were displayed in tables and descriptive form. Using statistical techniques, the information gathered from farmers' surveys and interviews was arranged, coded, and displayed. Various subjects were used for analysis and the purpose of discussion.

RESULTS

Response Rate

Out of 44 questionnaires administered to respondents, 40 questionnaires were filled and returned. This gives an approximate response rate 90%. According to Mugenda (2003), 50 percent response rate is adequate, 60 percent good and above 70 percent rate

Respondents	Issued questionnaires	Returned questionnaires	Percentage (%)
Farmers	44	40	90

very good.
This

means the response rate of 90% is satisfactory for the purpose of making conclusions for the study. The response rate by category of respondents is summarized in Table 1

Table 1: Response rate

Bio-data of the Respondents (Farmers)

The Bio-data of respondents in this study included; gender, age, level of education and marital status, the issues relating to the demographic data are discussed below;

Farmers' Gender

The farmers were asked to indicate their gender, this aimed at establishing whether both genders participated in the study. The gender distributions of respondents were as indicated in Table 2 below.

<i>Gender</i>	<i>Frequency</i>	<i>Percentage</i>
<i>Male</i>	<i>18</i>	<i>45%</i>
<i>Female</i>	<i>22</i>	<i>55%</i>
<i>Total</i>	<i>40</i>	<i>100%</i>

Table 2: Farmers' gender

The data in Table 2 above shows that 45% of the farmers' respondents were male while 55% were female which confirms that both genders participated in this study as shown on the table above.

Age	Frequency	Percentage (%)
18-25	10	25
26-35	15	37.5
36-45	9	22.5
46-55	3	7.5
56-65	2	5
65and above	1	2.5
Total	40	100

Farmers' age

The farmers were asked to indicate their age. The results are shown in the Table 3

Table 3: Farmers' age

Source: Primary Data, 2022

As indicated in the table 3 above, the research found out that the majority 15(37.5%) of the farmers were aged between 26-35 years, 10(25.0%) were aged 18-25 9(22.5%) were aged 36-45, 3(7.5%) were aged between 46-55 years, 2 (5%) were aged 56-65 and above 65 was only one person (2.5%)

Farmers' level of education

Farmers were asked to indicate their level of education. This aimed at establishing the level of education of farmers in Fort Portal City specifically in Karambi Ward.

Level of education	Frequency	Percentage (%)
Primary	15	37.5
Secondary	10	25
Diploma	7	17.5

Degree	5	12.5
Masters	3	7.5
Total	40	100.0

Table 4: Farmers' level of education

Table 4 illustrates that the highest percentage of respondents attained primary school level (37.5%) and least number of respondents had attained Masters Level. This is because Karambi ward has a moderate number of educated farmers and many primary level farmers.

Respondents' marital status

Marital status	Frequency	Percentage (%)
Single	15	37.5
Married	20	50
Separated/ divorced	4	7.5
Widowed	2	5
Total	40	100.00

Table 5: The table shows respondents according to their marital status.

Table 5 illustrates that the highest percentage, (50%) of respondents are married followed by those who are single (37.5%) and then the separated ones made a percentage of 7.5% and the least number of respondents were widowed (5%).

Empirical Findings

This subsection contains results of agriculture as well as its influence on People's rural Development. The researcher sought to examine the percentage of farmers who practice each type of agriculture in Karambi ward, Fort Portal City, the percentage of people whose major source of income is agriculture specifically in Karambi Ward,

Fort portal City, the level of rural development of people in Karambi ward, Fort portal City and the relationship between agriculture and rural development of people in Karambi ward, Fort Portal City. The results are as follow

To find out the percentage of farmers who practice each type of agriculture in Karambi ward, Northern division Fort Portal City.

Under this objective, the researcher paused a question that “which type of agriculture do you practice?” Two options were given to respondents (farmers) to choose that is to say commercial and subsistence farming. The results are shown in table 6 below.

Type of agriculture	Frequency	Percentage (%)
Commercial agriculture	12	30
Subsistence agriculture	28	70
TOTAL	40	100

Table 6; The percentage of farmers who practice each type of agriculture.

From table 6, the researcher found out that 70% of the farmers in Karambi ward practice subsistence agriculture while 30% practice commercial agriculture.

To determine the percentage of people whose major source of income is agriculture in Karambi ward Northern division Fort Portal city.

The researcher sought to determine the percentage of people whose major source of income is agriculture in Karambi ward, Northern division Fort Portal city. He asked a question that “What is your main source of income

Major source of income	Frequency	Percentage (%)

<i>Agriculture</i>	25	62.5
<i>Business</i>	9	22.5
<i>Office job</i>	4	10
<i>Others</i>	2	5
<i>Total</i>	40	100

Table 7: The percentage of people whose major source of income is agriculture

From table 7, farmers were asked of their main source of income. The researcher found out that the highest percentage (62.5%) do agriculture as their main economic activity, 22.5% do business and office work as their main economic activity, while 10% earn do office work and 5% do other jobs to earn their income.

To determine the level of rural development of people in Karambi ward, Northern division Fort Portal City.

Respondents were asked of the level of rural development in Karambi ward and the results are shown in the table 8 bellow.

<i>Level of rural development of people</i>	<i>Frequency</i>	<i>Percentage (%)</i>
<i>Very high</i>	0	0
<i>High</i>	3	7.5
<i>Moderate</i>	8	20
<i>Low</i>	20	50
<i>Very low</i>	7	17.5
<i>Don't know</i>	2	5
<i>TOTAL</i>	40	100

From table 8, indicates the highest percentage (50%) said there is a low level of rural development in Karambi ward, 20% said it is moderate, 17.5% said it is very low, 7.5%

said it is high, 5% said that they don't know about the level of rural development in Karambi ward while no one said that the level of rural development in Karambi ward is very high.

To find out the relationship between agriculture and rural development of people in Karambi ward Northern division Fort portal City.

Respondents (farmers) were asked to indicate the relationship between agriculture and rural development of people in Karambi ward, Northern Division Fort Portal City. The responses they gave are given in table 9 below.

<i>Relationship</i>	<i>Frequency</i>	<i>Percentage</i>
<i>Agriculture is a source of people's income</i>	15	37.5
<i>Agriculture leads to industrialization</i>	2	5
<i>Agriculture promotes urbanization</i>	1	2.5
<i>Improvement of infrastructure</i>	2	5
<i>Agriculture is a food supplier to the people</i>	6	15
<i>Agriculture creates employment</i>	4	10
<i>Rural development of people improves agriculture</i>	10	25
<i>Don't know</i>	0	0
<i>TOTAL</i>	40	100

Table 9 shows the connection between agricultural and human development in rural areas.

According to table 9 above, 37.5% of the participants indicated that farming and the rural development of people in the Karambi ward are related in that agriculture provides income for people, 25% said that rural expansion of people enhances agriculture, 15% said that agricultural provides food for people, and 10% said that agriculture generates jobs. In Karambi Ward, 5% of respondents claimed that agriculture contributes to improved transportation and industrialization, 2.5% claimed that agriculture contributes to development, and none of the respondents claimed they were unaware of the connection between agricultural and rural development.

Conclusions

The proportion of rural residents in Karambi ward, Northern division, Fort Portal City, who engage in each sort of cultivation.

In the Karambi ward, 70% of the landowners engage in farming for subsistence, while just 30% do commercial farming.

the proportion of residents in Fort Portal City's Karambi ward whose primary source of income is agriculture.

The investigation revealed that agricultural is commonplace in the Karambi ward, where farmers raise distinctive creatures such chicken fowl, goats, pigs, cattle, and sheep as well as crops for both economic and livelihood reasons.

Recommendations

The researcher recommends that farmers should shift from subsistence agriculture to commercial farming in order to boost their incomes, thus improving rural development of the nation and in the areas where they live.

The researcher recommends that Karambi ward agriculture extension workers should work hand in hand with farmers and show them better farming methods in order to get more returns from farming activities.

The researcher recommends that farmers in Karambi ward should not only rely on agriculture but they should also invest in other economic activities in order to boost their rural development growth and development.

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