



Coop Research Program | Call 3

Assessing and enhancing the resilience of the tef and cocoa value chains

Background

This project is set in the context of an ongoing flagship project of the World Food System Center, "Enhancing resilience in food systems". Food systems are increasingly exposed to various types of potential shocks, such as natural disasters, pest outbreaks, economic or political crises. For the here presented research, we look at the resilience of the tef (food security crop) value chain in Ethiopia and cocoa (cash crop) value chain in Ghana. Both value chains are of key importance to their respective countries and have repeatedly been challenged by droughts and sudden economic changes (inflation).

Objective

In a first step, the project aims to assess the resilience of different process levels (input supply, production, processing, retailing and consumption) of the tef and cocoa value chains to key potential shocks. The second step will be to jointly build strategies with key stakeholders for enhancing the resilience of these value chains against those shocks.

Research Approach

This study adopts a transdisciplinary approach to holistically assess the ability of key stakeholders in the tef and cocoa value chains to deal with shocks. Based on literature review, workshops and previous master thesis projects a set of questions and resilience attributes is identified. These shall be tested through a survey targeting key stakeholders of both value chains. Following the resilience assessment,

workshops will invite the same stakeholders to develop feasible approaches for enhancing the resilience of the tef and cocoa value chains.

Relevance and Expected Outcomes

This project shall lead to the identification of key indicators for resilience assessments in food value chains. It is also expected that through this project a major step can be made towards building a quantitative tool for assessing resilience in food systems.

Food System Challenges Addressed

Resilience in value chains, shocks.

www.worldfoodsystem.ethz.ch/research/CRP →

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