

PhD projects at [Development Economics Group (DEC)]

SEHOMI LANDRY, FANOU

Economic valuation of ecosystem services and role of property rights for wetlands-agriculture interactions

Keywords: Property rights, wetlands, ecosystem services, valuation, agriculture, Uganda

The current PhD research project is developed in the context of the Globe-Wetlands project that seeks to increase the contribution of wetlands in East Africa to food security, while considering nature protection and ecosystem services.

This PhD research project is related to the Globe-Wetlands project's work package A4 in Uganda and will cover the following two goals: (i) assess the physical and monetary value of different wetlands services at the local, regional and national level and (ii) identify and assess the role of property rights on wetlands management and allocation.

Assessing the direct and indirect contribution of wetlands ecosystem services to national income is critical for decision making related to the allocation of Wetlands to agriculture or other economics activities that can improve the livelihood and food security of local communities while maintaining critical wetlands functions and services in the landscape. Furthermore, property rights play a critical role in access and use and wetlands allocation decisions. Especially in the context of high population density and climate change, It is necessary to question the efficiency of common property right to achieve sustainable use of wetlands for agriculture and explore the conditions under which private property rights is optimal. This PhD project will therefore improve our understanding of the value of wetlands services and identify the critical role property right can play to contribute to the wise use of this fragile ecosystem.



Contact:

Sehomi Landry Fanou

Development Economics Group (DEC)

Wageningen University
 De Leeuwenborch (building 201)
 Hollandseweg 1
 6706 KN Wageningen
 The Netherlands
 sehomi.fanou@wur.nl

<http://www.wetlands-africa.de>



Work Package	Work Package A4
Countries of work	Uganda
1 st Supervisor	Prof. Dr. ir Erwin Bulte and Prof. Dr. Hein Lars
2 nd Supervisor	Dr. Marrit van den Berg
Subject	Economics
Faculty	Wageningen School of Social Sciences
University	Wageningen University
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