

## ABSTRACT

This study on Land Use Consolidation and Socio-Economic Livelihoods of Farmers carried out in Cyuve Sector, Musanze District sought to analyse the contribution of Land Use Consolidation towards the socio-economic livelihoods of farmers in Rwanda. The study was guided by the following specific objectives: to assess the crops grown before and after land use consolidation; to determine the yield and profitability of crops grown before and after land use consolidation; to identify the problems faced by farmers in the implementation of the land use consolidation and to evaluate the extent and measure used to train farmers on land use consolidation. The review of literature showed that Land Use Consolidation was used as one of the strategies of the government of Rwanda with the aim of giving farmers the large plots of land with one productive crop rather than scattered, small parcels of land with different non productive crops. This strategy aims to increase of agricultural productivity and to improve the livelihoods of farmers. The study used quantitative, correlational and cross-sectional survey approaches. The target population involves the farmers of Cyuve sector. Questionnaires were administered to the head of family or to others members of family who participate in agricultural activities. The data collected from the households of the farmers was analyzed and presented in tables and figures using Microsoft Excel. The researcher analysed the data collected basing on the number of respondents using Friedman as Chi-square analytical tools. The results of the study showed that in Cyuve sector the farmers cultivate three crops: maize, Irish potatoes and beans under land use consolidation instead of multi-crops cultivated before. The profitability of crops in Cyuve sector was marginally positive after land use consolidation. However, the crop gross margin was negative before land use consolidation. The problems faced by farmers in the implementation of the land use consolidation relate to the challenges of delay in payment. As far as the extent and measure used to train farmers on land use consolidation is concerned, the results revealed that there are few farmers trained in land use consolidation implementation. Basing on the findings, the study recommends that farmers should change mind set and involve themselves in modern agriculture and abandon the former habit of mixing many crops on a small plot of land, local leaders should avail seeds of more profitable crops, government and agriculture partners should invest more effort in training farmers in modern agriculture in general and in land use consolidation in particular.