



# C:AVA

Cassava: Adding Value for Africa

## Research on impact

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## **Q: What are the impacts of staple crop commercialisation on the livelihoods of small-scale farmers?**

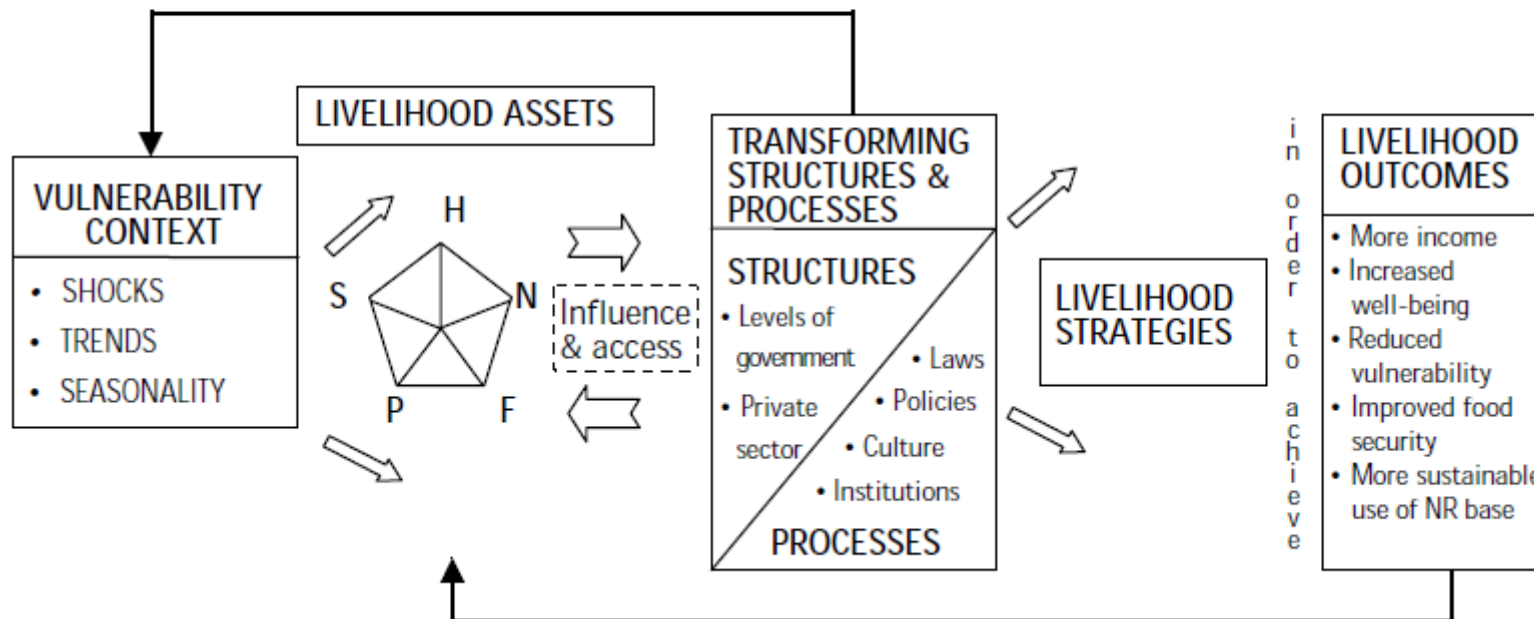
- Help understand how markets can be made to work of the poor
- Emphasising changes in gender relations and household food security
- Malawi and Nigeria selected as case studies
- Analysis of changes to livelihood assets and livelihood strategies of small-scale farmers and processors
- Methods: literature review, 2010 initial focus groups, 2011/12 household interviews for decision making and start of changes, 2012/13 household interviews for final impact

# DfID livelihood framework

Figure 1. Sustainable livelihoods framework

**Key**

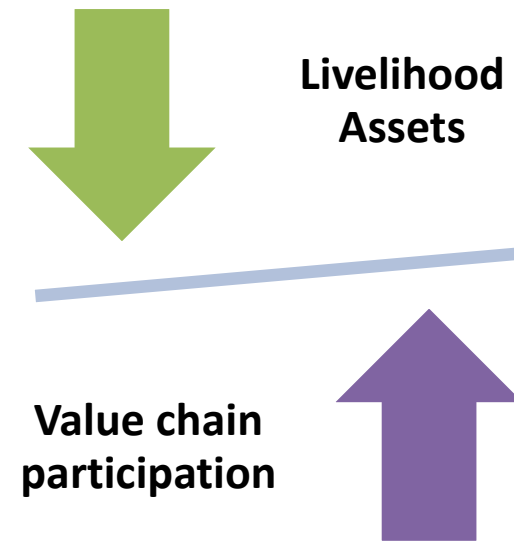
H = Human Capital	S = Social Capital
N = Natural Capital	P = Physical Capital
F = Financial Capital	



- Livelihood assets/strategies determined which value chains beneficiaries participated in



- Value chain participation determined change in livelihood assets/strategies



# Influential factors on value chain participation

- Profit and food security
- Credit availability - linked to social capital
- Fuel price – determine which markets and where
- Market associations/marketing caps
- Labour availability – linked to social capital
- Beliefs and perceptions of work
- Consumption preferences
- Processing and selling location
- Pace at which product is sold
- Perishability/food security
- Networks and quality of product – can test gari immediately

# Nigeria - production changes

- Increase in productivity through new varieties, but not in all locations
- Expansion of cassava production (1-5 acre approx)
- Some communities complained that the canopy size of the plant had reduced increasing susceptibility to sun
- Distribution in some areas was problematic – i.e. farmers not passing on stems – communities with tense relationships and history of political favouritism
- Reduction in hiring labour for weeding (1000-2000N to clear 1ha opposed to 5000-6000N manually) or time for weeding (particularly for children and women)!

# Nigeria: processing changes

- Most processing gari and fufu paste
- Differences in perceptions of the fufu market
- Market price and demand seems to be improving in some areas
- Processing facilities unhygienic on appearance – poor drainage, animals
- Some areas where associations prevent people entering into fufu (outside Akure)
- Credit availability a constraint on increasing production
- Roots available but price often too high



# Malawi



- Increased sale and income through new opportunities
- High expectations leading to some impatience
- One example where processor entrepreneurs/producers couldn't agree on price
- Wheat flour sold 180 to 220k in some areas - making HQCF very affordable and great for rural bakers!
- Greater production and processing activities; however, some were still selling old stock
- Number of hired labourers increased



# Case study: Malawi



**Mrs. Liwa**

Sell large amounts quickly  
Reduced time weeding, kandolie  
100 kg x 10kw (7)  
Spent on food  
Additional income to men's fishing



**Mr. Chikaonda**

Processing equipment  
Sept 2011  
15kq HQCF sold per week x 80 kw  
4 staff employed (3 women peelers)



**Mrs. Zyoli**

Makes more profit =120kw/wk (200)  
“They admire my mandazis. They fill the stomach”  
Wants to start a clothing business

# Food security

## Nigeria

- Improvement in the past ten years
- Commercially oriented and greater diversity in diet
- Crops used for saving/buffer (kola nut, cassava, palm etc)
- HH less food security more involved in gari because due to storage potential – propensity for taking risk is lower
- Very few examples of market participation causing food insecurity – except in the cases of severe hh power imbalances
- Service provider approaches influenced outcomes

## Malawi

- Improvement in the past ten years
- Greater number of food insecure situations
- Prioritised food storage and food budgeting over market participation
- Staple crops used for food security and minor crops would assist with income generation
- Unequal relations in the hh causing food insecurity in some cases
- Bitter vs sweet -something to watch
- Preferred HQCF to sell quickly

# Gender

- Increase in processing opportunities empowering women in some cases, but there were other cases causing tension
- Increase in male participation with fufu processing and greater control over processing equipment
- Reduction in time weeding
- Women couldn't exploit new opportunities due to lack of control over their labour
- Nigeria: Fufu a healthy alternative to gari, preferred location and involved less travel (in some cases)
- Malawi: women preferred one-day processing
- Women's access to own plots gave greater control over budgeting decisions, cost of production and access to income
- Use of cassava peels

# CAVA intervention

- Sustainability
- Routes of value chain participation
- Impact

To do:

- PhD!!
- C:AVA papers on impact, gender and food security



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# THANK YOU

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