

Impact of HIV and AIDS on Agriculture and Food Security

A South Africa Project Report

By

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Background and Method

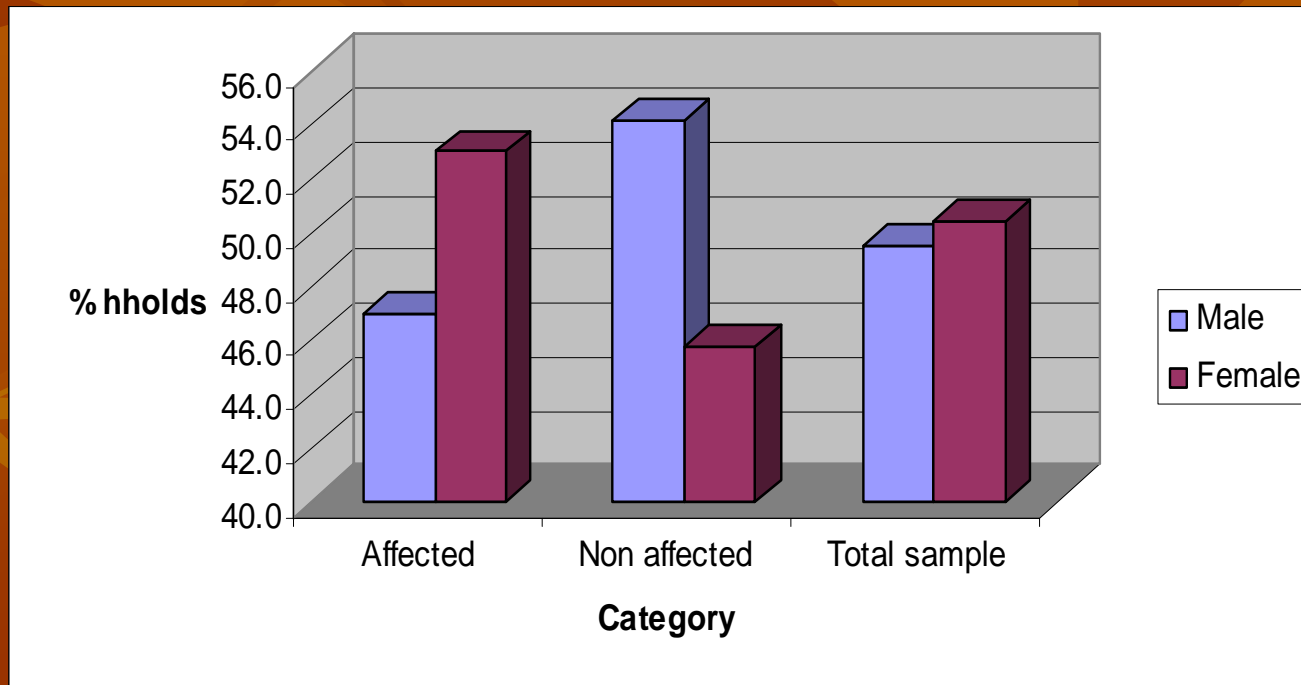
- HIV/AIDS prevalence rate in South Africa amongst highest in the region
- Agriculture and related industries contributes about 13% to GDP and provide livelihoods to about 40% of population
- Study conducted in Capricon District, Limpopo Province

Summary of households

- Morbidity-24.8%
- Mortality-4.6%
- Hybrid-16.5%
- Non-affected-54.1%

Research Findings

Sex of head across categories



Findings continued

Key indicators mean	Household category		
	Not Affected	Illness	Death
Dependency ratio	0.44	0.45	0.45
Hours lost per household per day	0.34	6.24	7.13
Purchased Agricultural Inputs	R194.94	R135.28	R106.85
Labour input into agriculture	8.55 hours	7.87 hours	7.30 hours
Cultivated land area 2004	1.433 ha	1.103 ha	1.060 ha
Change in land under cultivation 2003-2004	0.025 ha	-0.173 ha	-0.446 ha
Maize produced in tonnes	0.487	0.410	0.362

Findings: HIV/AIDS and household income and expenditure

Average	Household category		
	Not Affected	Illness	Death
Income of the household per adult	R311	R306	R245
Medical expenditure per household/yr	R306	R1114	R2290
Food Expenditure	R4538	R4179	R3955
Education expenditure	R761	R623	R440

Findings continued

HIV/AIDS impacts on off farm income

HIV/AIDS Proxy present in household	Regression coefficient	Standard error of coefficient
Illness-affected	-0.719	28.243
Death-affected	-39.070	29.681
Dependency ratio	363.488**	61.698
(Constant)	100.435**	31.191

HIV/AIDS impacts on Food Security

Explanatory variables	Regression coefficient	Standard error of coefficient
Illness-affected	-0.098**	0.033
Death-affected	-0.166**	0.035
Dependency ratio	0.252**	0.068
Wealth index	0.000	0.014
(Constant)	0.732 ***	0.035

Findings Continued

Gender differentiated effects of chronic illness and death on cultivated land area, value of inputs and labour input

Household category	Cultivated land area (ha)	Value of purchased input (Rand)	Labour input (hours per day)
(Constant)	1.441**(0.064)	2.246**(0.028)	8.523**(0.164)
Male illness	-0.325*(0.151)	0.023 (0.068)	-0.411 (0.387)
Female illness	-0.338*(0.138)	-0.043 (0.062)	-0.697 (0.353)
Male deaths	-0.288 (0.151)	-0.174**(0.065)	-1.174**(0.386)
Female deaths	-0.178 (0.142)	-0.203**(0.063)	-0.442 (0.364)

* Significant at 5 percent

** Significant at 1 percent

NB: The numbers in parentheses are standard errors of mean.

Findings summary

- HIV/AIDS impacts on household off farm income
- No significant impacts on total labour input into agriculture
- Changes in farm crop mix not significant
- Differences in input application rates
- Impacts on household expenditure on food-worse for death
- Higher medical expenditure, less education expenditure
- No reduction in livelihood assets observed
- Limited participation in agricultural markets for all categories
- Effects on area cultivated, value of purchased inputs and labour input into agriculture varied according to gender of ill person

Coping and Mitigation Strategies

- Hiring of labour
- Seeking remittances from non-resident members and relatives
- Food parcels
- Assistance from home based care groups
- Seeking social grants

Policy Recommendations

- Facilitate input access schemes for smallholder households engaged in agriculture
- Increase small farmer access to land, particularly irrigated land
- Facilitate activities of CBOs and NGOs in the area of agriculture, food security and HIV/AIDS
- Promote awareness on importance of nutrition and agriculture during illness
- Encourage formation of cooperatives and farmer organisations in agriculture
- Encourage livestock production

Policy Recommendations cont.

- Develop labour saving technologies that can easily be used by women
- Tackle issues of HIV/AIDS hand in hand with poverty reduction strategies-encourage income generation off farm activities in rural areas
- Raise awareness on the need for communities to openly discuss issues of HIV/AIDS
- Differentiated response programmes to the pandemic- impacts vary between affected households
- Facilitate further investigation into differentiated impacts and longitudinal analysis