

**Factors Influencing Youth Participation in Agriculture for Self-Employment Creation at
Mvomero District, Morogoro Region
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Agriculture is an important sector in the economy of the most of developing countries in the world. The poor participation of youth in agricultural activities has been a problem to agriculturalist and agricultural researchers due to the current situation of agriculture production. This study sought to establish the factors influencing youth participation in agriculture for self-employment creation at Mvomero District. The study was guided by the following objectives; to determine the major agricultural activities that influence youth participation in agriculture, to analyse socio-economic factors influencing youth participation in agriculture for self-employment creation, and to determine the perceived benefits of youth participation in agriculture. A sample of 100 respondents constituted the total sample size of this study. Data collection methods involved were questionnaire, interview, documentary review and observation.

The findings of the study reveal that there is a poor participation of youth in agriculture sector and this is due to lack capital sufficient to invest in agriculture, lack of access to land, and youth negative perception towards agriculture. However, crops production especially food crops and cash crops as well as horticulture were the agriculture activities influence youth to participate in agriculture. Food availability and income generation were the major benefits that youth perceive to obtain from agriculture. The study recommended youth to have a positive attitude towards agriculture and to utilize the potentials available so as to create self-employment. The study further recommended the government to facilitate capital and land acquisition to youth to enhance productivity agriculture throughout the year and abandoning rain-fed agriculture to influence youth in participating more in the sector.