

Title: Understanding rice farmers' perceptions and adaptation strategies of climate change in Côte d'Ivoire: Case study of the Northern and Central

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This study aims to identify determinants of perception for climate change (CC) intensity and main adaptation strategies of rice farmers from the Northern and Central part of Côte d'Ivoire. Multinomial logit and a logit models were respectively used to analyze the perceptions' determinants and the choice of adaptation options. To do the analysis a survey of 628 farmers was conducted. Meteorological data from 1971-2013 from the three targeted regions including Korhogo (Northern) and Yamoussoukro and Gagnoa (Central) were used. The results revealed that 81% of farmers perceive the CC impact on their field out of the 90% that perceive the occurrence of CC itself. It is also recorded that farmers' perception of CC intensity are mainly affected by irrigation, access to climate information, agro-ecological zone , crop production duration, group membership and access to extension services . Furthermore, farmers combined several adaptation options to better cope with CC effects. Even though diversification and improved rice varieties are the most popular adaptation strategies, farmers opt more and more for the adjustment of planting dates, the use of fertilizers, drainages, transplanting rice seedlings mixed cropping. They also conduct non-farm activities and others indigenous approaches. The access to climate information and non- subsistence farming are becoming significant determinants of farmers' adaptation decision.

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Key words: Rice -Climate change – Perceptions – Adaptation' strategies – Côte d'Ivoire

Biography

Wassakou Kouamé is completing his PhD dissertation in the WASCAL (West African Science Service in Climate Change and Adapted Land Use) graduate programme hosted by the University Cheikh Anta Diop of Dakar (Senegal). He published a book entitled "relationship between inflation and economic growth in West African Economic and Monetary Union: a threshold effect".

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