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研究課題名(和文) Agricultural cooperatives in Madagascar: impact on smallholders and rural development

研究課題名(英文) Agricultural cooperatives in Madagascar: impact on smallholders and rural development

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研究成果の概要(和文)：This research investigates the history and current situation of farmer co-operatives (co-ops) in Madagascar. One of the first co-ops was set up in the 1930s during the French colonization, and handled coffee and cloves exported to France.

研究成果の学術的意義や社会的意義

Co-ops have been widely recognized as an important institution that can bring about socio-economic transformation. Their potential however has yet to become a reality. Using the case of Madagascar, I examined if co-ops are an effective form of organization to help improve farmer's livelihood.

研究成果の概要(英文)：This research investigates the history and current situation of farmer co-operatives (co-ops) in Madagascar. One of the first co-ops was set up in the 1930s during the French colonization, and handled coffee and cloves exported to France. A co-op movement barely existed as the elites historically used co-ops as part of a broader effort to facilitate the extraction of resources from rural areas. From the early 2000s, however, there has been some momentum towards a “renaissance.” While some organizations formed organically, their weaknesses outweigh their strengths. Another co-op model compatible with global food markets has also been promoted and backed by agribusinesses. Co-ops were created to be included in contract farming arrangements. While these schemes have helped some farmers and communities and raised awareness on specific issues, it masks the exploitation that the production of export commodities is built upon and the issue of peasant differentiation.

研究分野：食料農業経済関連

キーワード：Co-operative Rural development Madagascar

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様式 C - 19、F - 19 - 1、Z - 19 (共通)

## 1 . 研究開始当初の背景

There has been a renewed interest in co-ops in sub-Saharan Africa (SSA) in the past 20 years., Some of the latest research has indicated that co-ops in SSA have provided support services that have helped farmers increase productivity and income. While the number of co-ops has increased in the region, many only last a few years since they tend to be created through development projects, which typically have a fixed budget and schedule. So, once the project is finished, the co-ops cannot sustain the momentum independently. It has been found that this lack of external support is one of the main reasons for failure. This research seeks to understand if co-ops are an effective organization for subsistence farmers to help improve their livelihood. If it is, is it possible to promote self-help organizations to achieve rural/agricultural development goals? To answer these questions, I study co-ops in Madagascar, where more than half of the population is engaged in agriculture. While approximately 600 co-ops were identified in Madagascar in 2017, co-ops remain weak as change agents.

## 2 . 研究の目的

Considering the lack of information on co-ops in Madagascar, I first intend to investigate its history. Then, I examine its current conditions. For this latter part, the aim is to know the conditions that allowed the co-op's creation, their actual performance, and potential, the characteristics of their members, and the problems they currently face.

## 3 . 研究の方法

Data are derived from three sets of sources. The first is secondary sources: government statistics and archives, journal articles, books, industry reports, and organizations' websites. The second is cooperative surveys. The third is my fieldwork in Madagascar. Interviews were conducted with co-op member and non-member farmers, co-op leaders and managers, collectors, exporters, importers, NGO representatives, and government officials.

## 4 . 研究成果

### (1) Historical perspective

I asked how the French colonial administration introduced co-ops starting in the early 1920s and how the Malagasy government subsequently ran them after the colonization era (since the 1960s). Co-ops were used by the elite (colonial and government officials) as part of a broader effort to facilitate the extraction of resources from rural areas in the name of "development." Comparing the rhetoric and processes during that time with what is happening today, one cannot help but notice the apparent similarities as co-ops are promoted to reduce poverty. While intentions might be pro-poor, how co-ops can address the underlying causes of poverty, i.e., smallholder farmers' positions within the capitalist

system, is not clear. While there has been evidence suggesting that co-ops have the potential to reduce poverty by bringing smallholders closer to markets, it seems that co-ops are limited in changing the structures that keep smallholders in a perpetual cycle of poverty and instead offer a kind of coping mechanism.

## (2) Overview of the existing co-operatives

Using information captured by a survey of 105 co-op representatives, representing roughly 17% of all co-ops in Madagascar, I try to assess the strengths and weaknesses of existing co-ops in terms of organization, governance, functions, activities, and assets.

About the co-op formation, almost half of the interviewed representatives stated that the idea and initiative of creating a co-operative came from the members themselves, who independently established the organization. Volunteers almost entirely run the organizations – 90% do not employ anyone. The largest co-op employs only seven people. Only nine co-ops are run by a manager, of which six do not get paid. Directors do not receive any allowance or salary for 95% of the co-ops with a board of directors. In terms of governance, the management structure employs democratic principles as 72% of co-ops hold a general meeting at least twice a year, and meeting attendance is high. Regarding the functions, it appears that the surveyed co-ops offer members support in the form of price negotiations for inputs (70% of co-operatives), collective marketing (64%), information and extension service (41%), and agricultural training (29%). Services offered to members seem to be various, but the breadth of support looks to be limited.

Despite these promising features, the organizations present many weaknesses. First, the average age of the co-ops in the study is only three years. The second concern is that the average membership is comparatively low (61) and has not increased much since its creation. Third, the primary source of co-operatives' income is the subscription and annual membership fees. Such fees average 5,000 MGA (equivalent to 167 JPY), representing about one-day farm wage. Another income source is the 6% commissioning fee incurred by members when they sell their products. With relatively low fees and sales also low, most co-operatives have a minimal budget. As for external funding, it is virtually non-existent. Fourth, most (77%) of the respondents stated that their co-op primarily aims to add value to the members' produce through processing and marketing. But, about half of the surveyed co-ops had no sales. The average sale per member per year for the 53 co-ops undertaking joint sales is 677,829 MGA (about 23,000 JPY). Low sales per member may be due to low production or a low percentage of members' products sold via the co-op. It can also be explained by the fact that competitors offer higher prices. The data show that 55% of the time, other buyers offer higher prices than the co-ops. Finally, 60% of the co-ops have no assets such as administration buildings, vehicles, agricultural equipment, and machinery; and 75% do not have a warehouse. For the few co-ops that own a warehouse, the storage capacity of the largest co-operative is only 50 tons, and 95% do not have a processing capacity.

## (3) Corporation-Cooperative Arrangements

In an analysis of a particular co-op model compatible with global agro-food markets in the vanilla sector that I called corporation-co-operative arrangements (CCAs), I showed that CCAs are a form of vertical coordination by downstream lead firms to farmers through co-ops. These co-ops were set up directly by, or in partnership with, other actors such as exporters and INGOs. Arrangements in the Madagascar vanilla chain are primarily led by major food and flavor corporations who seek to source vanilla beans to satisfy new consumer preferences and address societal concerns.

The main drivers for establishing these arrangements are like the reasons for why firms promote Contract Farming Arrangements (CFAs), as identified by the contract farming literature, which include risk and reputation management. Managing risks associated with harvest failure or lower quality is essential in vanilla production from the firm's perspective. My research supports previous findings that indicate how global firms tend to favor implicit contracts to spot markets, given the market risks in the form of price volatility. The research also confirms how firms invest in new market niches, such as Fairtrade, that promote smallholders' inclusion. Lastly, it shows how co-ops are the preferred producer organization as they are closely associated with the social and solidarity economy, which has become essential for an increasing number of consumers.

While the motives for creating CCAs complement some of the CFAs' objectives, I suggest that CCAs be examined as exogenous of CFA-centric discussions to disentangle the relations between actors and ask specific questions about the co-ops and farmers involved. Doing so may create new lines of inquiry from other fields, such as co-operative studies, that have examined co-ops in developing countries but have yet to identify CCAs. Moreover, focusing on the relations within these arrangements seems essential given the concerns raised about the asymmetrical power relations and uneven distribution of risks between producers and buyers in CFAs and calls to balance producer-buyer relationships. Thus, the relational dimension should be embedded in future studies on CCAs.

5. 主な発表論文等

〔雑誌論文〕 計1件（うち査読付論文 1件/うち国際共著 0件/うちオープンアクセス 1件）

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3. 雑誌名 Japanese Journal of Agricultural Economics	6. 最初と最後の頁 113-118
掲載論文のDOI（デジタルオブジェクト識別子） なし	査読の有無 有
オープンアクセス オープンアクセスとしている（また、その予定である）	国際共著 -

〔学会発表〕 計7件（うち招待講演 0件/うち国際学会 4件）

1. 発表者名 Tsilavo Ralandison
2. 発表標題 Exploring Corporate-Cooperative Arrangements in Agricultural Commodity Chains: Case of Madagascar Vanilla
3. 学会等名 Agricultural Economics Society of Japan (postponed)
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〔図書〕 計0件

〔産業財産権〕

〔その他〕

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6. 研究組織

氏名 (ローマ字氏名) (研究者番号)	所属研究機関・部局・職 (機関番号)	備考

7. 科研費を使用して開催した国際研究集会

〔国際研究集会〕 計0件

8 . 本研究に関連して実施した国際共同研究の実施状況

共同研究相手国	相手方研究機関
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