GOVERNMENT INTERVENTION IN CONSERVATION AGRICULTURE IN SUB-SAHARA AFRICAN COUNTRIES: PANACEA FOR FOOD SECURITY

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Introduction

* Up-scaling commercial agriculture towards green health and safety requires intensive and intensive engagement applications of agricultural methods that promotes natural land use with minimal and no chemical fertilizer (Van der Ploeg and Wittmen, 2011; Farnworth et.al., 2016).
* Climate change is fast ravaging and negatively affecting soil media for enhanced agricultural productivity.
* The gradual but consistent degradation of the soil as a result of natural disaster; inappropriate land use and management strategies (Figure 1) are extensive in many African countries (Kasam, Friedrich, Saxon, Bartz, Melo, Kienzle, Pretty, (2014).
* One of the reasons for the low adoption of CA in SSA nations and Uganda inclusive is poor and insufficient awareness and support for the practice (Kaweeta, S., Mwema, S.; Lolkandi, W. (2018).
* This submission unveiled the importance of CA in green health and massive yield production and considered the need to promote CA by stirring agricultural stakeholders to actively support the practice.

Methodology

This study carried out a comparative analysis among six countries in Sub Sahara Africa using Engel and Granger approach to co-integrate and examine the short and long-run government intervention in enhancing conservation agriculture for adoption and practice. Also, scientific literature materials on CA practices and constraints in SSA were sourced from a total of 1320 articles from peer-reviewed publications using online database of Scopus indeed and on ISI web of Science, (Thomas Reuters, New York, NY, USA) and Google Scholar (Google Inc.), Mountain View, CA, USA. Primary search terms such as government intervention, gender, food security, African Countries and conservation agriculture and any related terms from the key words informed the search terms.

Conservation Agriculture and Implications

* Sustainability of Agricultural production is dependent on soil property conservation,
* soil tillage, crop use diversification and permanent soil cover with organic matter crop rotation,
* Paddy Trans Planter (PTP), use of crop residue and mulches, and intercropping etc.

Government Intervention areas In promoting CA in SSA countries

1. Gender Participation
2. Land availability and acquisition:
3. Demographic and data capturing (table one)
4. Identifying and investing in smallholder farmers:
5. Health care issues:
6. Support for green growth
7. Peace and conflict resolutions

Conclusion

Conservation agriculture is one of the most desirable intervention in addressing the overwhelming constraints of climatic vagaries in agriculture, low soil fertility, and green health to smallholder farmers at large. Looking forward, government policies and institutional support will be an intervention to deliberately support smallholder farmers, especially the girlchild and vulnerable women.