

VALOR REPORT

Mid Term 2015

Department of Food and
Resource Economics

Global Section.



UNIVERSITY OF COPENHAGEN



National and international co-operation

- Through the ICRAF Knowledge Partner, VALOR is planning to disseminate research results and upscale and outscale research capacity building in relation to geographical indications in Africa.
- Representatives of FARA and other international organisations will participate in a Conference planned for 1st-3rd february 2017 in GHANA, intended to integrate the annual VALOR project Meeting, VALOR stakeholder conferences and an international/regional academic conference on development and geographical indications.



*Stakeholder presentations
at VALOR workshop
in Tanzania*



Results on objectives, outputs and outcomes

- 13 conference papers presented at international conferences and published, two manuscripts submitted for international journals and 23 journal manuscripts in preparation.
- The project website evolve with Ph.d. students accepting co-responsibility for updating.
- Three Policy Briefs are in preparation.
- Working papers on methodology and reviews are being integrated in PhD monographs/journal manuscripts.
- Two double stakeholder workshops were held, in Bagamoyo (2015), and in Nairobi (2014). The 2014 project report is now complemented with this mid-term report. In Ghana and Kenya consultations have taken place between VALOR staff and Policymakers. Two project meetings cum workshops and three PMC meetings were held. All Ph.D. students completed 2 study/research stays at UCPH (IFRO) in Denmark. All PhD students were granted electronic access to the scientific literature throughout the project period.



Stakeholder presentations and display of origin food products at VALOR workshop in Tanzania

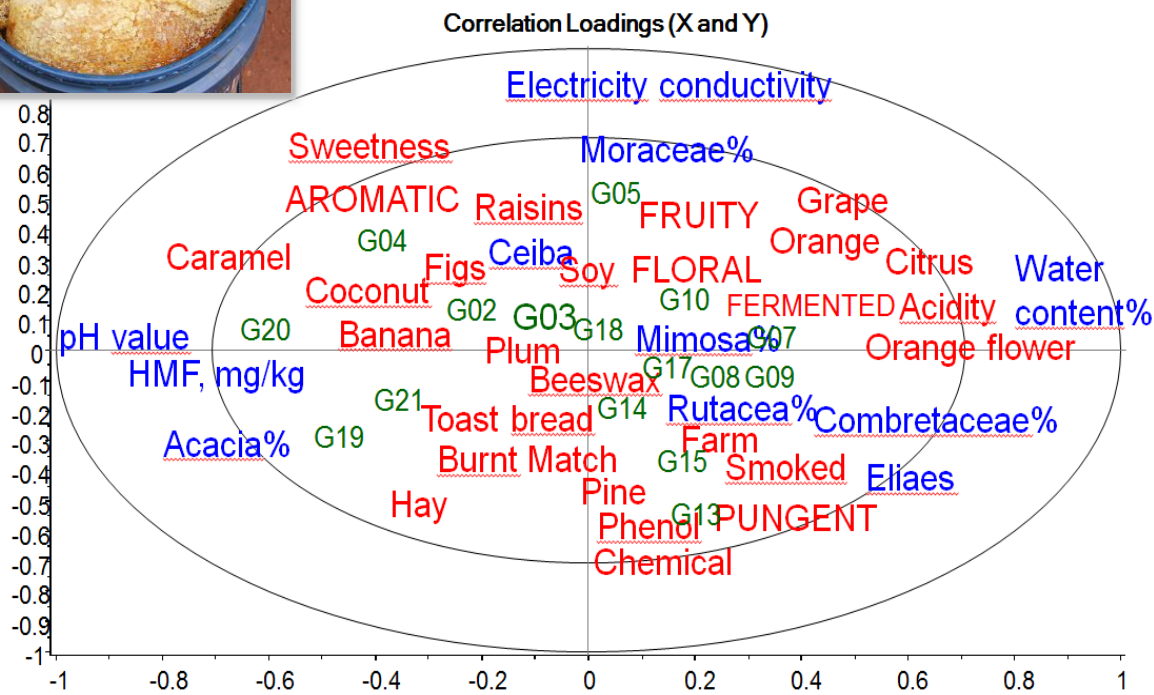
Bonus Output

- As a 'bonus' output, in November 2015 a sensory analysis using a CATA test of Kenyan, Tanzanian and Ghanaian honeys was carried out at the University of Copenhagen.
- The results show specific differences between honeys and countries and based on this writing a number of journal manuscripts have been initiated. The information added to chemical/physical analyses and provided the researchers with a good base for selection and description of honeys qualifying for GI protection.



Honey samples from Ghana, Kenya and Tanzania were evaluated by Danish consumers

– from tree top to tasting table. The figure shows the relation between samples, taste and physio-chemical features



Communication and Outreach

- In addition to publications, stakeholder workshops and website, honey producer associations in case countries have been engaged through field data collection activities, on the main ideas of GIs and what it could bring to their trade.



- Quality processing and branding, medicinal potency and consistency of the honey from specified geographies, has proven powerful concepts that can be leveraged especially where origin honey already enjoys reputation and premiums.
- A common code of practice (CoP) for honey producers is being drafted for Ghanaian honey producers, based on field work results and literature review by Ghanaian VALOR partners.
- As per its role as Knowledge Partner responsible for the upscaling and outscaling of VALOR findings, ICRAF (and VALOR) currently plan for an international Conference on African Geographical Indications to promote outcome # 3, based on integration of the final VALOR project meeting and stakeholder workshop, planned for Ghana in January 2017.

Research capacity building

- As the six PhD students write up their thesis chapters/journal manuscripts, schedules with activities and milestones toward submission have been developed in collaboration between main supervisors and co-supervisors in Denmark.
- The students have finalized their main field work and data collection activities - a diverse set of activities from producer surveys and key informant interviews to observations of bee foraging of specific plant species.
- In Ghana and Kenya in particular, a research element of concerning pollination services as part of the basis for a GI label is being investigated.



- The 'bonus' deviation with sensory analysis using a CATA test (above) can be utilized as a valuable test method in selection of honeys and in development of the honey industry in Africa as it includes a fast, inexpensive and effective method - which can easily be replicated.

Status summary as per Mid-Term Report (June 2015)

- All DFC stay's by all 6 Ph.D. students achieved.
- All IFRO courses for the six Ph.d students completed.
- Visit by Coordinator and IFRO financial officer to the Universities of Nairobi and Dar es Salaam as well as ICRAF undertaken.
- Audited financial reports (2014 & '15) from all project partners received.
- Ph.d students and partner universities report most field-works have been completed.
- Target of 16 Conference Papers achieved, focus now on manuscript writing for international journals by all partners.



PhD student supervision on campus at University of Dar Es Salaam

Thanks



Contact: Henrik Egelyng
he@ifro.ku.dk