COFFEE FARMERS AND COVID-19 IN KENYA AND ETHIOPIA

Using phone surveys, this longitudinal study generates timely data and insights on how coffee farming households are coping with the COVID-19 crisis.

Sample sizes*
- Kenya: 452
- Ethiopia - Sidama: 436
- Ethiopia - West Guji: 255
- Ethiopia - Jimma: 112

2 survey rounds completed
Round 1: 2-11 June 2020
Round 2: 16-29 June 2020

*Note: Sample has coverage bias, as only households owning mobile phones could be included.

How have coffee farming households been affected so far?

Households that report losing income as a result of COVID-19 since the outbreak began:
- Kenya: 76%
- Ethiopia: 57%

Top sources of income loss:
- Sale of excess food crops
- Non-farm business
- Loss of wage employment

Two thirds of households report concerns related to food availability because of COVID-19

In the 7 days preceding the survey...
- 41% of households that sell crops had trouble doing so
- 77% of households reported higher food prices

94% of households believe they are worse off financially than they were one year ago

How do households cope?

88% of households report using coping strategies to cover basic needs such as:
- relying on less preferred or less expensive food
- reducing meal size or number
- using savings

Access to emergency finance is low, especially for women
- In Ethiopia, 45% of men and 30% of women report they could raise emergency finance in the next month
- In Kenya, these figures are 22% for men and 17% for women