

Gender, Species Priorities, and Domestication in South and Southeast Sulawesi, Indonesia

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BACKGROUND

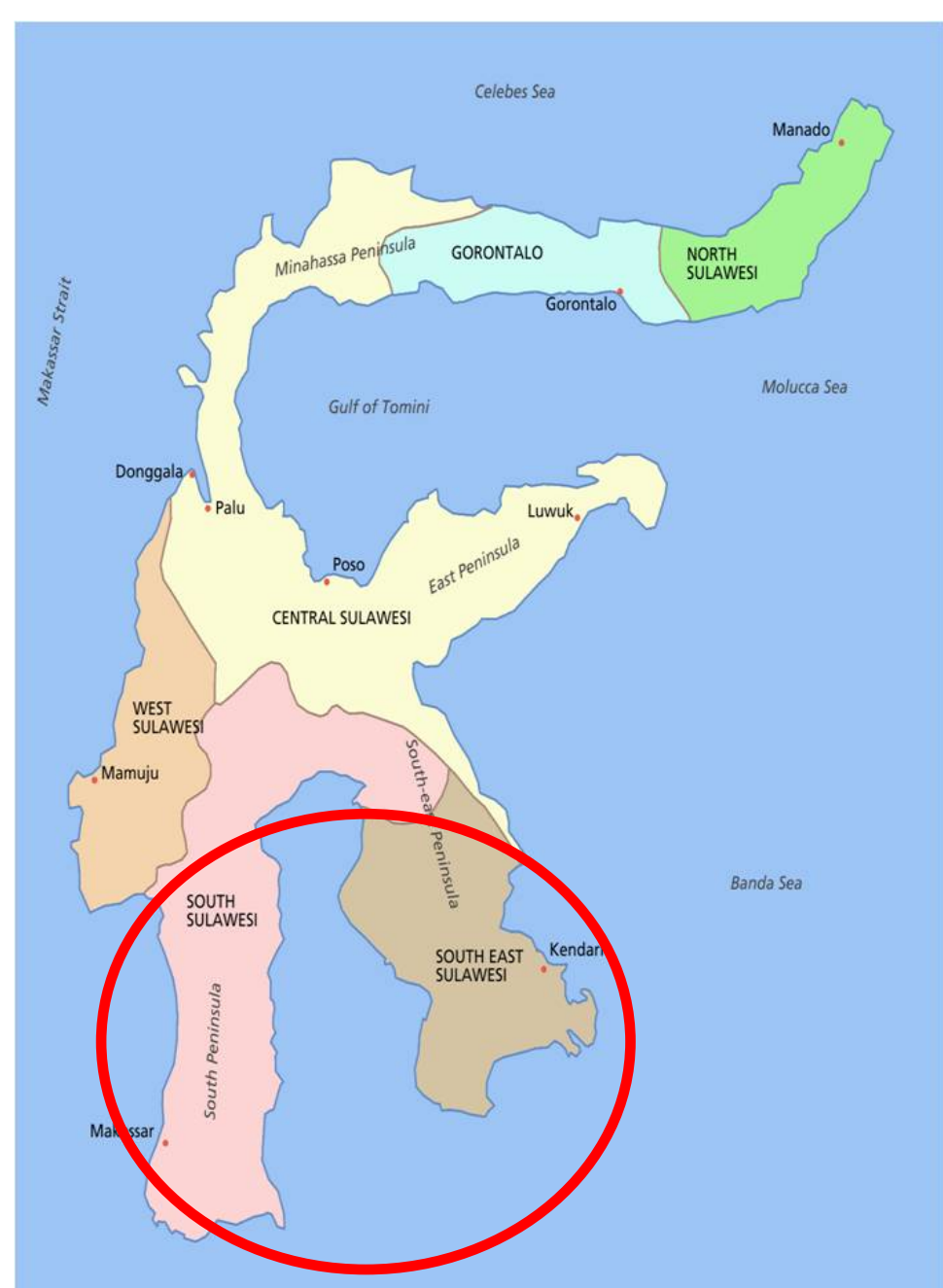
Tree domestication includes any activities that brings trees into wider cultivation to provide people food, building material, medicine, other tree products, or income from the sales of tree products. It may also positively influence the conservation of endangered species or the provision of environmental services.

Research on tree domestication is not merely focused on integrating trees on farm or community land, but also must consider socio-cultural-economic factors and institutional aspects that influenced the domestication process.

Gender is an important factor in tree domestication that has not been sufficiently researched to date. Women and men have different set of knowledge, experiences, and strategies in addressing tree propagation, management, utilization and marketing (Kiptot and Franzel, 2011).

This study investigated gender roles in selecting priority species and the domestication of economically important species in South and Southeast Sulawesi.

Study sites



South Sulawesi
Important commodity: Cacao, Coconut, Clove, Coffee and Pepper are mostly managed by smallholders. South Sulawesi consists of 57% forested area, wet paddy system 9%, and agriculture 10%.

Southeast Sulawesi
The agriculture sector contributes 38% of the economy with cacao as the prime commodity with production 137 833 ton in 2010. *Metroxylon sagu* is a traditionally important staple food

TOP FIVE PRIORITY SPECIES - RANKING BY GENDER PER PROVINCE

To identify the top five priority species, along with domestication preferences and division labour by gender, focus group discussions (FGDs) were held with 300 community members (45% women) of 19 villages in 4 districts in South and Southeast Sulawesi province Indonesia. Men and women were disaggregated into different FGD groups. We asked them to rank top ten important species that contribute to their livelihood.



Gender	S	SE
Women	3	1
Men	3	1



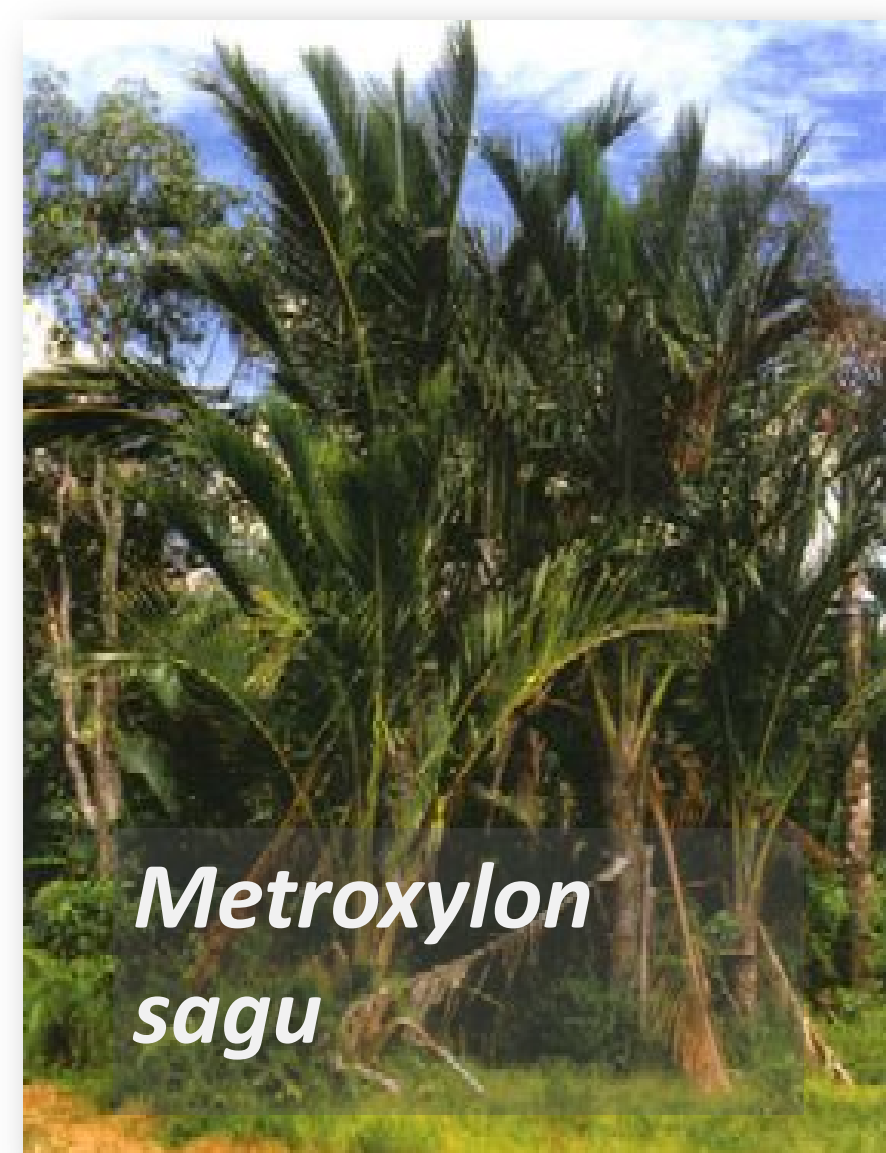
Gender	S	SE
Women	>5	2
Men	>5	2



Gender	S	SE
Women	1	3
Men	1	>5



Gender	S	SE
Women	3	>5
Men	2	>5



Gender	S	SE
Women	NA	4
Men	NA	3

Note: 1 is considered as the highest priority; NA is for no data; >5 means prioritized above top five; S=South Sulawesi; SE=Southeast Sulawesi

GENDER PREFERENCES ON DOMESTICATION

Gender	Species types (mean)					Important species (mean)				
	Vegetable	Fruit	Timber*	Tuber	Medicinal plants	Cocoa	Coffee	Clove	Pepper	Sago
Men	14.46	36.68	50.4	41.67	6.9	87.27	69.38	73.6	74.63	68.12
Women	36.85	36.42	21.85	49.03	18.77	80.59	68.52	82.3	77.56	77.58

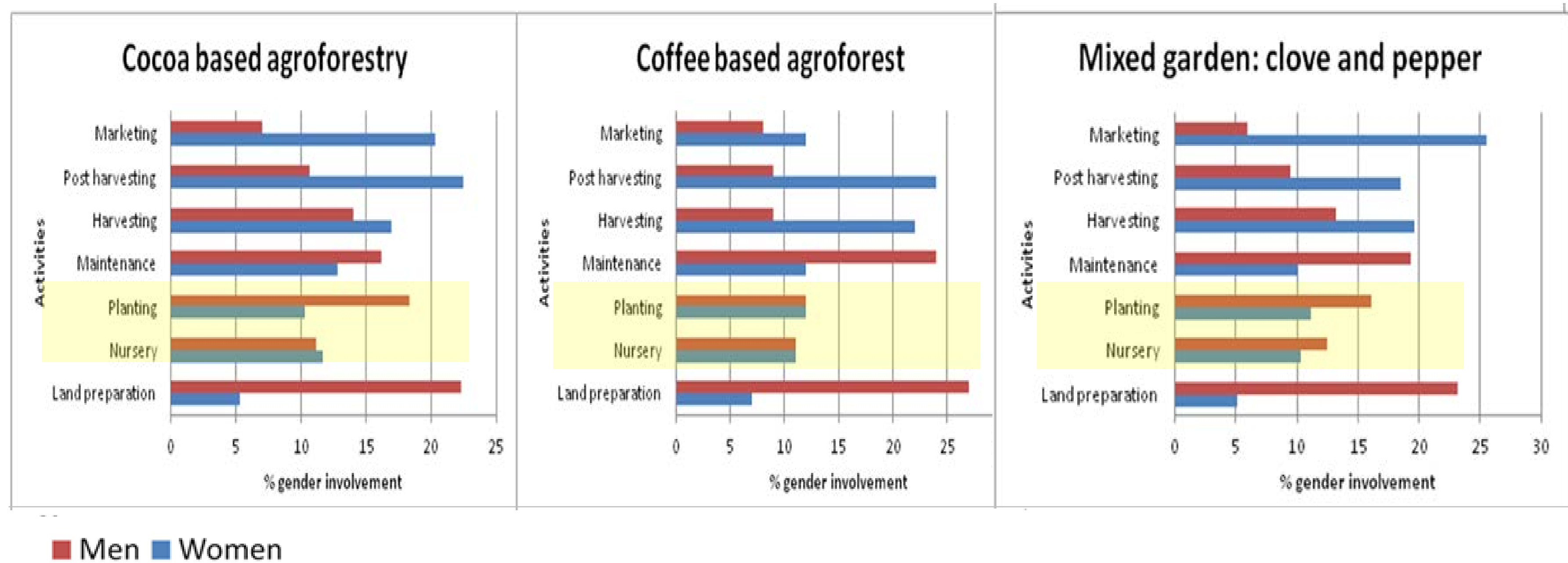
Note: * indicating statistically significance difference between men and women (T test)

Women tend to prioritize vegetable and medicinal species higher then men. The most significant difference in gender preferences in with timber species.

Preferences of men for cocoa and coffee is higher than women. Women prefer clove, pepper and sago which contribute to food security and nutrition.

GENDER-BASED DIVISION OF LABOR IN DIFFERENT TYPE OF AGROFORESTRY

Women’s role in seed selection and propagation is crucial for agroforest development and biodiversity conservation. Their knowledge and skills, developed through the tasks they perform, are important aspects for agroforest management.



Sago cultivation and processing

Activities	Men	Women
Seed collection	65%	35%
Tree selection	70%	30%
Cutting the trees	80%	20%
Beating out the sago pith	80%	20%
Starch processing	10%	90%

CONCLUSIONS

- Women are keen to domesticate vegetables and other annual crops that contribute directly to household food security and nutrition. Women focus their domestication activities on land near the home.
- Men and women give priority to tree species with high economic value; the management of those species is a priority for men but shared by women.
- Identifying gender roles and knowledge related to tree domestication is important to facilitate effective and successful planning related to tree-based livelihood enhancement and sustainable environmental management.

References

Kiptot E. and Franzel S. 2011. Gender and agroforestry in Africa: are women participating? ICRAF Occasional Paper No. 13. Nairobi: World Agroforestry Centre.

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