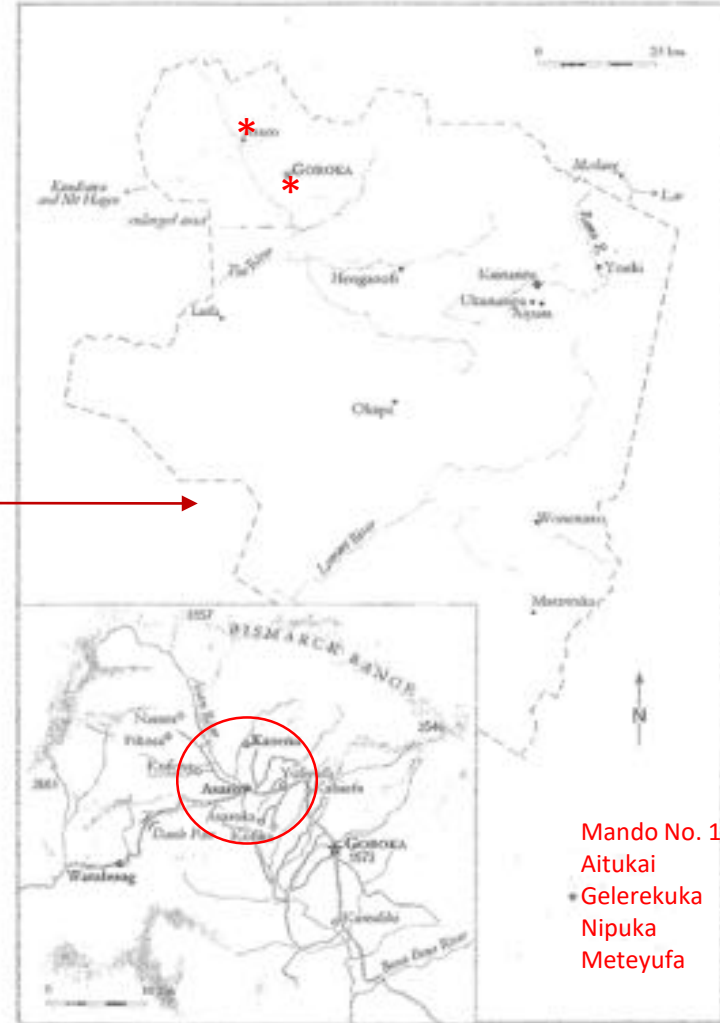


*Informal land rentals and women entrepreneurs: a case study
from the Eastern Highlands of Papua New Guinea*



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Study Sites





Village Study Sites

- Approximately 20-30 km from Goroka
- Customary land is the predominant form of tenure
- Very fertile soils
- Local economy based on coffee and fresh food production



Opportunities for women:

- 1. Providing women with temporary access to land to engage in commercial agribusinesses.*
- 2. Opening up a new economic domain for women, particularly for an entrepreneurial class of women.*
- 3. Facilitating a change in attitudes towards women's economic roles and status in the household/village.*
- 4. Reducing some of the inequalities women have experienced in cash cropping*



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Coffee and commercial vegetable production on rental land compared

Coffee	Commercial vegetable production via rentals
Women typically cannot access land to plant coffee	Women can access land for vegetable production
Land access for coffee is restrictive. Coffee introduced a more rigid land system and the privatisation of land	Land access is less restrictive and flexible. Eg. Women can rent land independently of their husbands
Male dominated. Men claim ownership rights to the income	Women can claim ownership rights to the income
Strict gendered division of labour	Blurring of gender roles and norms
Often gendered and generational intra-household disputes over labour and the distribution of coffee income.	More intra-household cooperative labour practices and partnerships between husband and wife
Limited access to hired labour to address household labour shortages	Potential labour shortages easily overcome through hired labour. Opportunities to employ labour outside of family
Income seasonal	Income more regular

BUT...

- How socially, environmentally & economically sustainable are short-term land rentals?
- Will some men attempt to take over women's roles in commercial vegetable production?
- What new inequalities are emerging from short-term land rentals?





Female entrepreneur with hired labourers and family members