

Charcoal value chains in Niger – business models and trade flows

Charcoal value chain in Niger
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Outline

- Introduction
- Research methods
- Research findings
- Pioneer study
- Policy implications
- Conclusion and way forward

Introduction

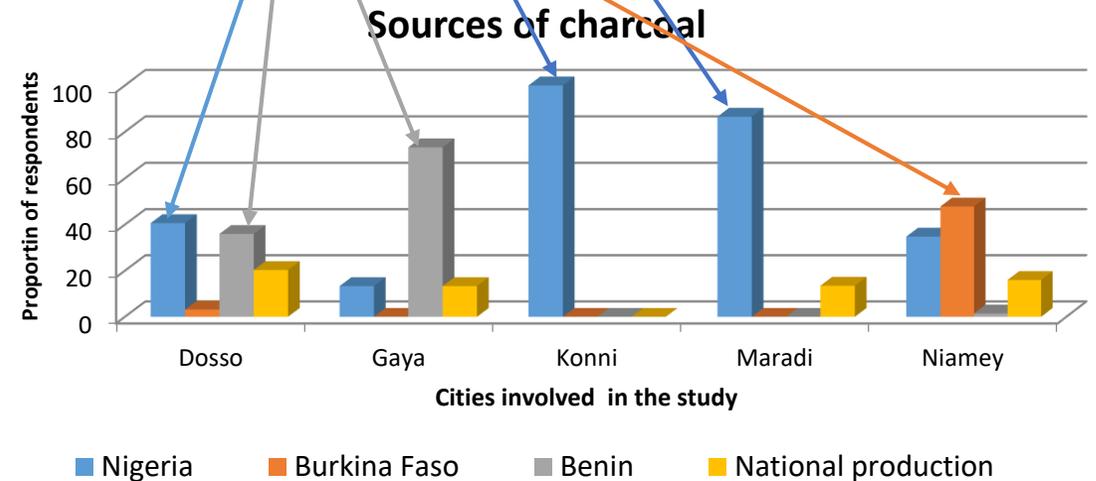
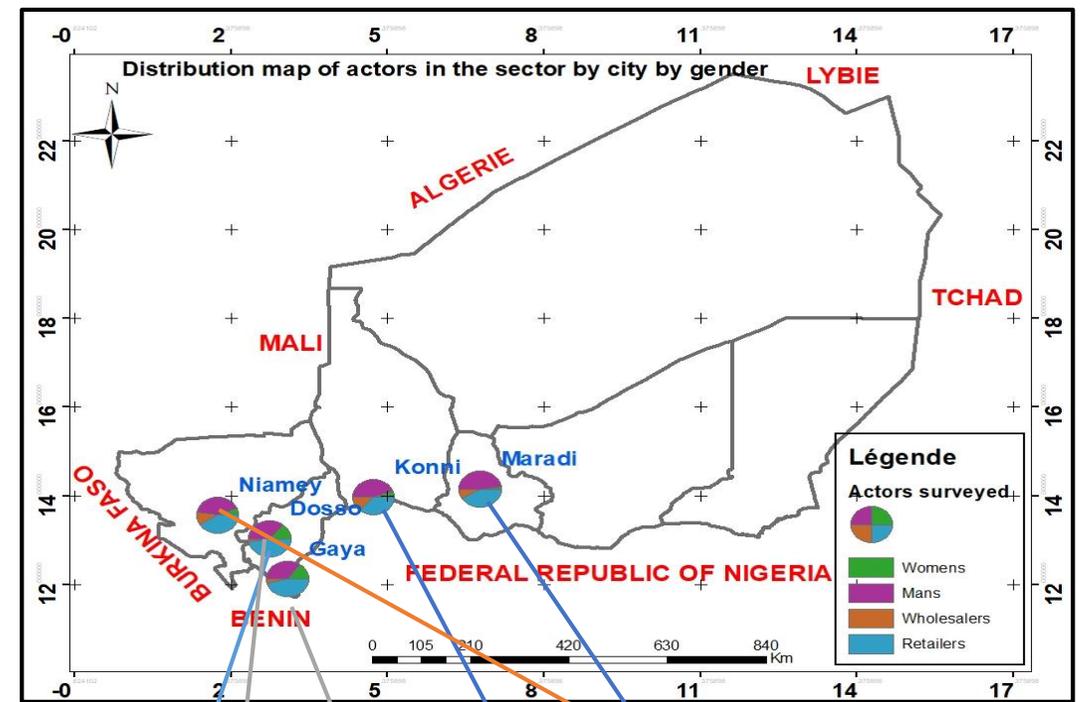
- CBVC is getting attention of various actors (policy, research and business actors);
- Charcoal business: a bread provider to many people;
- Charcoal ban! Another face of the coin in minimizing benefits from the poor;
- Neighboring countries production more profitable to national actors;
- A scanty study that unveils the importance of CB in Niger;
- Preliminary findings which need to be further developed.

Research methods

Study sites

Five sites were covered namely:

- Niamey;
- Dosso;
- Gaya;
- Konni;
- Maradi.



Research methods

- Surveys along the value chain actors;
- Individual interview;
- Focus groups
- Market visit –wholesalers, retailers;
- Transporters (motorists, bicycles, boats, donkeys, carts, etc.);



Research methods

- Information was collected on the following parameters:
 - - prices;
 - - Quantities and unit of measures (bags, small sachets, tins, etc);
 - Category of traders: male and female – retailers and wholesalers);

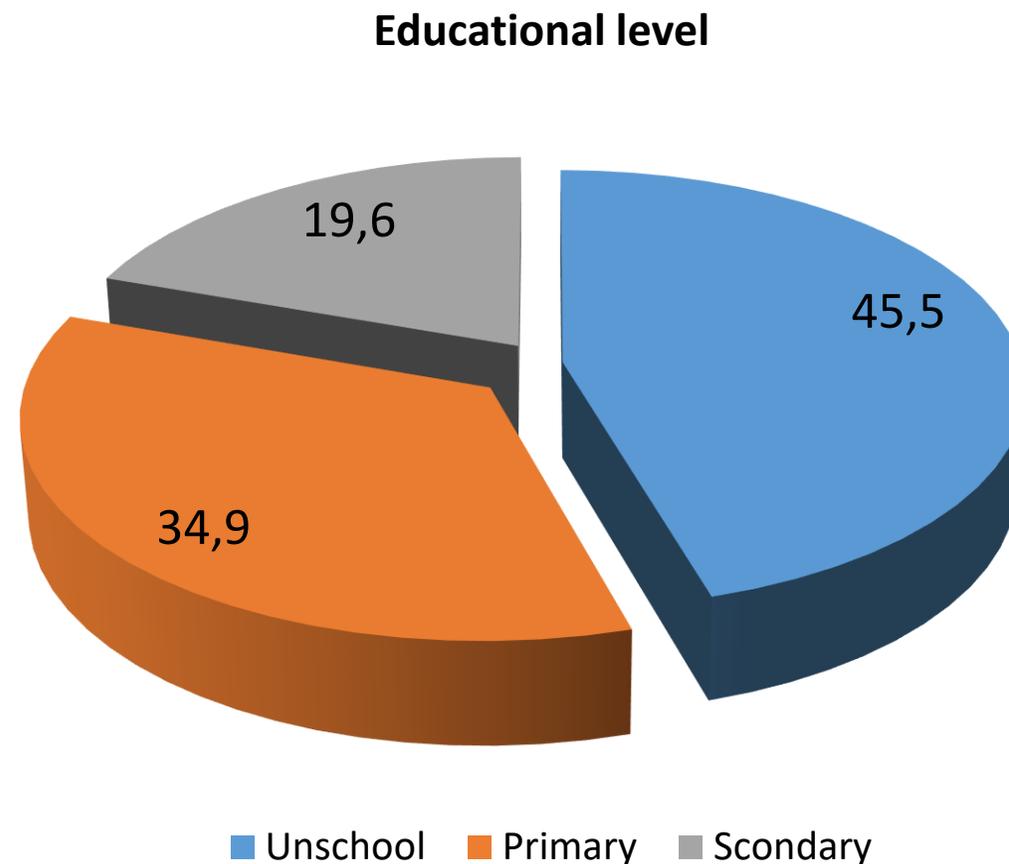


Research findings

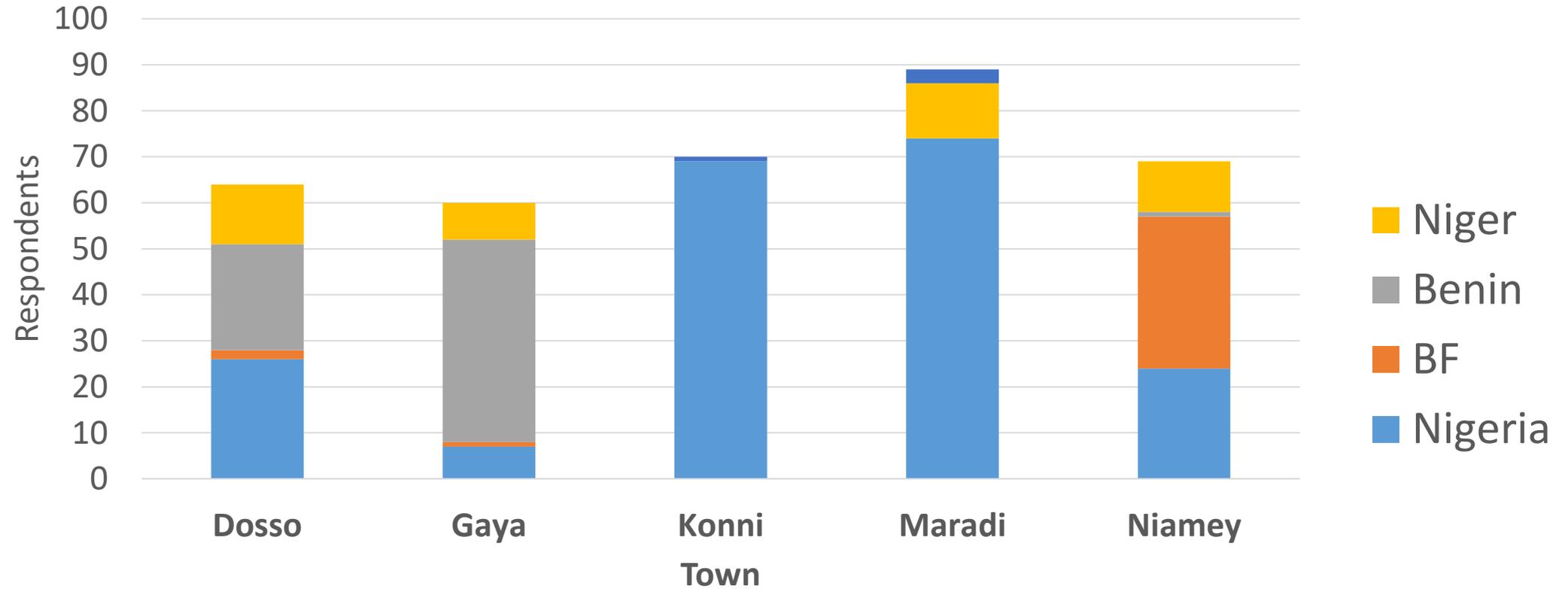
HH age and size

Age range	Household size					Total
	0-3 children	4-6 children	7-9 children	10-15 children	16-20 children	
15-25 years	10,8%	0%	0%	0%	0%	10,8%
26-35 years	17%	8%	4%	0,9%	1,7%	31,5%
36-45 years	1,1%	11,6	6,3%	5,1%	2,6%	26,7%
46-55 years	0,3%	4,8%	7,1%	4,3%	1,1%	17,6%
56-65 years	0%	2,3%	3,4%	4%	1,1%	10,8%
66-75 years	0%	1,1%	1%	0,3%	0,3%	2,3%
76 years to more	0%	0,3%	0%	0%	0%	0,3%
Total	29%	28,4%	21,3%	14,5%	6,8%	100%

Level of education of involved actors



Main country of origin

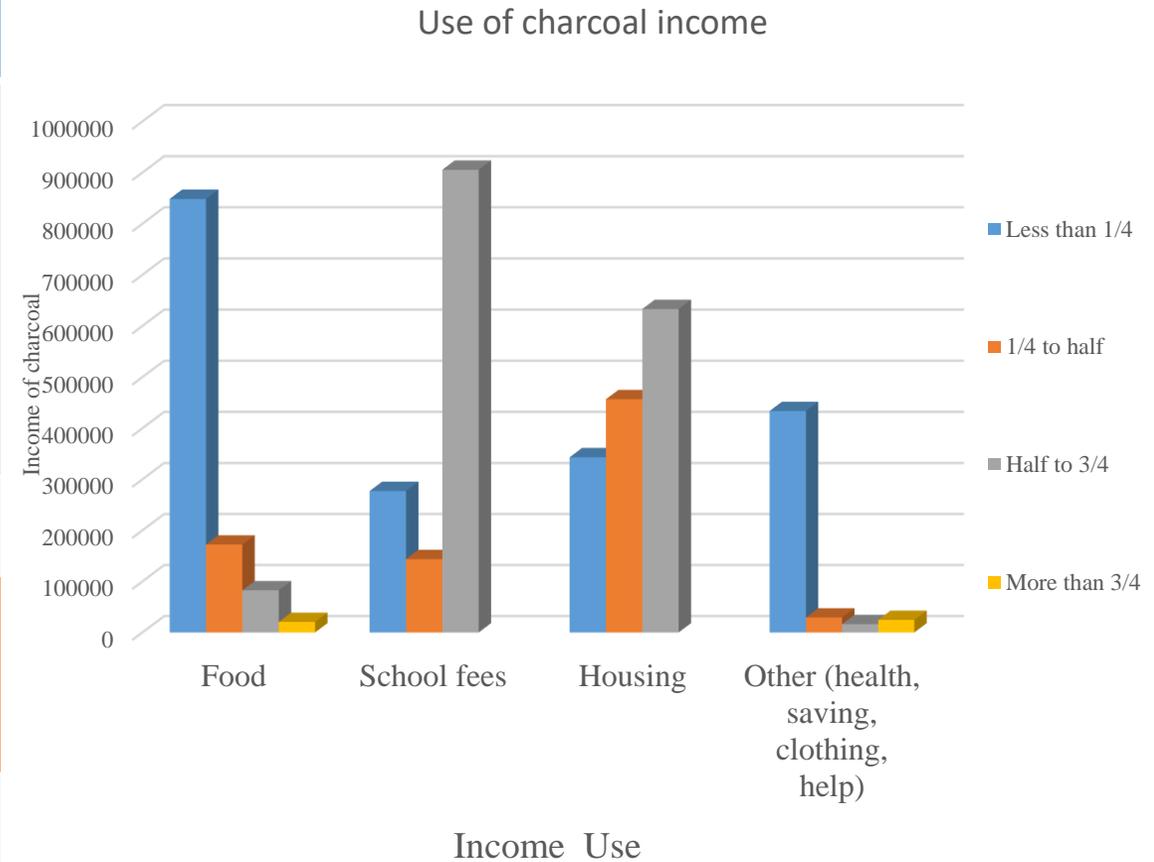


Research findings

Jobs creation by CBVC

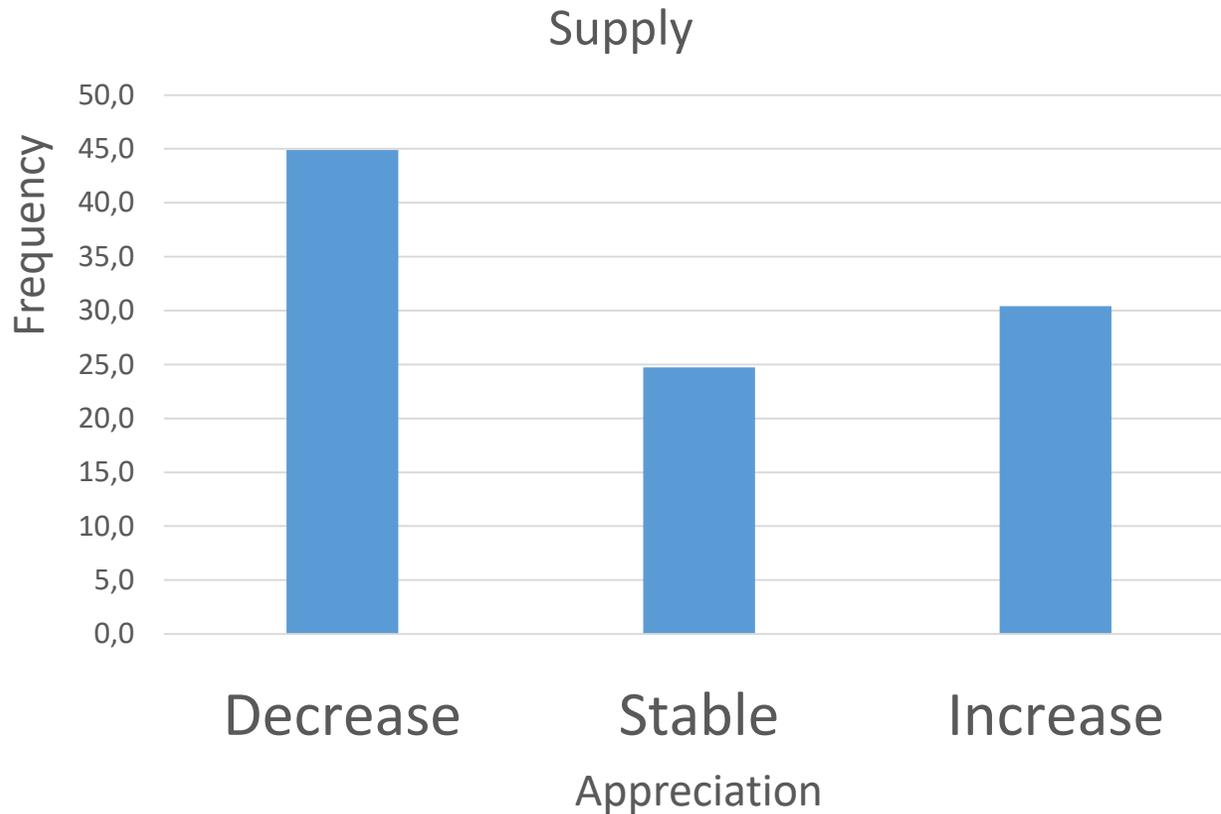
Type of occupation for the sale of charcoal	Effective	Percentage	Other occupations for part-time activities			
			Farmer	Shopkeeper	Transportation or Taxi driver	Government workers
Full time	72	20,5	-	-	-	-
Part-time	280	79,5	2,27	61,62	1,13	14,48
Total	352	100	2,27	61,62	1,13	14,48

Income use

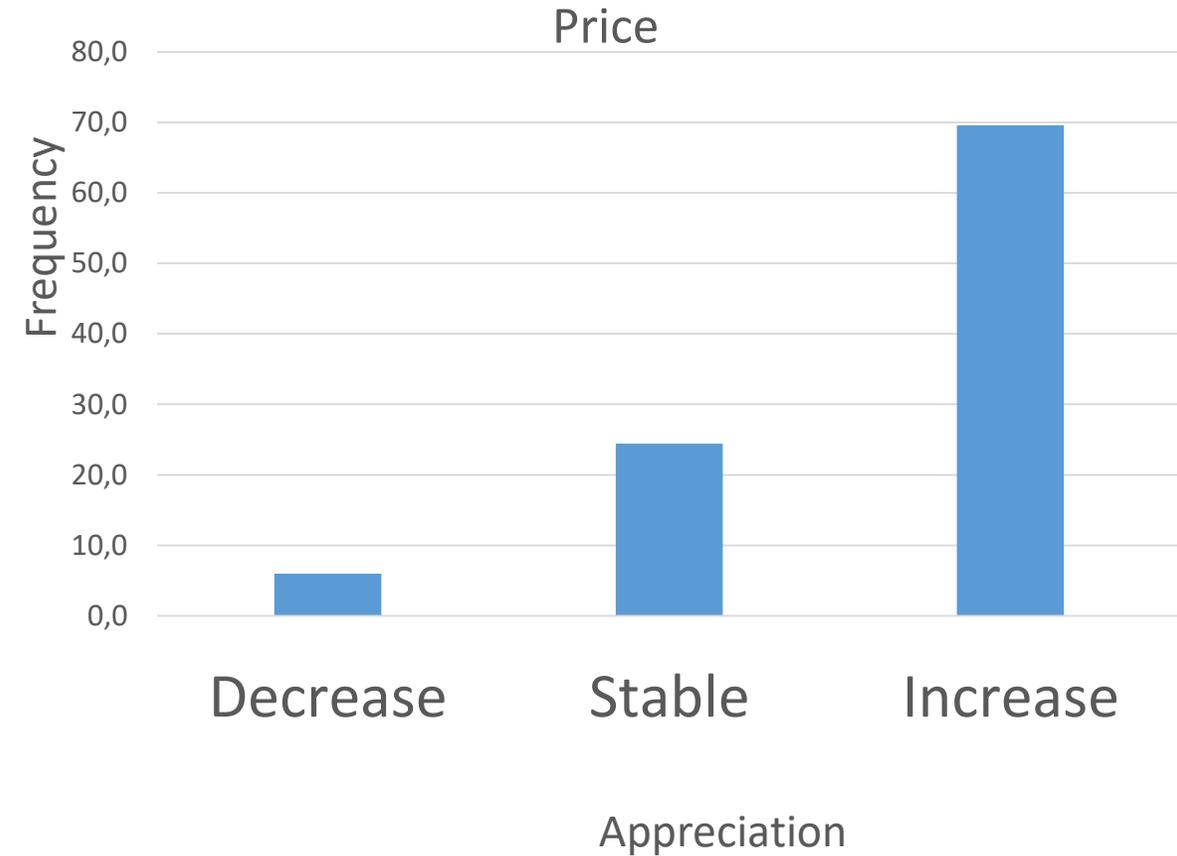


Research findings

Perception on current charcoal supply



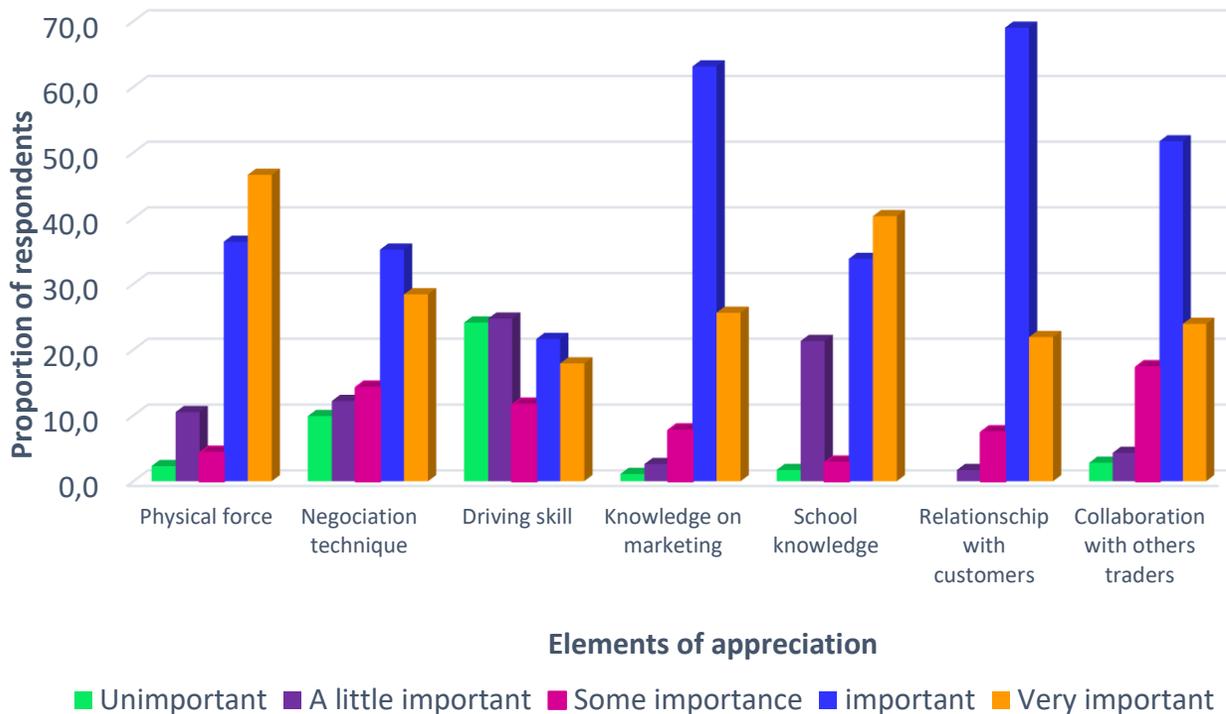
Perception on current charcoal price



Research findings

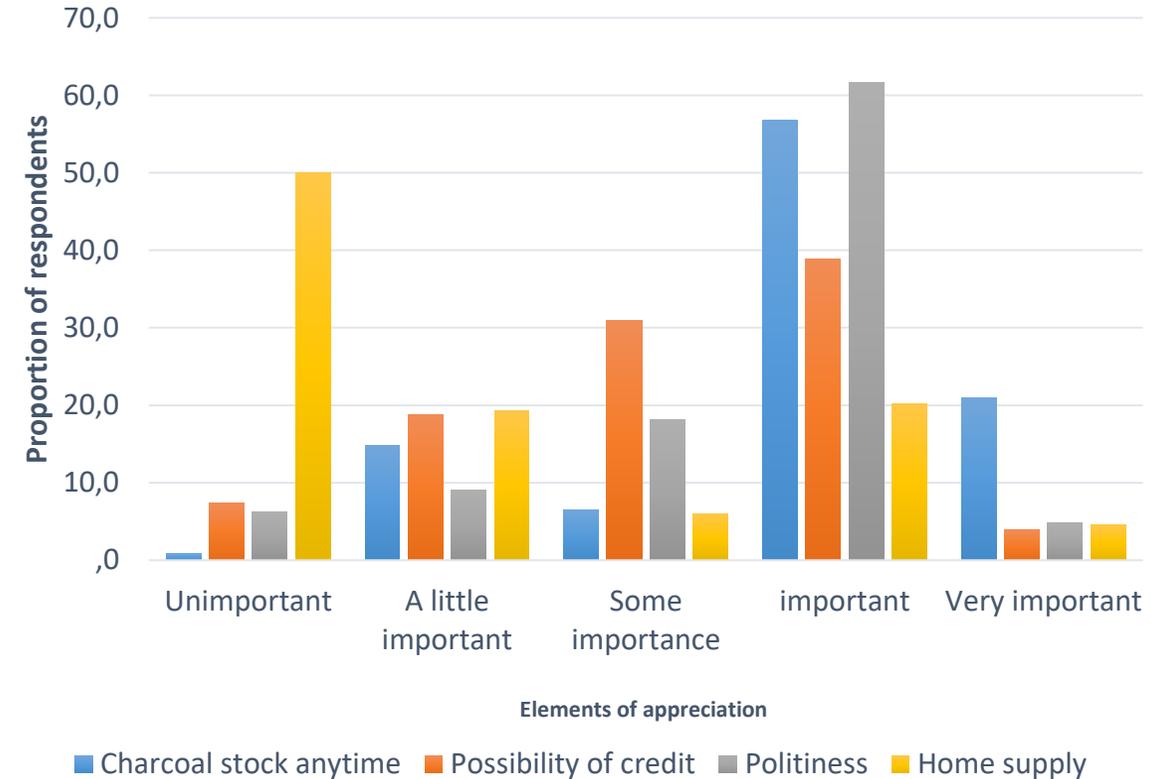
Appreciation on some skills on CBVC

Importance of some skills in CBVC



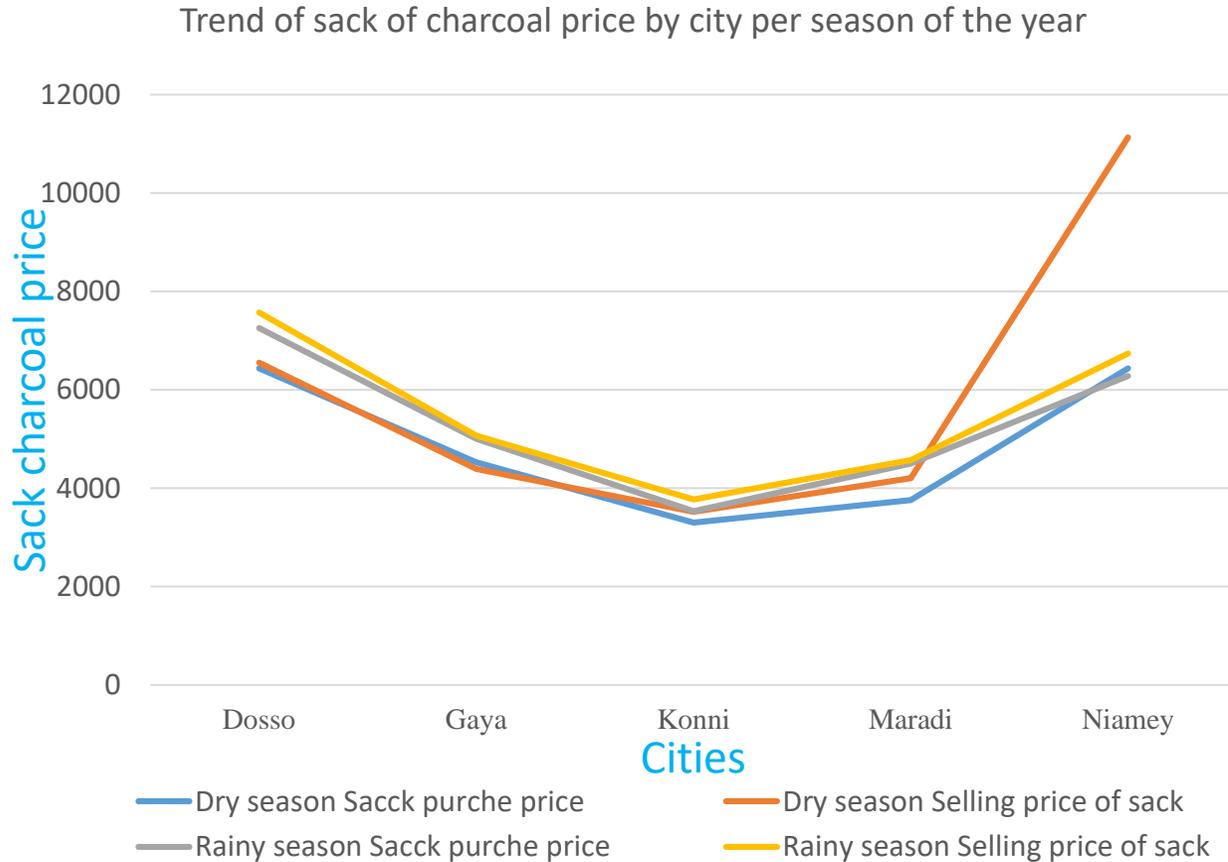
Appreciation on CBVC characteristics

Importance of services for customers



Research findings

Price of charcoal per season

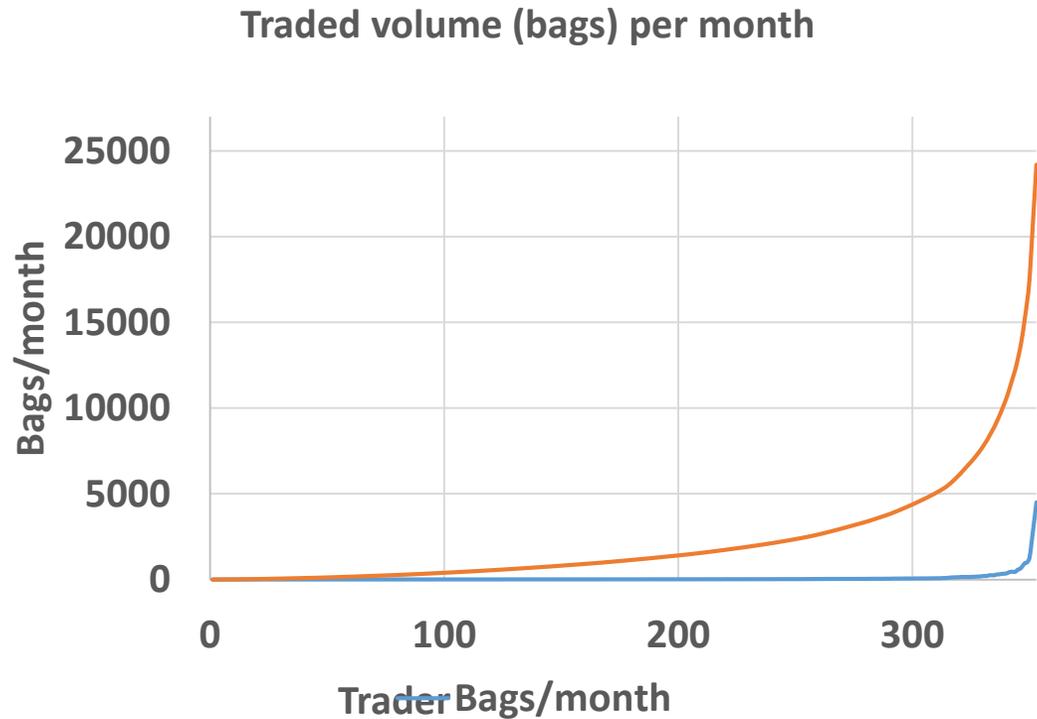


Alternatives to sale of charcoal

- Trade in other products;
- Casual work;
- Migration – rural exodus;
- Farming;
- Transport; etc.

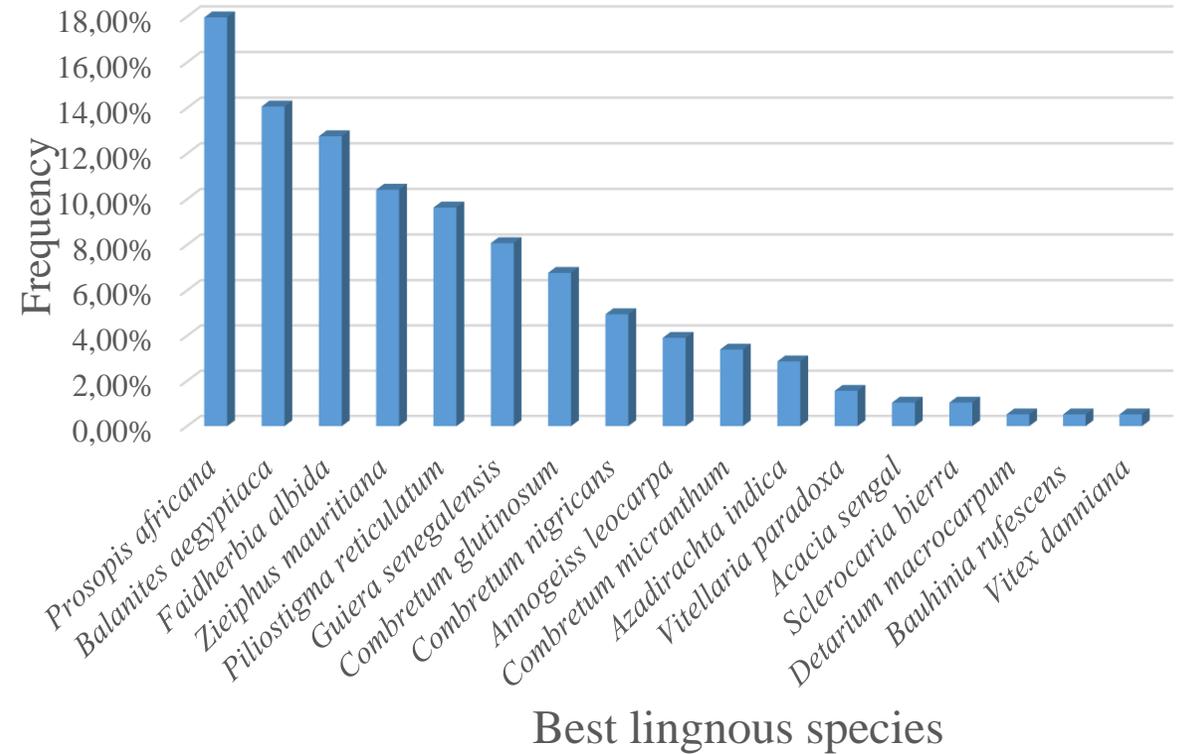
Research findings

Quality appreciation



Species Vs. Charcoal quality

Species Vs.charcoal quality



Pioneer study

- First of its kind in Niger;
- Sources of charcoal used in the study cities identified;
- Stakeholders /actors involved;
- Various benefits involved;
- Costs and prices of charcoal investigated.

Policy implication

- Charcoal ban for what purpose?
- Is the forestry sector in control of the situation?
- Charcoaling ban vs. participatory/controlled exploitation!
- Some actors stronger than the policy.....
- How can we make the business sustainable?

Conclusion and way forward

- CBVC a flourishing business;
- Very determinant in providing jobs to many people;
- Needs to be more organized, controlled and liberalized.
- Sound policy instruments are key to successful and profitable CBVC.
- Need to pursue investigation especially in areas where charcoaling is officially permitted.

Thank you

Questions

&

Answers

