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The interactions of human mobility and farming systems and impacts on biodiversity and soil quality in the Western Highlands of Cameroon

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STELLINGEN

(Propositions)

Behorende bij het proefschrift:

The Interactions of Human Mobility and Farming Systems and Impacts on Biodiversity and Soil Quality in the Western Highlands of Cameroon

- 1 A threat to the long term sustainability of the farming systems in the Western Highlands of Cameroon is the increasing dependence on off-farm inputs (this thesis)
- 2 Occupational diversification triggered by urban-to-rural migration has far reaching effects on the improvement of rural livelihood by a significant increase of income (this thesis)
- 3 The adoption of well designed multiple cropping systems and the use of natural organic fertilizers would provide benefits to both the producers and consumers in the system through improved prices and product quality (this thesis)
- 4 A nutrient balance determined at the level of individual activities within a farm serves as a useful indicator to provide insight into the magnitude of losses of nutrients from the system and the causes for such losses, which ultimately enables to target management interventions (this thesis)
- 5 The mobility of people has transported organisms across geographical barriers that long kept the biotic regions of the Earth separated, so that many of the ecologically important plant and animal species of many areas have been introduced in historic time (Vitousek *et al.* 1997)
- 6 An increasing human population, compounded by inability of farmers to adopt optimal soil-conservation measures, magnifies the soil degradation problem

- 7 The human capital model views mobility as an investment in which costs are borne in some early period in order to obtain returns over a longer period of time and when the present value of the benefits associated with mobility exceeds the costs, both monetary and psychological, people will decide to change jobs or move, or both.
- 8 Although, the truism holds that economic factors almost always play a major role in explaining migration, this alone cannot explain the actual, highly patterned and geographically clustered morphology of migration, typically linking particular places and regions at the sending and receiving end (de Haas 2009)
- 9 There is never going to be a single silver bullet and sustainable farming systems of the future are going to need to reflect very different political, cultural and social situations
- 10 With the widespread move towards market economies, policies must be aimed at removing the most damaging forms of market restrictions, leaving market forces to operate where they can be effective in promoting both growth and rural poverty alleviation
- 11 The Truth is like a lion. You don't have to defend it. Let it loose. It will defend itself. (St. Augustine of Hippo Doctor of the Church)
- 12 Writing is like driving a car at night. You can only see as far as the headlights, but you make the whole trip that way (Doctorow, 1931)