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Environmental consciousness and choice of bulb for lighting in a developing country

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Most countries in the world especially those in Asia and Africa despite undertaking policies meant to help meet Sustainable Development Goal 7, there are still a sizable number of households who have not yet fully embraced energy saving technologies. This study provides highlights on the economic and environmental benefits for investing in energy saving light-bulbs. Using a survey and a multistage random sampling approach, we administered questionnaires to 1,650 households in Ghana. The relevant diagnostic tests associated with cross-sectional data were undertaken. We estimated a maximum-likelihood probit model with its associated marginal effects to find out how choice is influenced by environmental consciousness and other demographic factors. Our results are consistent with economic theory as well as what earlier empirical evidence found in literature. That is, environmental consciousness (both local knowledge and global knowledge), education, income etc. are very important in explaining the choice of buying energy saving light-bulbs in Ghana. Besides advocating for information that will make society more environmentally conscious, we further recommend the use of fiscal policies (i.e. subsidies) to support lower income brackets who are predominant in developing countries.

Biography

Anthony Amoah obtained his PhD from the University of East Anglia, UK. He has since then been working with the Department of Economics, Central University in Ghana. His current research focuses on Environmental and Development Economics related issues. Apart from having several peer reviewed published papers to his credit, he is also a reviewer for some of these journals. Currently, he serves on some academic Editorial Boards as well as on non-academic boards in industry.

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