

BRACE II External M&E Mid-Term Lessons Learnt

Presentation for FSL cluster

15th of May 2019

Presentation Overview

- 1) Agricultural production
- 2) Impacts
- 3) Broader livelihood patterns

BRACE II

- Building Resilience through Asset Creation and Enhancement
- Mainly an agricultural project, incentivising beneficiaries to cultivate larger amounts of land
- NBeG, Warrap, and Magwi

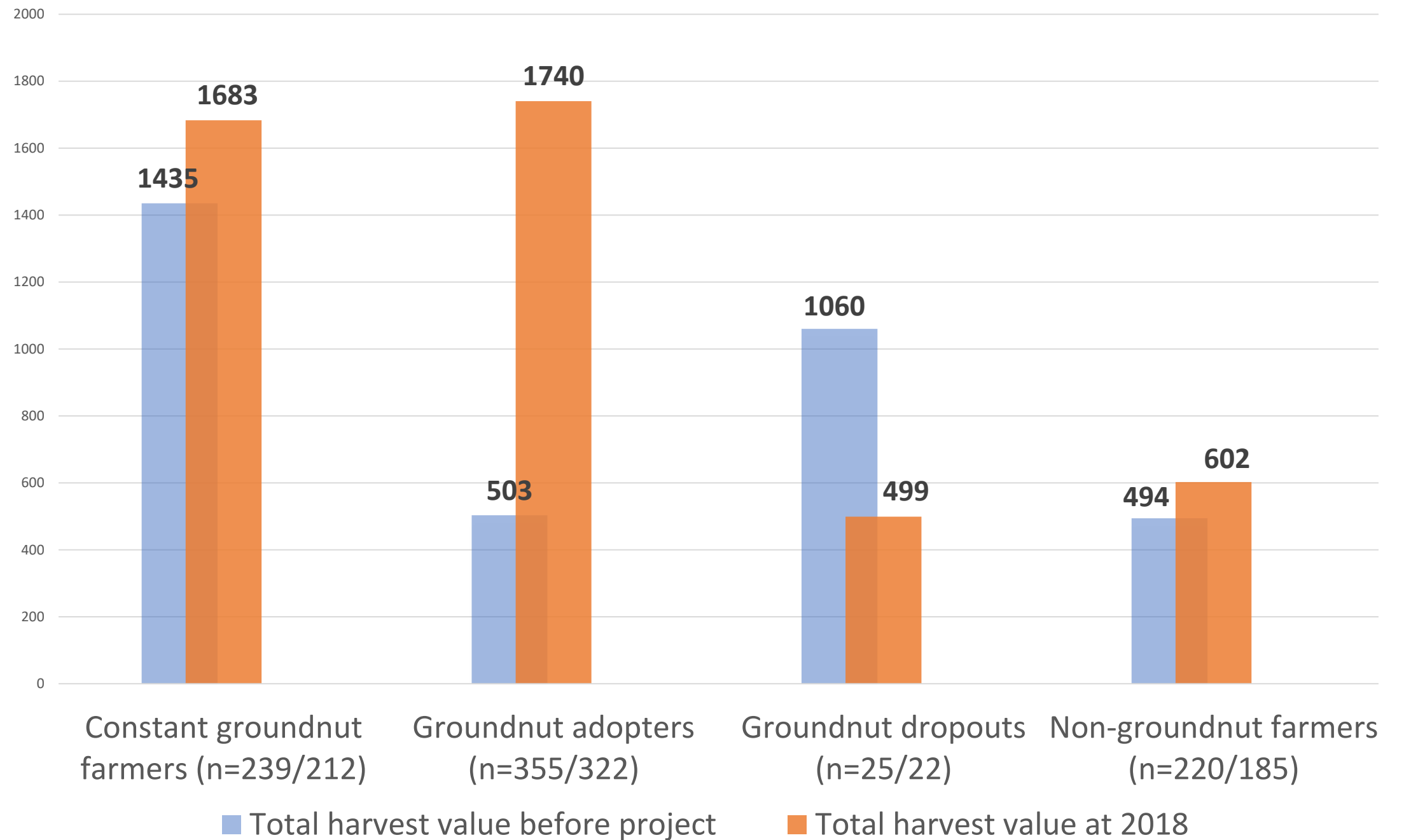
MTE

- Carried out October-November 2018 in representative sample of project locations
- Household survey (n=1,748)
- Post-Harvest Assessment
- Qualitative interviews through TPM



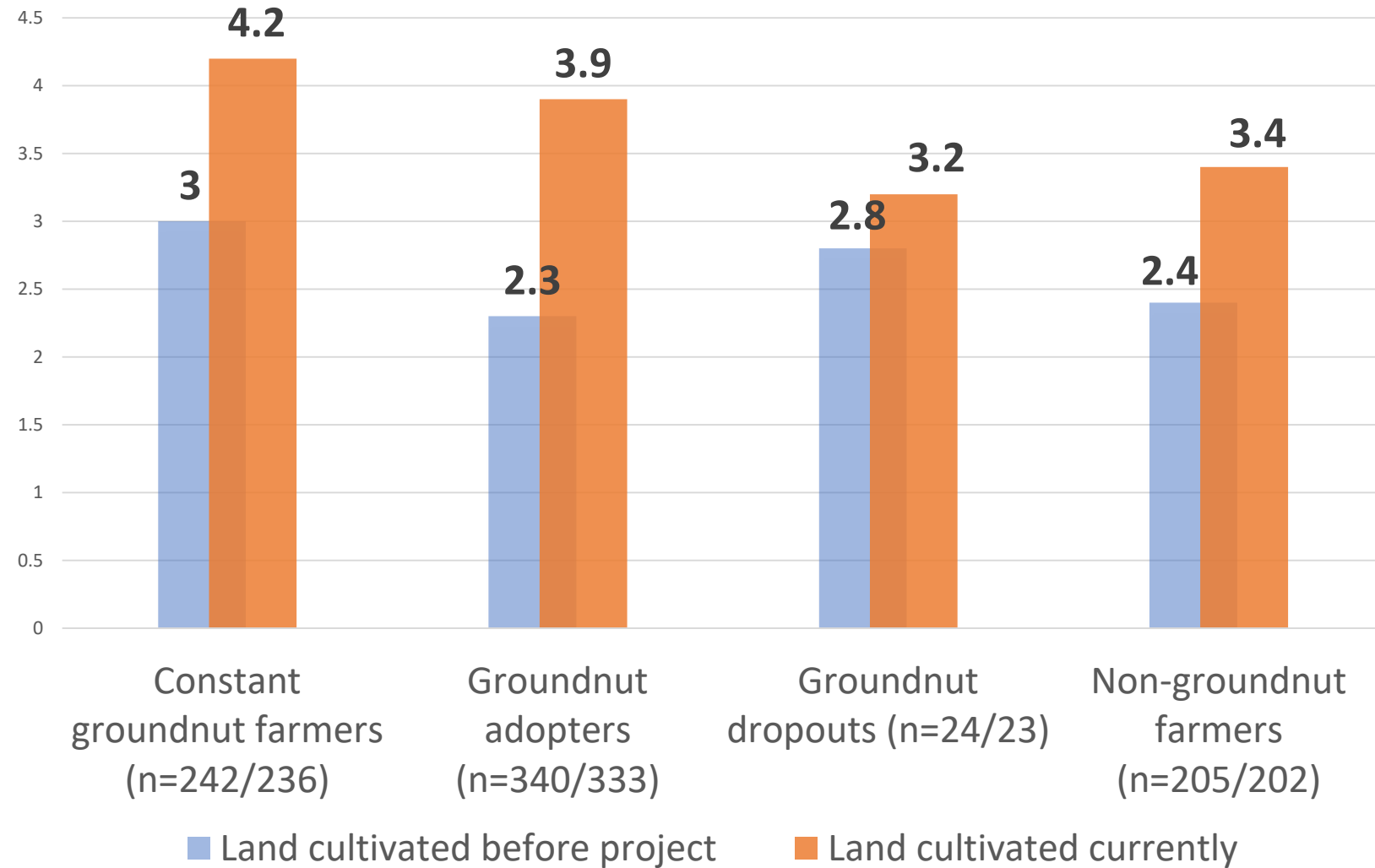
1. Agricultural production

- Net increase in agricultural production
- Increases highly uneven - adoption of new crops main explanatory factor

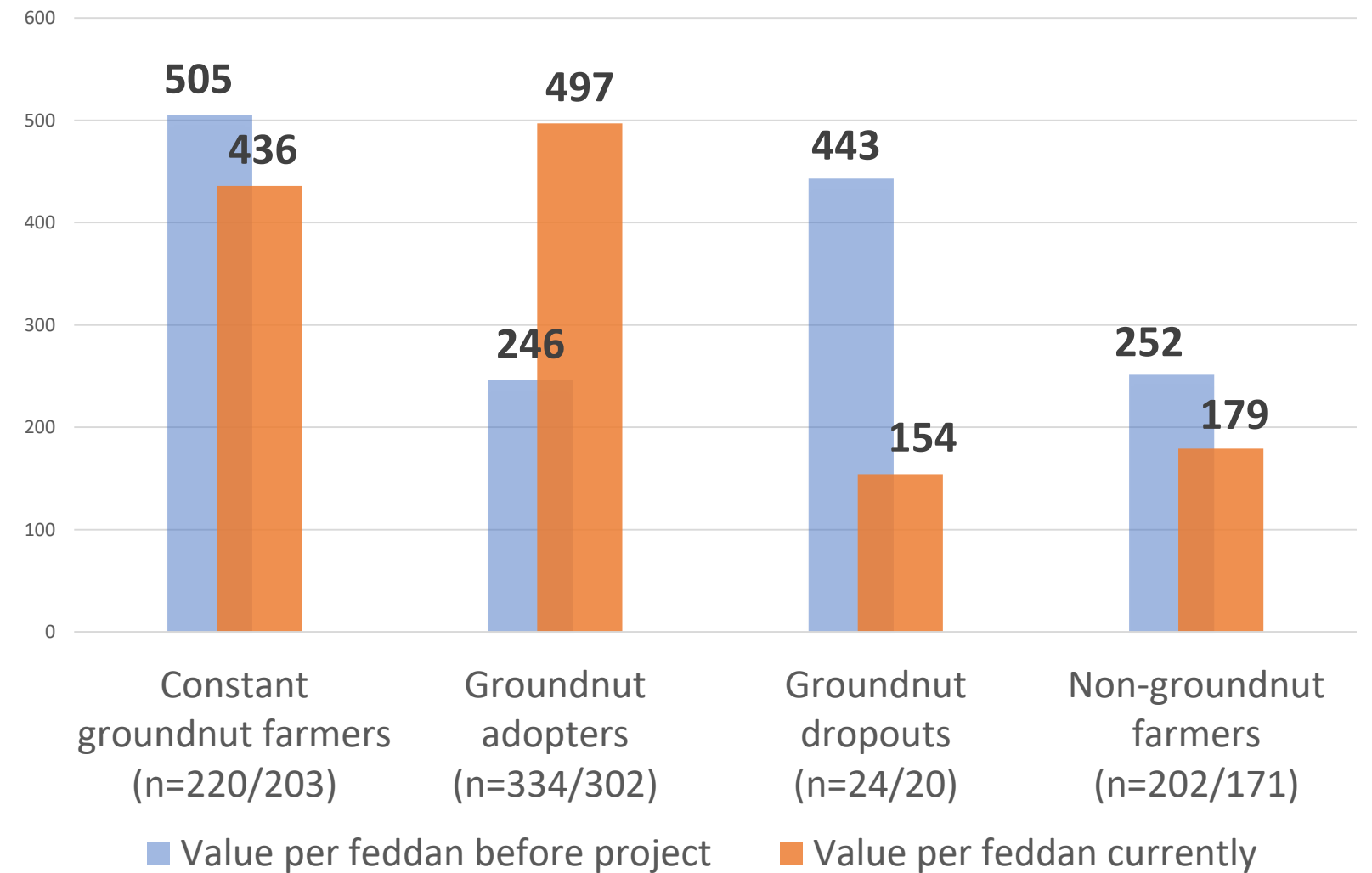


1. Agricultural production cont

Land cultivated



Change in land productivity (kg SE)



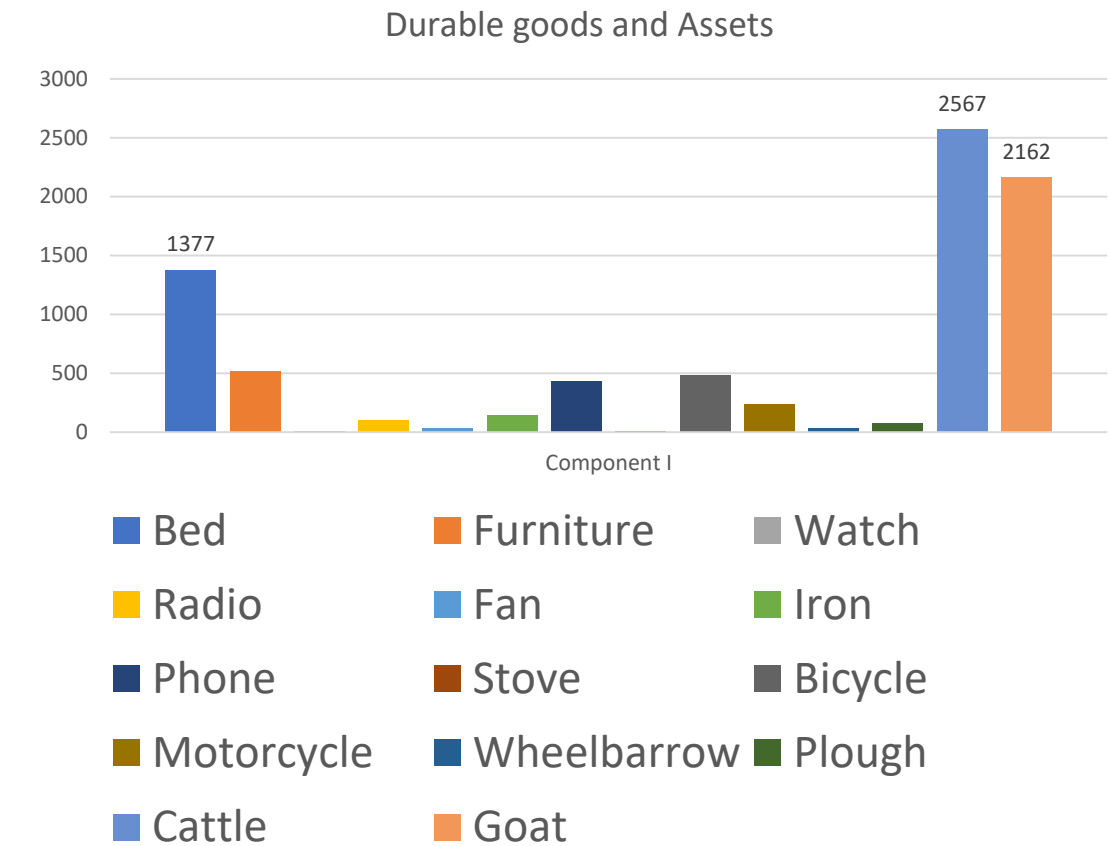
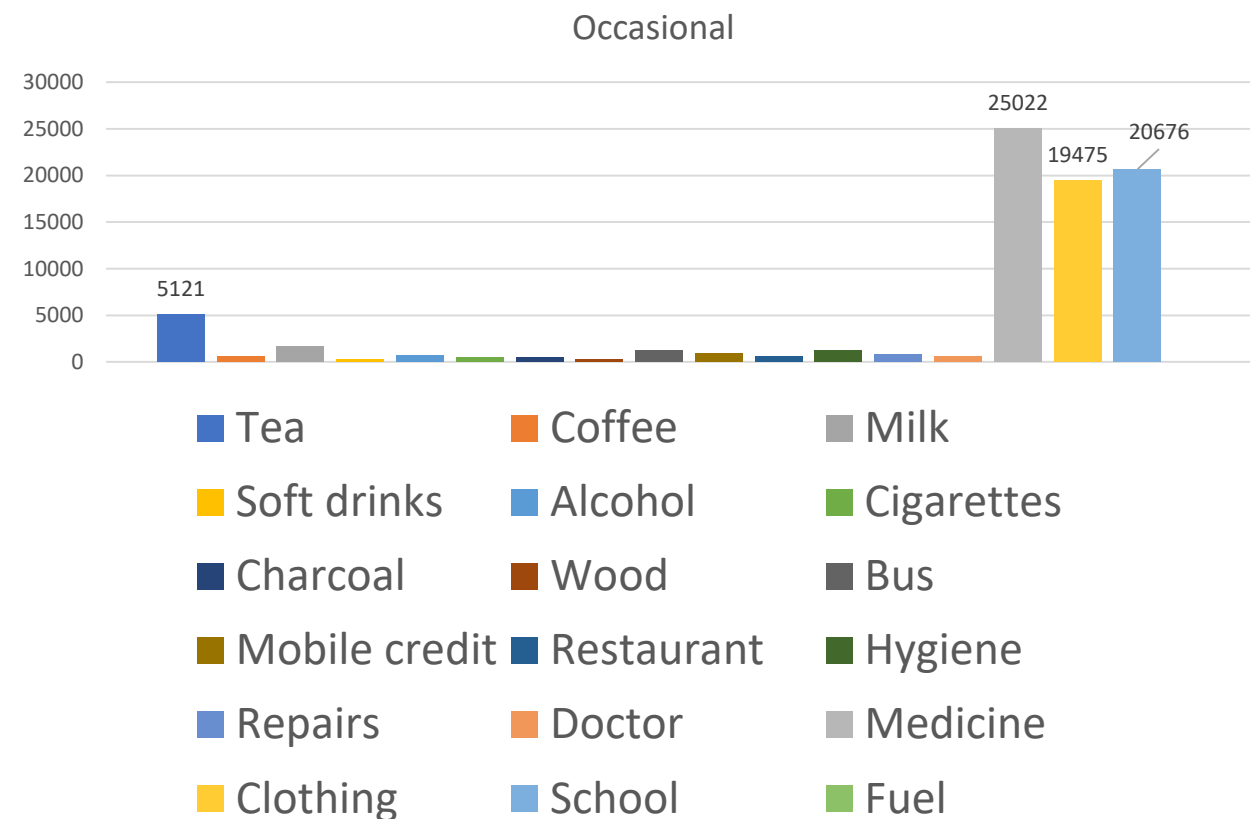
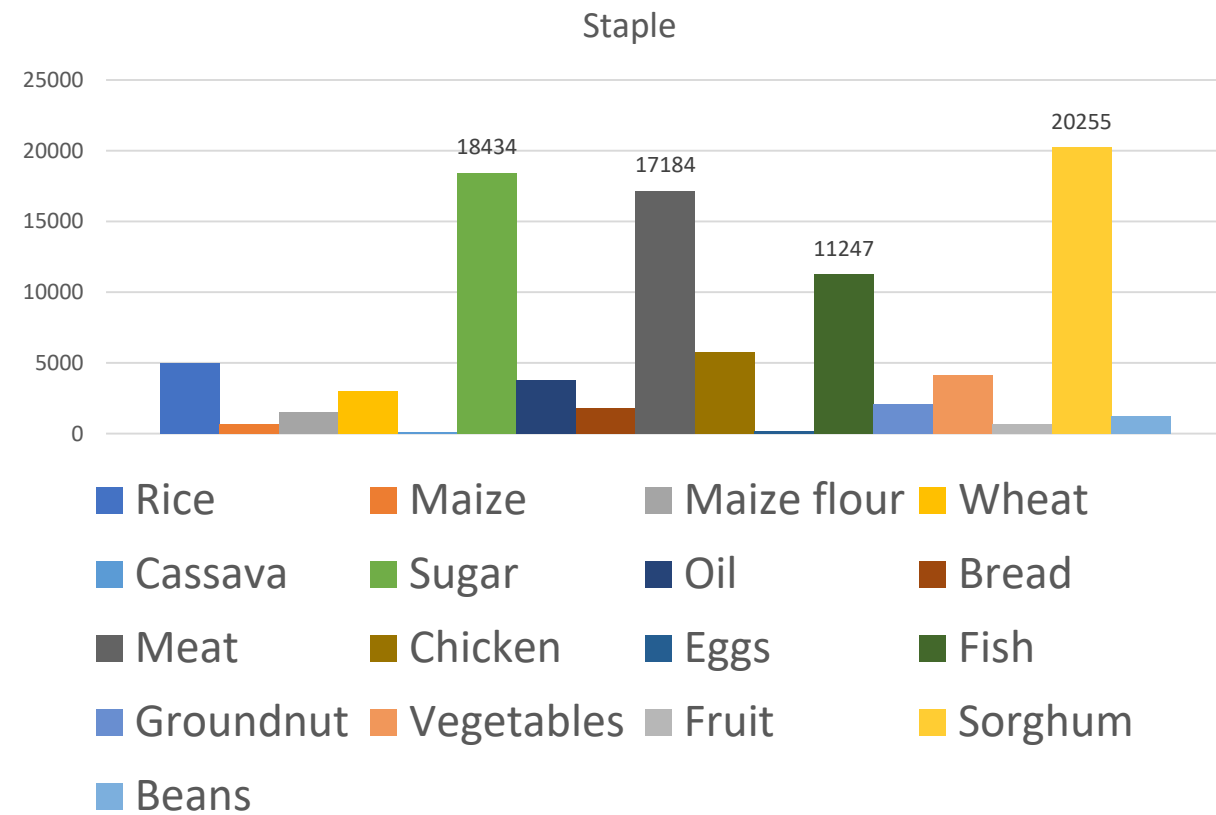
1. Agricultural production cont

- **Implications**

- 1) An increase in cultivated land does **not** equal increased production
- 2) It is difficult to increase **cereal production** through incentivising cultivation
- 3) Large benefits can be realised through incentivising adoption of **new crops**

2. Impacts

- Generally positive impacts from project on all measures used
- Cash support provided quick stabilisation for basic needs
- Sustainable impacts mainly for those with increased productive capacity



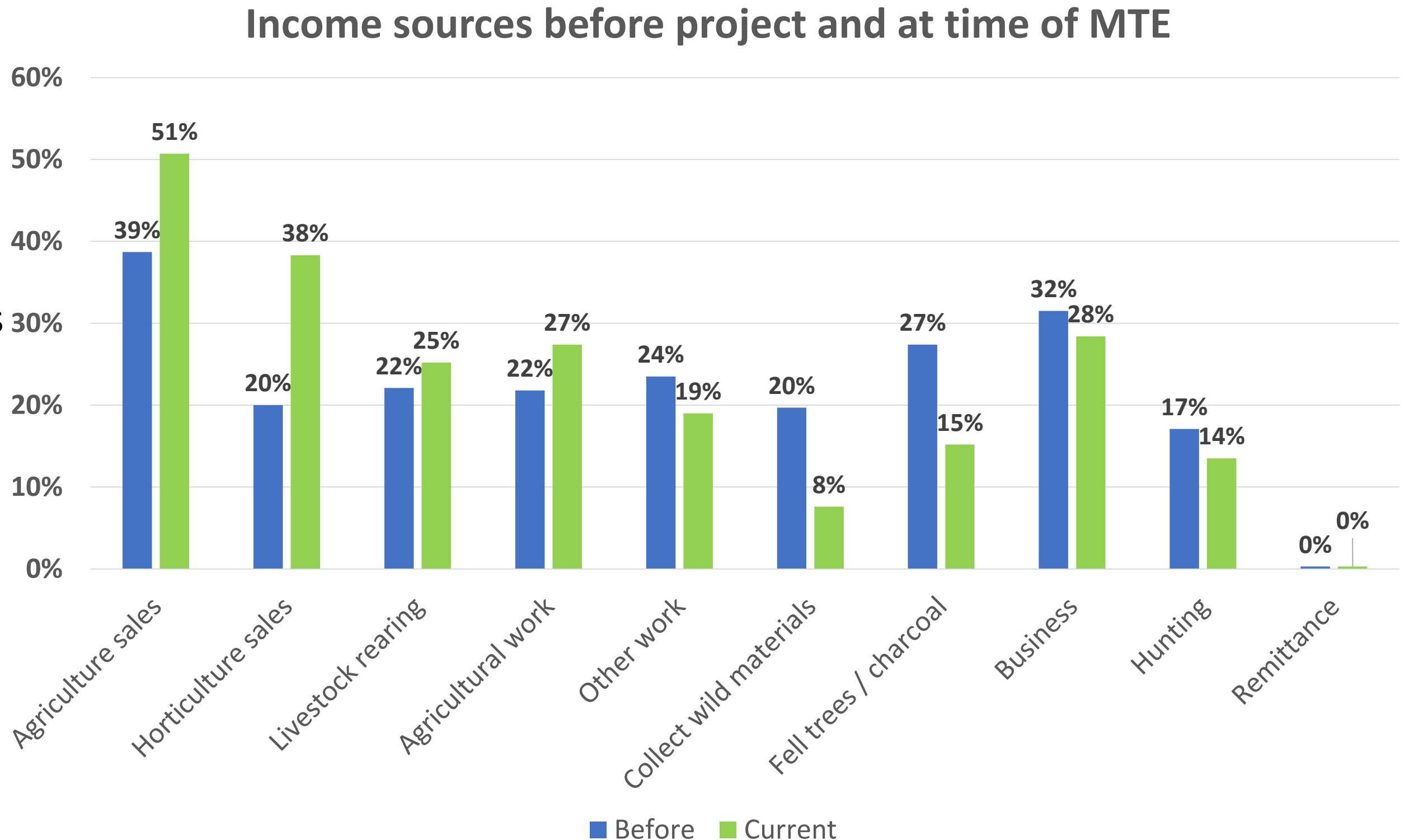
2. Impacts cont

- **Implications**

- 1) Stabilisation through cash distribution **works rapidly**
- 2) Households invest in education and dignity **before** they are fully food secure
- 3) Growth in assets and wealth **requires** improvements in productive capacity

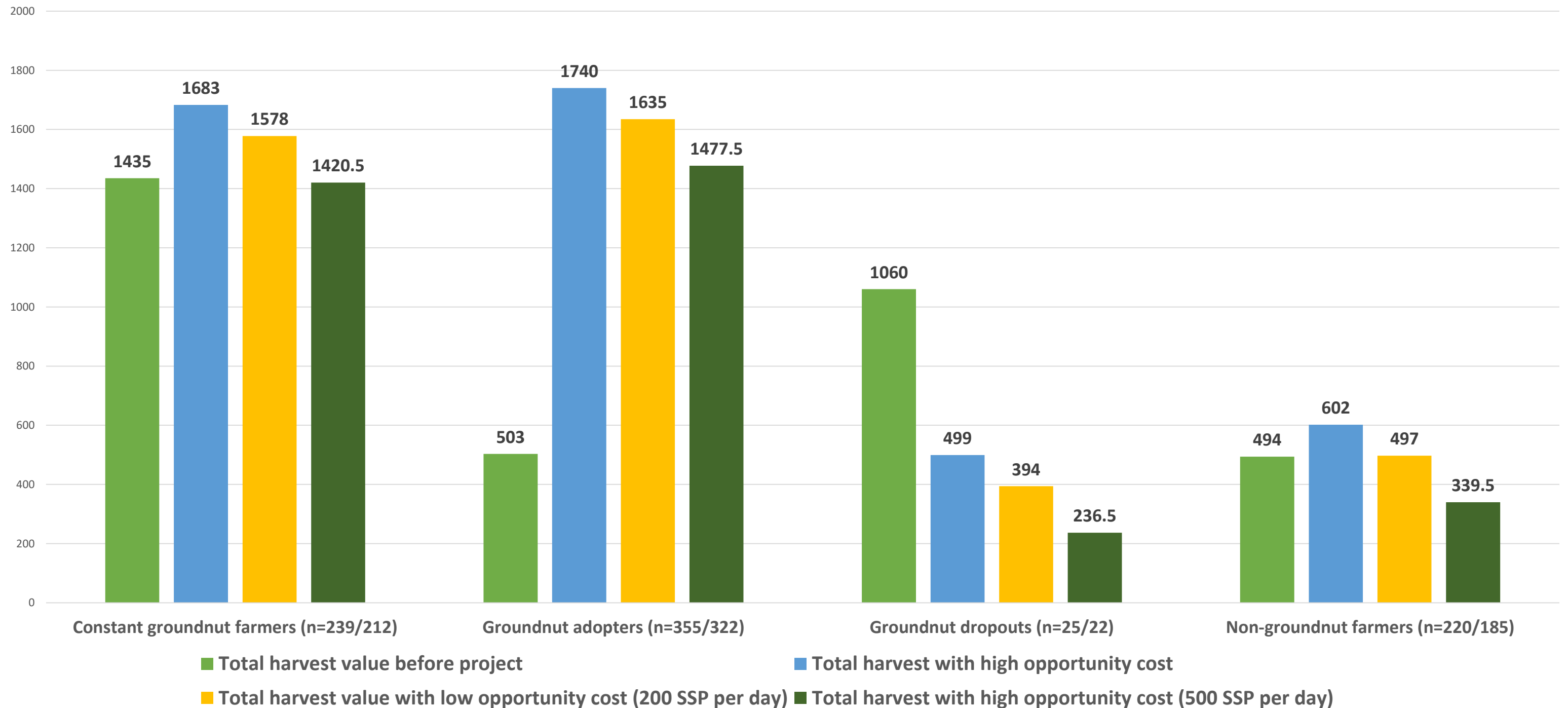
3. Livelihoods

- Movement towards agri-/horticultural livelihood activities
- Reduced numbers engaging in lower value activities
- However, total number of livelihoods not changed
- All livelihoods have value



3. Livelihoods cont

Total harvest value with opportunity cost



3. Livelihoods cont

- **Implications**

- 1) Households are not economically idle and any activity carries with it an **opportunity cost**
- 2) Factoring opportunity cost can fundamentally **change** findings for groups with modest gains
- 3) Beyond economic activity, labour supply is limited and impacts on household level **is not well understood**

4. Recap of main questions

- It is possible to build resilience through agricultural production support
 - Objective: commercial vs subsistence farming
 - Targeting: vulnerability vs high potential farmers
- Cash provides quick stabilisation, but sustainable results require improved productive capacity
 - Basic food and service expenses stabilise quickly
 - Investments and asset growth mainly with those with high production
- Gains in one livelihood tend to mean reductions in others
 - People have existing diverse livelihoods
 - Most programming incurs opportunity costs
 - The livelihood itself must be resilient