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Gender and Agriculture in Western Honduras

Lessons from the Women in Agriculture Network (WAgN) Honduras Project



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College of Agricultural Sciences

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Honduras



Empowering Women Through Horticulture

Who we are:

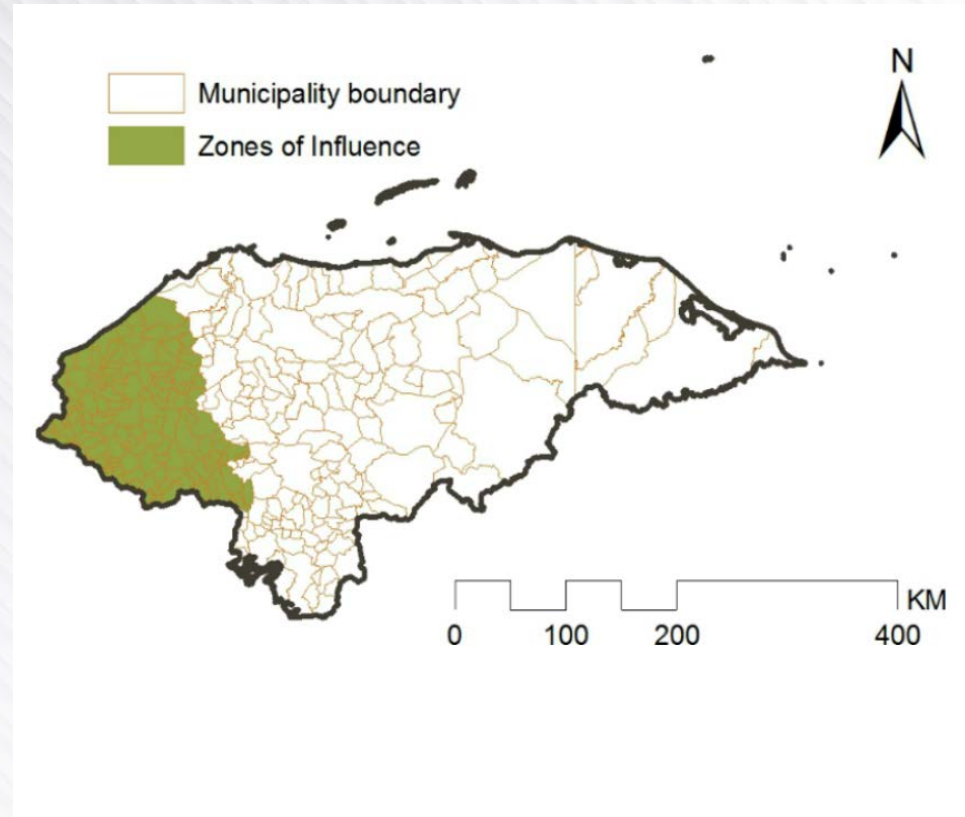
- The Pennsylvania State University
- Zamorano Pan-American Agricultural School

Where we work:

- Western Honduras

What we do:

- Seek to understand how the horticulture value chain can support equity and empowerment for women



Empowerment

- Agency:
 - Power over
 - Power to
 - Power with
 - Power within(Kabeer, 2005;
Alkire et al, 2013)
- Gendered Economy Perspective



Research Objectives

- Determine barriers to women's participation in the horticulture value chain (HVC)
- Identify barriers to women's adoption of technologies
- Identify policies and cultural norms that limit the participation of women and other marginalized populations in the HVC
- Determine the intra-household dynamics between men and women, particularly in terms of decision making, livelihood strategies and agricultural production



Women in Agriculture Network

- Baseline data collection
 - Qualitative – focus groups, key informant interviews
 - Quantitative – household survey
- Workshops
 - Bringing producer organizations together to share experiences
- Farmer Field Schools
 - Integrating gender into horticulture production training



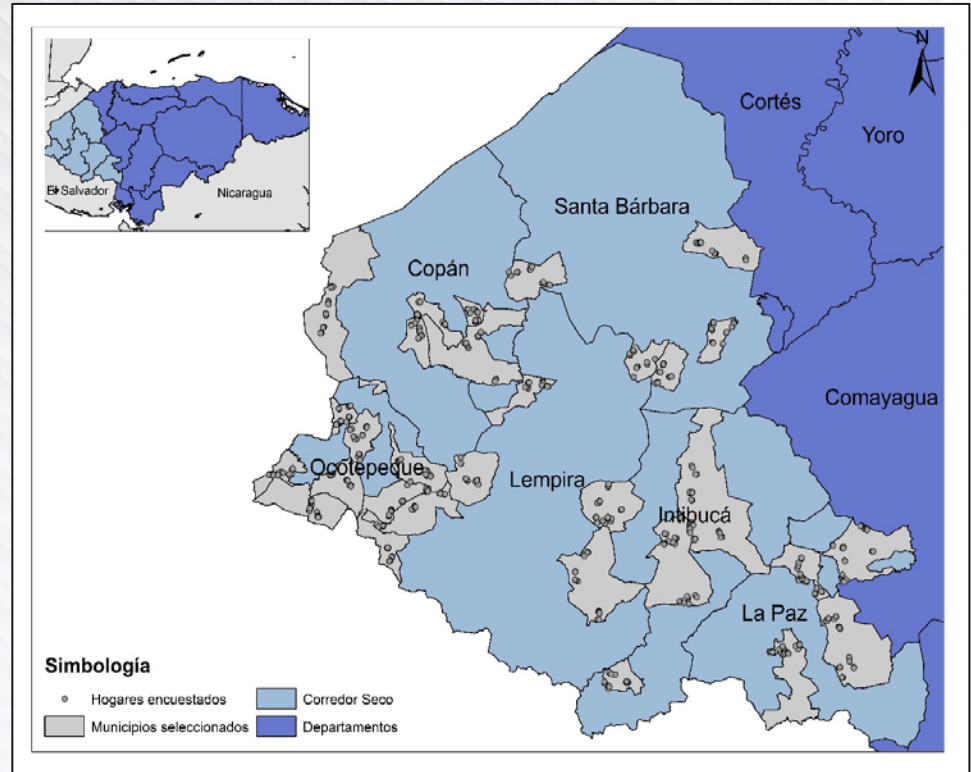
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WAgN Honduras Survey

- Fieldwork (including training and piloting):
 - August 15 – November 15, 2016
- Enumerators:
 - 6 + 2 coordinators.
- Geographic area:
 - 30 municipalities
 - 103 communities
- Total interviews:
 - 953 people
 - 562 households





Our survey sample

	Female Headed Household	Dual Headed Household (Women)	Dual Headed Household (Men)
Total Interviewed	162	400	391
% of Sample	17%	42%	41%
% of Households	29%	71%	70%
Primary School or Less	94%	91%	91%
Literate	62%	75%	74%

Women's Empowerment in Agriculture Index



FEED THE FUTURE

The U.S. Government's Global Hunger & Food Security Initiative



INTERNATIONAL
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RESEARCH
INSTITUTE

IFPRI



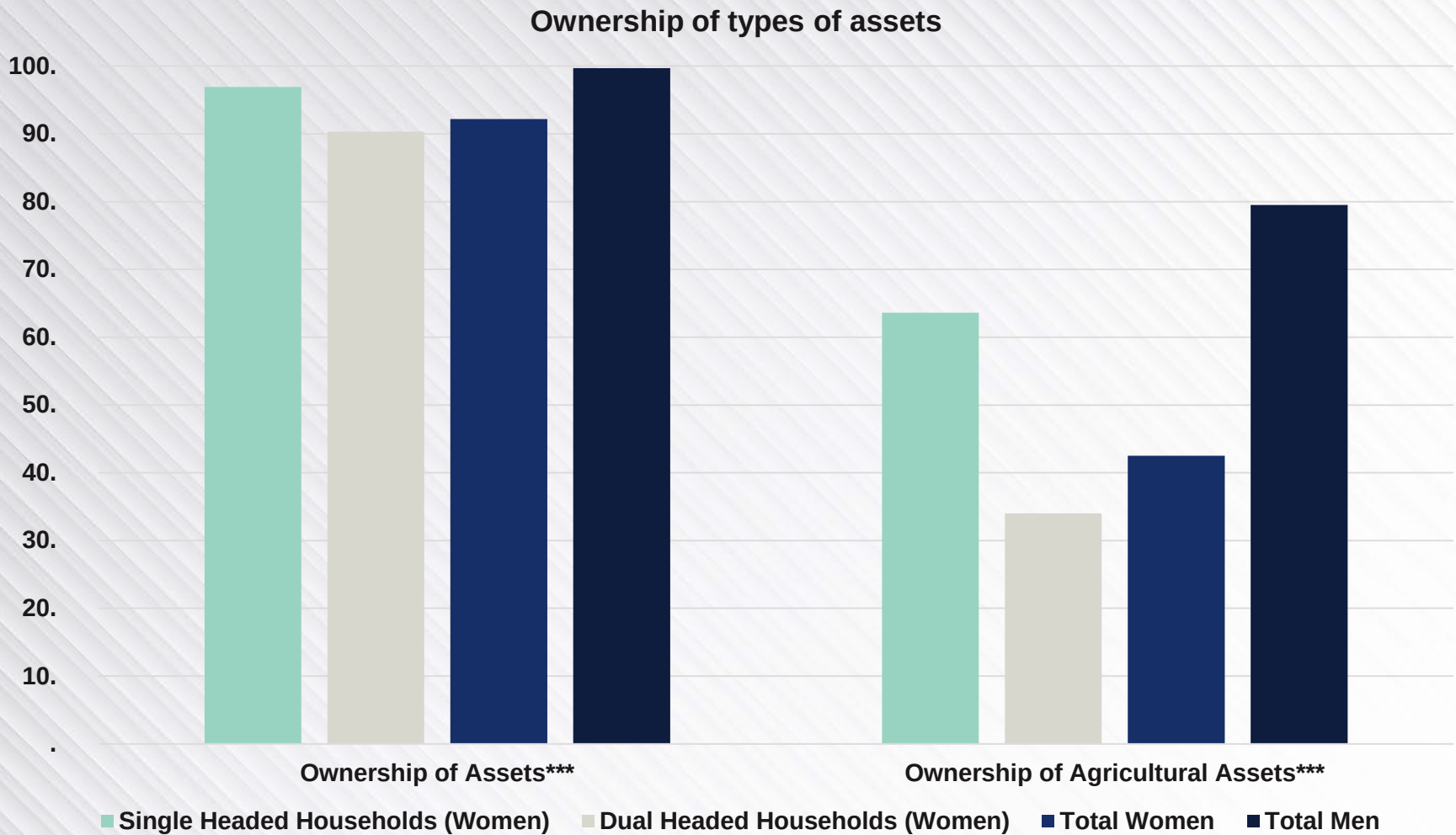
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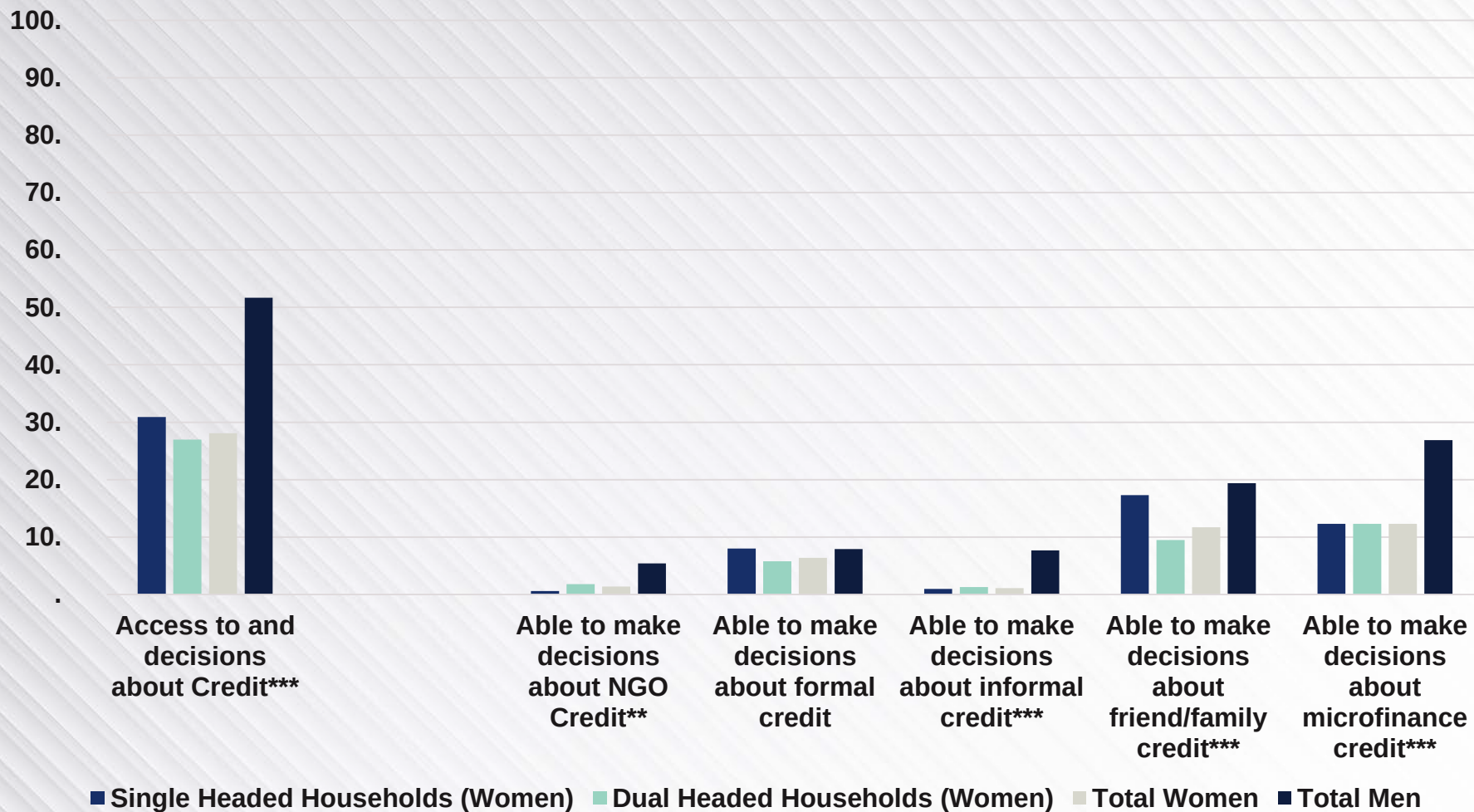
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Ownership of Assets



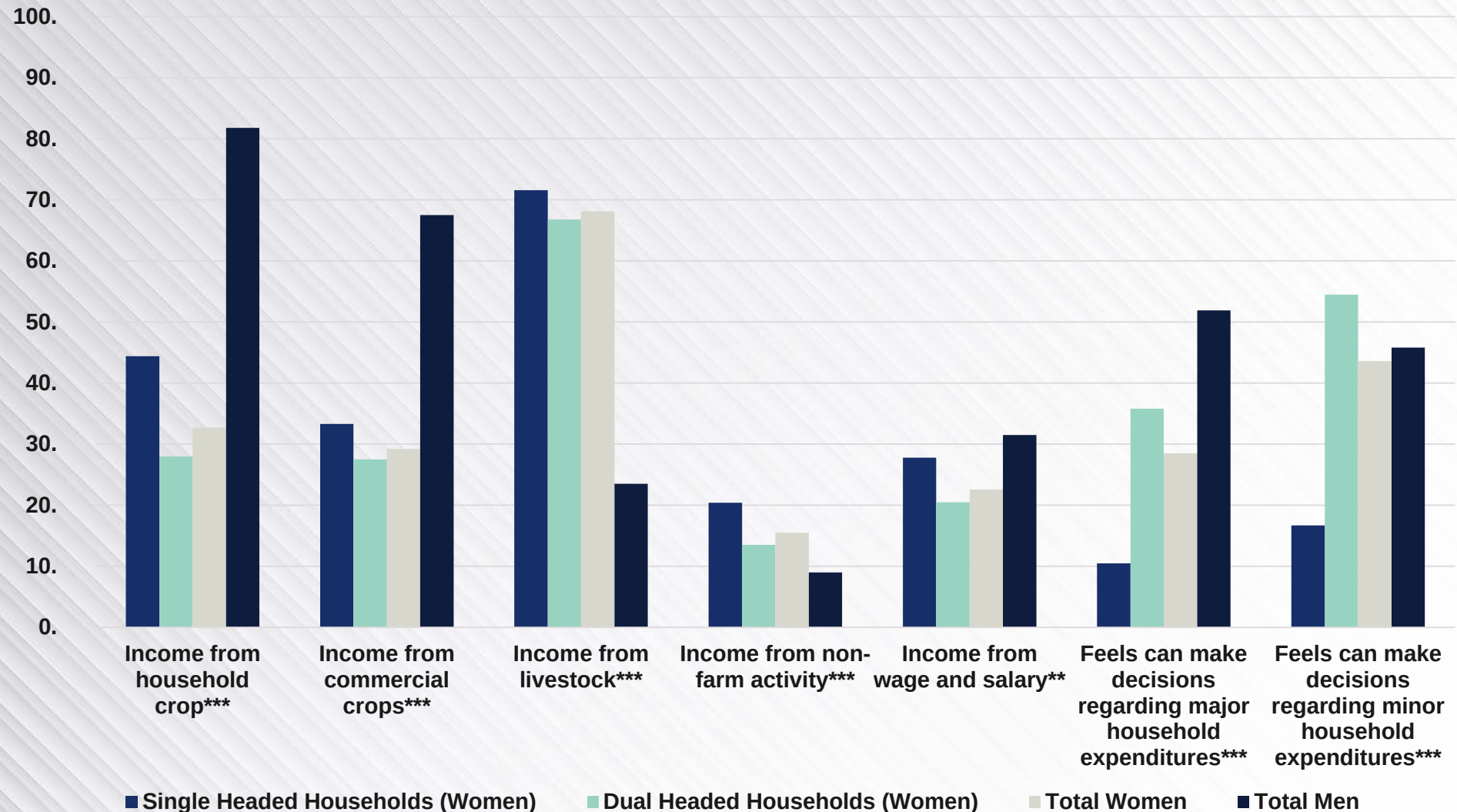
Access to Credit

Access to Credit



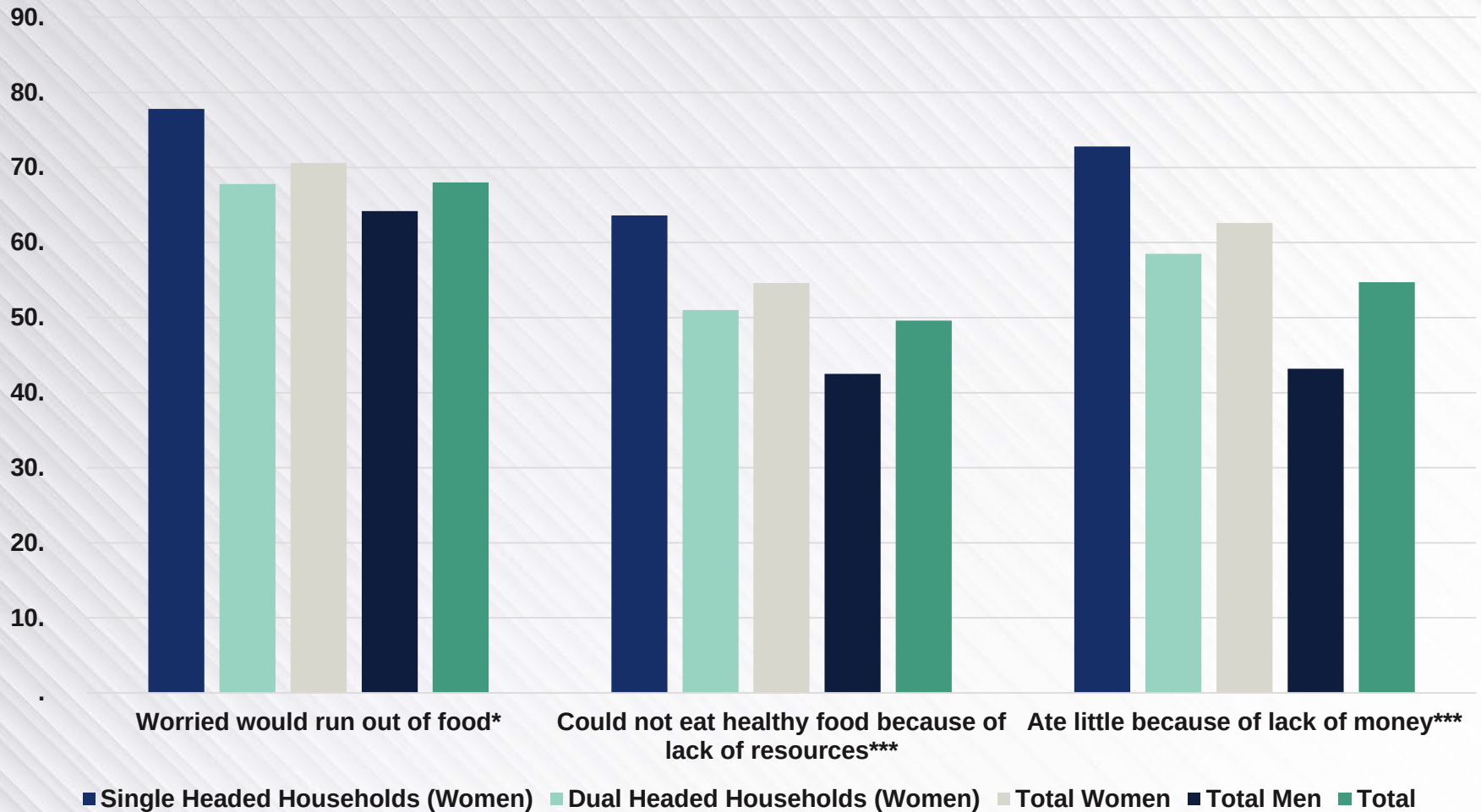
Control over income

Input on Income and Economic Decisions



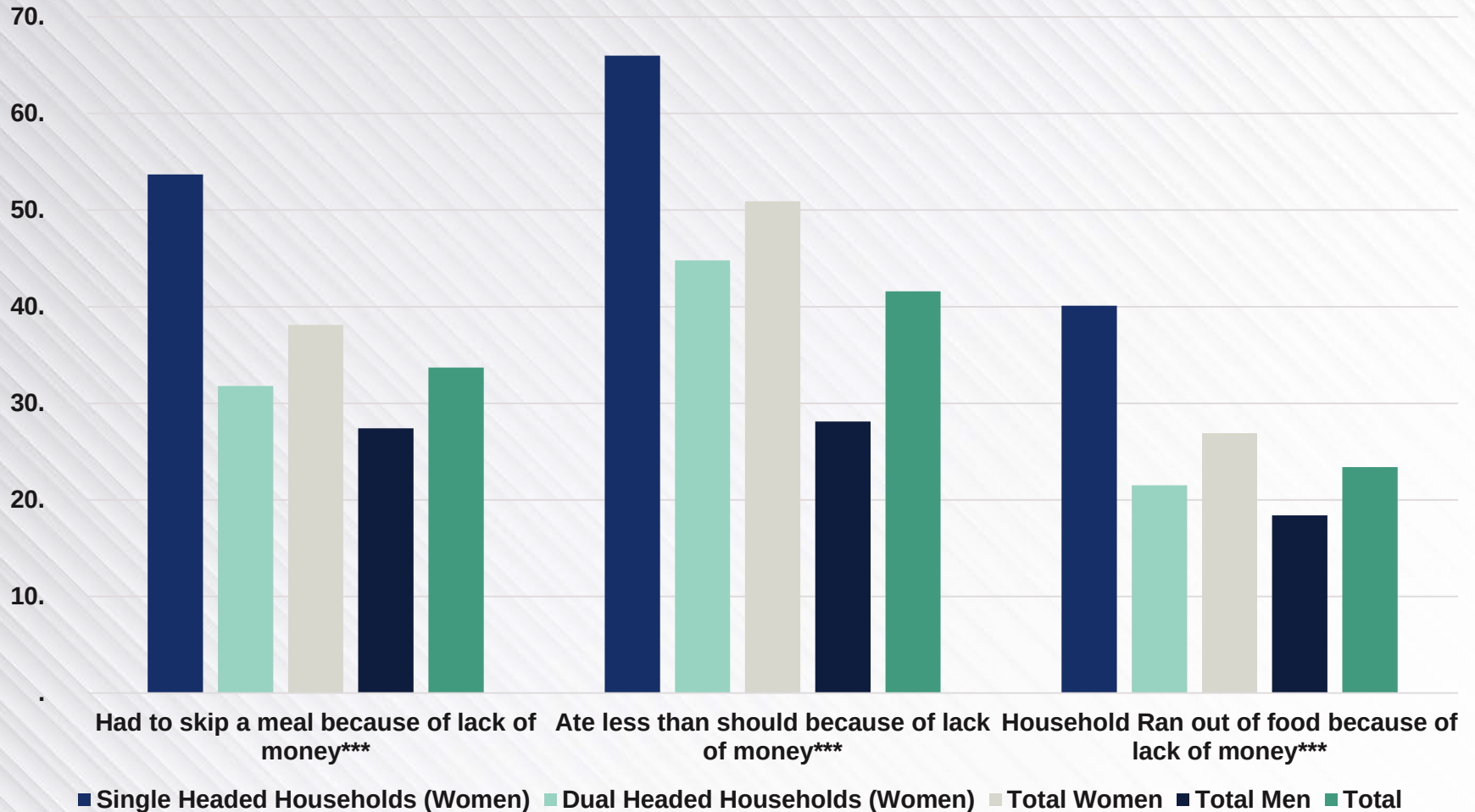
Food Insecurity

Mild Food Insecurity - FIES



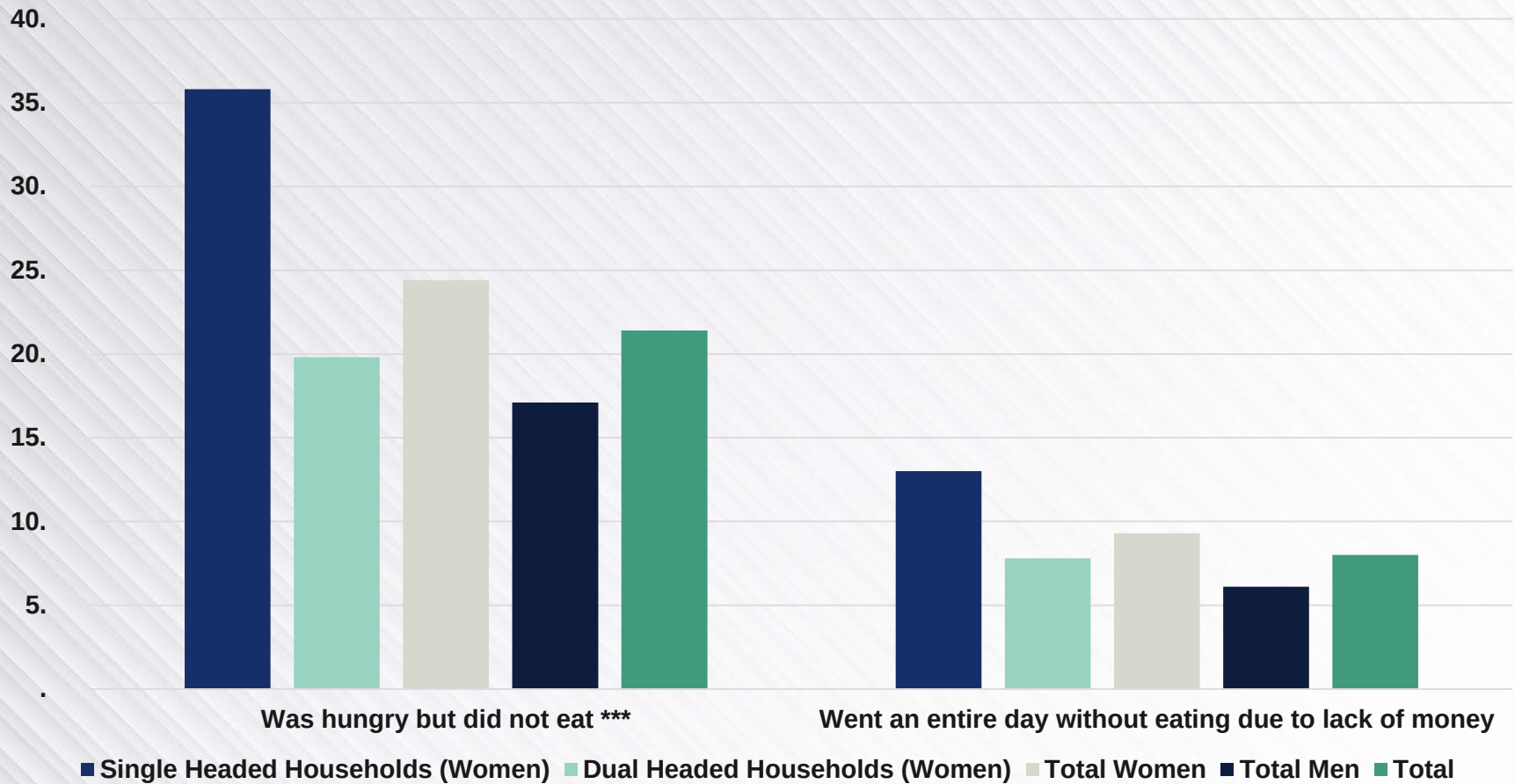
Food Insecurity

Moderate Food Insecurity - FIES



Food Insecurity

Severe Food Insecurity - FIES



Dietary Diversity

Other Veg.	27.5
FH	25.9
DHW	21.3
DHM	18.7

Other Fruit	16.2
FH	15.4
DHW	21.3
DHM	11.3

Grains and Starches	99.2
FH	98.1
DHW	99.3
DHM	99.5

Vitamin A Fruit and Veg.	11.9
FH	9.9
DHW	15.0
DHM	9.5

Leafy Green Veg.	8.6
FH	4.9
DHW	11.8
DHM	6.9

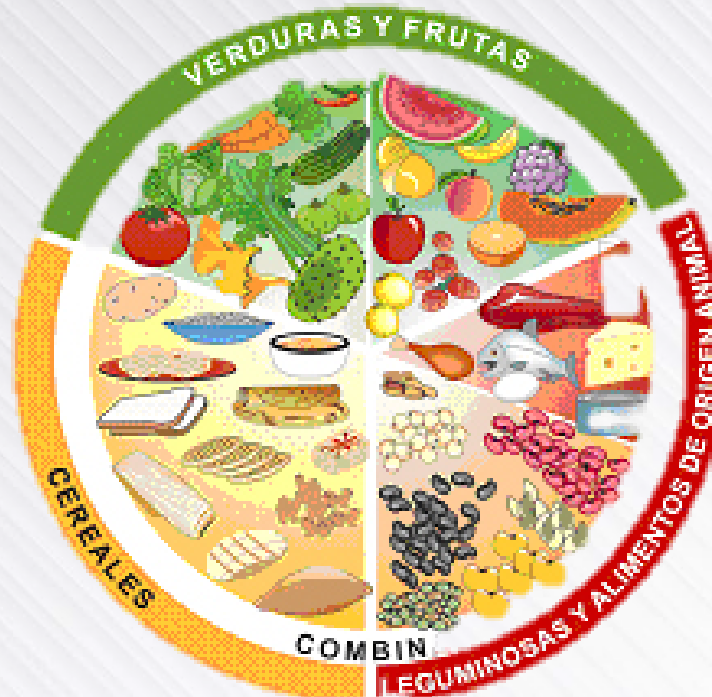
Eggs	48.3
FH	43.2
DHW	51.8
DHM	46.8

Meat and Seafood	22.2
FH	19.8
DHW	21.0
DHM	24.6

Dairy	44.7
FH	42.6
DHW	46.8
DHM	43.5

Nuts	0.2
FH	0.0
DHW	0.5
DHM	0.0

Legumes	93.0
FH	90.1
DHW	93.8
DHM	92.7



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Key Findings

- 1 – Food insecurity still prevalent for too many of the people in the area, especially considering mild and moderate measures of food insecurity**
- 2 – Dietary Diversity inadequacies even for those who are “food secure”**
- 3 – Women are worse off in food security and dietary diversity, particularly single female headed households**
- 4 – Women’s empowerment when compared to men, unequal, for access to resources and control over income**



Future Directions

- Expanding analysis to include multivariate regressions
- Further analysis of division of agricultural production between men and women
- Examining links between socially defined norms and perceptions of horticulture production
- Addressing non-WEAI barriers to empowerment such as domestic and community violence, education



Future Directions

- Farmer Field Schools
- Impact of Horticulture Production
- Gender trainings
- Capacity building



Thank you !

Contact Information

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