



República Democrática de Timor-Leste
Ministério da Agricultura e Pescas

Seeds of Life
Fini ba Moris



SoL3 Mid-Term Survey

November 2013

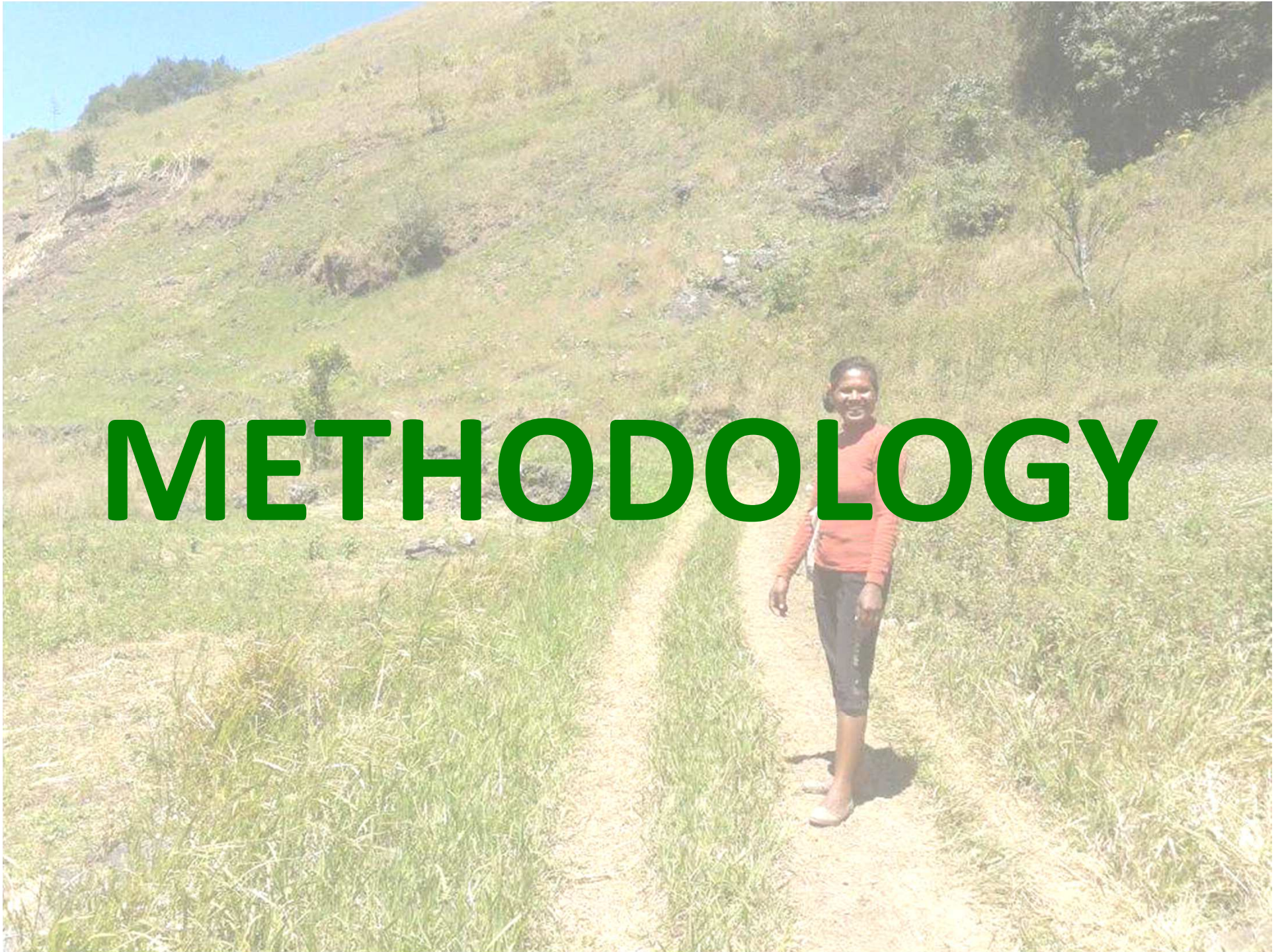
**Australian
Aid** 

Content

- **Methodology**
- **Main findings:** adoption, perception of productivity, food-shortage, familiarity, groups and agricultural extension
- **Recommendations**



METHODOLOGY





Main methodology

- **672** respondents (5% margin of error)
- 13 districts, 55 sucos (14%)
- Questionnaire survey and 6 focus groups
- Data quality control:
 - ✓ Variety check cards
 - ✓ GPS locations
 - ✓ Measuring areas with GPS
 - ✓ Weighing local measurement units
 - ✓ 30% of farmers were revisited
- Double data entry and analysis on SPSS

Variety check cards

Example: Sele



SELE

- Batar musan bo'ot no koor kinur
- Batar fulin bo'ot
- Ai-horis nia aas iha tempu koileta 2 metru (200cm)
- Presiza tempu 115-120 loron para koileta

Variety check cards

Example: Hohrae 3



HOHRAE 3

- Koor kulit husi fehuk : mean
- Koor isin laran husi fehuk : sorin balun laranza
- Koor tahan nurak : matak ho roxo
- Fehuk tahan hanesan korasaun
- Presiza mais ou menus fulan 4 para bele koileta

Taking GPS points and Measuring plots



Training



Measuring rice field under Nakroma in Aileu

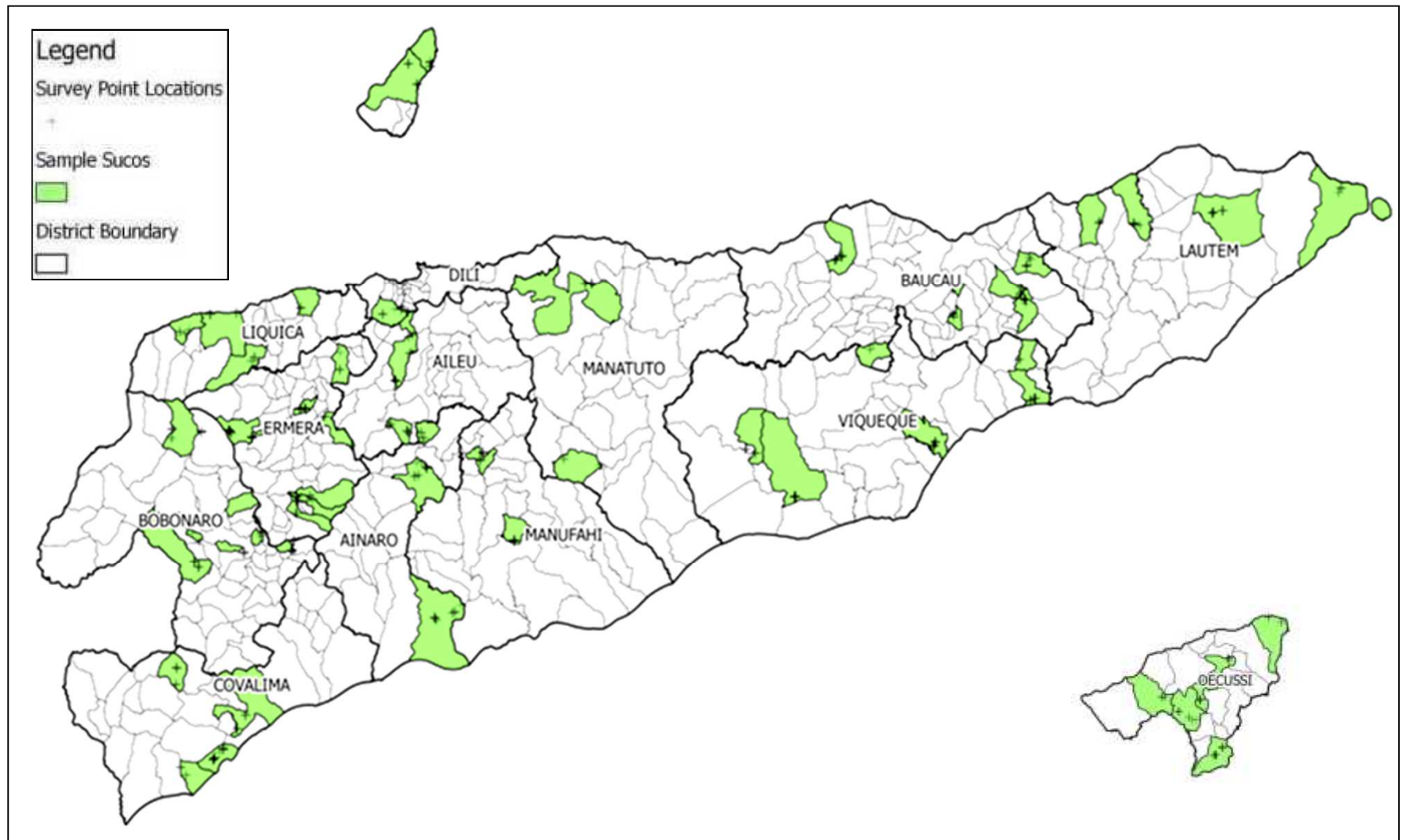


Feedback on Measuring Plot Sizes with Tablet

- Used android application
Distance and area measurement
- Point 2
- Point 3
 - ✓ Sub-point 1
 - ✓ Sub-point 2



Interviews locations



Weighing



Weighing maize grains from a cob



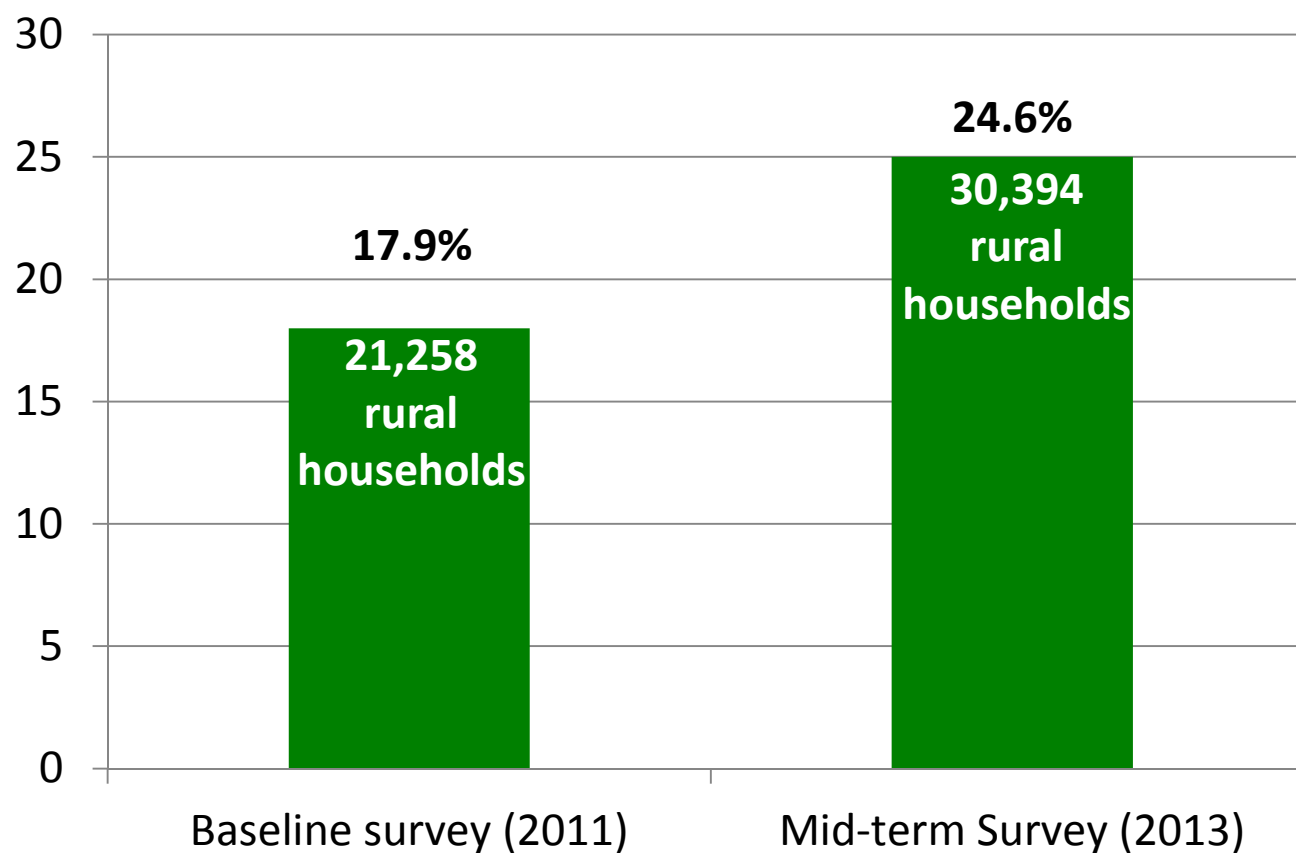
Weighing "Bote" filled with padi

Main Findings





Adoption rate



**Target at End of Program (July 2016):
50% of crop farmers = 65,000 rural households**



Discussion on adoption rate

- Statistically no difference between adoption rate among male and female headed households
- Margin of error: 23.4% to 25.8%
- Difficulties encountered with the identification of varieties:
 - *Farmers do not recall the varieties' names*
 - Varieties' names may be misleading
 - Loss of genetic purity for maize
 - Similarities with local varieties
 - Variations

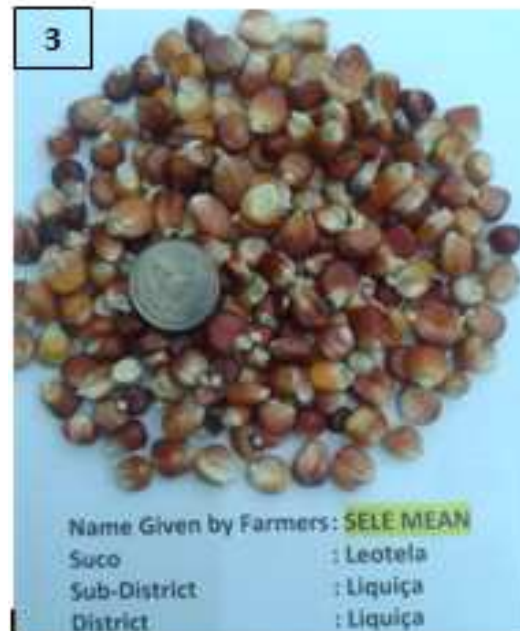
Example of some difficulties in identification of varieties



Sele contaminated by other local varieties



Local varieties similar to Noi Mutin



"Red Sele"



Local sweet potato variety similar to Hohrae

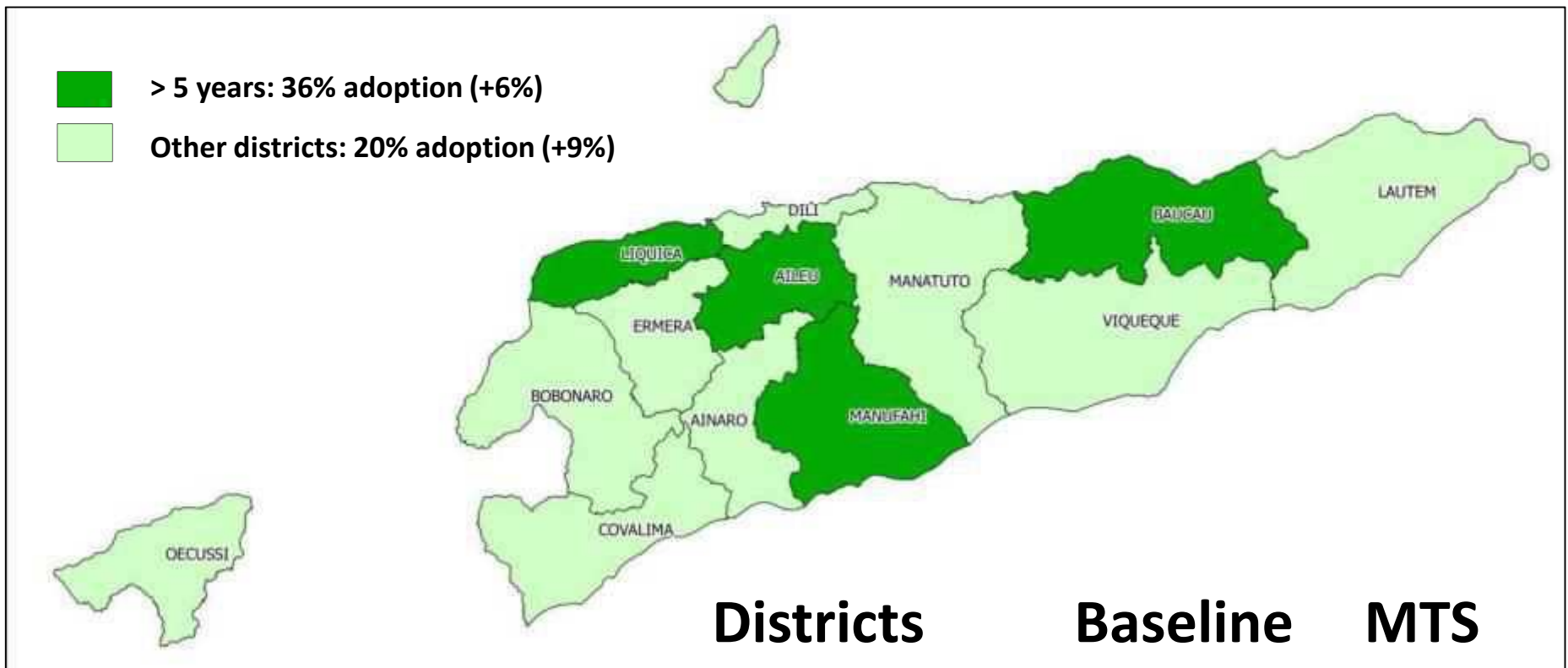
Adoption per region



East: mainly Nakroma (Lautem, Baucau and Viqueque) and Sele (Manatuto, Baucau and Viqueque)

Region	Baseline	MTS
East	31%	32%
Center	20%	26%
West	12%	18%

Adoption by length of involvement in the MAF/SoL program



Districts	Baseline	MTS
>5 years	31%	32%
Other	20%	26%

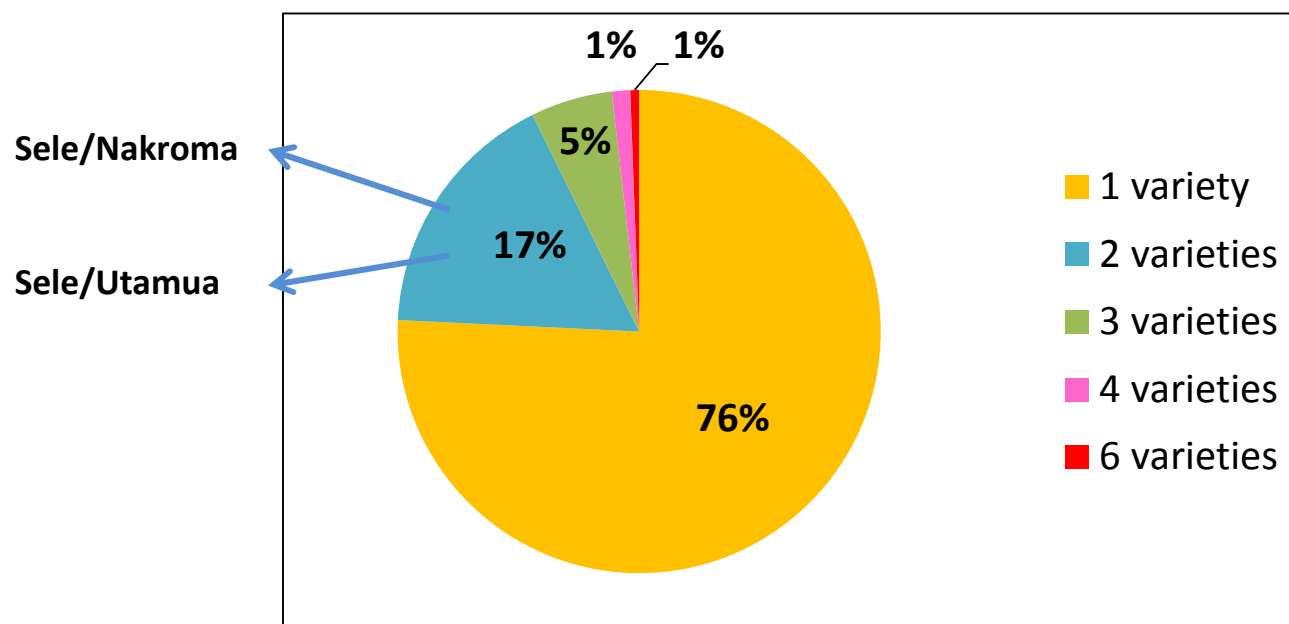


Adoption per variety

Crop/Variety	Baseline survey	MTS
Sele	13%	15%
Noi-Mutin	-	2%
Nakroma	11%	15%
Utamua	16%	11%
Hohrae	7%	7%
Ai-luka	3%	3%



“Single” and “Multiple” adopters



Details of adopters

	Main sources of seeds/cuttings	Average area grown/adopter	Proportion of crop area grown /adopter	Average harvest /adopter
Sele	52% government 15% NGOs	0.5 ha	85%	382 kg
Noi-Mutin	44% government 14% NGOs	0.8 ha	95%	328 kg
Nakroma	61% government 18% NGOs	0.8 ha	43%	779 kg
Utamua	41% government 32% own seeds	0.3 ha	94%	29 kg
Hohrae	60% government 13% relatives	0.6 ha	86%	180 kg
Ai-luka	59% government 22% relatives	0.3 ha	86%	266 Kg

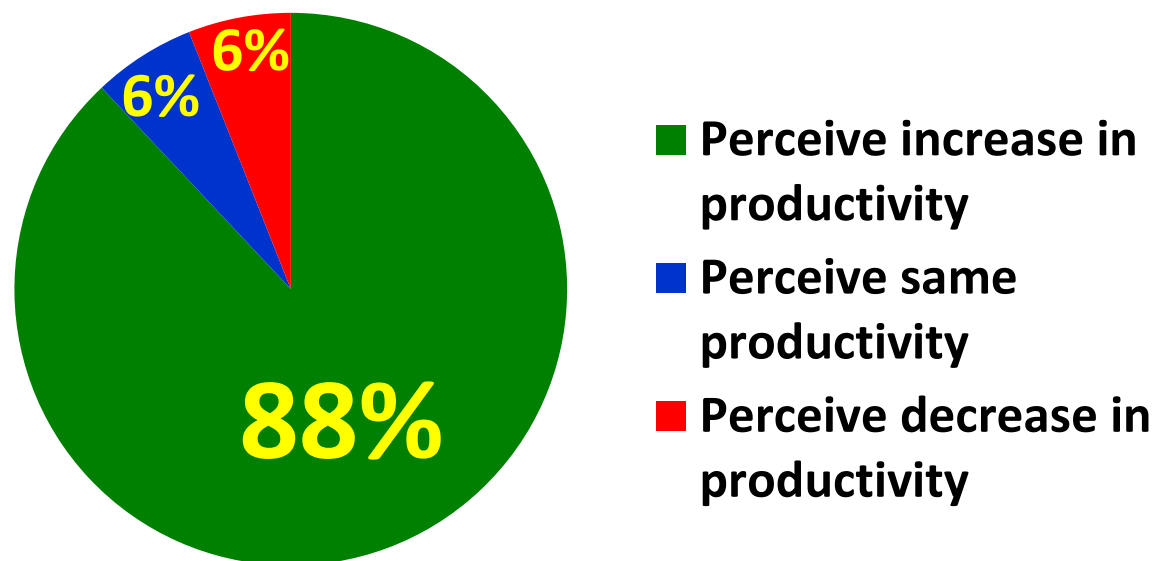


Factors influencing adoption

- Respondent knows of a community seed production group in his/her village or is a member of a seed production group
- Respondent knows the Suco Extension Worker (SEO) or received seeds from an SEO



Perception of increased productivity



***Target at End of Program:
90% of adopters report increased yields***

57% yield increase in average: Hohrae (72) > Sele (63) > Noi-Mutin (58) = Ai-Luka (58) > Nakroma (44) > Utamua (36)



Plans for future

- **More than 90%** want to plant the MAF/SoL variety again:
 - 37% plan to increase the area grown (Noi-Mutin and Hohrae)
 - 59% plan to grow a similar area
- **More than 50%** will also plant a local variety (taste and post-harvest losses):
 - 62% of Hohrae growers want to plant a larger are of Hohrae than of the local variety
 - Majority of farmers growing other improved varieties want to grow as much area of local than improved varieties.

Food shortage

In questionnaire:

1. Did you experience one or more “hungry season” during the last 12 months? [Y/N]

2. If yes, which months?

2012							2013				
Jun 6	Jul 7	Aug 8	Sep 9	Oct 10	Nov 11	Dec 12	Jan 1	Feb 2	Mar 3	Apr 4	May 5

3. In the last 12 months, in which months was food available from the crops grown by the household?

4. What did you eat when no self-grown food was available?

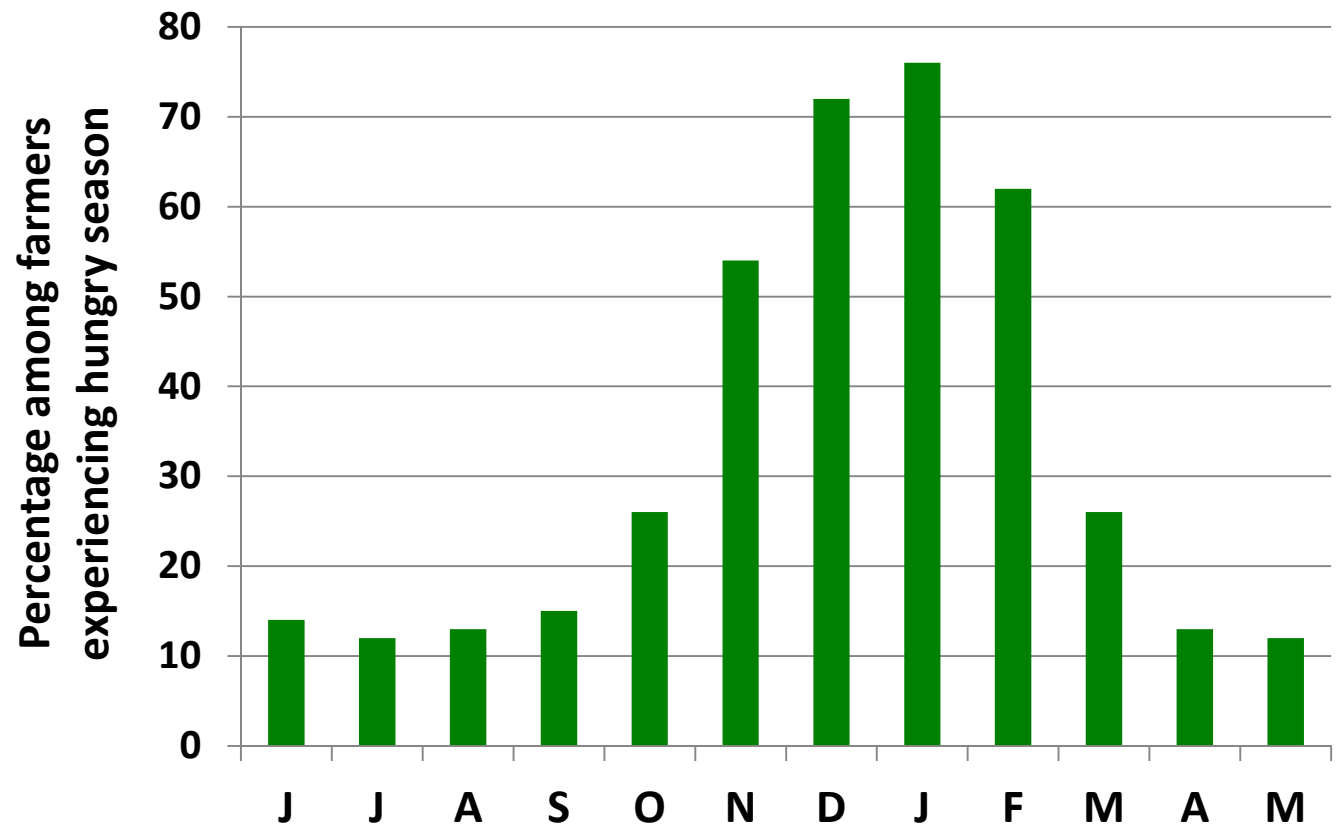
5. During the last 12 months, in which months did you buy rice for food? And how much?

6. [For HHs that grow rice]. Why buy rice if you grow it?



Food shortage

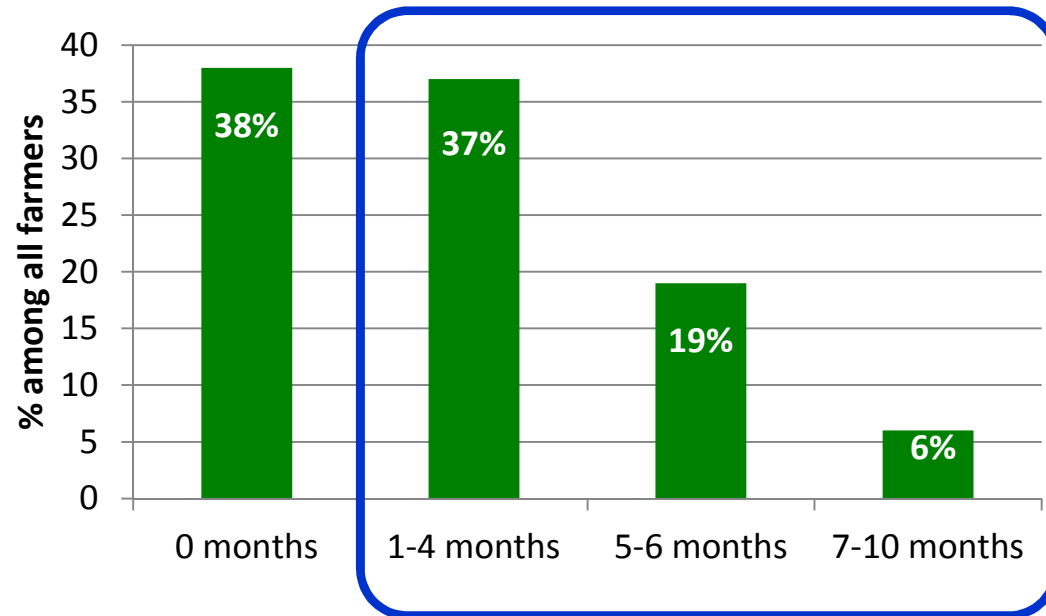
84% perceive their family experience a “hungry season”: **3.9 months** in average





Food shortage

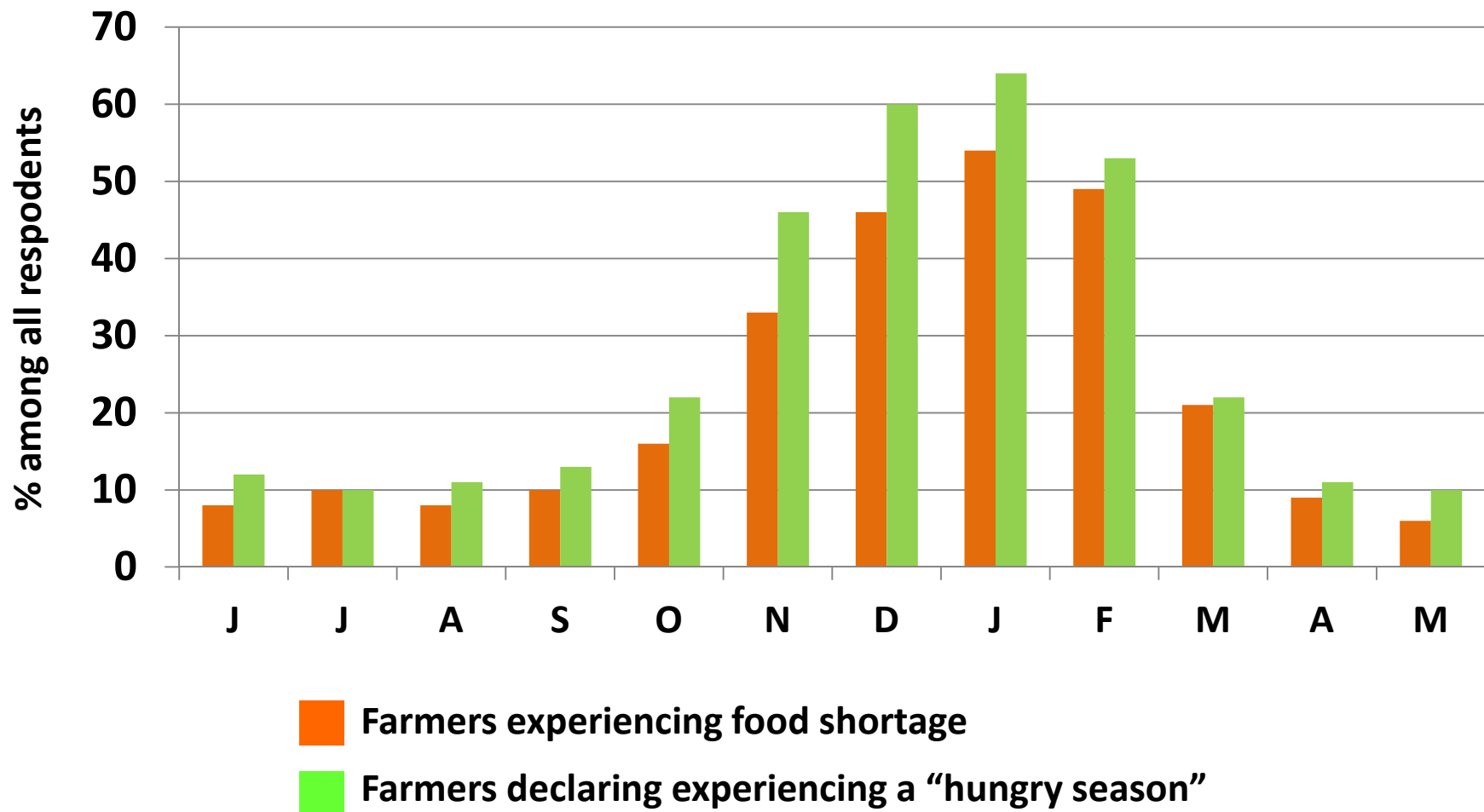
62% experience one month or more of food shortage : **2.7 months** in average



Target EoP: 33% of crop producing farmers experience decrease in food shortage

Food shortage

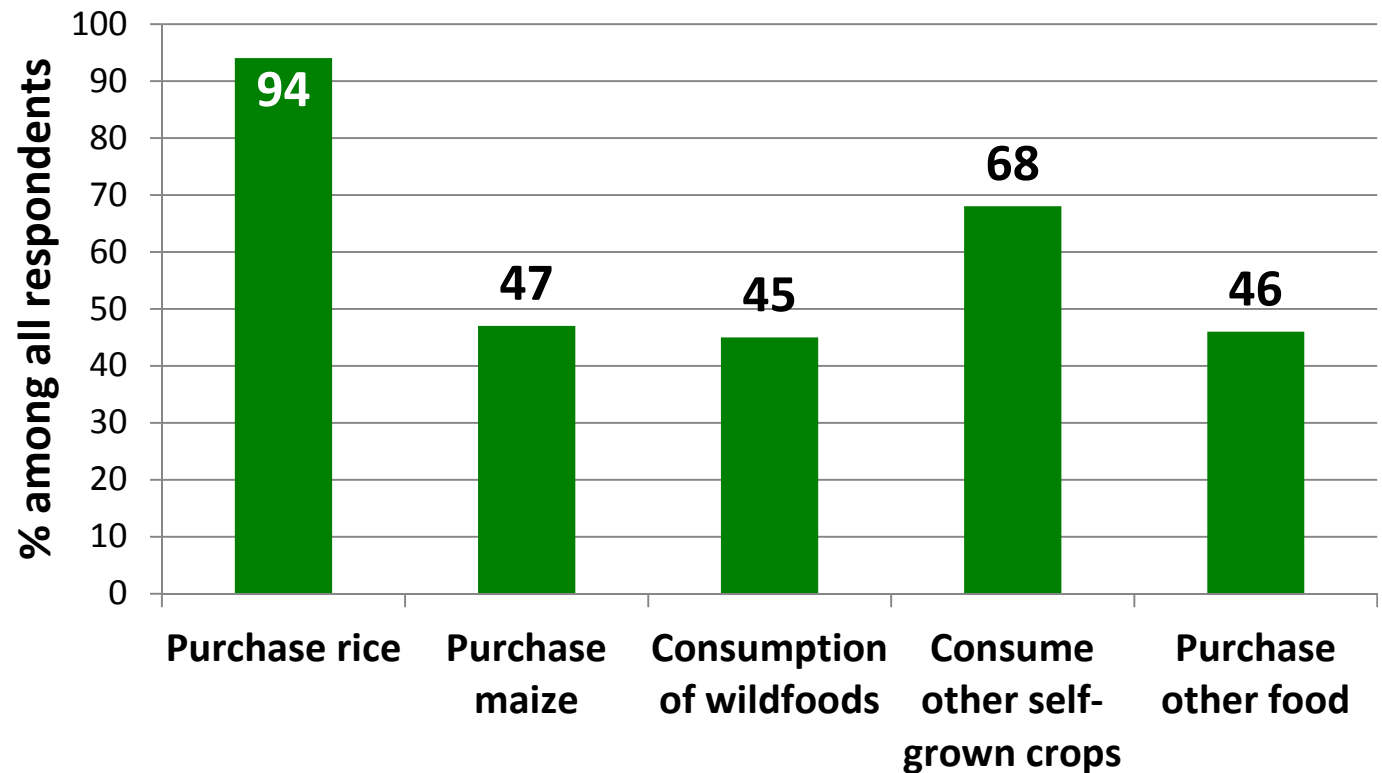
Comparison Food Shortage vs. Hungry Season





Food shortage

Coping strategies:



From 2.7 months down to **0.2 months** when deducting months when rice is purchased



Familiarity with MAF/SoL varieties

- **57%** familiar with one or more MAF/SoL varieties
(11% familiar with the program during the baseline)
- Sele > Nakroma > Noi-Mutin > Utamua > Ai-Luka > Hohrae

27%	23%	16%	14%	11%	9%
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- Source of information: MAF (+50%), Media > NGO > relatives
- Why not planting: **More than 90%** because no access to seeds/cuttings.
- More than 80% are ready to pay to get improved variety seeds

Participation in groups

Type of group	% among total survey sample	% of corresponding group, by gender of household members included in the group			
		Male	Female	Male & Female	No answer
Farmer groups	30%	34%	14%	51%	1%
Seed production group	14%	37%	15%	47%	1%
Adat	69%	18%	6%	76%	
Religious group	60%	11%	16%	73%	
Youth group	40%	35%	17%	48%	
Savings & loans groups	10%	20%	36%	39%	6%
Other	1%	25%	25%	50%	



Participation in groups

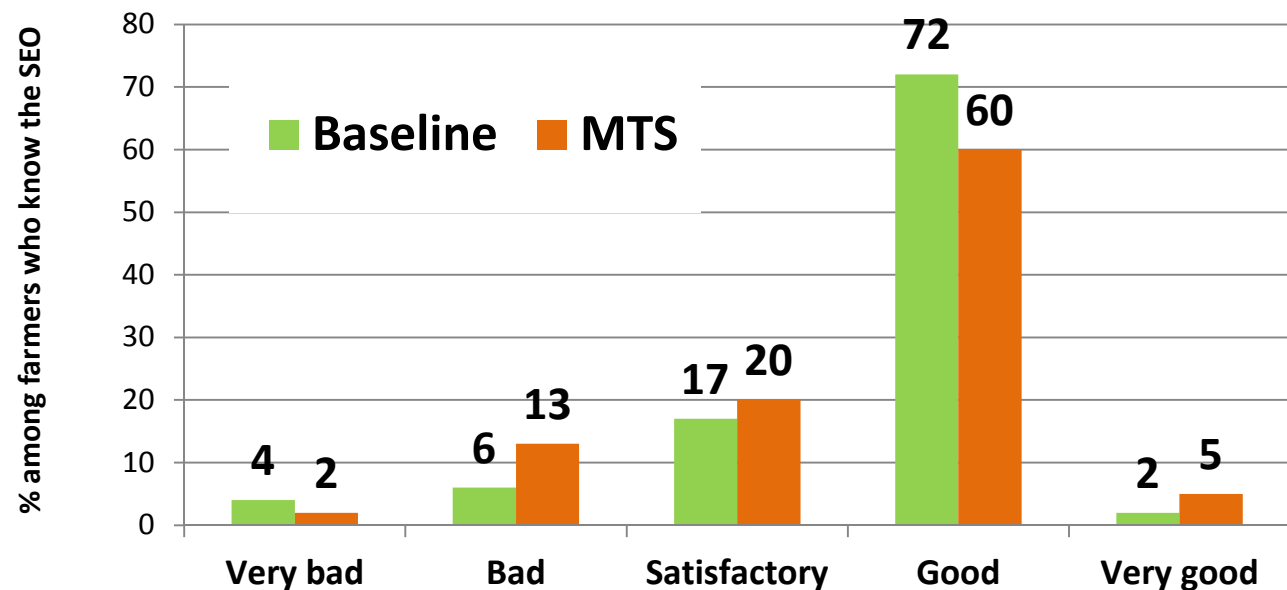
- **79%** of farmers who are members of a seed production group are familiar with at least one MAF/SoL variety
- **25%** of respondents know about the existence of a seed production group in their village:
 - **21%** of them said the group sold seeds: Sele, Nakroma, Noi Mutin & Utamua.
 - **82%** of them are familiar with at least 1 MAF/SoL variety

Establishing a broad network of CSPGs across the country will help familiarizing farmers with MAF/SoL varieties, which is a first step to adoption.



Agricultural extension

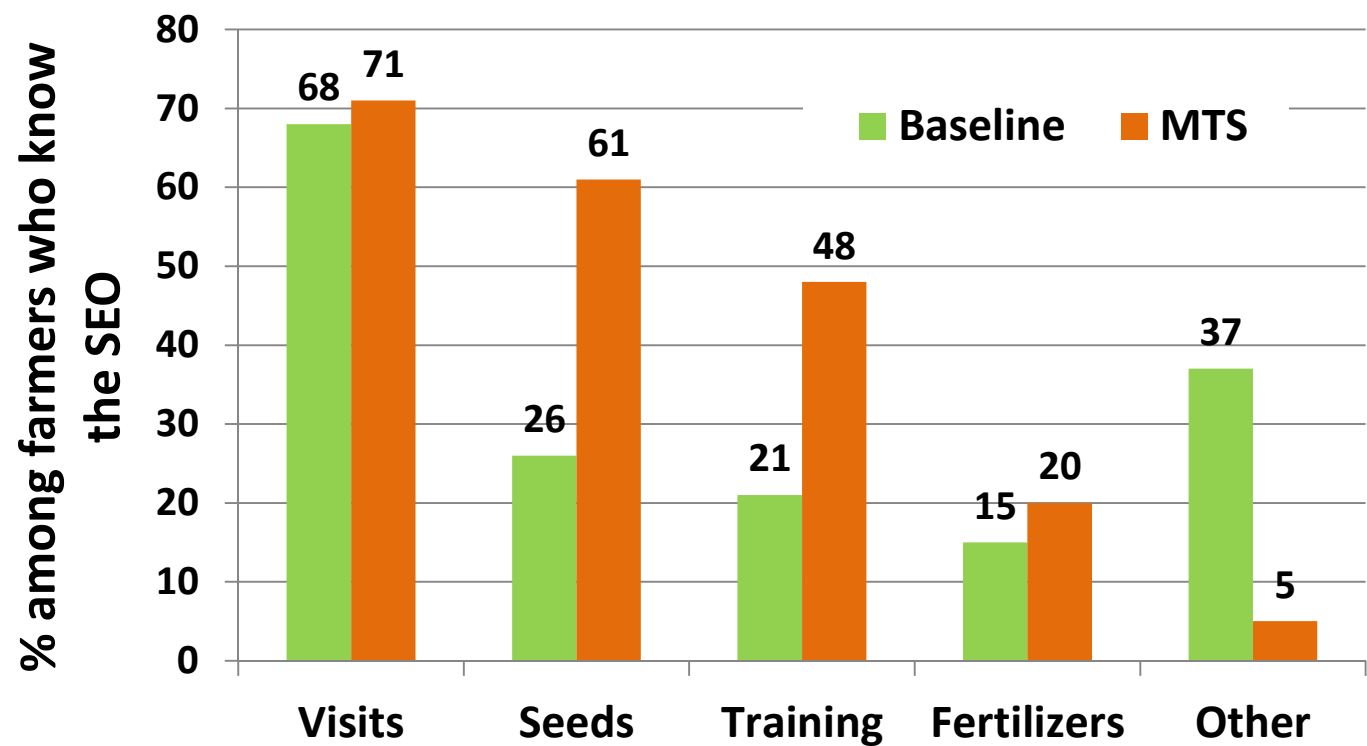
- **61%** of respondents know their Suco Extension Officer (43% in the baseline):
 - 28% of farmers who know the SEO never talked to him
 - 17% of farmers who know the SEO talk to him every day
 - 67% of farmers who know the SEO are men
- Rating of SEOs by respondents





Agricultural extension

Type of services received by respondents in the past six months:



31% of respondents received seeds in the past six months.

RECOMENDATIONS





- **Increase access to MAF/SoL varieties:** close monitoring of CSPGs and seed revolving scheme, organize field days in CSPGs, increase efforts for Ai-Luka and Hohrae distribution, target isolated/vulnerable households
- **Strengthening the work of SEOs:** to monitor CSPGs, increase farmer's awareness/knowledge (technical practices, proper storage, names of varieties), work with women farmers
- **Communication:** label cuttings during distribution, involve radio/TV during events such as community theatre, creating a brand around varieties' names, more extension booklets.



The Report

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