

# RISK BURDENS & RIGHTS OF WOMEN IN ORGANIC AGRICULTURE

## A CASE STUDY OF 3 AGRO-CLIMATIC ZONES IN INDIA



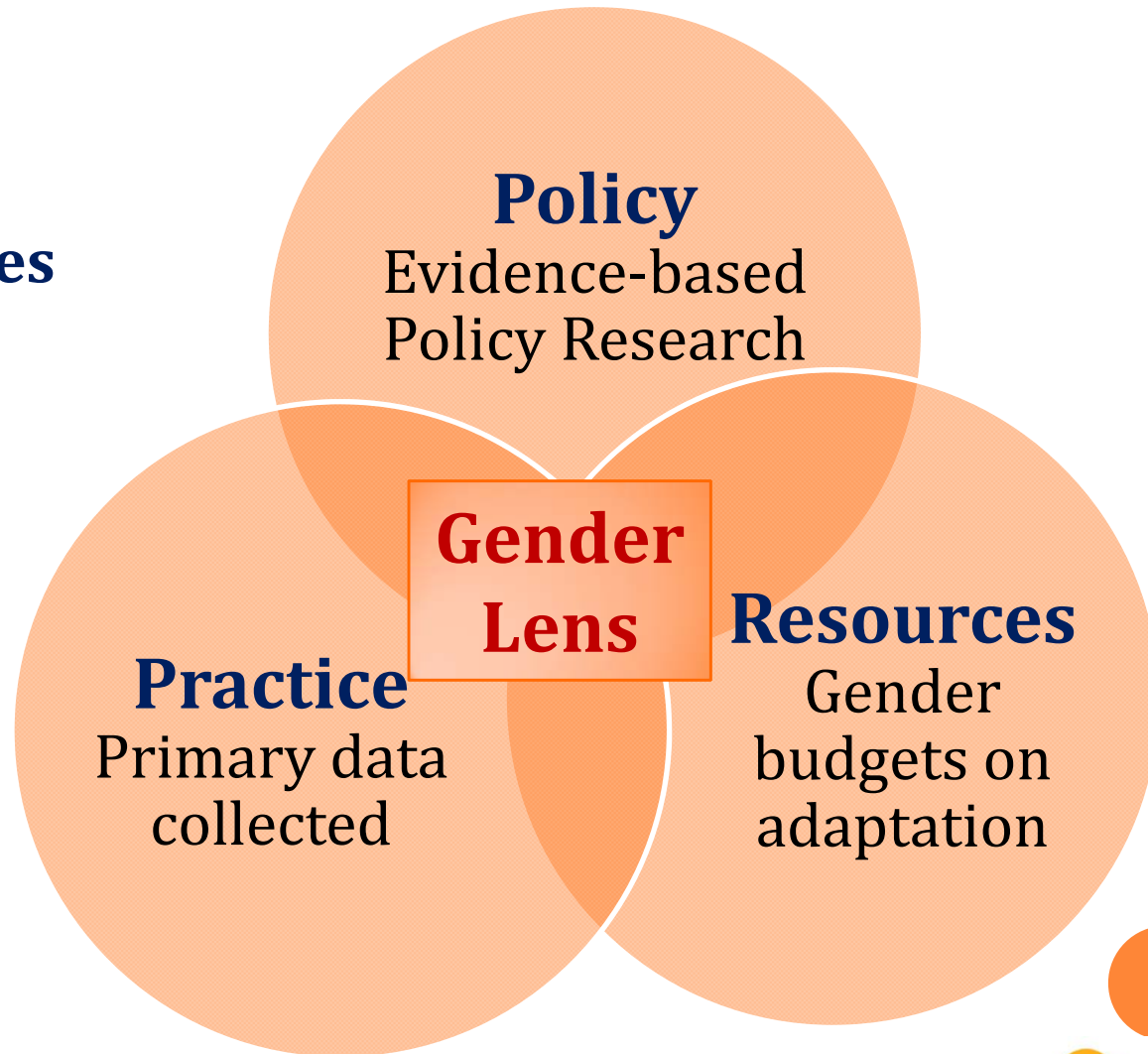
**Aditi Kapoor**  
**Alternative Futures**

**Asia-Pacific Adaptation Forum**  
**Kuala Lumpur, October 1, 2014**

# FOCUS OF THE PROJECT

## Agro-climatic Zones

- ✓ Arid
- ✓ Flood-prone
- ✓ Coastal

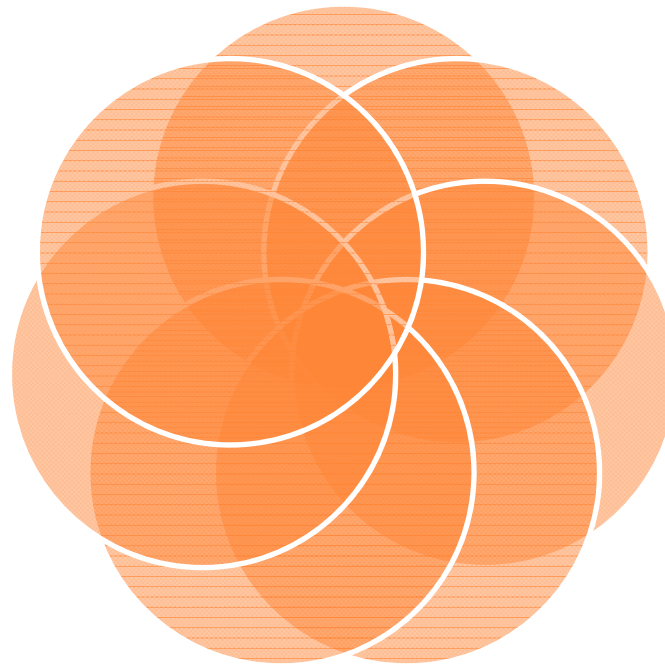


# ASSUMPTIONS

Climate change is already impacting agriculture in India and this will worsen.

Climate action plans and programmes remain gender-blind.

Adaptation interventions will also affect men and women differently.



Almost all of agriculture is carried out in ecologically fragile regions.

Adaptive capacities and vulnerabilities to climate change are gender differentiated – IPCC

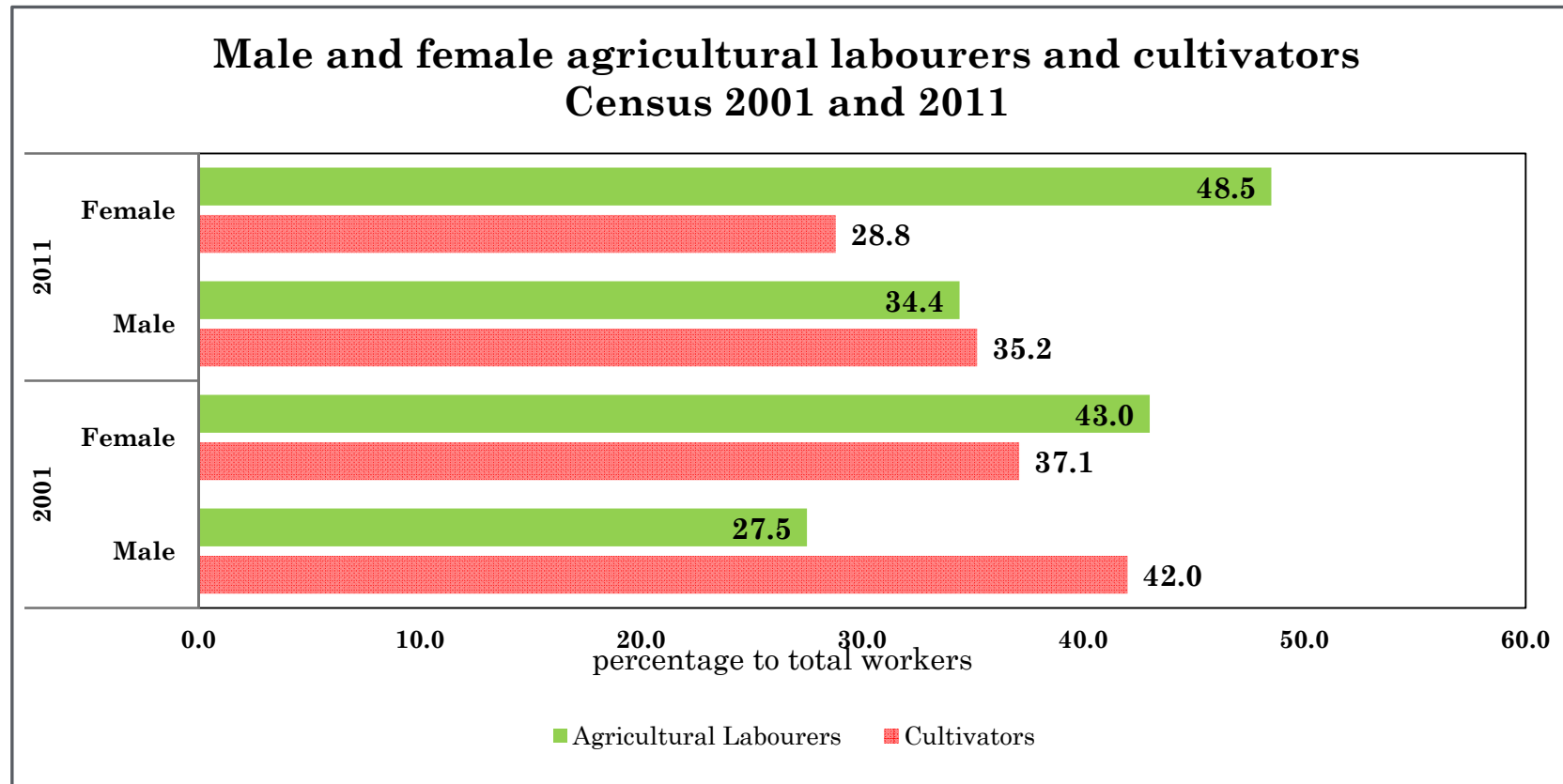
Women farmers are hit first and worst by climate change but do not have the resources, knowledge & authority to adapt.





**MORE WOMEN FACE  
CLIMATE  
UNCERTAINTIES  
WITH LESSER  
RESOURCES**

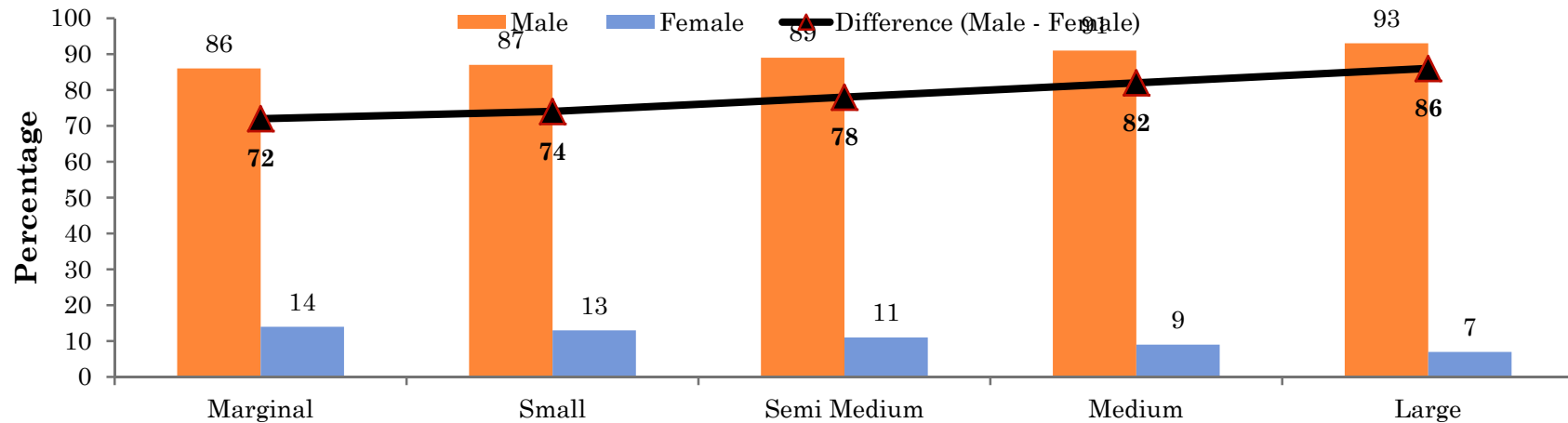
# 'FEMINISATION' OF AGRICULTURE LABOUR



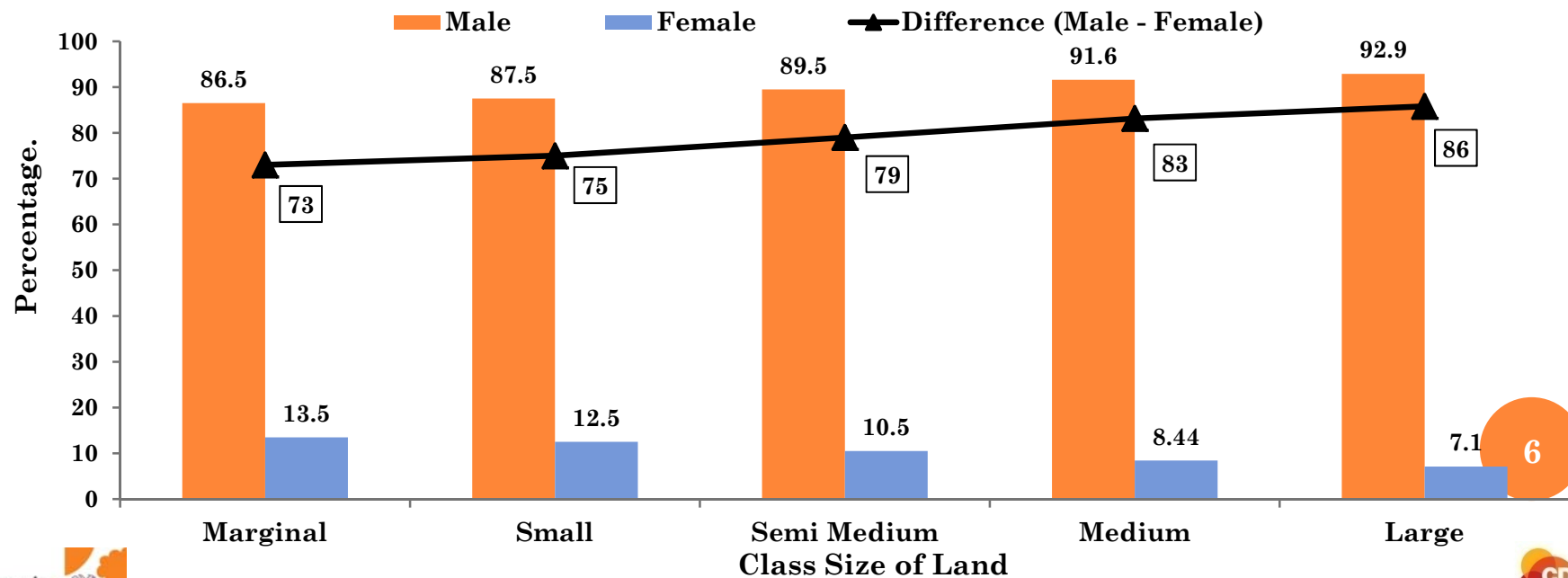
- Proportion of women farm labourers outnumber proportion of men farm labour. This proportion is growing.
- 2011: Nearly half of the women working are farm labour and casual work is on the rise.

# GENDER-BASED OWNERSHIP OF AGRICULTURE LAND

## Share of Number of Operational land Holdings (Individual)



## Share of Area of Operational Holdings (Individual)

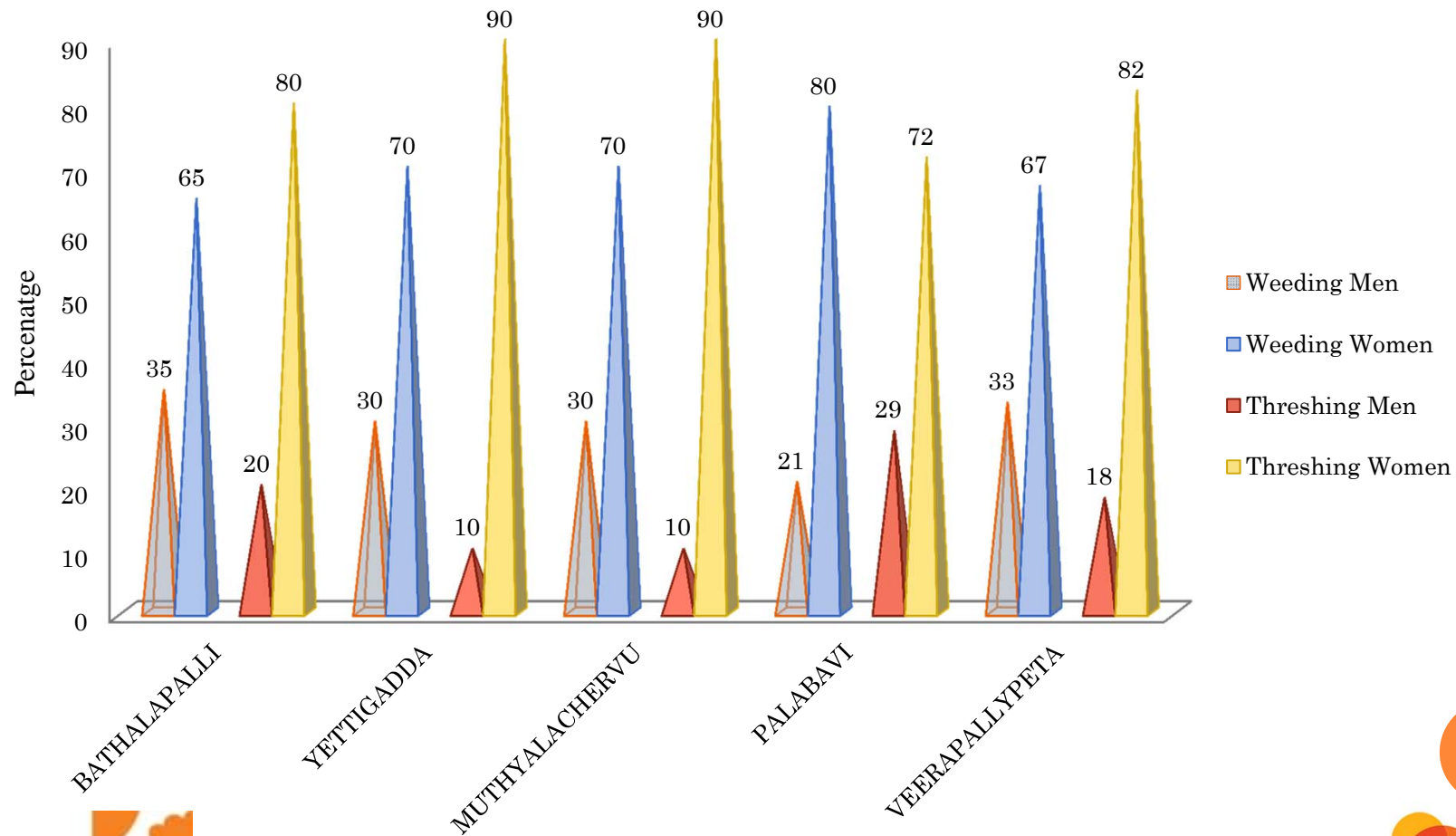




# RESEARCH FINDINGS

# WOMEN'S WORK BURDEN IS MORE 25 ORGANIC, 25 CONVENTIONAL FARMERS

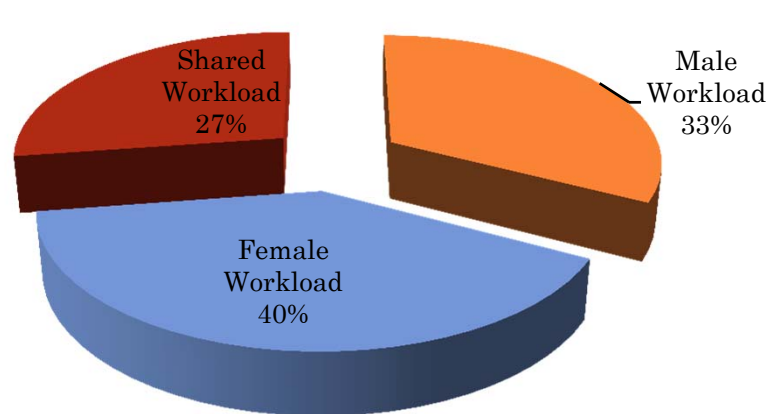
## Five Villages, Arid Zone



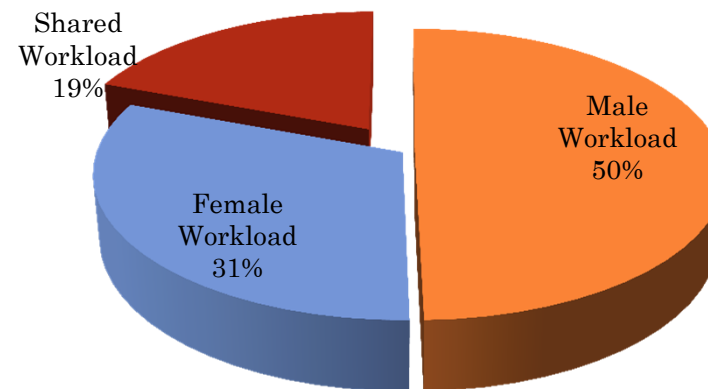


# ADAPTIVE FARMING – MORE WORK FOR WOMEN FLOOD/DROUGHT/CYCLONE -PRONE FARMS

Gender-based workload  
25 Activities, 75 organic farmers



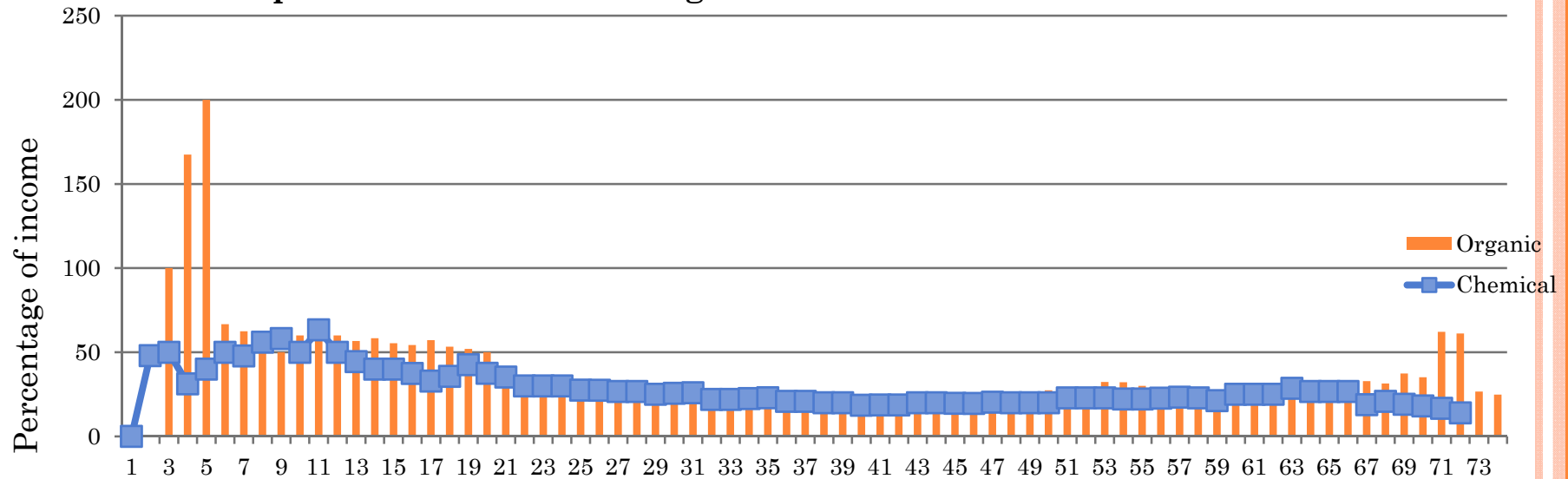
Gender-based workload  
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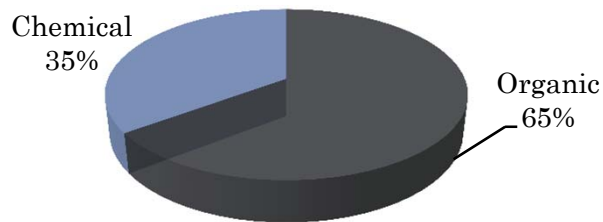
**Adaptive agriculture - more labour-intensive activities**  
*Rotational and/or relay cropping, agro-forestry, livestock management, fish farming, year-round vegetables, etc.*

# MORE WORK BUT MORE INCOME ORGANIC AGRICULTURE

150 Women Farmers in three Agro-climatic Zones in three States  
Proportion of Income for Organic and Conventional Women Farmers

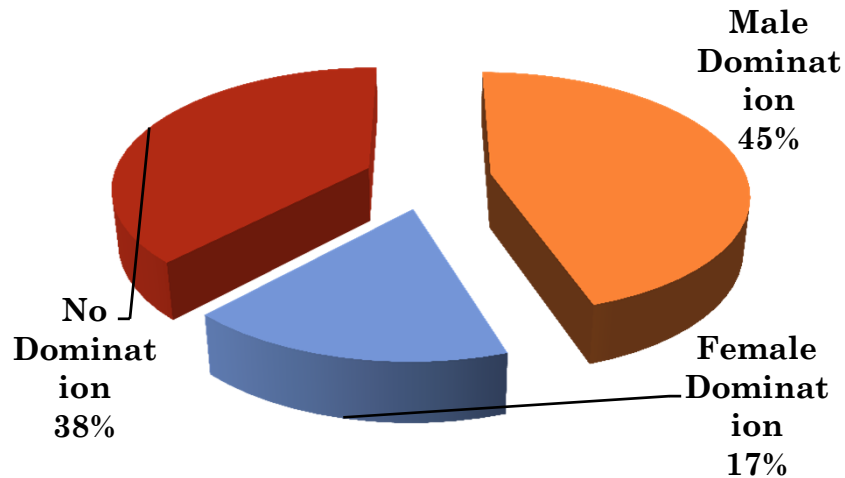


Women doing organic farming earn more than conventional farm women (sample of 150 women)

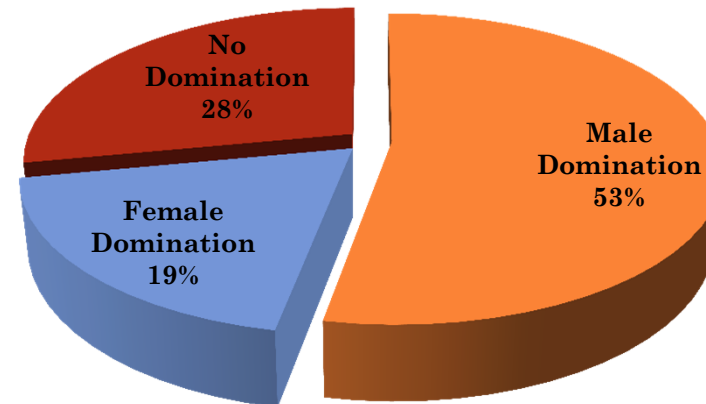


# MEN DOMINATE DECISION-MAKING BUT LESS IN ORGANIC AGRICULTURE

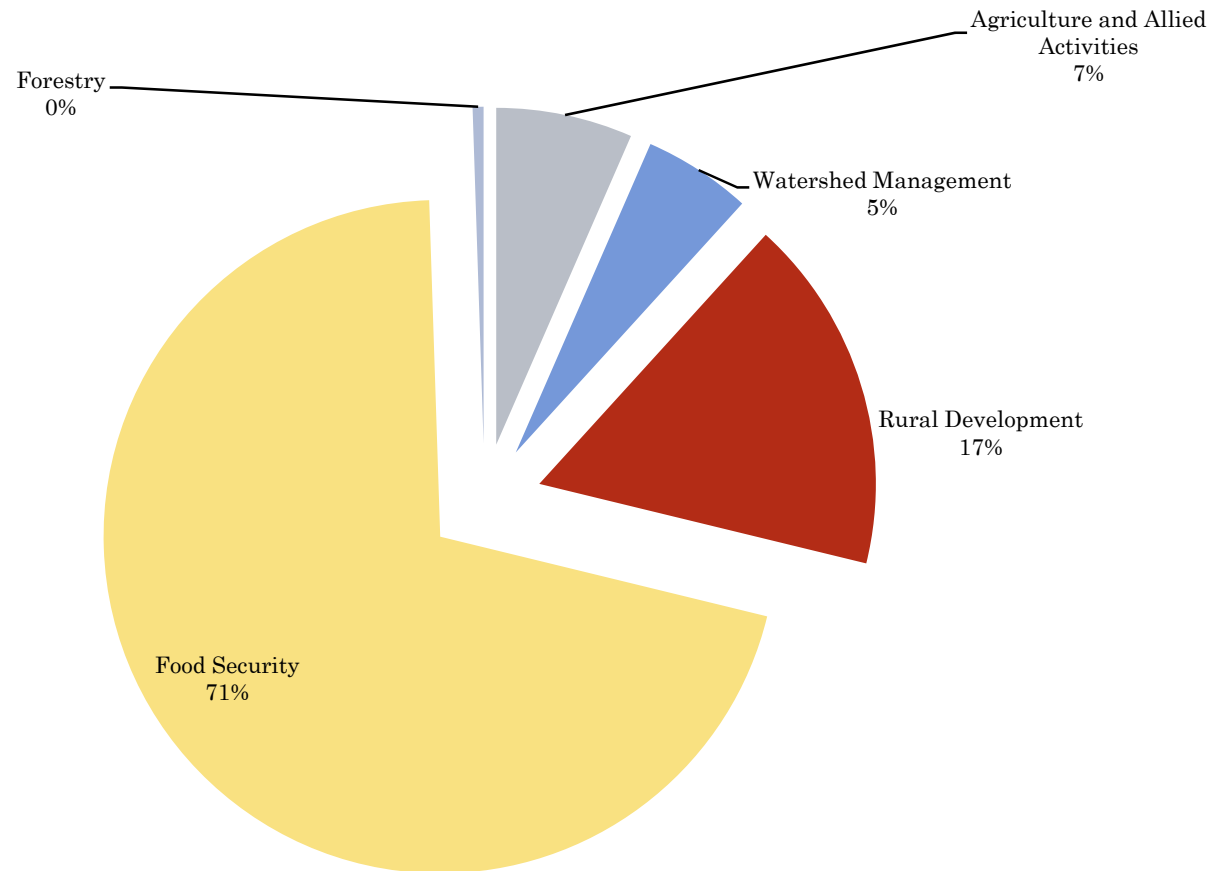
Organic Farming (75 farmers): Gender based roles in decision making for 14 Agricultural Activities



Conventional farming (75 farmers): Gender based roles in decision Making for 14 Agricultural Activities



# GENDER BUDGETS, ADAPTIVE PROGRAMMES



**Adaptation to Climate Change under GB  
Statement in the Hills of Uttarakhand  
2012-13 (%)**



# RECOMMENDATIONS

Recognition  
of women as  
'farmers' and  
*different*  
from male  
farmers

Ownership &  
controlling  
rights - will  
mean larger  
decision-  
making roles

R& D on  
labour and  
drudgery  
reduction

State  
budgets  
proportional  
to workers in  
the sector

# Thank you



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