



THE NATIONAL
RESEARCH INSTITUTE
PAPUA NEW GUINEA

“Subsistence farmers’ resilience in rice cultivation: Case study for informal production and marketing of rice in Pindiu, Morobe Province”

PNG UPDATE 2019 – “DEVELOPMENT AND DIVERSITY”

Name of presenter

Lewis Iwong
Research Project Officer
Informal Economy Research Program
The PNG NRI
Email: Lewis.Iwong@pngnri.org

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Presentation Outline

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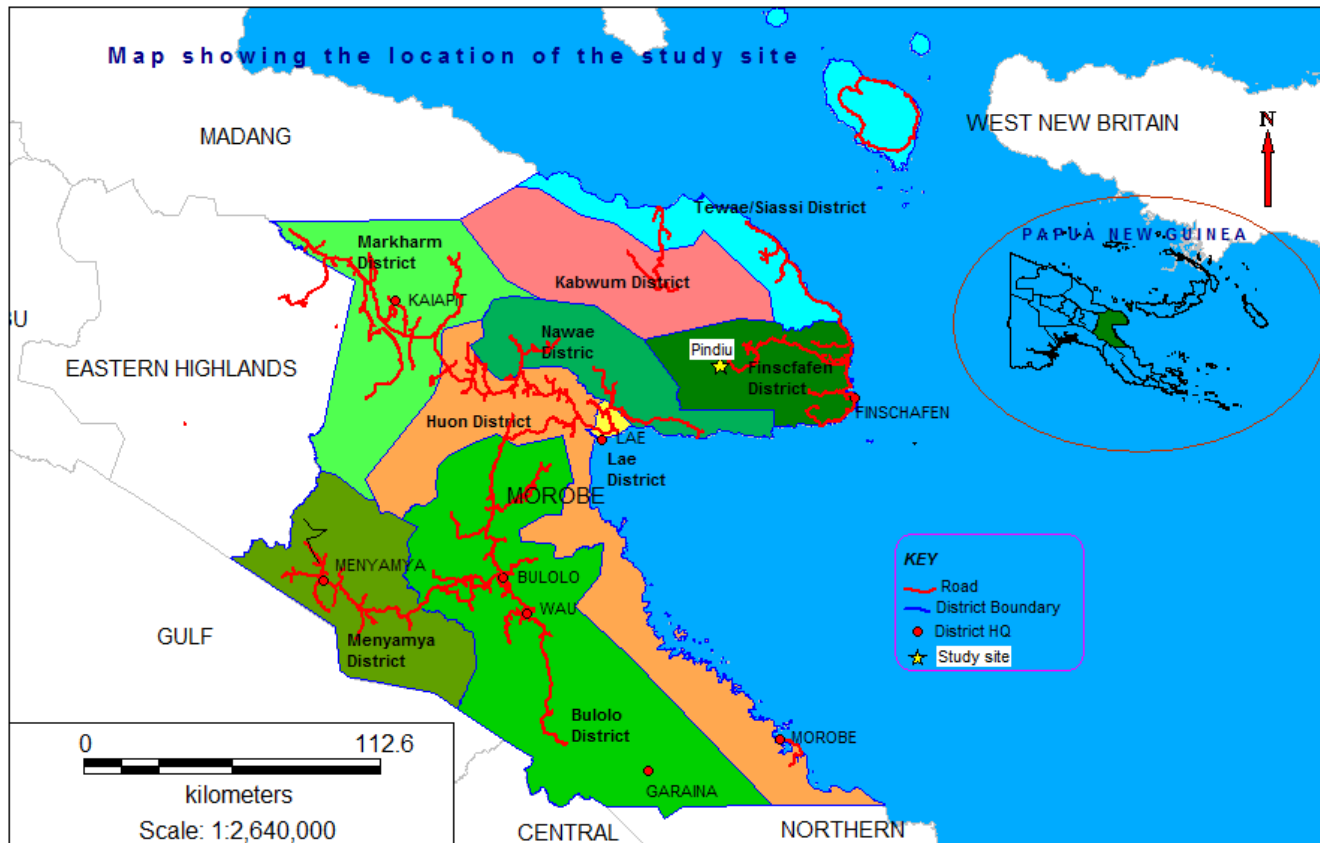
Conclusion & Recommendation

Introduction

- The study is based on subsistence production and informal selling of rice in a rural area in Finschhafen, Morobe Province.
- The study investigates the informal rice production & marketing of those committed rural households that cultivate rice.
- Identifies the challenges & constraints facing rural rice producing households
- It reveals the resilience of farmers in growing rice over many years without government support.

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Location of the study site



Brief Background

Domestic Rice Production in PNG

Past...

- In 1975, 800 tons (243) produced in Bereina (1976 production ceased)
- 1975, New Ireland smallholder rice production was promoted
- 1980s, small irrigated rice program near Bau, Madang
- 1987 production in Maprik almost ceased (Rice bug)
- 1988 – 1994, production of rice again in Bereina (DAL)
- 1992, 444 farmers produced 283 tons
- 1996, Garaina produced 50 tons/year

Source: Blakeney. M & Clough R, (2001)

Present.....

- 2003, DAL & JICA, established a technical cooperation project to develop a rice production system (East Sepik & Madang)

1. Model Farm Approach (MFA)

- 2017, Production in Ragiampun, Markham (Trukai & NARI)

1. Commercial Rice Farming Approach

2. Model Farm Approach

Focus only on smallholder rice farming, pilot projects on suitable rice varieties and initiative for commercial purposes.

Source: DAL & JICA , (2015)

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The state is committed to provide an enabling environment to facilitate the establishment and growth of domestic rice production and informal economic activities.

1. Papua New Guinea National Rice Policy 2015 – 2030
2. Papua New Guinea National Informal Economy Policy 2011-2015
 - ❖ Financial inclusion
 - ❖ Provision of public goods and services

Methodology

- A case study
- Purposive sampling approach
- Using semi-structured questionnaire
- Research assistants' administered the questionnaire
- Consultation with key stockholders; DAL, NARI & Trukai

Results & Discussion

Demographic of the study population

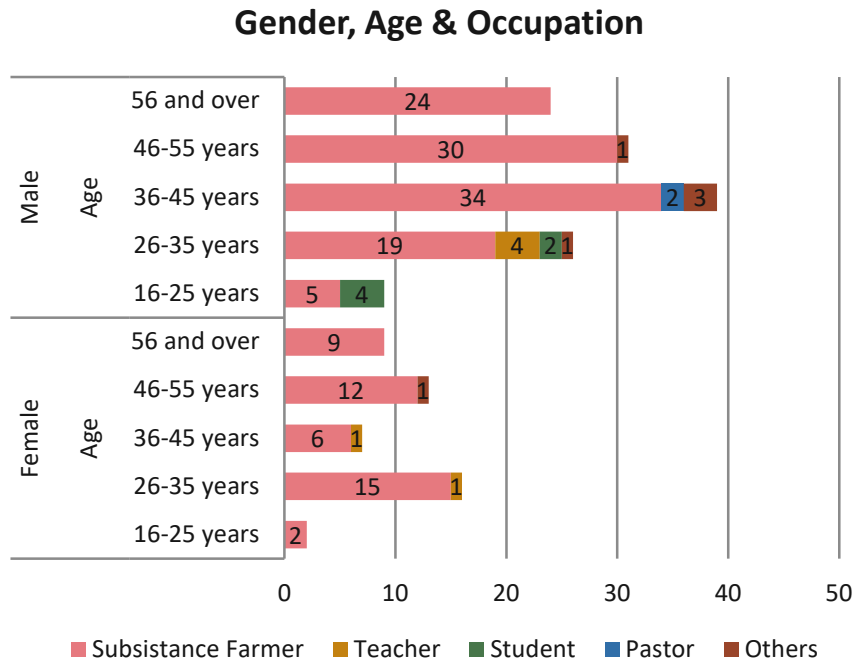


Figure 1. The graph showing demographic profile of the study population by Gender, Age & Occupation



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Cultivation of rice in the study population area

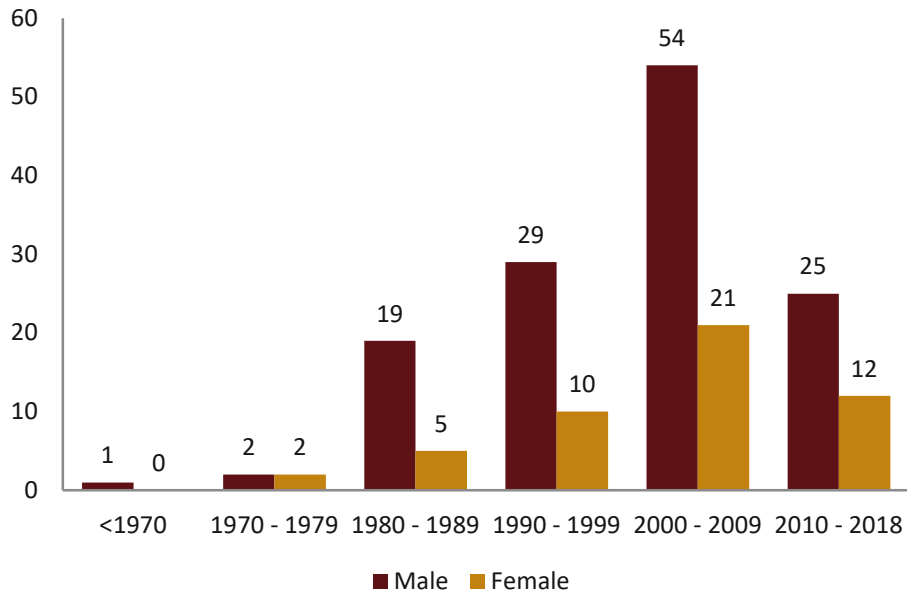


Figure 2. The bar graph shows the year each respondent cultivated rice

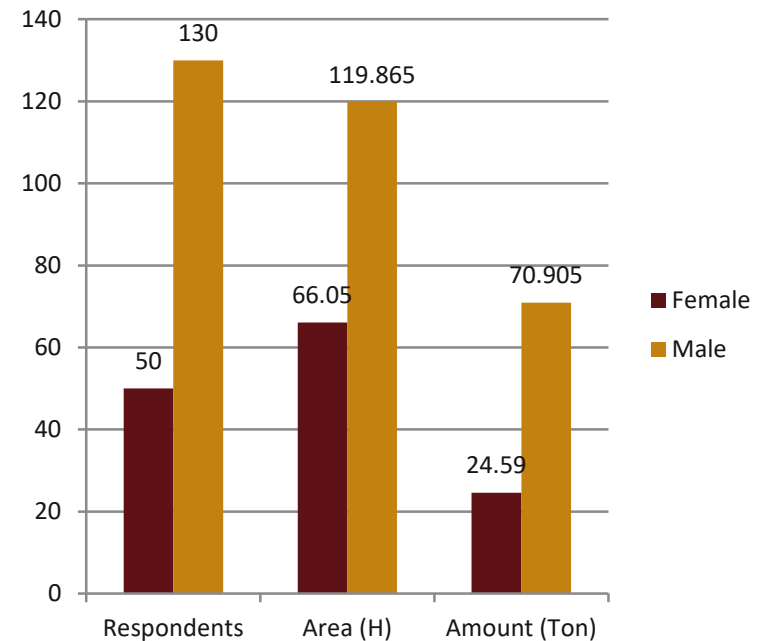


Figure 3. The bar graph shows the total area (H) & amount (Ton) of rice produced, (2018).

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Consumption & Selling of rice

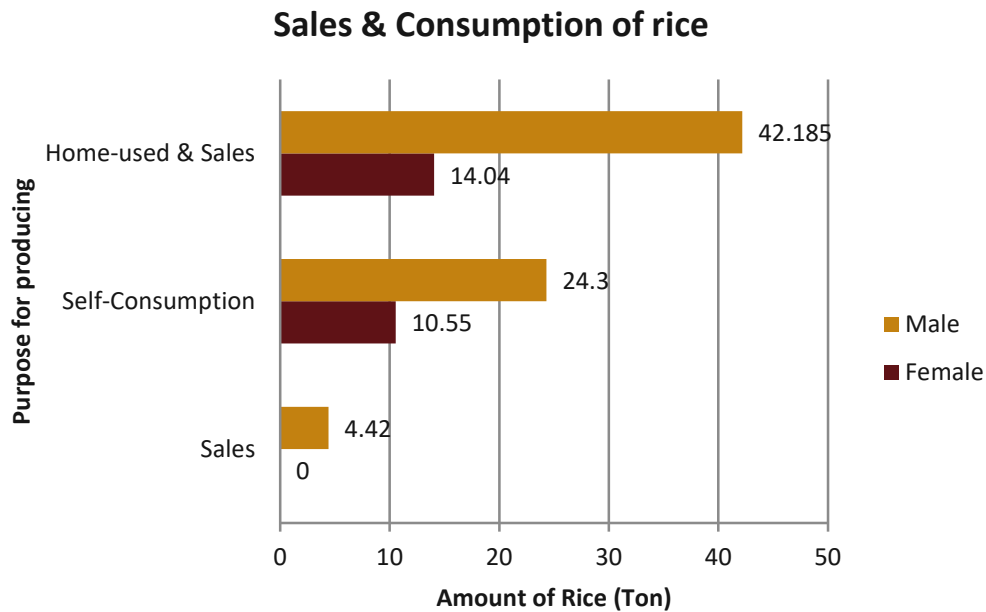


Figure 4. The bar graph shows the amount of rice produced, according to the main purposes.

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Monetary value of rice production in Kina

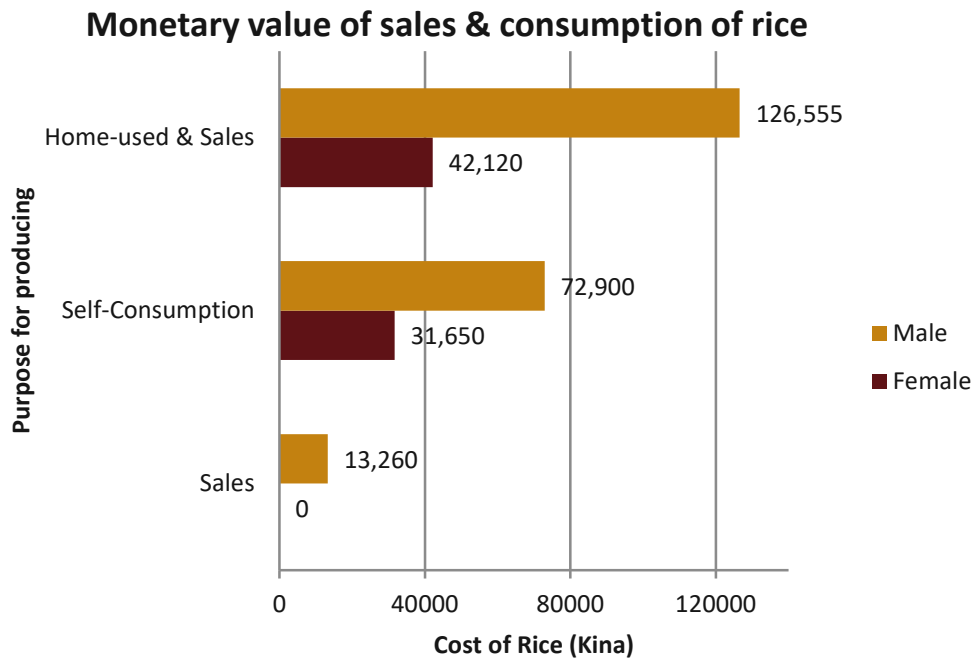


Figure 5. The bar graph shows, how much the rice produced is cost accordingly.

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Challenges and Constraints

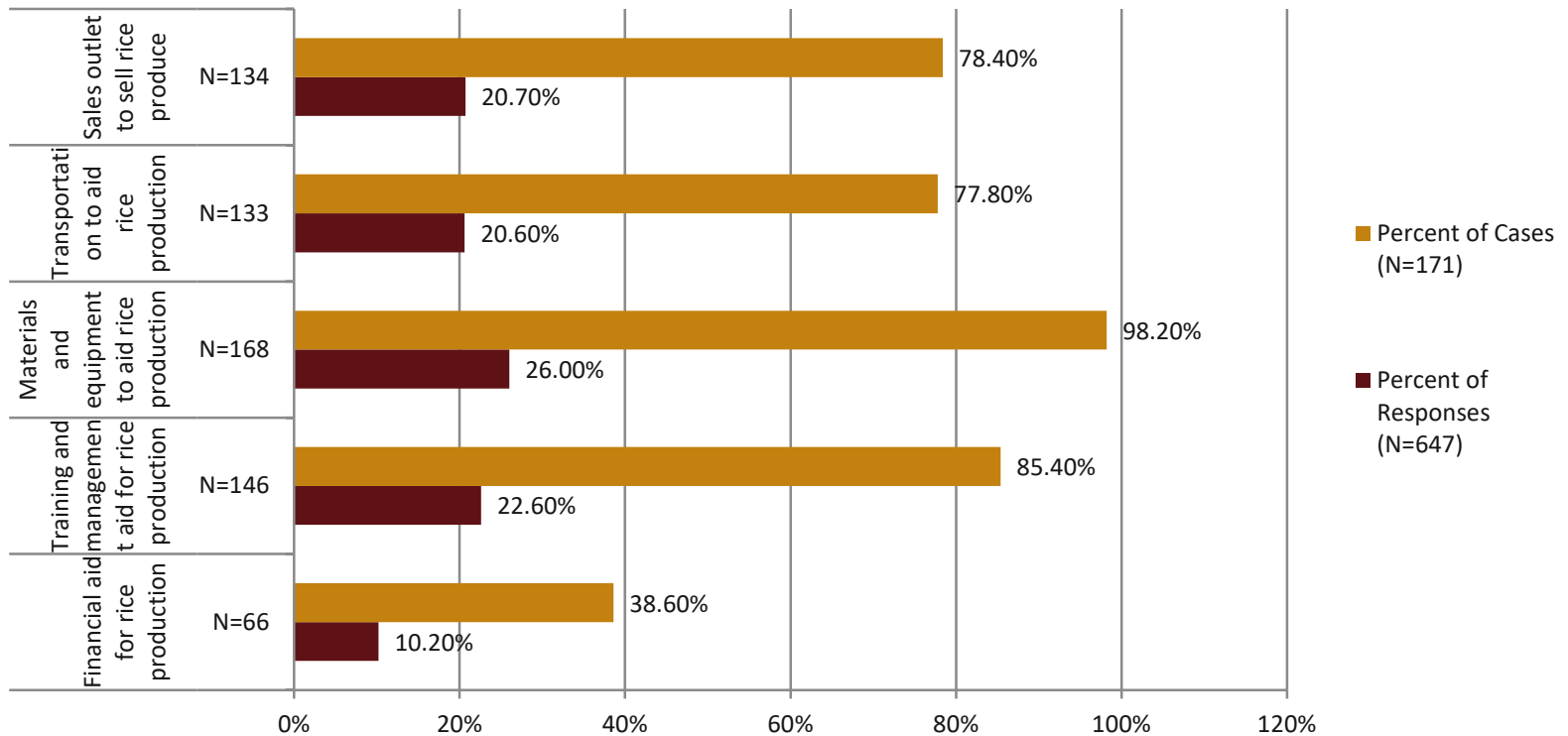


Figure 6. The bar graph illustrates the main challenges & constraints that are faced by the study population.

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Highlights of the discussion

- Most of the population under study are subsistence farmers
- Both men & women involved in rice cultivation with age range of 16 to 56 years old
- Commencement in planting rice; The female started in the 1980's, whereas males started way back in 70's.
- Total amount of rice produced, 95.495 ton (185.915 H)
- Most respondents grow rice for self-consumption as well as sales when opportunity arises.
- The monetary value for the total production of rice for the study population, K286,485
- Main challenges and constraints
 1. Materials & Equipment to aid rice production
 2. Training & management to enhance rice production
 3. Transportation & Sales outlet (Market)

Conclusion & Recommendation

- Rice grown in rural areas is mainly for household consumption, need to create a suitable domestic market for these subsistence rice producing households
- Rural rice producing households need technical support, training & management; to improve production method & increase yield
- Domestic rice production is expected to be up scaled by informal producers, however the rural rice farmers are being neglected
- Under current economic conditions and production methods, it is less likely to achieve a significant increase in local production.
- However, despite the constraints and difficulties, there are few committed rural rice farmers in PNG
- The state has to be committed to provide an enabling environment to facilitate the establishment and growth of domestic rice production at the rural rice producing household level.
- Self reliance & Sustainability in domestic rice farming will be achieved through an effective approach at the subsistence farming level

The end...

Thank You



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Reference

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