

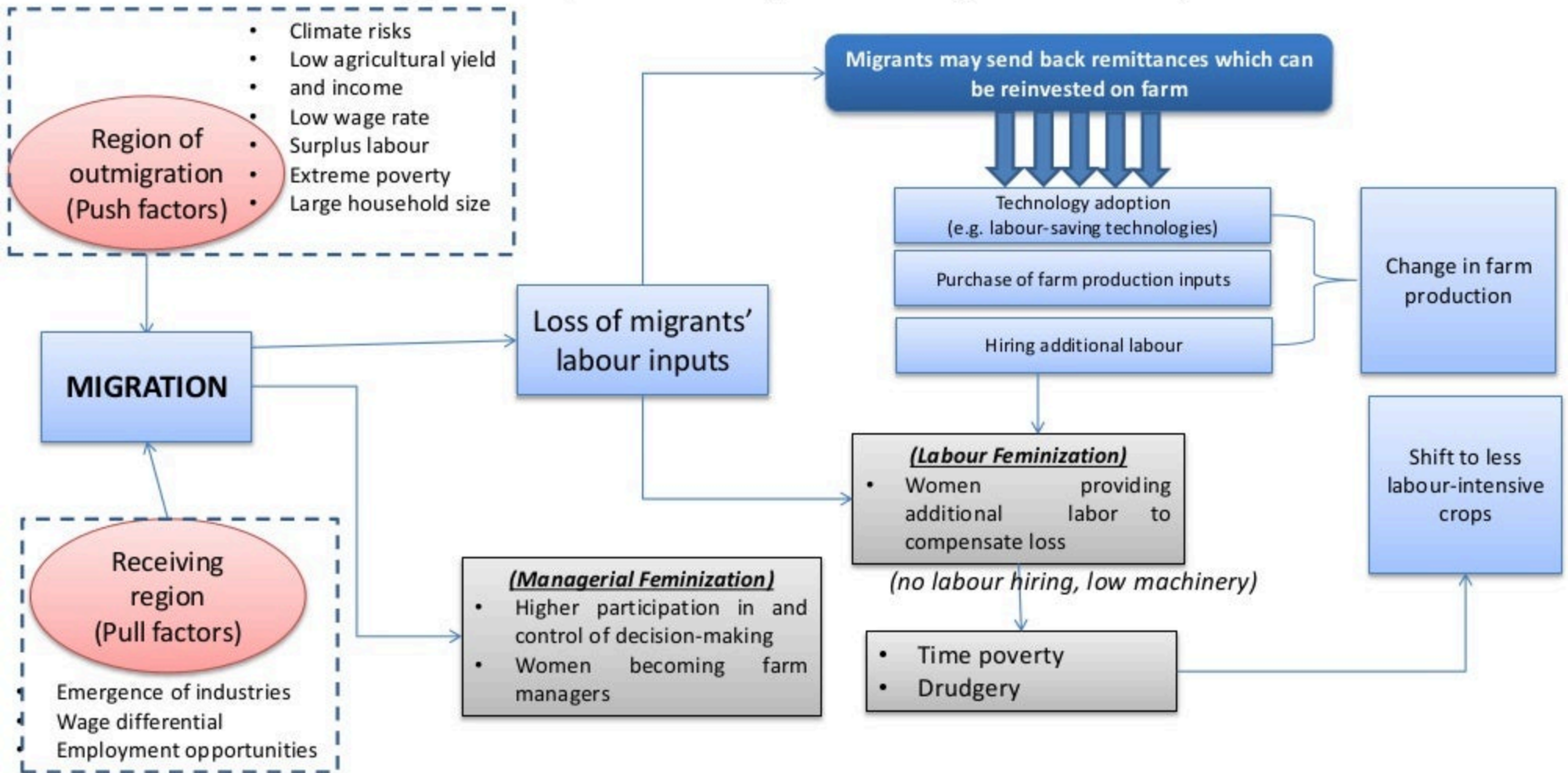
Rural Outmigration-Feminization- Agricultural Production Nexus: Case of Vietnam

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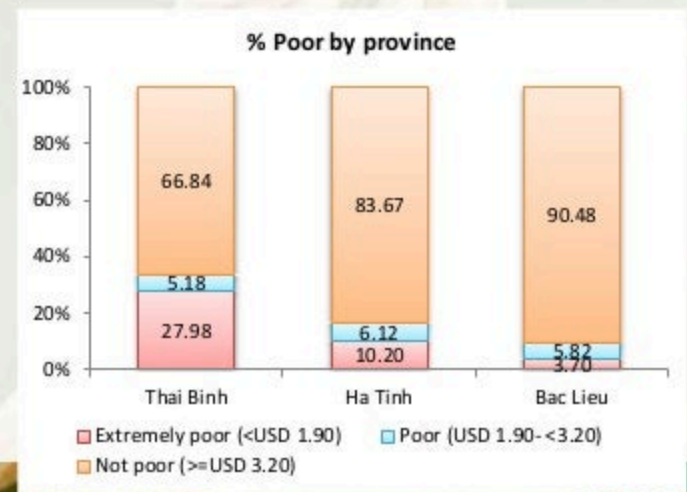
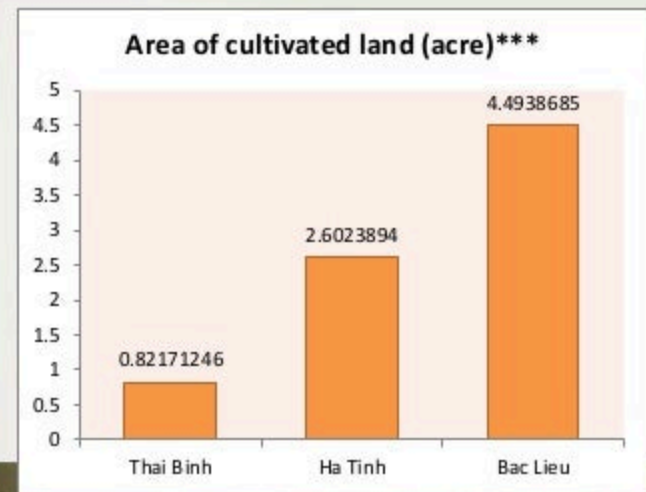
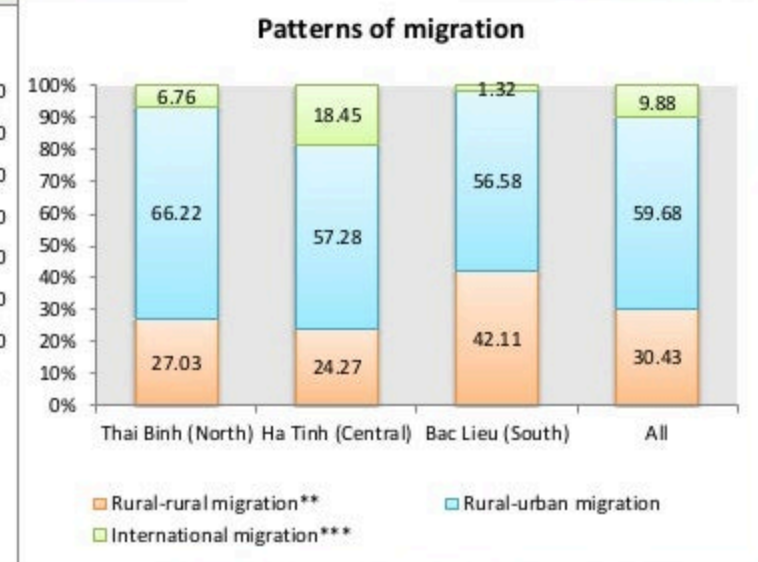
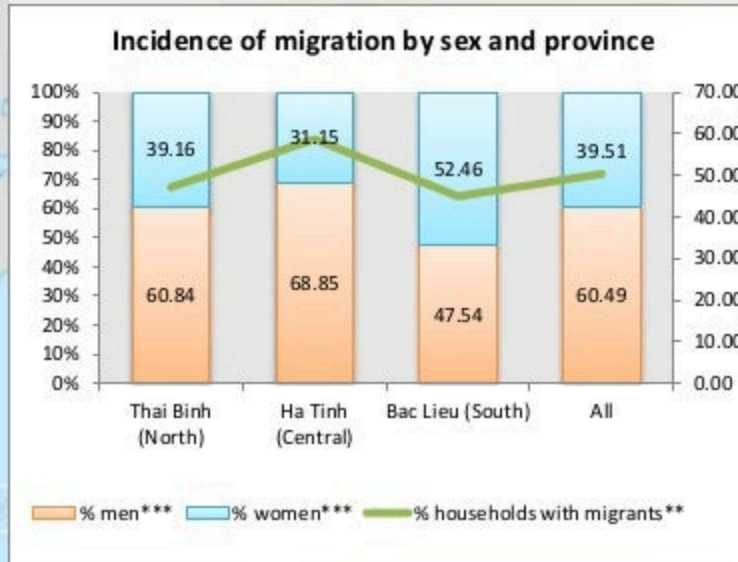
Presentation Outline

- How does migration affect farm labour availability?
- Do men's and women's roles in farm production change as a consequence of migration?
- Are women able to access necessary productive assets and services when they take over farm management?
- What are the implications of these changes for farm production?

How can migration potentially affect agricultural production?



Migration patterns



Changes in gendered division of labour

- Increase in women's labour as a consequence of migration
- More involvement of women is observed in areas with high migration rates and in households undertaking international migration
- Hiring of labour (esp. hired male) seems to decrease with migration

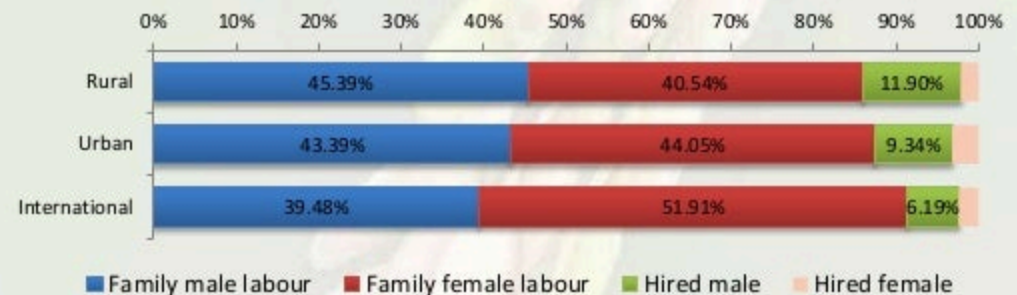
By location



Labour hour participation by migration incidence

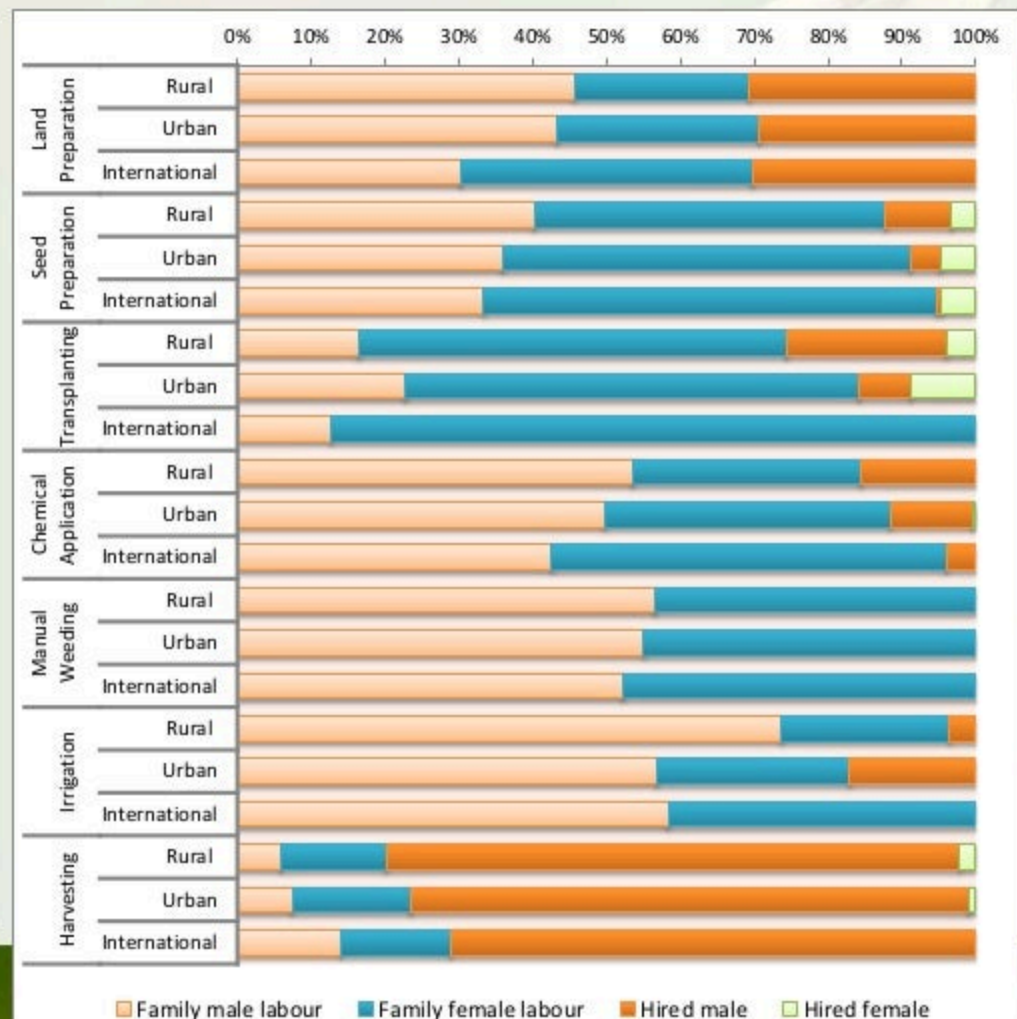
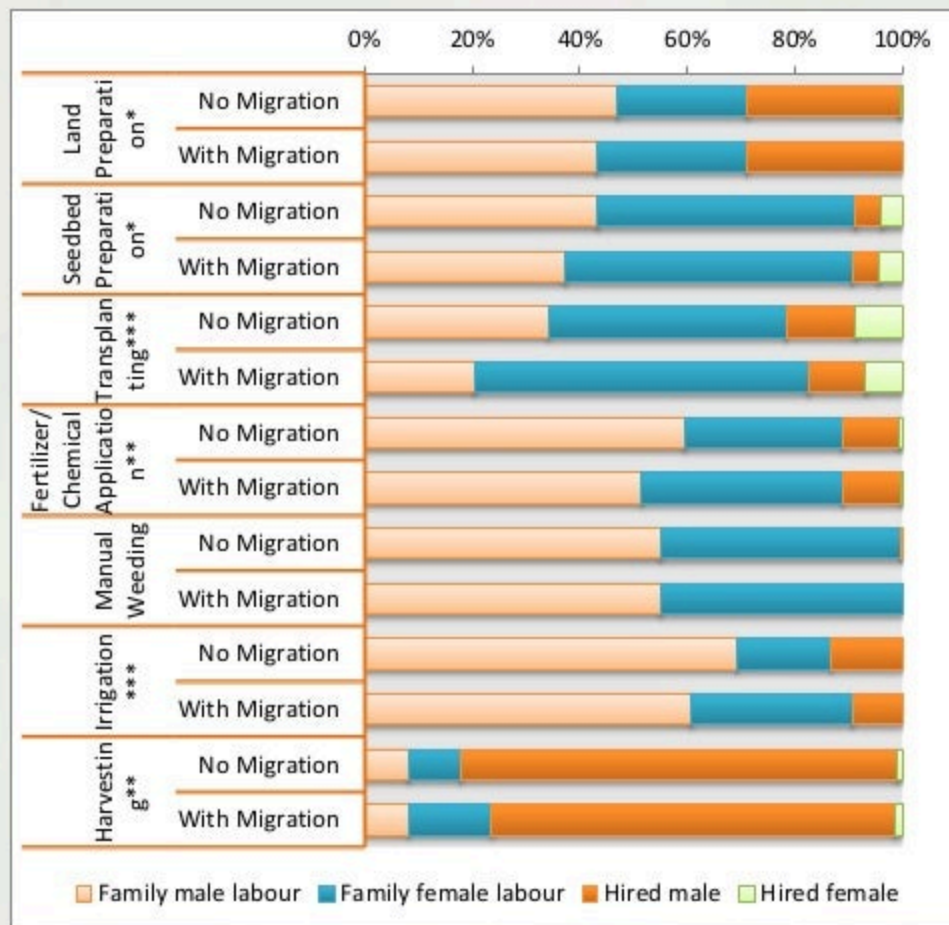


By patterns of migration



Changes in gendered division of labour

Women are taking over tasks traditionally assigned to men, which are culturally defined as “heavy tasks”...

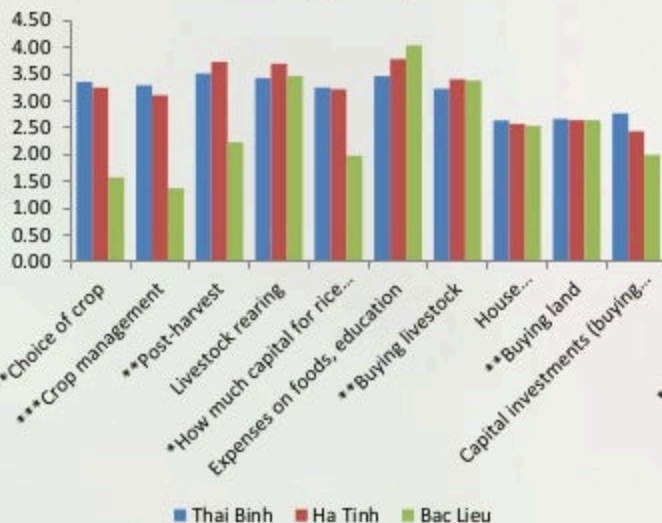


Is it feminization of labour or farm management?

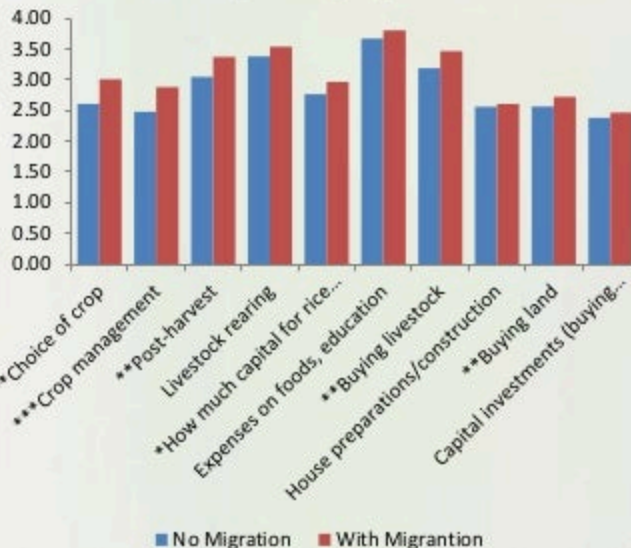
...not only labour is feminized, women handle overall management of the farm

- Wives in migrant households have higher involvement in decision-making in majority of domains, but husbands still dominate decisions related to farm investments e.g. buying land and renting/buying machinery.

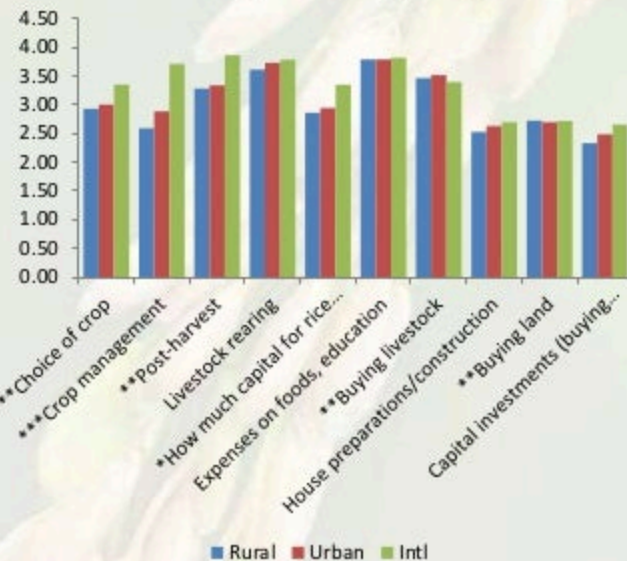
Decision-making index by location



Decision-making index by migration incidence



Decision-making index by migration pattern



*Scores: 1=Husband only makes decision; 2=Both, husband dominates; 3=Both equally; 4=Both, wife dominates; 5=Wife only

**Choice of crop: (a) What crop to grow, (b) What variety to use

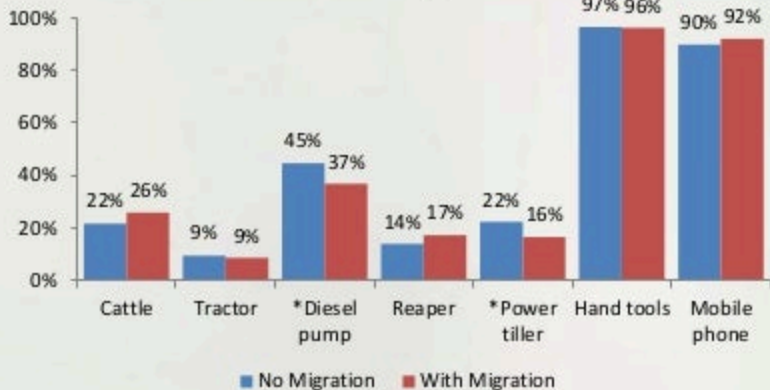
***Crop management: (a) When to/How much fertilizer to apply, (b) When to/How much pesticides; (c) When to irrigate; (d) Who solves problems; (e) Who rents labour; (f) When to harvest

****Post-harvest: (a) What variety to use for next season; (b) Utilization of rice; (c) When to sell

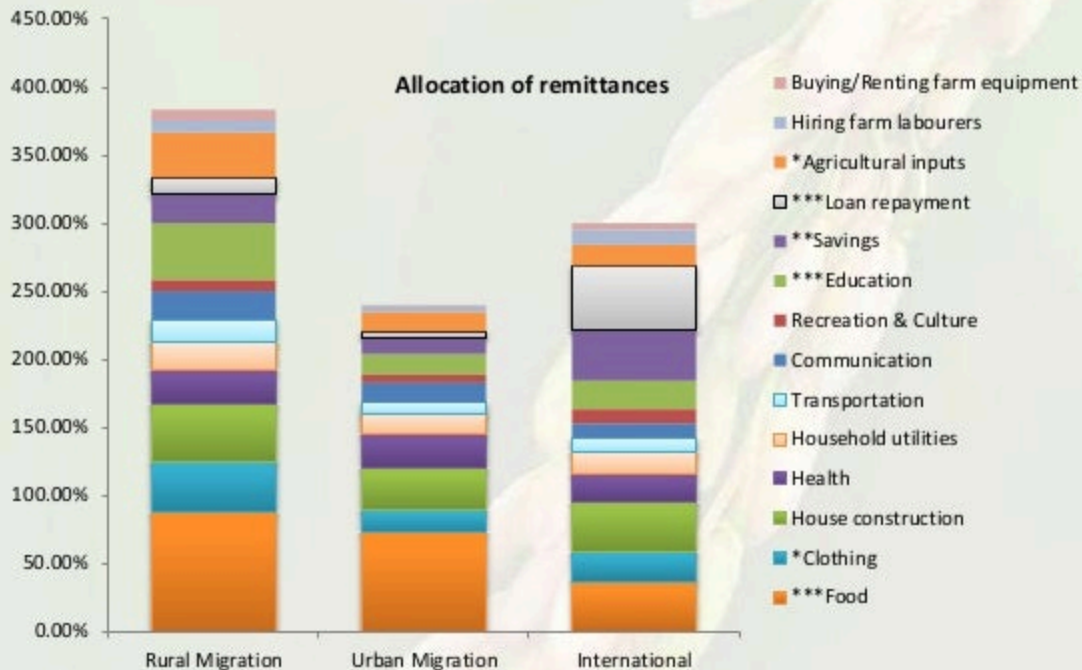
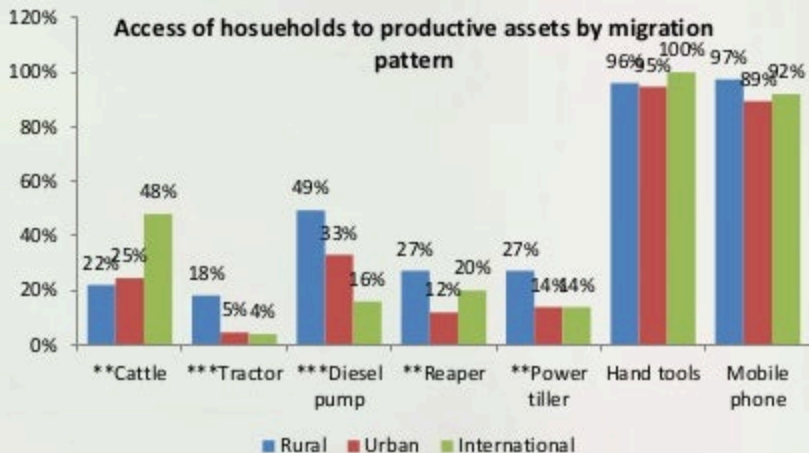
...but do women have access to necessary assets?

- Access to farm machinery which could have reduced women's labour burden remains limited
- Remittances are allocated mainly for consumer durables and the least for investments on farm inputs, machines, and hired labour

Access of households to productive assets



Access of households to productive assets by migration pattern

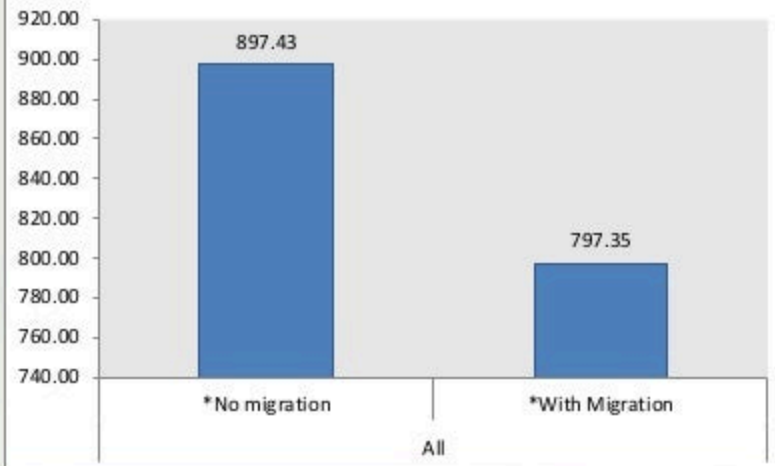


- *“...livelihood diversification activities made women feel that they had a heavy workload, that they slept less, and had no time for leisure; they felt tired and worn out with aching backs, legs, and arms. And although results in higher income, better nutritional status, and education for children, it can have negative impact on women’s overall welfare.”—Chi 2008*

- *“Low popularity of harvesting machinery is mainly because it is **too costly and too heavy** to be moved from field to field. In many cases, the **design of harvesters is unsuited to the characteristics of rice farms in Vietnam** (small fields, narrow pathway, soft and muddy soil)”—
Chi 2008*

Implications for agricultural production

Rice yield (kg/acre)



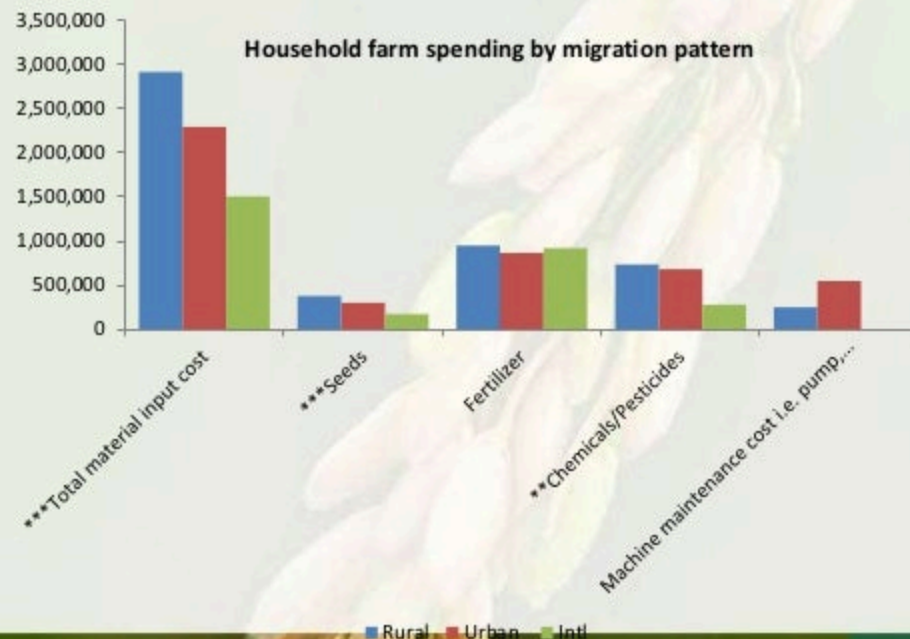
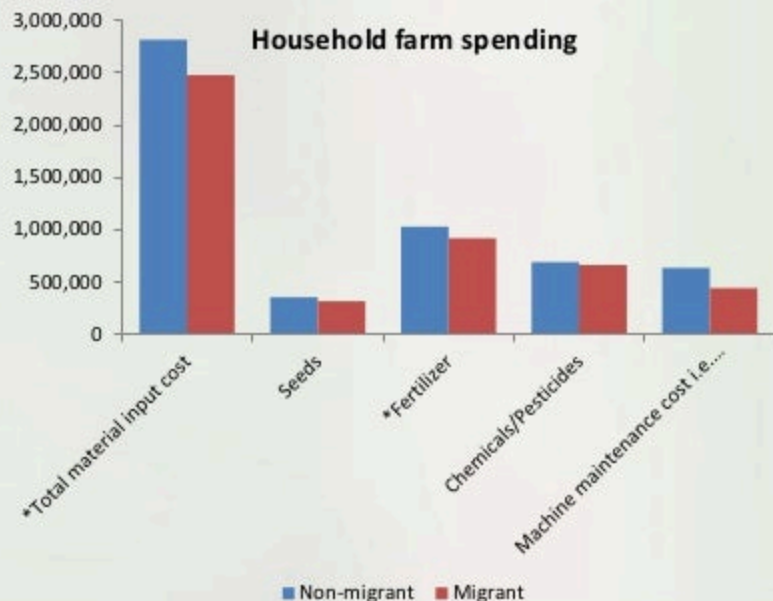
	(1) Rice yield	(2) Rice yield	(3) Rice yield	(4) Rice yield
Migration (1 migrant, 0 otherwise)	0.0732			
Rural (1 rural, 0 otherwise)		-0.1791		
Urban (1 urban, 0 otherwise)			-0.2525	
International (1 international, 0 otherwise)				0.2266
Land area (acre)	0.0982**	0.0918**	0.0887**	0.0895**
Number of adult males	-0.0025	0.0173	0.0931	-0.0044
Number of adult females	-0.0014	0.0411	0.0755	0.0323
Number of children	0.0063	0.0261	-0.0197	0.0089
Man labour hours	0.0046	-0.0041	0.0028	0.0052
Woman labour hours	-0.0898***	-0.0875***	-0.0854***	-0.0887***
Seed cost	0.3240***	0.3306***	0.3221***	0.3312***
Fertilizer cost	0.3596***	0.3576***	0.3396***	0.3515***
Pesticides cost	0.0736**	0.0663**	0.0690**	0.0781**
Hired labour cost	0.0372	0.0380	0.0508	0.0349
Constant	-3.5851	-3.5165	-3.3613	-3.5867
Chi-sq P-value	0.000***	0.000***	0.000***	0.000***
R-squared	69.30%	68.85%	67.64%	69.10%

- Migrant households have lower yield
- Investment in production inputs (i.e. seeds, fertilizers, pesticides) increases rice yield
- Increasing woman labour hours reduces the yield

Implications for use of Agricultural Inputs (Rice)

- Migrant households, especially those with international migrants, are spending less on farm inputs than non-migrant households
- Usage of these inputs significantly contributes to higher production

“Higher expenditures on seeds, insecticides and pesticides, hired labor, and machinery rental have a positive association with rice produced” —De Brauw 2007, Vietnam



Key Messages

- When men in farming households migrate, women take over tasks that are traditionally assigned to men—land preparation, irrigation, fertilizers application, pesticides and chemical application
- Women also take on farm managerial responsibilities in the absence of men
- Not hiring additional labour and low farm machinery use could be leading to time poverty and enhanced drudgery of women affecting their health and well-being

We would like to acknowledge all CGIAR Research Programs and Centers for supporting the participation of their gender scientists to the *Seeds of Change* conference.



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