

SURVEY BRIEF

**Agricultural year 2023 and
trends (2020–2023)**

GEORGIA



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Under the umbrella of the 50x2030 Initiative to Close the Agricultural Data Gap, the Food and Agriculture Organization of the United Nations (FAO) provided technical support for four annual agricultural surveys implemented by the National Statistics Office of Georgia (Geostat) between 2020 to 2023. Through the Initiative, the country strengthened its national statistics system, improved the quality and use of survey data in policymaking and enhanced the capacity of key data users to optimize evidence-based decisions.

Key features

This note provides key insights on agriculture in Georgia for 2023, as well as major trends since 2020. It presents indicators on agricultural land and holding size, output and income from crops and animal husbandry, farm input use and the participation of women in agriculture. More detailed indicators are available in the survey report (Geostat, 2023a) and statistical tables (Geostat, 2023b). A technical annex at the end of this document provides further details on the indicators presented, definitions, sources and assumptions used.

Cultivated land and distribution by crop type

In 2023, Georgia allocated a total of 210 000 hectares to the cultivation of annual crops. Although data on area planted with permanent crops are not readily available from the survey, they are likely to exceed 73 000 hectares – the area reported as treated with pesticides. Most Georgian farmers primarily produce for their own consumption (75 percent), while 21 percent focus mainly on production for sale.

Total cultivated land (annual crops)

210
thousand hectares

Holdings producing primarily or mainly
for own consumption

75%

Holdings producing mainly for sale

21%

Note: 3.4 percent of holdings did not report agricultural production

Holding size and average income

Holding size is a major determinant of farm income in Georgia: small holdings (see Technical Annex for the definition of this concept) generate only about 11 percent of the income generated by medium and large holdings (USD 1 714 vs USD 14 944 at 2024 purchasing power parities).



Small
holdings

USD 1 714



Medium
and large holdings

USD 14 944

Importance of family farming

Georgia's agriculture largely relies on family farming (household-operated holding), which accounts for 92 percent of the area sown with annual crops. This share is even higher for the product group comprising potatoes, vegetables, and melons, where family farms cover 98 percent of the sown area.

Family farming

92%

of sown area for annual

Crop output and yields

Georgia's main annual crops include maize, wheat, barley and potatoes. The combined production of the three cereals – maize, wheat, and barley – reaches 390 800 tonnes, while potatoes account for 197 300 tonnes. Cereals occupy 72.7 percent of the total harvested area dedicated to annual crops, whereas potatoes cover less than 8 percent. Cereal yields range from 2.2 tonnes per hectare for barley to 2.6 tonnes per hectare for both maize and wheat. Potatoes, by comparison, yield 12.2 tonnes per hectare.

Permanent crop production in Georgia is largely dominated by fruit crops, with grapes leading at 220 700 tonnes, followed by tangerines at 66 100 tonnes and apples at 50 400 tonnes. Nut production is also significant, particularly hazelnuts, which account for 36 900 tonnes annually.

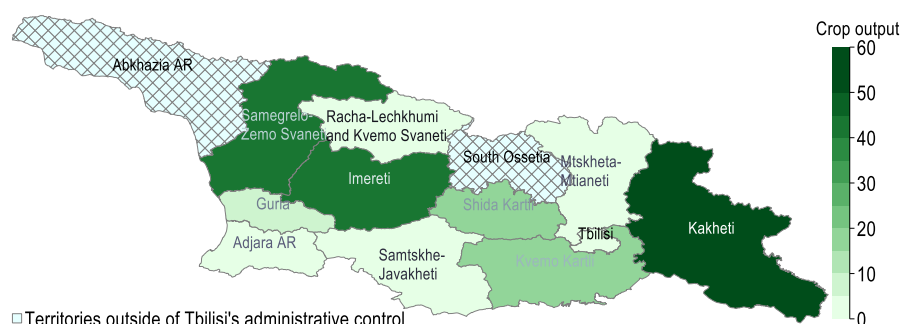
Crops	Harvested area Thousand hectares	Output Thousand tonnes	Yield tonnes per ha
Annual crops			
Maize	72.4	190.9	2.6
Wheat	55.7	147.0	2.6
Barley	24.5	52.9	2.2
Potatoes	16.0	197.3	12.2
Permanent crops			
Grapes		220.7	
Tangerines		66.1	
Apples		50.4	
Hazelnuts		36.9	

Note: Data on harvested area for permanent crops were not collected in the 2023 survey of agricultural holdings.

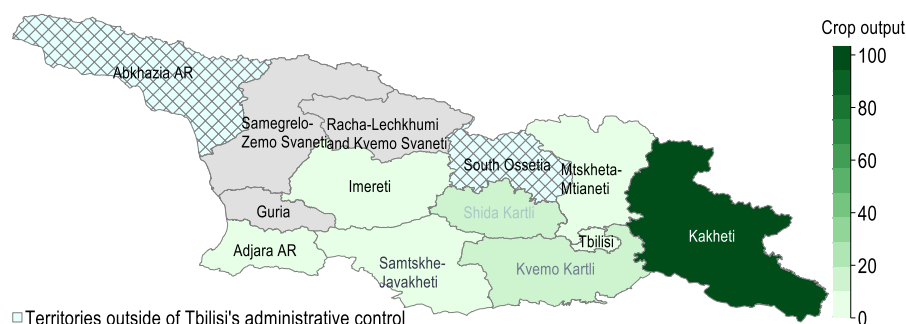
Crop output by region

Maize and wheat are Georgia's two principal crops, together accounting for approximately 60 percent of the country's total sown area for annual crops. Maize is widely grown across most regions, with the highest concentrations found in the central and eastern parts of Georgia. In 2023, the leading maize-producing regions were Kakheti, Imereti, and Samegrelo-Zemo Svaneti, each harvesting between 40 000 and 55 000 tonnes. In contrast, wheat production – encompassing both winter and spring varieties – is more geographically concentrated. Four regions reported wheat production in 2023, with Kakheti leading by a significant margin, harvesting 103 000 tonnes.

Maize output by region (1 000 tonnes)



Wheat output by region (1 000 tonnes)

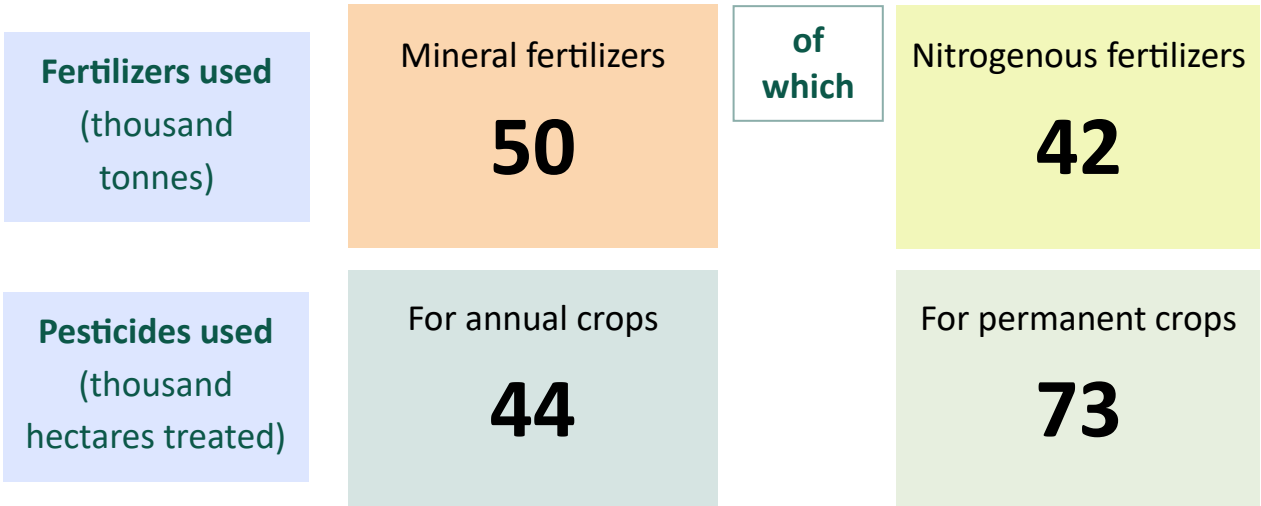


Source: author's own elaboration, 2025. Based on Geostat. 2023a. Agriculture of Georgia. Tbilisi. <https://www.geostat.ge/media/63197/AGRICULTURE-OF-GEORGIA-2023.pdf>

Note: Refer to the disclaimer on page 12 for the names and boundaries used in these maps.

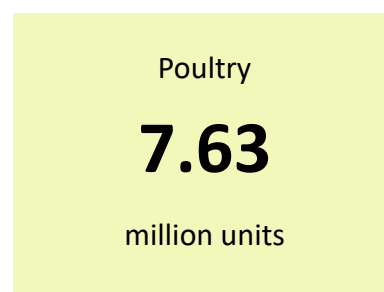
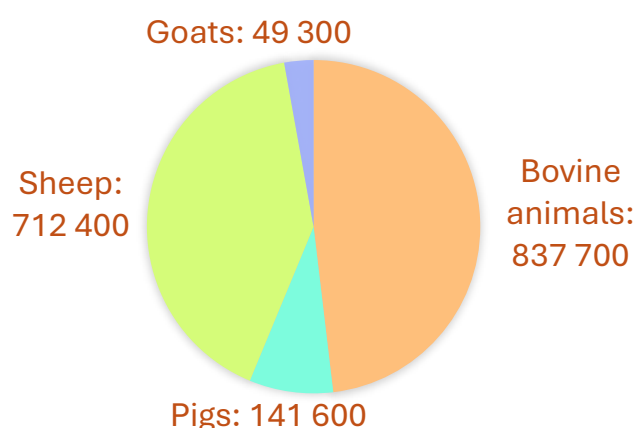
Farm inputs

Mineral fertilizers are used intensively in Georgia, with a total application of 50 000 tonnes in 2023, mostly nitrogenous fertilizers. This represents an average application rate of 330 kg per hectare and per year (covering winter and spring/summer seasons). Fertilizers are used less intensively for permanent crops, with 41 000 hectares treated (compared to 110 000 hectares for annual crops). Pesticides are used more intensively for permanent crops, with 73 000 hectares treated, compared to 44 000 for annual crops.



Livestock rearing

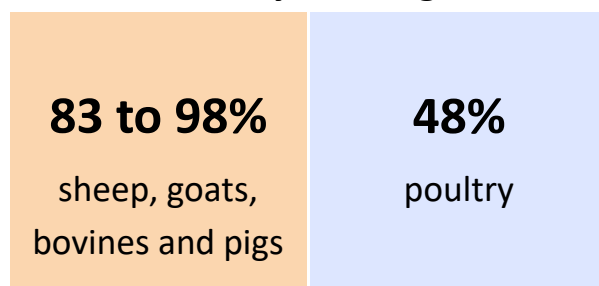
The population of medium and large livestock in Georgia is predominantly composed of bovine and sheep, numbering 838 and 712 000 heads, respectively, in 2023. These are followed by pigs, with a population of 141 600, and goats, totalling 49 300. Poultry numbers are significantly higher, reaching 7.63 million birds, the vast majority of which are chickens (7.48 million).



Family farming in animal husbandry

While animal husbandry is also largely a family-driven activity, it is not the case for all animal types: for sheep, goats, bovines and pigs, the share of family holdings is predominant (between 83 and 98 percent) while it is less than half for poultry (48 percent).

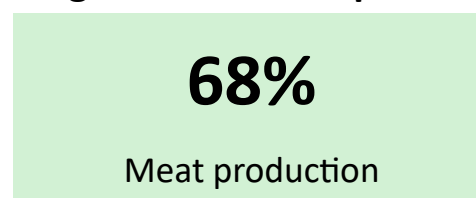
Family farming



Family farming in animal production

The share of family farming is by far the highest in milk and honey production, with shares of 95 and 97 percent, respectively. Overall (counting poultry), meat production is mostly driven by agricultural enterprises, representing 68 percent of all holdings. A notable exception is the production of meat from sheep and goats, almost exclusively conducted by family holdings (99 percent).

Agricultural enterprises

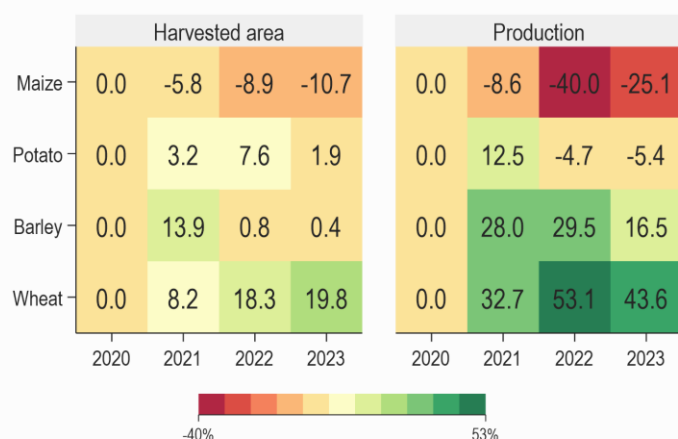


Key recent trends in crop production

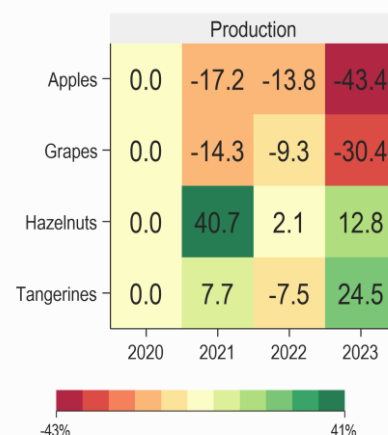
Recent trends in Georgia’s agricultural sector reveal significant shifts in the harvested areas and production of key crops. Between 2020 and 2023, the harvested area for maize consistently declined, resulting in an 11 percent reduction by 2023. In contrast, wheat saw a steady expansion in harvested area over the same period, increasing by 20 percent in 2023 compared to 2020. The harvested areas for barley and potatoes remained largely stable, with only minor fluctuations throughout these years. Annual crop production mirrored the trends in harvested area.

For permanent crops, there were notable declines in the production of apples and grapes, which fell by 43 percent and 30 percent, respectively. In contrast, tangerine production increased by nearly a quarter during this period.

Trends in harvested area and production for annual crops
(percentage change, 2020–2023)



Trends in production for permanent crops
(percentage change, 2020–2023)

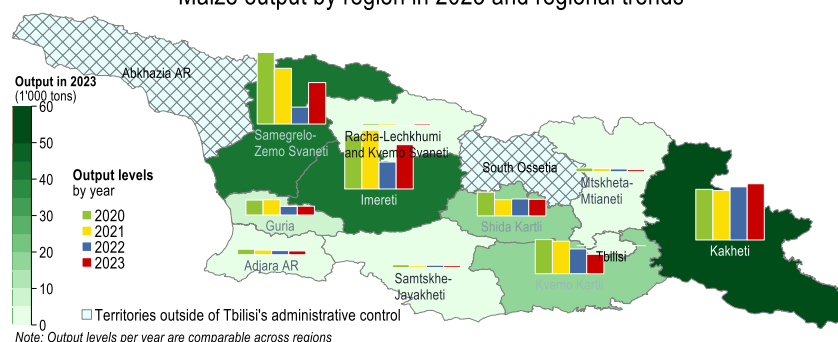


Regional dynamics of maize and wheat

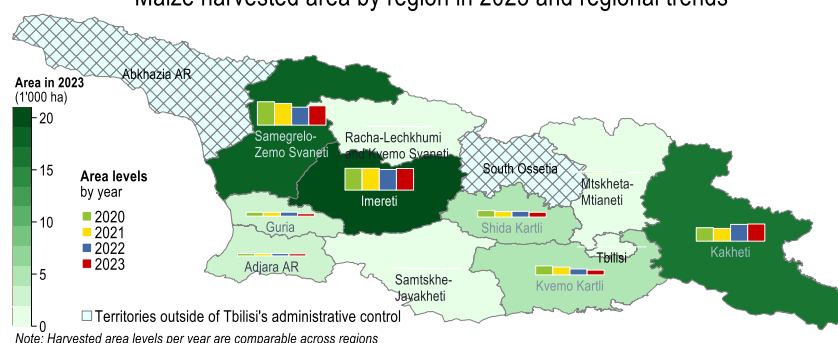
The leading regions for maize production (Imereti, Samegrelo-Zemo Svaneti, and Kakheti), displayed divergent trends: Kakheti experienced growth in both the area harvested and production of that commodity between 2020 and 2023, while these variables remained relatively stable in Imereti during this period, and declined in Samegrelo-Zemo Svaneti. Secondary regions – including Kvemo Kartli, Shida Kartli, Guria, and others – have also recorded negative trends in maize cultivation, with reductions in both area and output between 2020 and 2023.

Kakheti continues to lead wheat production nationally, with a modest increase in harvested area accompanied by a more substantial rise in output. Other regions such as Shida Kartli and Kvemo Kartli are also on an upward trend, possibly indicating a shift in cultivation from maize to wheat. In contrast, regions such as Imereti, Adjara, Mtskheta-Mtianeti, and Tbilisi report negligible wheat production, while Samegrelo-Zemo Svaneti, Adjara, and Guria have no wheat production at all.

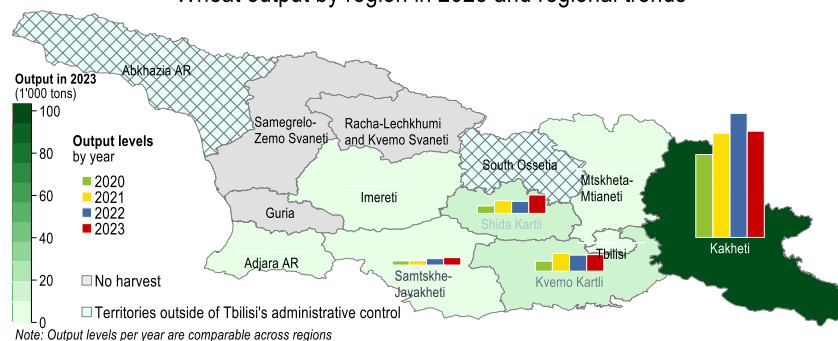
Maize output by region in 2023 and regional trends



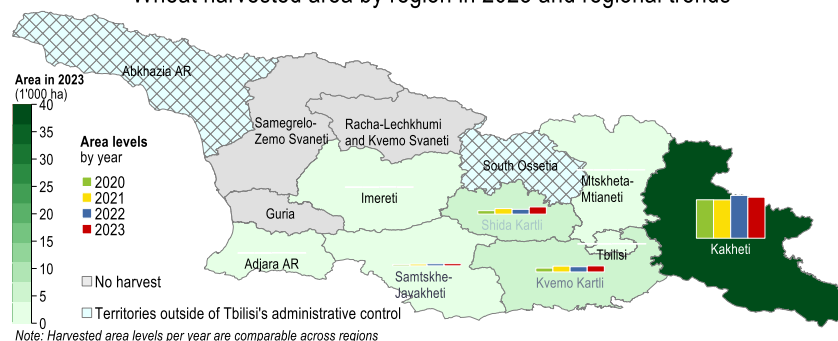
Maize harvested area by region in 2023 and regional trends



Wheat output by region in 2023 and regional trends



Wheat harvested area by region in 2023 and regional trends

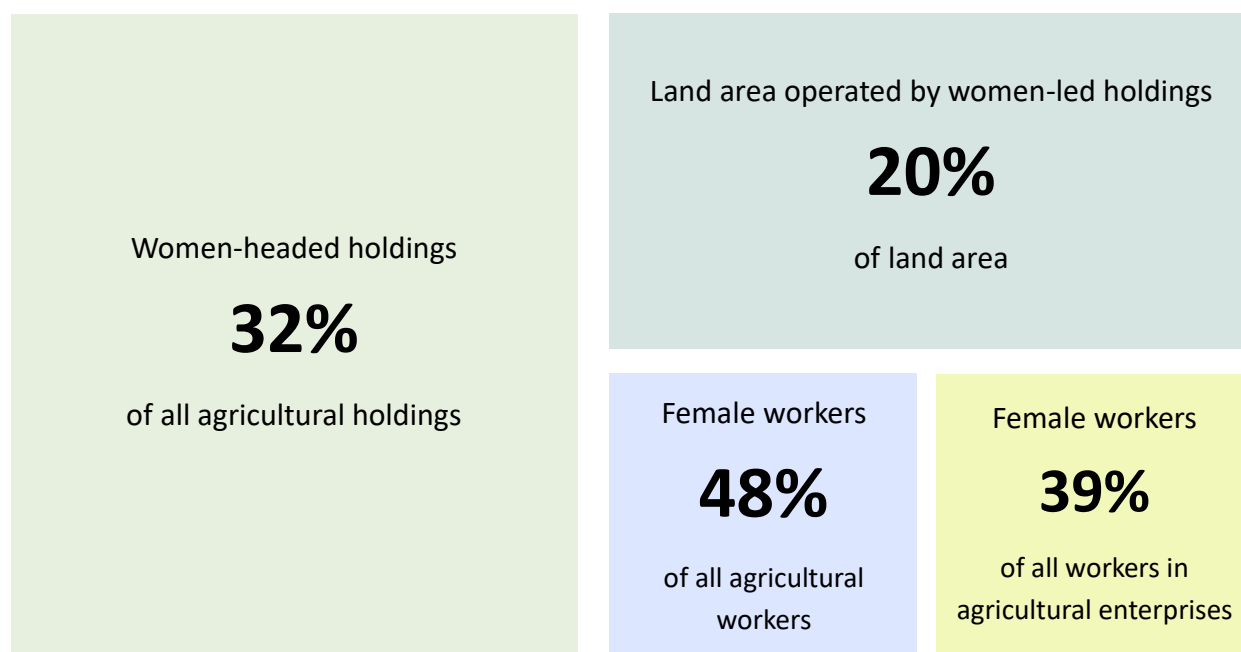


Source: author's own elaboration, 2025. Based on Geostat. 2023a. Agriculture of Georgia. Tbilisi. <https://www.geostat.ge/media/63197/AGRICULTURE-OF-GEORGIA-2023.pdf>

Note: Refer to the disclaimer on page 12 for the names and boundaries used in this map.

Participation of women in farming

Women are underrepresented in decision-level roles in the agricultural sector: only about one-third of the agricultural holdings are headed by women, and these holdings represent roughly 20 percent of the land area operated. Their participation to the workforce is more balanced, with women representing 48 percent of all agricultural workers. But this participation is significantly lower in agricultural enterprises, with 39 percent of female workers. This suggests that women tend to be more involved in smaller family-led holdings compared to men, with implications in terms of income and livelihoods.



Technical Annex

Sources and scope

- Data source: 2023 survey of agricultural holdings, conducted by Geostat (unless stated otherwise).
- Maps and tables source: 2023 survey of agricultural holdings, conducted by Geostat.
- Geographical scope and statistical representativity: the indicators presented in this note are representative of the population of agricultural holdings, including family holdings and agricultural enterprises, in Georgia. All the indicators produced in this brief are weighted by the relevant extrapolation factors and hence can be considered as statistically representative at the geographical scale at which they are presented.
- Purchasing Power Parities (PPPs): [World Bank, 2014](#).
- Geostat. 2023a. Agriculture of Georgia. Tbilisi.
<https://www.geostat.ge/media/63197/AGRICULTURE-OF-GEORGIA-2023.pdf>
- Geostat. 2023b. Statistics Database. [Accessed on 1 October 2025]
<https://pc-axis.geostat.ge/PXWeb/pxweb/en/Database/>

Definitions and indicators

Definitions below are provided by the National Statistics Office of Georgia (Geostat). For full details, please refer to the Geostat report on Agriculture of Georgia 2023 (Geostat, 2023a).

- Size of agricultural holdings: in Georgia, agricultural holdings are categorized into small holdings on the one hand and medium and large holding on the other hand: a holding is considered as small if it falls in the lower 40 percent of the joint cumulative distribution of land area, livestock heads and cost of production, medium or large if not.
- Family holding: A holding operated by a household, as opposed to an agricultural enterprise, which is operated by a legal entity (limited liability company, cooperative, joint stock company, etc.).
- Agricultural enterprise: A holding operated by legal entity: limited liability company, general partnership, limited partnership, joint stock company, cooperative, etc.
- Yield: Crop production per hectare, calculated as the ratio of the harvest and the harvested area.
- Livestock number: Number of heads of livestock of all kinds and age groups as of a definite moment of time.

The data presented in this brief are sourced from countries' surveys and may differ from data published on other FAO platforms.

This publication is part of the 50x2030 Initiative to Close the Agricultural Data Gap, a multi-partner program between the World Bank, Food and Agriculture Organization of the United Nations (FAO) that seeks to transform agricultural data systems in 50 countries by 2030. The findings, interpretations and conclusions expressed in this paper are entirely those of the authors. They do not necessarily represent the views of the World Bank, and FAO donors, partner countries or of any organizations affiliated with the Initiative.

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