



COOPERATION >



ICCO COVID-19 Quick Scan

First impression of effects and coping mechanisms with COVID-19 of selected smallholder farmers and (M)SMEs in 6 countries

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Executive Summary

The objective of the impact quick scan is to get an informed idea of the impact of COVID-19 on smallholder farmers and MSMEs (Micro, Small and Medium Enterprises) in a limited number of key programs in six countries throughout the world: Ethiopia, Mali, Indonesia, Bolivia, Bangladesh and Guatemala. The study covers 765 respondents randomly selected among beneficiaries of ICCO key programs in selected countries. It was conducted in July (Indonesia, Bolivia, Bangladesh and Guatemala) to August (Mali and Ethiopia), mainly by phone interviews but also by direct interaction in settings of poor networks and where the health situation regarding COVID-19 allowed. The respondents include both farmers and MSME, male and female in rural and semi-urban areas.

Findings from this first round of the impact quick scan indicates that both farmers and MSMEs are negatively affected by the COVID-19 pandemic. The respondents started feeling the impact. Most of them have seen a drop of their income and a reduction of their food and non-food consumption. Some even see their source of income stopped.

We found the respondents who rely on agriculture as the main source of income feel less affected than those who rely on business. This doesn't mean that they are less affected, they might not yet feel the impact. Farmers whose food crop production cycle were at the stage of planning and planting and harvesting feel more impacted than those who were at the stage of growing. As far as a coping mechanism is concerned, 27% of the respondents adopted non-viable strategies such as selling assets, borrowing money, reducing food consumption and not being able to cope.

The results of the study indicate a clear need for ICCO to expand support for enterprising activities (and maybe to farmers at a later moment in time as well). ICCO in the countries where it has programs with (M)SMEs will have to clearly look at what in a given situation is needed since the effect of the pandemic differs from country to country.

1. Introduction

ICCO Cooperation conducted a coordinated impact quick scan using a standard survey on the impact of COVID-19 on producers and MSMEs (Micro, Small and Medium Entrepreneurs) in a limited number of ICCO key programs which are based in six different countries throughout the world. ICCO Cooperation is an international NGO specialized in strengthening agricultural food systems with respect to human rights. ICCO supports farmers and producers to access local and national markets and to build inclusive sustainable agricultural food systems. ICCO works on business and human rights in value chains with an eye on food security, creating social impact

and inclusive development are its core cross-cutting principles.

The objective of the impact quick scan is to get an informed idea of the impact of COVID-19 on a limited number of key programs in Africa (Ethiopia and Mali), Asia (Indonesia and Bangladesh) and America (Guatemala and Bolivia). It is meant to give information on how farmers and MSMEs are affected by and are coping with COVID-19 on their production and businesses. This report presents key findings from the first round of data collection (July – August 2020), with COVID-19 already sometime 'active' in the selected countries.

2. Methodology

A short multiple-choice questionnaire on the impact of COVID-19 was designed (based on an earlier survey format of BRAC¹) and used for the study and the data was gathered mainly via phone interviews but also face interviews were conducted in areas with network challenges when the COVID situation allowed. The questionnaire covers aspects such as feeling of being affected, the extent of impact on income and on food and non-food consumption, the coping mechanism and the support received. In short it is asking for the perception of the people interviewed on these issues.

ICCO country coordinators were accountable for overseeing the data collection in their country and a general external coordinator supervised the overall process of data collection, data processing and interpreted the results in close contact with GO PMEL. The uniform sampling was done by PMEL officers in their country, using contact lists of project beneficiaries gathered by project staff. For each selected project (annex 1), the list

of beneficiaries was grouped into two categories (farmers and MSMEs) from which the sample was drawn randomly. In total, the study covered 765 persons among ICCO key programs' beneficiaries in the selected countries.

The results of the study should not be extrapolated neither for the whole population of the concerned country nor for all the farmers and the MSMEs in other ICCO supported programs in the countries. Rather, they provide a general overview of how the ongoing pandemic affects the targeted program recipients in terms of income and food and non-food consumption and how they are coping with the situation.

The data collection was scheduled to be completed in about 10 days in July 2020, simultaneously in the selected countries, but due to the in-country situation we experienced delays in Ethiopia and Mali. The exact dates of data collection and the COVID-19 related context in each country at that period are shown in annex 2.

¹ BRAC is an international development organisation based in Bangladesh.

3. Results

3.1 Profile of Respondents

Table 1 gives the socio demographic characteristics of the respondents that participated in the quick scan.

Overall, data was collected from 765 respondents who all gave their consent to participate. 272 (36%) were females and 483 (64%) were males, 63% lived in rural

areas while 37% were from semi-urban areas.

Age of respondents varied from 16 to 74 with a mean of 42. Division of the respondents varies over the various age groups, respondents mostly belonged to: the age group of 50-59 (24%), 20-29 (23%), and 30-39 (22%). 474 respondents were household heads, of which only 74 (16%) are women.

Table 1: Profile of respondents

Countries	Ethiopia	Mali	Indonesia	Bolivia	Bangladesh	Guatemala	Total
Respondent profile							
Number of respondents (=n)	117	150	150	146	150	52	765
Lives in rural areas (%)	57%	63%	100%	4%	100%	27%	63%
Lives in urban areas (%)	43%	37%	0%	96%	0%	73%	37%
At usual residence (%)	98%	99%	100%	88%	100%	100%	97%
Female (%)	29%	17%	15%	57%	49%	65%	36%
Respondent age (mean)	39	50	57	27	42	26	42
Age is between 16-20	2	0	0	9	0	8	19
Age is between 20-29	28	9	0	94	13	28	172
Age is between 30-39	34	22	0	42	53	15	166
Age is between 40-49	28	38	16	1	45	1	129
Age is between 50-59	18	42	87	0	33	0	180
Age is above 60	4	35	35	0	5	0	79
Respondent is HH head (%)	83%	67%	88%	29%*	65%	10%	62%
Spouse of HH head (%)	10%	7%	12%	12%	33%	23%	16%
Son/daughter of HH head (%)	7%	13%	0%	45%	3%	65%	17%
Father/mother of HH head (%)	0%	11%	0%	13%	0%	2%	5%
Other (%)	0%	2%	0%	1%	0%	0%	1%
Household size (mean)	6	11	4	5	5	5	6
Female headed HH (%)	21%	4%	3%	40%	27%	60%	16%
Main occupation							
Farmer	88	123	129	0	100	4	444
Small entrepreneur	11	16	9	89	10	22	157
Both	8	1	12	2	40	9	72
Others	10	10	0	55	0	17	92

* In Bolivia, one of the programs was selected whose targets are youth

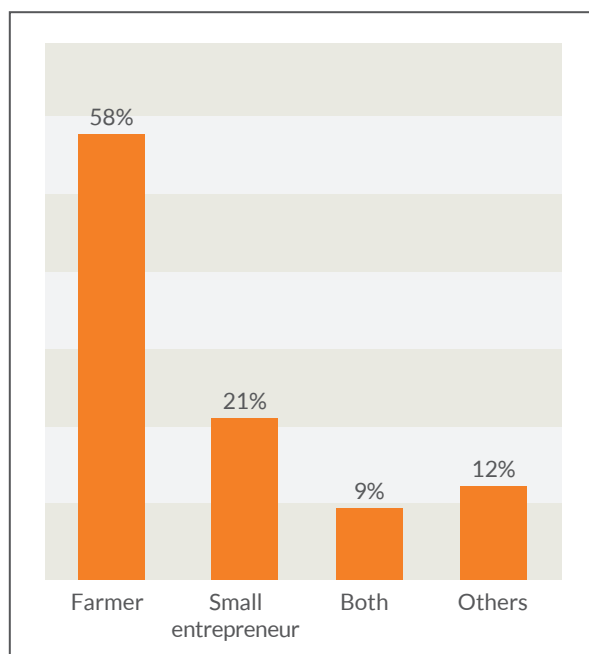


Figure 1: Type of occupation of respondents (n = 765)

As shown by figure 1, respondents mainly are farmers (58%), 21% of them were small entrepreneurs, 9% were both farmers and small entrepreneurs and 12% had other occupations.

Figure 2 shows the distribution of respondents by their main source of income. A majority (64,4%) of respondents rely on agriculture as their main source of income, 15,4% on business, 10% on casual work. Only 3 respondents (0,4%) reported to rely on supports/transfers by relatives.

Looking at the 6 countries in the survey, agriculture/livestock is the main source of income of a large majority of respondents in Ethiopia, Mali, Indonesia, and Bangladesh

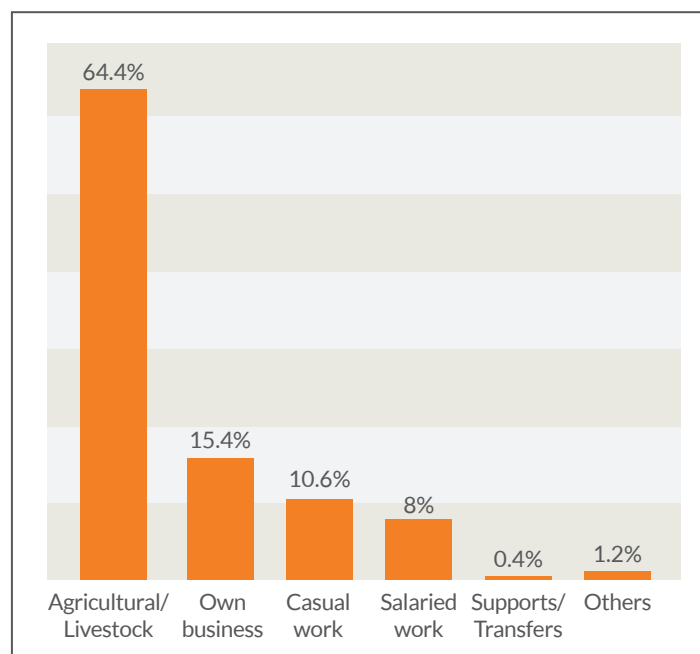


Figure 2: Distribution of respondents by main source of income (n = 765)

(table 2). Bolivia respondents were dominated by entrepreneurs and Guatemala by casual workers, which is to be expected given the selection of the projects in these countries.

In terms of source of food, majority of respondents (69%) reported to be using their own production for this with exception from Bolivia and Guatemala respondents who reported "Purchase" as their main way of obtaining food. This can be explained by the fact that a high portion of respondents from these 2 countries are small entrepreneurs living predominantly in urban areas. Only 4 of out 52 respondents are farmers in Guatemala while in Bolivia none of the respondents is farmer.

Table 2: Source of income of respondents

Main source of income for respondents' household							
Countries	Ethiopia	Mali	Indonesia	Bolivia	Bangladesh	Guatemala	Total
Agricultural/Livestock	93	121	132	2	138	7	493 (69%)
Own business	3	1	2	52	3	20	81 (11%)
Casual work	11	15	12	63	8	9	118 (15%)
Salaried work	10	11	4	22	0	14	61 (8%)
Supports / Transfers	0	0	0	1	0	2	3 (0%)
Others	0	2	0	6	1	0	9 (1%)
Total (= n)	117	150	150	146	150	52	765 (100%)

Table 2: Source of food of respondents

Main source of food							
Countries	Ethiopia	Mali	Indonesia	Bolivia	Bangladesh	Guatemala	Total
Own production	81	116	147	2	95	3	444 (58%)
Purchase	22	33	2	119	18	35	229 (30%)
Borrowing food	1	0	0	0	9	1	11 (1%)
Gifts	0	0	0	2	1	0	3
Food for work	0	0	0	0	0	0	0
Food aid	0	0	0	1	0	0	1
Barter of goods	0	0	0	2	0	0	2
Combination of production and purchase	11	0	0	18	11	13	53 (7%)
Combination of production and gifts	2	0	1	1	16	0	20 (3%)
Others	0	1	0	1	0	0	2
Total	117	150	150	146	150	52	765 (100%)

3.2 Perception of being affected

We asked the respondents whether they feel they have been affected by the COVID-19. Figure 3 shows the number of respondents who feel they have been affected (blue) or not (orange). A large majority of the respondents (76%) feel they have been affected.

In Mali and Ethiopia, fewer respondents (39% and 44% respectively) felt they have been impacted than in the other countries (figure 3). This is consistent with the prevalence rate of COVID-19 in these selected countries. During the data collection (annex 2), Mali and Ethiopia were still hit less.

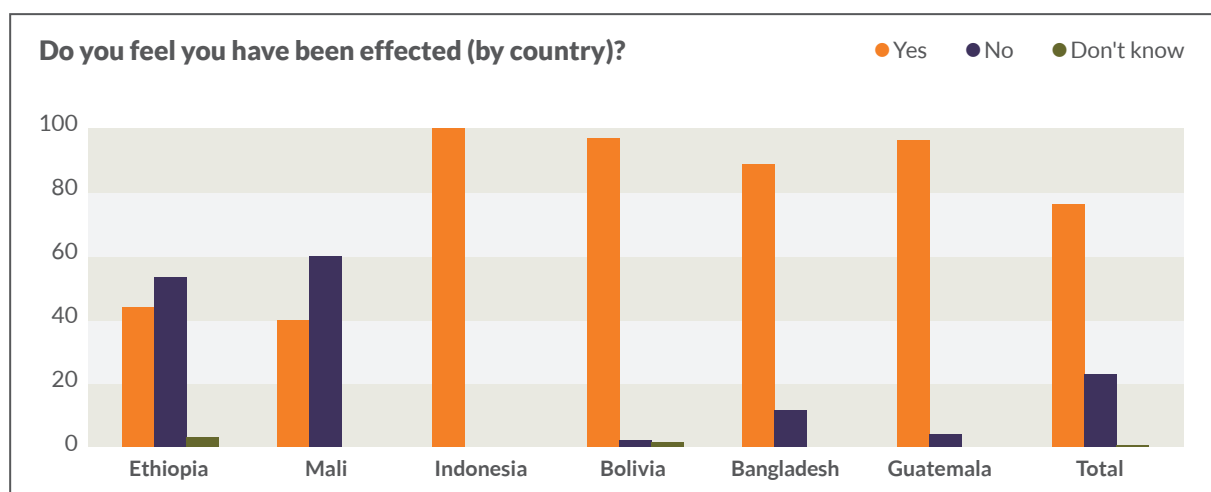


Figure 3 : Percentage of respondents who feel they have been affected by COVID-19. (Ethiopia n = 117; Mali n = 150; Indonesia n = 150; Bolivia n = 146; Bangladesh n = 150; Guatemala n = 52)

Table 3 : Percentage of respondents who feel affected by sex and by country

Percentage of respondents who feel they have been affected by COVID-19							
Countries	Ethiopia	Mali	Indonesia	Bolivia	Bangladesh	Guatemala	Total
Female	22/34	12/25	22/22	82/83	67/74	32/34	237/272
Male	29/83	47/125	128/128	59/63	66/76	18/18	347/493

Figure 4 shows the distribution of respondents who feel they have been affected by COVID-19, differentiated by sex. Overall, more female respondents feel affected (87%) as compared to their male counterparts (70%). The situation is the same in all countries except in Guatemala, where the percentage is slightly higher for men and in Indonesia where all the respondents felt affected (table 3).

As shown by table 4, the place of residence (rural or urban) seems to be of no influence on the feeling of being affected (76% for rural areas and 77% for semi-urban area). But in Mali, more respondents in semi-urban areas (48%) felt the impact than those in rural residence (34%). On the contrary, there is an expected difference depending on the occupation (66% for farmers and 89% for entrepreneurs) and the main source of income (69% for agriculture/livestock and 86% for own business).

Further analysis reveals that among the farmers, the feeling of being affected varies according to their production cycle (table 5; figure 5). Farmers who are in the planning stage, harvesting stage and the sowing/planting stage of the agricultural production cycle felt to be more hit than their counterparts in the growing stage.

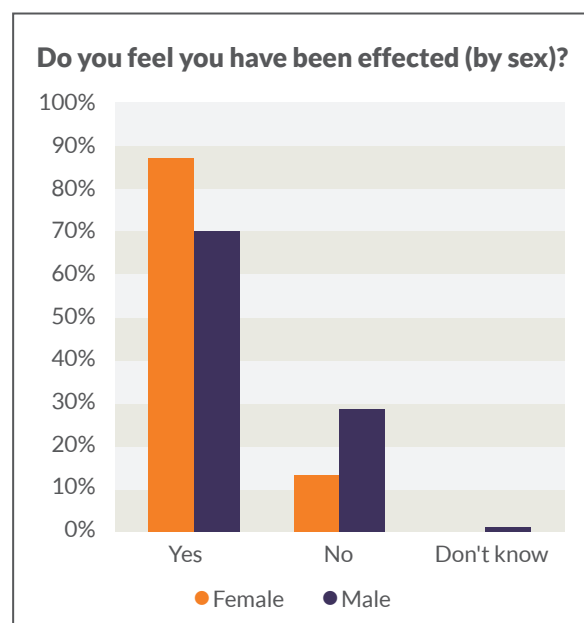


Figure 4: Percentage of respondents who feel they have been affected by sex and by country (Female n = 272; male n = 493)

Table 4: Distribution of the respondents that feel affected by COVID-19 by occupation, sex and main source of income

Percentage of respondents who feel they have been affected by COVID-19							
Countries	Ethiopia	Mali	Indonesia	Bolivia	Bangladesh	Guatemala	Total (n = 765)
Occupation							
Farmer %	32%	40%	100%	-	83%	100%	66% (293/444)
Small entrepreneur %	82%	25%	100%	98%	100%	91%	89% (139/157)
Both %	88%	100%	100%	100%	100%	100%	99% (71/72)
Others %	70%	50%	-	95%	-	100%	88% (81/92)
Place of residence							
Rural %	45%	34%	100%	100%	89%	100%	76% (365/481)
Semi urban %	42%	48%	-	96%	-	95%	77% (219/284)
Main source of income							
Agricultural/Livestock %	34%	38%	100%	100%	88%	100%	69% (341/493)
Own business %	82%	33%	100%	95%	100%	89%	86% (102/118)
Casual work %	100%	100%	100%	100%	67%	95%	98% (79/81)
Salaried work %	70%	55%	100%	91%	-	100%	84% (51/61)
Supports / Transfers %	-	-	-	100%	-	100%	100% (3/3)
Others %	-	50%	-	100%	100%	-	89% (8/9)

Table 5. Where are you in the agricultural production cycle for your main home consumption crop and cash crop right now?

Number of respondents who feel impacted	Planning	Sowing / planting season	Growing season	Harvesting season	In between seasons	Don't know	Not applicable (livestock)
Home consumption crop	39/39	57/80	135/251	49/60	49/50	1/1	11/11
Cash crop	46/53	92/115	136/223	41/74	11/11	3/5	12/12

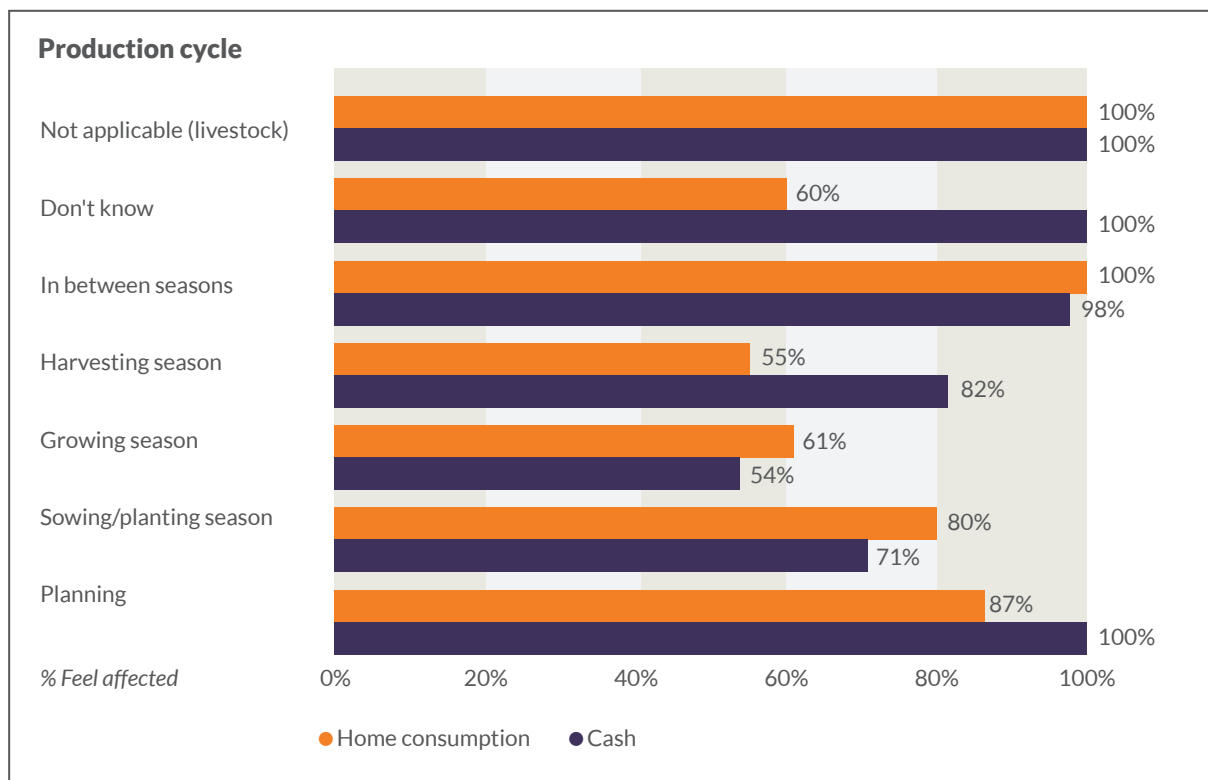


Figure 5. Relationship between farmers production cycle and perception of impact.

3.3 Impact on Income

Table 6 shows the extent of perceived impact of COVID-19 on the income of respondents.

636 out of 765 respondents, i.e. 83%, experienced any kind of reduction in their income due to COVID-19. Of these, 334 reported a little reduction, 260 reported a sharp drop while income completely stopped with 42 respondents. 124 respondents, i.e. 16%, have not yet experienced a negative impact on their income.

The impact on income varies from country to country. Figure 6 confirms that respondents in Mali and Ethiopia indicate they are less hit at this point in time than the

other countries. Respectively 59% and 31% of respondents from Ethiopia and Mali reported no effect on income while none of respondents from Indonesia and Bangladesh reported “no effect”. In Bolivia and Guatemala only 3% and 6% respectively reported no effect on income, among whom most lived in semi-urban areas.

Overall, more small entrepreneurs (94%) experienced a reduction in their income than did the farmers (76%). 19% of small entrepreneurs reported that their income completely stopped whereas no farmer reported a stop in their income (figure 7). This stop in income for entrepreneurs was associated with a decrease in demand, lack of labour and decrease in availability of transport.

Table 6: How has your regular source of income been affected by COVID-19?

How has your regular source of income been affected by COVID-19?							
Countries	Ethiopia (n = 117)	Mali (n = 150)	Indonesia (n = 150)	Bolivia (n = 146)	Bangladesh (n = 150)	Guatemala (n = 52)	Total (n = 765)
Reduced a little bit	20%	29%	87%	14%	65%	38%	44%
Reduced a lot	21%	37%	13%	56%	33%	56%	34%
Completely stopped	0%	2%	0%	25%	2%	0%	5%
No effect	59%	31%	0%	3%	0%	6%	16%
Increased	0%	1%	0%	2%	0%	0%	1%
Don't know	0%	1%	0%	0%	0%	0%	0%

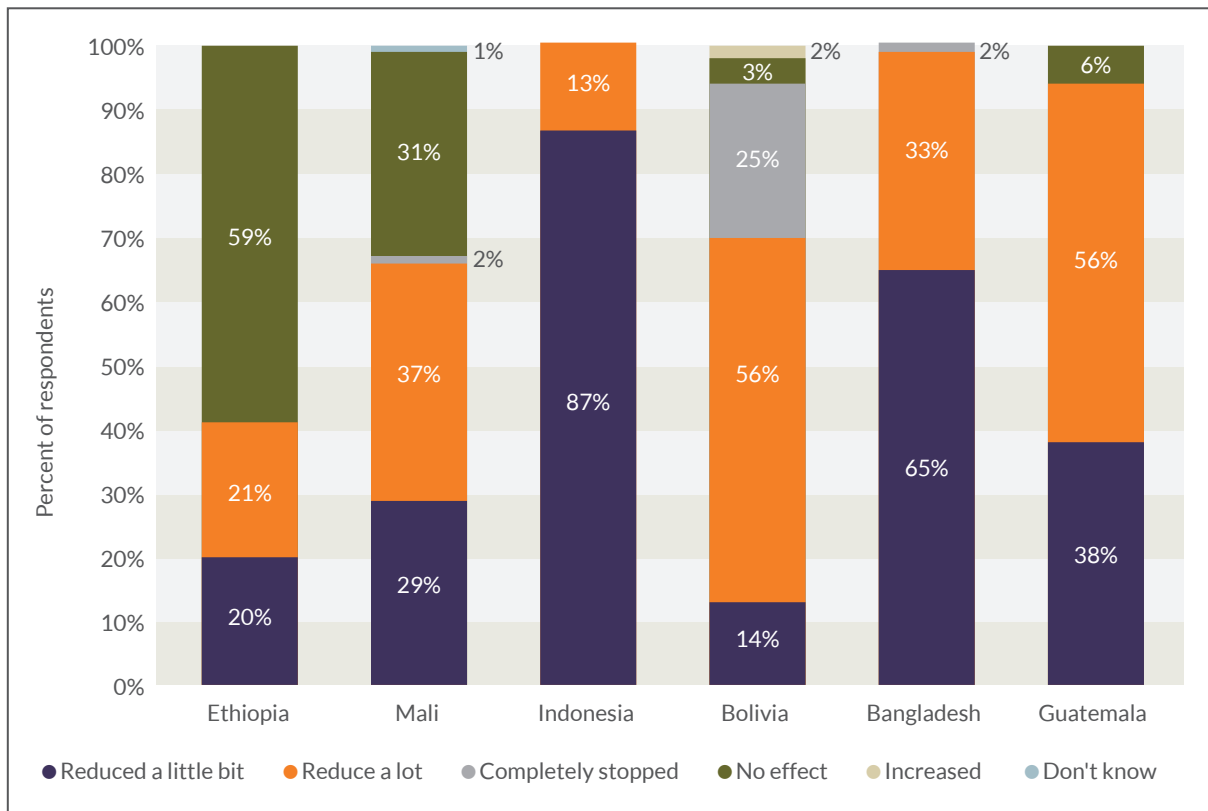


Figure 6. How has your regular source of income been affected by COVID-19? (Ethiopia n = 117; Mali n = 150; Indonesia n = 150; Bolivia n = 146; Bangladesh n = 150; Guatemala n = 52)

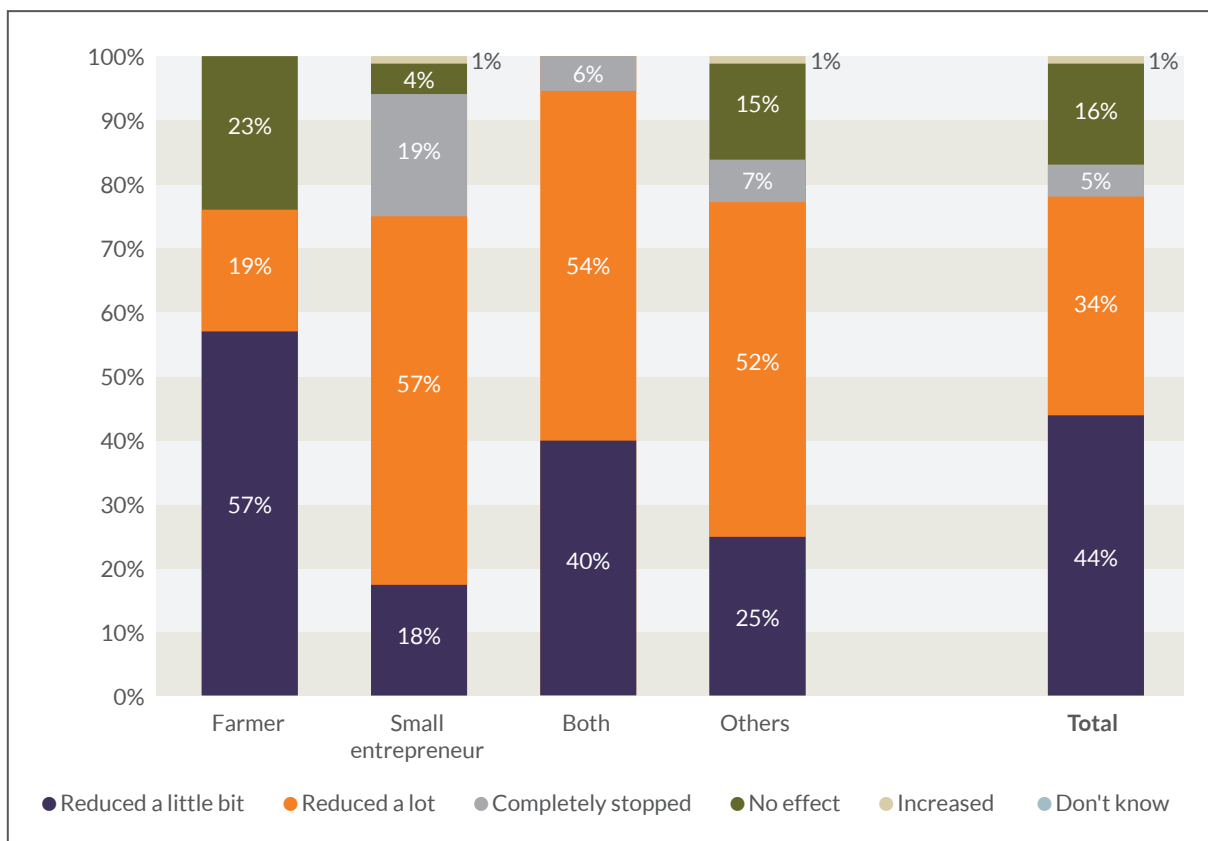


Figure 7: Impact on income by occupation

Looking at the relationship between impact of COVID-19 on income and the main source of income, the study reveals (table 7) that at this moment in time more respondents relying on own business and casual work (63% and 64% respectively) reported a sharp drop in income than those whose main source of income is agriculture / livestock (22%). It could well be that in a later stage in time this would change as well for those with their main income source in agriculture / livestock.

3.4. Constraints faced by farmers and entrepreneurs

To get insight into the constraints faced by entrepreneurs, we asked them what their main constraints were in being an entrepreneur (MSMEs) at the moment of the data collection. Table 8 shows that the main constraint for MSMEs was

the decrease in demand (43%) followed by a decrease in the availability of labour (17%) and transport (16%).

Indeed, decrease in demand was the most reported constraint by MSMEs in all countries except Guatemala where the most reported constraints by MSMEs was decrease in availability of transportation of product (figure 8).

Farmers' main constraints in agricultural work are summarized in table 9 and illustrated by figure 9. Overall, the main constraint in agricultural work reported by respondents was "selling produce (41%)". Other frequently reported constraints include "availability of input (28%)" and "Availability to work on the field with sufficient labour (17%)".

Table 7: How has your regular source of income been affected by COVID-19?

How has your regular source of income been affected by COVID-19?						
Main source of income of respondents	Agricultural / Livestock n=493	Casual work n=118	Own business n=81	Salaried work n=61	Supports / Transfers n=3	Others n=9
No effect (%)	21%	2%	7%	18%	0%	11%
Reduced a little bit (%)	56%	19%	18%	34%	67%	11%
Reduce a lot (%)	22%	64%	63%	33%	33%	44%
Completely stopped (%)	1%	15%	10%	15%	0%	33%
Increased (%)	0%	0%	3%	0%	0%	0%
Don't know (%)	0%	0%	0%	0%	0%	0%

Table 8: What are your main constraints in being an entrepreneur (MSMEs) at this moment?

What are your main constraints in being an entrepreneur (MSMEs) at this moment?							
Countries	Ethiopia	Mali	Indonesia	Bolivia	Bangladesh	Guatemala	Total
Lack of labour	0	5	0	27	0	1	33 (17%)
Decrease in availability of transportation of products	5	5	0	12	4	5	31 (16%)
Decrease in demand	4	9	12	50	7	3	85 (43%)
Decrease in availability of input material	3	4	0	8	2	2	19 (10%)
Decrease in availability of working capital	1	2	0	17	0	2	22 (11%)
No constraint	1	3	0	3	0	0	7 (4%)

More specifically, farmers have problems with availability of input because of the high price of inputs, decrease in government subsidy, decrease of availability of transport of input, decrease in import of input and decrease of access to finance to buy inputs (Annex 3, figure 1). On another hand, ability to work in the field is a constraint mainly because of the decrease in availability of labourers and the decrease in availability of machinery both partly due to COVID measures (Annex 3, figure 2). The

constraint of selling produce was mainly associated with the low price of produce, decrease in demand (consumers are buying less produce) and decrease in availability of transport (Annex 3, figure 3). Respondents who reported “value adding to produce” signified that this is so because of no markets, decrease in availability of transport, decrease in availability of input and the decrease in availability of labourers (Annex 3, figure 4), most are COVID related.

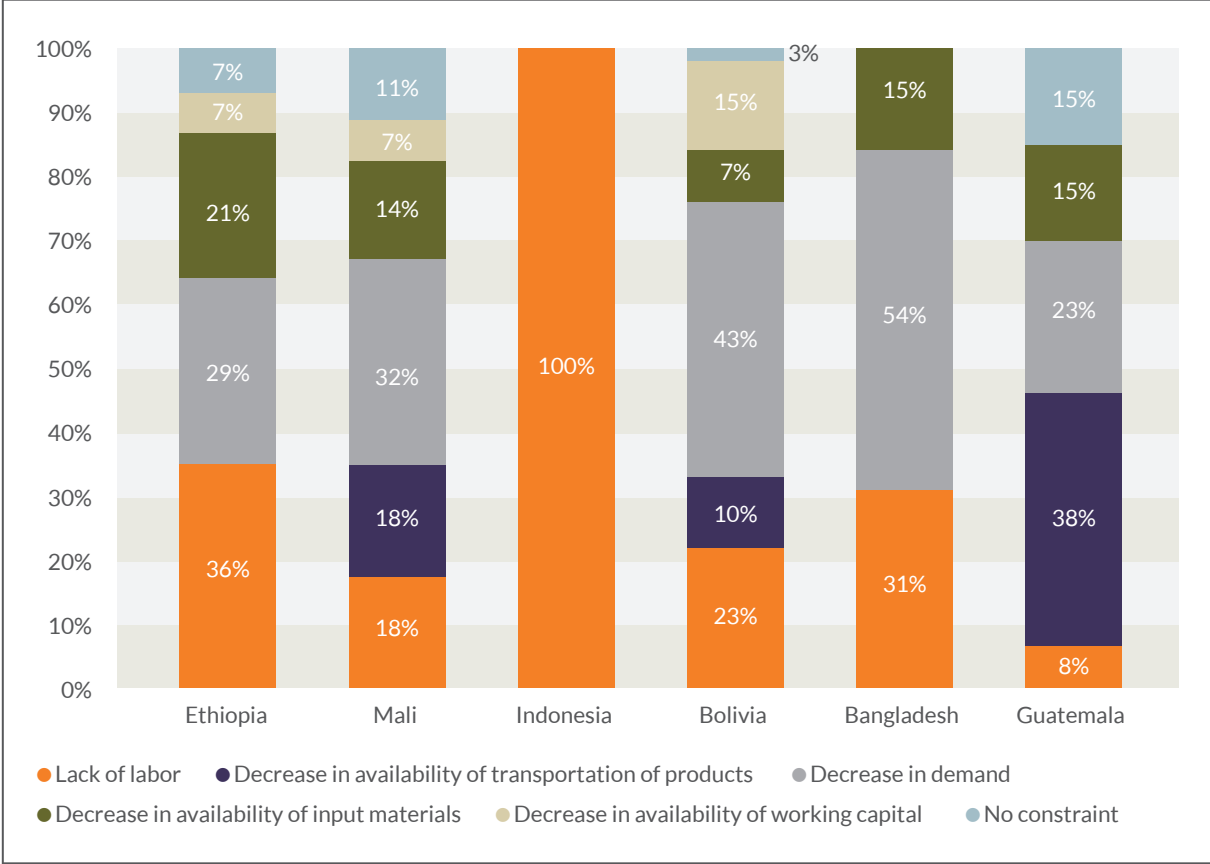


Figure 8. What are your main constraints in being an entrepreneur (MSMEs) at this moment?

Table 9: What are your main constraints in agricultural work at this moment?

What are your main constraints in agricultural work at this moment?							
Countries	Ethiopia	Mali	Indonesia	Bolivia	Bangladesh	Guatemala	Total
Availability of inputs	45	56	0	1	100	2	204 (28%)
Ability to work on field with sufficient labour	20	40	2	1	64	0	127 (17%)
Selling produce	39	25	130	0	103	0	297 (41%)
Value adding to produce	7	30	0	0	16	1	54 (7%)
Obtaining loans	2	1	0	0	6	0	9 (1%)
No restrictions	15	10	0	0	1	0	26 (4%)
Don't know	0	6	0	0	1	4	11 (2%)

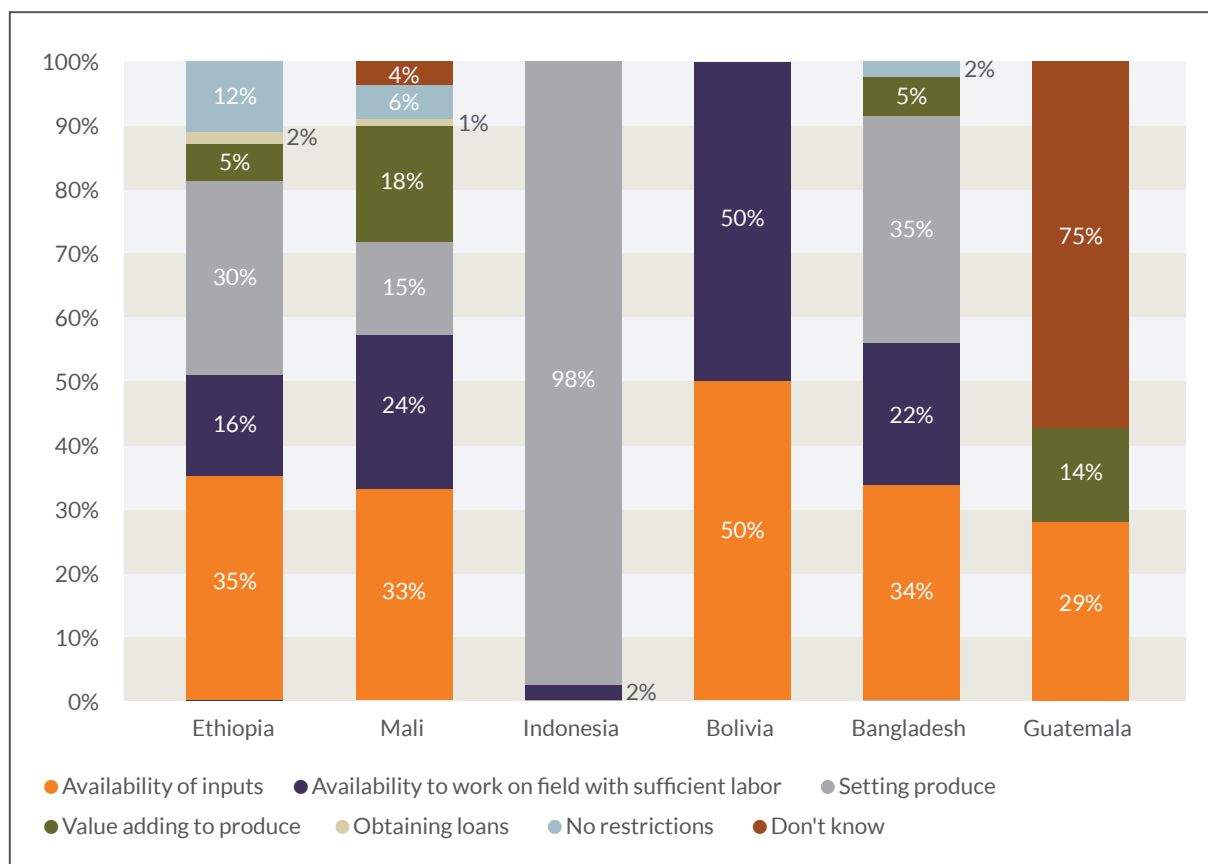


Figure 9. What are your main constraints in agricultural work at this moment?

3.5 Effects on food consumption

Table 10 shows the effect of COVID-19 on food consumption. 32% of respondents reported a little reduction in food consumption, 12% reported a sharp reduction in food consumption while 53% reported no change in food consumption.

Comparing the impact of COVID-19 on food consumption between countries, we realized that the countries where there are more respondents who have reported to be reducing their food consumption since the beginning of the

pandemic are Bangladesh (97%), Guatemala (71%) Bolivia (60%), presumably because respondents from Guatemala and Bolivia were selected from projects that are mainly urban based whereas the program in Bangladesh is situated in one of the poorest region of the country. In Ethiopia and Mali, the percentage is 26% and 25% respectively. In Bangladesh and Guatemala more than 20% declared a sharp decline in food consumption (figure 10).

The study also revealed that 67% of the respondents spend more than usual on buying food due to change in price (table 11).

Table 10. Changes in amount / frequency of household food consumption

Has there been any changes in amount or frequency of household food consumption since the start of COVID-19 related measures?							
Countries	Ethiopia (n = 117)	Mali (n = 150)	Indonesia (n = 150)	Bolivia (n = 146)	Bangladesh (n = 150)	Guatemala (n = 52)	Total (n = 765)
Reduced a little	20	21	0	76	103	26	246 (32%)
Reduced a lot	10	16	0	11	42	11	90 (12%)
No change	87	103	150	50	4	15	409 (53%)
Increased	0	10	0	8	0	0	18 (2%)
Don't know	0	0	0	1	1	0	2 (1%)

Table 11. Do you spend more than usual on buying food due to price change?

Do you spend more than usual on buying food due to price change?							
Countries	Ethiopia	Mali	Indonesia	Bolivia	Bangladesh	Guatemala	Total
Yes	110	118	1	80	150	51	510 (67%)
No	7	32	149	66	0	1	255 (33%)

Figure 10 shows the percentage of respondents who reported to spend more than usual on buying food due to price change by country. A large majority of respondents from Bangladesh, Guatemala, Ethiopia, and Mali (respectively 100%, 98%, 94% and 79%) reported that they spend much more than usual on buying food.

The situation is also serious for ICCO's respondents in Bolivia, living in urban areas, where the percentage is 55% whereas none of respondents from Indonesia reported spending more than usual for food consumption.

3.6 Coping Mechanism

We asked respondents how they are coping with the current situation (managing essential food and non-food expenses). Table 12 shows the distribution of the respondent's coping mechanism. Overall, "previous source of income" and "savings" were the most reported coping mechanism by respondents.

More specifically, "previous source of income" was frequently reported in Indonesia (100%), Mali (52%) and Ethiopia (28%). Respondents from Bolivia (34%) and Bangladesh (26%) mainly reported using their savings to cope with the current situation. "New/alternative source of income" was reported by respondents from Guatemala (29%). 27% of the respondents adopted a non-viable strategy (selling assets, borrowing money, reducing food consumption and not able to cope), a challenging situation which requires specific attention.

Table 13 shows the distribution of coping mechanisms according to respondent's occupation. Previous source of income was reported by most farmers as an important coping mechanism (46%) while savings was reported by most entrepreneurs (28%). Another main difference between farmers and entrepreneurs in terms of coping mechanism is that more entrepreneurs could embrace a new or alternative source of income to cope with the pandemic, while farmers still rely on farming.

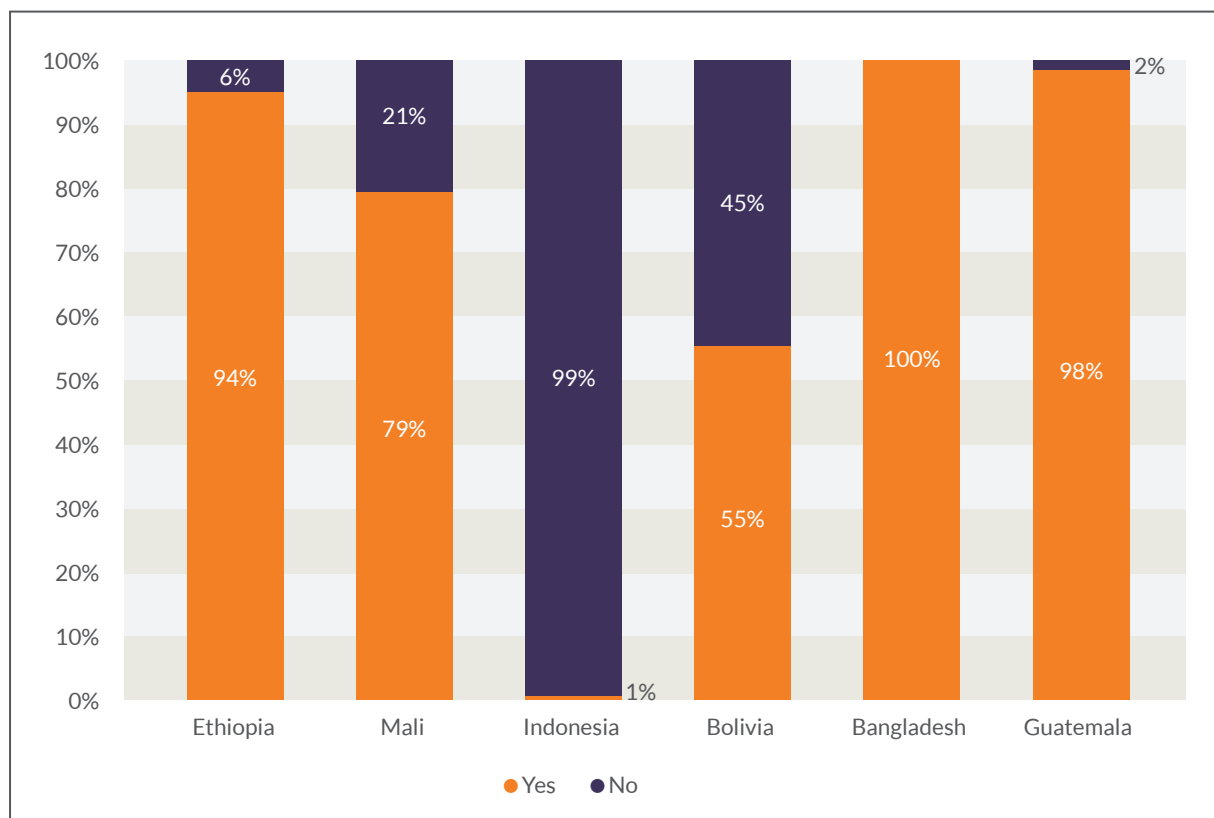


Figure 10. Do you spend more than usual on buying food due to any price change?

Table 12. How are you coping with this current situation (managing essential food and non-food expenses)?

How are you coping with this current situation (managing essential food and non-food expenses)?							
Countries	Ethiopia n=117	Mali n=150	Indonesia n=150	Bolivia n=146	Bangladesh n=150	Guatemala n=52	Total n=765
Previous source of income	28%	52%	100%	22%	23%	21%	37%
New/alternative source of income	13%	3%	0%	20%	6%	29%	11%
Savings	25%	33%	0%	34%	26%	21%	25%
Selling assets	20%	6%	0%	2%	15%	4%	9%
Borrowing money	5%	1%	0%	9%	24%	19%	10%
Reducing food consumption	9%	2%	0%	8%	6%	6%	5%
Others	0%	4%	0%	5%	1%	0%	2%
Not able to cope	0%	2%	0%	1%	1%	0%	1%

Table 13. Distribution of respondents coping mechanism by occupation

How are you coping with this current situation (managing essential food and non-food expenses)?				
Occupation	Farmers n=444	Entrepreneurs n=157	Both n=72	Other n=92
Previous source of income	46%	22%	30%	24%
New/alternative source of income	6%	22%	5%	13%
Savings	24%	28%	16%	33%
Selling assets	12%	6%	6%	1%
Borrowing money	8%	12%	19%	9%
Reducing food consumption	2%	6%	14%	13%
Others	1%	2%	7%	6%
Not able to cope	0%	1%	4%	1%

3.7 Support Received

Figure 11 shows the percentage of respondents who received COVID-19 related support. Respondents from Ethiopia, Indonesia and Bolivia reported to have received COVID-19 related support during this pandemic. Only a smaller portion of respondents from Mali, Bangladesh and Guatemala received support.

This support came from the government in all the countries (table 14). Another frequently reported source of support is

the CSOs in all countries except Indonesia and Guatemala, the last one reported 9% of support from friends and relatives. Note that 15% of respondents from Mali reported to have received help from the community. In terms of the nature of the support received, most of the respondents (39%, 19% and 14%) received food items, cash and health services respectively as COVID-19 related support. “Other support for enterprising activities” and “personal hygiene and safety materials” was reported by 10% and 9% of respondents respectively.

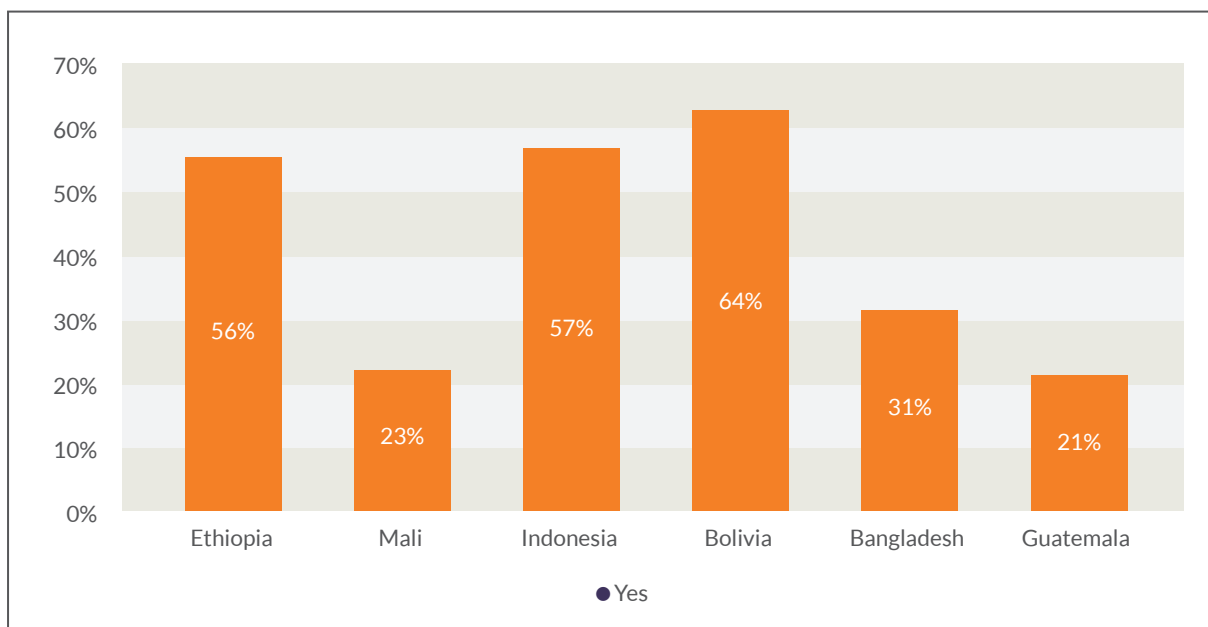


Figure 11. Have you received any COVID-19 related support/relief so far?

Table 14. Source and natures of support received by respondents

Countries	Ethiopia (n = 117)	Mali (n = 150)	Indonesia (n = 150)	Bolivia (n = 146)	Bangladesh (n = 150)	Guatemala (n = 52)	Total (n = 765)
Received support from							
Government	88%	38%	100%	59%	85%	82%	77%
CSOs	9%	32%	0%	38%	9%	0%	17%
Community	0%	15%	0%	0%	0%	0%	1%
Friends/relative	0%	0%	0%	0%	2%	9%	1%
Other	3%	15%	0%	3%	4%	9%	4%
Nature of support							
Food items	3%	27%	100%	18%	47%	42%	39%
Non-food essentials	3%	0%	0%	0%	22%	0%	4%
Health services	76%	8%	0%	0%	1%	0%	14%
Loans	3%	2%	0%	1%	0%	0%	1%
Other support for enterprising activities	0%	2%	0%	28%	8%	0%	10%
Cash	0%	4%	0%	44%	19%	58%	19%
Personal hygiene and safety materials	12%	51%	0%	3%	3%	0%	9%
Psycho-social support	3%	6%	0%	0%	0%	0%	1%
Other	0%	0%	0%	6%	0%	0%	2%

4. Conclusion

The objective of the impact quick scan is to get an informed idea of the impact of COVID-19 on a limited number of key programs in Africa (Ethiopia and Mali), Asia (Indonesia and Bangladesh) and America (Guatemala and Bolivia). It is meant to give information to be used internally (for program steering/adaptation and for development of post-COVID recovery programs) and externally (for negotiation with donors on post-COVID interventions, for communication, and for lobby & advocacy, e.g. on safety net functions of MSMEs).

The conclusion based on the findings from this first round of the impact quick scan indicates that both farmers and MSMEs are negatively affected by the COVID-19 pandemic. The respondents started feeling the impact. Most of them have seen a drop of their income and a reduction of their food consumption. Some even see their source of income stopped.

More in detail we highlight the following conclusions:

- At the moment of the implementation of the quick scan there was a clear difference in the perception of impact between the farmer and the (M) SME respondents.
A higher portion of respondents who relied mainly on casual works and on supports/transfers as source of income felt affected by COVID-19 (89%) than farmers (66%). Also, more female respondents said to be affected than male (87% vs 70%)
- Further analysis reveals that among the farmers, the feeling of being affected varies according to their production cycle (table 5). Farmers who are in the planning stage, harvesting stage and the sowing/planting stage of the agricultural production cycle were more hit than their counterparts in the growing stage. This might be so because the growing stage generally speaking requires less labour than other stages in the production cycle. As for cash crops, the highest number of farmers who are feeling the effect of COVID were those in the planning stage and those in the planting stage of the agricultural production cycle. For the home consumption crops the harvesting and planning was more an issue, which might have to do with restrictions in movement at that moment in time, making seeds availability problematic as well as hands to help on the farm.
- Most respondents already experienced any kind of reduction in their income due to COVID-19 83% (= 636 respondents). There still was a variation in the extent of the perceived reduction. The impact on their income was perceived as minor (43%), against 34%

reporting already a sharp drop, 16% have not yet experienced a negative impact on their income.

The impact on income varies from country to country. Respondents in Mali and Ethiopia indicate they are less hit at this point in time than the other countries, since at the time of the survey, the effects of the COVID-19 pandemic still were modest in these countries.

- At the moment of this first quick scan a bigger part of the small entrepreneurs (94%) experienced a reduction in their income more than did the farmers (76%). 19% of small entrepreneurs reported that their income completely stopped whereas no farmer reported a complete stop in their income. Decrease in demand was the most reported constraint by MSMEs in all countries except Guatemala where the most reported constraints by MSMEs was decrease in availability of transportation of product. These effects are traceable to the overall measurements taken in the countries to stop the COVID-19 pandemic.
- The drop at income level also impacted the household to which the respondents belonged. 67% of the respondents said they already spend more than usual on buying food because of changes in price. This price hike might be explained as an indirect effect of the limitations in transportation and market distortion which will be more severe for imported goods.
- A quarter of the respondents adopted non-viable strategies (like selling assets, borrowing money, reducing food consumption and not able to cope) to cope with the sudden change in income. This is a challenging situation which requires specific attention.
- Governments in Ethiopia, Indonesia, Guatemala and Bangladesh were indicated to give COVID-19 related support during this pandemic; a smaller portion of respondents in Mali and Bolivia mentioned to have received support from this side. Also, CSOs were indicated as a source of support in all countries except Guatemala and Indonesia. In Guatemala support from friends and relatives was a factor, as was the community in Mali. Most of the respondents (39%, 19% and 14%) received food items, cash and health services respectively as COVID-19 related support.
- What this quick scan shows is that supporting actions might vary between the countries but also for the specific issues which (M)SMEs and small holder farmers face. This difference is important to take along when planning actions.

The results of the study indicate a clear need of expanding support for enterprising activities (and maybe to farmers at a later moment in time as well). ICCO in the countries where it has programs with (M)SMEs will have to clearly look at what in a given situation is needed since the effect of the pandemic differs from country to country (tailor made support). It might also be good to see what the government is doing already and what support is given by other CSOs. Since support in terms of food, non-food and health essentials enable people to better cope with the pandemic until the global economy gets stabilized, it might be good to cooperate with other CSOs on this or look for other donors who provide this kind of assistance.

Annex 1

Table 1. Target ICCO supported programs in selected countries for the impact quick scan.

Countries	Project	Donor	# of farmers targeted	# of MSMEs targeted	Total
Bangladesh	CEA	MoFA		50	50
	Salt Solution	NPL	100		100
Indonesia	FDOV - Premium Rice	RVO	100	50	150
Ethiopia	SAFE	ACT Church Of Sweden	35	0	35
	DRR	KIA	35	10	45
	STARS	Mastercard Foundation	70	0	70
Mali	Jege Ni Jaba	MoFA	60	40	100
	MLI021	LuxDev	38	12	50
Bolivia	Manq'a	Maria Marina Foundation, KIA, Edukans	150	N/A	150
Guatemala	MISKA	KIA	64	N/A	64
Total			652	162	814

Annex 2

Table 1. Data collection period

Countries	Start date	End date	Number of respondents
Ethiopia	15/08/2020	25/08/2020	117
Mali	05/08/2020	10/08/2020	150
Indonesia	20/07/2020	25/07/2020	150
Bolivia	28/07/2020	18/08/2020	146
Bangladesh	20/07/2020	25/07/2020	150
Guatemala	08/07/2020	12/07/2020	52
Total			765

Table 2. COVID-19 related context in countries at the period of data collection

Countries	Ethiopia	Mali	Indonesia	Bolivia	Bangladesh	Guatemala
Number of cases	2576	207453	28894	91571	69429	23972
Deceased	125	2688	509	4459	2583	981
Recovery	1969	113558	12037	50255	3330	2783
Active cases	482	91207	16348	36857	63516	20208

Annex 3

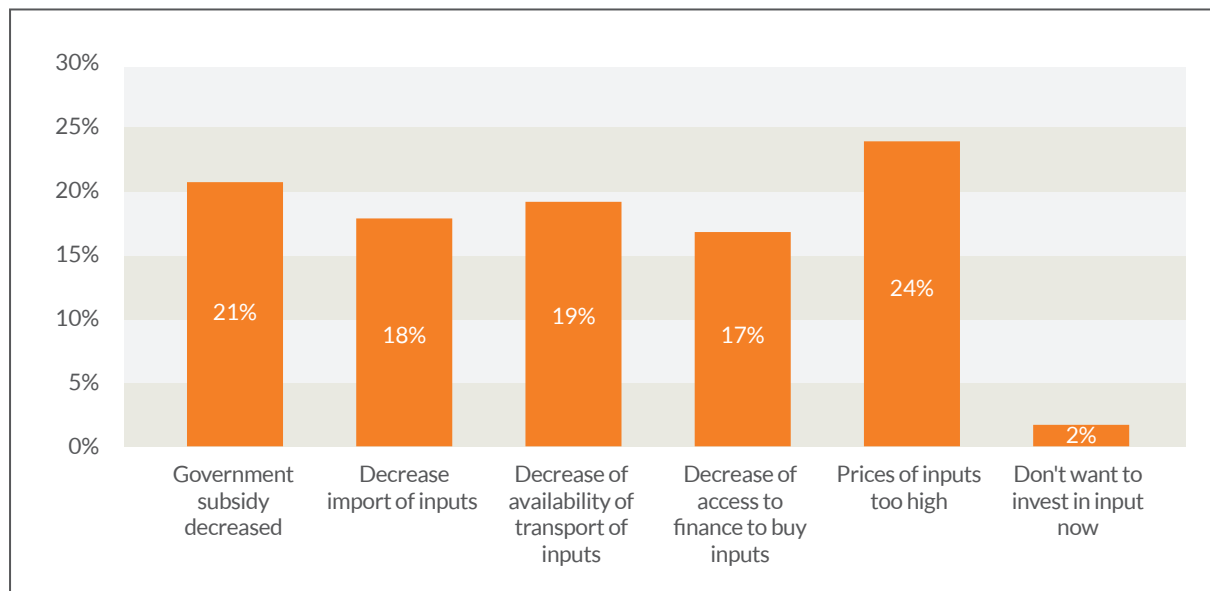


Figure 1. Why is availability of input your main constraint? (n = 381)

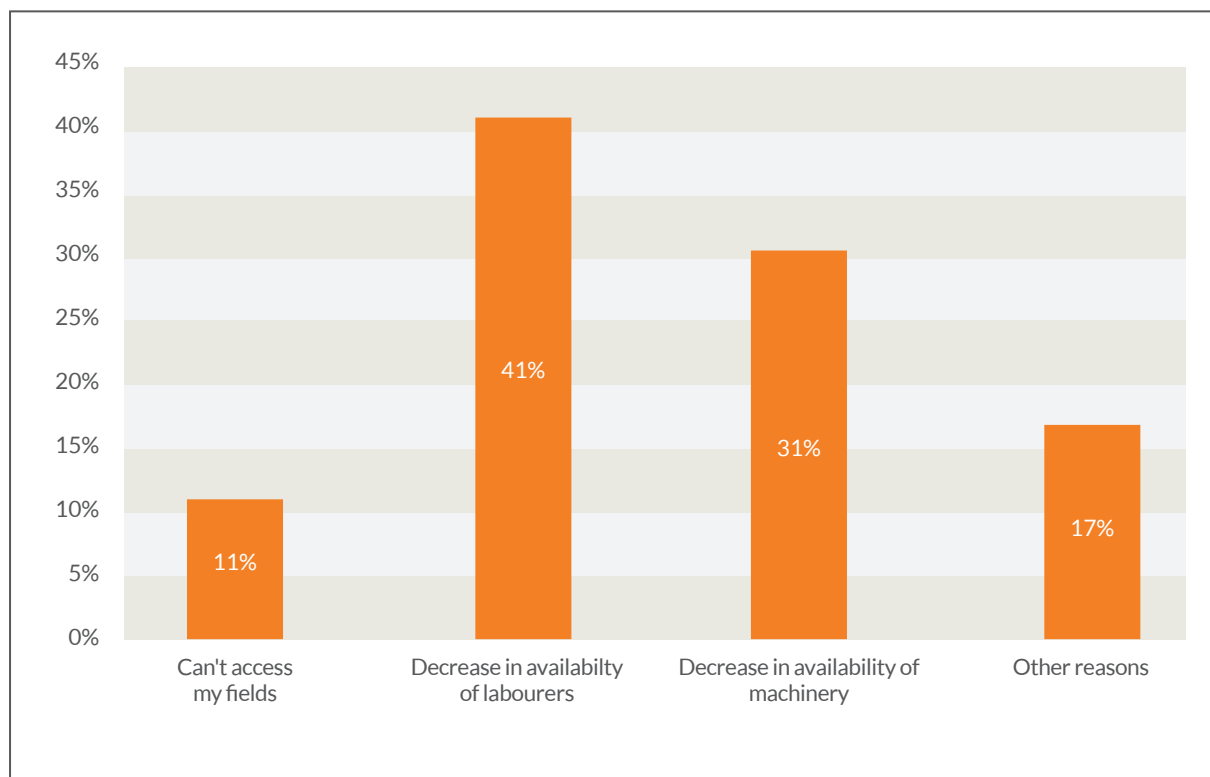


Figure 2. Why is ability to work in the field with sufficient labour your main constraint? (n = 249)

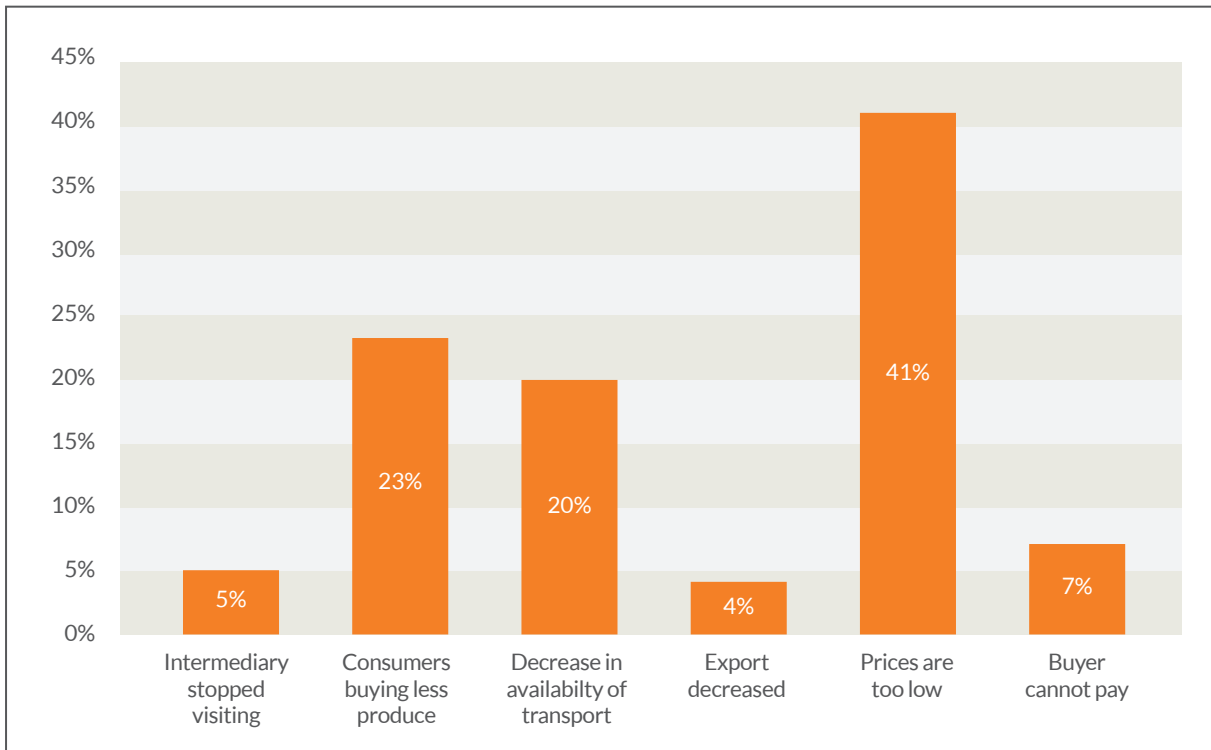


Figure 3. Why is selling produce your main constraint? (n = 513)

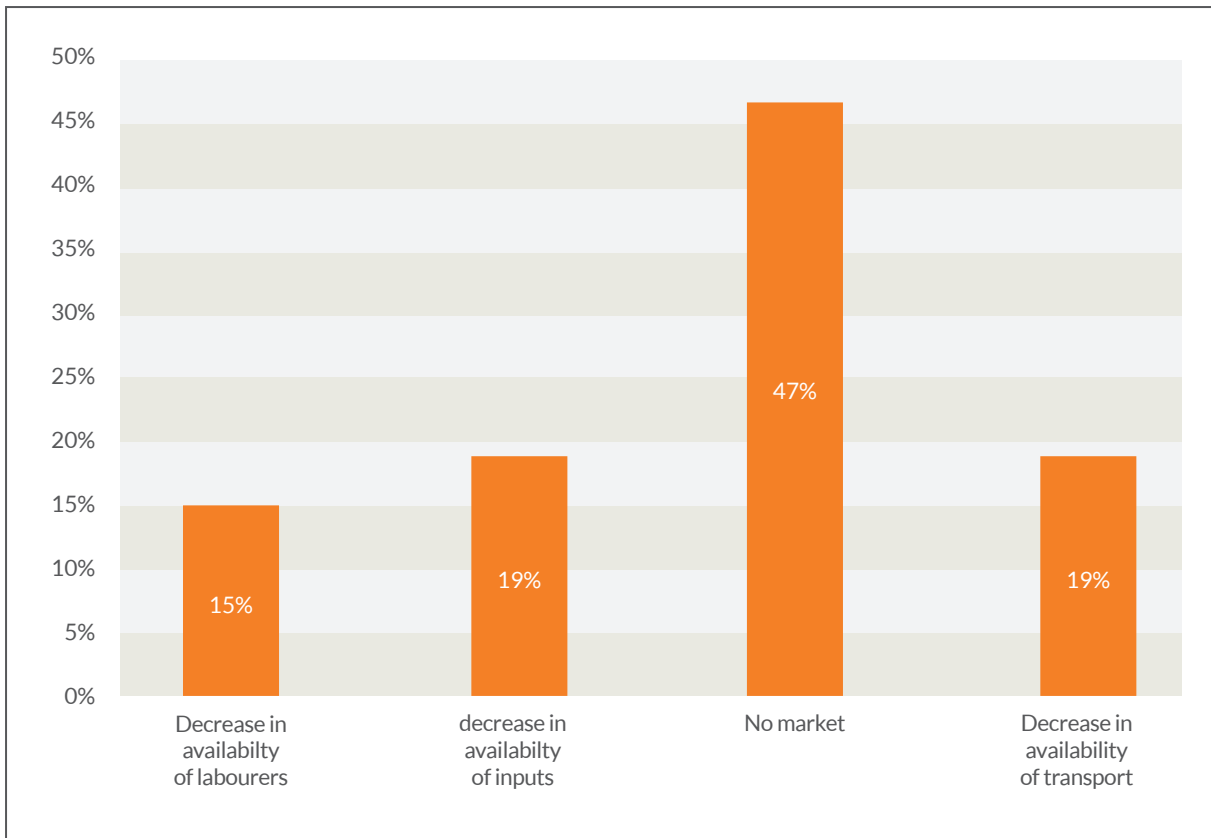


Figure 4. Why is value adding to produce your main constraint? (n = 97)

Partner
to enterprising
people.