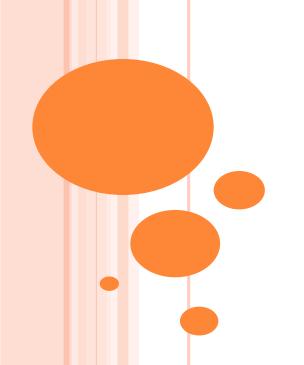
## DEVELOPMENT STUDIES ASSOCIATION, OXFORD SEPTEMBER 14<sup>TH</sup> 2016

#### INEQUALITY AND COMPLEXITY IN ACCESS TO FOOD-P52

PATTERNS OF FOOD CONSUMPTION IN UZBEKISTAN:
METHODOLOGICAL REFLECTIONS THROUGH AN
EMPIRICAL CASE-STUDY OF RURAL SAMARKAND

PHD CANDIDATE
DPT. OF ECONOMICS
SOAS



# HOW DO WE UNDERSTAND & ASSESS FOOD CONSUMPTION

Although development economists have looked at the impact on NUTRITION and FOOD consumption after the transition to commercial agriculture

Nevertheless limited studies have focussed on the causal mechanisms of crop differentiation and the consequent patterns of diet diversifiction through the COMMERCIALIZATION processes

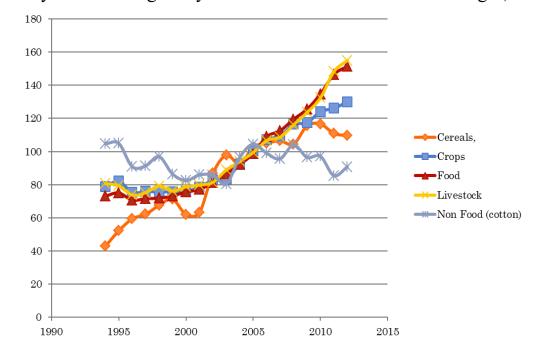
Also, limited debate on the limitations and rationale of the METHODOLOGY used in the study of diet and nutrition

#### **UZBEKISTAN: AN OVERVIEW**

- o Independent in 1991, 62% population lives in rural areas, GDP growth rate 7-8%
- Structural transformation: agriculture from 28% to 17% of GDP between 1992 and 2012 with services and industry taking over . Cotton export from 65% to 9% of GDP in the same period (WB, 2013)
- Strong role of the state as regulator and market actor in agriculture:
- World's fifth largest exporter and sixth largest producer of cotton (the "cotton basket" in Soviet times)
- Grain sovereignty achieved in 2003
- High value crops production (F&V) increased in 2008

• Micronutrient deficiencies contribute to 1/3 of the under-five mortality rate. Although only about 5 % of children are underweight, the

stunting level remains at 19%.



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### Agro-food systems (of provision) analysis

relationship between agro-food production and diet patterns, meant as:

production patterns

#### Food availability:

Production
Distribution
Exchange
stability

consumption patterns

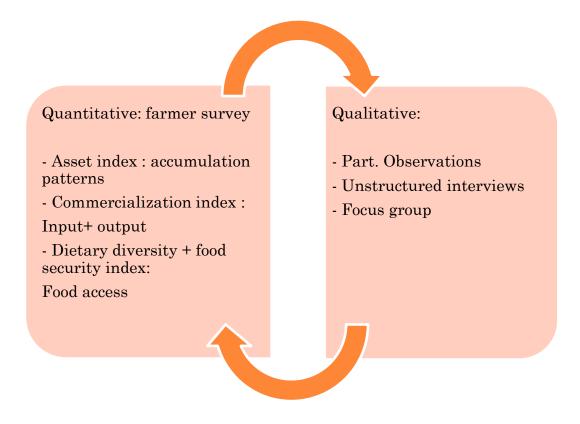
#### Food use:

-Nutritional value
-Social Value
-Preferences & knowledge

#### Food Access:

Affordability
Allocation
gender

#### **METHODOLOGY: MIXED METHOD**



- Purposive stratified sample survey
- 120 farmers across 9 districts: cotton versus non cotton areas
- Only 3 respondents receive remittances
- Gender balanced, where possible
- Fieldwork in harsh season : fall-winter 2015

#### The nutrition metrics: methodological considerations on IDDI & FANTA

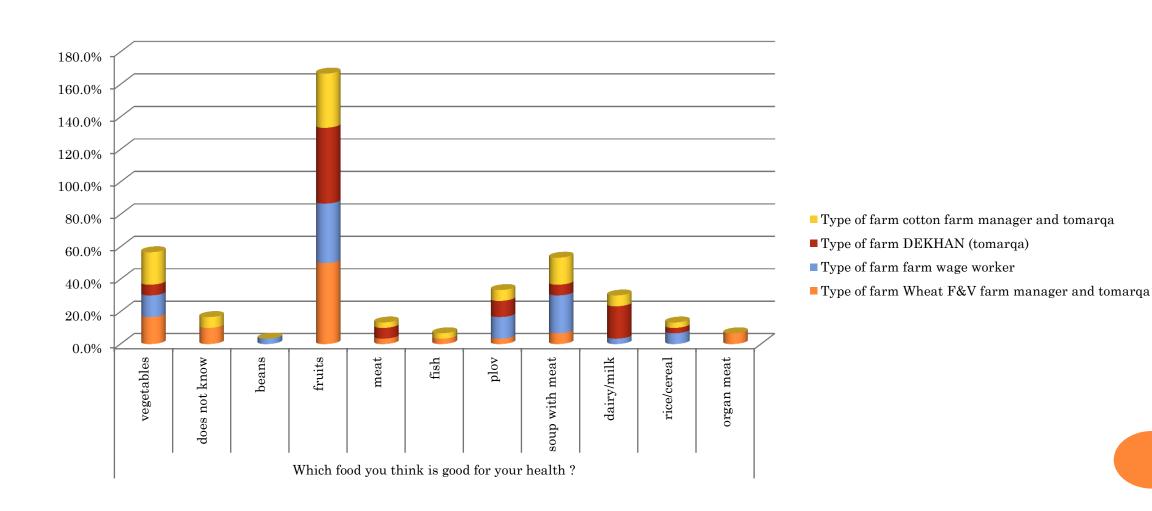
- They allow comparability and reproducibility
- Help to grasp food access & consumption modalities
- FANTA: grasps the food security dimension (30 days recall)
- Individual Dietary Diversity Index: Grasp diet composition and quality 15 food groups adapted to the local diet and season (24-hour recall)
- No use of anthropometry because not relevant for the scope of the research, which looks at:

IF and HOW different commercialization degrees of farmers affects diets.

Strata	Cotton farm manager	F&V Farm Manager	HH farmer (dekhan)	Agr. Wage Workers
State procurement	Cotton and Winter wheat	Winter wheat	n/a only Market	n/a only market
Form of labour	Family/ Hiring	Family/ Hiring	Family / off farm employment	Family/ Hired in agriculture
Land tenure	Long-term lease	Long-term lease	Lifetime inheritable	Lifetime inheritable
Average land size (Ha)	59	32	0.27	0.21

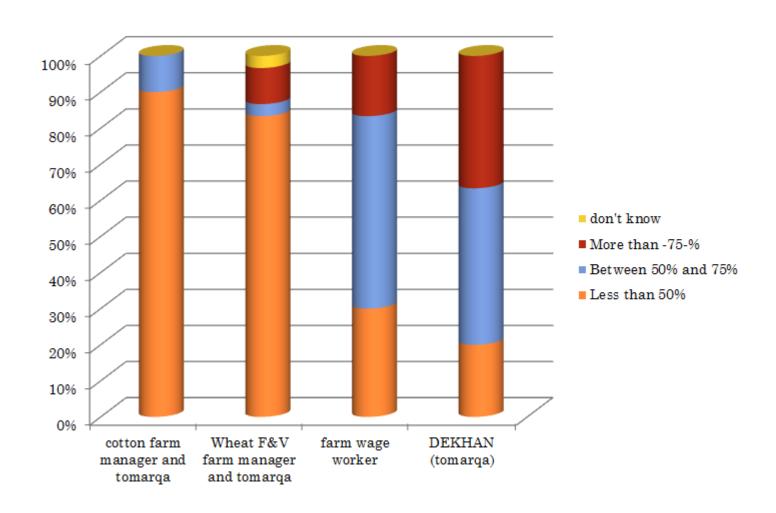
How different groups identified responded to the questions related to marketed and non-marketed access to food, food security and dietary diversity

## KNOWLEDGE, PREFERENCES & NUTRITIONAL VALUES



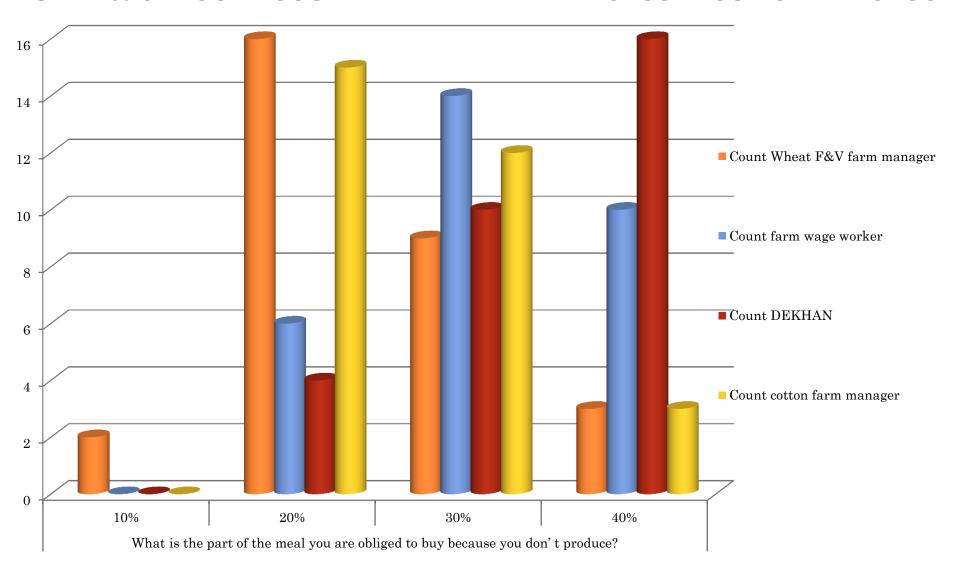
## Food affordability & Market:

Over the past month, what was the proportion of your total expenditure that you spent on all types of food?

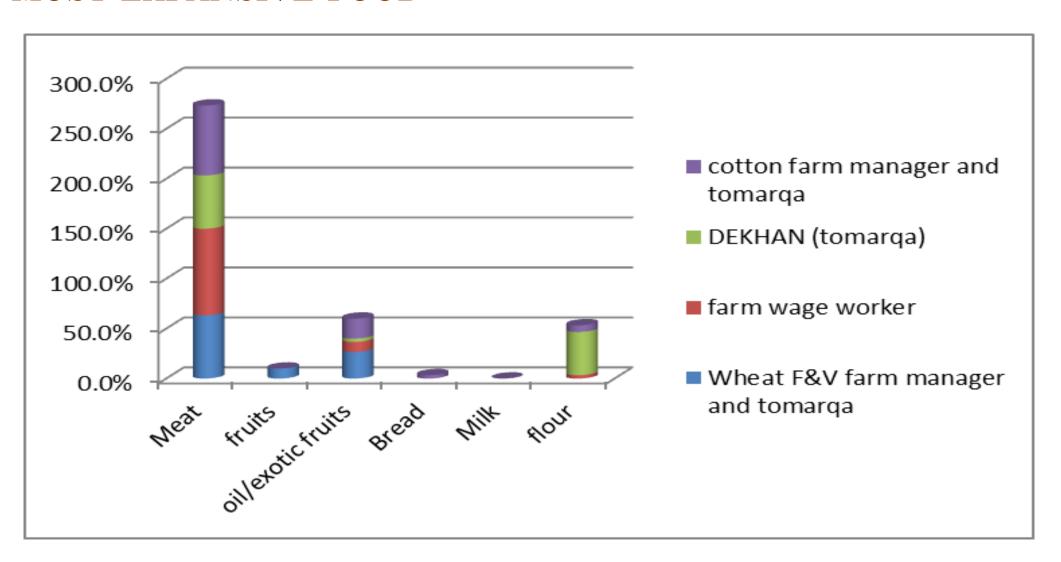


#### SUBSISTENCE VERSUS MARKET:

#### WHAT IS THE % OF FOOD BOUGHT AT THE MARKET BECAUSE YOU DON'T PRODUCE ?

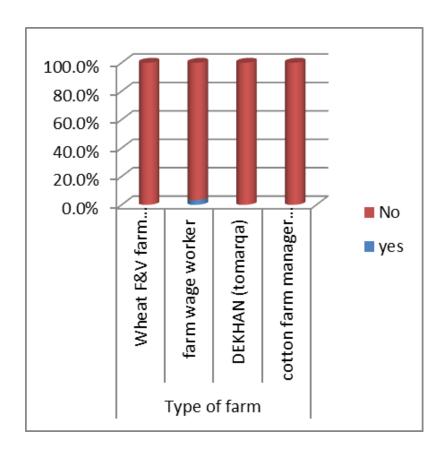


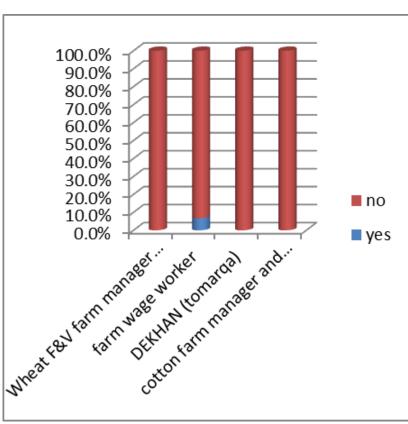
#### MOST EXPANSIVE FOOD



## **Food Security**

IN THE PAST MONTH DID YOU HAVE SMALLER (L) OF FEWER MEALS (R)?

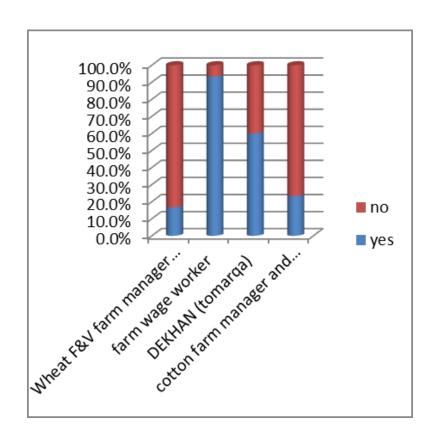


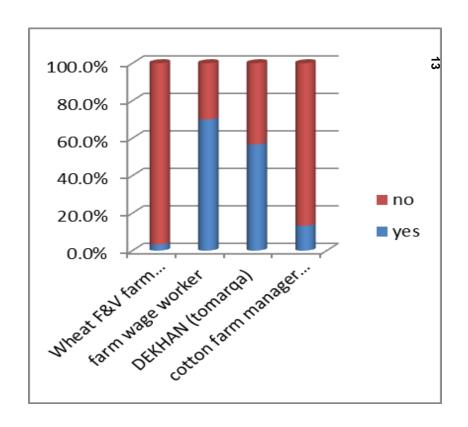


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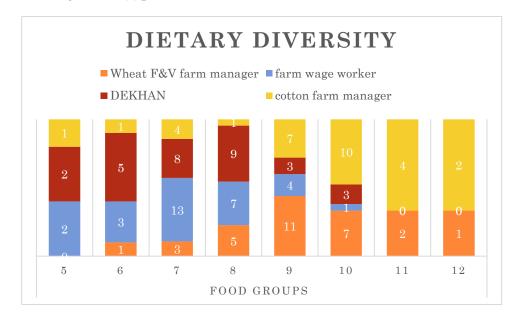
## **Food Security**

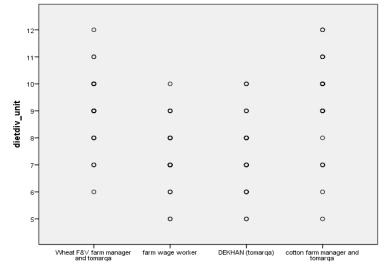
IN THE PAST MONTH DID YOU BUY FOOD ON CREDIT (L)/ BORROWED (R)?





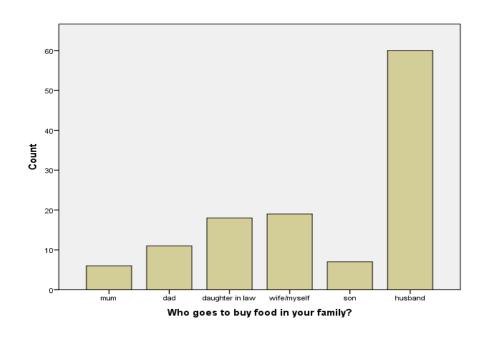
#### **DIETARY DIVERSITY**

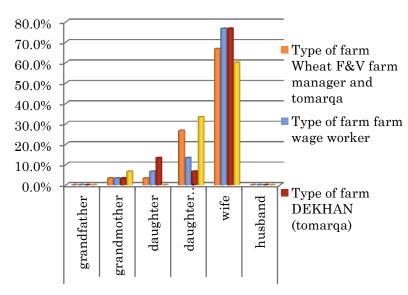




Type of farm

#### FOOD ACQUISITION & GENDER





• Gender role in income management: male generally holds food consumption decision

#### **IMPLICATIONS: CONSUMPTION PATTERNS**

- Farm managers, although benefit from more assets are less dependent on the market for food provision and don't buy non- essential food.
- Agric. wage workers are less dependent on the market for staple food than dekhans (in-kind wage i.e land/wheat)
- O Nevertheless, both dekhans and agric. wage workers depend on the community (credit, borrowing) for food provision
- Diet is not diverse. Cereal, tubers and roots occupy the biggest share of the diet across all the groups, supply- side factors matters as well
- Gender plays a key role in the patterns of food provision
- FANTA and DDI support only partially the understanding of interplays of food production, distribution and access
- O Diet patterns are a good proxy to identify class differentiation in agrarian change, which are nonetheless context-specific
- The nexus between commercialization and food consumption is not clear cut and subject to complex forms of production and exchange

#### LIMITATIONS

- Shortage of secondary data to compare and contrast
- Bureacratic constraints during the fieldwork
- Although nutritional status better grasped in cold seasons, production and employment changes as well
- Female only partially represented in the survey sample
- The non-monetary economy plays a big role for labour
- Strong culture and social meanings around the "flex crops"

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Thank you!

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