

FATE: Feminisation, agricultural transition, and rural employment



# FATE

Hearing SNSF  
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Bolivia, Lao PDR, Nepal, Rwanda  
CH

CIDES – UMSA, NUoL, NCCR, CIAT  
IZFG, CDE, UNRISD



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## The Team



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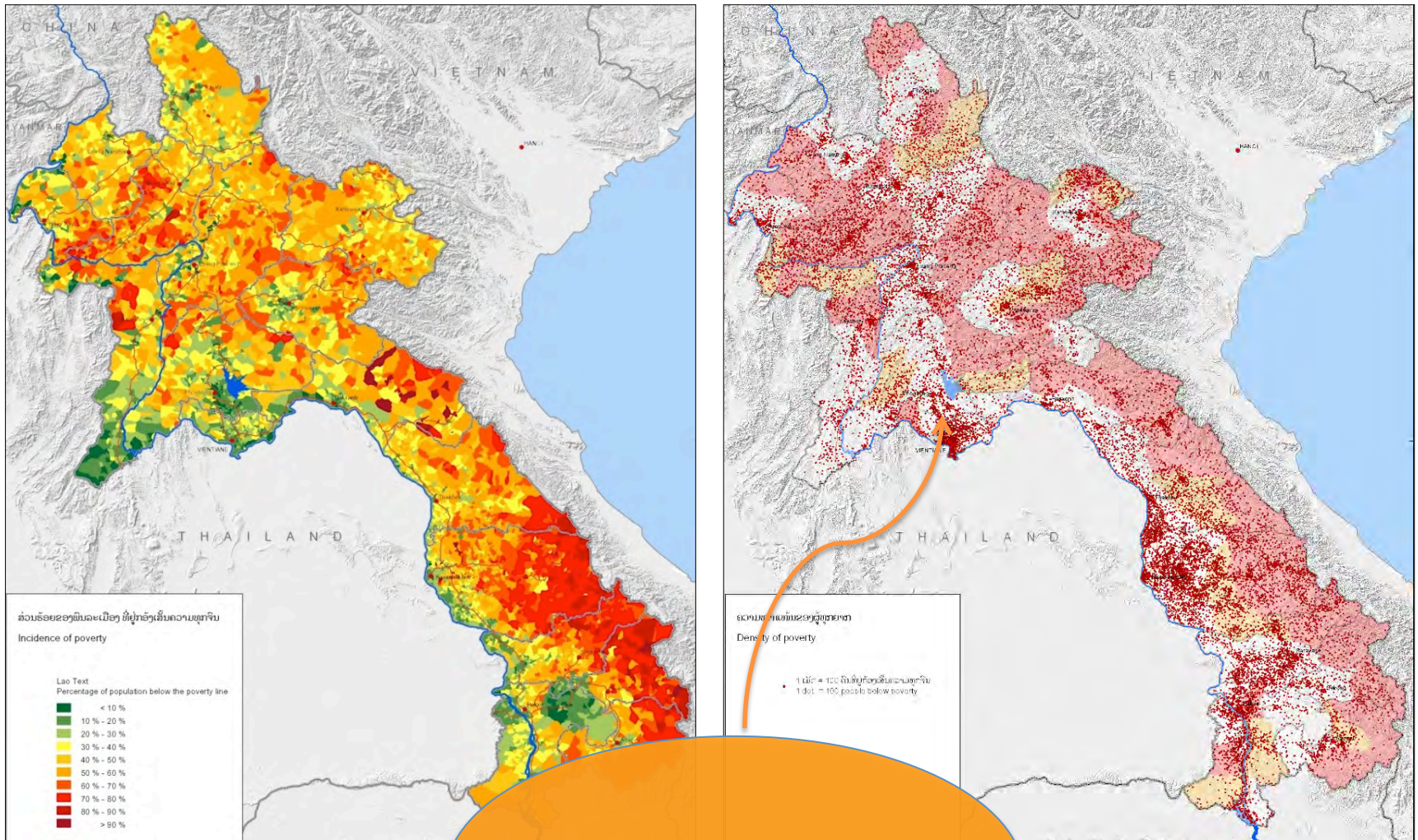












Ban Kern Sweet Corn Factory  
Lao Agro Industry Co., Ltd.



Jobs in commercialised agriculture offer a pathway out of poverty for rural women.

But: To turn women's income into assets, FATE will analyse the social and political conditions of rural employment and develop evidence-informed tools for more inclusive and sustainable pathways out of poverty.



## 4 research questions

### *Extent, character and meaning of new employment opportunities:*

1. What does the transformation of agriculture towards export-orientation imply in terms of employment for different segments of the rural population?

### *Women's empowerment versus (new) dependencies:*

2. How are the gains and the risks of employment opportunities shared and negotiated among different members of the household?

### *The role of the state and governance of rural labour markets:*

3. What are the main elements to create an enabling environment for rural employment, and how can governance become more effective?

### *Sustainable use of natural resources and division of labour:*

4. What trade-offs result from women's increased labour market participation?



# Methodology

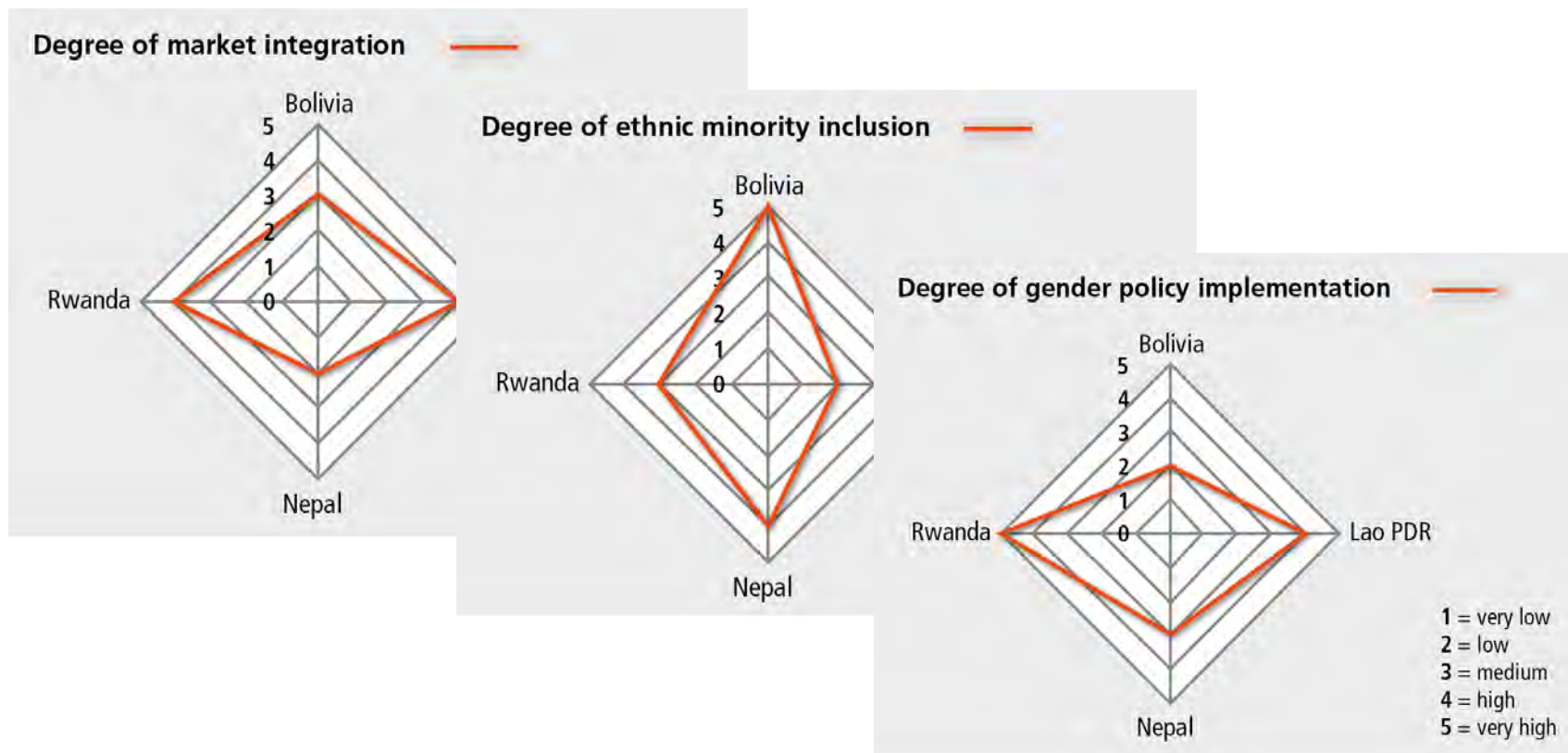


## Research design:

1. Case-based studies
2. Comparative analysis and longitudinal assessment

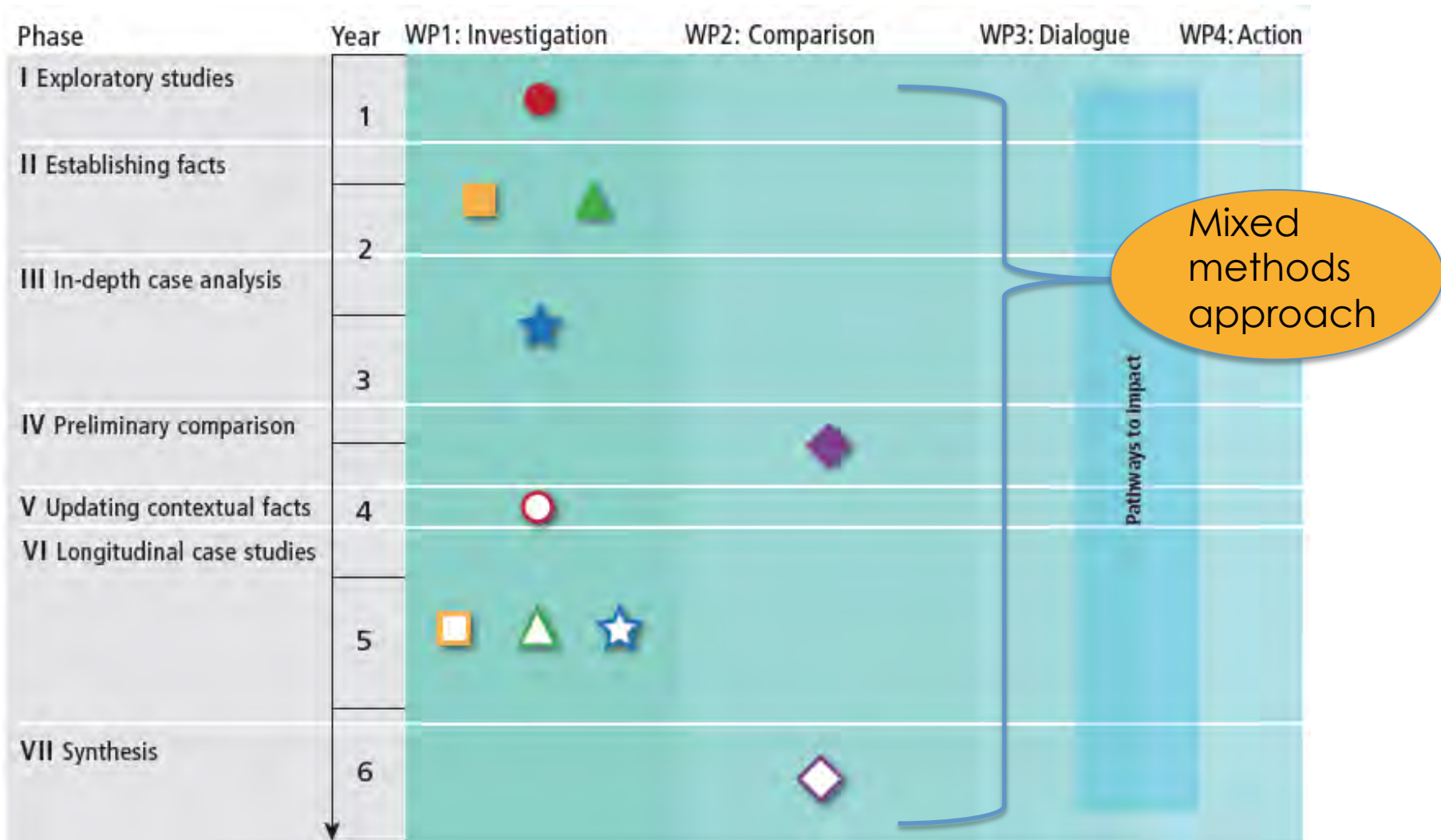
# Country selection

Purposive sampling with a set of countries comprising representative features, but also variations.





# Data collection and work packages



## Contribution to research

### 1. Bridging different strands of scientific debates

Challenging ill-founded knowledge about the rural labour market by bridging labour issues and agriculture.

### 2. Translating assets into capabilities

Illuminating the conditions needed for households to achieve asset-building capacity, and for women to be economically empowered and improve their well-being.

### 3. Beyond case studies

Building evidence from cross-country and longitudinal analysis based on contexts which are different, but comparable.



## Contribution to policy

### 1. Breaking the cycle of poverty

Identifying conditions needed to make sure the gains of export-led agriculture are shared by different groups.

### 2. Improving effectiveness of reforms

Strengthening existing structures and making reform actors in governments, civil society and the private sector more effective, and their policies more gender responsive.

### 3. Linking local experience to global policy platforms

Feeding evidence-informed policy messages into regional and global platforms.

## Contribution to practice

### 1. Developing innovative approaches

Testing instruments and tools to be implemented on the ground in order to inform country strategies (PARE initiatives).

### 2. Communication for social change

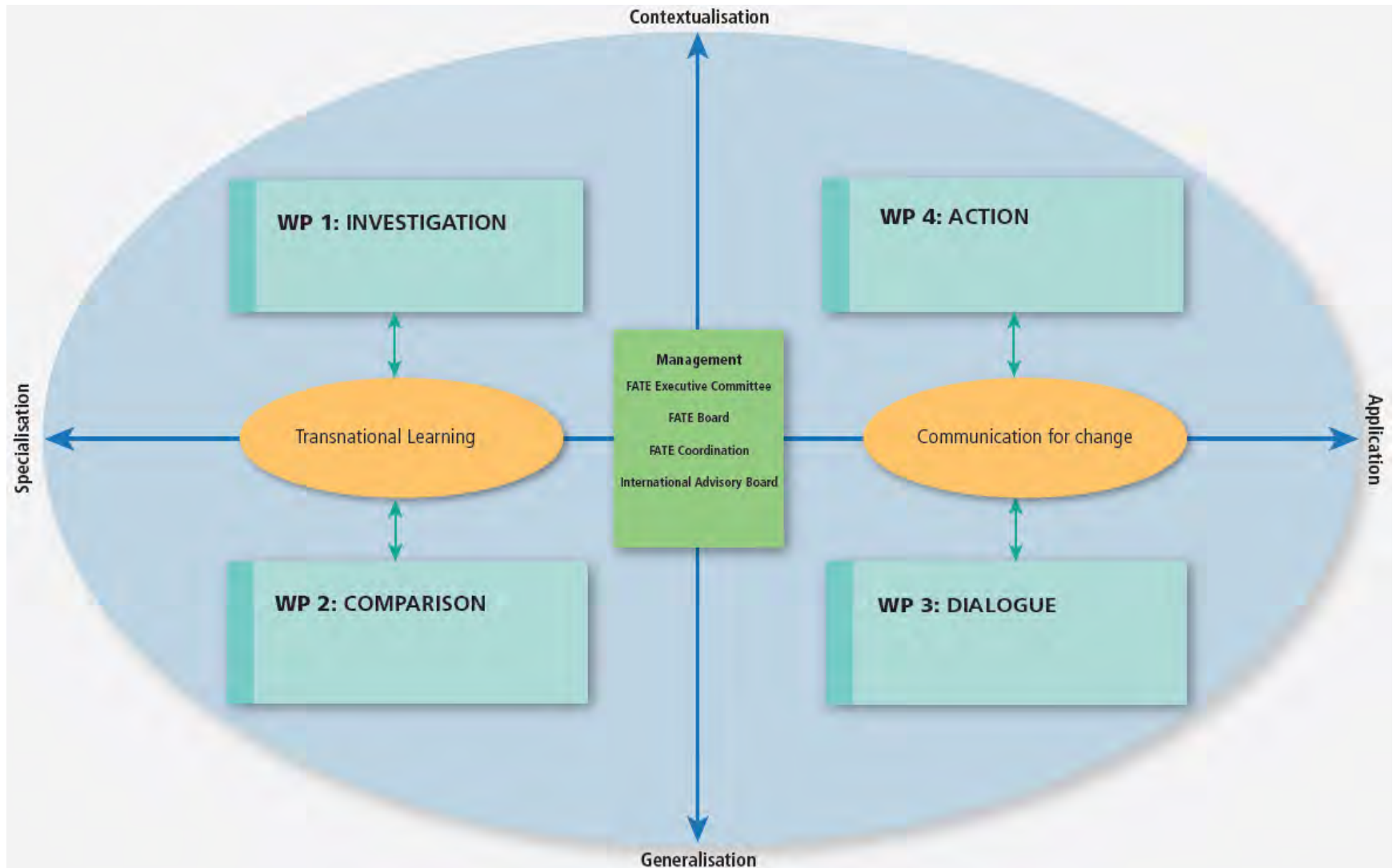
Building strong networks and engage different groups in virtual and face-to-face communication platforms.

### 3. Capacity building

By training young scientists at the interface to development practice, fostering cross-national learning and raising in-country capacities.



# Collaboration in the international team



## **Main adjustments to pre-proposal**

### 1. PARE-initiatives

From research to practice, building partnerships and develop interventions based on findings.

### 2. Rationale for country selection

Our sample draws on theory-driven requirements to construct meaningful axes of comparison.

### 3. Alternatives to NTAE

Adopting a comprehensive definition of NTAE and including alternative income-generating opportunities to address the dynamics of rural labour markets in their complexity.







Pictures: sabin bieri, August 2013