Forests in the Livelihoods of Rural Households in Ghana

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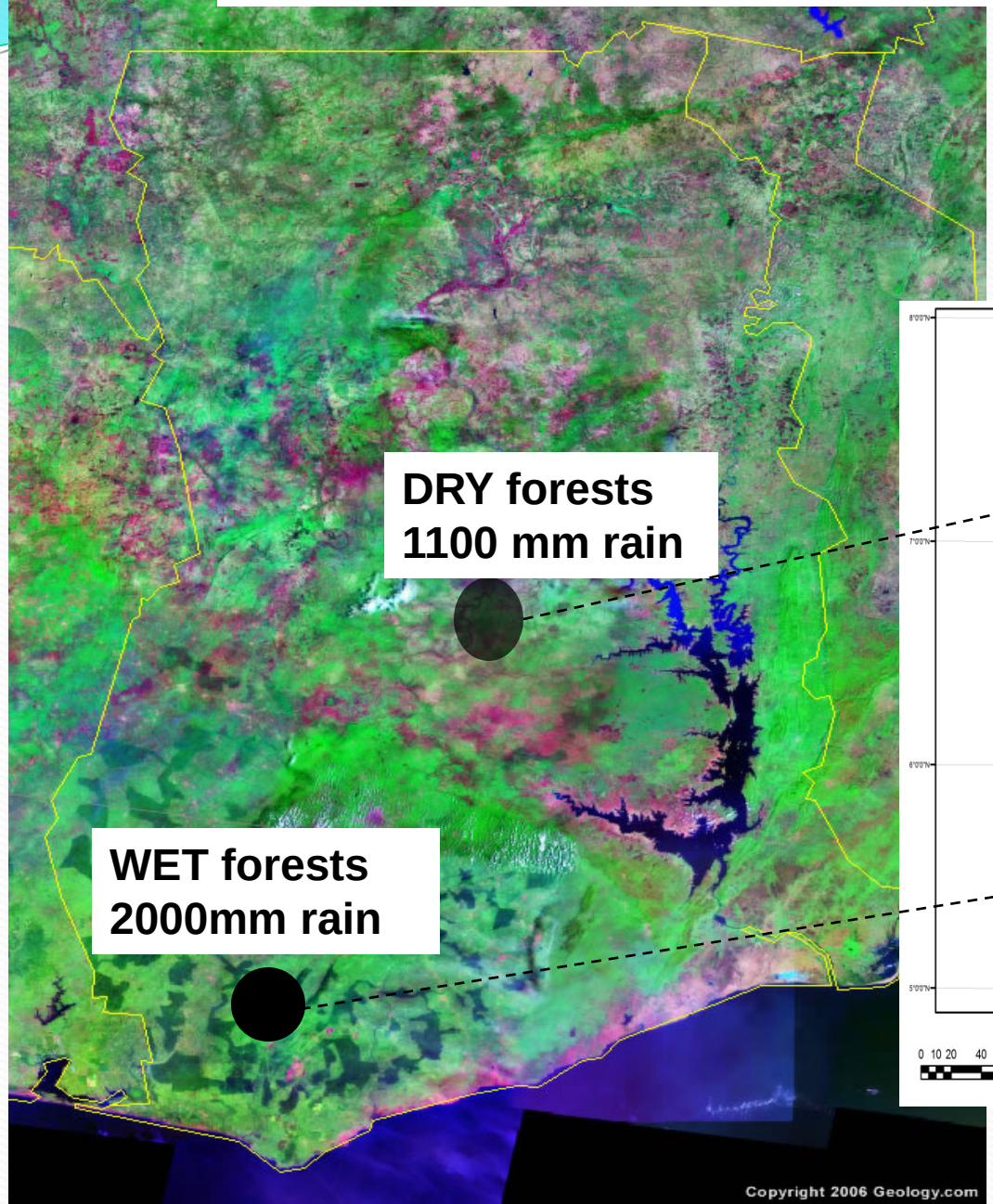
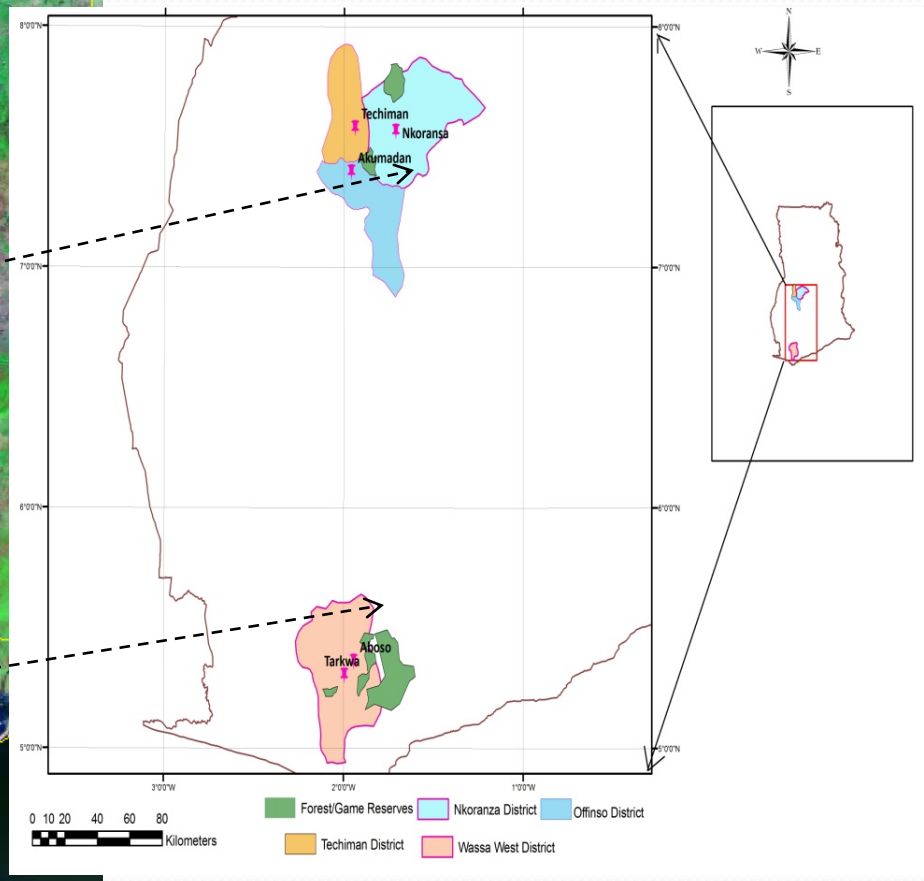
Study Objective

Estimate rural forest dependency level

Context – study area





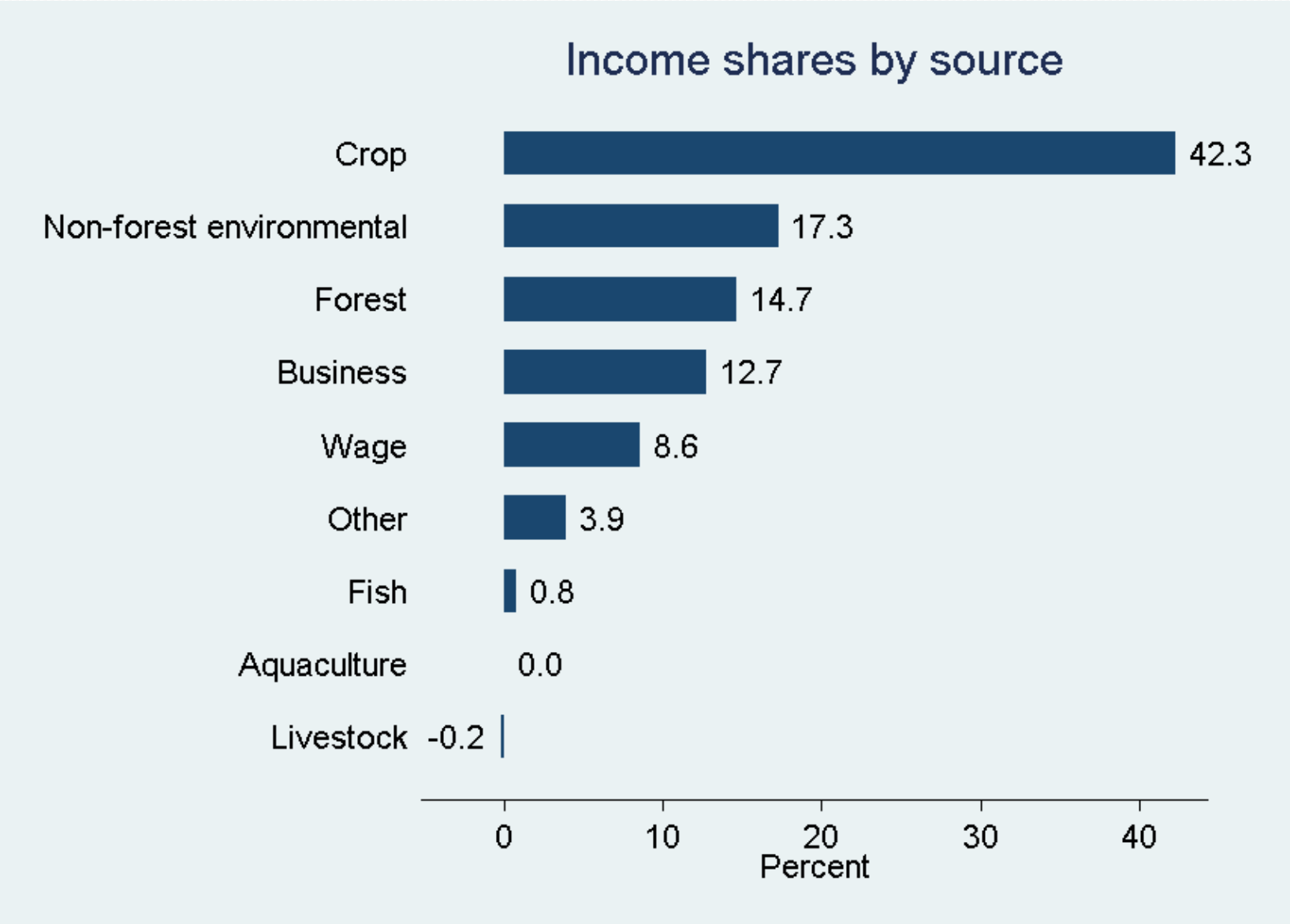
Study area

- Farming main occupation
- Charcoal

Study area

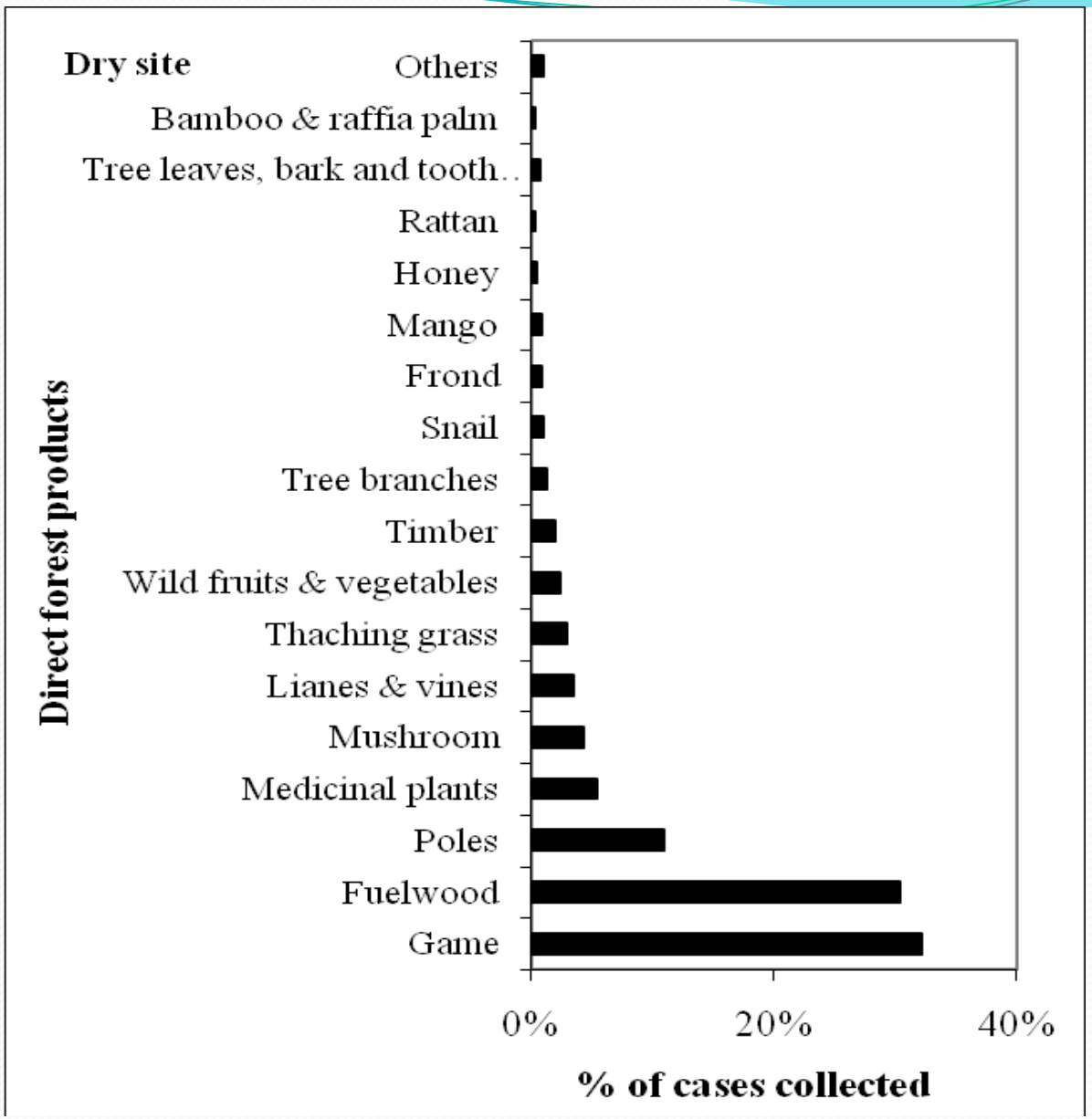
- No. of sampled villages = 15
- No. Households = 330
- Gender
  - Male=90%
  - Female = 10%
- Forest mgt
  - Degraded forests (exploitation, fire, etc.)
  - Replanting (private & collaborative with FSD)
  - Ecotourism

Key findings: Total household income by sources

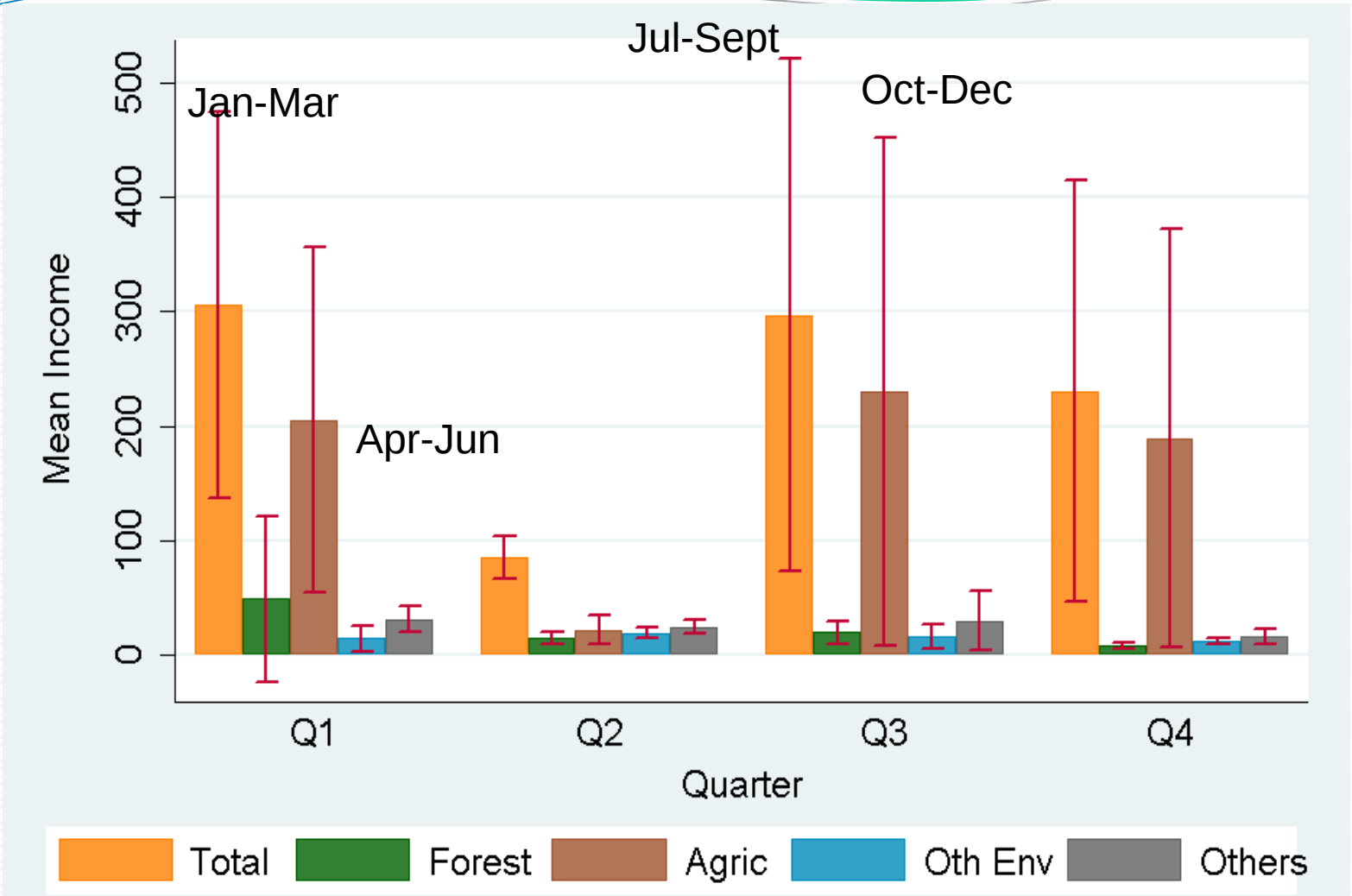


Others = remittances, etc.

Key findings: Contributors to direct forest income



Key findings: Seasonality (income shares by quarter)



Others = Wage, business & remittances

Conclusion

- Agriculture is key contributor to rural income (over 40% of total household income)

- Environmental Income including forests = 32% of average total household income

- Environmental dependency prevails
  - Exploitation all year round
  - Safety net function especially during lean agric. periods

Acknowledgement

- ***Emmanuel Marfo[1], Eric Nutakor[1], Joseph Cobbinah[1], and Thorsten Treue[2]***

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- PEN TEAM
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  - Carsten

- PEN Households