

## Hotspots in India: Determining the Distributional Impact of Policies

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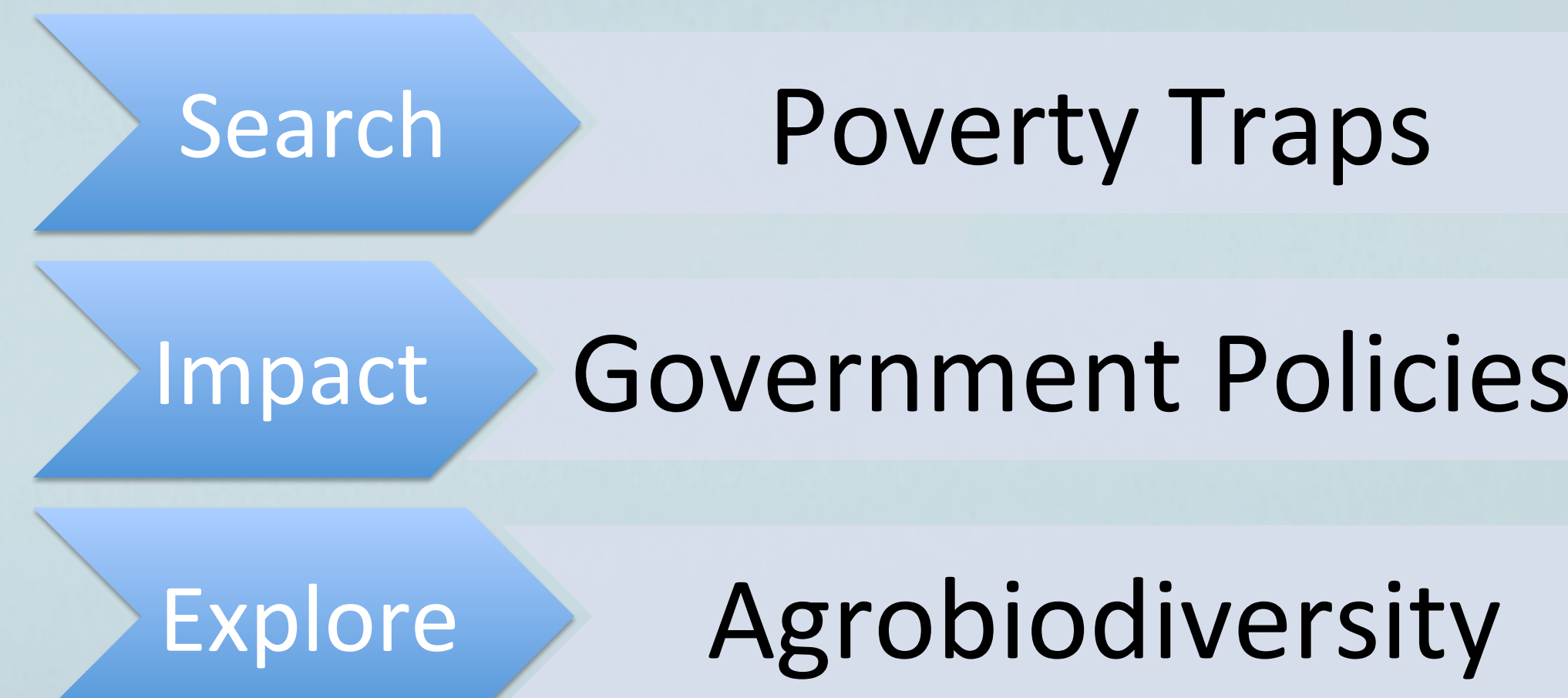


### Introduction

- **Rural poverty** in India is enigmatic in its coexistence with high levels of **agrobiodiversity** - the genetic resources required for food and agricultural production.
- **Land conversion** to agriculture has increased food production for human consumption, but has come at the expense of biodiversity and the natural functioning of ecosystems
- Decreased **food security** exists in local communities.
- While **government policies** exist to address this situation and enhance local food security, they do not always have the intended impact



### Questions

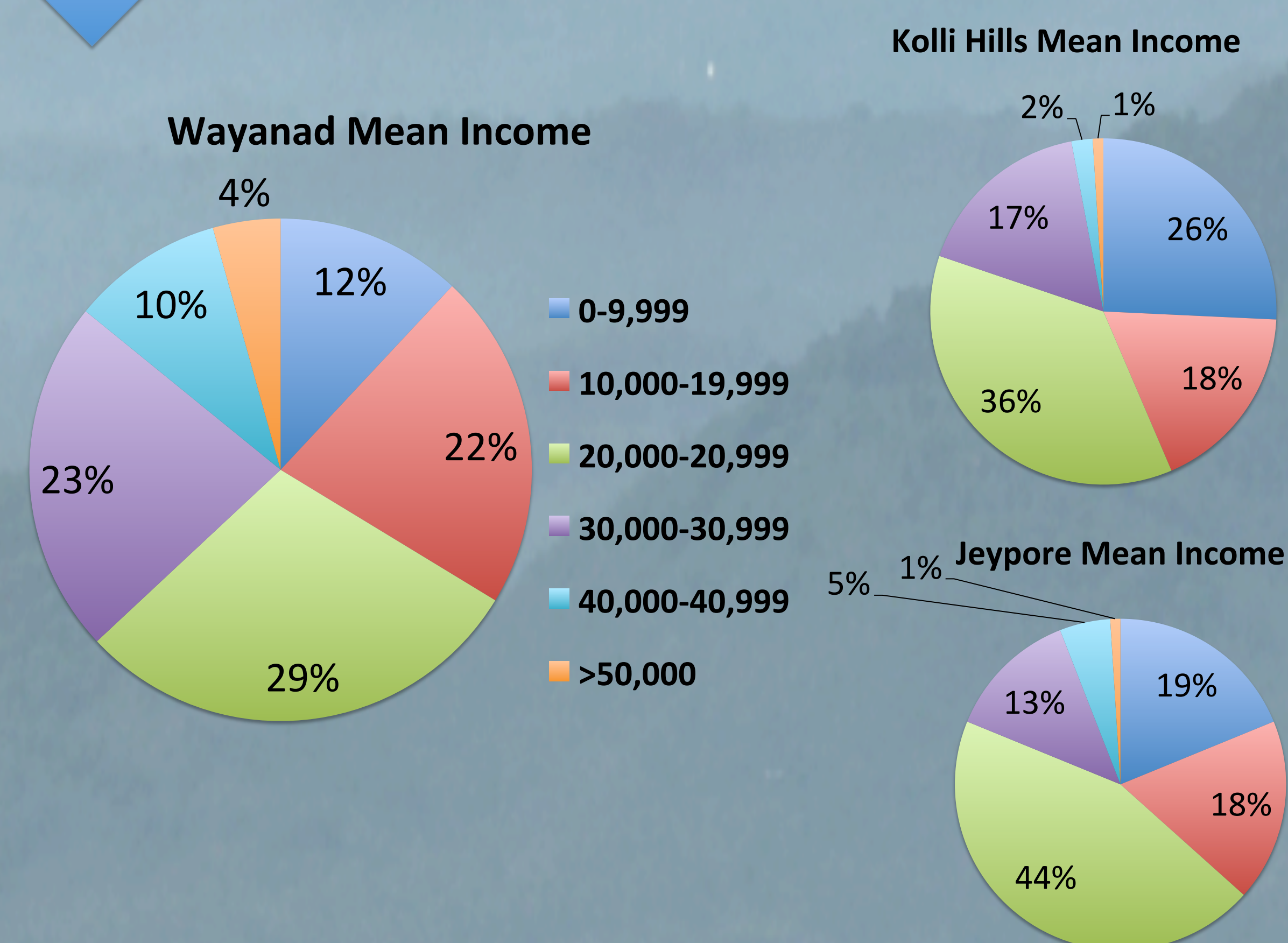
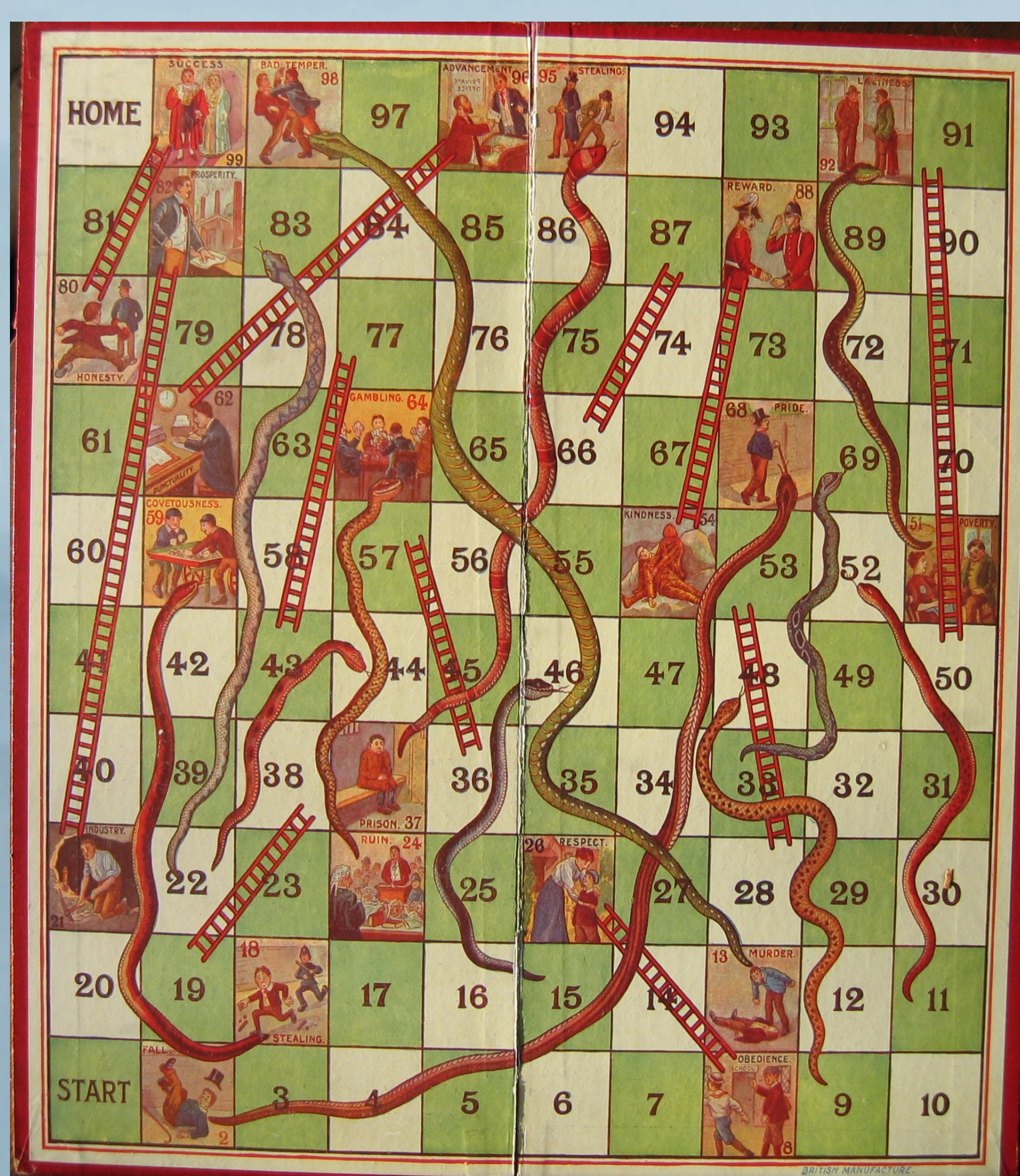


### Methodology

Mixed Method Approach: surveys and focus group discussion.

A recall approach was used capture income and asset data over three generations within each household.

- General HH Survey
  - Baseline survey November 2011
  - Second and Third iteration: June 2013 and June 2014
- PDHED Survey
  - January – April 2014
  - N=900
- PDHED Focus Groups
  - August 2014
  - 3 focus groups per location; 12 people each



Positive	Negative
<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• Est PDS</li> <li>• Roads</li> <li>• Schools</li> <li>• Marketplaces</li> </ul>	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• Drought</li> <li>• Flooding</li> <li>• Death and Disease</li> <li>• Physical Disability</li> </ul>

### Preliminary Results

- 1) General upward trend in quality of life** that has been significantly impacted by government policies, although in specific examples of poverty traps do remain.
- 2) Most significant policies:**
  - PDS is the major policy
  - MGNREGA
  - IAY Housing Scheme
  - Mid-Day Meal Scheme at School
  - All India Road Scheme 1997
- 3) Decreasing Agrobiodiversity and Reliance upon wild foods**

- Women feel things are better. Will the evidence from survey data prove otherwise?
- Education is improving and if the next generation is anything like the previous ones, they are optimistic. Interesting that the older generations seem more optimistic that the current generation.
- Lamenting the loss of kids wanting to remain on the farm.

### Conclusions

- Poverty remains but a long term escape is happening
- According to participants, government schemes have been the major reason for an increasing quality of life
- Shift to commercial crops; some home gardens

### Next Steps

- Finalize Mathematical Modeling
- Link the two datasets together. Compare qualitative and quantitative results.



### References

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