

# UNHCR Jordan

## Agriculture and Syrian refugees in Jordan: current situation and opportunities ahead



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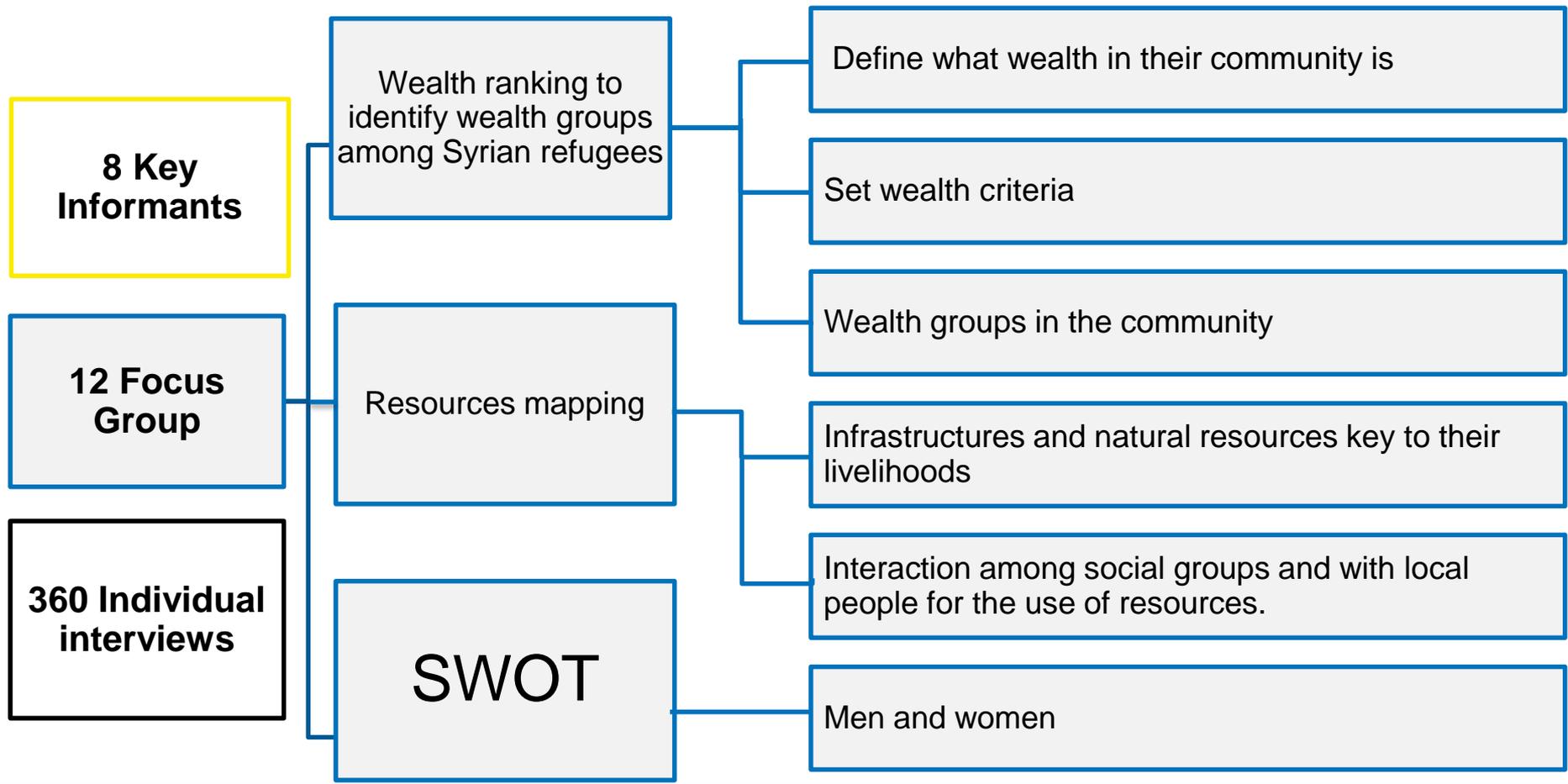


# Methodology

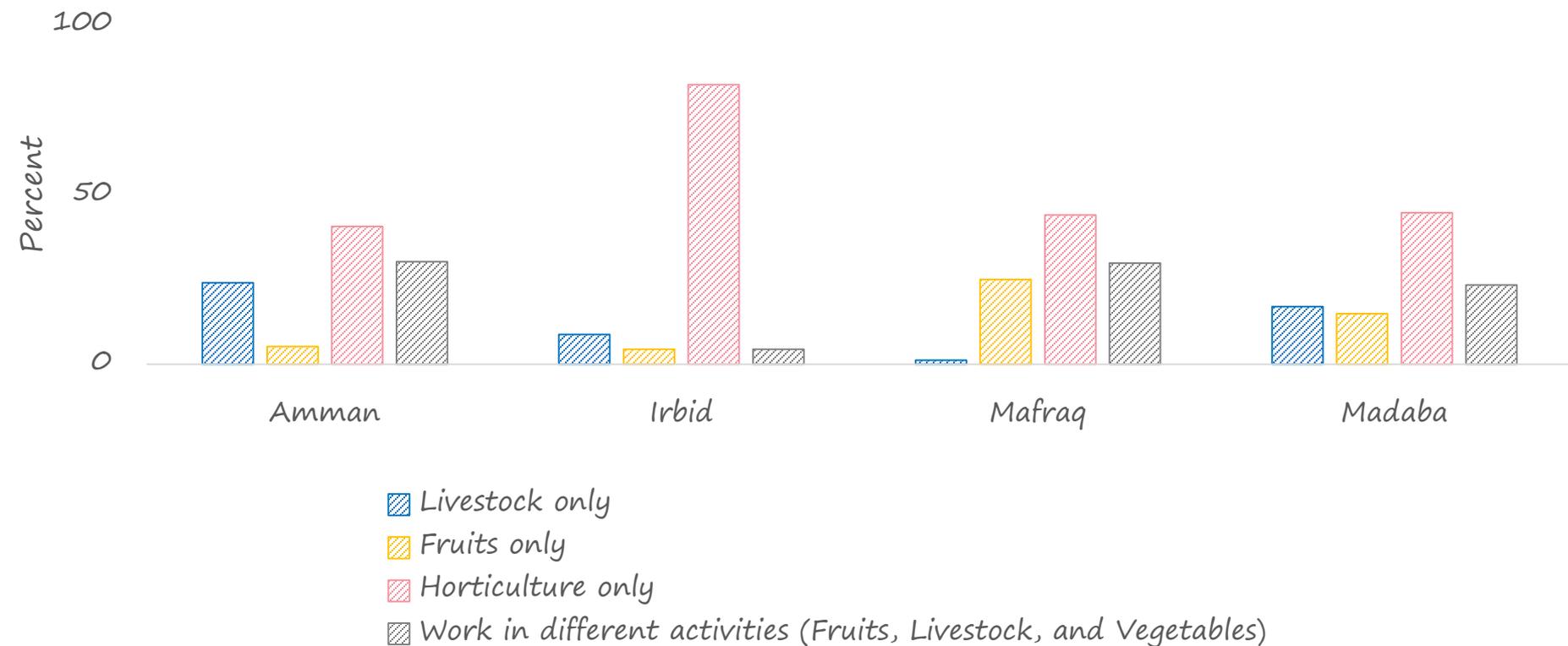
Sustainable  
livelihoods  
framework

Wealth  
groups

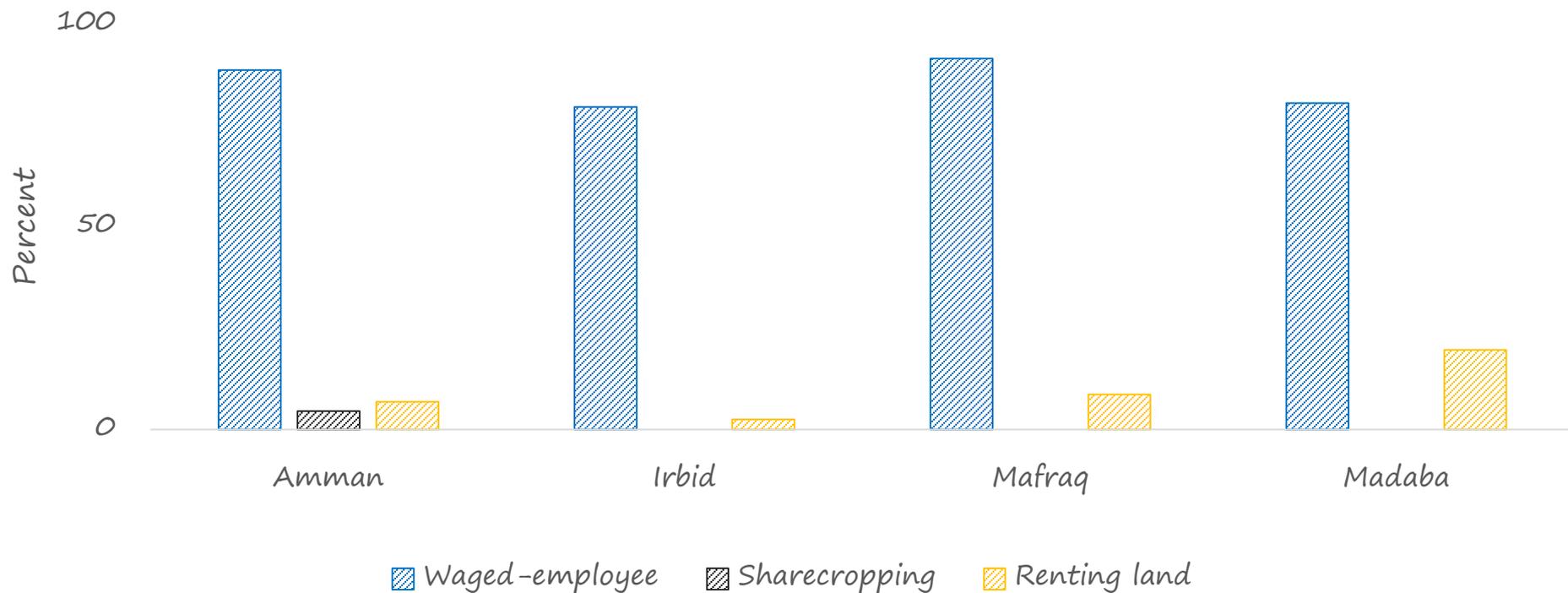
Survey+FGDs



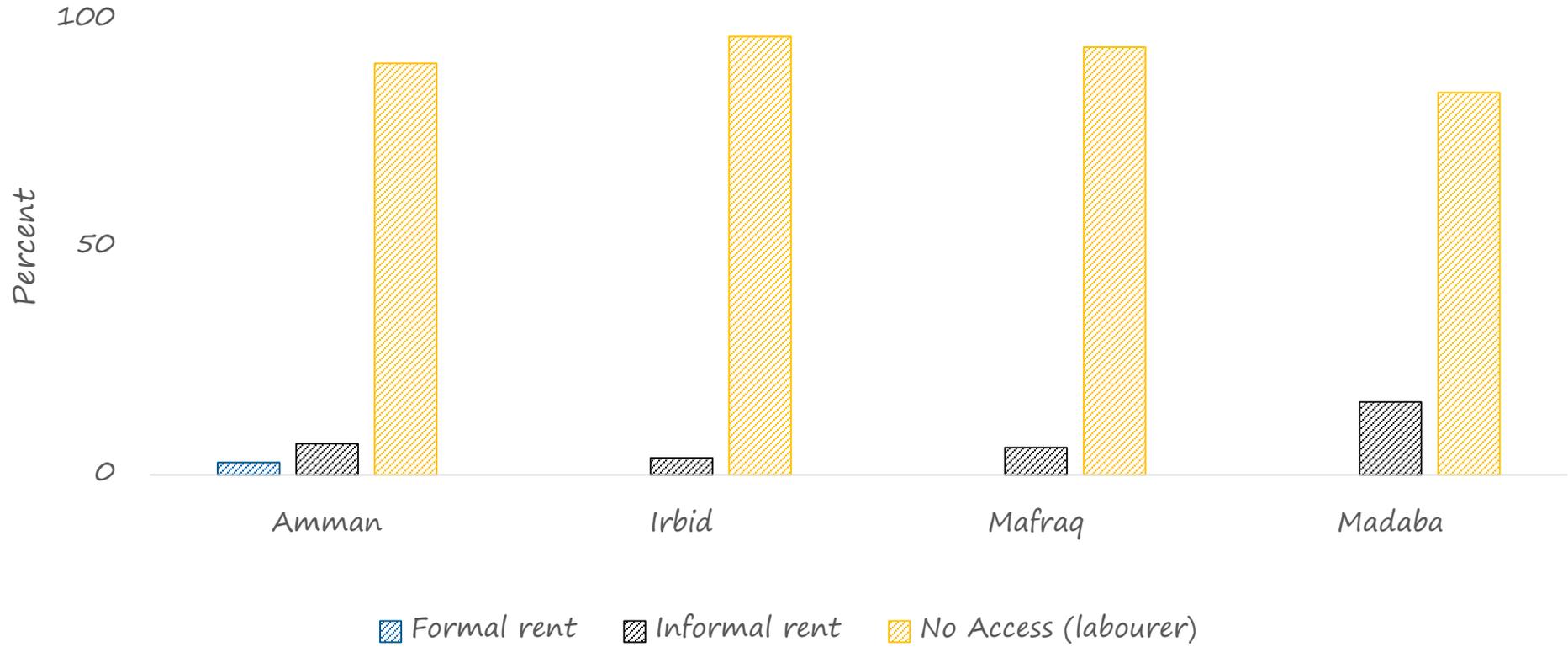
## Main Agricultural activities of Syrian Households (%)



# Engagement in Sole Crop Production (%)



# Access to Land (%)





## Livestock

Interviewees were not ready to report on livestock brought from Syria

High mobility for pasture in the *Mafraq badia* made it difficult to capture ownership

3-57 esp. sheep, chicken, goats



## Movements and seasonality

The whole family moves  
85%

costly, risk of missing  
season

Moved between 5 (Madaba)  
and 11 times (Mafraq)

Longest move is olive  
picking (6 months)

**Very poor and poor**  
**Large family size, high**  
**dependency and low or**  
**very low income**  
**Higher debt**

**Better off**  
**Work longer**  
**during the**  
**year, 8m**



**Middle income**  
**X3 the poverty line**  
**small family size**  
**Work at least 6**  
**month in the year**

# Strengths

**Labor, young, hard working, skills, experience in agriculture, solidarity and social support, literacy, have other skills too;**

**Willing to train and learn**

# Weaknesses

Used to crops/extensive agriculture, no association/cooperatives, not knowing/not understanding importance of work permits; women have low education and lack confidence; women and girls not allowed to work without family around

indebttness

# Opportunities

**Skills requested, demand for labor , ease of work permits, supportive and culturally similar host communities, land availability (plots), market, humanitarian support , employment opportunities in other sectors\***

# Threats/constraints

**No secured access to land\* (incl. pasture), no capital/no assets/cost of production factors; lack of enabling policies(access to credit; subsidies); no transport; remoteness of schools and services, SEASONALITY of employment, lack of work safety.**

# Coping strategies and vulnerability

**For all wealth groups: borrowing money from landlords, friends and relatives, buying against credit, irregular work and child labour, humanitarian assistance (non-UN /NGO cash)**

***Very vulnerable and with limited buffer capacity***

# A win win

**Good relationship with land owner**

**Consulted when making decisions on production (not only owner and Egyptian supervisor)**

# Recommendations

**1. Household livestock production-based livelihoods passing through training, feeds, vet health, value chain and market.**

**2. Household vegetable based livelihoods veg production, sharecropping, access to market ; training on innovative methods (CSA); inputs**

**3. Diversified livelihoods options (1+2+employment\*)**

**Improved waged employment through supporting joint ventures (suggested by Syrians); involvement in agribusiness/subcontracting production; develop cooperative and inclusion**

# Recommendations

**More evidence/research on land**

**More evidence on livestock  
ownership**

**Training while working , for young  
workers**