



Mpala, Ke Botlhokwa

# YOUTH LAND EMPOWERMENT FOR ECONOMIC DRIVE

## Findings from the 2022 Botswana Population and Housing Census

By

Wilford Molefe and Ruth Kauthengwa



Republic of Botswana



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# Outline

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- ☐ Analysis and Findings
- ☐ Policy implications
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# Introduction



The Botswana population stands at **2,359,609 people**, with **48.8%** males and **51.2%** females. **Youth make up 48.9% males and 51.1% females.**

According to the 2022 Population and Housing census.

- The 18 to 35 year olds, commonly referred to as the youth, is recognized as a pivotal phase during which significant life decisions are made, encompassing choices related to education, career trajectories, sexual conduct, and family formation. This transitional period is acknowledged as being fraught with challenges as individuals navigate the responsibilities associated with adulthood.

# Introduction – Cont.'.



Statistics indicates that unemployment among youth is still notably high at 34.4%. Females recorded unemployment rate of 37.4% and 31,2% males. Quarterly Labour Force Module Multi-Topic Survey Quarter 3 (2023)



# Introduction – Cont.’.



- Government and non-government entities are implementing socio-economic initiatives aimed at fostering an environment conducive to entrepreneurial endeavors.
- Despite these initiatives and programs, it is evident that other factors are impeding the efficacy of these governmental efforts.
- It is against this backdrop, that the paper examines the ownership and rights of land among the youth population, with focus on gender disparities.

# Introduction – Cont.’.

- Ownership of land serves as a foundational pillar for economic empowerment and individual identity. it is essential for maintaining economic stability
- The revised National Youth policy aligns with national, regional, and international policies and programs in prioritising the advancement of young people, with [Botswana's Vision 2036](#), focusing on the Human Social Development pillar to foster a moral, tolerant, and inclusive society ensuring that no one is left behind.

# Introduction – Cont.’.



Every Botswana citizen is eligible for allocation of a residential plot on both state and tribal land by a land authority, regardless of whether they have previously acquired land through other legitimate means. However, the cost of state land poses challenges for those without financial resources. Botswana Land Policy (2019)

- The analysis is based on data from the 2022 Population and Housing Census (PHC) pertaining to land ownership and associated rights, analysed to inform policy and future strategic endeavors.



# Objectives

- To assess youth land ownership and rights on an individual level, for fair access and distribution of land by type, location, gender, and economic status.
- To evaluate changes in economic activity pattern among young people as a result of programmes and initiatives aimed at empowering youth.
- To examine gender disparity in youth landownership and its impact on the SDG indicators 5.a.1 and 1.4.2.
- To compare results from data collected at individual and household levels.

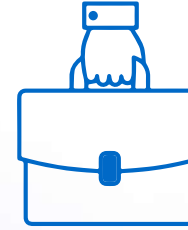
# Methodology



agricultural



residential



business

- The **2022 Botswana Population and Housing Census** included a question on land ownership (**agricultural, residential and business**) with rights. Whether owned solely or jointly.
- The household head answered on behalf of all household members (18 years and above members).
- Used Statistical software (SPSS) to do basic descriptive measures, cross tabulations and graphical displays to aid in analysis

# Methodology Cont..

## Topic covered include:

- **Distribution of landownership**
- **Distribution of youth landownership and location**
- **Distribution of landownership and type**
- **Distribution of youth landownership and rights**
- **Distribution of landownership and demographics (sex, education and status in the household)**
- **Distribution of youth landownership and employment status.**

# Literature Review

- The development of young people in Botswana has been guided by National Youth Policy of 1996 and the National Action Plan for Youth, 2001-2010. Subsequent to the policy's adoption, significant changes have occurred in the socio-economic, socio-cultural, and demographic landscape of both Botswana and the global community.
- Decided to reassess the 1996 National Youth Policy in order to address new challenges and emerging issues, including science, information and technology, and environmental conservation and protection.
- harmonized revised policy with recent national, regional, and international policies and programs that prioritize the advancement of young people.





# Literature Review- Cont.'s.

- Botswana's Vision 2036, the Human Social Development pillar aspires to establish a moral, tolerant, and inclusive society that provides equal opportunities to all citizens, ensuring that no one is left behind.
- The pillar concentrate on various sectors, encompassing spiritual well-being, culture, robust family institutions, health and wellness, social inclusion and equality, education and skills development, gender equality, and the well-being of the youth and children.
- the framework of the Universal Declaration of Human Rights, states that, youth are entitled to specific rights, including legal and constitutional provisions for the ownership of both movable and immovable property, as well as access to credit and land ownership.



# Literature Review- Cont.'s.

- Botswana Land Policy Review 2015 is dedicated to safeguarding the land rights of all landholders and promoting sustainable settlement while conserving this valuable resource for future generations.
- provides clear guidance on land utilization and socioeconomic development, emphasizing the promotion of access, equity, efficiency, land rights security, and transparency in land administration processes.
- designed to adapt to emerging opportunities and dynamics of land use while promoting the compatible and optimal use of land and other resources.
- revision included maximizing economic value through efficient land use, enforcing strict adherence to land use regulations, and addressing the increasing requests from individuals and businesses to convert portions of their land for alternative uses to improve land utilization efficiency.

# Literature Review- Cont.'s.

- Botswana Land Policy (2019) revised to address protection of the rights of vulnerable groups, improving land management, decentralising functions to local land authorities, and enhancing institutional capacity.
- the revision of paragraph 58, that every citizen is eligible for the allocation of a residential plot on both state and tribal land by a land authority, regardless of whether they have previously acquired land through other legitimate means.
- and paragraph 72, which now allows both spouses to apply for land individually, giving them equal land rights.

# Literature Review- Cont.'s.

- Johnson Kampamba, (2018) states that Land ownership plays a pivotal role in an individual's economic stability. In Botswana, every adult citizen, irrespective of gender, possesses the right to apply for tribal land at their preferred location. Successful applicants are granted the land free of charge.
- Carter and Barrett, 2006; Doss, (2013) observed that, the impact of individual ownership and control over assets, such as land, housing, financial accounts, and durable goods, cannot be overstated in terms of its potential to facilitate increased access to credit, heightened productivity and income, stability during income shocks, improved bargaining power, and enhanced decision-making within households.
- Carmen Diana Deere and Gina Alvarado Jennifer Twyman (2012) challenges how most studies only look at the gender of the person in charge of the household when studying how poverty and development are connected to gender. He argues that, this way of looking at things only gives us part of the picture of gender inequality.



# Literature Review- Cont.'s.

- The information we get about households comes from the person in (household head) assumed to knowledgeable. That person might not know all the details about what everyone in the household owns and what their rights are (Koolwal, 2019).
- Individual land rights, especially those of women, have a direct impact on development aspects such as resilience to shocks, technology adoption, credit access, and empowerment
- The indicators of SDG 5.a.1 and 1.4.2 are crucial in measuring the proportion of the agricultural population with ownership or secure rights over agricultural land by gender. Sex-disaggregated indicators are important, and more comprehensive data on land ownership is needed for effective development interventions (Kieran et al., 2015).

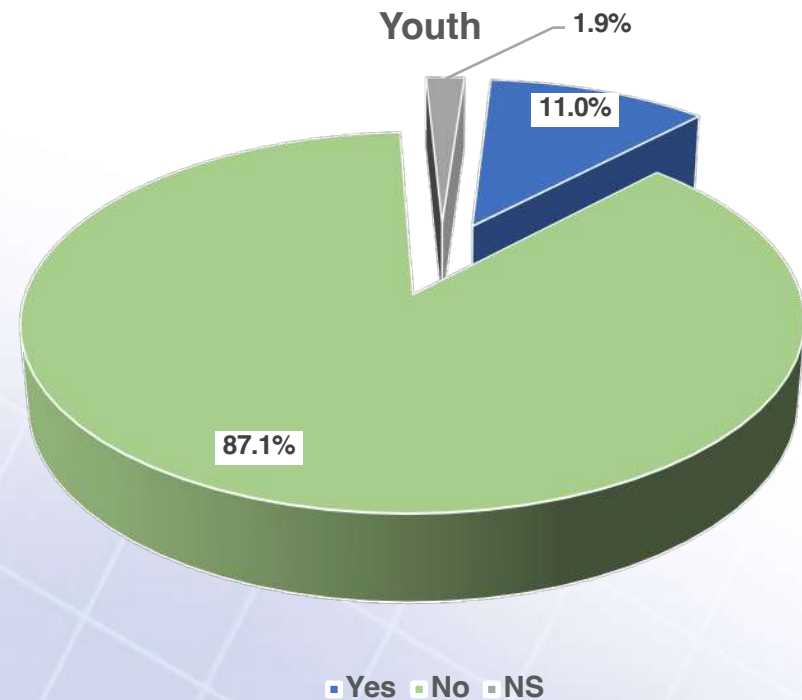
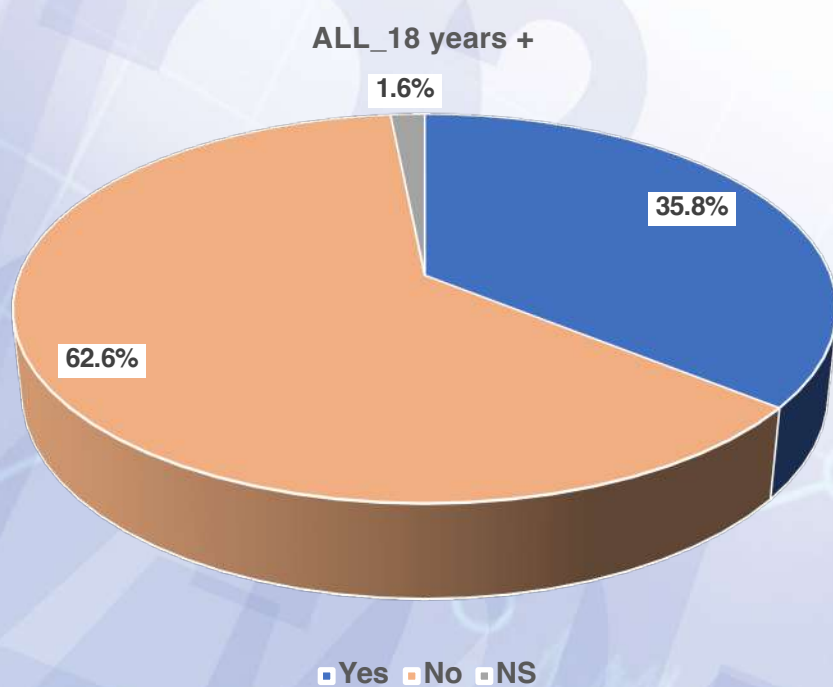
# Analysis and Findings

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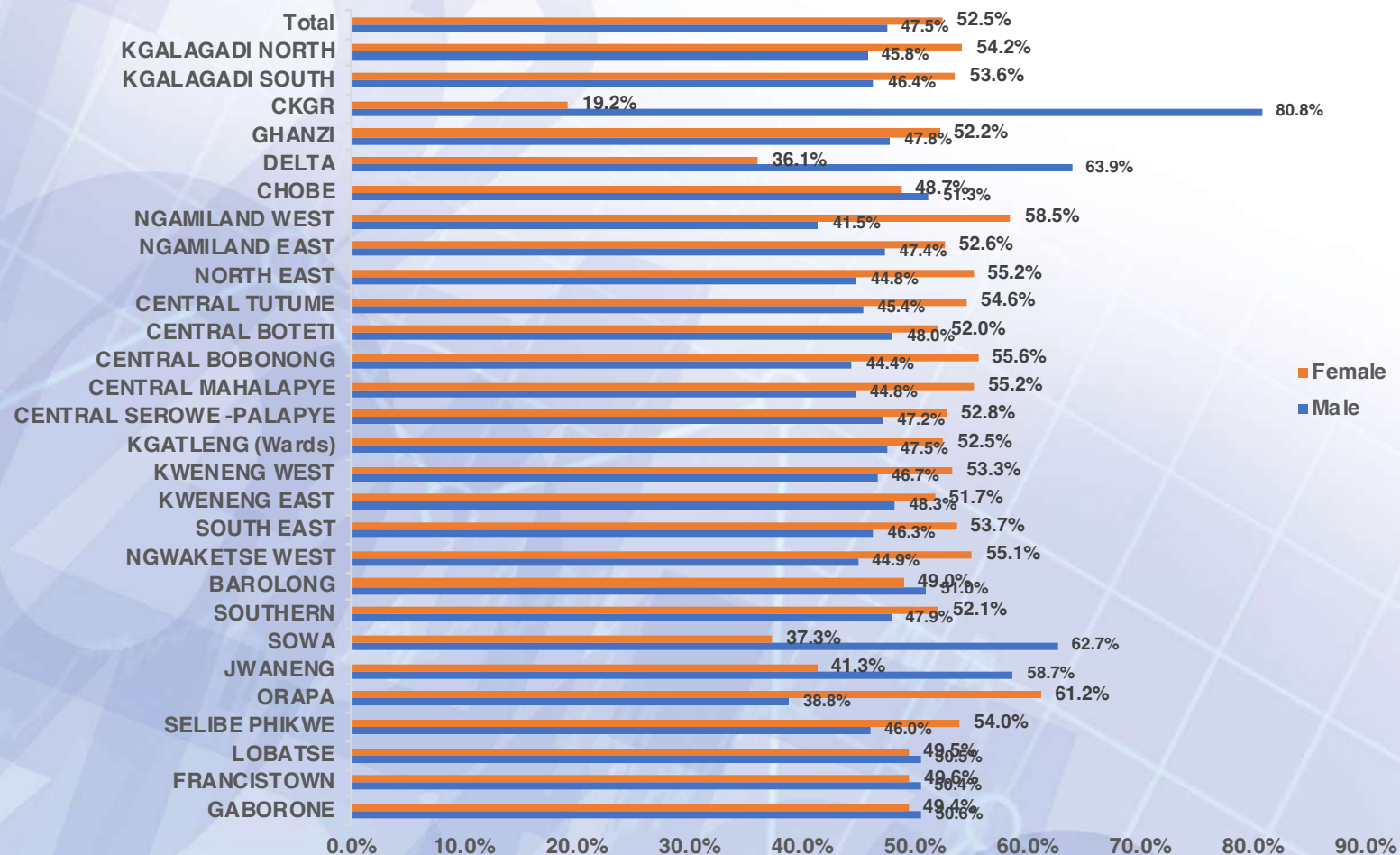


# Figure 1. Distribution of Landownership



- 35.8% of the population have land with 16.2% and 19.6% of males and females
- 11% of youth own land with 5.2% and 5.8% males and females respectively

# Figure 2. Distribution of Youth Landowners by District



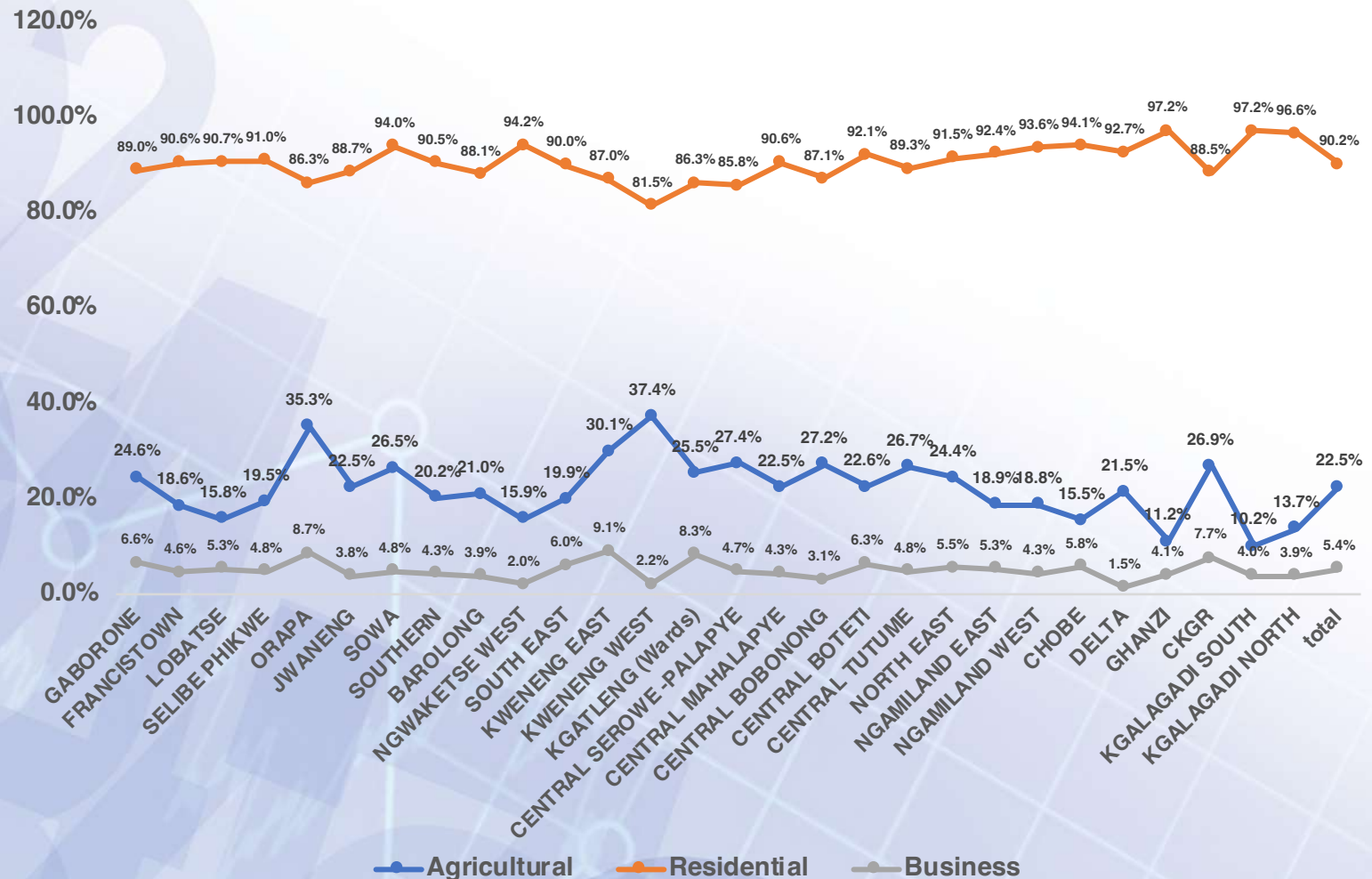
Across districts, females are more than males, while males are better off in towns and cities.

Overall, females are still leading at 52.5%.

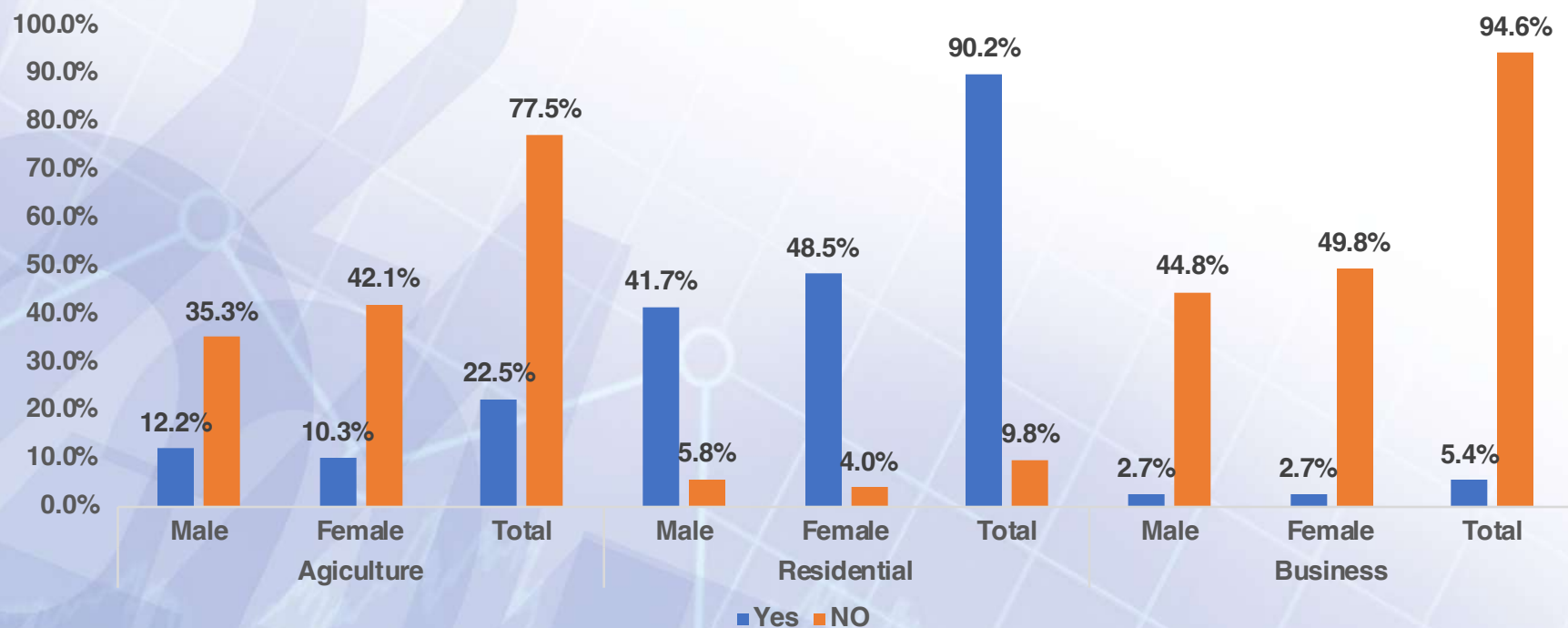
# Figure 3. Distribution of Types of Land by Distict

Orapa, kweneng west and East are the highest at 30 % and above in agricultural land.

Business and residential is somehow consistent across.



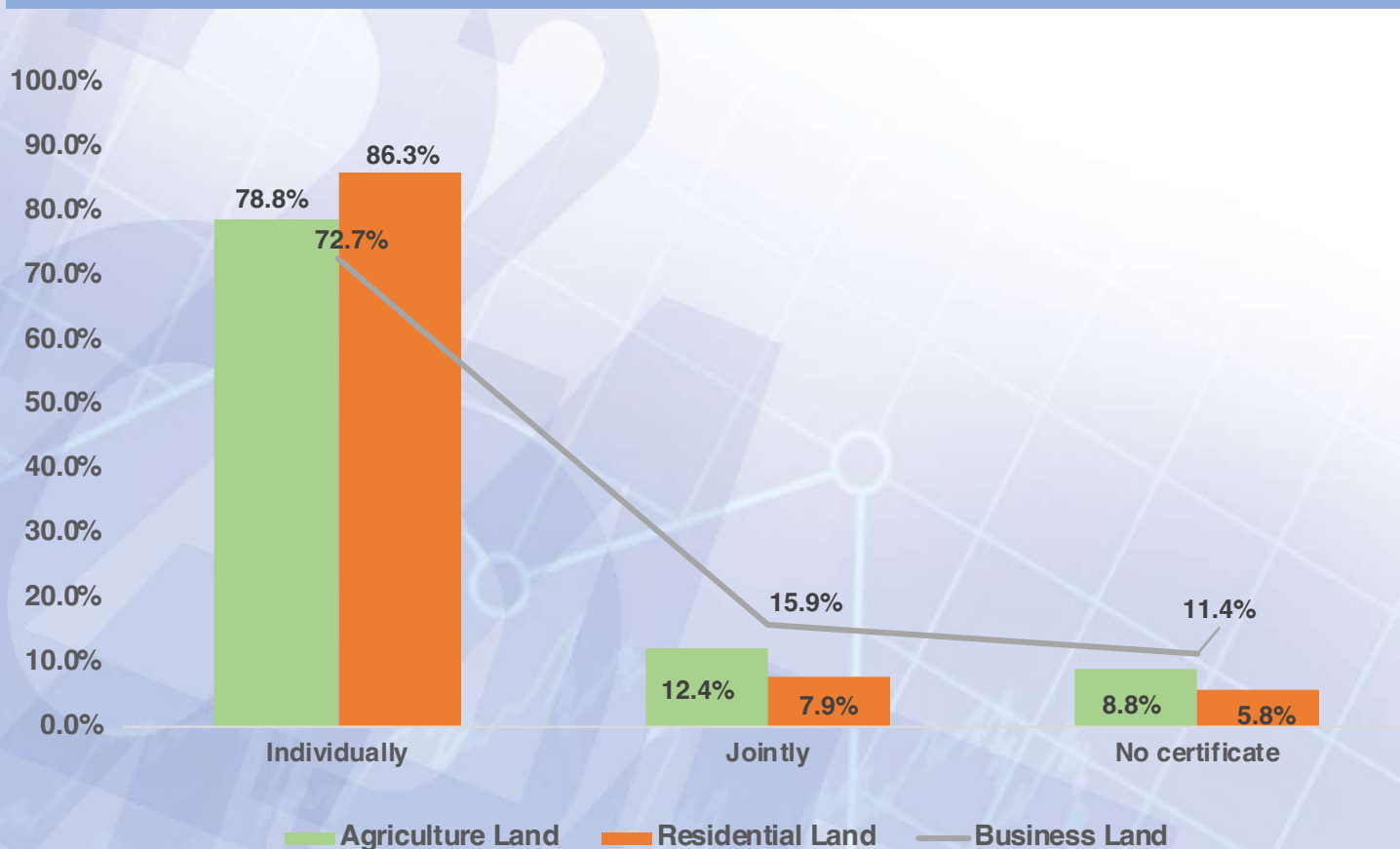
## Figure 4. Distribution of Youth Population by Type of Land and Sex



- Residential is the highest type of land owned with females at 48.5% against 41.7% males.
- Males are better off at agricultural land (12.2%)



## Figure 5. Distribution of Youth Population by Type of Land and Rights



**Land owned with rights at individual level accounts for at least 70 % for all land types**

**Less than 12 % of youth land owned is undocumented**



# Figure 6. Distribution of Landowners by Type, Rights and Sex

70.0%

60.0%

50.0%

40.0%

30.0%

20.0%

10.0%

0.0%

	Agriculture		Residential		Business	
	Male	Female	Male	Female	Male	Female
Individually	56.1%	43.9%	47.0%	53.0%	53.7%	46.3%
Jointly	38.7%	61.3%	35.7%	64.3%	38.2%	61.8%
No certificate	60.4%	39.6%	49.8%	50.2%	40.5%	59.5%
Total	54.3%	45.7%	46.2%	53.8%	49.7%	50.3%



Males dominate agricultural and business landownership at individual level, while female is residential.



Females also dominates jointly owned of all types and the undocumented (residential and business)

## Table 1. Distribution of Youth Landowners status by Sex

Status in the Household	Sex		Sex		Total	%Total
	Male	%Male	Female	% Female		
Head	21,427	30.2%	15,811	22.3%	37,238	52.5%
Spouse/ Partner	1,184	1.7%	9,653	13.6%	10,837	15.3%
Son/ Daughter	4,828	6.8%	6,780	9.6%	11,608	16.4%
<b>Total</b>	<b>33,107</b>	<b>46.7%</b>	<b>37,861</b>	<b>53.3%</b>	<b>70,968</b>	<b>100</b>

Males dominate headship while females are spouses or partners

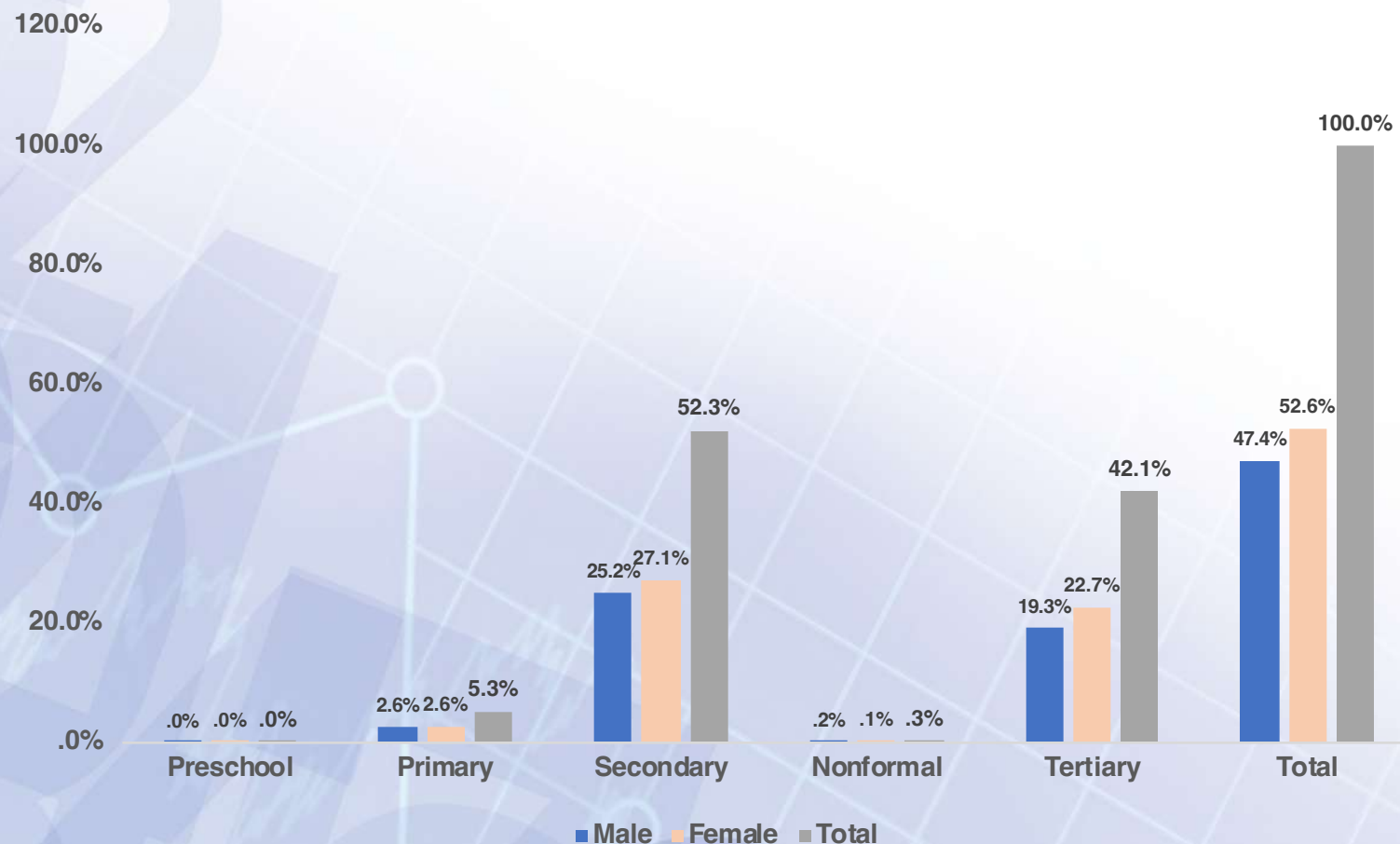
## Table 2. Distribution of landowners by Employment Status

Employment Status	Sex		Total
	Male	Female	
	23,447	21,816	45,263
Employee - Paid Cash	40.7%	39.0%	79.7%
Self-employed (no employees)	6.2%	5.2%	11.4%
Working at own agricultural activities (lands/cattle-posts)	2.1%	1.0%	3.1%
Self-employed (With Employees)	1.9%	1.0%	2.9%
Volunteer / Tirelo Sechaba / Intern	.3%	1.3%	1.6%
<b>Total</b>	<b>51.8%</b>	<b>48.2%</b>	<b>100.0%</b>

**More males are employed as compared to females**

## Figure 7. Distribution of youth Land Owners by Educational Attainment

Secondary education is the highest level followed by tertiary and in both cases females are on the high.





# Policy Implications



Proportion of youth owning land stands at 11%.

- Youth own eleven percent of land, with distribution varying across districts by gender. Developmental Agendas like Vision 2036 and reviewed Land Policy should focus on implementation and monitoring for their intentions to be realised.
- Mostly, proportion of females owning land is higher than that of males, this could be as a result of the 2019 Land Policy amendments, granting equal land rights to all citizens regardless of previously acquired land by other legal means, and allowing both spouses to individually apply for land.



# Policy Implications – Cont.’.

- Despite females owning land in high proportions, they report higher rates of joint ownership in all the three types of land. Also, most of the land owned is not documented which is a disadvantage as it can not be used as a security for economic opportunities.



- Males dominate agricultural land ownership, while females excel in residential land. Young people should consider converting land for other uses, as per revised land policy.

# Conclusions and Recommendations

- Analysis of individual land ownership suggests a more equitable gender distribution (5.2%, 5.8%) than indicated by the headship analysis alone with more males (10.6%) compared to females (8.1%).
- Everyone deserves an equal opportunity. It is vital to make these policies available to the public so that they can benefit from them, especially those in the rural areas. Decentralising functions and giving local land authorities more power is one way to ensure equitable distribution so that no one is left behind.
- Females are in the lead in terms of proportions when it comes to education and ownership of land. Results show that, people with a low or no education are less likely to own land in large numbers. There is a need to investigate why?
- Women own a good proportion of residential (53.0%) and business (50.3%) land. This may be related to the 2019 Land Policy Amendments, that gives all citizens the right to residential land on state and tribal territory, regardless of whether they have previously acquired land through other legal means.

# Conclusions and Recommendations

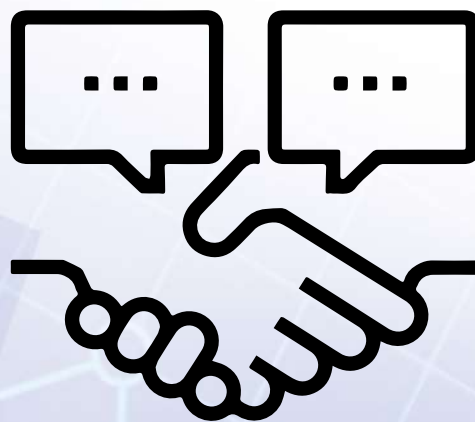
- The other amendment in the revised policy addressed the preservation of existing property rights, allowing each spouse to apply for land on their own, resulting in equal land rights. This should apply to all types of land, including agriculture.
- High rates of undocumented (60% plus) and jointly owned (50% plus) land by females, pose a disadvantage in economic opportunities like access to credit, despite their high proportions in ownership of land.
- With Government programs and initiatives to that are meant to empower youth, it is expected to see an increase in self-employment rates, leading to more entrepreneurs starting businesses and creating jobs for others, and ultimately reducing youth unemployment.

# Conclusions and Recommendations



- Females proportions are higher than the males in education. However, education seem to matter when it comes to ownership of land. it is observed that those with at least secondary and above education have incidence of owning land and also being employed.
- Youth landownership is predominately residential (86.3%) and agricultural (78.8 %) land types with rights. They should consider taking advantage of the revised National Land Policy by converting parts of their land for alternative uses to improve their economic situation.





# THANK YOU

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