

SYSTEMATIC REVIEW OF LAND TENURE EVIDENCE

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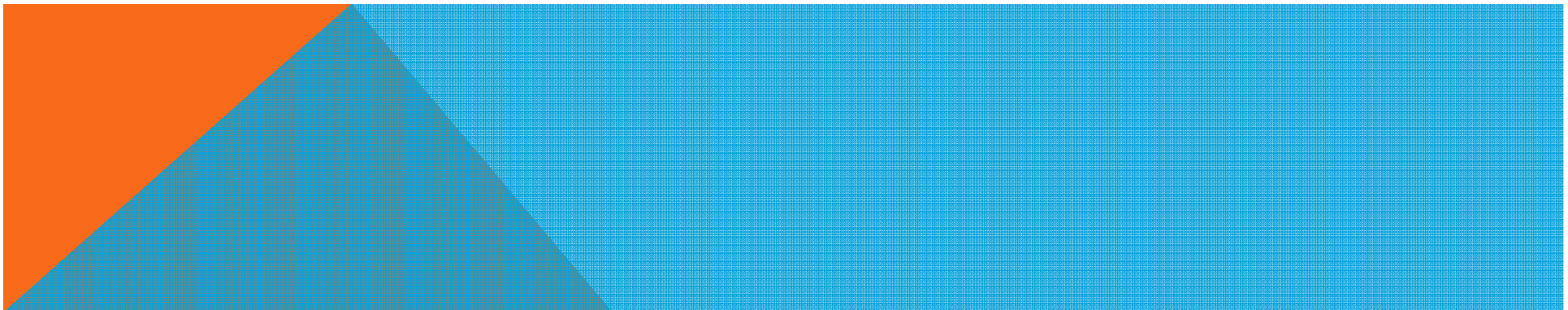
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PROJECT BACKGROUND & RATIONALE

Consists of a comprehensive review of the available land tenure security-related evidence

Two Purposes:

1. Contribute to efforts to improve impact assessment of land tenure-related activities
2. Inform programme design within IFAD

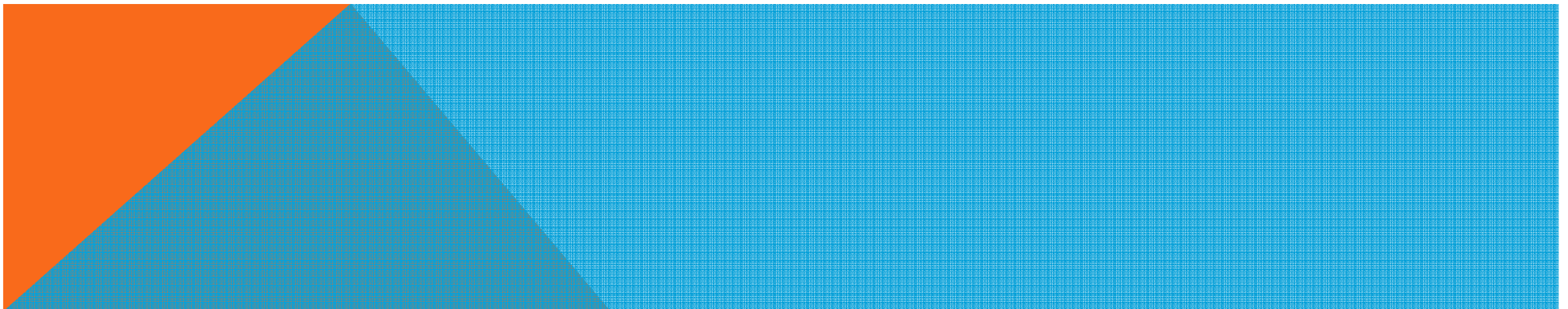


WHAT IS A SYSTEMATIC REVIEW?

Involves conducting an exhaustive search for published and unpublished studies that meet a pre-defined set of inclusion criteria, that includes being above a pre-defined quality threshold

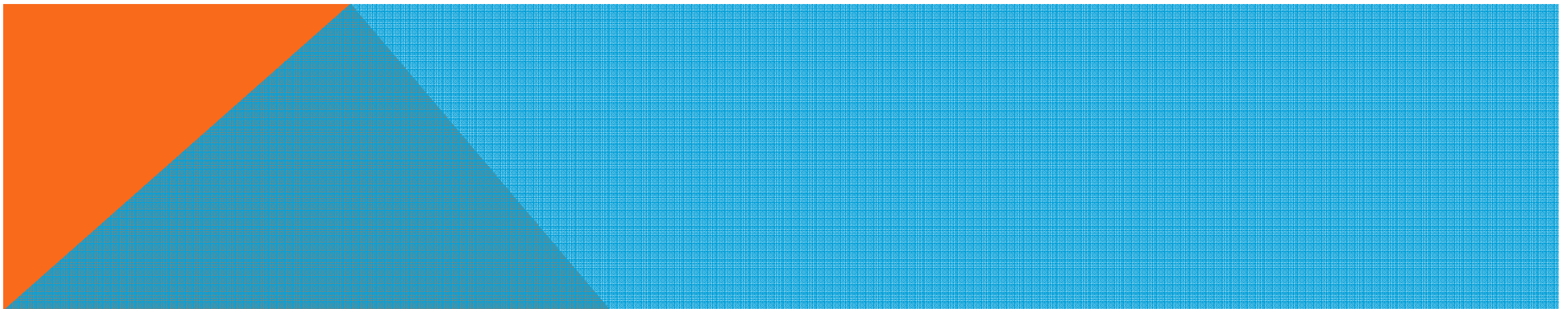
Systematic review method was chosen as it is the most thorough, neutral and transparent means of conducting a search and synthesis of available literature.

An Evidence Gap Map can also be produced from the search findings



RESEARCH QUESTION

What is the available, robust evidence to support the expected causal linkages that span the Theory of Change of IFADs main land tenure security activities?



IFAD LAND TENURE CAUSAL CHAIN

Inputs/Activities	Outputs	Outcomes	Impacts
Land mapping and demarcation	Increase in clearly demarcated land parcels	Increased investment in agricultural production and/or land conservation	Increased food security
Issuance of formal titles			
Land reform advocacy and/or facilitation	Increase in number of formally titled land parcels	Decreased inequality of land access	Increased agricultural income
Rehabilitation and distribution of degraded and/or un(der)used land	Increase in rented and shared land parcels		
Institutional strengthening/improving security within traditional system	Improved land tenure administration and enforcement	Decreased land conflict	Reduced intra and inter-household inequality
Facilitation of land (re)allocation, leasing and/or sharing	Improved awareness of how to obtain titles, and entitlements once obtained	Increased access to credit	
Awareness raising			Reduced land degradation
Outputs assumptions		Outcomes assumptions	
<p>Activities such as land mapping, awareness raising, rehabilitation and reallocation are appropriately designed and implemented, reaching the correct beneficiaries.</p> <p>Existing institutions are in favour of fairly improving land access, and so are open to being strengthened</p> <p>Landowners are open to renting and/or sharing of their land</p> <p>Governments are committed to implementing effective and fair reforms.</p>		<p>Households have available capital to invest</p> <p>Holding of title increases actual and perceived security</p>	
		<p>Beneficiaries have the resources and skills to convert increased investment into increase agricultural productivity and income.</p> <p>Beneficiaries face no other barriers to market access that would hinder their conversion of increased productivity to increased income</p>	

METHODOLOGY - INCLUSION CRITERIA

Type of study:

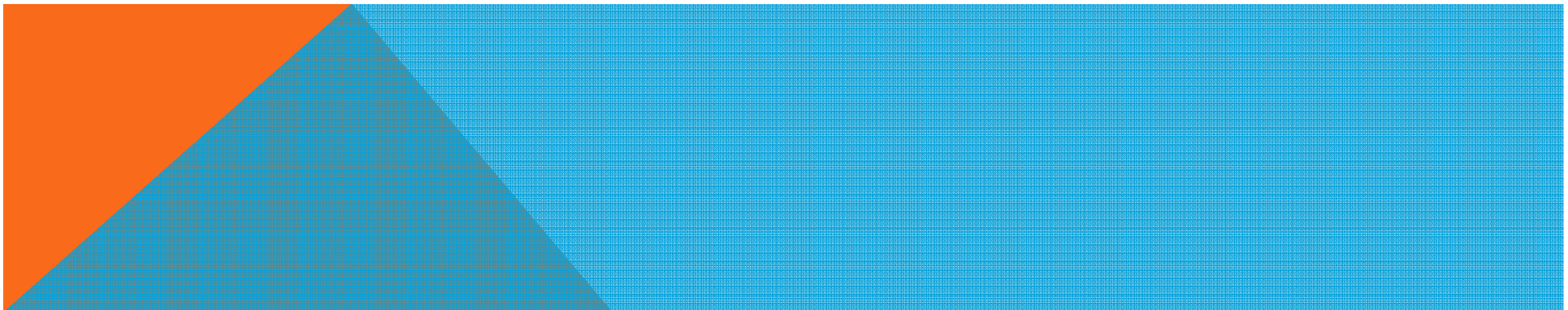
- Quantitative or qualitative study
- Based on primary data collected at the household or farm level,
- Published between 1990-2016, using data collected within this period
- Nothing below a phd thesis

Focus:

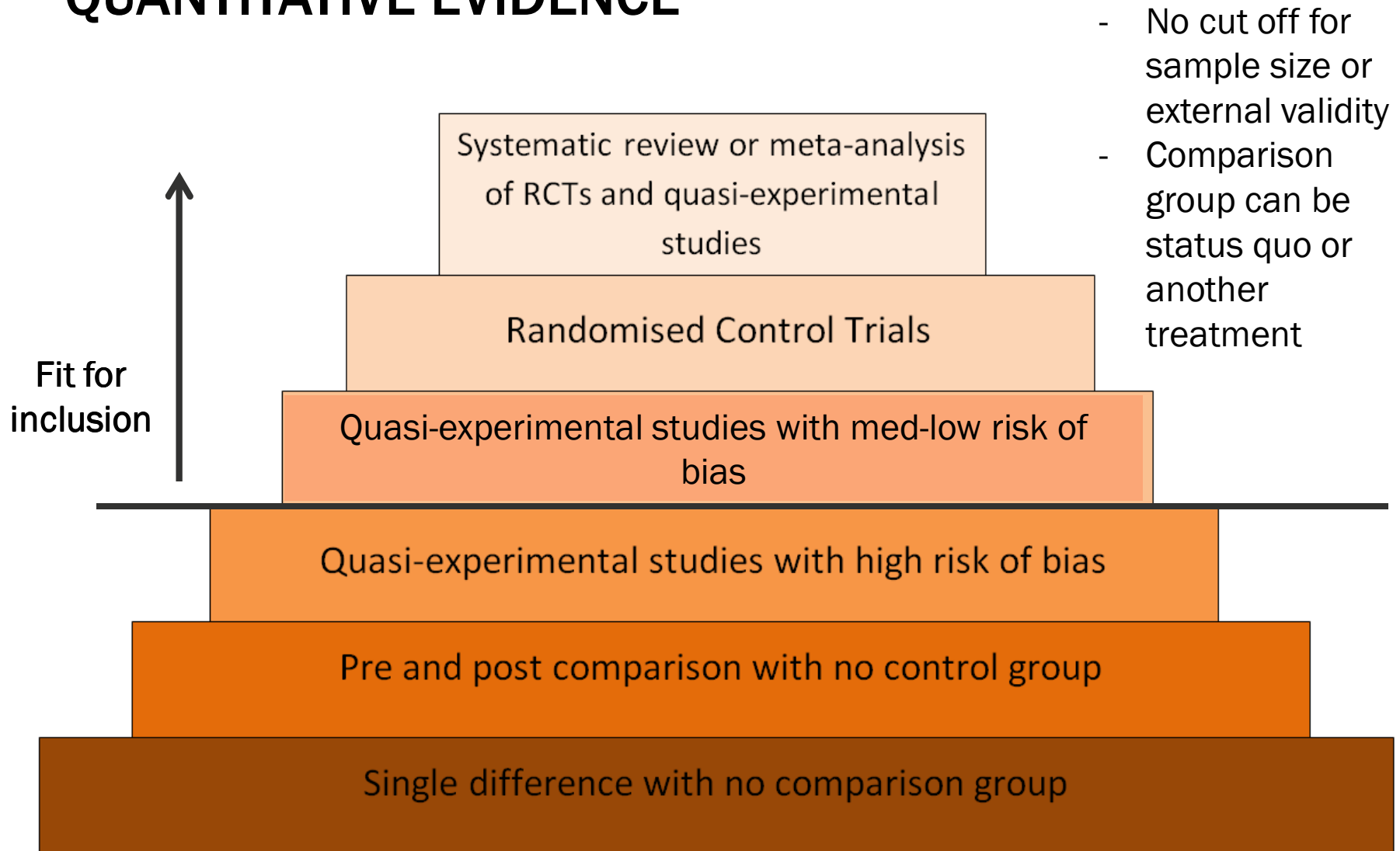
- Any of the causal linkages for outcomes or impact outlined in the IFAD land tenure causal chain
- For land, forest or fishery activities
- Poor people in rural areas in an IFAD beneficiary country
- Must specify land tenure, rather than general ownership

Following search string was used for journal databases:

1. Publication Date>1989;
2. The words "land" OR "forest" OR "fishery" AND NOT "bio*" OR "carbon" OR "hydro*" OR "ecology*" OR "plants" OR "nitrogen" OR "Europe*" OR "United States" OR "Canada" in title, abstract or keywords



4. STUDY METHODOLOGY - HIERARCHY OF QUANTITATIVE EVIDENCE



4. STUDY METHODOLOGY – ASSESSING RISK OF BIAS

Table 1. Internal validity appraisal categories for social experiments and quasi-experiments.

Evaluation criteria	Category of bias	Example evaluation questions
1. Mechanism of assignment or identification	Selection bias and confounding	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> – Does the allocation mechanism generate equivalent groups? – Does the model of participation capture all relevant observable and unobservable differences in covariates between the groups?
2. Group equivalence in implementation of the methodology	Selection bias and confounding	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> – Is the method of analysis adequately executed? – Are the groups balanced on observables, and all relevant confounders taken into account in the analysis? – Is non-random attrition a threat to validity?
3. Hawthorne effects	Motivation bias	Are differences in outcomes across the groups influenced by participant motivation as a result of programme implementation and, or monitoring?
4. Spill-overs and cross-overs	Performance bias	Is the programme influencing the outcome of the individuals in the comparison group (including compensating investments for the comparison groups)?
5. File-drawer effects	Outcome reporting bias	Is there evidence that results have been reported selectively?
6. Selective methods of analysis	Analysis reporting bias	Is the analysis convincingly reported and justified?
7. Other	Other biases	Are the results of the study subject to other threats to validity (for example, placebo effects, courtesy bias, inadequate survey instrument and so on)?
8. Statistical significance	Biases leading to type I and type II errors	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> – Is the study subject to a unit of analysis error? – Does the study take into account effect heterogeneity between sub-groups? – Is insignificance due to lack of power? – For regression-based studies, is heteroschedasticity accounted for?

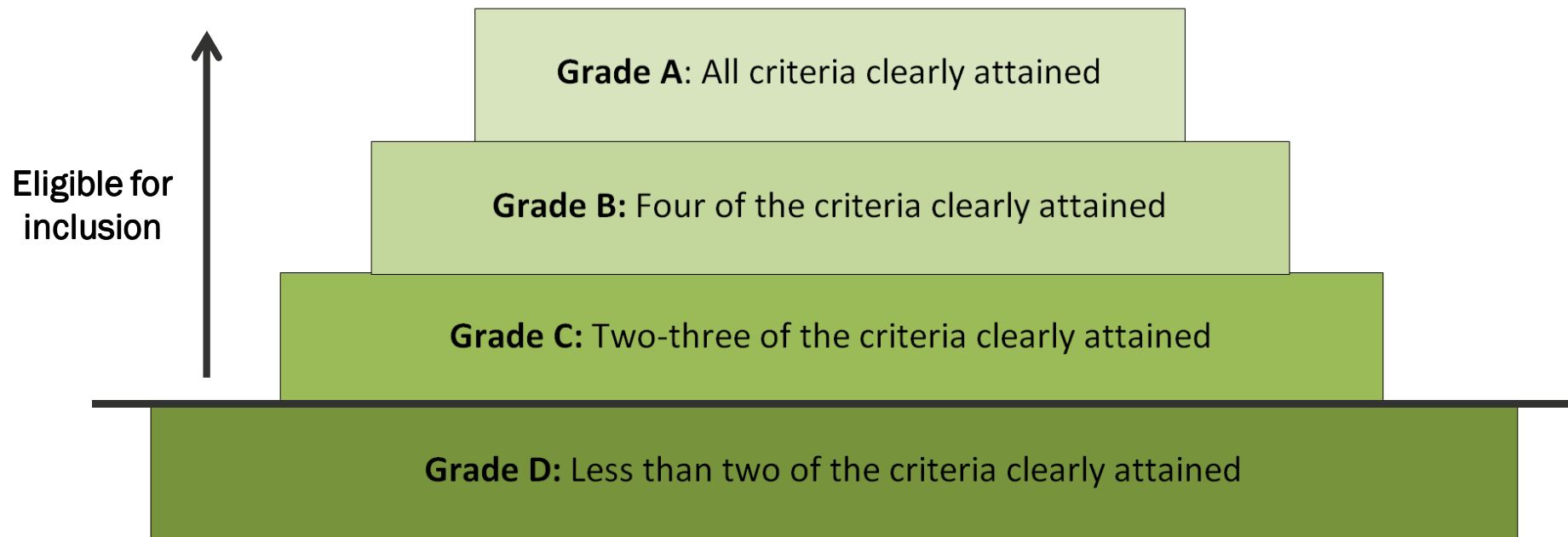
Source: Hombrados and Waddington (2012).

Bias Level	Domain Rating	Interpretation
Low Risk of Bias	Low risk of bias for all domains	Plausible bias unlikely to seriously alter the results
Medium Risk of Bias	Unclear risk of bias for one or more domains	Plausible bias that raises some doubt about the results
High Risk of Bias	High risk of bias for one or more domains	Plausible bias that seriously weakens confidence in the results

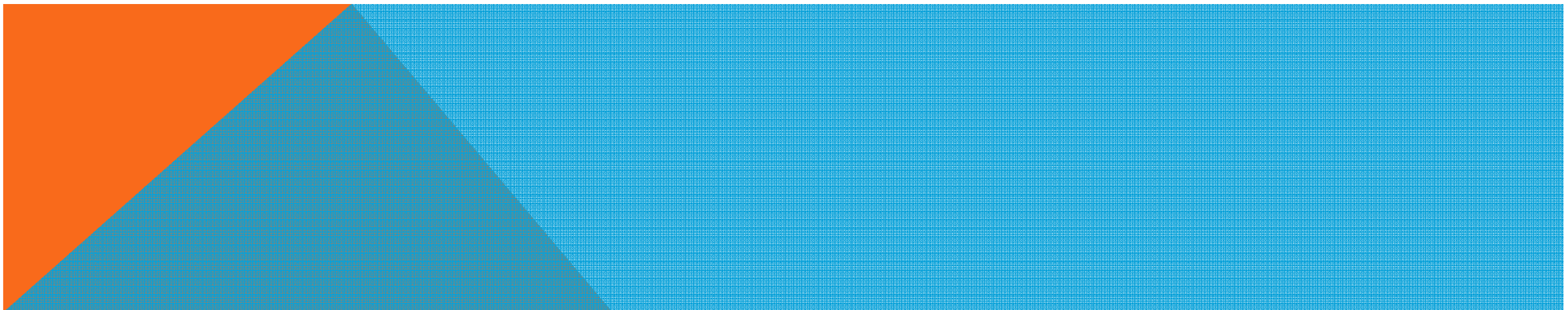
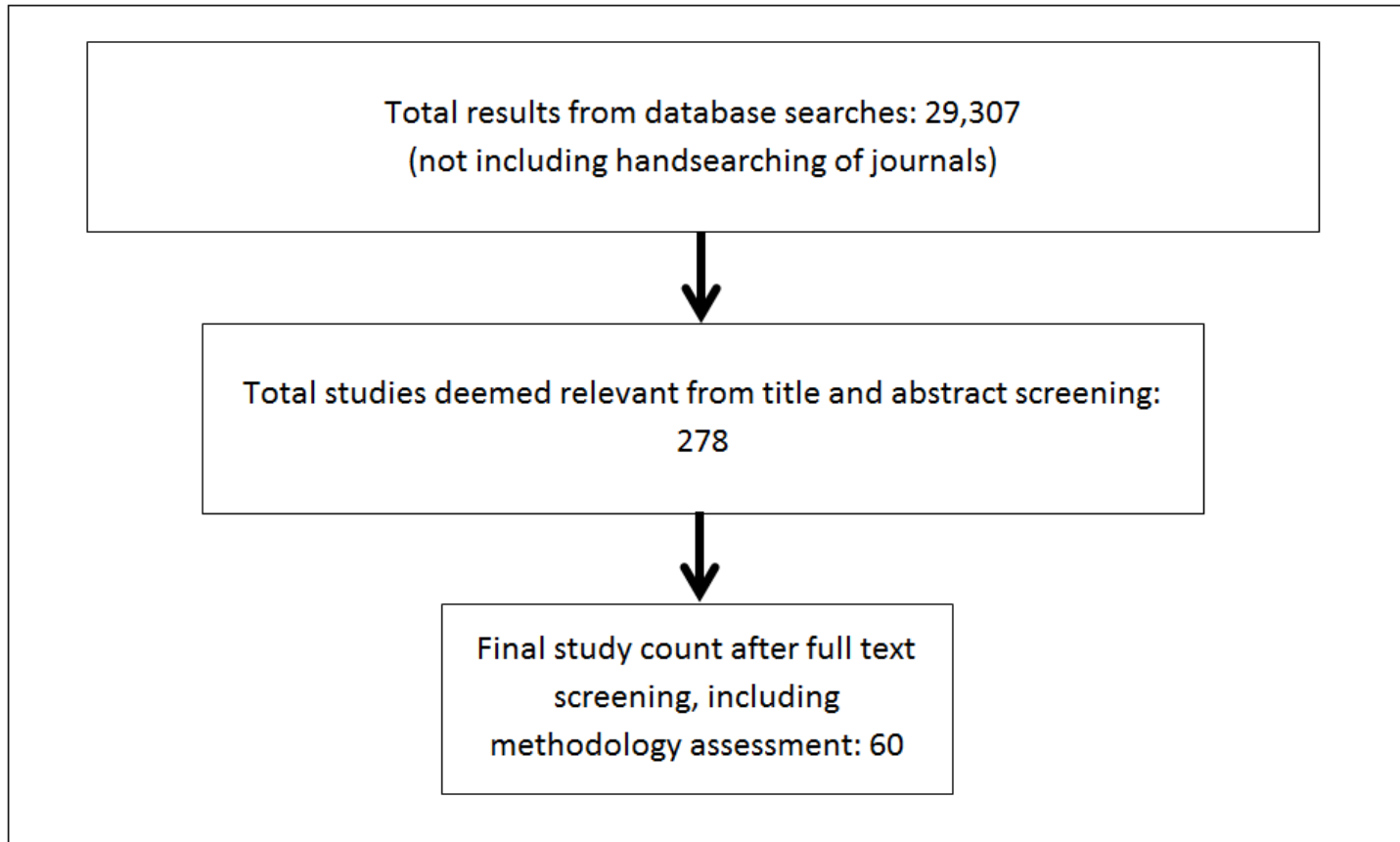
4. STUDY METHODOLOGY - HIERARCHY OF QUALITATIVE EVIDENCE

Grading Criteria: Study should clearly show that:

1. Research aims are well defined
2. Methodology is appropriate to address the research aims
3. Sampling and data collection are appropriate to address the research aims
4. The relationship between the researcher and the participant has been sufficiently considered
5. The study contains a clear, neutral statement of the findings and conclusions, having considered all sides of the discussion

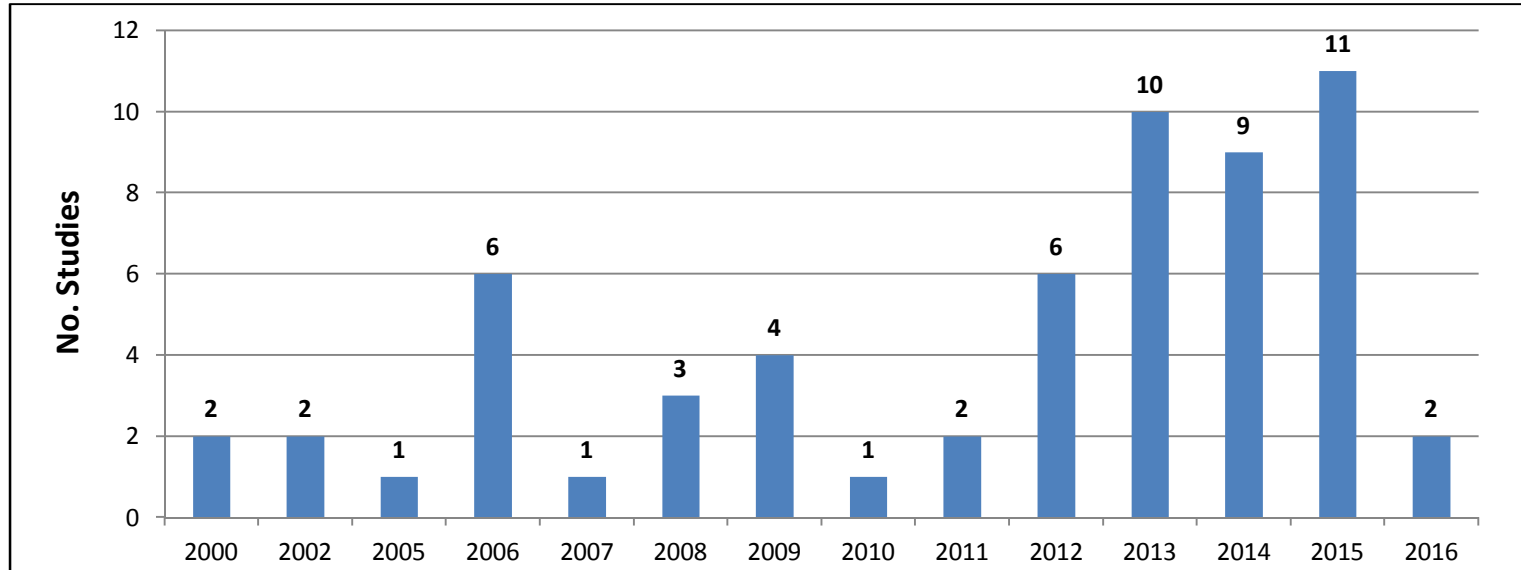


5. SEARCH FINDINGS



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Total Studies: 60



Distribution of methods used by quantitative studies

Instrumental Variable	PSM	DD	PSM/DD	RCT	Regression Discontinuity	Natural Experiment
14	8	6	4	3	2	1

Distribution of studies by region and country

APR:	-	China	23
-	-	Vietnam	6
-	-	India	5
-	-	Cambodia	3
-	-	Fiji	2
-	-	Pakistan	2
-	-	Philippines	2
-	-	Nepal	1
ESA:	-	Ethiopia	21
-	-	Uganda	8
-	-	South Africa	4
-	-	Tanzania	3
-	-	Madagascar	2
-	-	Malawi	1
-	-	Rwanda	1
-	-	Zimbabwe	1
LAC:	-	Peru	11
-	-	Bolivia	6
-	-	Guatemala	2
-	-	Mexico	1
-	-	Nicaragua	1
NEN:	-	Tajikistan	1
WCA:	-	Ghana	1
-	-	Benin	2
-	-	DR Congo	1

Distribution of studies by focal link

Holding of an individual certificate on:	-	Livelihoods (including income)	5
-	-	Productivity	4
-	-	Investment	5
-	-	Credit access	4
-	-	Conservation	4
-	-	Land rental	4
-	-	Gender empowerment	3
-	-	Conflict	1
-	-	Land use	1
-	-	Perceived tenure security	1
-	-	Community cooperation	1
Type of tenure status on:	-	Investment	3
-	-	Productivity	3
-	-	Credit access	1
-	-	Conservation	1
-	-	Conflict	1
-	-	Land use	1
-	-	Land value	1
-	-	Land rental	1
Collective land rights on:	-	Livelihoods	5
-	-	Productivity	1
-	-	Rental	1
Willingness to pay for titles	-		2
Perceived tenure security on:	-	Investment	1
Mapping on:	-	Conflict	1

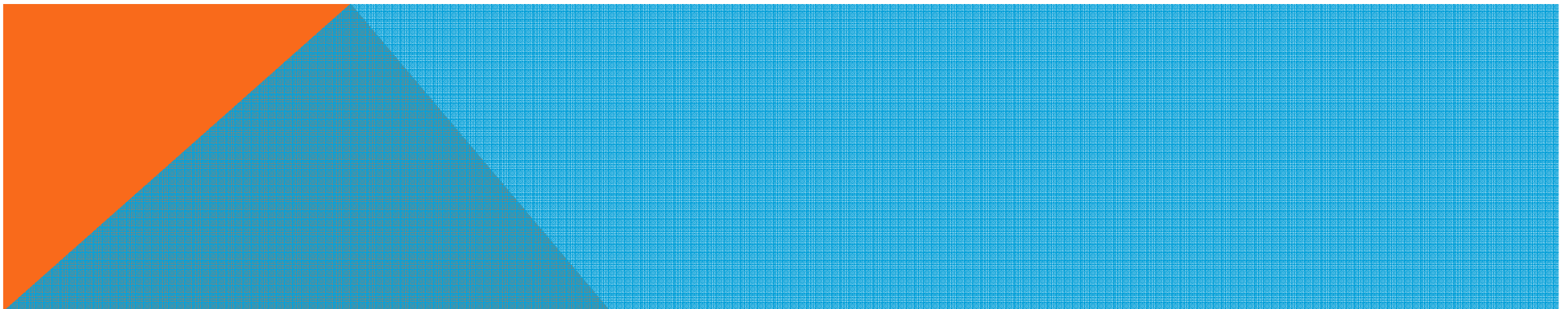
PRELIMINARY FINDINGS

Strong support for investment link, less so for productivity, income and food security

Echoed findings around credit access link

Unanimously positive effects of joint titling on women's empowerment, but suggestion that female-headed households receive lower benefits from titling

Common themes amongst qualitative studies were elite capture and gender discrimination by local institutions, reform has caused destabilisation, mistrust of the State remains, application process can be a barrier



GAPS IDENTIFIED

Little focus on land tenure security being achieved

Land sale link

Non-government titling programmes

