

Director General's Consultative Framework Mechanism on Cotton:
35th Round of Consultations on Cotton Development Assistance

WTO TRIPS Agreement and Technology Transfer - Implementation of Article 66.2 in the Agriculture Sector

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Technology transfer in the TRIPS Agreement



Article 66.2

"Developed country Members shall provide incentives to enterprises and institutions in their territories for the purpose of promoting and encouraging technology transfer to least-developed country Members in order to enable them to create a sound and viable technological base."

Implementation of Article 66.2 over the past 25 years



- In 2001, upon the request of the LDC Group, Members agreed to establish a reporting and reviewing mechanism.
- In 2003, the Council adopted a decision on the Art 66.2 implementation.
- From 1998 to 2020, the Council received 337 reports from developed country Members.
- From 2004 to 2020, 291 reports were submitted under the 2003 Decision and 18 annual reviews have been conducted in the TRIPS Council.
- From 2008 to 2021, 14 annual workshops have been organized, which provides a forum for informal dialogue between the reporting Members and the LDC Members.



Three highlights of the 2021 Workshop

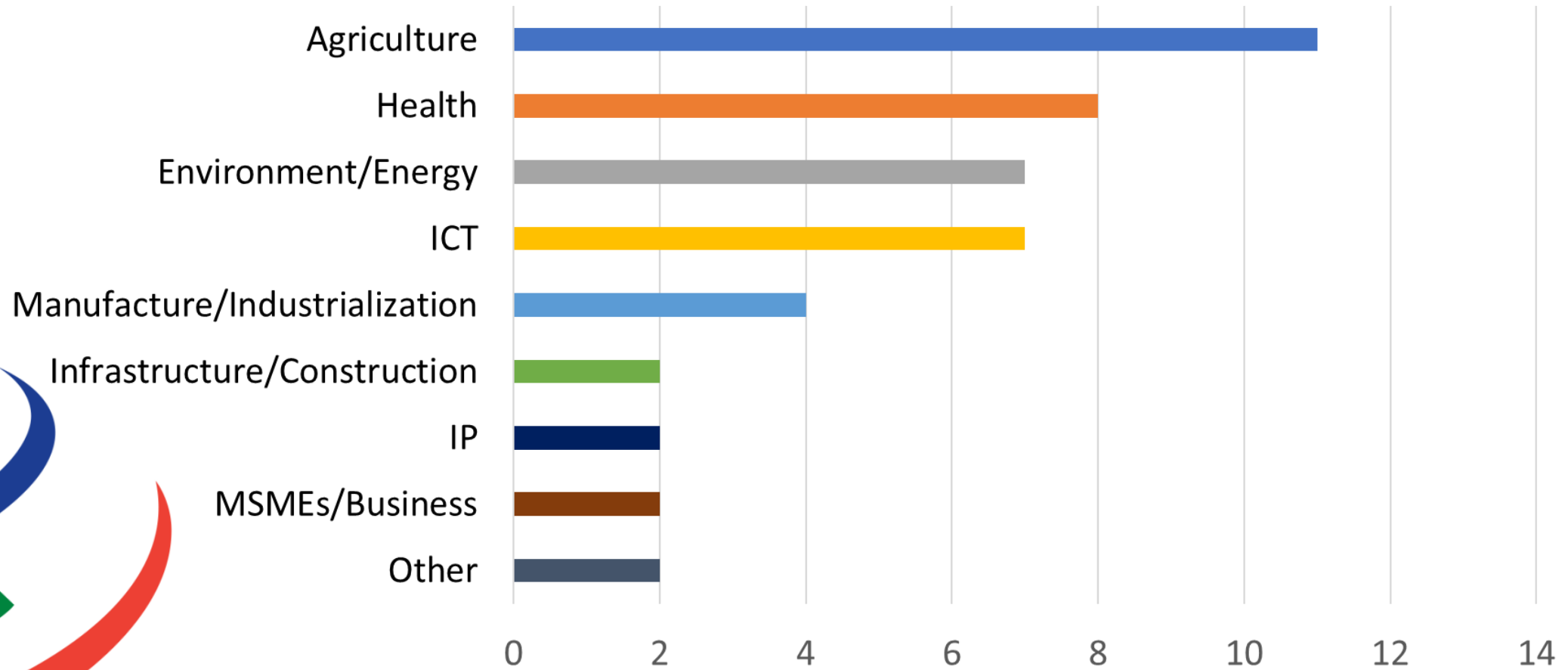
- A dedicated session on technology transfer in the field of agriculture
- Survey on technology transfer needs and priorities for least developed country Members
- Summary of technology transfer incentive programmes reported by developed country Members from 2018 to 2020

Survey on technology transfer needs and priorities for least developed country Members



- Fourteen WTO LDC Members making responses to the survey: Angola, Bangladesh, **Benin**, **Burkina Faso**, Cambodia, Gambia, Guinea, Haiti, Lesotho, Madagascar, **Mali**, Myanmar, Nepal, and Zambia
- *Chad not participating in the 2021 Workshop*

Survey: priority technology sectors



Survey: specific technology needs in the agriculture sector



- Food process and conservation
- Industrialization/Modernization
- Fisheries
- Irrigation
- Livestock
- Agriculture development
- Organic production
- Horticulture
- Trade/Export/Marketing/Value chain
- Soil fertilization
- Pest control
- Crop productivity/Food security
- SPS measures
- Sensor and portable technology

Summary of technology transfer programmes reported by developed country Members



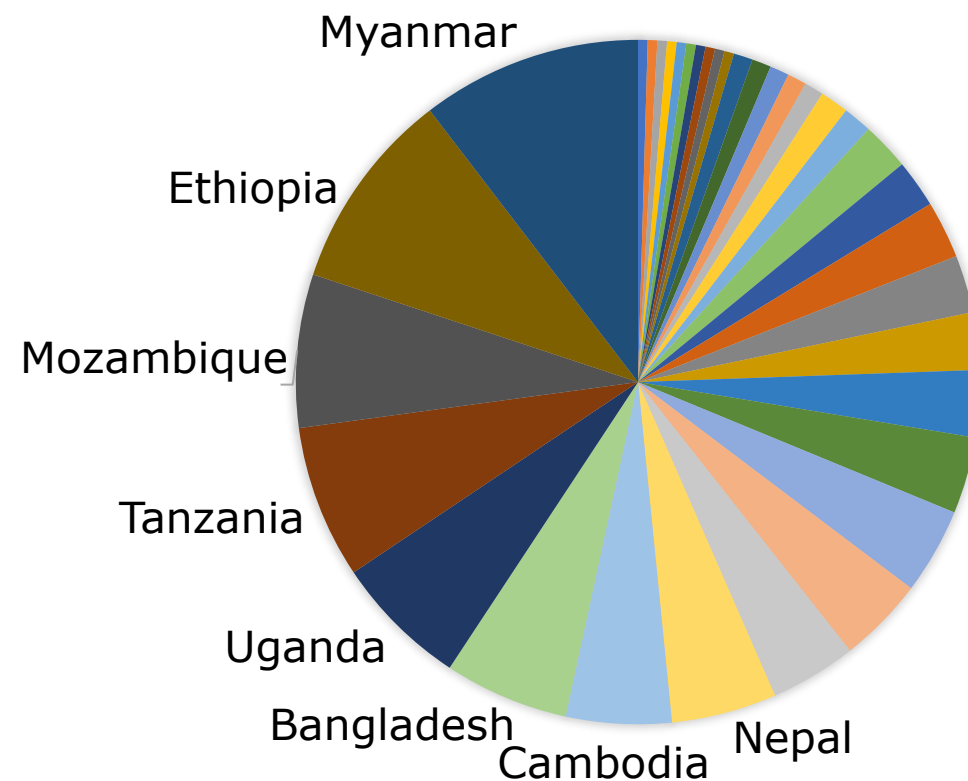
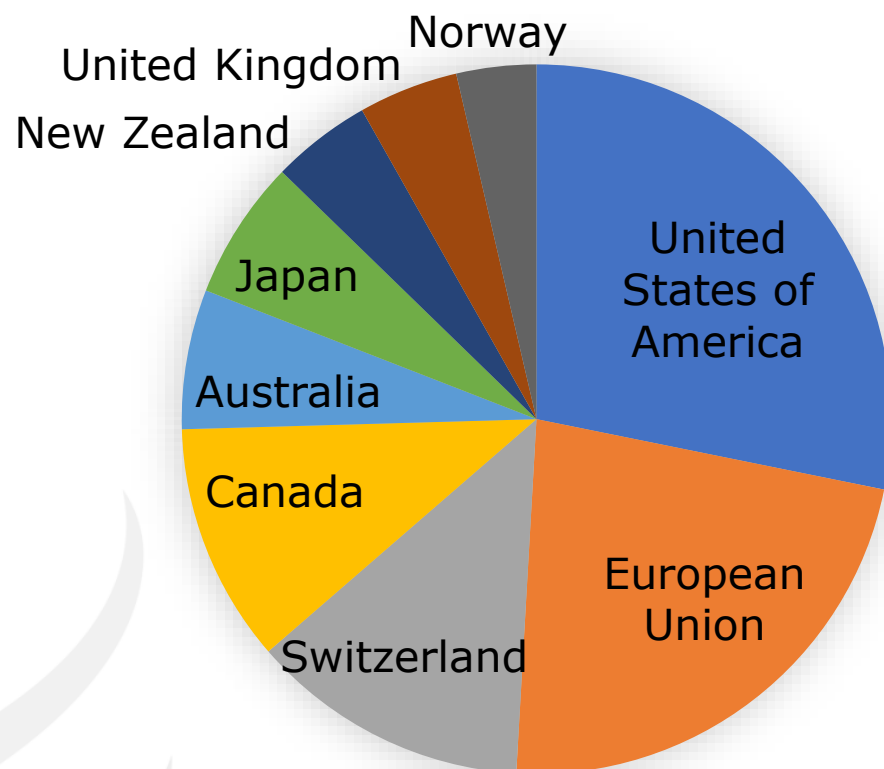
WORLD TRADE
ORGANIZATION

- **Agriculture (110 programmes)**
- **ICT (171, including 23 in agriculture)**
- Health (165)
- Environment (158)
- Construction/Infrastructure
- Manufacture
- Education
- Finance
- Intellectual Property

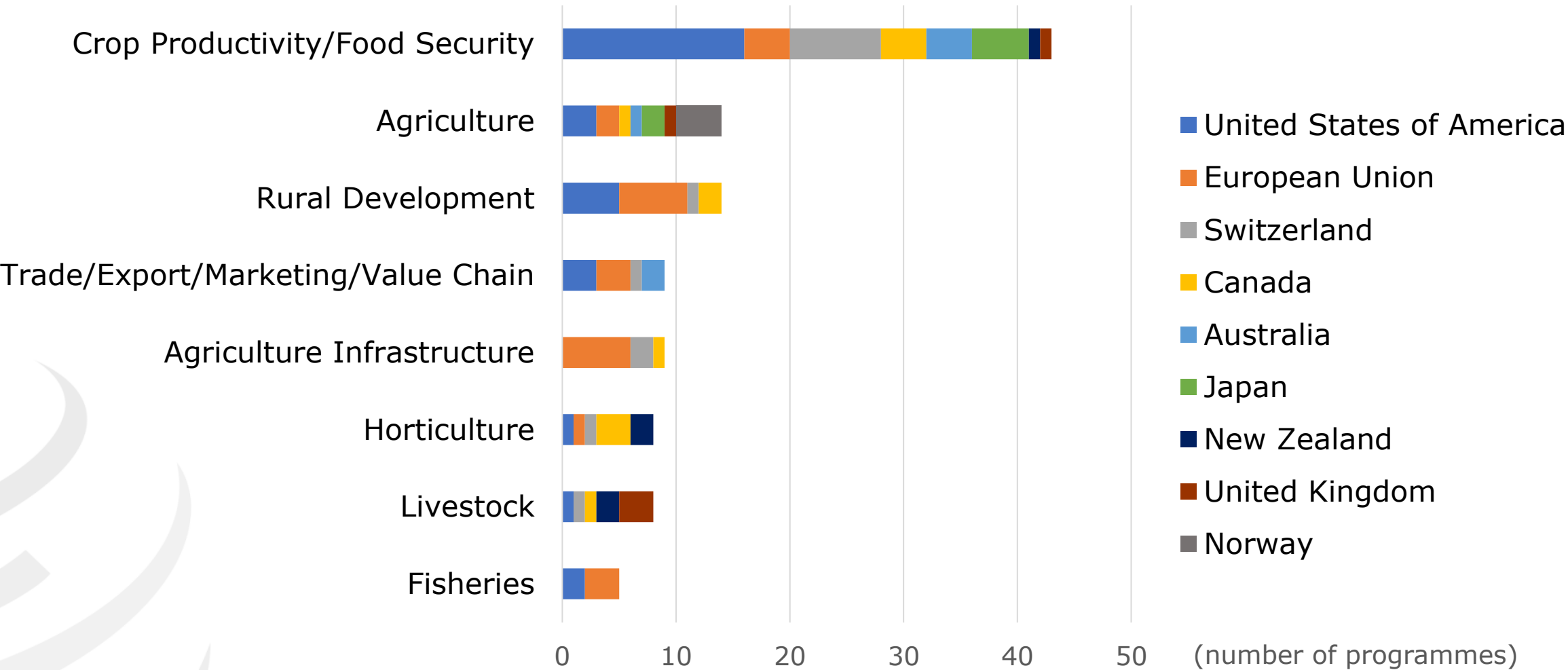
Overview of agriculture programmes

110 programmes reported

35 LDCs benefited



Subsectors where agriculture technologies applied



Examples of cotton-related programmes



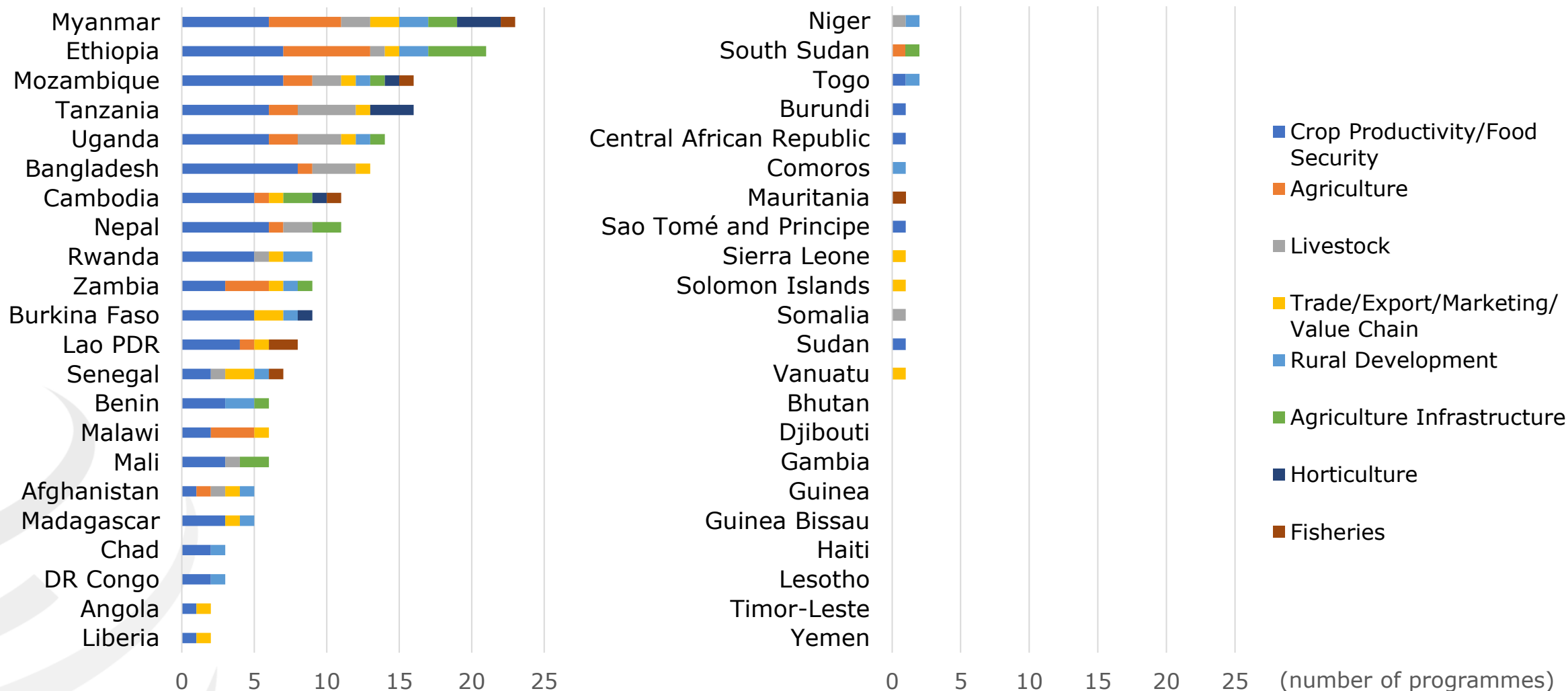
- Australia's ASEAN Regional Diagnostic Network Project used a combination of training activities on diagnostic of plant pests and diseases (e.g. ascomycete fungi, immature Lepidoptera, cotton leafroll dwarf virus, weed identification and risk assessment, DNA extraction and barcoding), pest nematodes surveys, and procurement of equipment (e.g. remote microscopy and digital imaging technologies) to promote diagnostic capacity in Cambodia, Lao PDR and Myanmar (IP/C/W/646/Add.2, page 15; IP/C/W/656/Add.3, page 12)
- EU provided technical assistance with regards to cotton policies, organic cultivation and low contamination, seed purification, development of new hybrids and related certification, experimental cotton plantation in Egypt (not LDC Member, IP/C/W/646/Add.7, pages 120-121)

Examples of cotton-related programmes

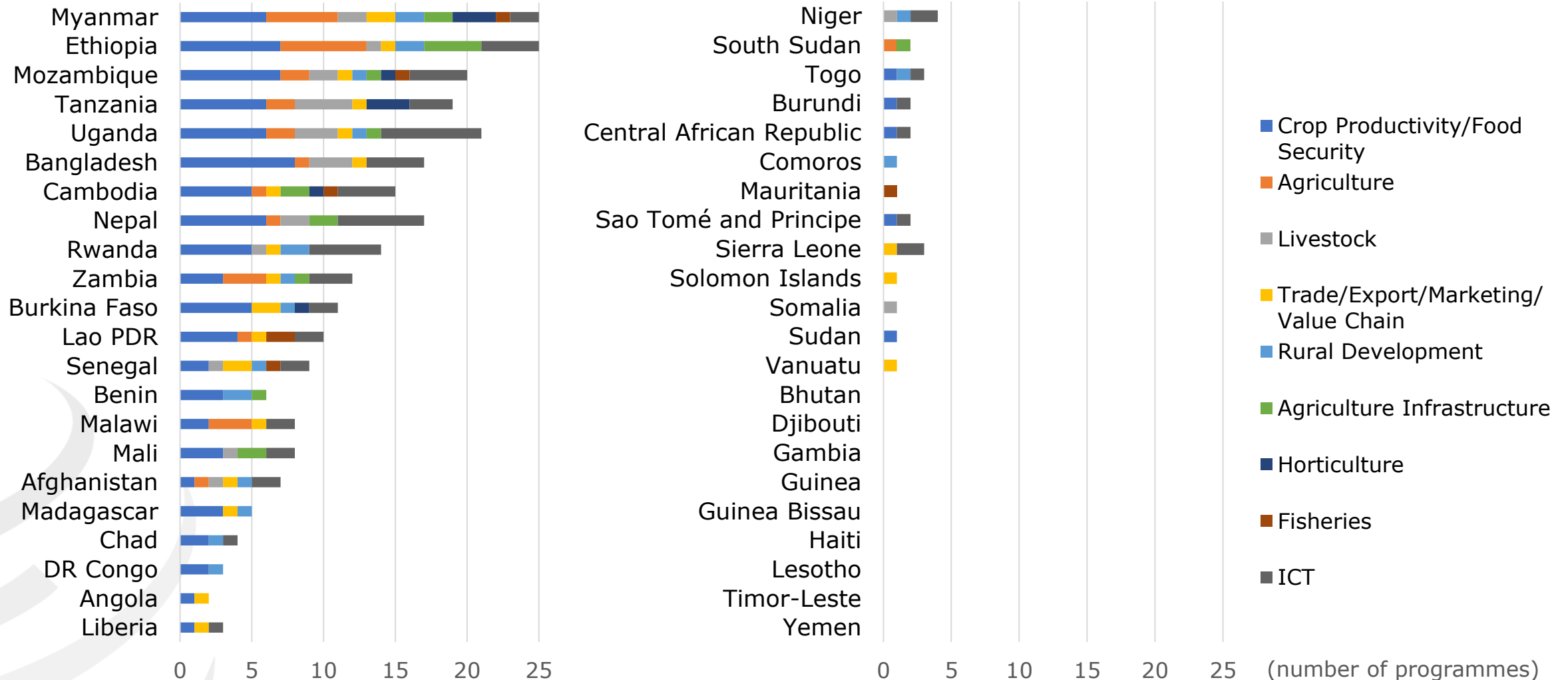


- Switzerland transferred know-how on increased productivity for producers of certain raw materials (i.e. cotton, cocoa, coffee) and access to finance in various countries under the Sustainable Trade Initiative IDH (IP/C/W/646/Add.1, pages 5, 9; IP/C/W/656, pages 5, 9; IP/C/R/TTI/CHE/1, pages 5, 9)
- Switzerland provided technologies including crop rotation, drip irrigation, alternate wetting and drying (AWD) and laser levelling to enhance water efficiency for 65,000 cotton or rice farmer families in Myanmar and Madagascar (IP/C/W/656, page 30; IP/C/R/TTI/CHE/1, pages 24-25)

Cumulative count of LDCs in subsectors applied



Cumulative count of LDCs in subsectors applied (including ICT used in agriculture sector)



Agriculture Technologies Transferred from developed country Members to LDCs (2018-2020)



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Next steps

- Under the LDC Group's guidance, to improve survey on technology transfer needs and priorities for LDC Members.
- A list of specific type(s) of technology in the agriculture sector ?
- The survey aims
 - to help LDCs identify their needs and priorities;
 - to help the preparation of the 2022 Workshop.

Thank you!

Q&A

Xiaoping Wu and Ting-Wei Chiang