



Gendered Impacts of Covid-19 in 7 Feed-the-Future Countries

Elizabeth Bryan on behalf of the IFPRI GCAN phone survey team

IFPRI Policy Seminar: Towards Resilient Livelihoods, Food Security, and Nutrition for All: Confronting the Gendered Impacts of Covid-19

23 March 2021



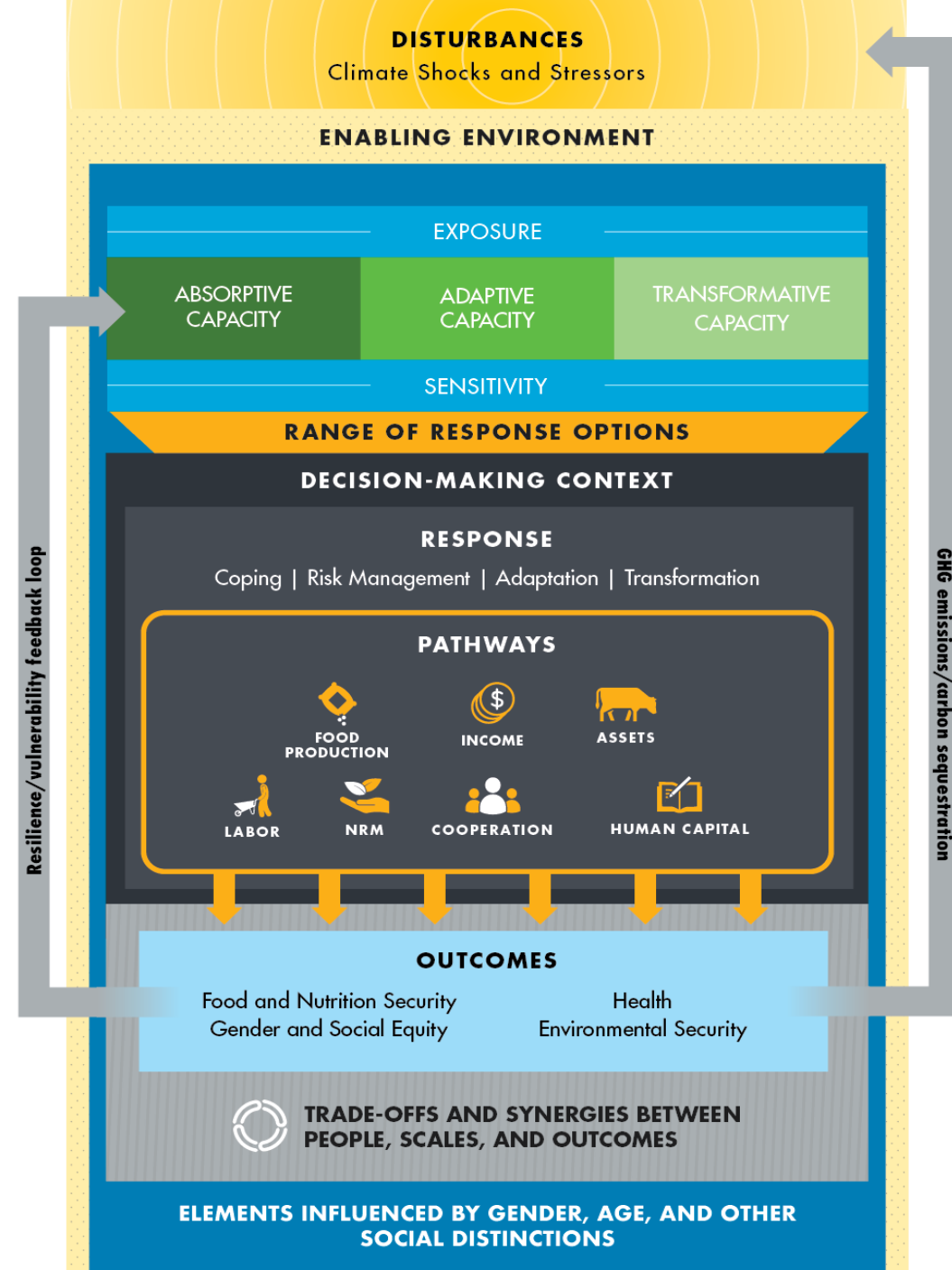
RESEARCH PROGRAM ON
**Climate Change,
Agriculture and
Food Security**



Credit: Carla Roncoli

Gender Climate Change and Nutrition (GCAN) Framework

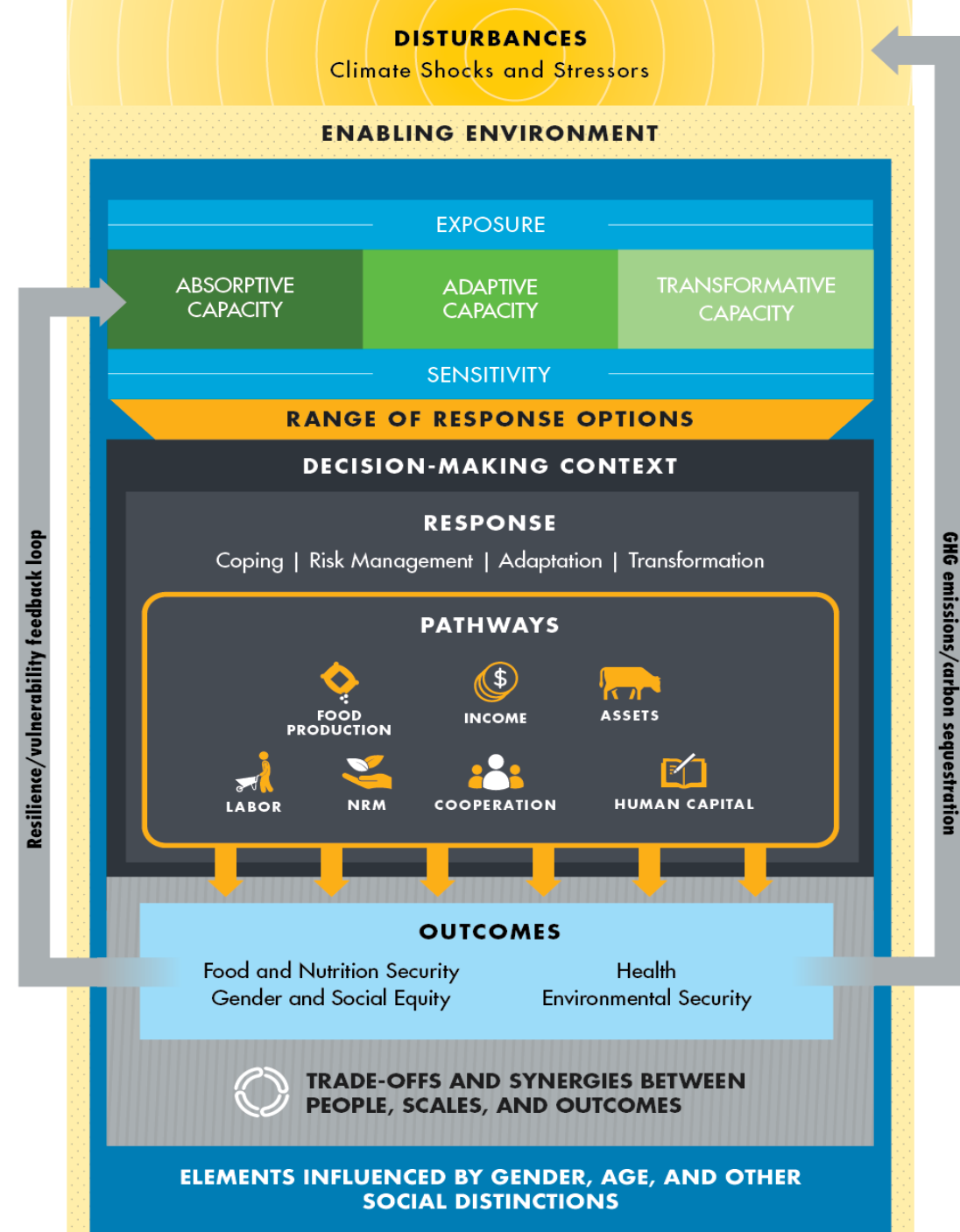
- The impact of shocks and stressors on people are not direct but follow different pathways and are influenced by different factors:
 - Exposure and sensitivity
 - Resilience capacities
 - Decision-making context
 - Responses
- Resilience is dynamic: well-being outcomes influence future resilience capacities
- The Covid-19 pandemic triggered both health and economic shocks
- Resilience to these unanticipated shocks requires mainly absorptive capacity and immediate coping responses



GCAN Framework Highlights the Gender Dimensions of Shocks and Stressors:

Health and economic shocks from Covid-19 may result in the following gendered responses/outcomes:

- Loss of income (control over income)
- Asset dynamics
- Change in labor allocation, increase in care burden
- Changes in mobility, implication for risk of exposure
- Food insecurity, changes in dietary diversity
- Intra-household conflict



Survey Implementation

Countries	Round 1	Round 2	Round 3	Round 4	Round 5
Ghana	September	October	January	March	May
Kenya	September	October Late	Late Nov/early Dec	March	
Nepal	July	September	December	February	April
Niger	October	December	February	April	
Nigeria	September	October	January	March	May
Senegal	June	August	October	December	March
Uganda	October	February	April	June	

*All survey rounds supported by USAID, BRFS except rounds in green to be funded by FAO

Survey Locations

GHANA

- Samples drawn from two USAID supported face-to-face surveys in Northern Ghana: ILSSI (380 households, intrahousehold) and Africa Rising 163 households) focusing on small-scale irrigation and sustainable intensification, respectively, in Upper East and Upper West Ghana
- Approximately 50% women and 50% men participants
- 5 rounds

KENYA

- Approximately 600 households drawn from a BMZ-supported women's climate change adaptation survey in Busia, Laikipia and Nakuru counties that took place in 02/2020
- Includes the WEAI and paper planned to assess impacts of empowerment on coping with Covid-19; about 2 thirds are women participants
- 3 rounds

NIGER

- Draws on 2 surveys: "Local Economy Effects of Migration" Maradi and Tillaberi (2019); and Social Network Analysis in the Diffa region of Lake Chad (2020)
- Starting with 880 HHS and 581 valid phone numbers still challenges to find enough households with working phones, challenging to reach enough women
- 3 rounds

Survey Locations

NIGERIA

- Sample drawn from 'Agro-Processing Productivity Enhancement and Livelihood Improvement Support (APPEALS)' survey (WB) with ~1000 female respondents, focusing on two FTF states (Kaduna and Cross River)
- Approximately 50% women and 50% men participants
- 5 rounds

SENEGAL

- Sample drawn from a 4000-household survey supported by USAID (PAPA) in the FTF zone of Senegal (Fatick, Kaffrine, Kaolack, Kedougou, Kolda, Matam, Saint Louis, Sedhiou, Tambacounda and Ziguinchor)
- First round oversampled FHHs (16% of respondents); second round asked to talk to spouses to balance sample
- 5 rounds

UGANDA

- Sample draws on FTF AgInputs activity in 8 districts in the Zones of Influence in Uganda (Iganga, Kasese, Kiboga, Luwero, Masaka, Masindi, Mbale, and Mubende, most recent face-to-face survey in 2017)
- Interviews 1000 households, future focus on adolescent girls
- 3 rounds

NEPAL

- Draws on enumeration of 1000 maize farmers in Dang District, Province 5 under the CSISA project with survey focuses on pest management intervention for maize
- Two thirds of sample ended up being women farmers despite numbers being listed for men during enumeration
- 5 rounds

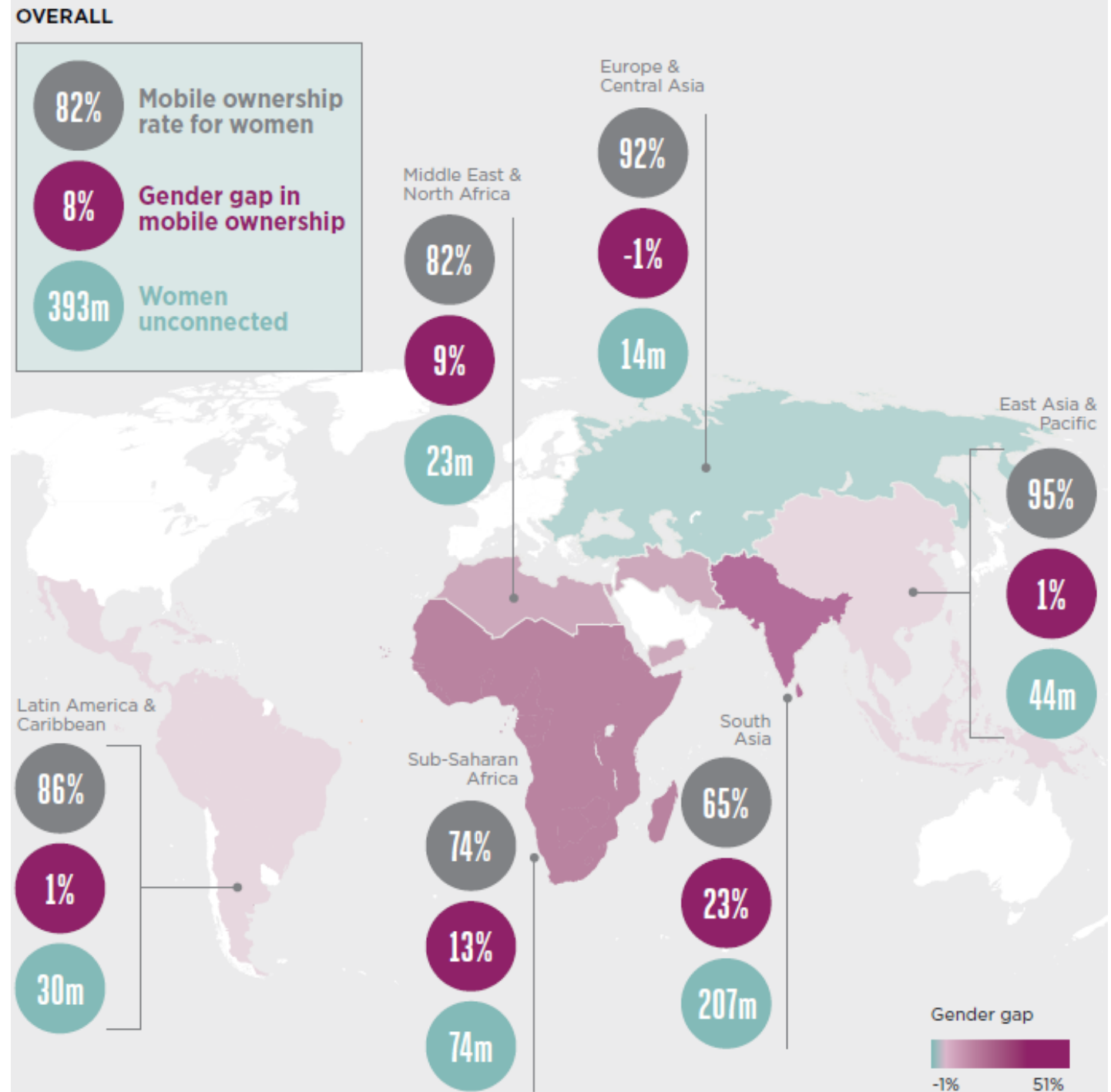
Challenges to Reaching Women with Phone Surveys

Gender gaps in mobile phone ownership, access, and data use

Systematic bias: older, poorer, women less likely to have phones

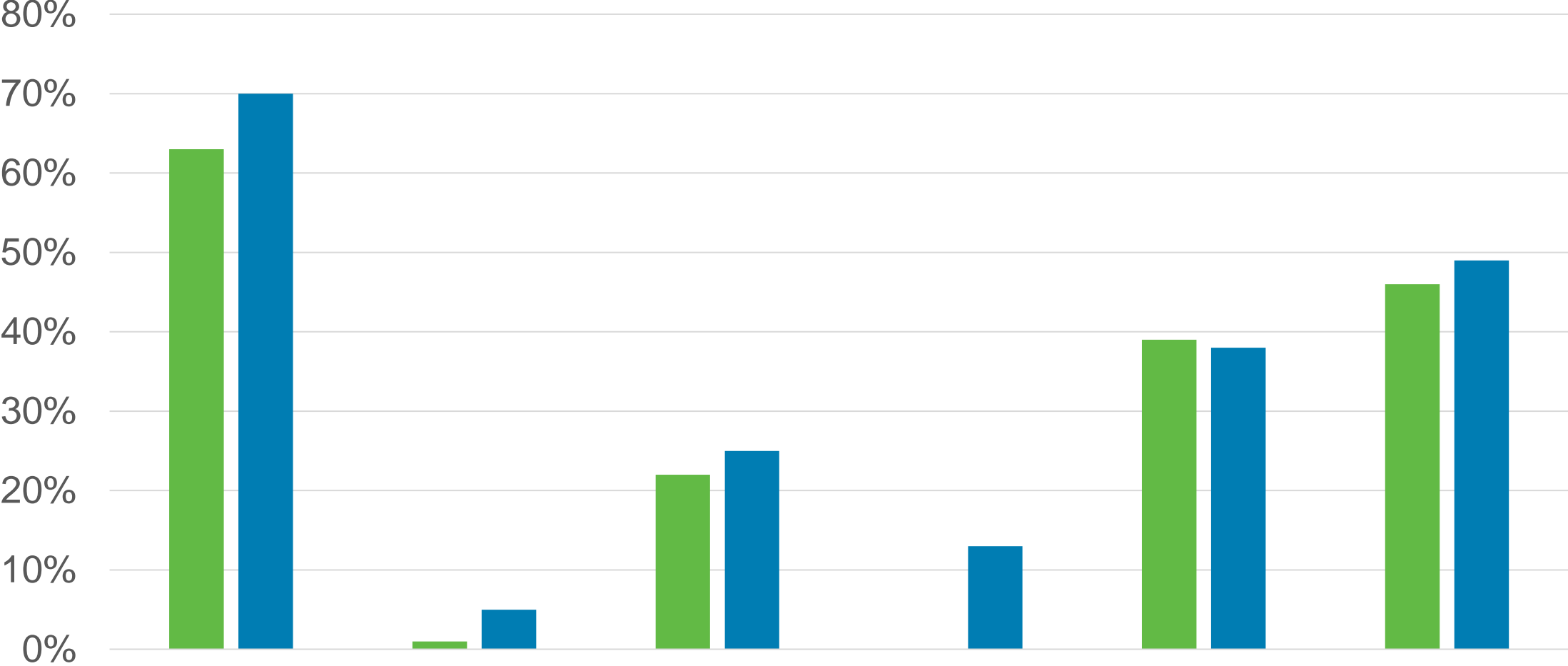
Privacy issues: lack of privacy, speakerphone issues.

Source: <https://www.gsma.com/mobilefordevelopment/wp-content/uploads/2020/02/GSMA-The-Mobile-Gender-Gap-Report-2020.pdf>



Speakerphone Usage Across Countries

(Share of respondents in last survey round)



■ Male ■ Female



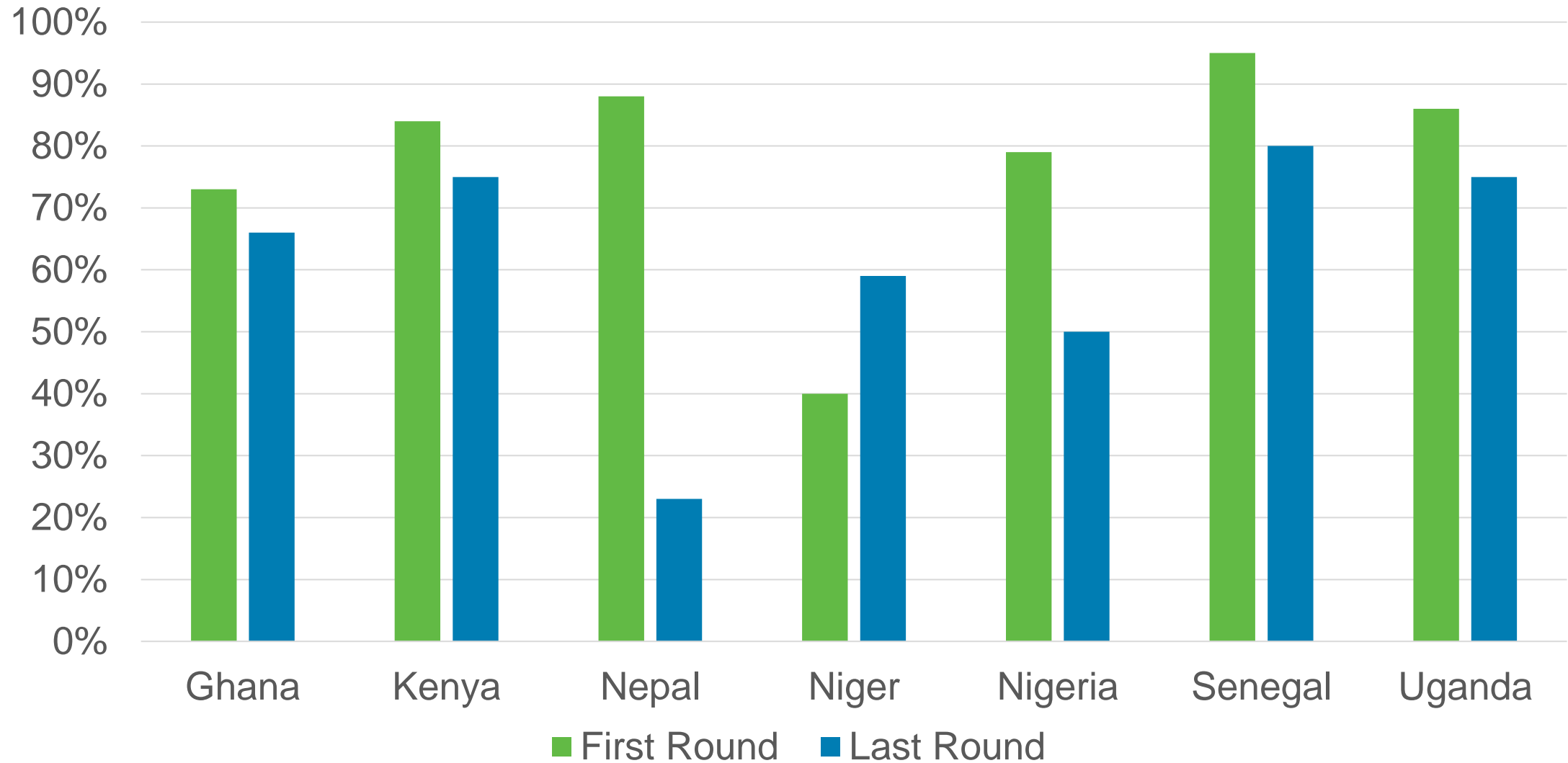
IFPRI

Source: IFPRI GCAN phone surveys

Potential Ways to Address Gender Challenges

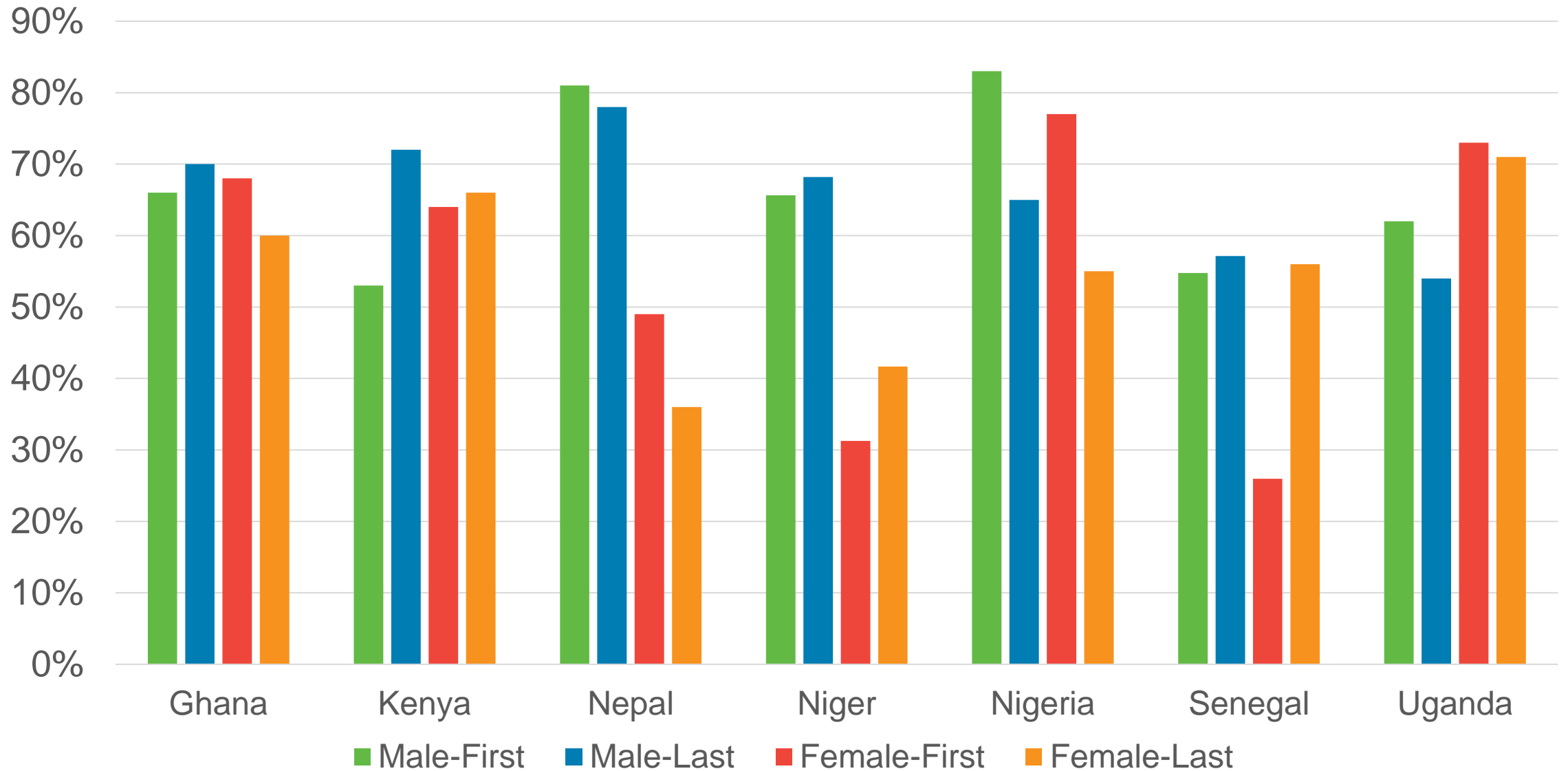
- Build on existing surveys where contact, rapport is established
- Contact through trusted women's groups
- Use female enumerators
- Cautions against sensitive questions, especially re. domestic violence
- Word questions so that answers would not reveal much to those who overhear
- Check use of speakerphone (indicator of disempowerment?) and omit sensitive sections if others can hear questions

Has your Household Experienced a Loss of Income in the Last Month due to Covid-19? (Share of Respondents)

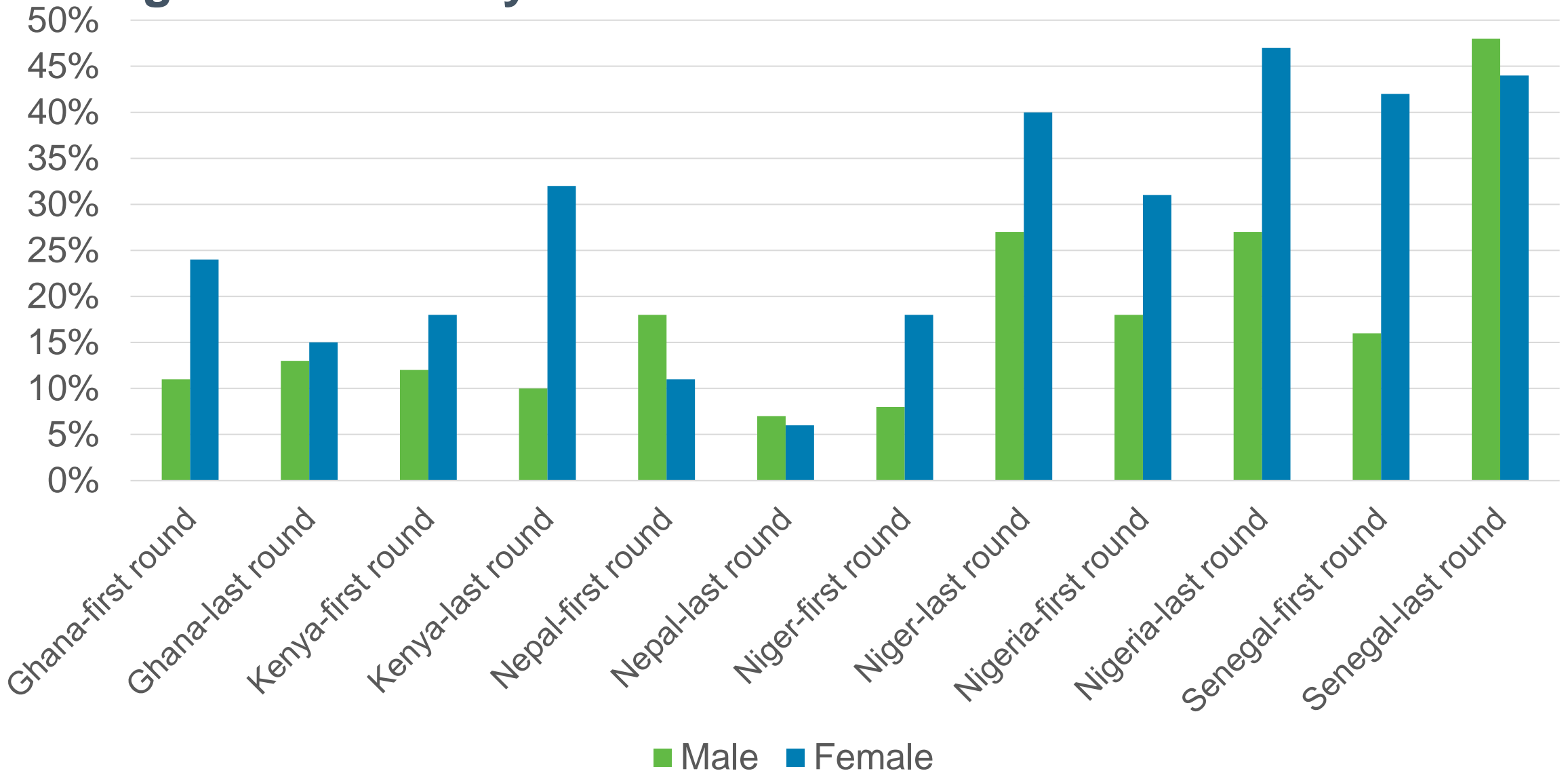


Whose Income Was Affected?

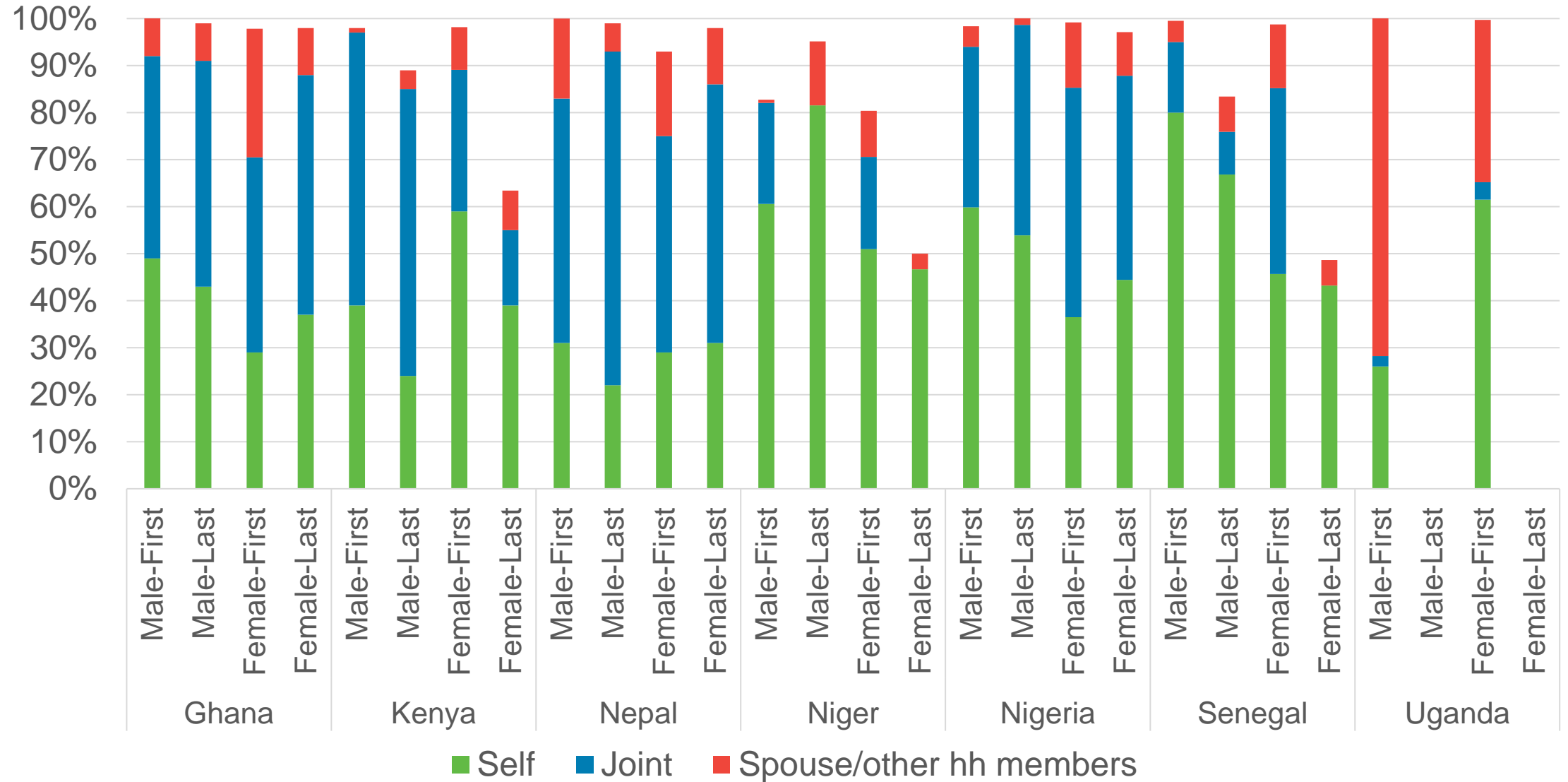
(Share Reporting Own Income Was Affected)



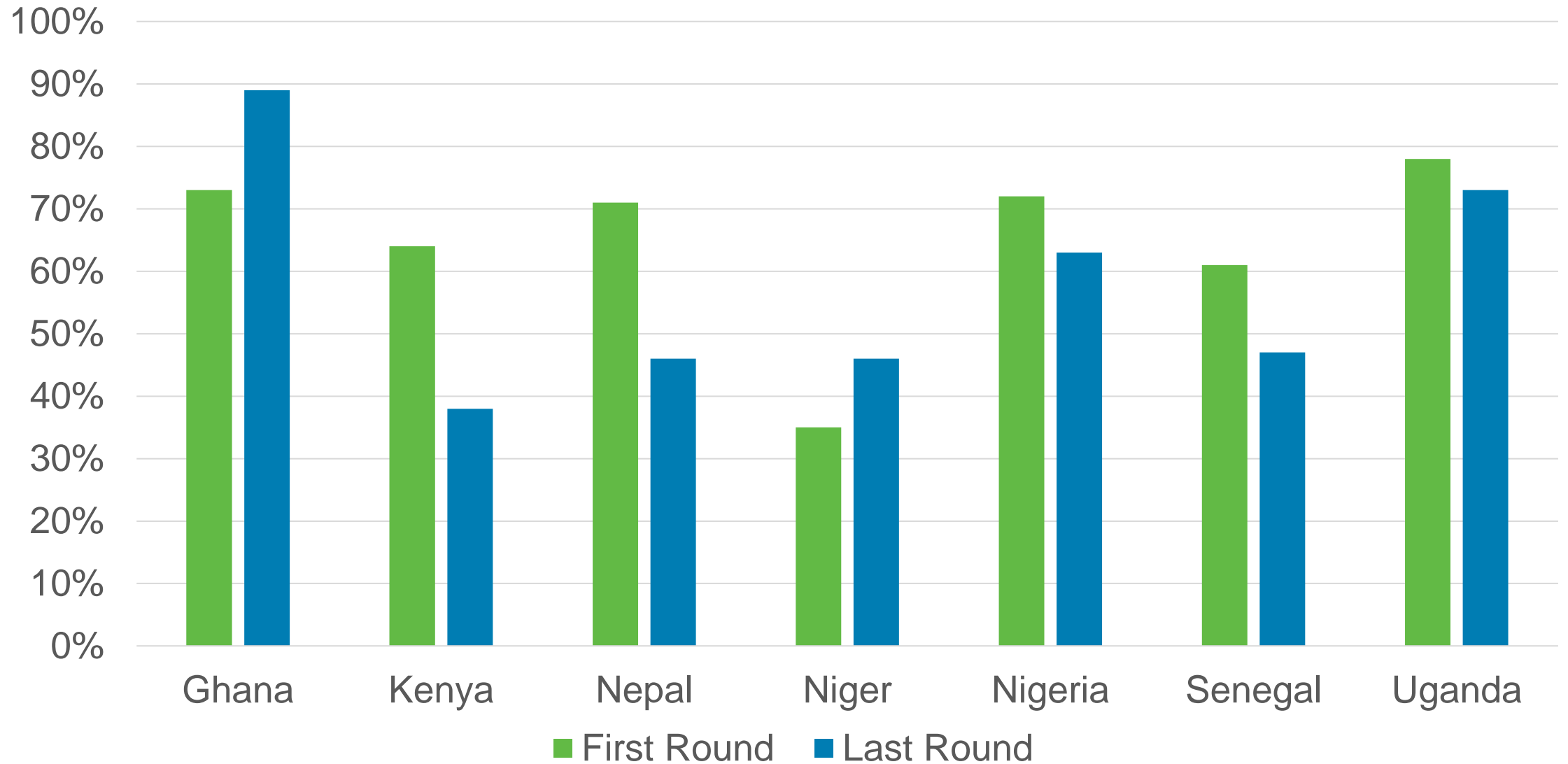
Share Women and Men Who Did Not Work Outside the Home During the Last 7 Days



Who Decides How to Spend Respondent's Earnings?

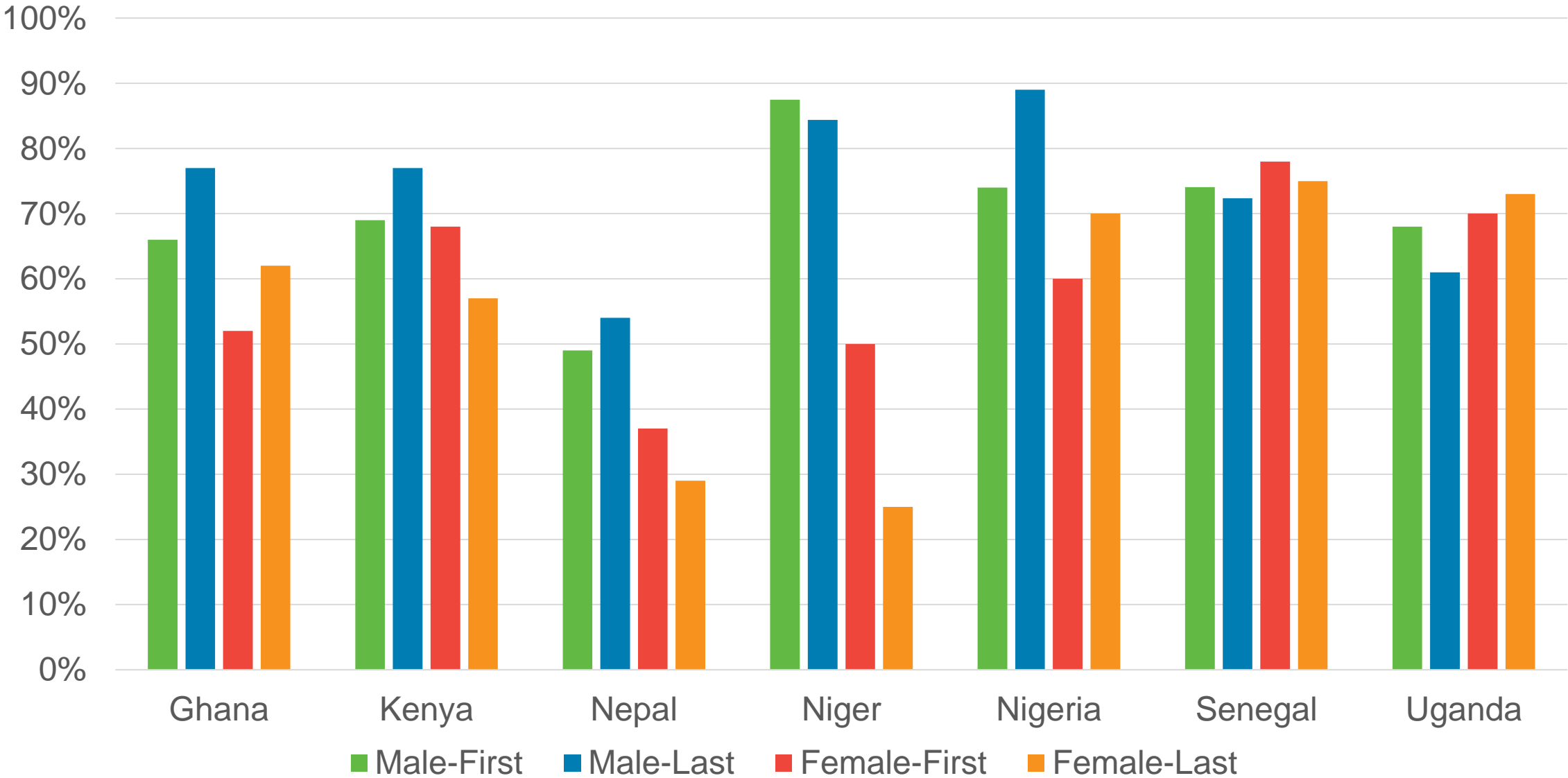


Used Savings to Address the Loss of Income due to Covid-19? (Share of Respondents)



Whose Savings Were Used?

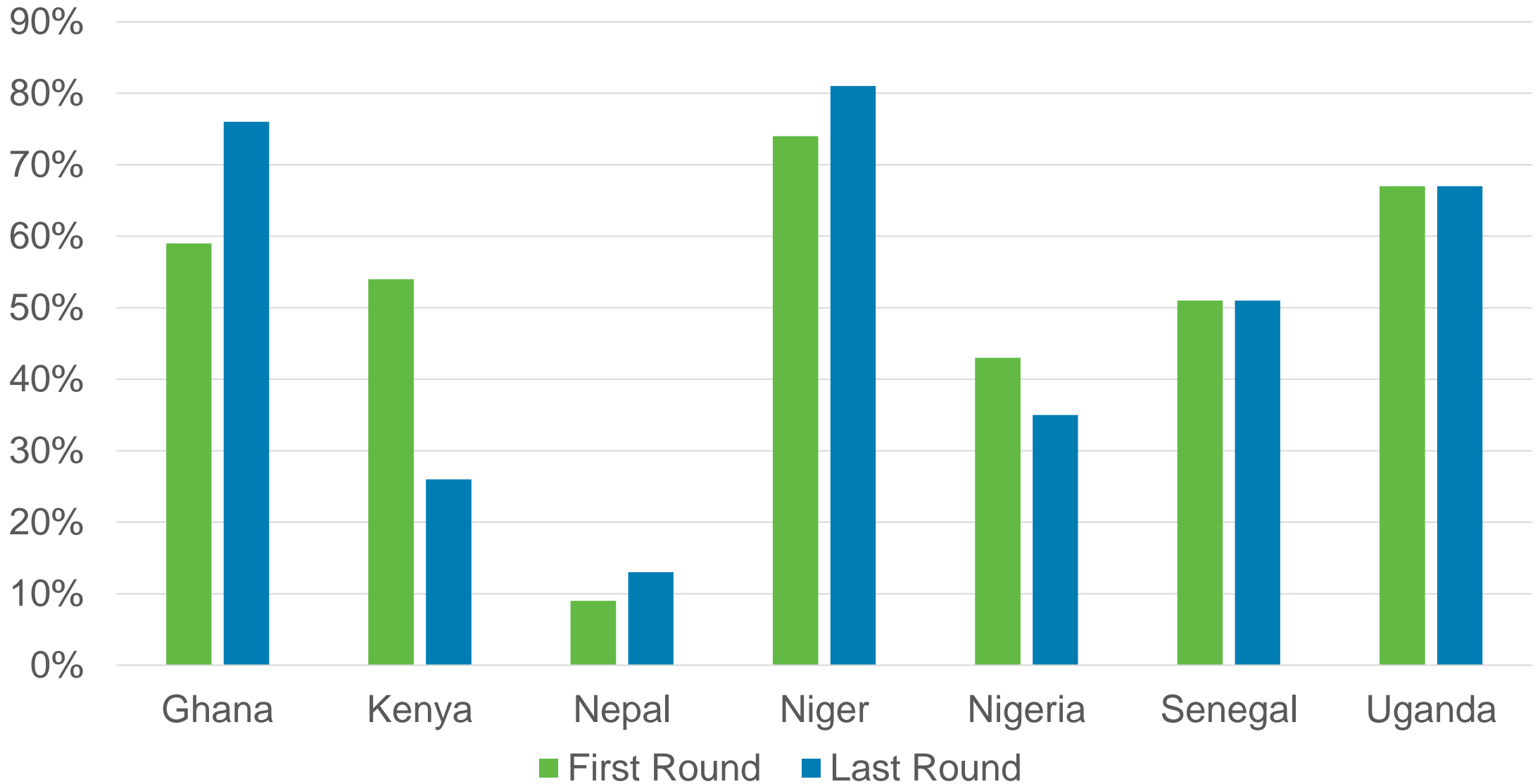
(Share Reporting Own Savings Were Used)



IFPRI

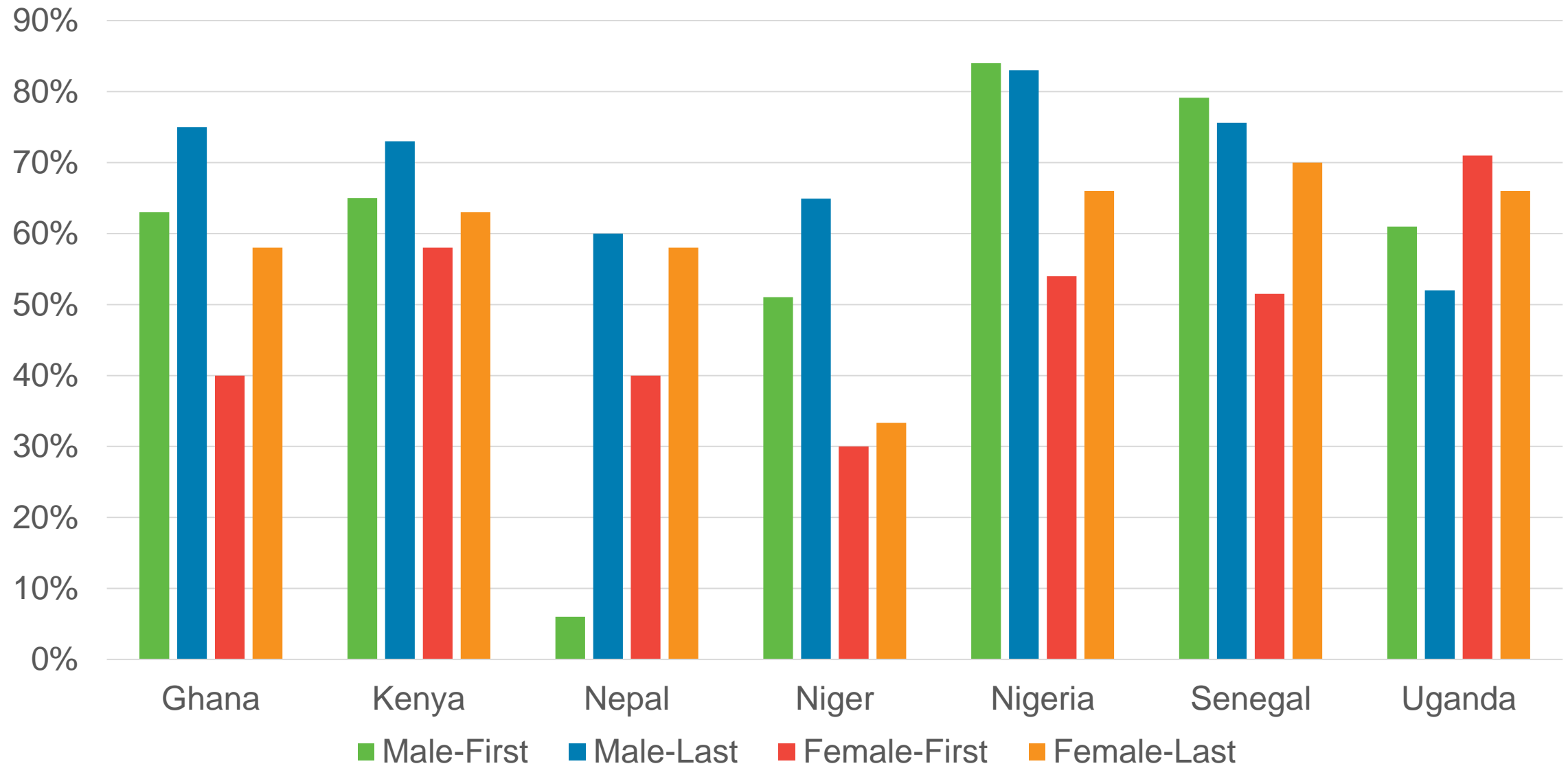
Source: IFPRI GCAN phone surveys

Sold Assets to Address the Loss of Income due to Covid-19? (Share of Respondents)

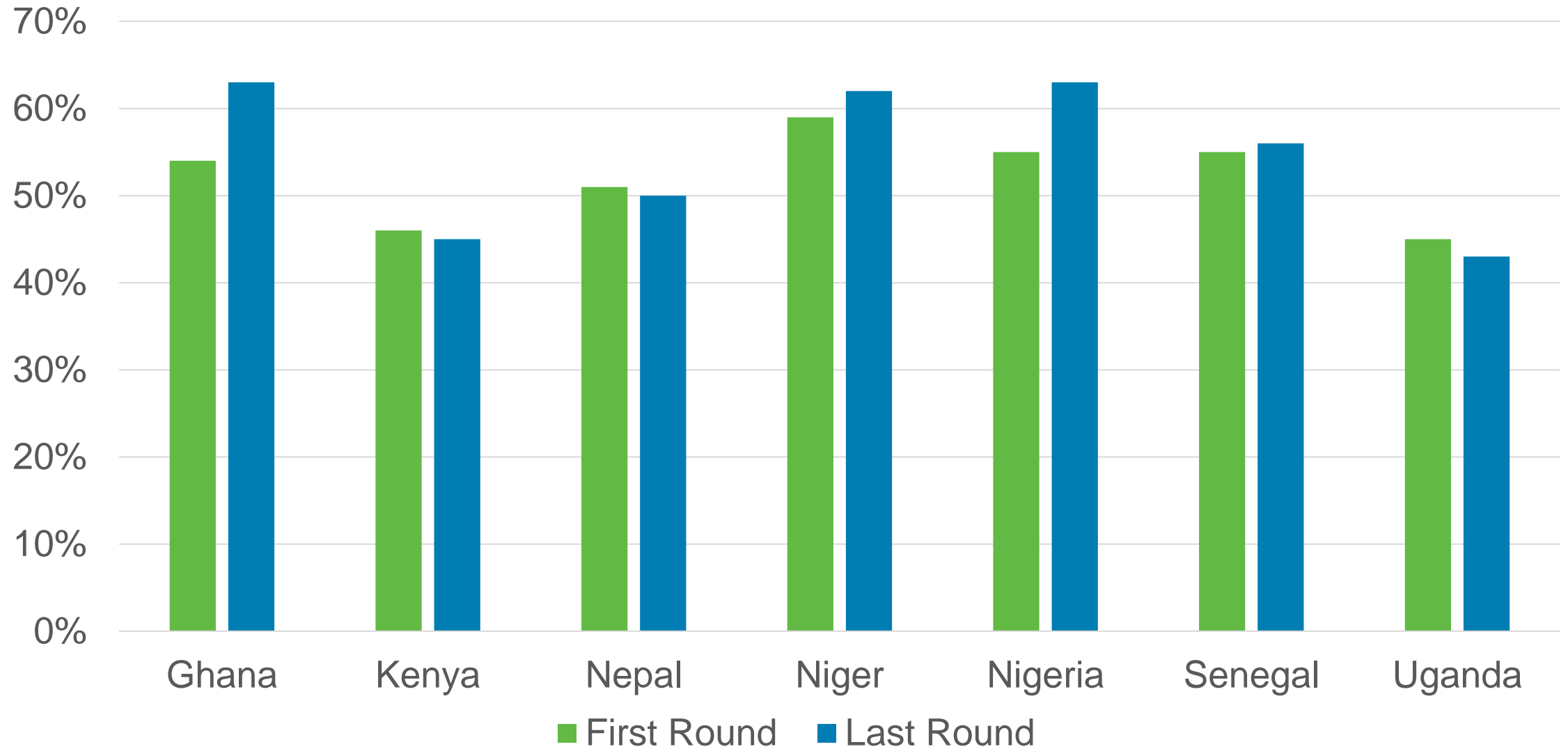


Whose Assets Were Sold?

(Share Reporting Own Savings Were Used)

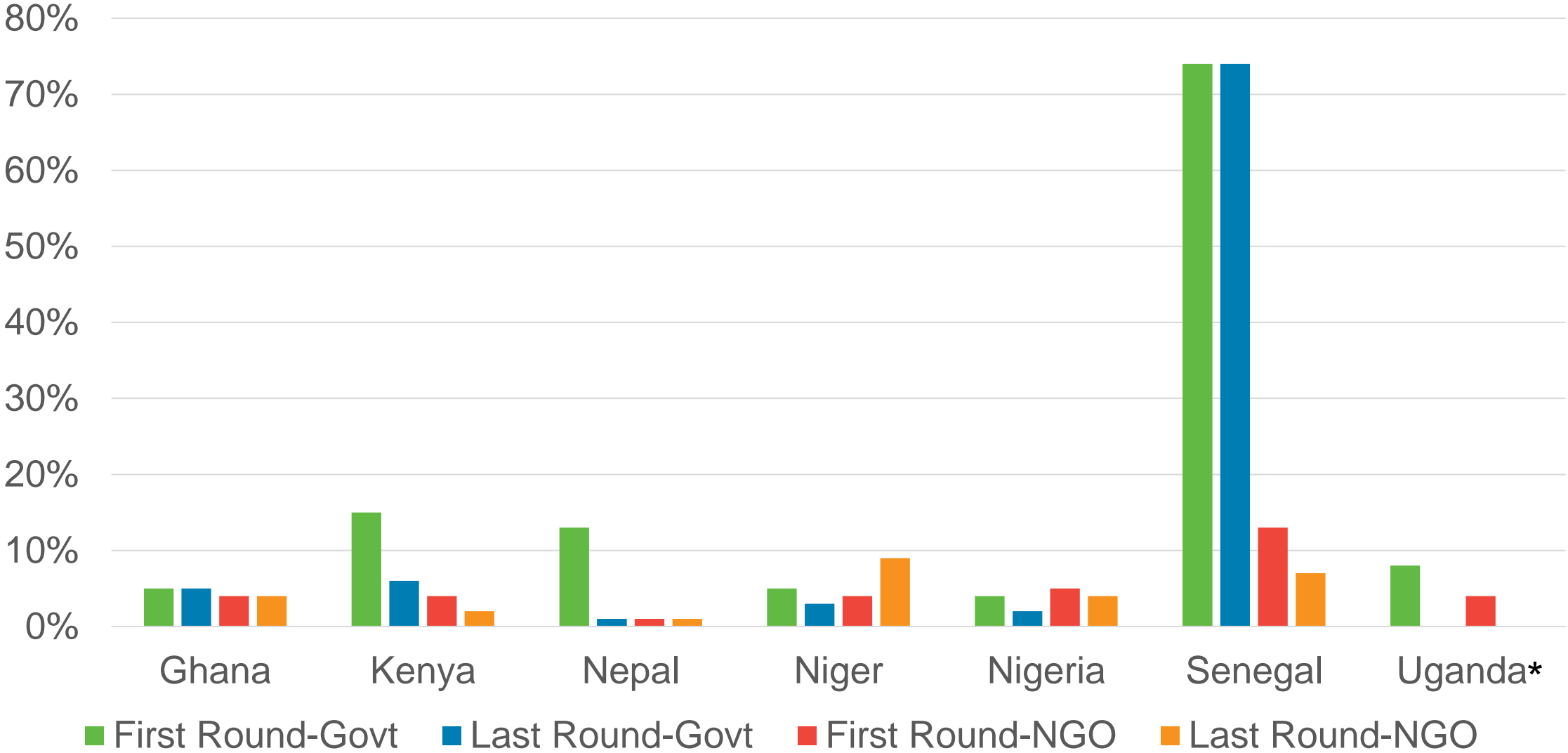


Borrowed Money to Address the Loss of Income due to Covid-19? (Share of Respondents)



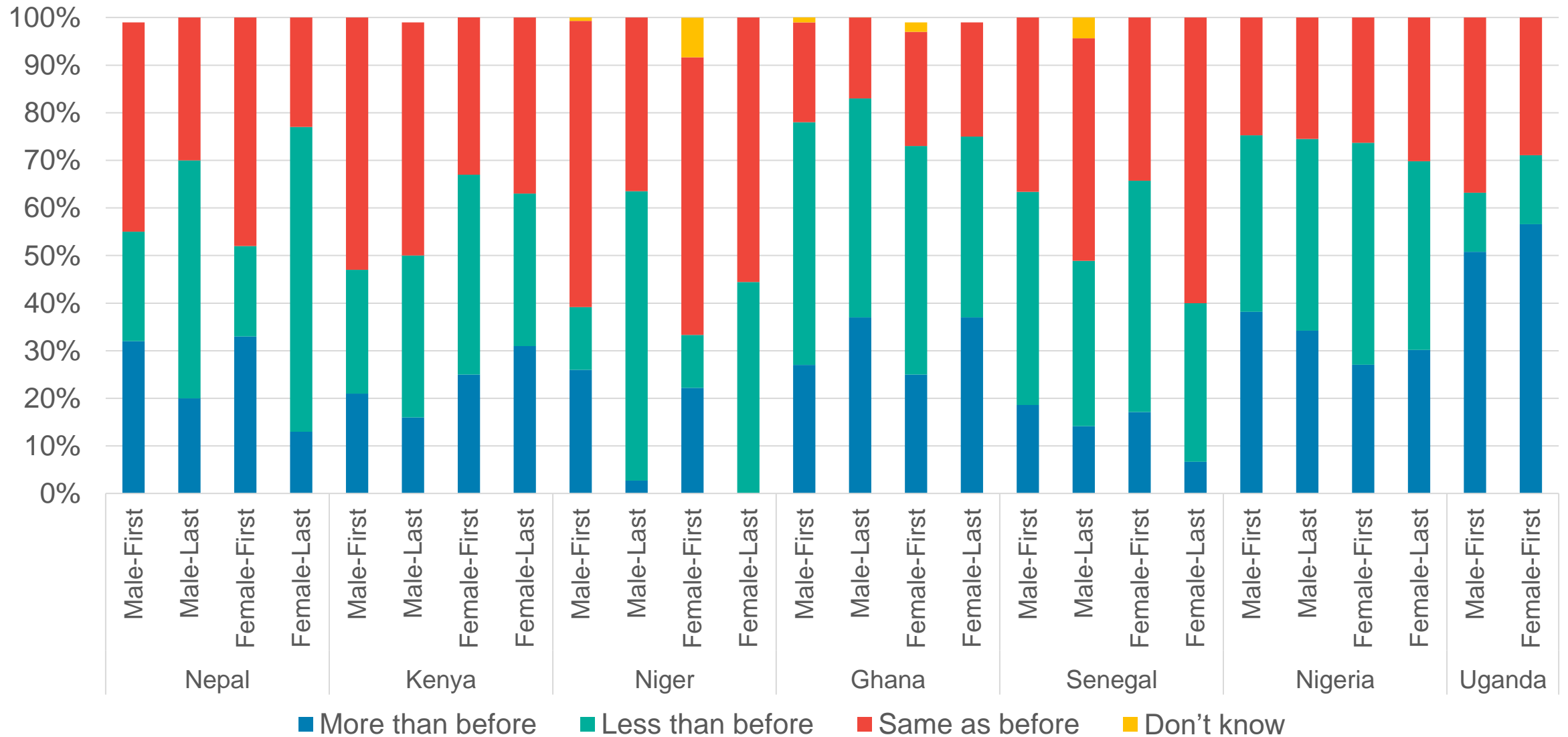
Received a Transfer from Government or NGO

(Share of Respondents)

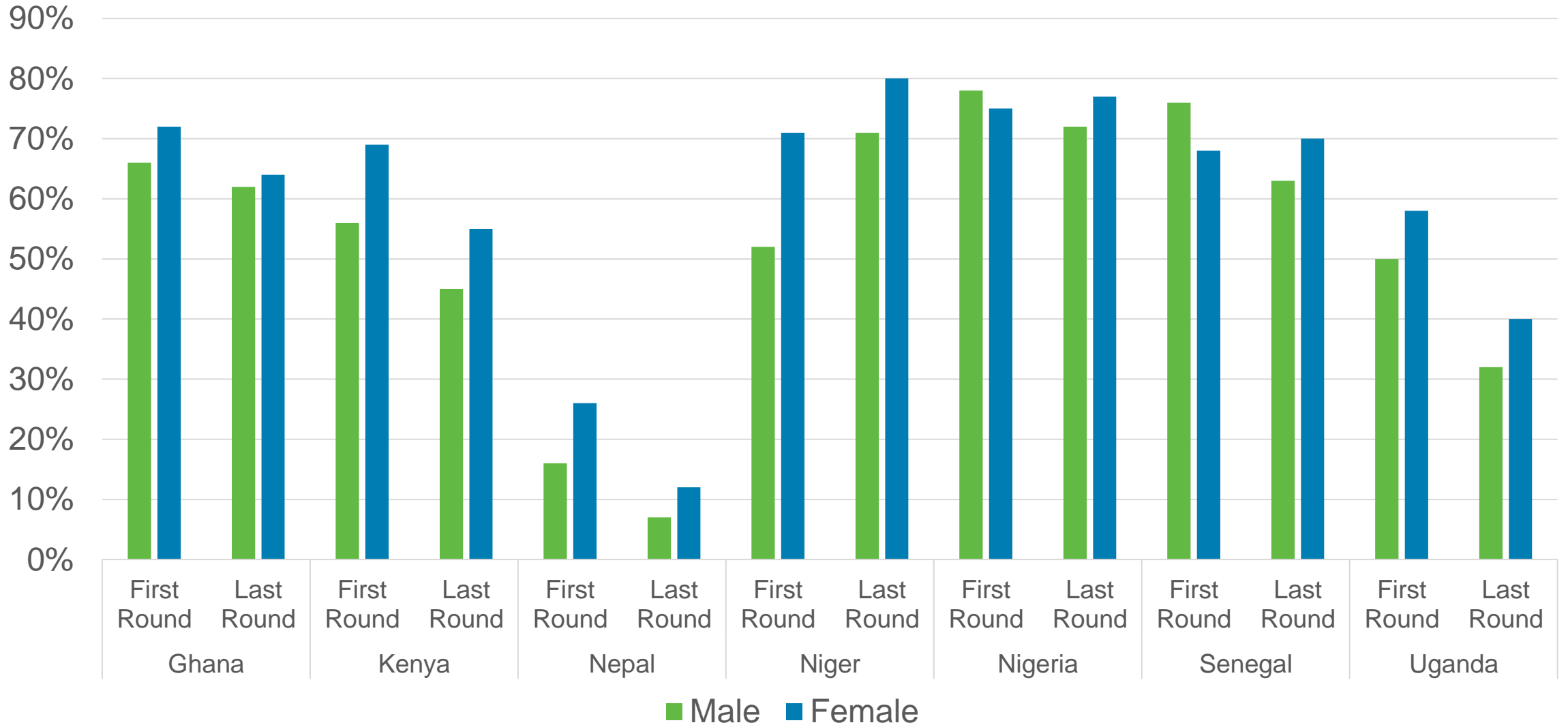


Source: IFPRI GCAN phone surveys

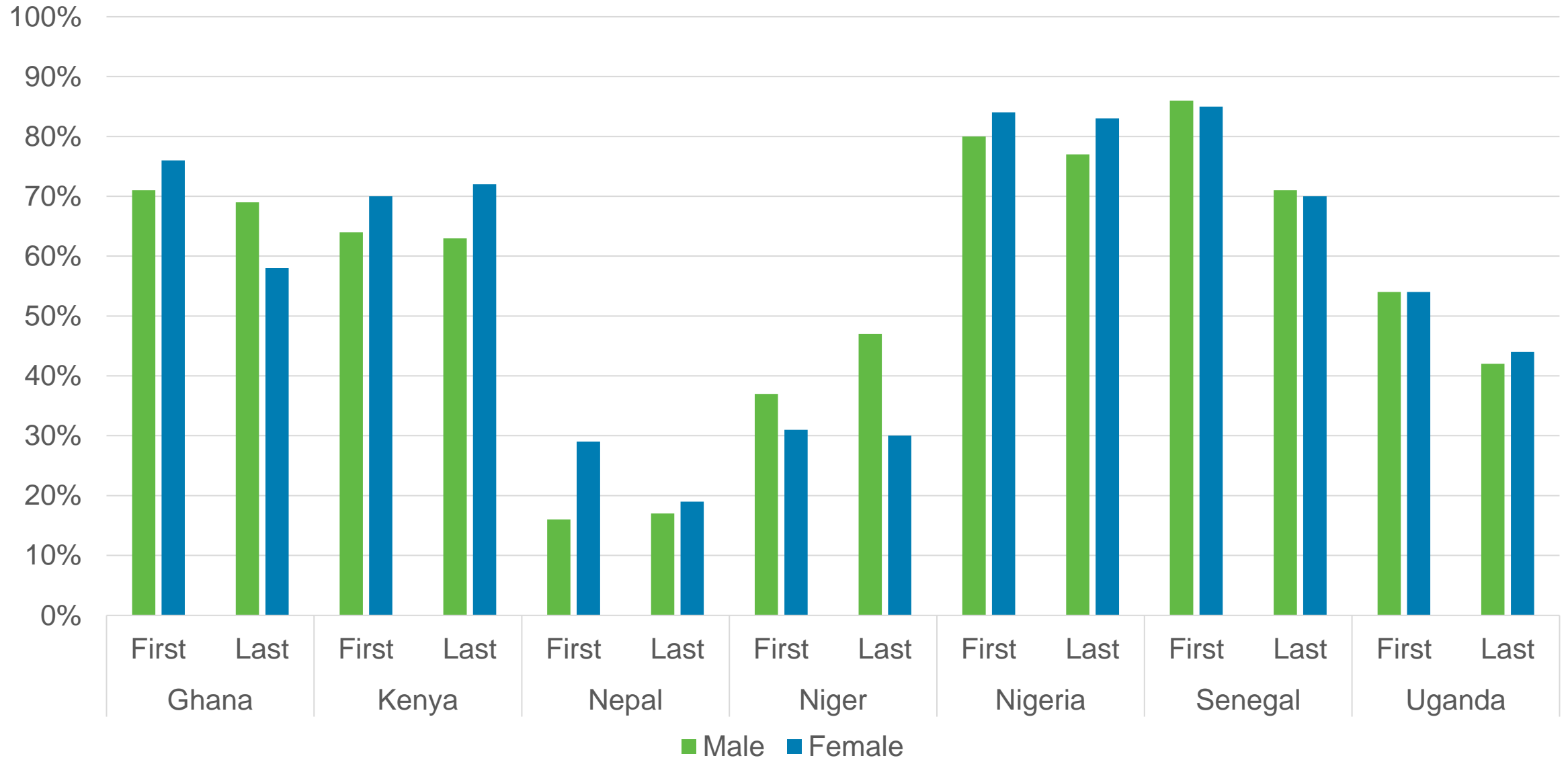
Comparison of Working Hours Compared to Period Pre-Covid-19



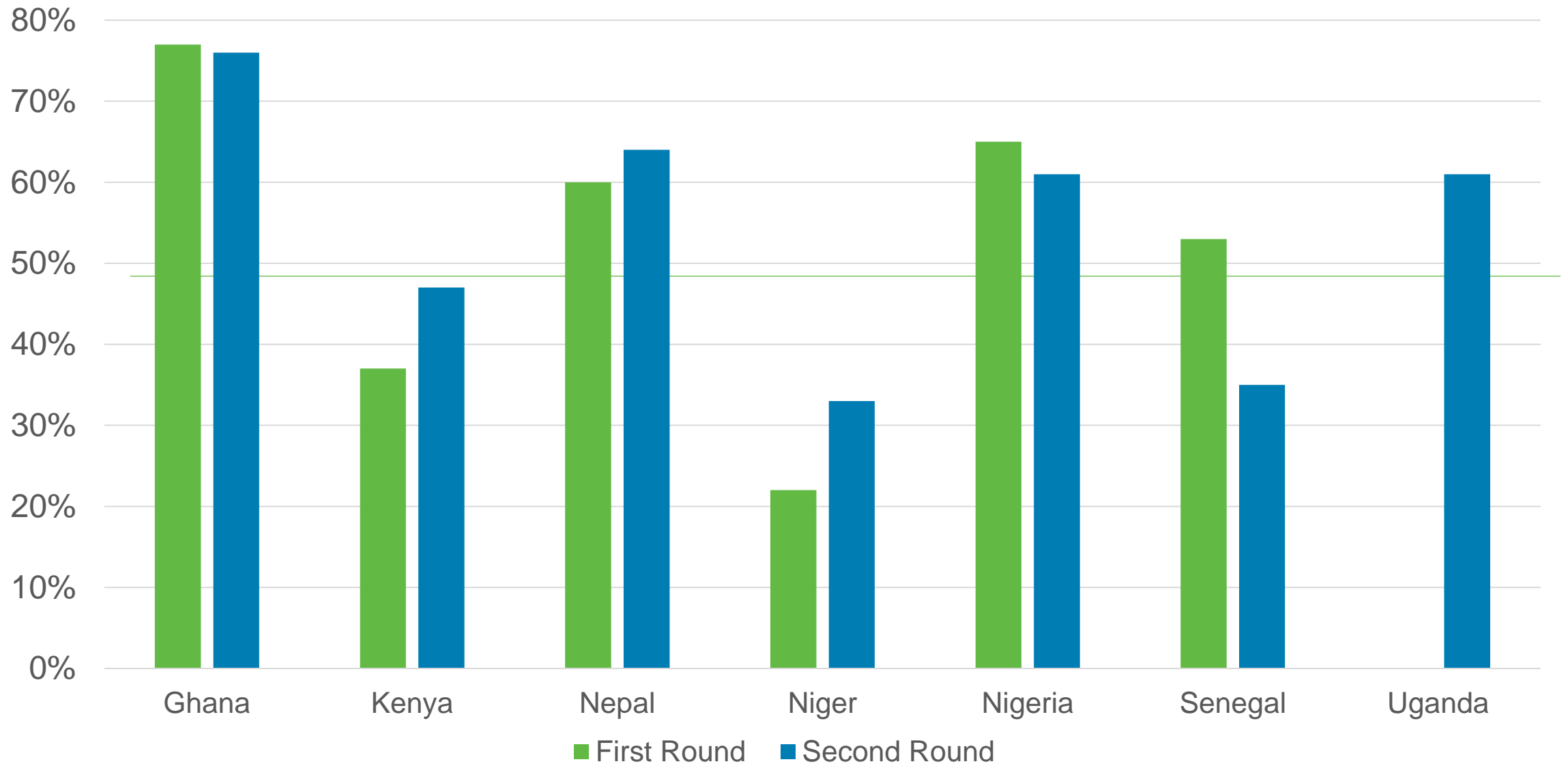
Share of Respondents Who Worried they Would not Have Enough Food to Eat



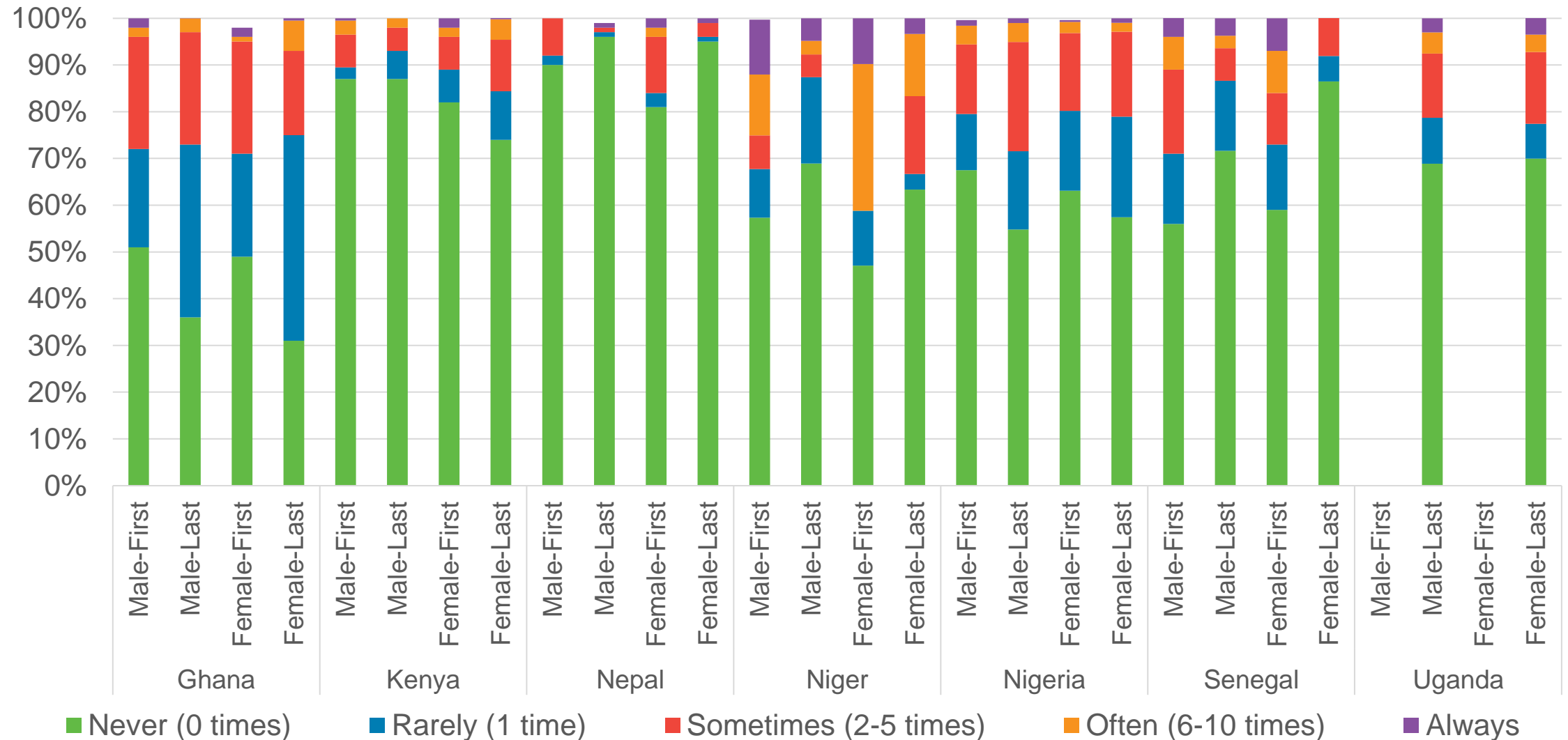
Has Your Access to Food Changed as a Result of Covid-19?



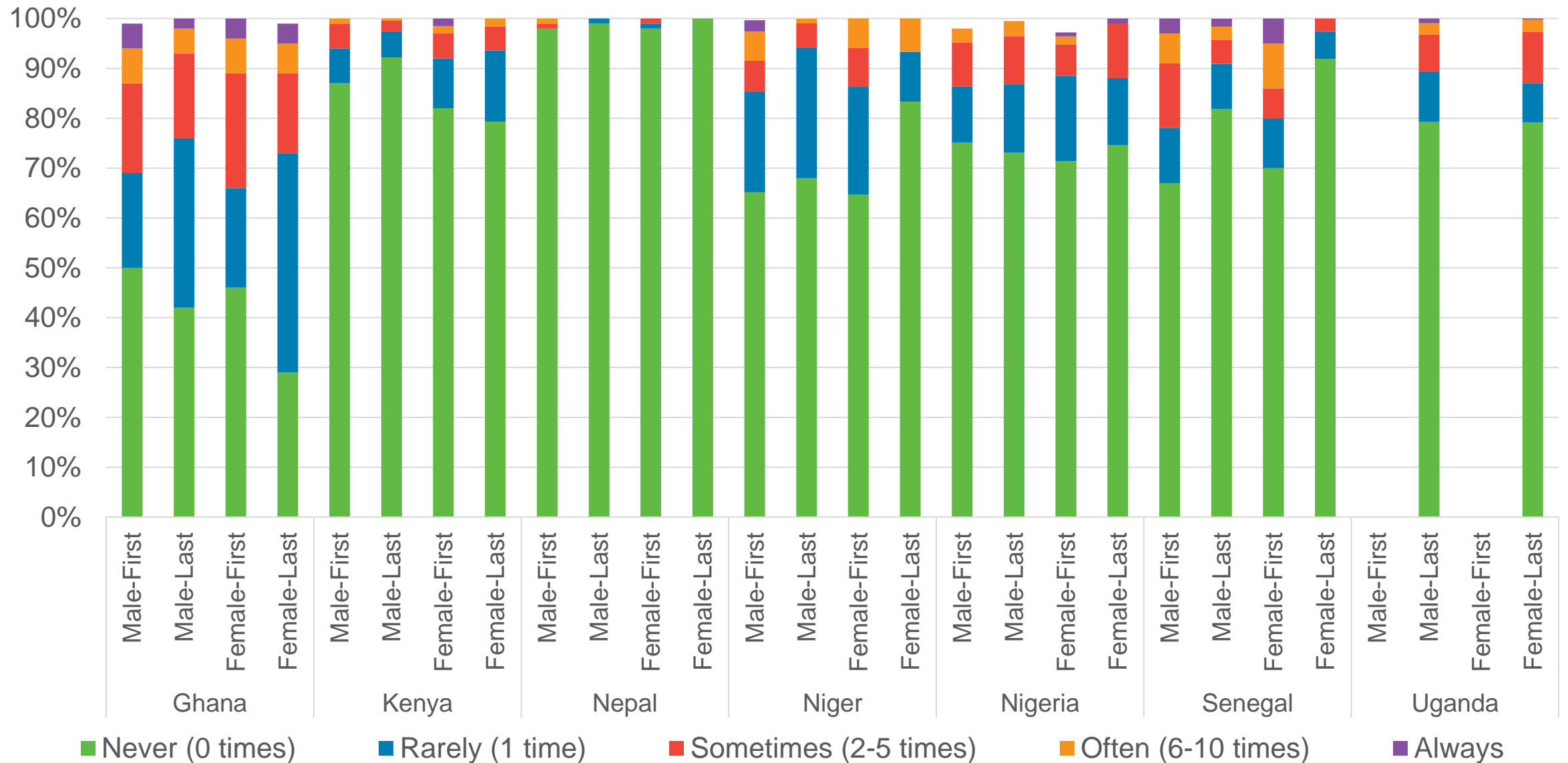
Share of Women with Adequate Diet (5 out of 10 Food Groups Consumed)



Water Security During the Pandemic—Share of Respondents Who Worried they Would Not Have Enough Water



In the last 2 weeks, how frequently have you or anyone in your household had to go without washing hands because of problems with water?



Key Conclusions-Income Losses and Coping Strategies

- **Income shocks pervasive also in rural areas**
- **Both men and women** report own income was affected with differences across countries and over time
- **Diverse coping measures** were used, including using savings, borrowing, selling assets, and receiving transfers.
 - Use of savings declined between first and last round while selling assets and borrowing increased
 - Both men's and women's savings and assets were used with trends varying across countries
 - Few transfers were received with the exception of Senegal which then declined dramatically in the last round.
- The long-term impacts of the loss of savings, indebtedness and asset sales can be severe and need to be further studied

Key Conclusions

- **Access to food changed** for about two thirds of all survey participants and women generally reporting larger challenges
- **Worry about food high especially among women:** A majority of men and women respondents in most countries worried they would not have enough food
- **Dietary adequacy for women** very poor in Niger and declining in Senegal between the first and last round
- **Poor WASH environments affecting fighting Covid-19** More than half of female survey participants and about half of male participants in northern Ghana do not have water for washing hands after defecating, changing diapers, cleaning animal dung; between 20% and one third in Niger, Nigeria, Senegal, and Uganda.

Early Suggestions for Policy Interventions

- Immediately address income shocks and food insecurity challenges that affect rural households through food banks, food-for-work or other programs that target poorer rural households
- Consider credit support programs at highly favorable rates as well as rural asset development programs (f. ex. through food-for-work) to counteract potential long-term indebtedness of rural households due to income shocks
- Target asset-building programs to women particularly in places where women's income losses are high and/or women's savings and assets are being drawn down
- Immediately address the critical WASH environment situation in northern Ghana, but also Niger, Nigeria, Senegal and Uganda