



Green Jobs Kick-Off Workshop in the Arab States: Lebanon Case Study

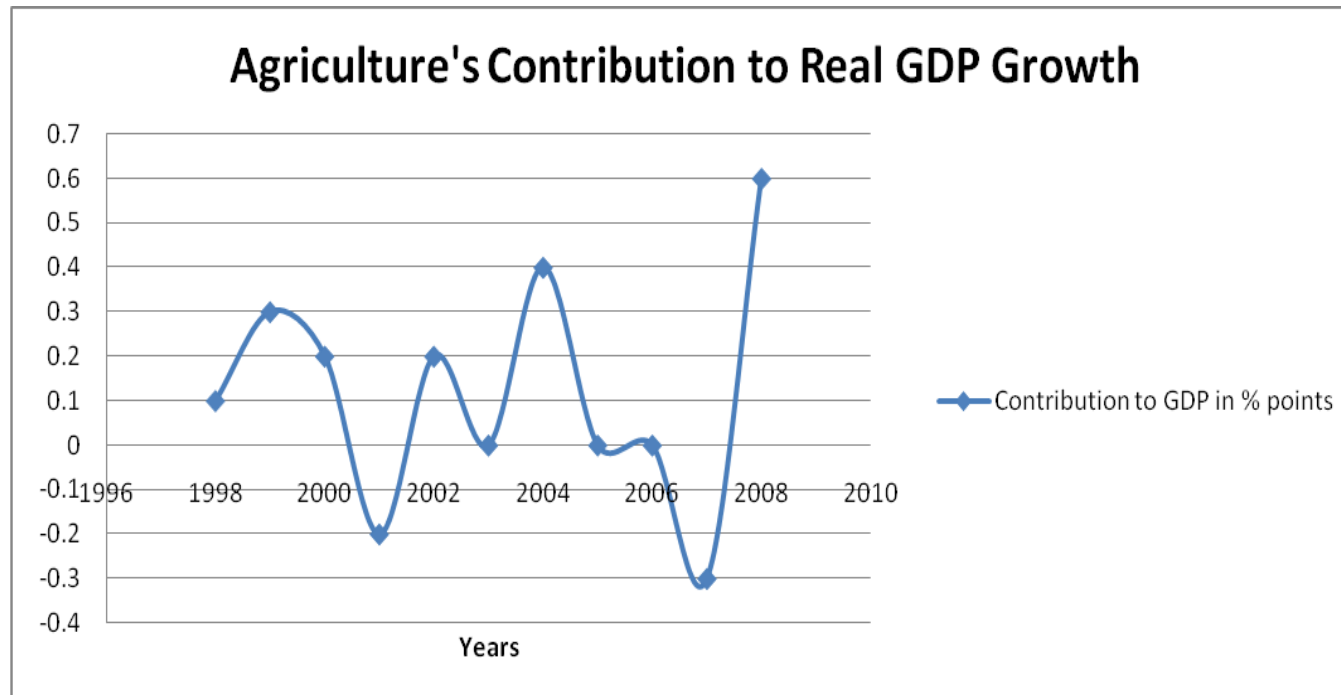
Agriculture and Forestry

Beirut, UN-House
July 28-29, 2011

Agricultural and Forestry Sectors

An Overview

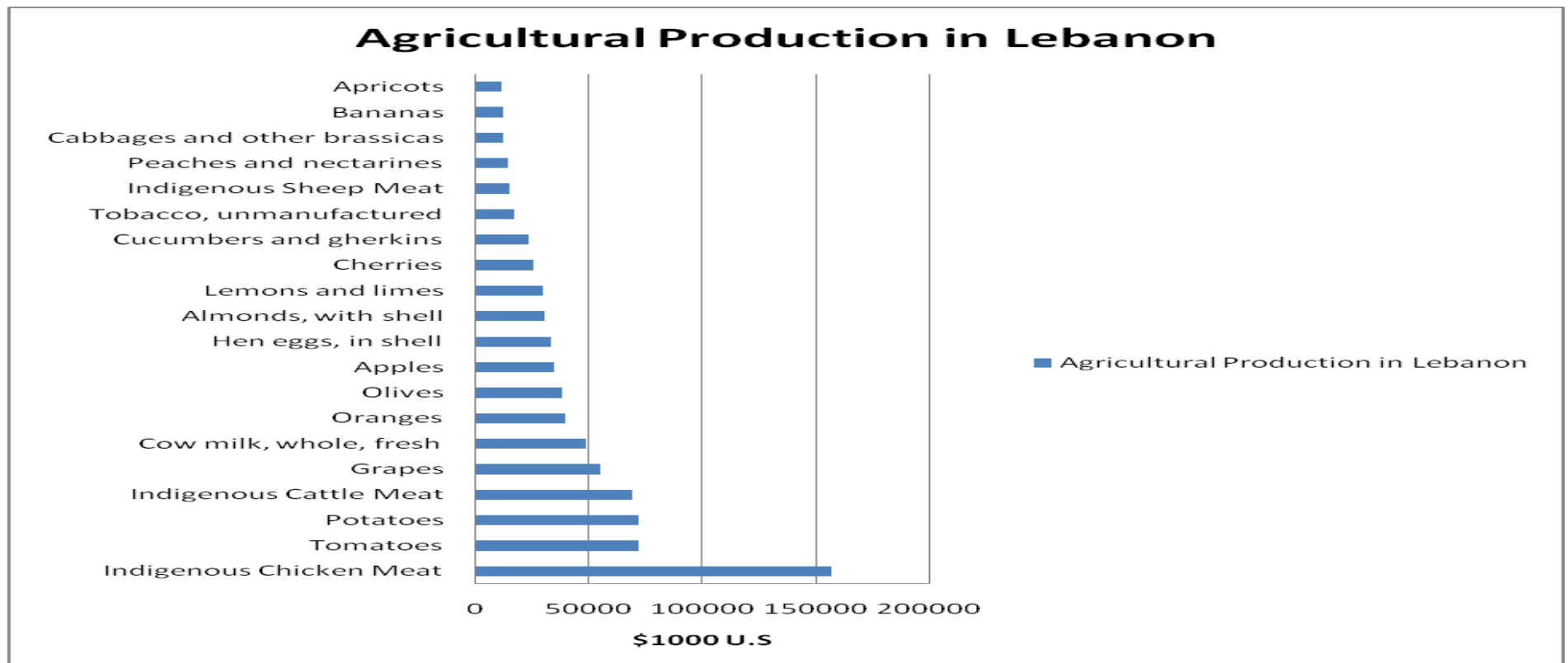
- Agriculture sector:



- 9% of Lebanese Workforce

Overview (cont.)

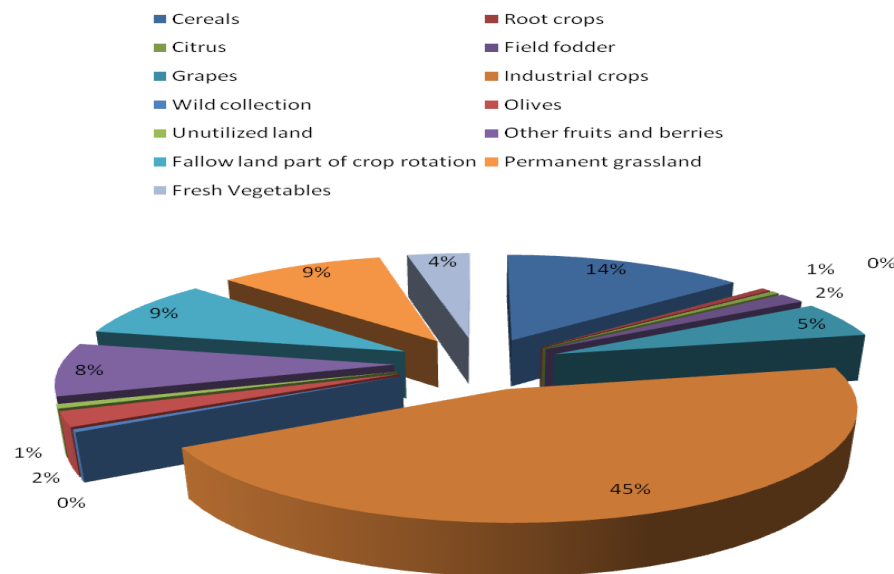
- Agriculture sector:
 - Cultivated area has been constant throughout the last years
 - 42% irrigated
 - Beqaa Valley accounts for 42% of agricultural land



Overview (cont.)

- Organic Agriculture:

Percentage of cultivated organic area by type of crop



=>Prices very high

=>Two certifying bodies (Liban Cert and IMC-Liban)

=>50-70% of Organic Products Imported

Overview (cont.)

- Forestry:
 - 13% of Lebanon covered by forests and woodlands (including burnt forests)
 - Yearly devastating fires (1200 Ha lost to fires every year)
 - Other dangers (insects, diseases etc...)
 - 10,000 FE workers

Impact on the Environment

- Agricultural sector responsible for 5.76% of GHG emissions in 2000.
- => Air Pollution cost 0.7-1.3% of GDP in 2000.
- => At least 350 Lebanese die prematurely due to urban air pollution
- Agriculture is largest consumer of water in Lebanon = 60-70% (agriculture area under irrigation has doubled from early 1960s to late 1990s)

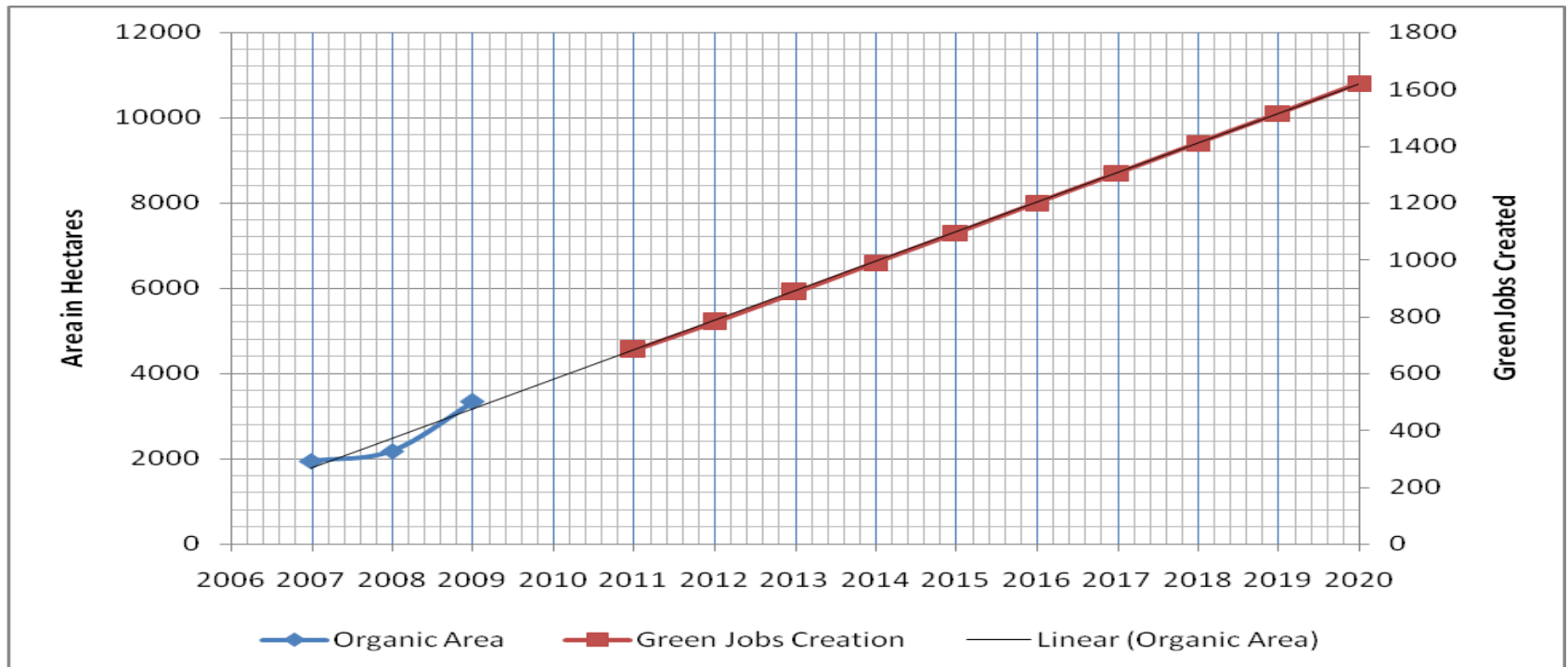
Findings

Potential For Green Jobs Creation

- Current Number of Green Jobs (mainly in organic agriculture) based on UNDP phone interview and extrapolation:

≈ 700 (counted as 683)

- In 2020? => 20% Reforestation Plan by 2030 by MoA +



Findings

16,500 Green Jobs

Organic Agriculture $\approx$ 1,500-1,600

Reforestation $\approx$ 15,000

Current Impediments and Limits (cont.)

- **Organic Agriculture:**
 - High Prices of Organic Products
 - Marketing Failure
 - Lack of Targets, Policies and Strategies Promoting Organic Agriculture
 - Skill Shortages
- **Forestry:**
 - Lack of awareness by the Lebanese to the importance of forests and the causes of fires
 - Fires
 - Lack of accountability and legal actions against arsonists
 - Underdeveloped ecotourism industry

Recommendations

- Comprehensive and coordinated national employment and environmental policy to promote organic farming and reforestation
- Capacity building, education and training in organic agriculture and IPM
- Adoption of the National Standards for Organic Farming by the GoL
National awareness and marketing campaign on the health and environmental benefits of organic products
- Promotion of eco-tourism in Lebanon's forests