# Informality at a glance Snapshot by country

### Regional Course on Informality:

Definitions, Measurement, SDGs and Other Policy Indicators

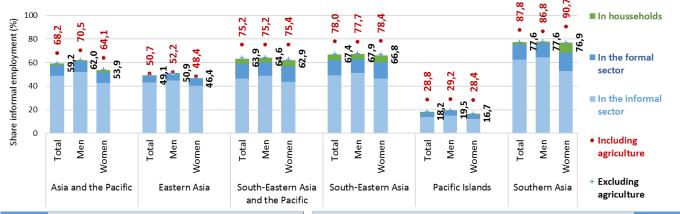
16-20 October 2017, Chiba, Japan

Less than 20% 120-33.3% 33-49% 50-74.9% 175-89%



### Asia and the Pacific — A regional profile

#### G1 Share of informal employment in and outside of the informal sector



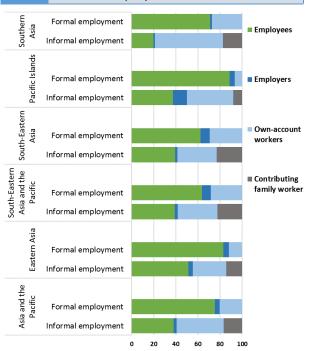
Asia & the Pacific

**Eastern Asia** 

South-Eastern Asia and

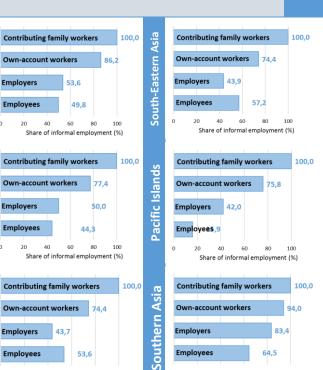
the Pacific

# G2 Composition if informal employment by status in employment



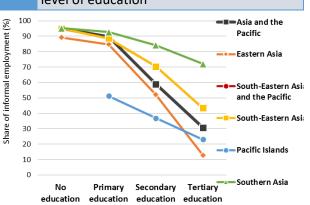
### Informal employment by employment status

G3



### G4 Composition of informal employment by level of education

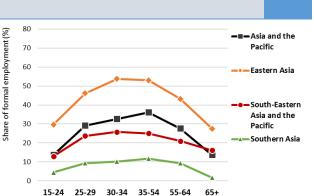
Composition (%)



### The age profile of formality

Share of informal employment (%)

G5

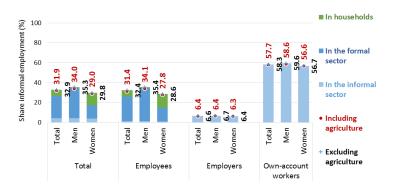


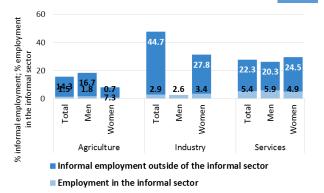
Asia and the Pacific	Asia and the Pacific	Without China	Eastern Asia	Without China	South-Eastern Asia and the	South-Eastern Asia	Pacific Islands	Southern Asia
Informal employment (including agriculture)	68.2	77,6	50.7	26,6	75,2	78,0	28,8	87,8
In the informal sector		65,5		21,5	57,4	59,4	22,6	77,4
in the formal sector		7,4		4,3	9,7	10,0	4,4	6,9
in households	-	4,2		0,8	6,9	7,2	1,7	3,5
	_,_	.,_	0,=	0,0	0,0	- ,=	_,,	0,0
Employment in the informal sector	58,9	66,1	44,9	23,2	57,7	59,5	27,3	77,8
Informal employment (excluding agriculture)	59,2	64,8	49,1	21,7	63,9	67,4	18,2	77,6
In the informal sector	48,9	50,5	43,0	16,4	46,6	49,1	13,7	62,5
in the formal sector	8,8	11,2	6,0	4,5	12,2	12,8	3,9	12,7
in households	1,4	2,8	0,1	0,9	4,7	5,0	0,5	2,4
Employment in the informal sector (excluding agriculture)	49,4	51,4	43,2	18,1	47,1	49,3	19,3	63,3
Informal employment rate by:								
Sex								
Male		78,4		25,4	75,2		29,2	86,8
excluding agriculture		67,3		20,5	64,6	67,9	19,5	77,6
Female		48,4		28,3	75,4	78,4	28,4	90,7
excluding agriculture	53,9	58,6	46,4	23,2	62,9	66,8	16,7	76,9
Ago								
Age Youth (15-24)	86,3		70.2		97 N	97.0		OF F
Adults (25+)	67,1		70,3 49,5		87,0 76,0	89,6		95,5 89,6
25-29	70,8		53,8		76,3	76,3		90,6
30-34	67,3		46,2			70,3 74,2		89,8
35-54	63,8		47,0		74,9	74,2 74,9		88,3
55-64	72,4		56,8		79,1			90,6
65+	86,3		72,4		83,9			98,3
	00,0		, _, .		00,5	00,5		30,3
Highest level of education								
No education	94,9		89,2		95,0	95,0		95,2
Primary education	89,7		84,8		88,7	88,7	51,3	92,7
Secondary education	58,9		52,1		70,3	70,4	36,8	84,2
Tertiary education	30,7		12,8		43,5	43,5	23,0	72,0
Residence area								
Rural	85,2		80,4			75,9		92,8
Urban	47,4		32,9		55,3	58,8	16,3	75,1
Industrial sectors	04.7	06.0	02.2	00.0	04.7	04.0	06.3	00.3
Agriculture		96,9		88,6		91,9		99,3
Industry		71,1		25,3			15,4	81,9
Services	54,1	60,9	46,1	20,2	bU,b	64,3	19,6	75,7

Extent and composition of informal employment (including **G1** & excluding agriculture)

Employment in the informal sector and informal employment outside of the informal sector by industrial sector

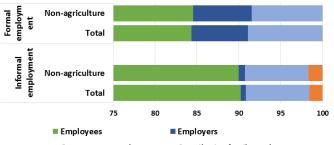
G<sub>2</sub>

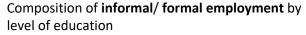




#### Who are those in informal employment

Composition of informal/formal employment by G3 status in employment





Employees: Informa

Employers: Informal Formal

Own-account: Informal Formal

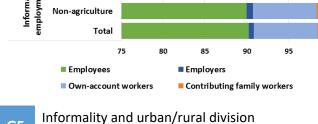
Contributing family: Informal

■ No education

■ Tertiary education



**G4** 



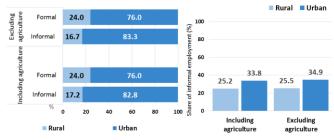


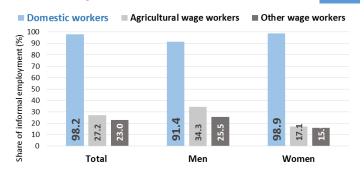
Other



100







20

■ Primary education

40

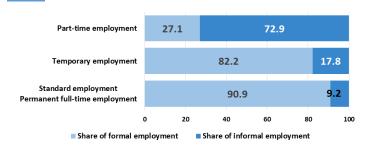
60

80

Secondary education

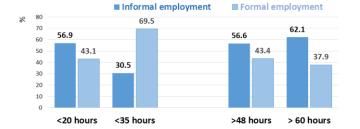
#### Additional indicators

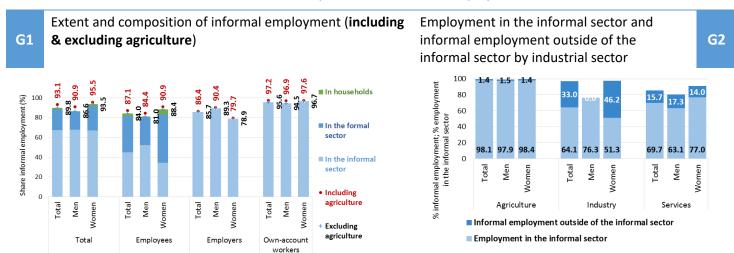
Informality & working conditions Informal **G7** employment & non-standard employment (employees)



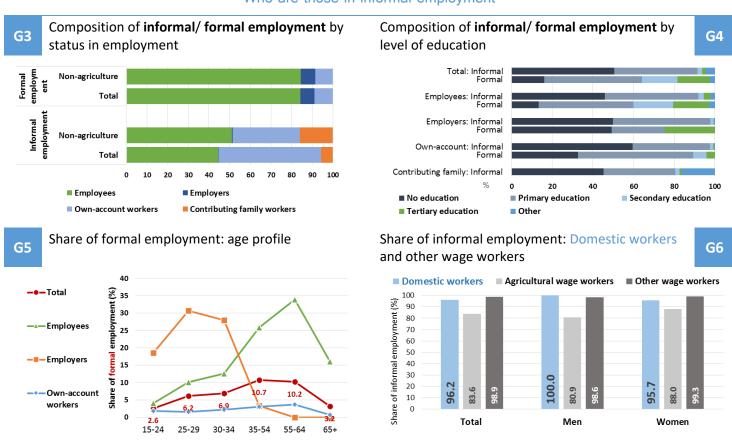
#### Working time and informality

G8

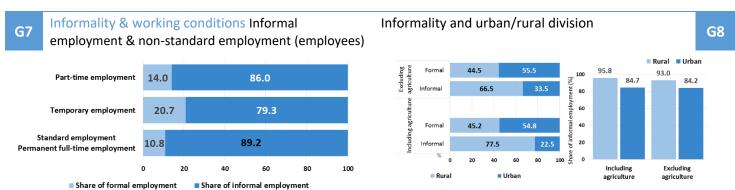


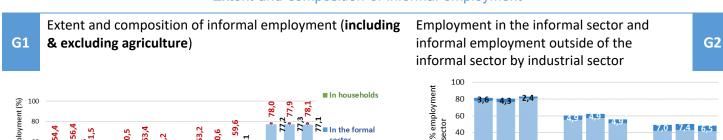


#### Who are those in informal employment

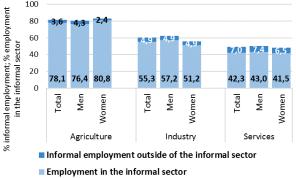


#### Additional indicators









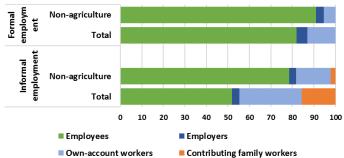
#### Who are those in informal employment

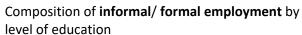
■ No education

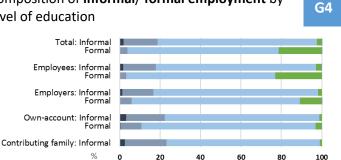
■ Tertiary education

workers



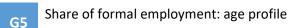


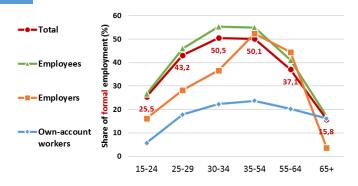




Secondary education

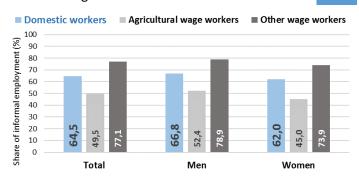
G<sub>6</sub>





Share of informal employment: Domestic workers and other wage workers

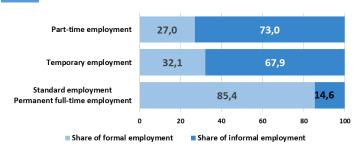
■ Primary education



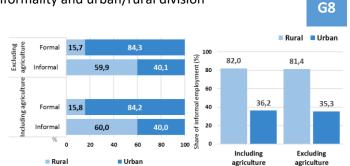
#### Additional indicators

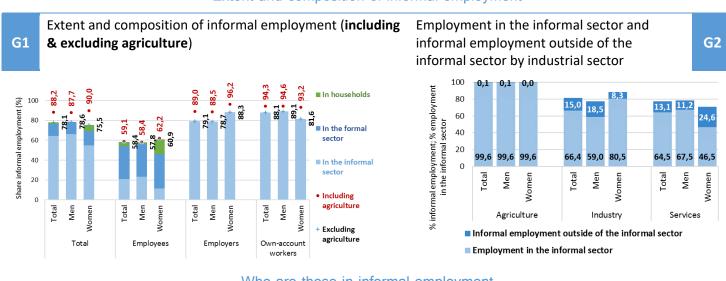
#### Informality & working conditions Informal employment & non-standard employment (employees)

**G7** 

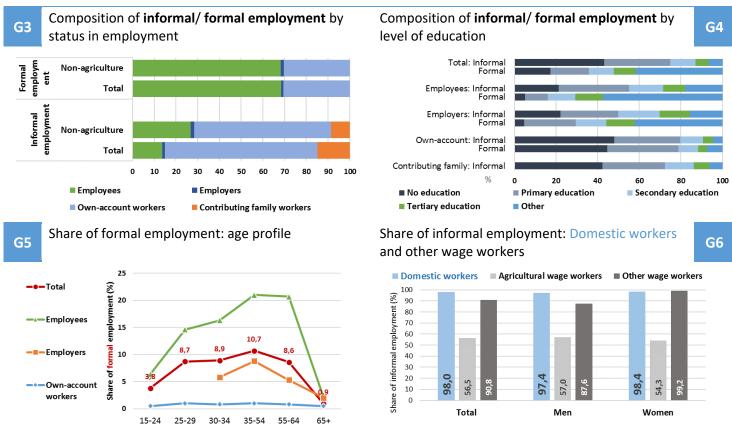


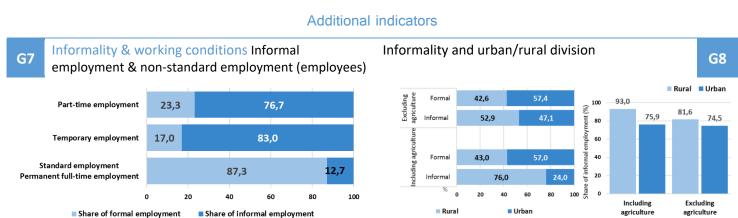
#### Informality and urban/rural division

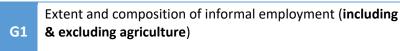




#### Who are those in informal employment







**Employers** 

Employment in the informal sector and informal employment outside of the informal sector by industrial sector

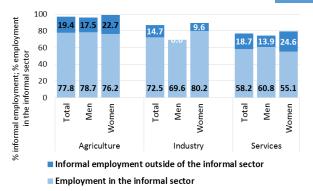
G2

**G4** 

100

G6

Secondary education



Who are those in informal employment

 Including agriculture

Excluding

agriculture

Men

Own-account

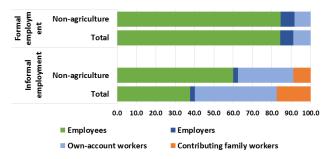
# Composition of informal/ formal employment by status in employment

Employees

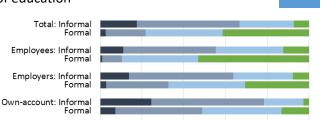
Share informal employment (%)

Fotal

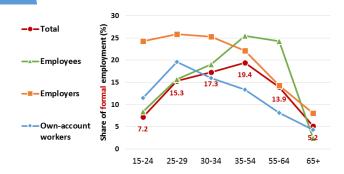
Total



### Composition of **informal/ formal employment** by level of education



Share of formal employment: age profile

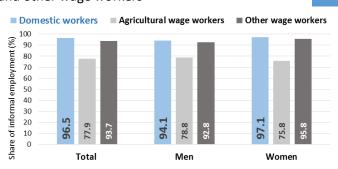


# Share of informal employment: Domestic workers and other wage workers

Contributing family: Informal

■ No education

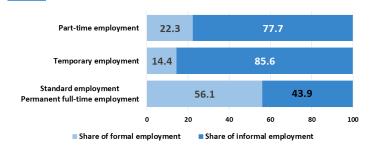
■ Tertiary education



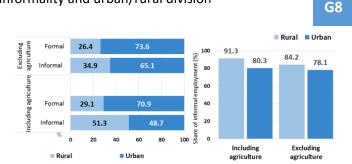
■ Primary education

Additional indicators

# Informality & working conditions Informal employment & non-standard employment (employees)



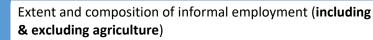
#### Informality and urban/rural division



Informality profile

**G1** 

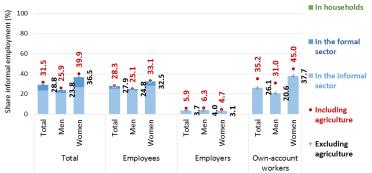
#### Extent and composition of informal employment

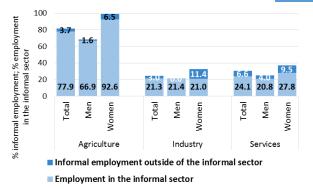


& excluding agriculture)

Employment in the informal sector and informal employment outside of the informal sector by industrial sector

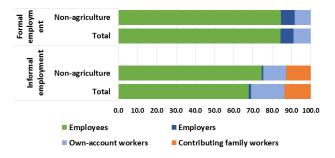






#### Who are those in informal employment

### Composition of informal/ formal employment by status in employment

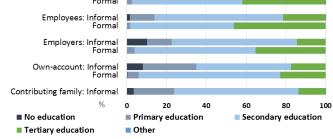


### Composition of **informal/ formal employment** by level of education

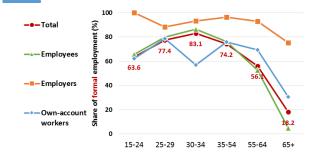
Total: Informa



**G4** 

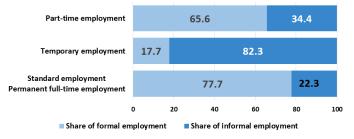


### G5 Share of formal employment: age profile



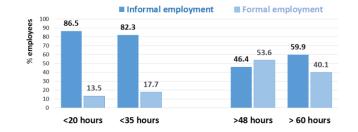
### Informality & working conditions Informal employment & non-standard employment (employees)





#### Additional indicators

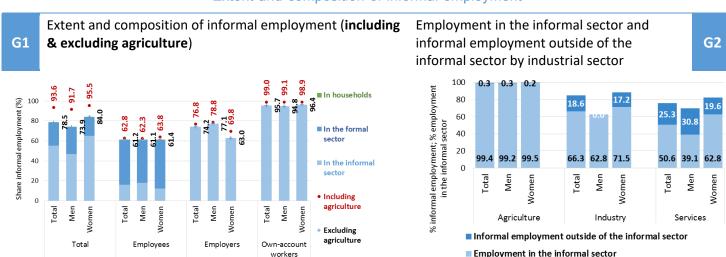
#### G7 Informality & working time (employees)

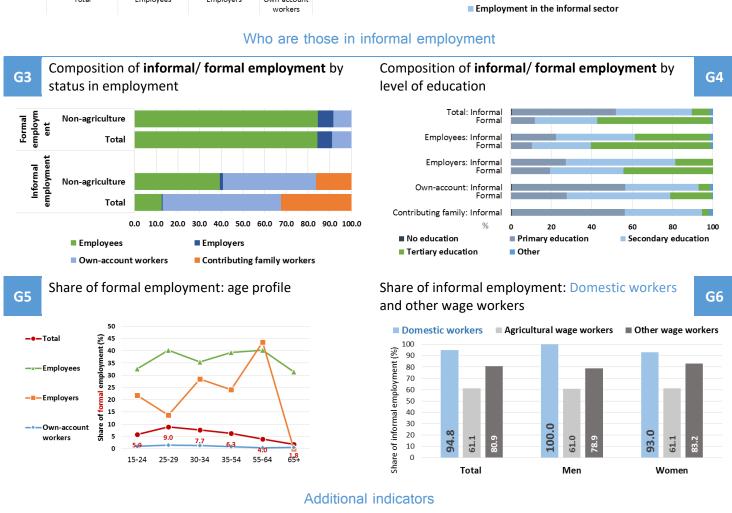


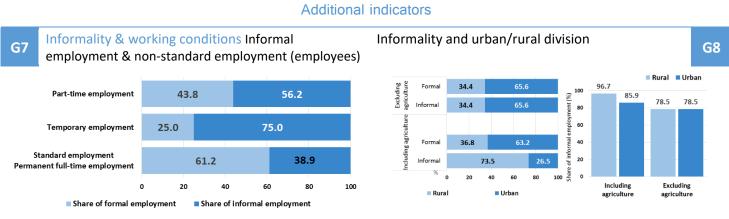
#### Informality and working time (total employment)

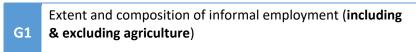








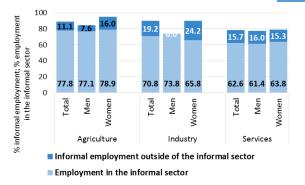




Employment in the informal sector and informal employment outside of the informal sector by industrial sector

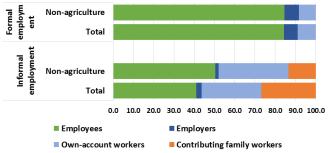
G<sub>2</sub>

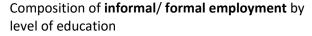




#### Who are those in informal employment

#### Composition of informal/formal employment by G3 status in employment





Total: Informal

Employees: Informa Employers: Informal

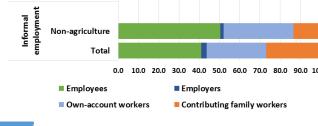
Own-account: Informal Formal Contributing family: Informal

■ No education

■ Tertiary education

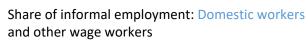


**G4** 



Share of formal employment: age profile

G5

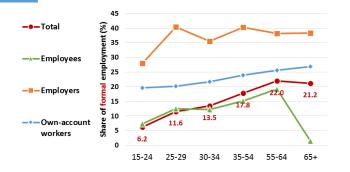


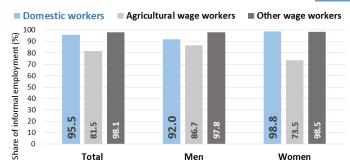
Other



100

Secondary education



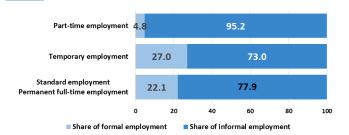


20

■ Primary education

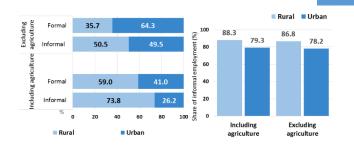
#### Additional indicators

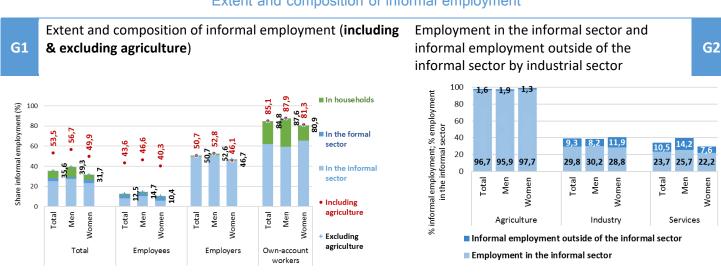
#### Informality & working conditions Informal **G7** employment & non-standard employment (employees)



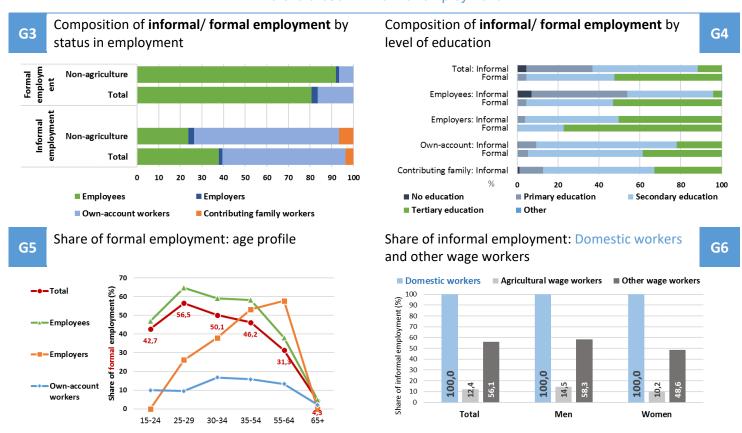
#### Informality and urban/rural division



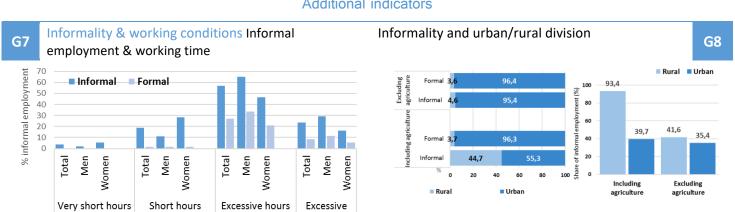


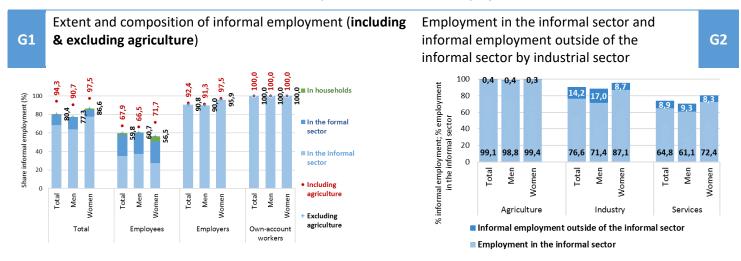


#### Who are those in informal employment

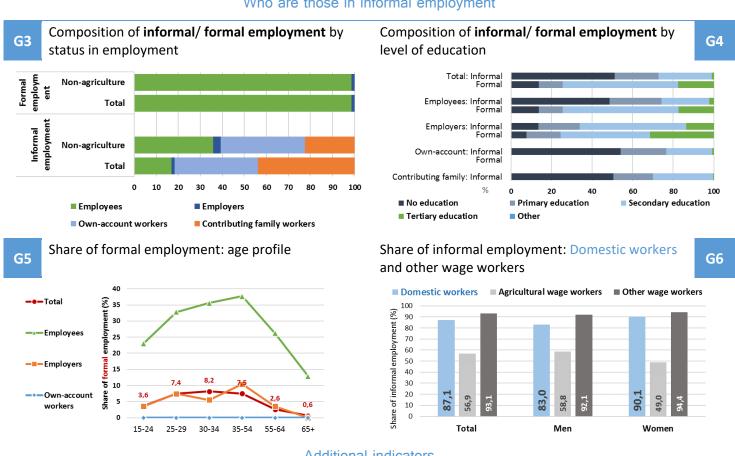


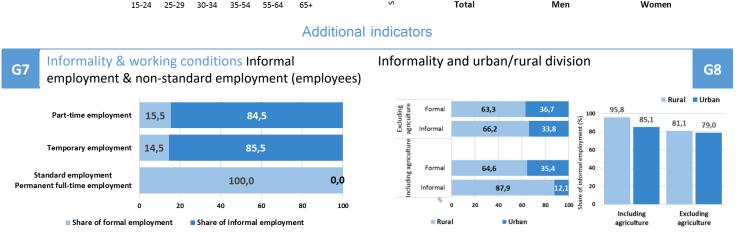
#### Additional indicators



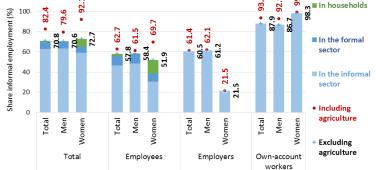


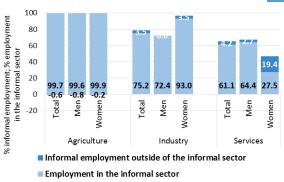
#### Who are those in informal employment



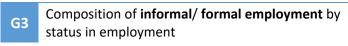


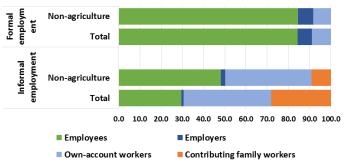


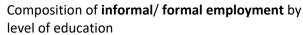




#### Who are those in informal employment









G4



G5

Share of formal employment: age profile



Total: Informa

Employees: Informa

Own-account: Informal Formal

Contributing family: Informal

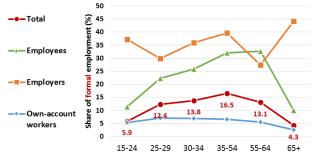
■ No education

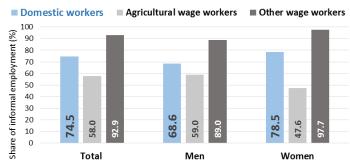
■ Tertiary education



100

Secondary education



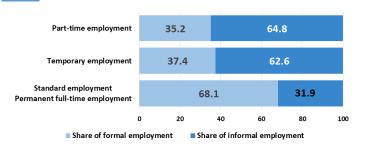


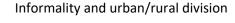
■ Primary education

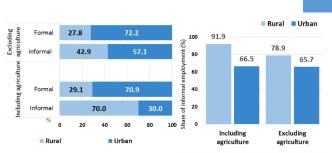
Other

#### Additional indicators

#### Informality & working conditions Informal **G7** employment & non-standard employment (employees)









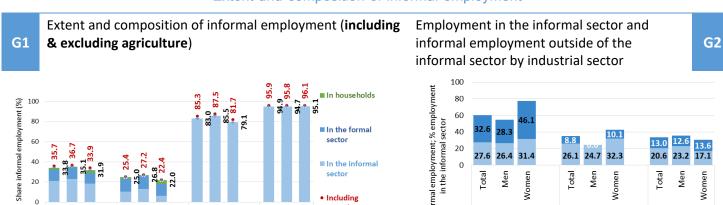
20

Fotal

20.6 23.2

26.1 24.7

#### Extent and composition of informal employment

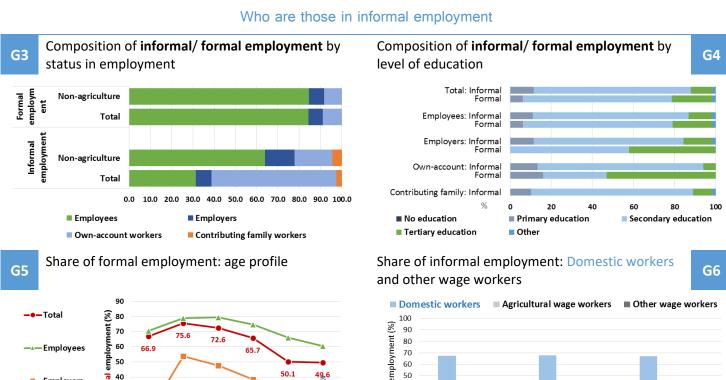


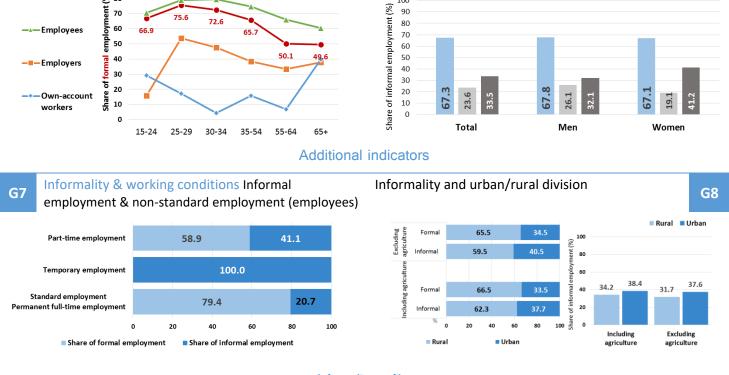
■ In the informal sector

 Including agriculture 20 27.6 26.4

Fotal

Fotal Men Men + Excluding Informal employment outside of the informal sector agriculture Total Employees Employers Own-account Employment in the informal sector workers





Fotal Men

Total

Employees

30

20

10

25-29

30-34

35-54

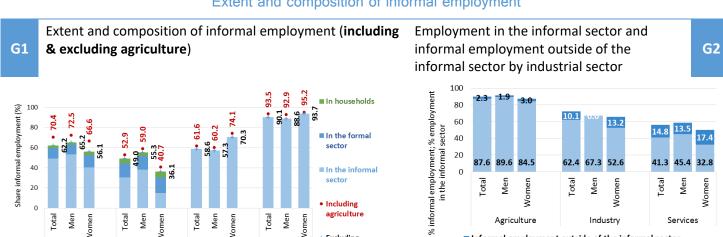
55-64

—■—Employers

Own-account

workers

#### Extent and composition of informal employment



sector

 Including agriculture

Men

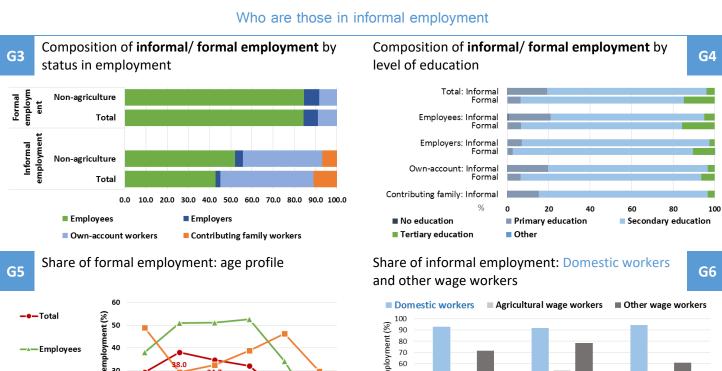
Employers

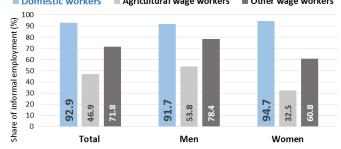
+ Excluding ■ Informal employment outside of the informal sector agriculture Own-account ■ Employment in the informal sector workers

Total

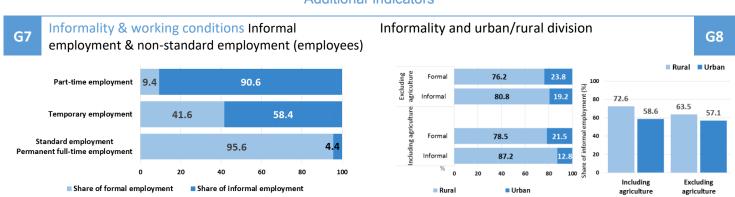
Agriculture

otal





#### Additional indicators

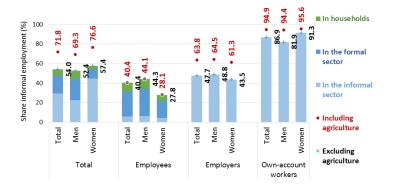


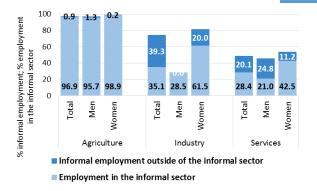
G1 Extent and composition of informal employment (including & excluding agriculture)

Employment in the informal sector and informal employment outside of the informal sector by industrial sector

G2

**G4** 



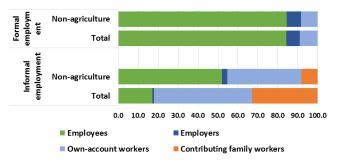


#### Who are those in informal employment

■ No education

■ Tertiary education

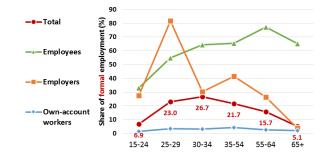
Composition of informal/ formal employment by status in employment



Composition of **informal/ formal employment** by level of education

Total: Informal Formal Employees: Informal Formal Own-account: Informal Formal Formal

G5 Share of formal employment: age profile



**G7** 

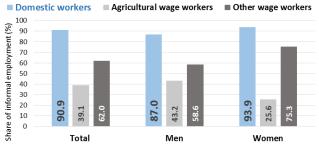
Share of informal employment: Domestic workers and other wage workers

Other

■ Primary education

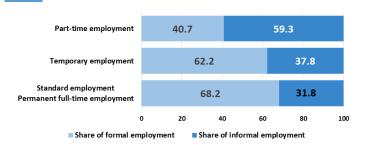
ers

G<sub>6</sub>

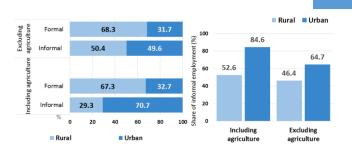


#### Additional indicators

Informality & working conditions Informal employment & non-standard employment (employees)



#### Informality and urban/rural division



G8

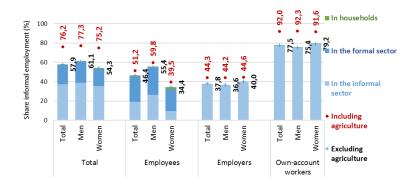
**G1** 

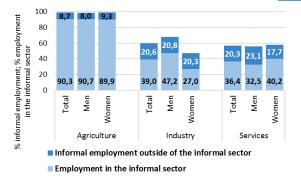
#### Extent and composition of informal employment

Extent and composition of informal employment (including & excluding agriculture)

Employment in the informal sector and informal employment outside of the informal sector by industrial sector

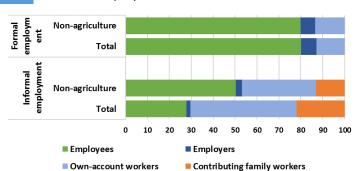
G<sub>2</sub>





#### Who are those in informal employment

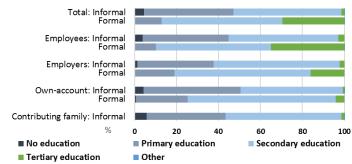
Composition of informal/ formal employment by G3 status in employment



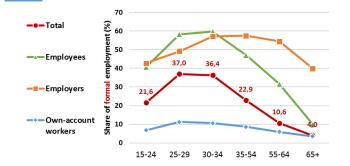
Composition of informal/ formal employment by level of education

G6

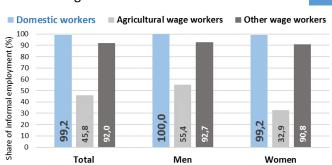
G4



Share of formal employment: age profile G5

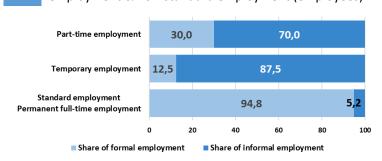


Share of informal employment: Domestic workers and other wage workers



Additional indicators

Informality & working conditions Informal **G7** employment & non-standard employment (employees)



Informality and urban/rural division

■ Rural ■ Urban Formal 85,3 80 65,9 55,0 60 48.8 40 Formal 43.3 20 20 Including agriculture Excluding agriculture



G8

Informality profile

# International and operational definitions of informal employment and employment in the informal sector

#### A. Employment in the informal sector

The international standards distinguish between *employment in the informal sector* and *informal employment*. Employment in the informal sector is an enterprise-based concept and it is defined in terms of the characteristics of the place of work of the worker. By contrast, informal employment is a job-based concept and it is defined in terms of the employment relationship and protections associated to the job of the worker.

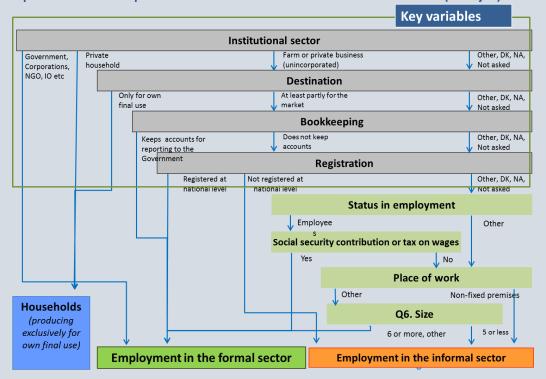
According to the international standards adopted by the 15<sup>th</sup> International Conference of Labour Statisticians, the informal sector is a subset of unincorporated enterprises not constituted as separate legal entities independently of their owners. They are owned by individual household members, or several members of the same or different households. Typically, they are operating at a low level of organization, on a small scale and with little or no division between labour and capital as factors of production.

In order to allow international comparisons, the ILO adopted a harmonized operational definition of employment in the informal sector using the following criteria:

o Government/ public Institutional sector (government/ public enterprises/ NGOs; private sector; households). The "institutional sector" is meant to separate persons working in government, public and corporations, NGOs and private corporations, non-governmental and international organizations, and other INGOs => Formal sector institutions clearly recognized as belonging to the formal sector. It also serves to identify O Households => Households persons working in private households producing wholly for own final. OPrivate economic units => Next criteria Final destination of production: the purpose of the second criterion "destination" o Produce at least partially for sales on the market => is to exclude from the scope of informal sector persons working in a farm or Next criteria private business (unincorporated enterprise) where the main intended destination o If final use only => of the production is wholly for own final use. Households Registration of the economic unit under national legislation (in the process of o If registered to relevant institution(s) => Formal registration is considered as not registered). This includes registration with social sector security authorities, sales or income tax authorities and should be at a national o If not registered / missing/ level. It identifies enterprises that are similar to corporations (quasi-corporations) don't know => Next criteria and therefore outside the scope of the informal sector. The appropriate forms of registration relevant to the concept of informal sector should be examined in the national context. Bookkeeping: whether the economic unit maintain a set of accounts required by o If formal bookkeeping => Formal sector law (e.g., balance sheets) or keeps some official accounts. The information on o If no formal bookkeeping / bookkeeping practices of the farm or private unincorporated enterprise has as missing/don't know => objective to identify whether the economic unit is constituted as separate a legal Next criteria (alternative entity independently of their owners. approach) Alternative criteria applied only in case criteria 3 and 4 are missing (no question/ no answer / don't know) o If contributing to social For employees: Contribution of employer (and employee) to social security or security (preferably for alternatively declaration of labour income (ex: does the employer contribute to pensions) => Formal sector social security or declare labour income in order to pay income tax?) No, Other, No answer, Don't know => Next criteria Size: differentiate between units 5 or less workers and those with more than 5 o If unit have more than 5 workers and is located in workers engaged/employed on a continuous basis. fixed visible premises => Location of workplace: Differentiate among economic units that are located in the Formal sector owners' dwelling, in the street, in construction sites, in agricultural plots, that are o If below 6 or not in fixed itinerant, etc. and economic units that have fixed visible premises, such as offices, premises => Informal sector factories, etc.

<sup>&</sup>lt;sup>1</sup> ILO, *Resolution concerning the measurement of employment in the informal sector*, Fifteenth International Conference of Labour Statisticians (ICLS), Geneva, 1993.

#### Criteria and sequence used in the operational harmonized definition of the informal sector (main job) as follows:



#### B. Informal employment

In contrast to the concept of informal sector that refers to production units as observation units, the concept of informal employment refers to jobs as observation units.<sup>2 3</sup> In the case of own-account workers and employers, the informal employment status of the job is determined by the informal sector nature of the enterprise. Thus, own-account workers (without hired workers) operating an informal enterprise are classified as in informal employment. Similarly, employers (with hired workers) operating an informal enterprise are classified as in informal employment. All contributing family workers are classified as having informal employment, irrespective of whether they work in formal or informal sector enterprises.

In the case of employees, informal employment is defined in terms of the employment relationship. According to the international standards, for a job held by an employee to be considered as informal, the employment relationship should not, in law or in practice, be subject to national labour legislation, income taxation, social protection or entitlement to certain employment benefits (advance notice of dismissal, severance pay, paid annual or sick leave, etc.). In practice, the formal or informal nature of a job held by an employee is determined on the basis of operational criteria such as social security contribution by the employer, and entitlement to paid sick leave and paid annual leave.

Criteria adopted for harmonized ILO estimates of informal employment:

- The starting point is the status in employment of the person.
  - If the person is reported as a contributing family worker, no further questions are required and the person is classified as having an informal job.
  - 2) If the person is recorded as an employer, or own-account worker, or member of a producer's cooperative, no additional questions are also required and the formal or informal nature of the job is determined according to the formal or informal nature of economic unit of the person. Employers, own-account workers and members of producers' cooperatives with enterprises in the formal sector are classified as having a formal job. Similarly, employers, own-account workers and members of
- Contributing family workersInformal job
- Employers, own-account workers, members of cooperatives => Formal / informal nature of job determined by the formal/ informal nature of the economic unit
- $\circ$  Employees => Next criteria

<sup>&</sup>lt;sup>2</sup> ILO, *Guidelines concerning a statistical definition of informal employment*, Seventeenth International Conference of Labour Statisticians, Geneva, 2003.

<sup>&</sup>lt;sup>3</sup> Hussmanns, Ralf, *Measuring the informal economy: From employment in the informal sector to informal employment*, Working paper No. 53, ILO Policy Integration Department, Bureau of Statistics, Geneva, December 2004.

- producers' cooperatives with enterprises in the informal sector are classified as having an informal job. If the enterprise is a household enterprise or a private business producing wholly for own or family use, the owner is also classified as having an informal job.

  3) The statistical treatment of 'employees' and 'not stated' is however different and depends on the criteria of social security contribution by employer or alternatively to entitlements to paid annual leave and paid
- 2 For employees

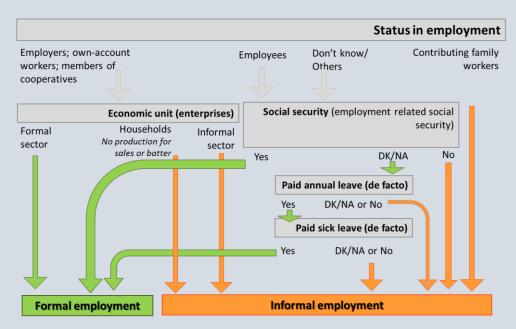
sick leave.

- Contribution to a social security (pension) scheme by the employer (complementing the employee's contribution) is the option most commonly used in countries and the one applied here. It should also be noted that the question is whether the employer makes contribution on behalf of the employee to the scheme, and NOT whether the employee is currently benefitting from the scheme with respect to a previously held job.
- Contribution to social security => Formal job
- No contribution to social security => Informal job
- Don't, No answer => Next criteria
- Entitlement to and benefit from paid annual leave: Paid annual leave refers to paid vacation time, home leave, festival leave, obsequies leave, or other casual leave. In some cases, the employee may get paid compensation for some types of unused leave that has been accumulated. Such compensation is also included.
- 4 Entitlement to and benefit (when needed) from paid sick leave. Paid sick leave refers to entitlement of being paid by the employer during days that the employee is absent from work due to own illness or injury. Its scope should clearly be defined, particularly, with respect to maternity or paternity leave that may apply paid by sources other the employer under national legislations.

For employees where the information on social security is not available or not relevant (national non-contributory type of scheme being the norm):

- Entitlement to paid annual leave AND paid sick leave
   Formal job
- o Otherwise, informal job

#### Criteria used in the operational harmonized definition of the informal employment (main job):



Those criteria and sequence were applied systematically to more than 100 countries with available data from the national labour force survey or similar national household survey. The main purpose is to allow international comparisons. They may differ from the approach adopted at the national level resulting in slightly different estimates of employment in the informal sector and informal employment.