Impact of Covid-19 on food value chains in West Papua Province, Indonesia
Preliminary findings

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Method
CIFOR and its partner, the Research and Development Agency of West Papua Province, conducted a mixed online and field visit survey among actors in the food value chain in six regencies of West Papua which represent different geographies and states of food security. We circulated a link to an online survey, and combined this effort with visits to markets, distributors, food stalls, farms etc, to ask food value chain actors to participate in the survey, from September to December 2020. Results of the surveys were analyzed using descriptive statistics and exploratory analysis. Comments were analyzed by coding key words and then quantifying the numbers of each keyword stated by respondents.

Introduction
The province of West Papua is ranked among the lowest in food security and vulnerability in Indonesia with more than 20% of the population living under the poverty line. The province is less accessible than other regions because of its mountainous geography, and far distance from the economic center of Indonesia. The study aims to understand the impact of the covid-19 pandemic on the food value chain in West Papua Province.

Findings
Demography
We received valid responses from 423 respondents, 55% of whom were female. More than half (51%) of the participants identified themselves as indigenous Papuans. The roles of the respondents in the value chain, the commodities that they traded and their range of income are described in Figure 1.

Analysis of comments
Analysis of the essay answers or comments from respondents after show and become show.

Strategies for mitigation of impacts
Despite having these difficulties, only a few respondents had a specific strategy to mitigate the disruption; only 18% said they reduced production and stock, 13% said they went looking for new markets, and 11% said they processed less than usual. Other than food-based social assistance, only 12% of respondents had received business support, and mostly from government.

Recommendations
In order to reduce the disruption caused by Covid-19 to the food value chain in West Papua Province, small and medium scale food value chain actors need support. Respondents suggested that financial support would be most helpful for their businesses to get through the pandemic. We also observe that the value chain actors may benefit from business support, such as financial literacy courses, business management during crisis, and the like. Such capacity building may help them become more resilient and help their businesses to survive future crisis. Special attention needs to be given to the Papuan women, who are important actors in the value chain of vegetables in West Papua province, had low income and affected by the pandemic.