



**Welcomes You**

# Theme of the day

- On the march of the Sugar Reforms

***Small Cane-Planters' constraints & possible solutions***



A photograph of a man in a blue shirt and cap working in a sugarcane field. The field is filled with tall, green sugarcane stalks. The man is in the middle ground, slightly to the right, appearing to be engaged in manual labor. The foreground shows a pile of cut sugarcane stalks and some green grass.

## **Definition of small planters**

**Planters cultivating less than 10 hectares (23.7 Arp.) of land**

**(SPWF Act)**

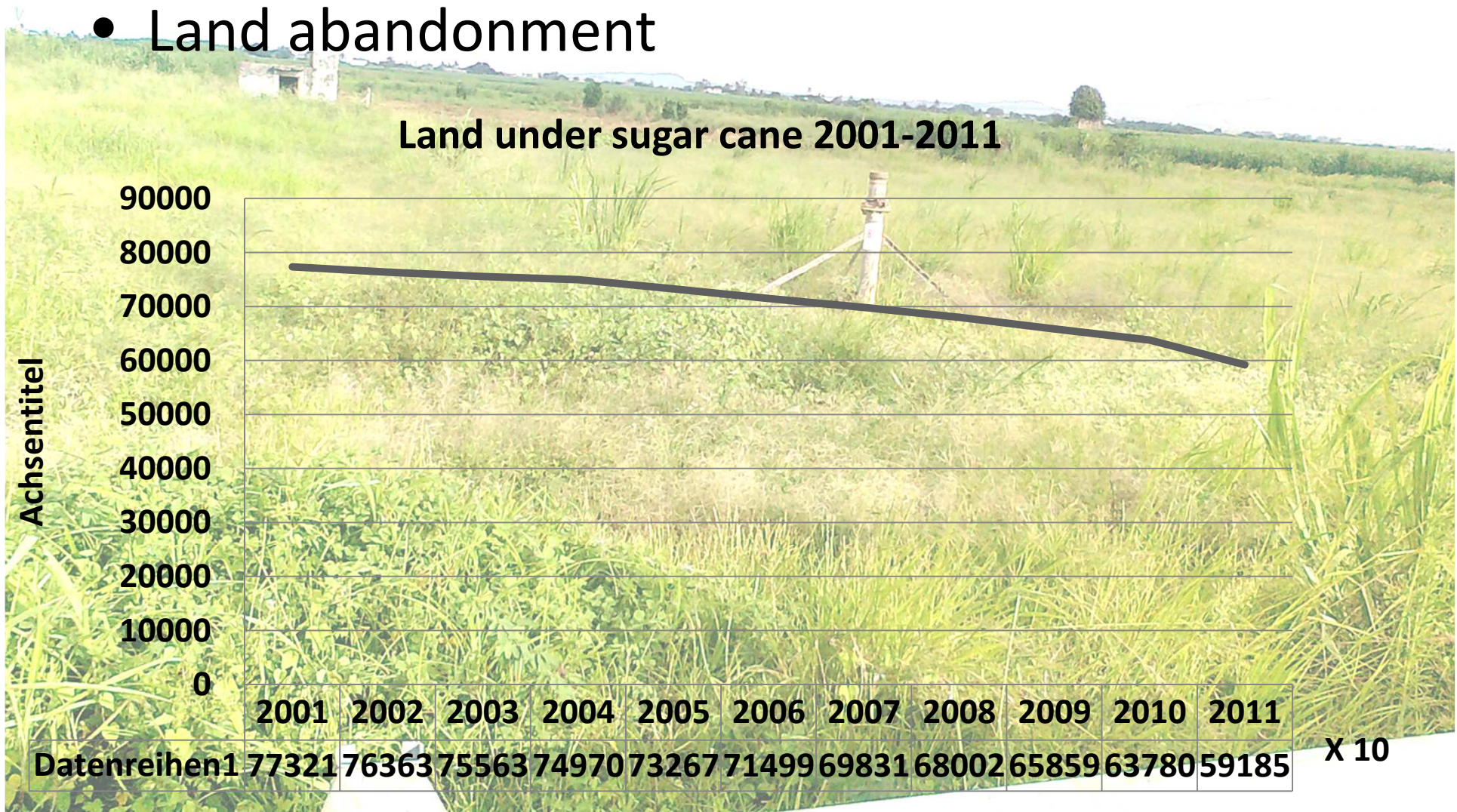
# No. of small planters and their holdings

- Small Planters 2010

Size(hectares)	No. of Planters	Hectares Harvested
Up to 0.250	5441	848
0.251-0.500	5103	2 036
0.501-1.000	5155	3 981
1.001-2.000	2760	3 996
2.001-5.000	1406	4 257
5.001-10.000	234	1 689
Total	20 099	16 807 (FSC)

# Problem No. 1

- Land abandonment



# Cane Plantation abandoned by small farmers 2001-2010

size	No. of Planters	No. of plots	Extent of abandoned plots(H)
00 up to 0.5 Ha	5 453	6 979	1 644
0.5-1.00	1 555	2 072	1 491
1-2	453	654	883
2-5	119	162	434
5-10	6	8	54
Island wise	7 586	9 875	4 506 (SIFB)
			Represent 21.14% of land holding under cane .

# LAND ABANDONED UNDER IRRIGATION







# UNPLANNED INVESTMENT



# NEVER USED INVESTMENT



# Land abandoned by small planters by sector

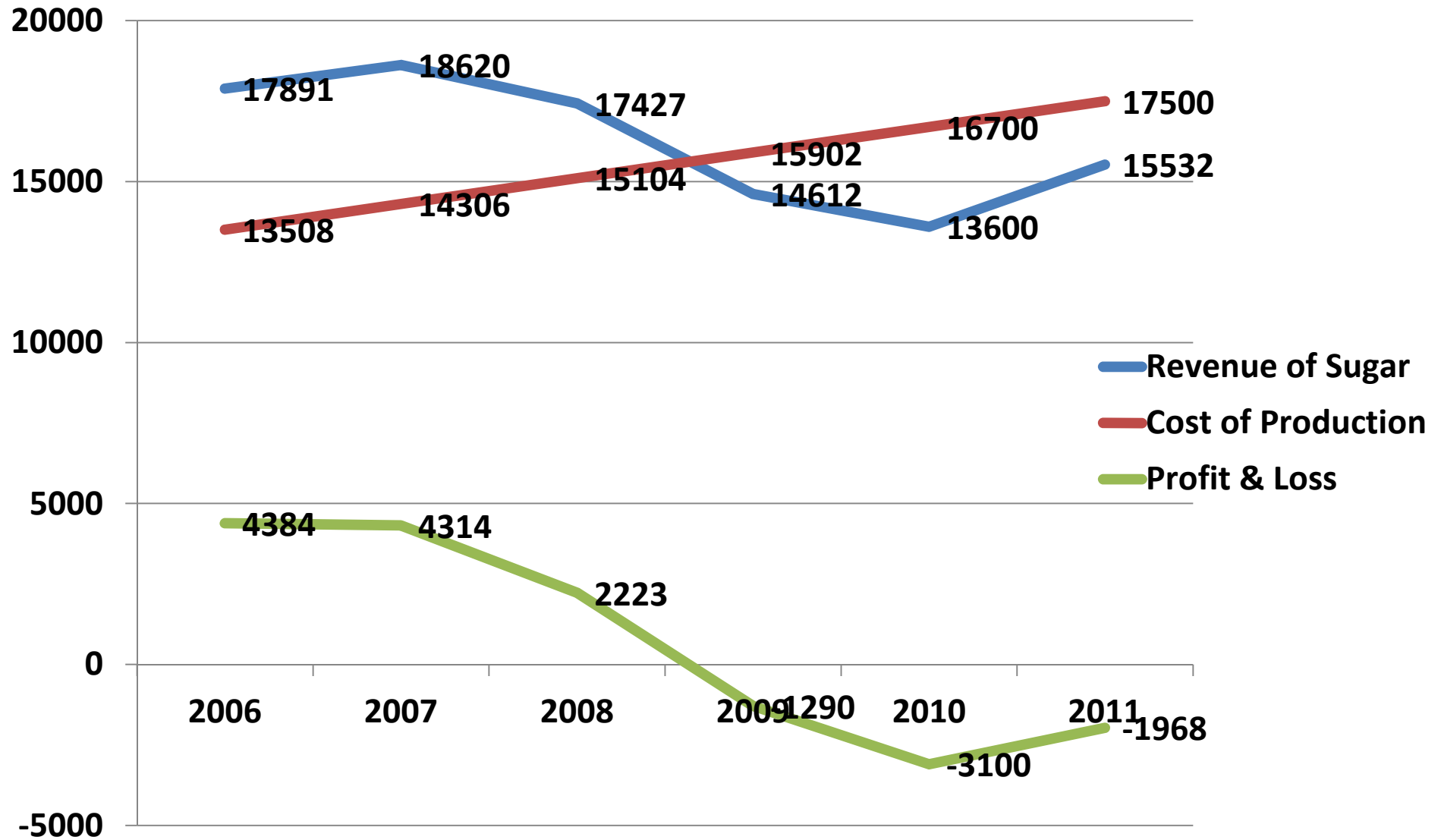
Sector	No. of abandoned Plots	Abandoned Plot extent (Ha)
North	2 685	1 131
South	3 243	1 583
East	2 098	871
Centre/west	1 849	921
Island	9 875	4 506

# QUESTION IS!

- **WHY DO SMALL PLANTERS ABANDON THEIR CANE PLANTATIONS?**



# Cost of Production, Revenue & Differences



# Low rate of return



# Increase in fertilizers, Herbicides and Labour costs



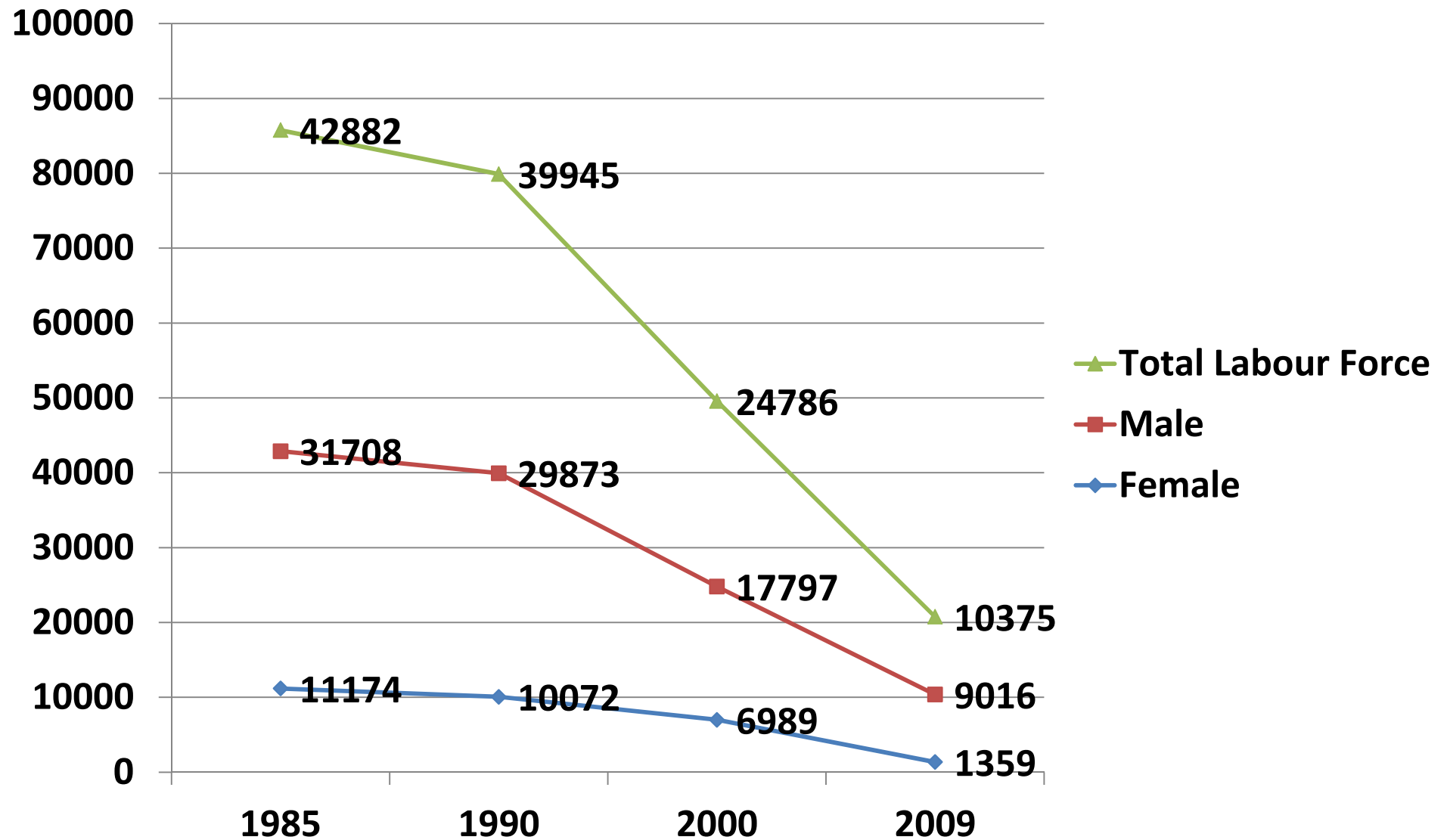
Although the Govt has no control over prices,  
we take full credit for this drop here...every 5 years

# Labour scarcity





# Labour force in cane plantation 1985 to 2009



# Transport constraints

- Few old trucks, broken roads and high charge



# Plots too far from residence/moved to an area far from plot location



# Plots frequently affected by wild and straying animals, pests and diseases





# Plots frequently affected by fire, flood and water logging





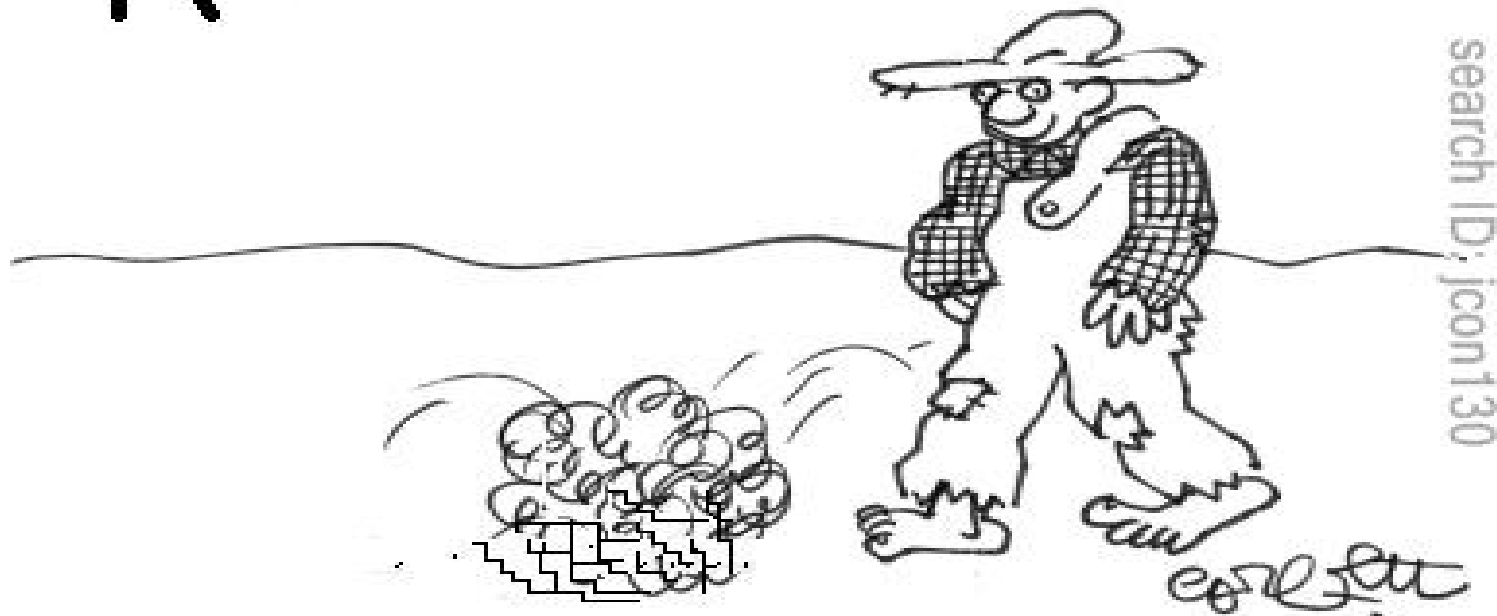
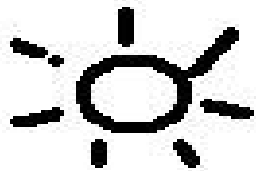
# Age and Health constraints





# Financial constraints

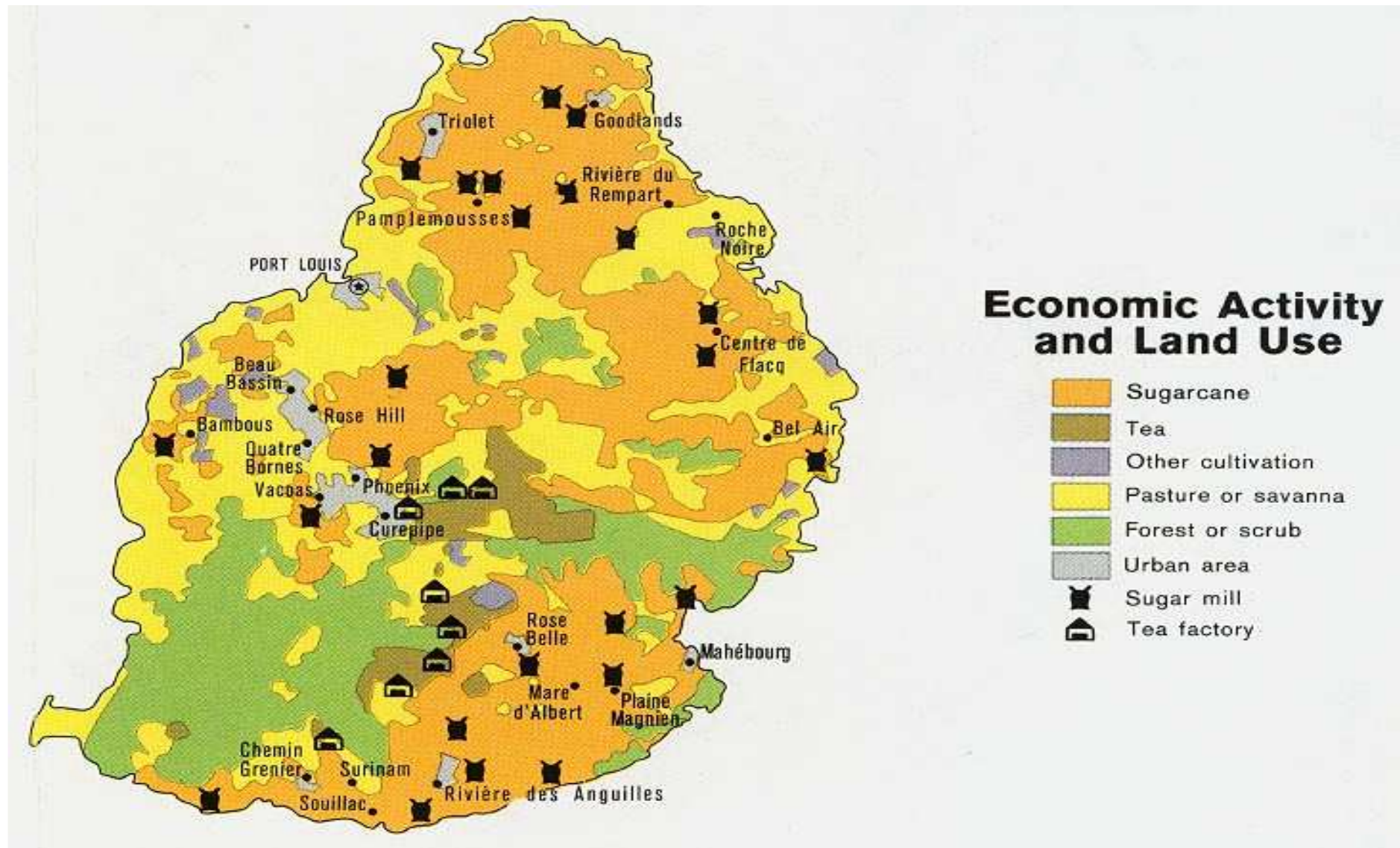
- Exhausted years of savings
- Unable to service loans with very high interest
- Family income has drastically shrunk



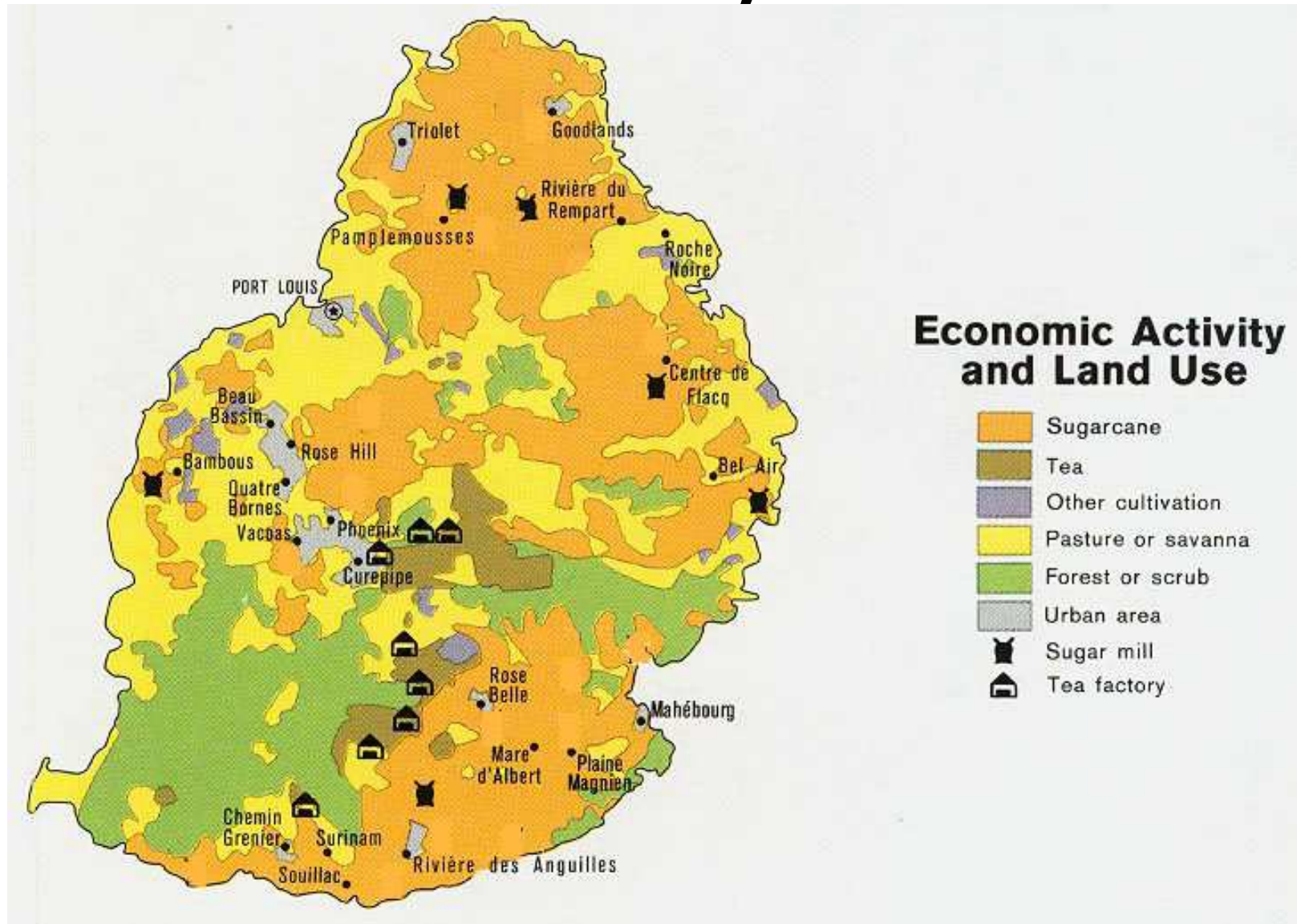
# **Lack of institutional assistance**

- **Down sized spi.**
- **Reduced R&D funds**
- **Small Planters never consulted in the preparation of MAAS- no sustainable measures**
- **Not planter friendly**

# Number of Sugar Mills 1972(sugar ratio74:26)



# Number of Mills 2010(sugar ratio 78:22)



# POLICY MAKERS

- Ignorant of planters need
- Never involve planters in policy making

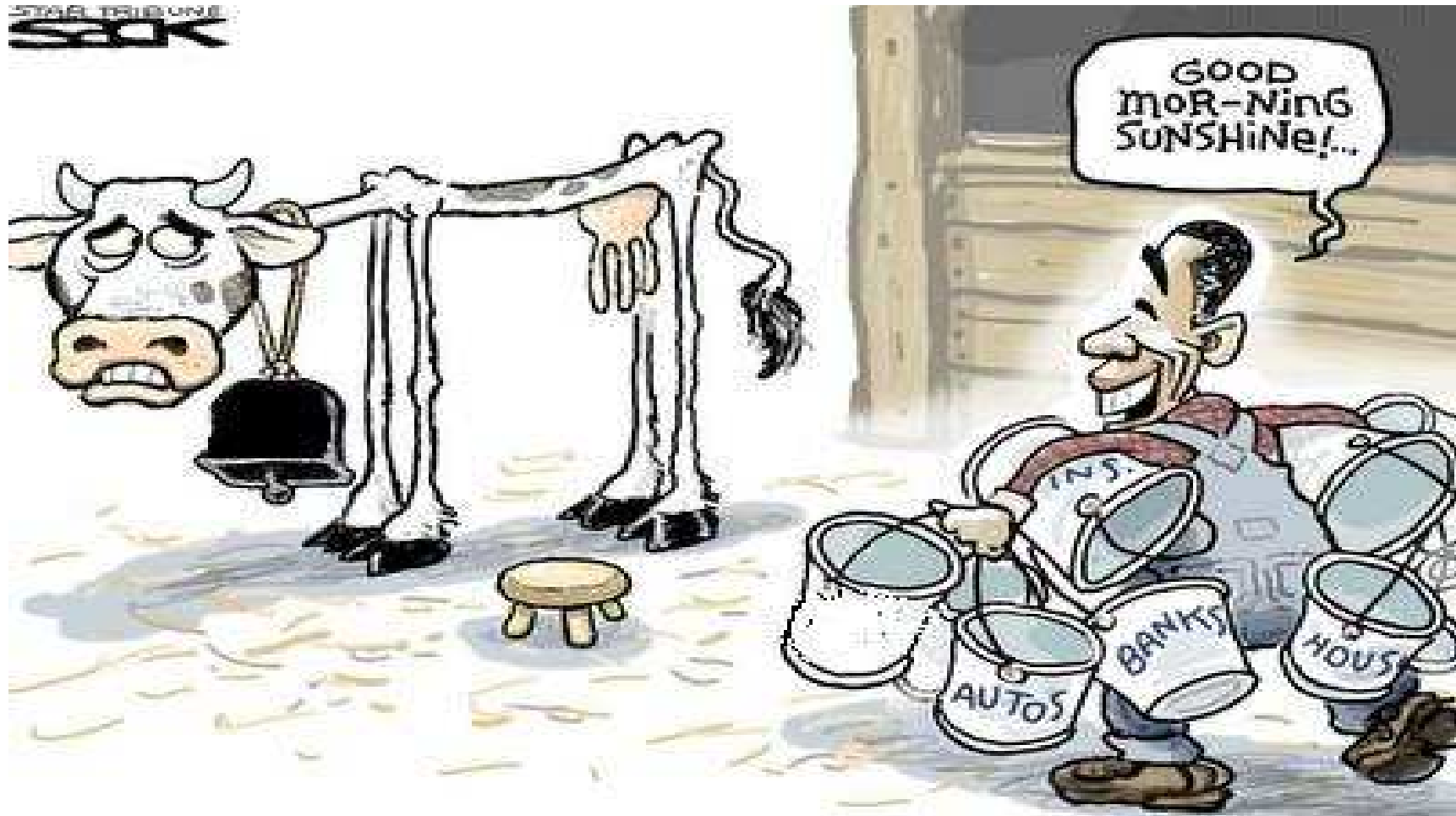


# **Effects of the EU sugar regimes**

- **An irreversible negative impact on the social and economic life of the small planter**
- **Marginalization and extinction of small planters**
- **European Union accompanying measures- a non event for small planters**
- **Regrouping and other FORIPS have become nightmares for small planters**

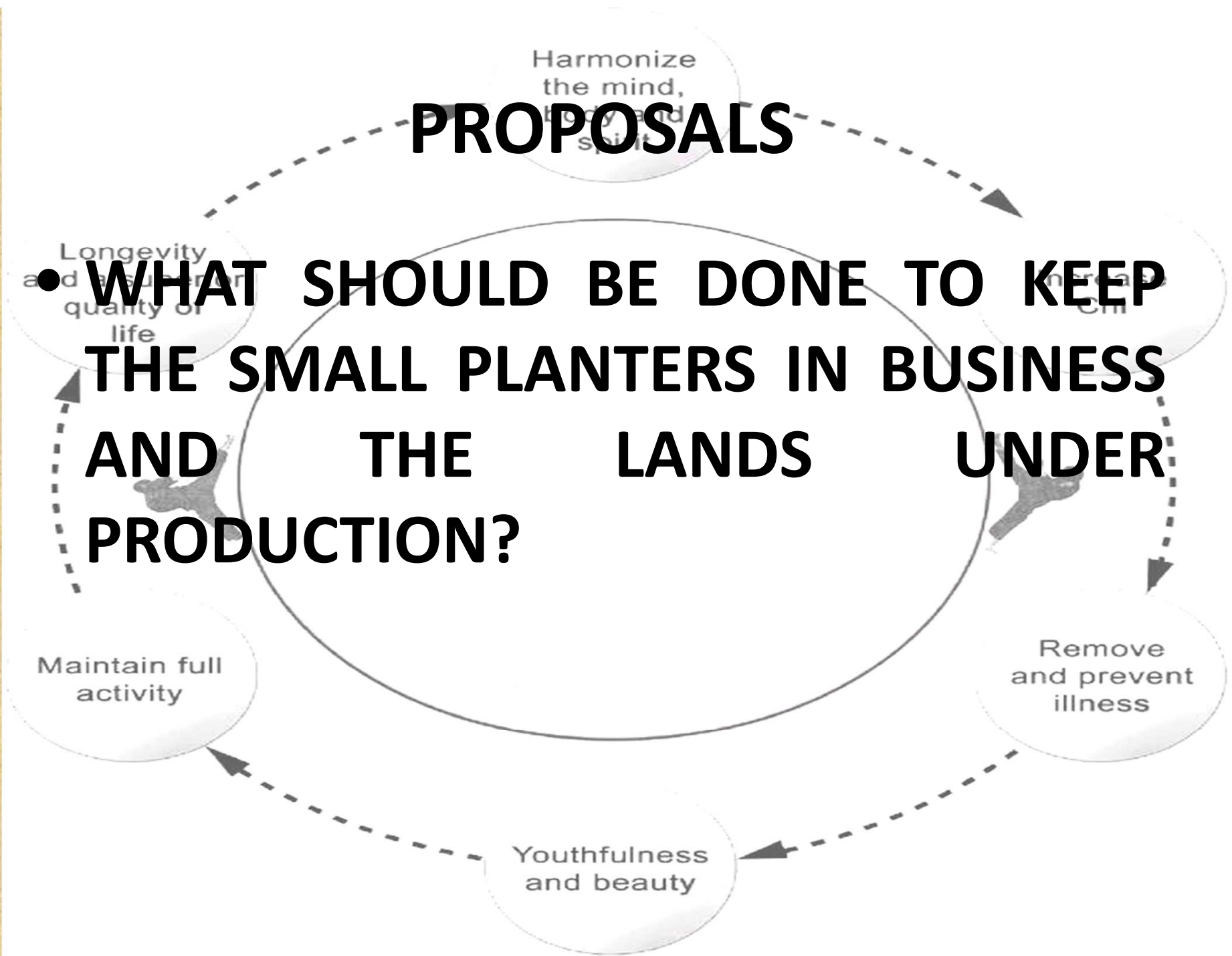
# THE SMALL PLANTER

STOCK TELEPHONE  
BOOK



# PROPOSALS

- **WHAT SHOULD BE DONE TO KEEP THE SMALL PLANTERS IN BUSINESS AND THE LANDS UNDER PRODUCTION?**





# **An Agricultural Land Policy**

- **The extent of land to be kept under agriculture for the coming 30 to 50 yrs**
- **Area dedicated to food crops**
- **Amenities and infrastructures (roads, irrigation network etc..)**
- **Needs for legal framework ( agr. Land transfer, purchases, lease, taxes etc..)**

# **A new Cane Policy based on the sustainability of the Cane Industry**

- **Review the Sugar Accruing Ratio**
- **Options to sell Raw or Refined**
- **Review payment policy of Sugar proceeds**
- **Bagasse price be at par with coal (3 /1)**
- **All final produce of molasses accrued to planters**
- **Banque Agricole**

# **A Land Bank to cater for abandoned agricultural lands**

- **To motivate younger generation-  
entrepreneurship**
- **Food production- food security**
- **Create family garden on the village  
boundaries**
- **Seed production in isolated regions**
- **Generate employments, provide physical  
exercise , produce goods and keep the island  
green**

# **EU Accompanying Measures**

- **Be properly used to prepare small planters lands for full and part mechanization as per needs**
- **Enable the setting of the Land Bank and an exclusively Agricultural Bank**
- **Setting of a pension scheme for small planters passed 60 based on individual's life sugar production**

# **SPMPC be equipped with Standing Cane Harvesters**

- **The only substitute to labour**
- **The only organization with know-how that can do the job**
- **Small planters are not ready for common management- better to have individual accounts**

# **Sugar cane owners should have direct shareholding in cane related business concern.**

- **Power Plants**
- **Ethanol Plants**
- **Packaging and Bagging**
- **Bio-fertilizers plants ( cane residue)**
- **And others to come**

# PLANTERS INDEBTEDNESS

- To review small planters' indebtedness vis à vis Financial institutions( DBM, MPCB, Leasing co, etc..) especially the rate at which they borrow money .



# MINISTER'S RESONSIBILITY

- **A quarterly National Monitoring Committee chaired by the Minister of Agro-Industry with all the stakeholders to take stock of the problems, find solutions, implement and make close follow-up of the situation**



A photograph of a field of tall, feathery grasses, likely a type of ornamental grass, blowing in the wind. The grasses are a mix of green and light brown/tan colors. The background is a clear, pale blue sky. The text "THANK YOU" is overlaid in the center of the image in a bold, black, sans-serif font.

**THANK YOU**