



# Economic Development: Women in Mountainous Areas

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# Outline

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- Mountainous Countries in ECA
- What makes mountainous areas unique then?
- Policy choices

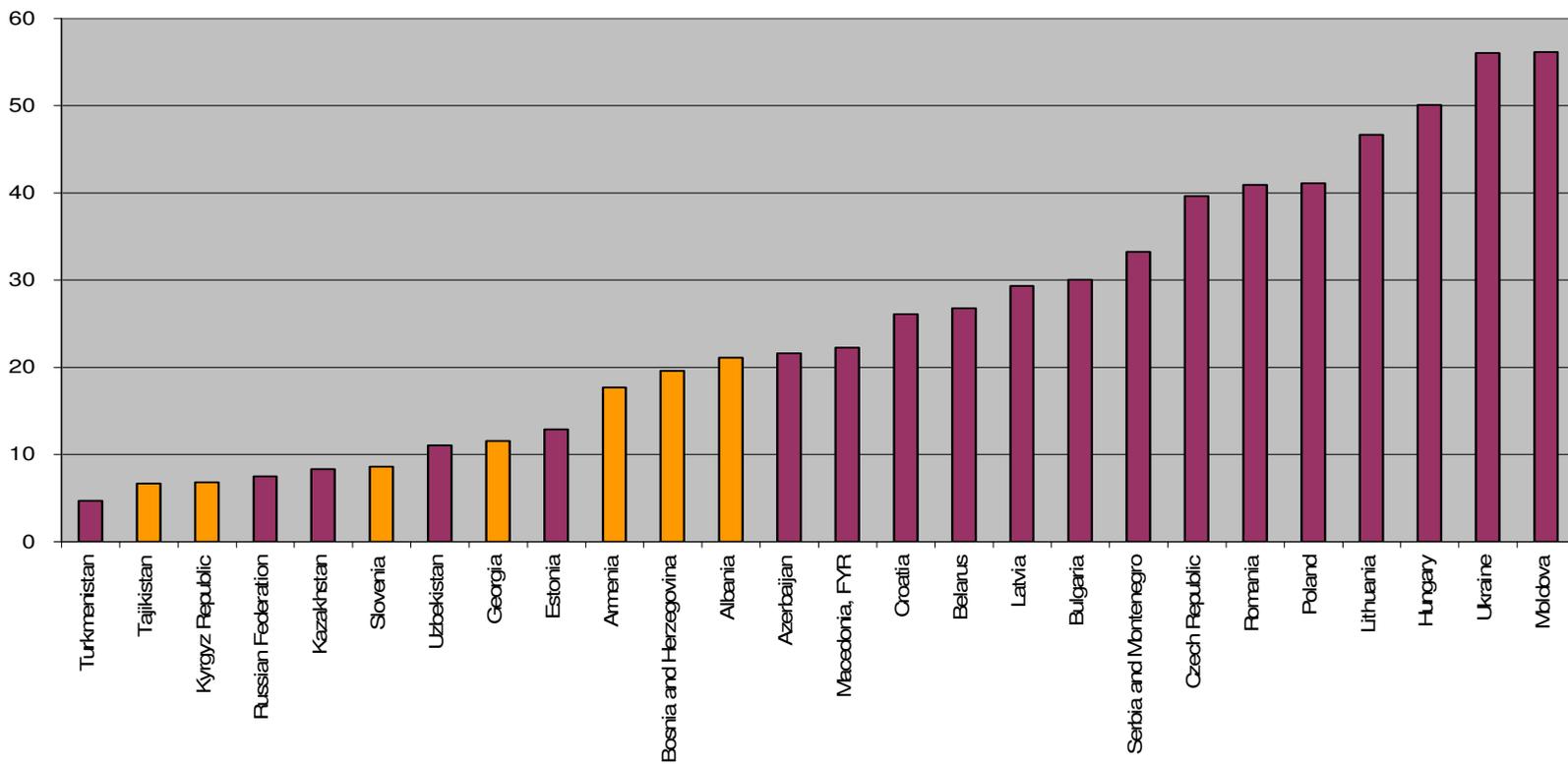


# Do Mountainous Countries Stand Out?

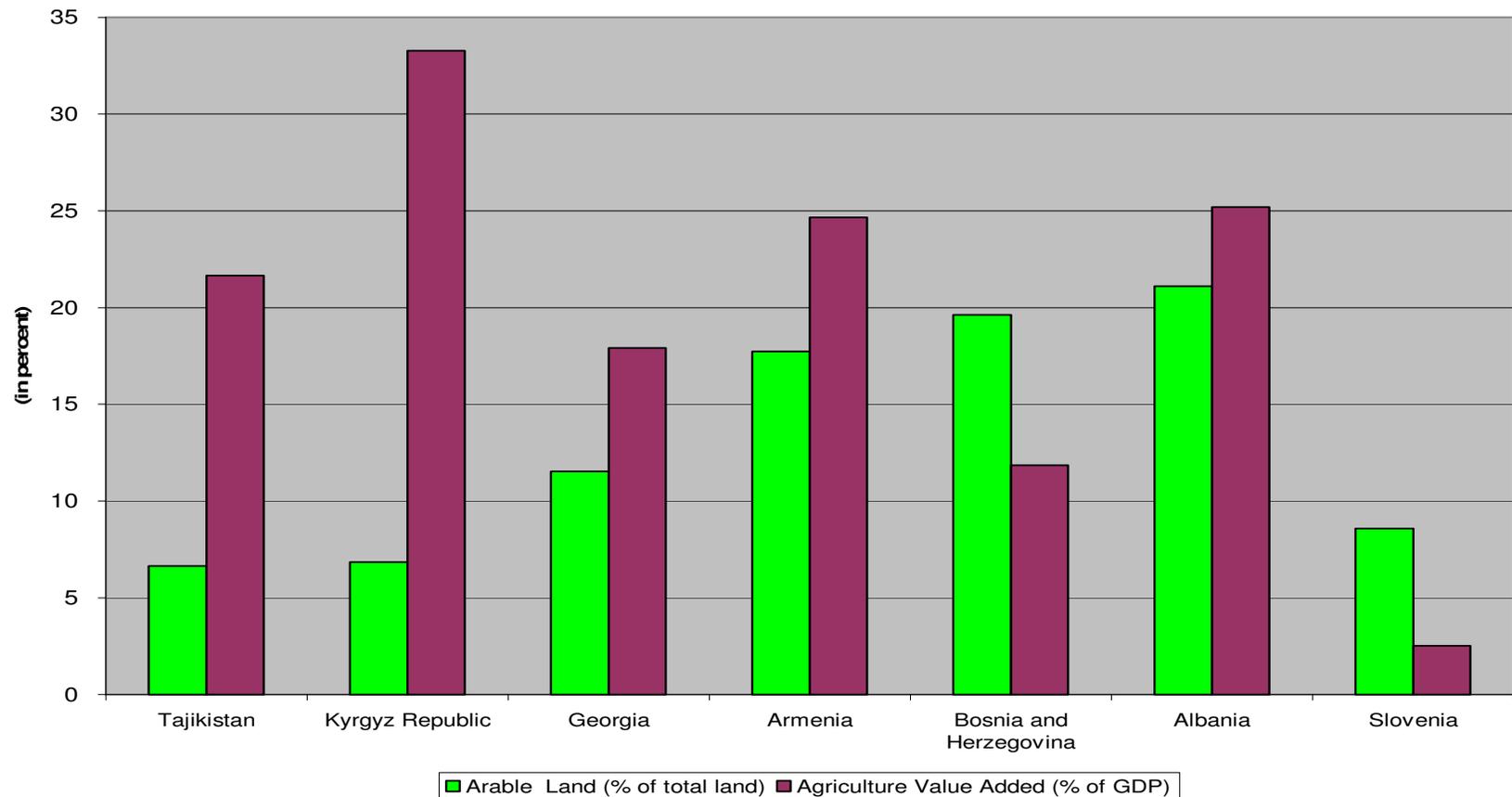
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# Mountainous countries have less arable land area...

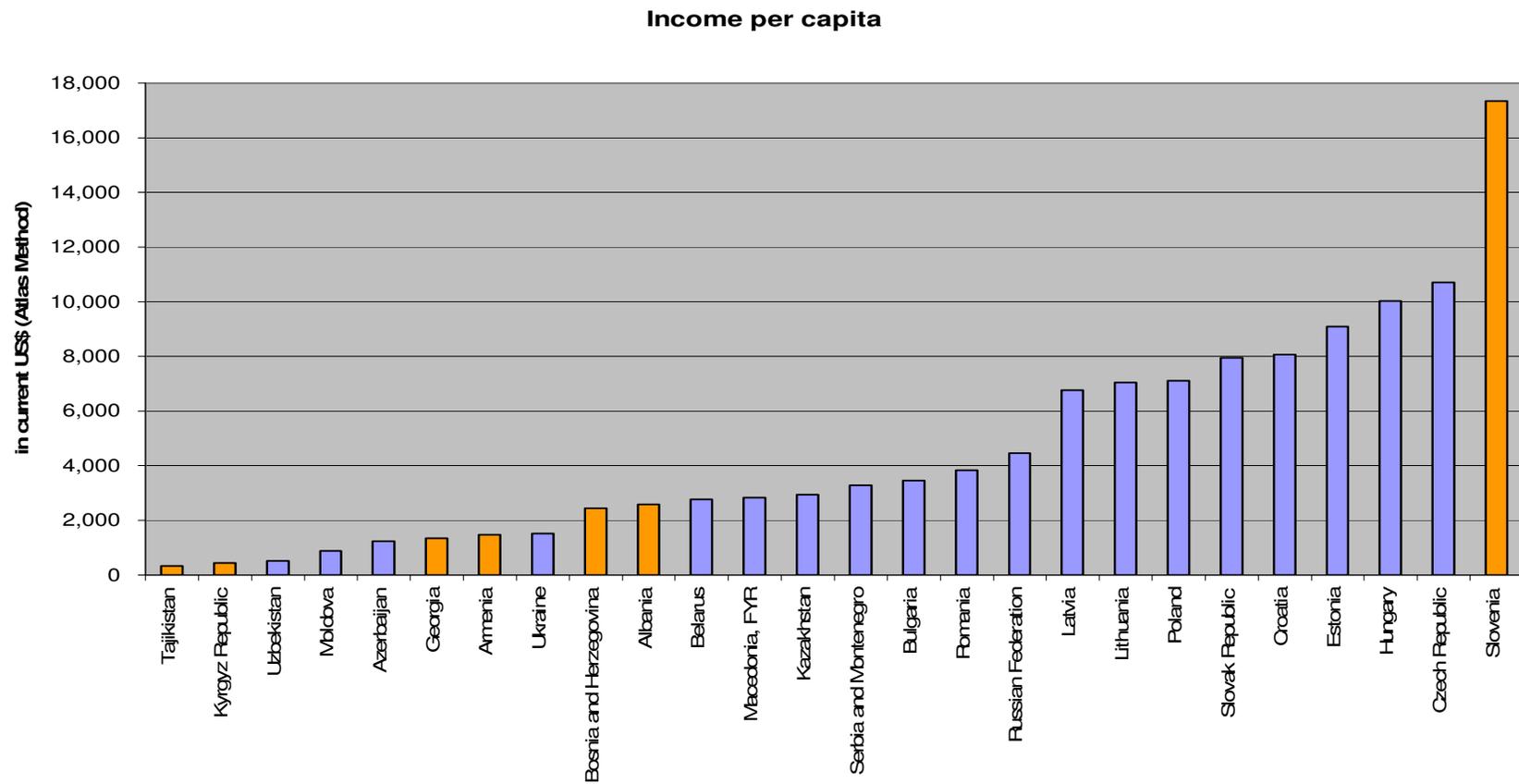
Arable land (% of land area)



...but the lower income ones are more dependent upon agriculture

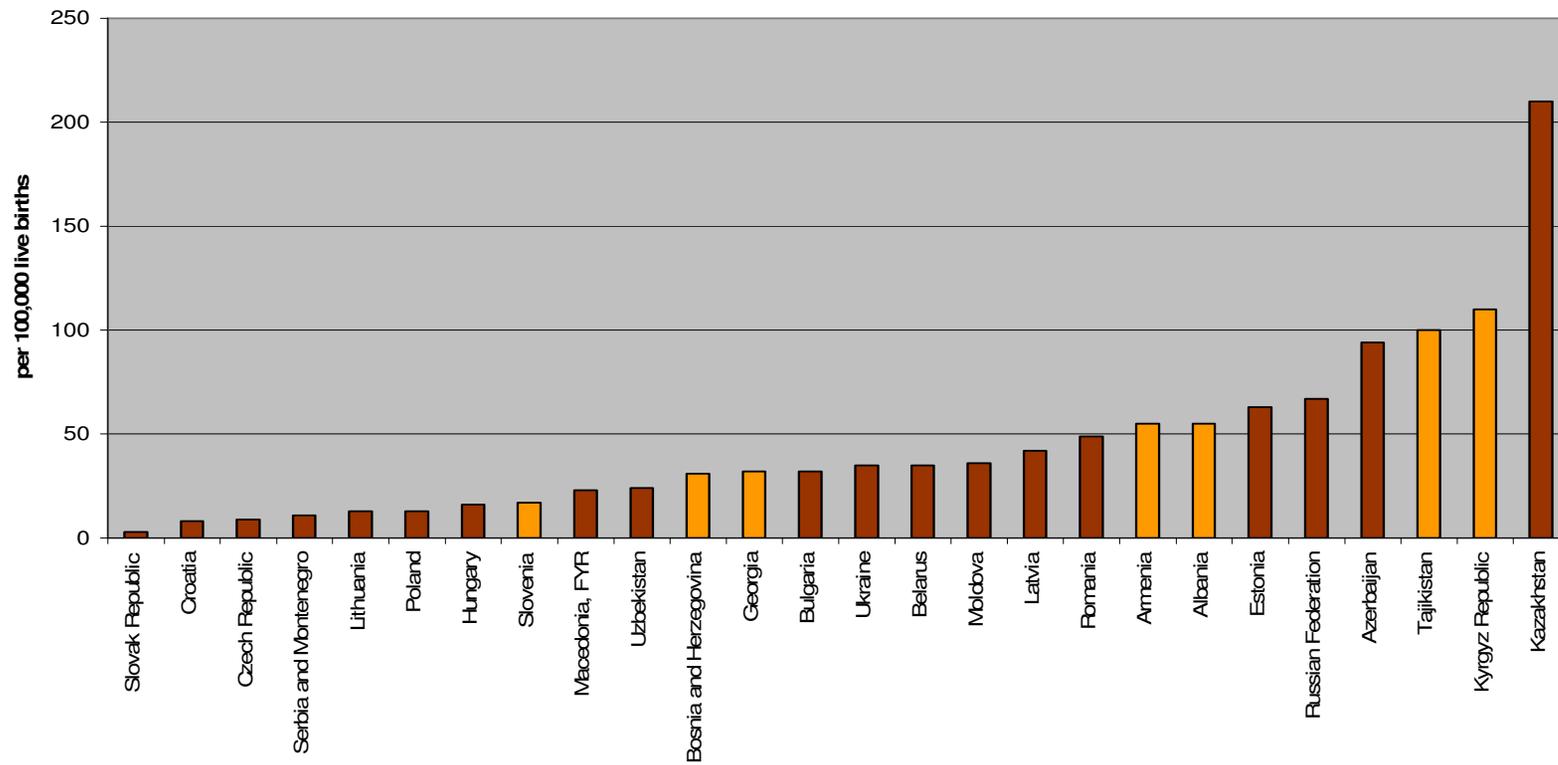


# Income status varies....



# ...as do social indicators

Maternal Mortality Rate in 2000

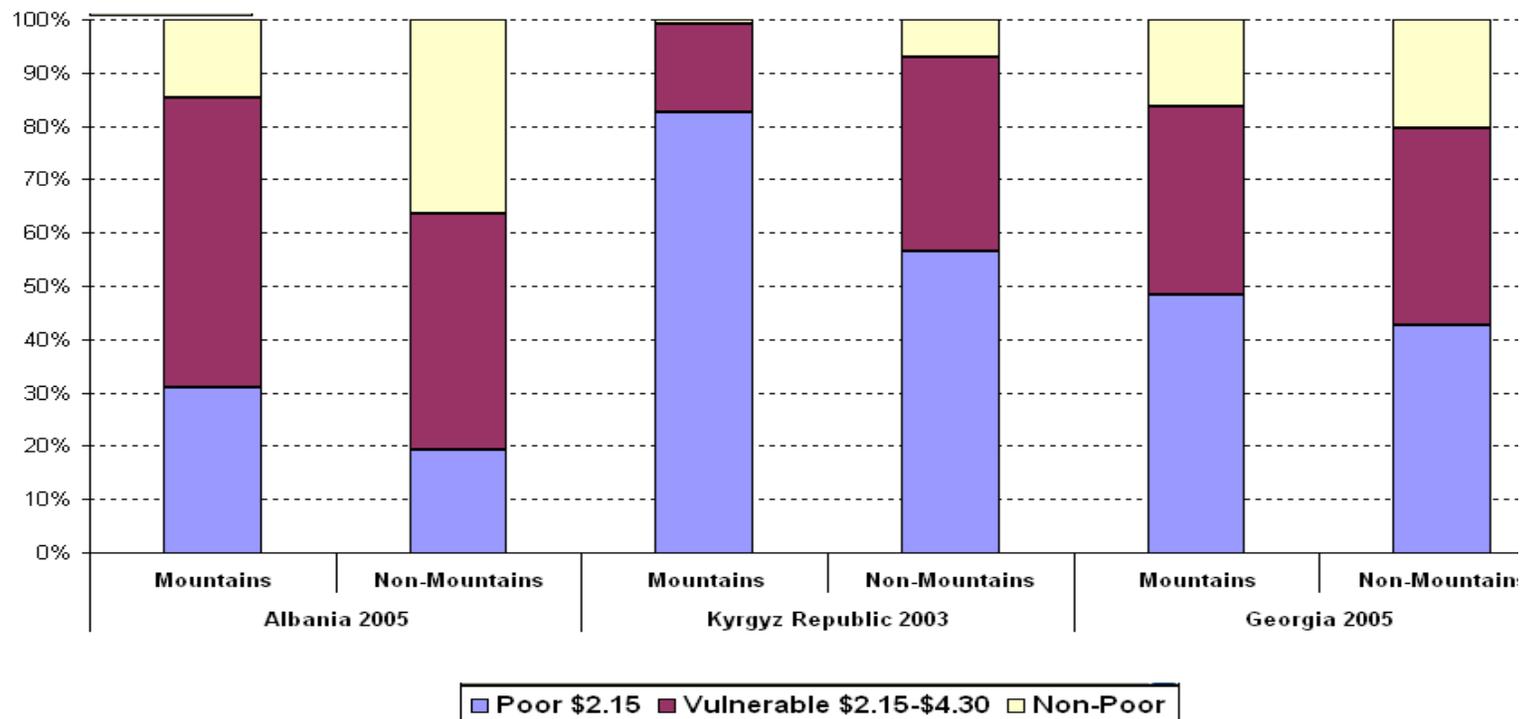




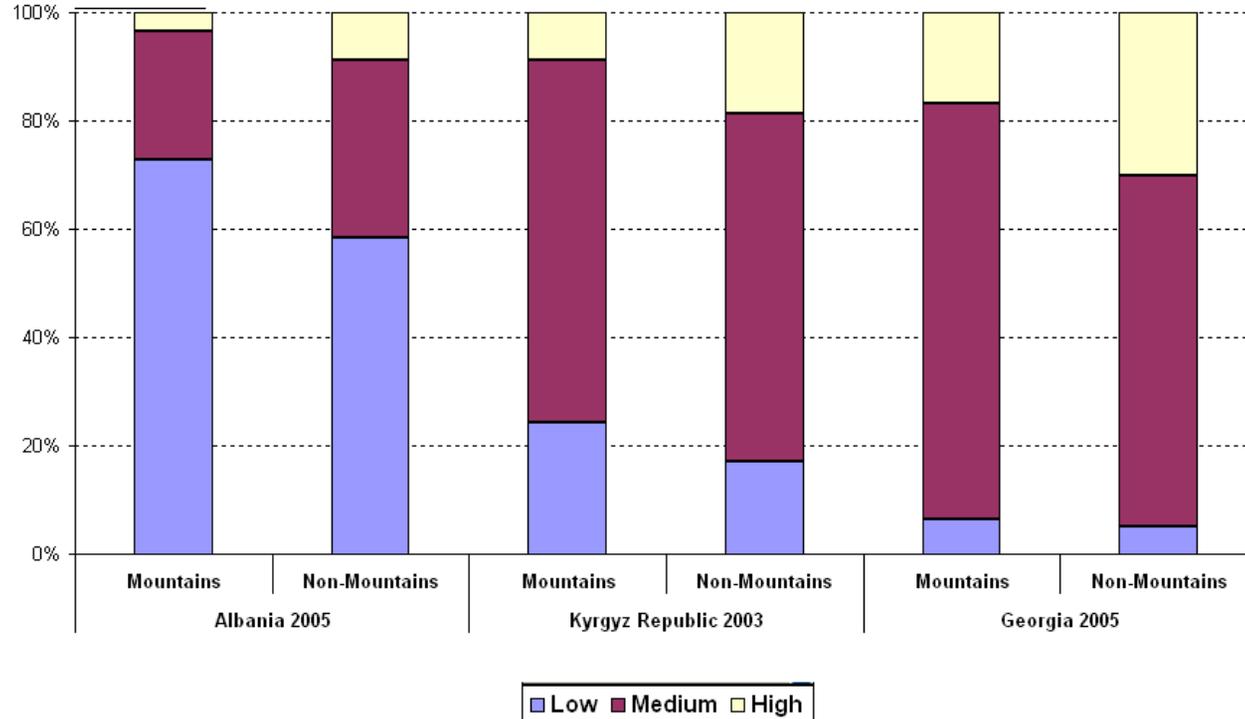
# Mountainous Communities

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# Poverty among women in mountainous areas is higher

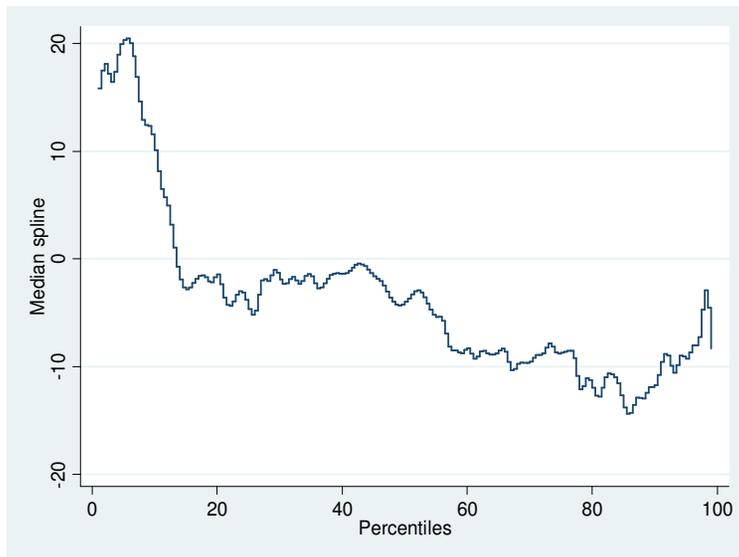


# Educational attainment for women is lower in mountainous areas

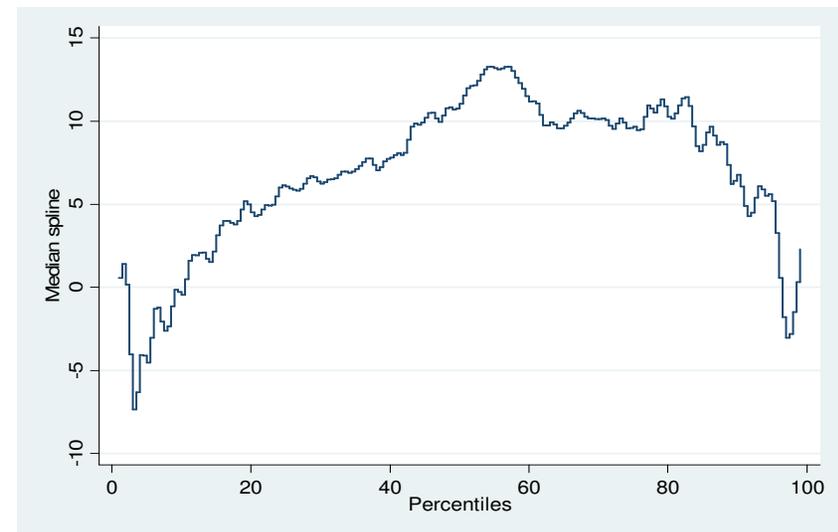


# Incomes have fallen in mountainous areas while increasing elsewhere

Albania GIC 2002-2005 (Mountain)



Albania GIC 2002-2005 (Non Mountain)





# Policy Implications

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# What is going on?

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- Most mountainous areas have fewer income earning opportunities
- Services (health, education, infrastructure) are expensive to deliver
- In some countries, migration of men out of the mountainous areas is creating feminization of poverty there



## Some policies to consider

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- Minimum acceptable living standards could be guaranteed by the Government thus, the poor – wherever they live could be given financial assistance



# What about services?

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- Should the government equalize public services availability?
- Or, should the government equalize the per capita expenditure across mountainous and non-mountainous areas?
- This is a choice to be addressed by the government of each state or country.



# Empowerment of women

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- Important to have a multifaceted approach
- Women need access to
  - Skills and knowledge
  - Assets (land and land titling)
  - Credit and finance
  - Product markets