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How can equity of irrigation water supply help mitigate economic inequalities?

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Contributed presentation at the 61st AARES Annual Conference,
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How can equity of irrigation water supply help mitigate economic inequalities?

Perceptions from smallholder irrigators in Tanzania

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Study Area

Two smallholder irrigation schemes in southern Tanzania

Kiwere scheme: 190 ha vegetables ; Magozi scheme: 940 ha rice

159 surveyed households using Quantitative and Qualitative methods

Unequal water supply and poor infrastructure



Inequality of water availability at farm level

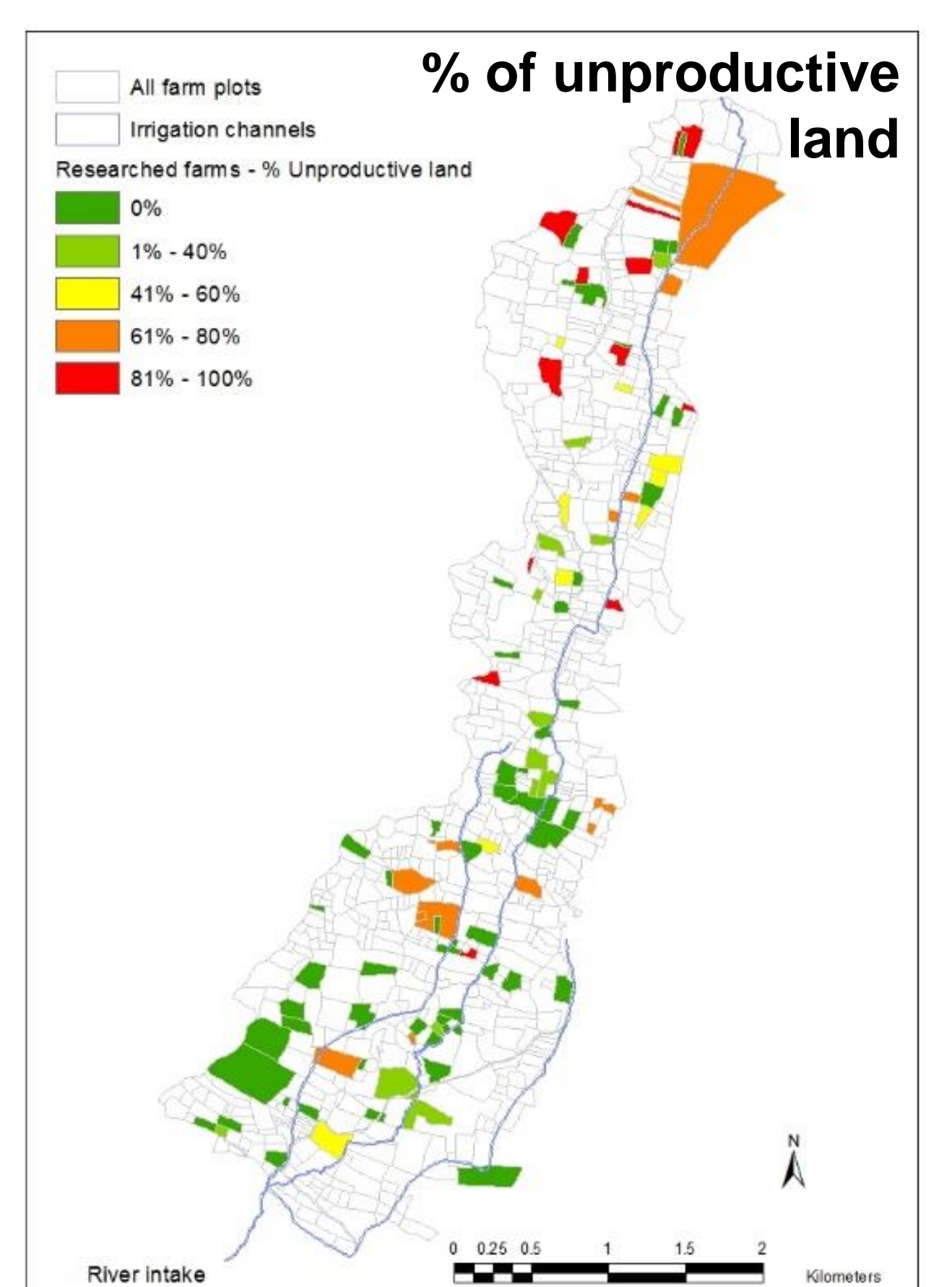
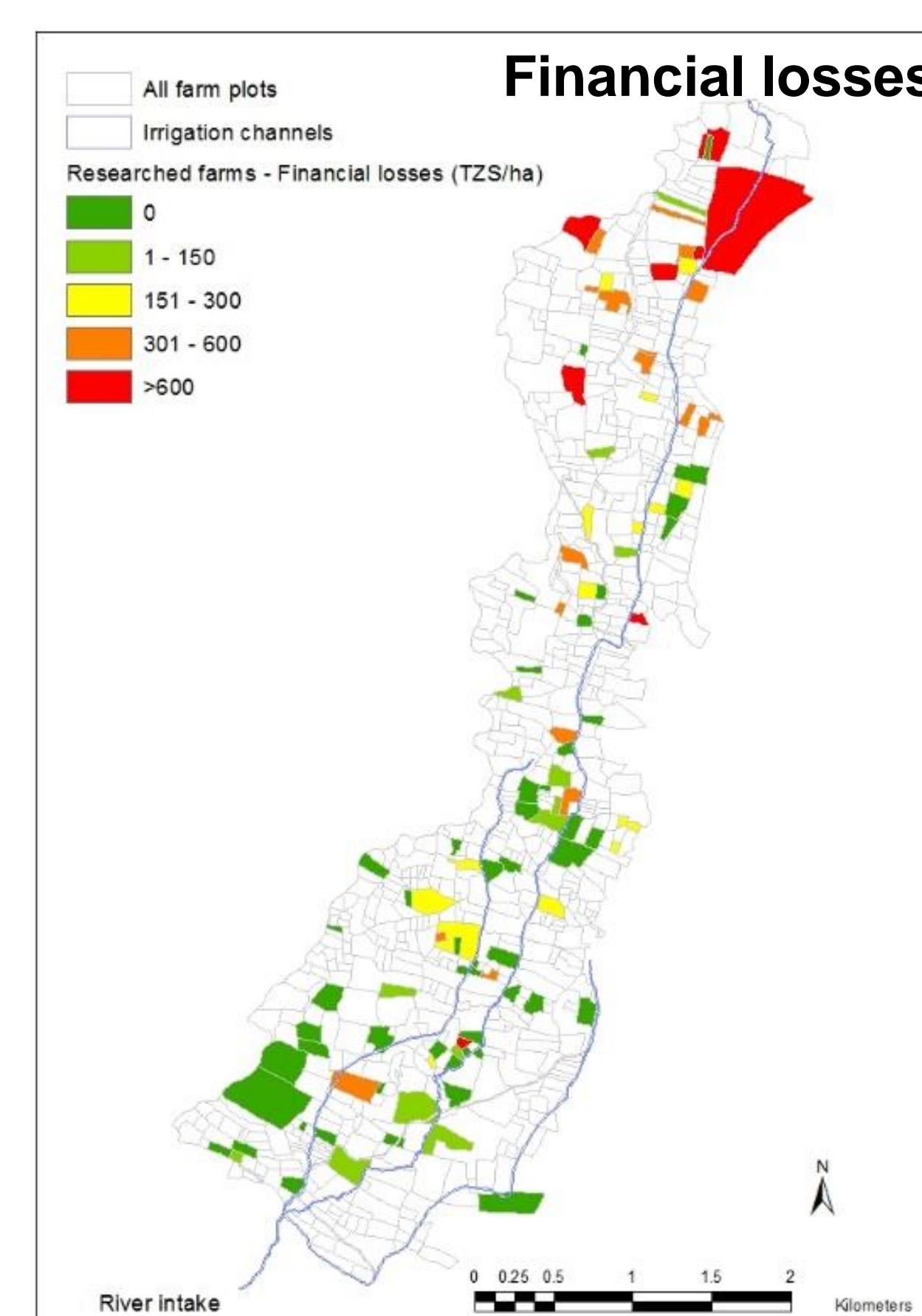
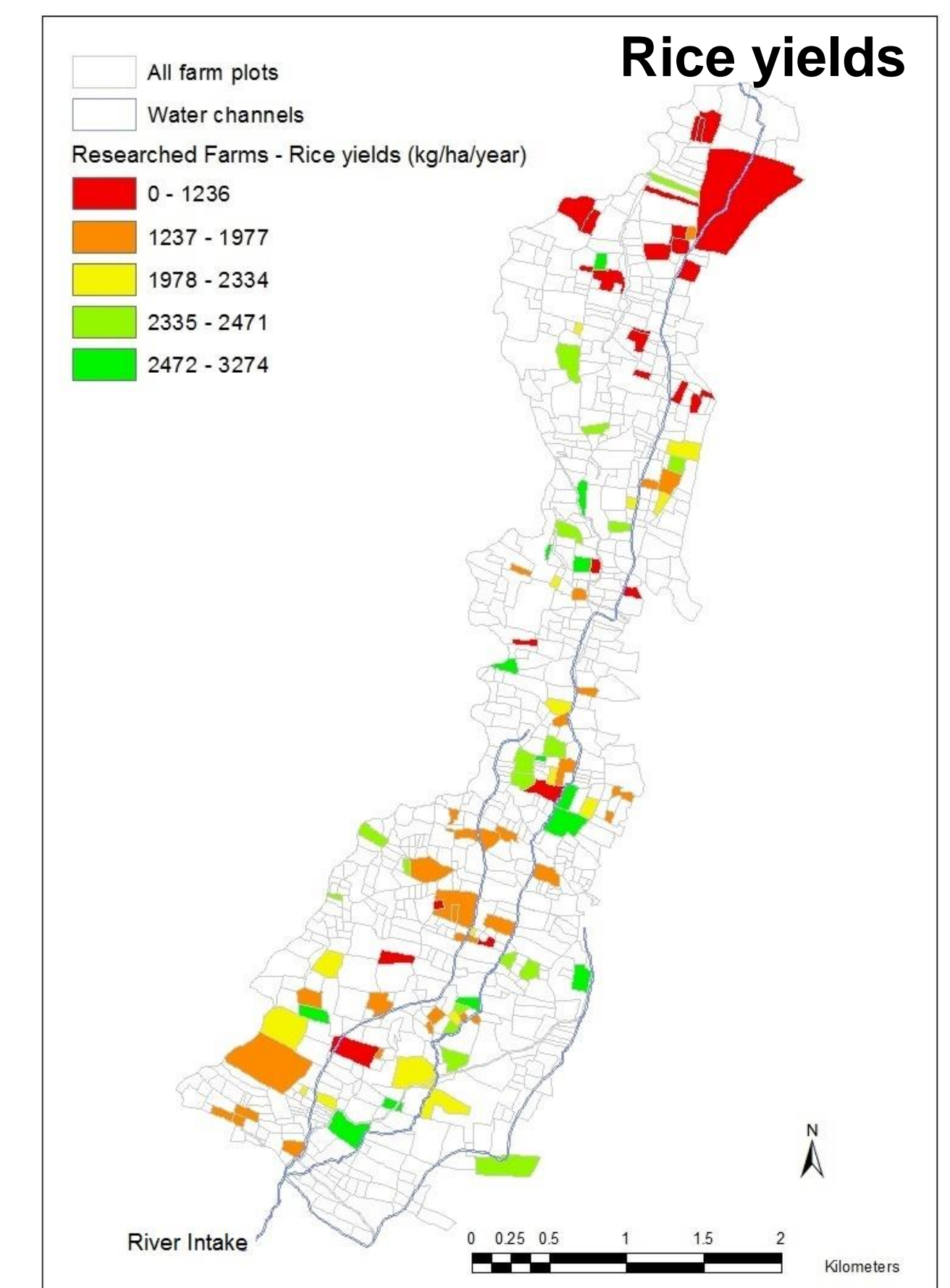
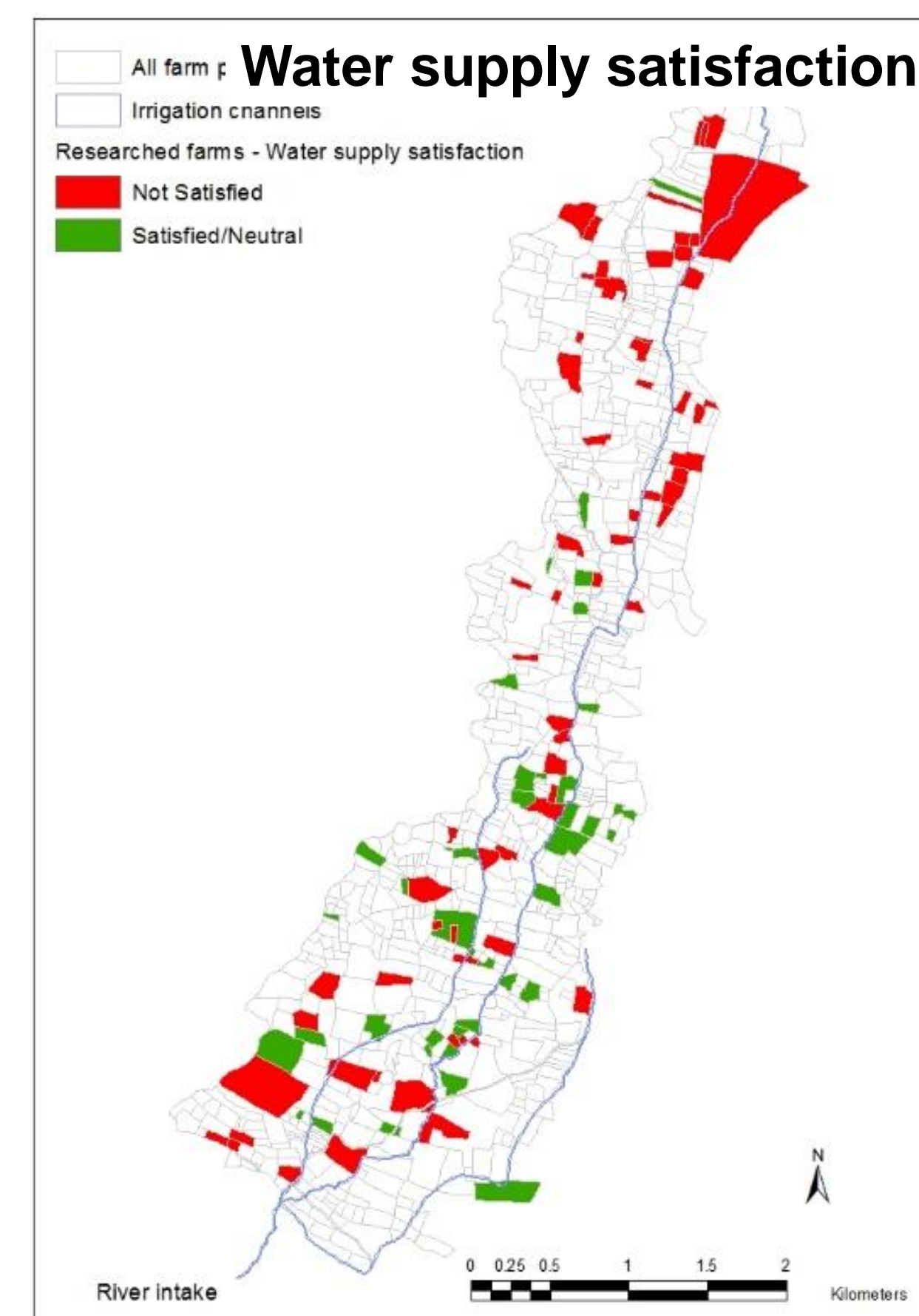


In the rice-growing scheme, **tail-end** farmers are **negatively affected** by:

- Inadequate water supply
- Lower yields
- Greater financial losses
- Lower land productivity

More **equal water supply** could **mitigate economic inequality** through:

- Greater benefits for the poor
- Improved farming conditions
- Expansion of irrigated area
- Increased yields
- Higher reliability
- Less dependency on labour



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