

Africa: Perspectives on Agriculture, Nutrition, Food Systems and Sustainable Development Goals

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“Let Food Be Thy Medicine” –
Hippocrates

Otherwise

Medicine will be thy food...

Food for Thought ; Did you know?

- Globally agriculture systems produce enough food to feed all citizens of the world adequately
- Yet hunger and malnutrition remain pernicious and a threat to humanity and development
- The most malnourished people in this world are farmers and their families, especially women and children
- 12 people die of hunger and malnutrition every minute
- Malnutrition has huge human, social and economic consequences and costs – GDPs suffer
- Food is very political

Why Nutrition?

- Adequate nutrition is essential for health and well-being
- Every person on this planet has a right to food that is safe, sufficient and nutritious and to be free from hunger and malnutrition in all its forms
- Yet, 1 in 3 persons globally suffers from at least one form of malnutrition - *undernutrition, micronutrient deficiencies, overweight and obesity* Malnutrition is estimated to rise to 1 in 2 people if current trends continue (*GLOPAN, 2016 – Foresight Report*)
- Different forms of malnutrition now co-exist within the same country, community, household or individual
- Combatting malnutrition in all its forms is one of the greatest challenges that countries are facing

Low quality diets contribute to all forms of malnutrition

The food system presents a huge opportunity to act to improve diets

While the GLOBAL FOOD SYSTEM has succeeded in feeding a growing population in terms of providing enough dietary energy...

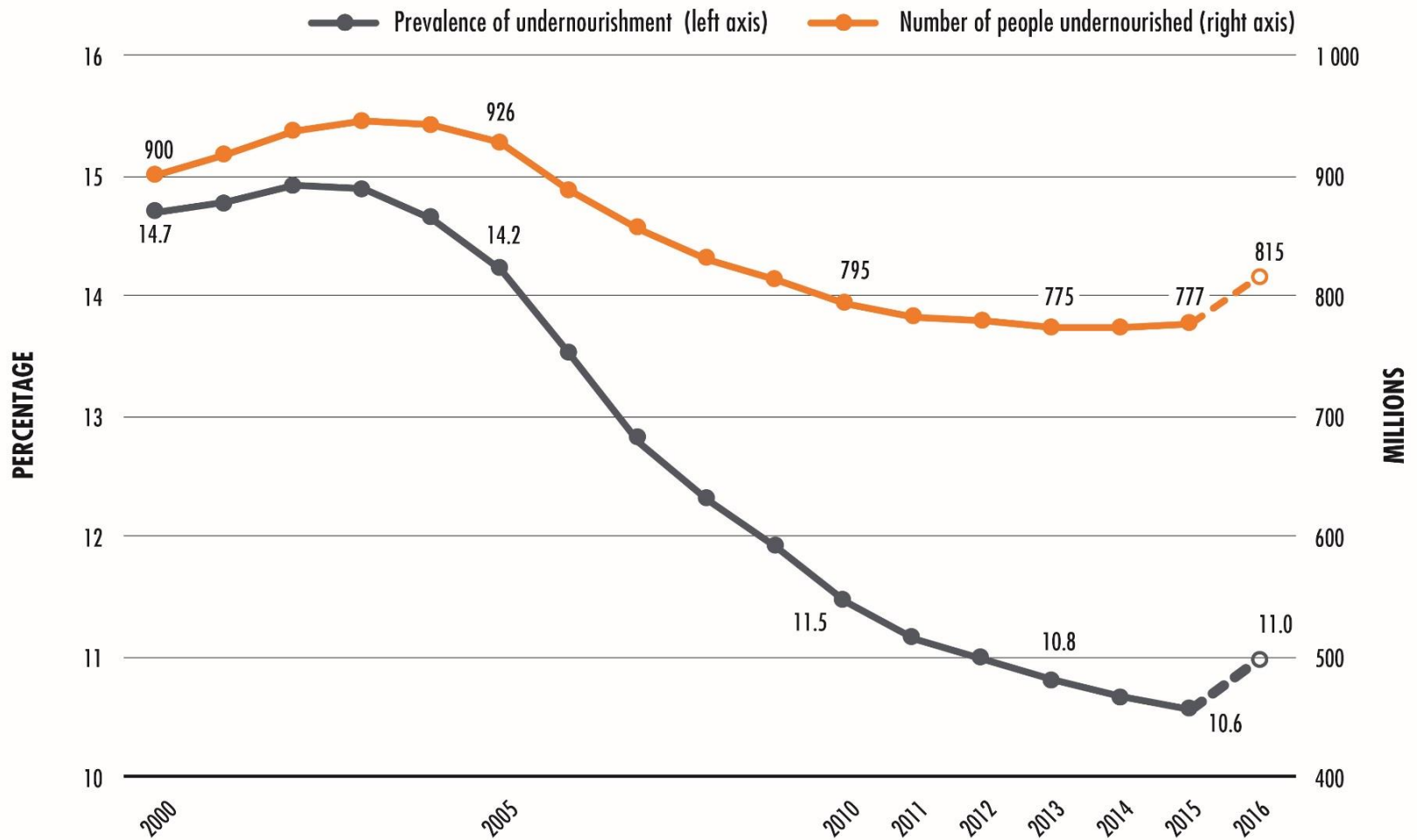
Ensuring availability and accessibility of a variety of foods and food products that contribute to healthy diets and good nutrition remains a challenge

Food systems need to be repositioned: from feeding people to nourishing people well

GLOPAN, 2016

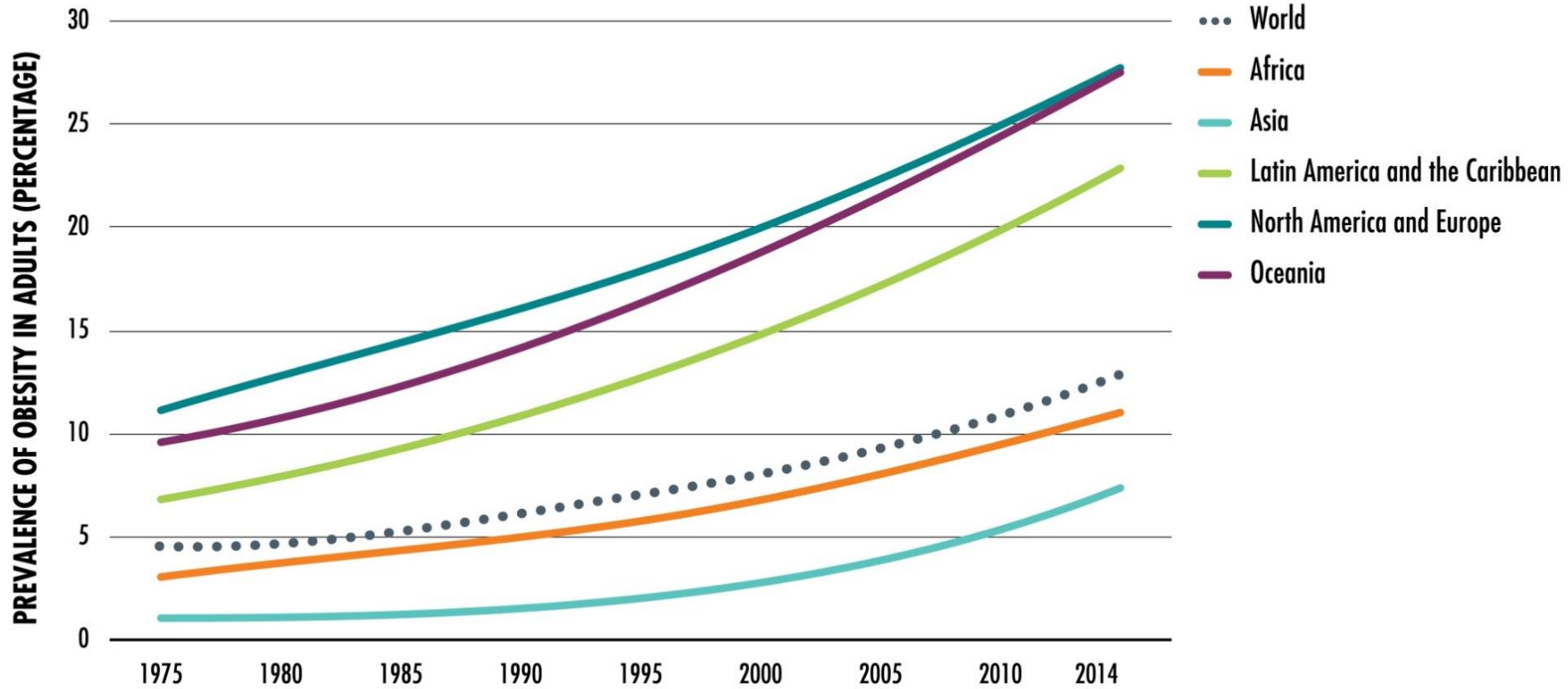
GLOBAL NUTRITION SITUATION

After a long decline, hunger is increasing



GLOBAL NUTRITION SITUATION

Overweight and obesity at unprecedented levels

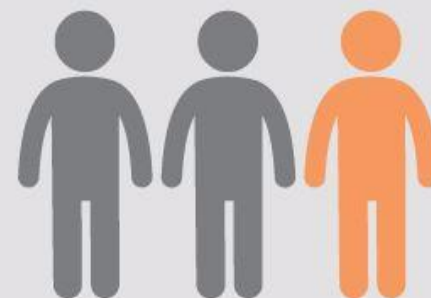


Source: FAO, et al.
SOFI 2017,

GLOBAL NUTRITION SITUATION:

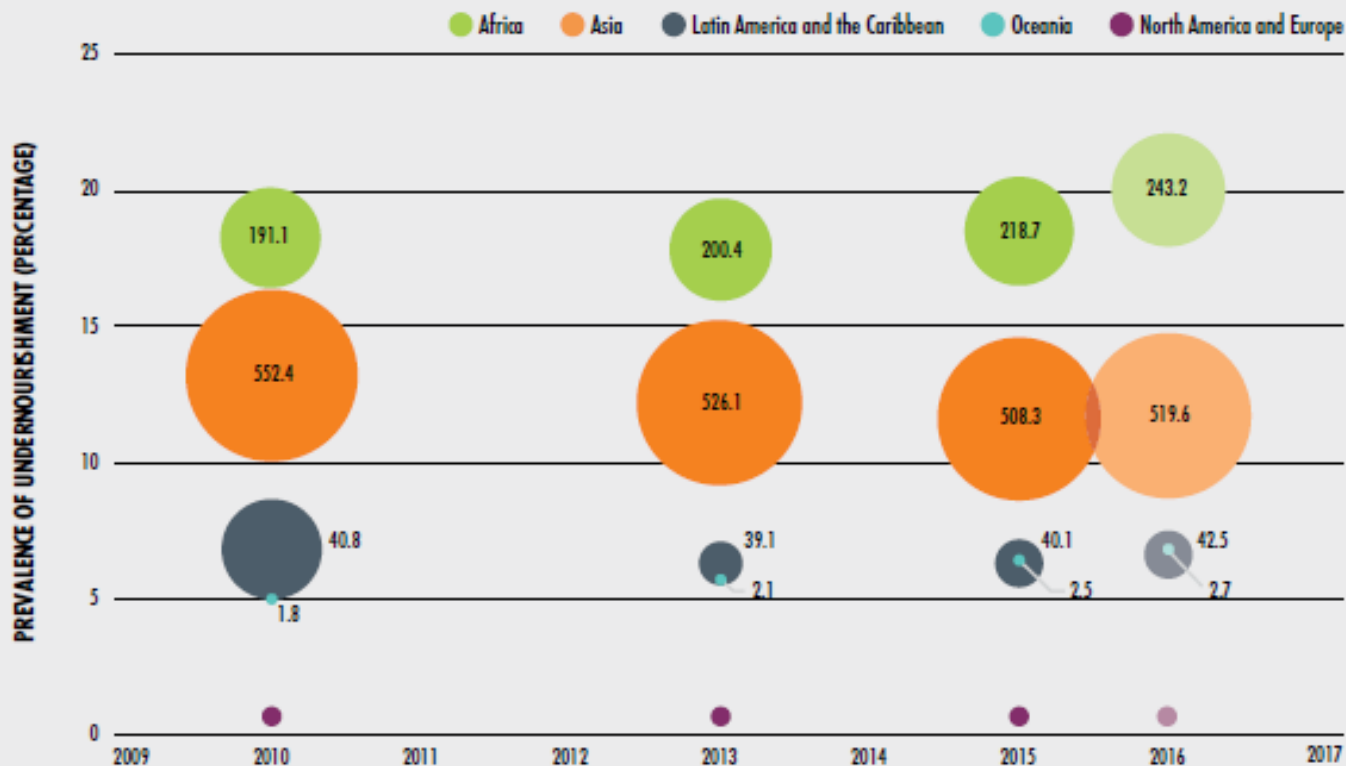
As the double burden of malnutrition continues to rise, so too does its global economic toll.

MALNUTRITION AFFECTS
ONE IN THREE
PEOPLE AROUND THE WORLD



Current Nutrition situation in Africa

FIGURE 2
THE PREVALENCE OF UNDERNOURISHMENT IS HIGHEST IN AFRICA;
THE ABSOLUTE NUMBER OF UNDERNOURISHED PEOPLE IS LARGEST IN ASIA



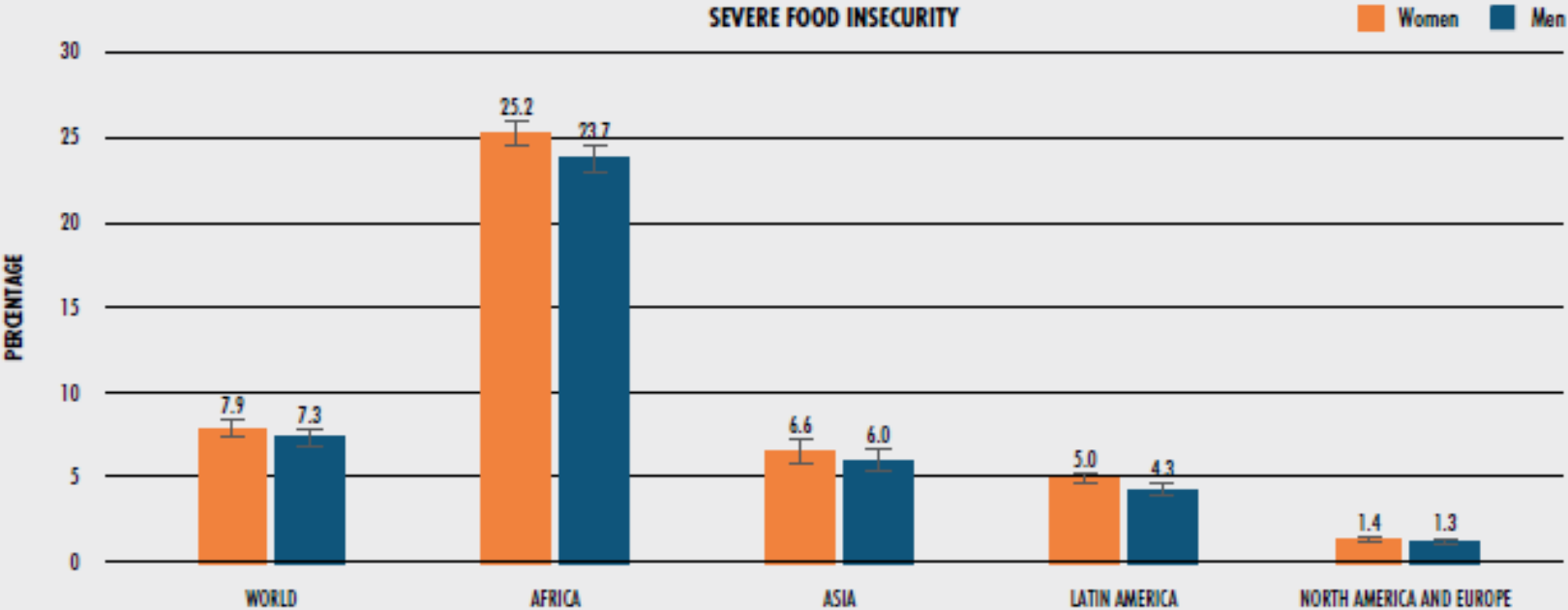
NOTE: Comparison of prevalence and number of undernourished people by region. The size of the circles represents the number of undernourished people in millions, as labelled. Figures for 2016 are projected values (see Box 1 on p. 4 and Methodological notes in Annex 1, p. 95).

SOURCE: FAO.

SOFIN 2017 (FAO, etc, 2017)

Current Nutrition situation in Africa

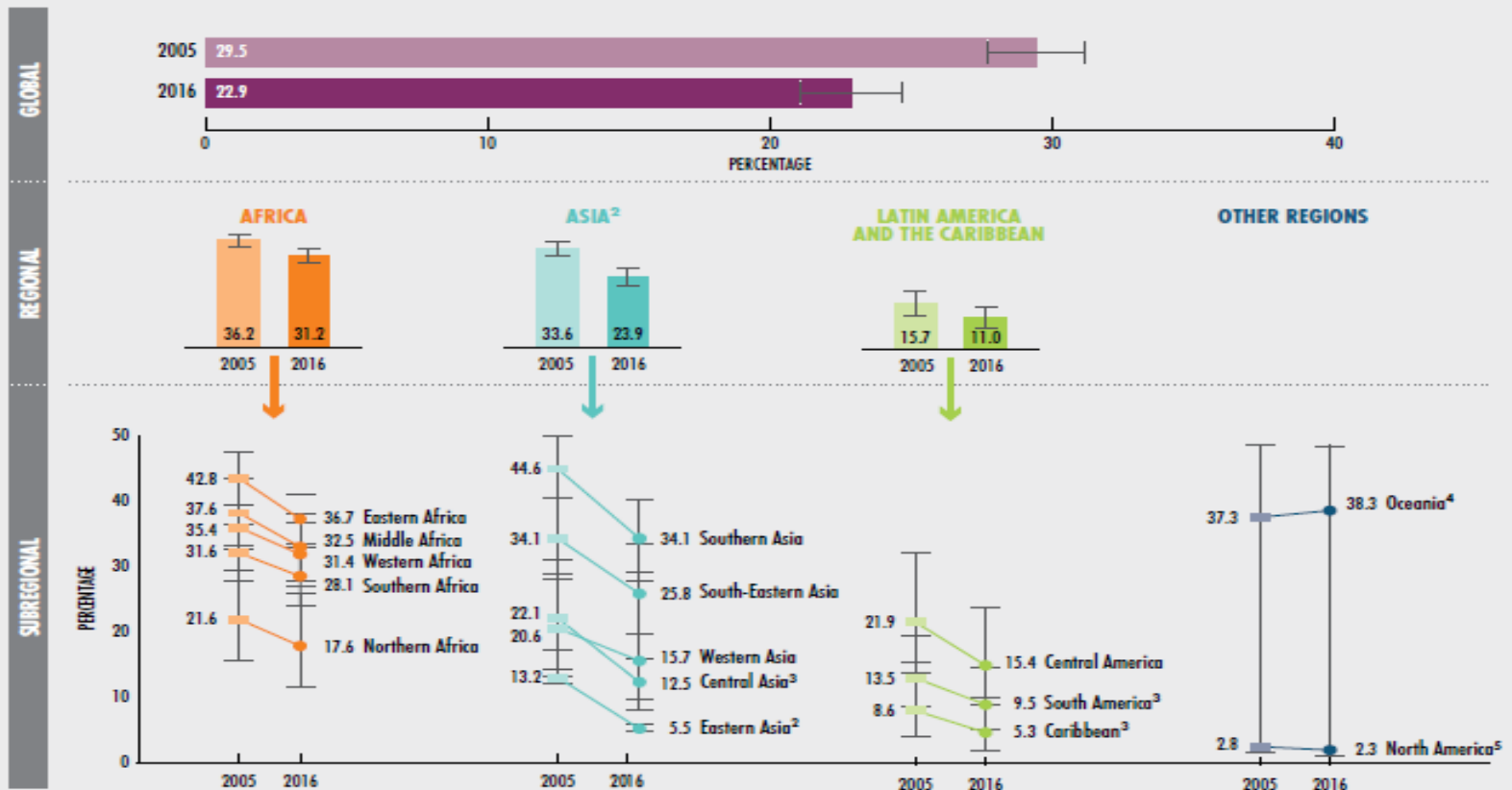
FIGURE 3
WOMEN ARE SLIGHTLY MORE LIKELY TO BE FOOD INSECURE THAN MEN IN EVERY REGION OF THE WORLD



NOTE: Comparison of the prevalence of severe food insecurity among men and women aged 15 years and older (2014–16 three-year averages).
SOURCE: FAO Voices of the Hungry project.

Current Nutrition situation in Africa

FIGURE 4
RATES OF STUNTING AMONG CHILDREN ARE ON THE DECLINE WORLDWIDE,
BUT REMAIN VERY HIGH IN MOST PARTS OF AFRICA¹



¹ Prevalence of stunting in children aged under five years, 2005 and 2016.

² Asia and Eastern Asia excluding Japan.

³ Central Asia, South America and Caribbean have consecutive low population coverage for the 2016 estimate, interpret with caution.

⁴ Oceania excludes Australia and New Zealand.

⁵ The North America regional average is based only on United States data and hence confidence intervals are not available.

SOURCE: UNICEF/WHO/World Bank Group Joint Child Malnutrition Estimates, 2017 edition.

Childhood overweight on the rise in virtually all regions

**FIGURE 6
CHILDHOOD OVERWEIGHT IS ON THE RISE IN VIRTUALLY ALL REGIONS¹**



¹ Prevalence of overweight in children aged under five years, 2005 and 2016.

² Asia and Eastern Asia excluding Japan.

³ Central Asia, Southern Asia, South America and Caribbean have consecutive low population coverage for the 2016 estimate, interpret with caution.

⁴ Oceania excludes Australia and New Zealand.

SOURCE: UNICEF/WHO/World Bank Group Joint Child Malnutrition Estimates, 2017 edition.

Source: SOFI 2017, FAO et.al

So what is Africa doing to address the challenge of Hunger and Malnutrition?

CAADP – Africa's Policy Instrument and commitment for moving forward

2003: The Comprehensive Africa Agriculture Development Programme. (Maputo Declaration)

- 10% annual budget allocated to agriculture
- 6% growth from agriculture

From Maputo to Malabo (2014)...

AFRICAN UNION

الاتحاد الأفريقي



UNION AFRICAINE

UNIÃO AFRICANA

Assembly/AU/Decl.1(XXIII)

**MALABO DECLARATION ON ACCELERATED AGRICULTURAL GROWTH AND
TRANSFORMATION FOR SHARED PROSPERITY AND IMPROVED LIVELIHOODS**
Doc. Assembly/AU/2(XXIII)

III. Commitment to Ending Hunger in Africa by 2025

3. We commit to ending hunger in Africa by 2025, and to this end we resolve:

- encouraging and facilitating increased consumption of locally produced food items, including the promotion of innovative school feeding programs that use food items sourced from the local farming community.
- d) to improve nutritional status, and in particular, the elimination of child under-nutrition in Africa with a view to bringing down stunting to 10% and underweight to 5% by 2025.

Agenda 2063 – The Africa We Want

“Agenda 2063 is a strategic framework for the socio-economic transformation of the continent over the next 50 years. It builds on, and seeks to accelerate the implementation of past and existing continental initiatives for growth and sustainable development.”



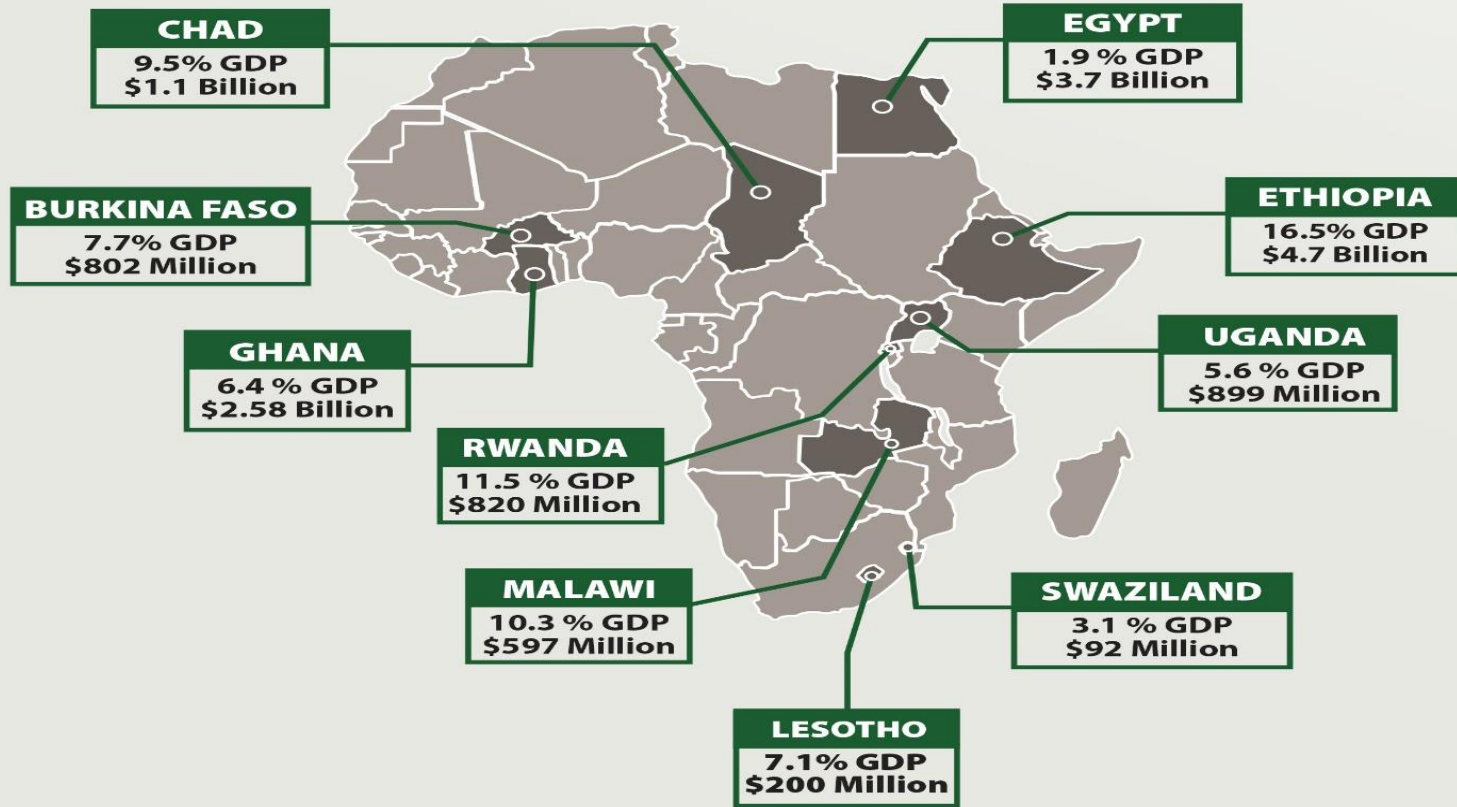
THE COST OF
HUNGER
IN **AFRICA**

C
O
H
A

SOCIAL AND ECONOMIC IMPACT
OF CHILD UNDERNUTRITION



ECONOMIC IMPACT OF CHILD UNDERNUTRITION



GDP(Gross Domestic Product)

Home Grown School Feeding:- multiple benefits



Nutrition



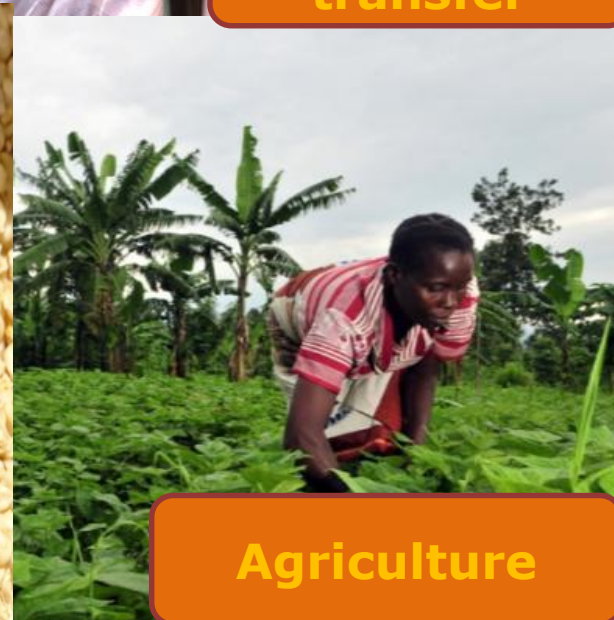
Value transfer



**Education/
gender**



Socioeconomic

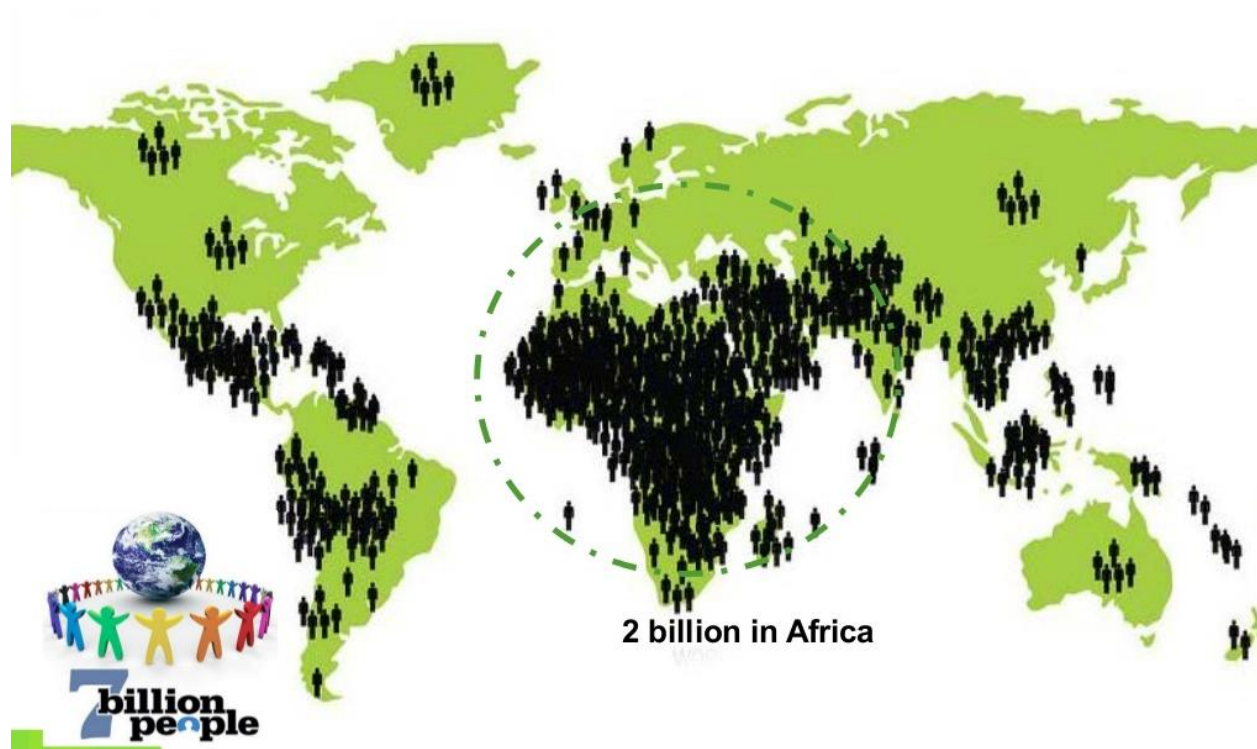


Agriculture

Global Food Systems: Where we are and how we got here.

Agriculture faces growing challenges

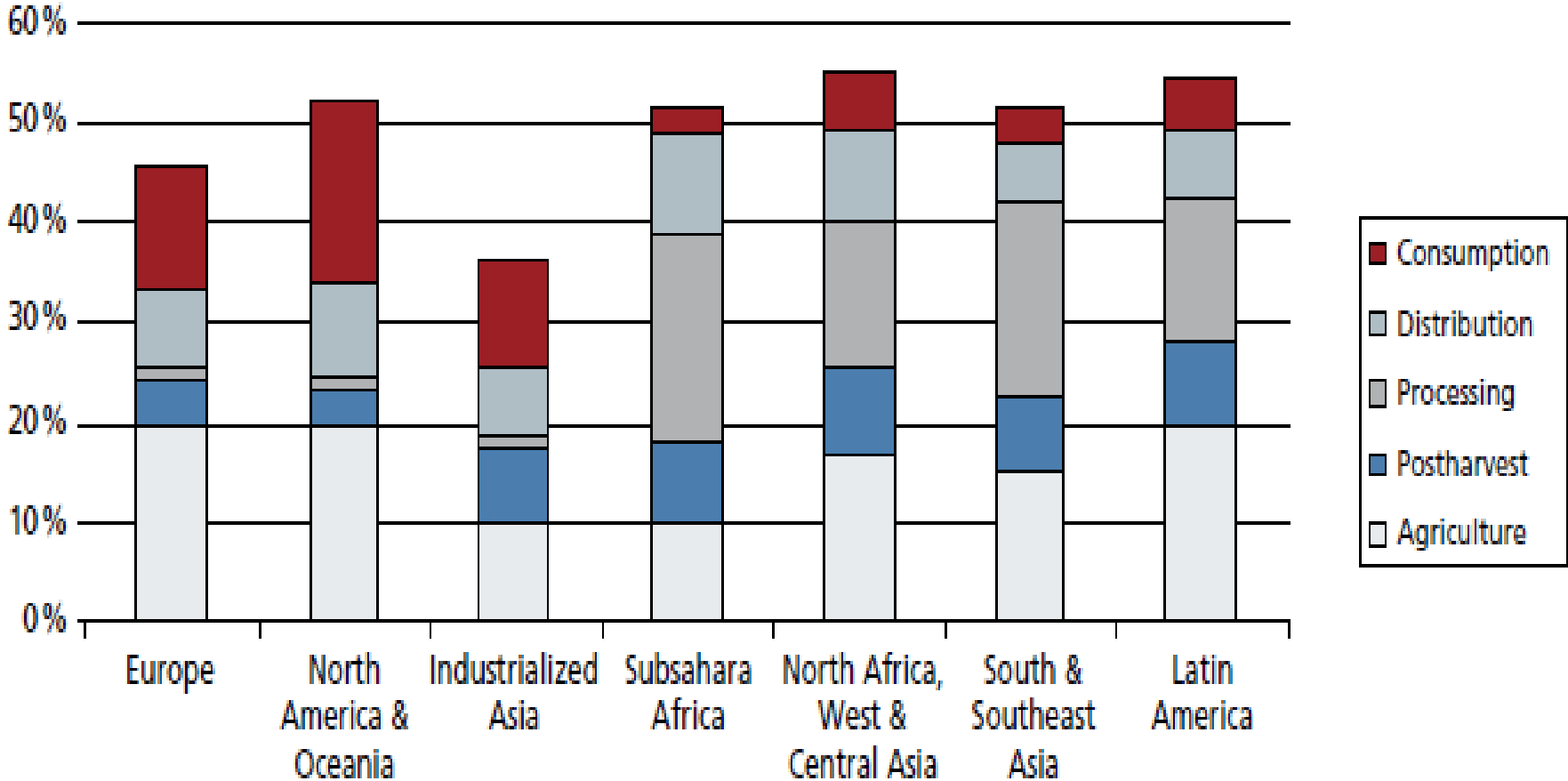
Demographics: Global population to increase to 9 billion by 2050



- **Climate change:** Depending on extent of temperature rise, Africa risks being able to produce only 13% of its food needs by 2050

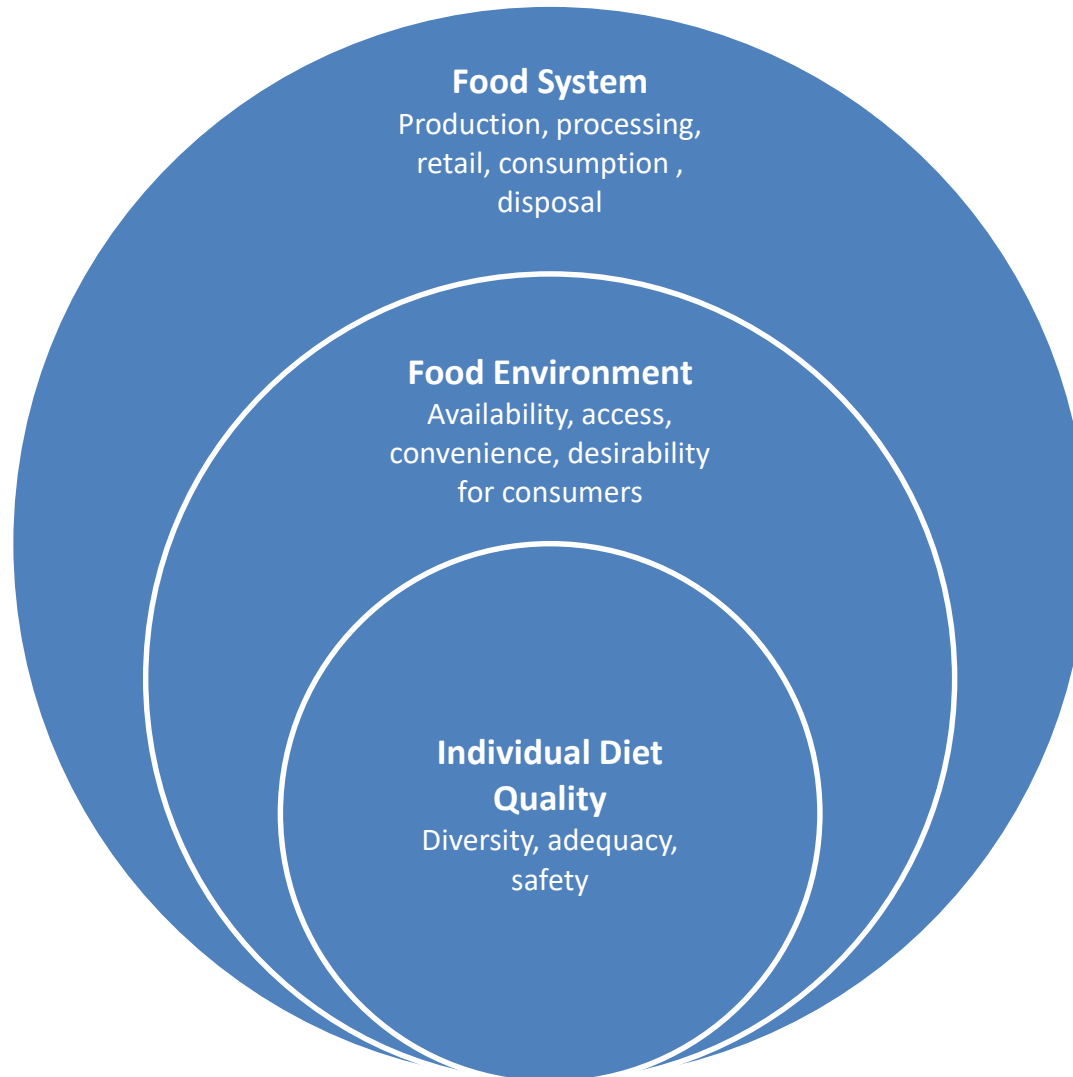
Extent of food losses and waste

Food losses - Fruits & Vegetables



HEALTHY DIETS ARE NOT THE DEFAULT

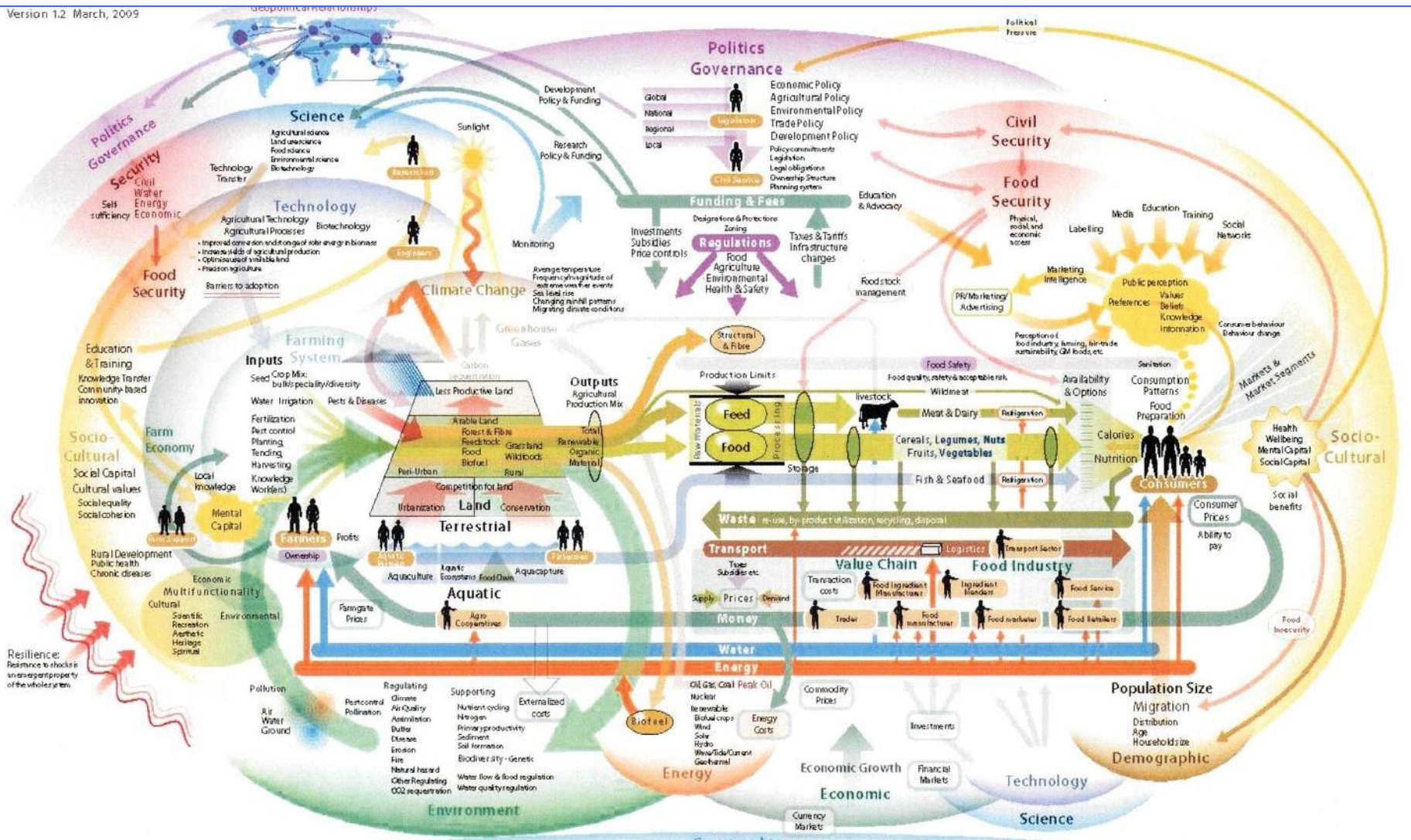
Food environments are shaped by food systems



HEALTHY DIETS ARE NOT THE DEFAULT

Food environments are shaped by food systems

Version 1.2 March, 2009



Corinna Hawkes,

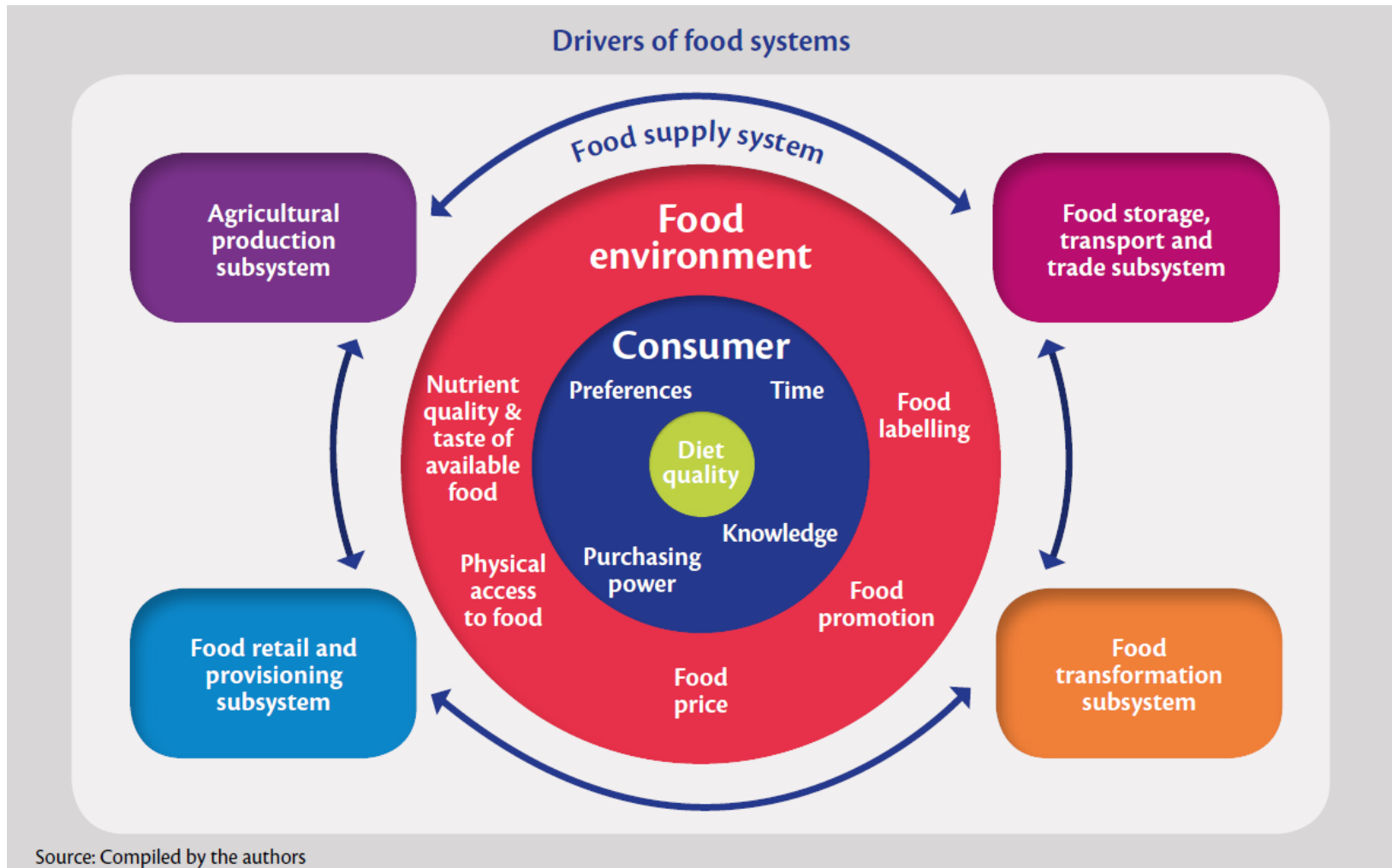
WHAT ARE “FOOD ENVIRONMENTS”?



The foods that are available in the spaces around people as they move through their daily lives, & how affordable, convenient & desirable they are

Links between diet quality and food systems

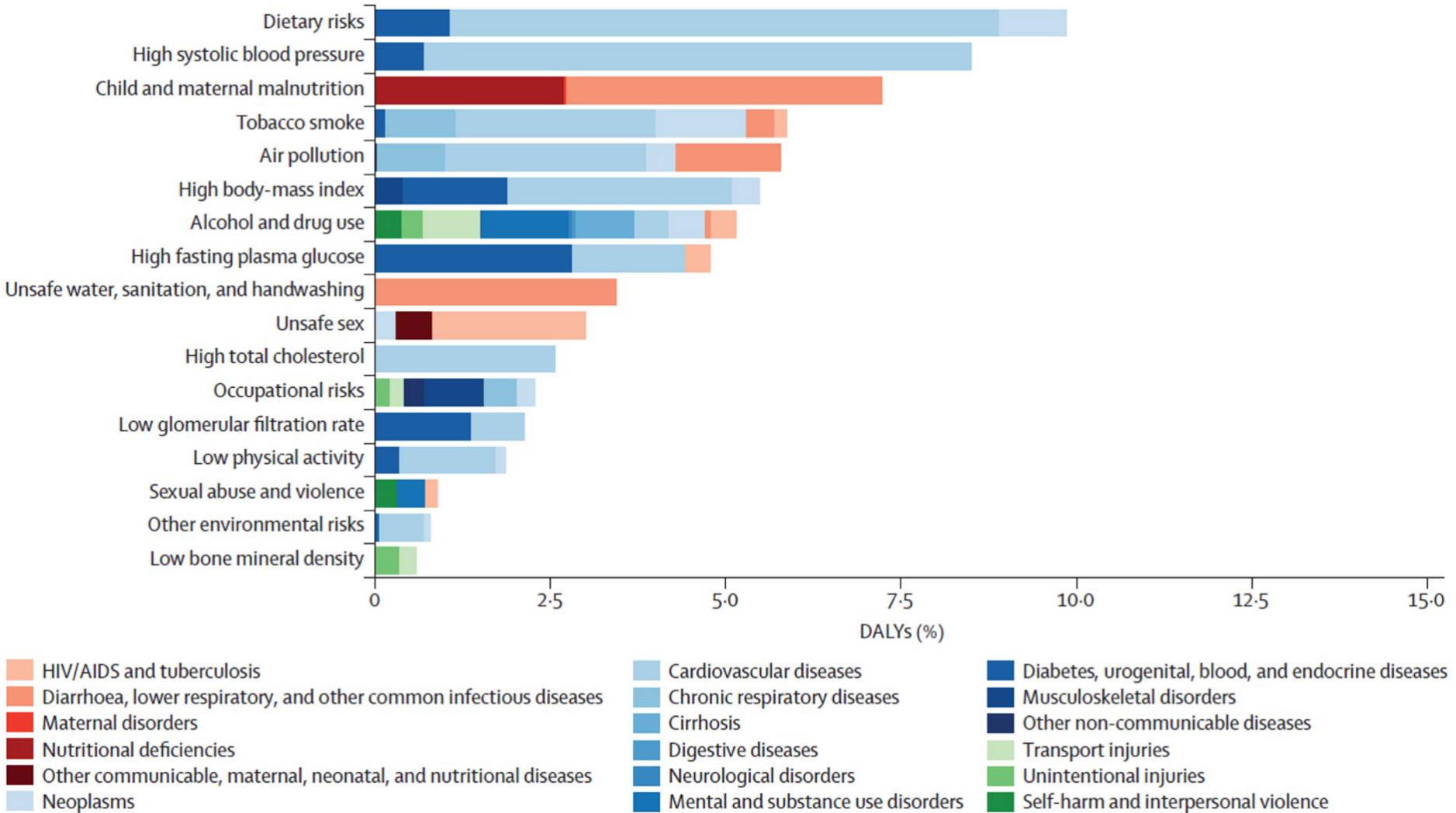
(source: Global Panel,2016)



Global risk factors contributing to early deaths

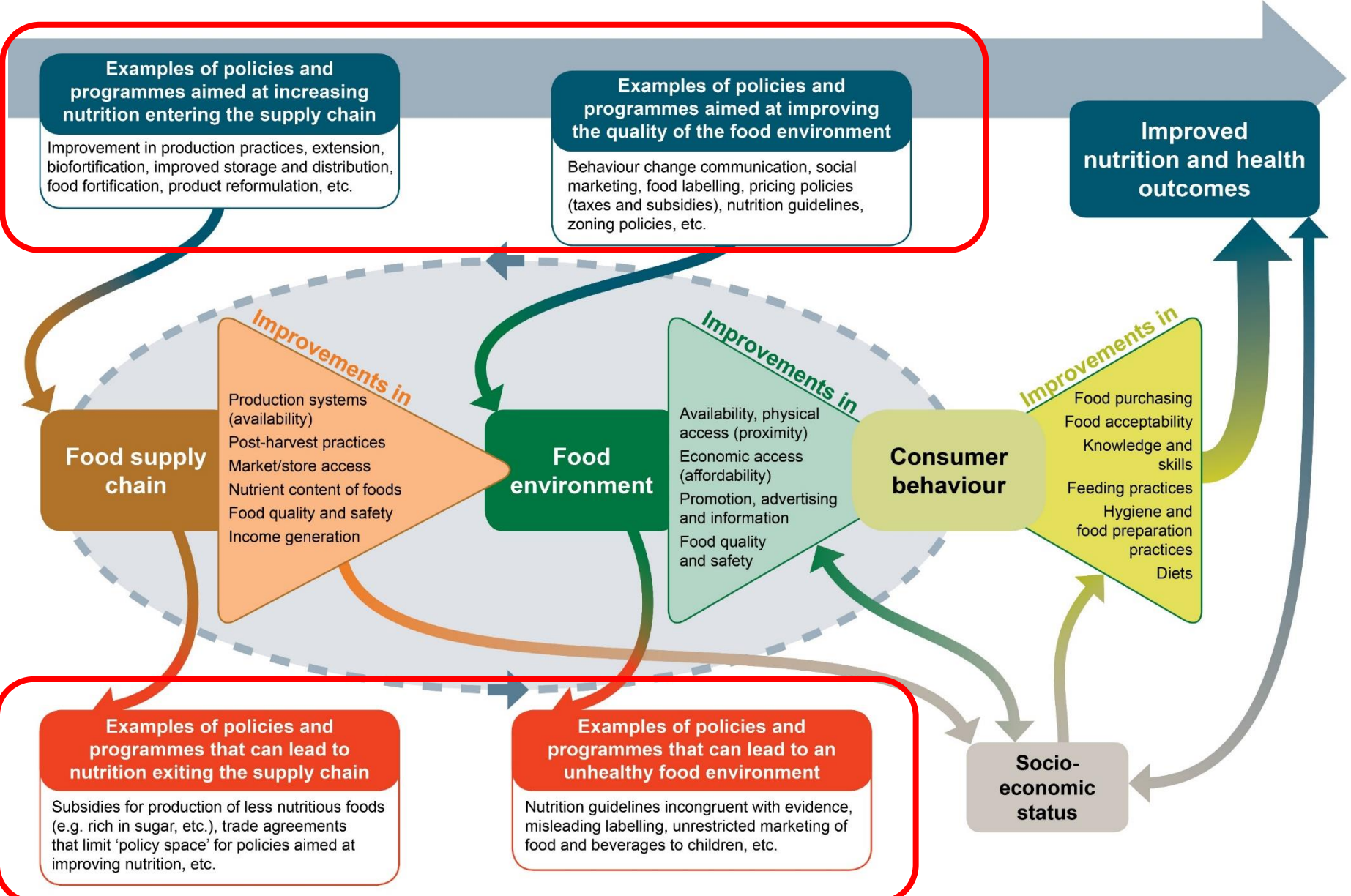
(Source: GBD 2013; Lancet 2015)

B



Ways to address nutrition across the food Systems

Improved food systems for better diets and nutrition

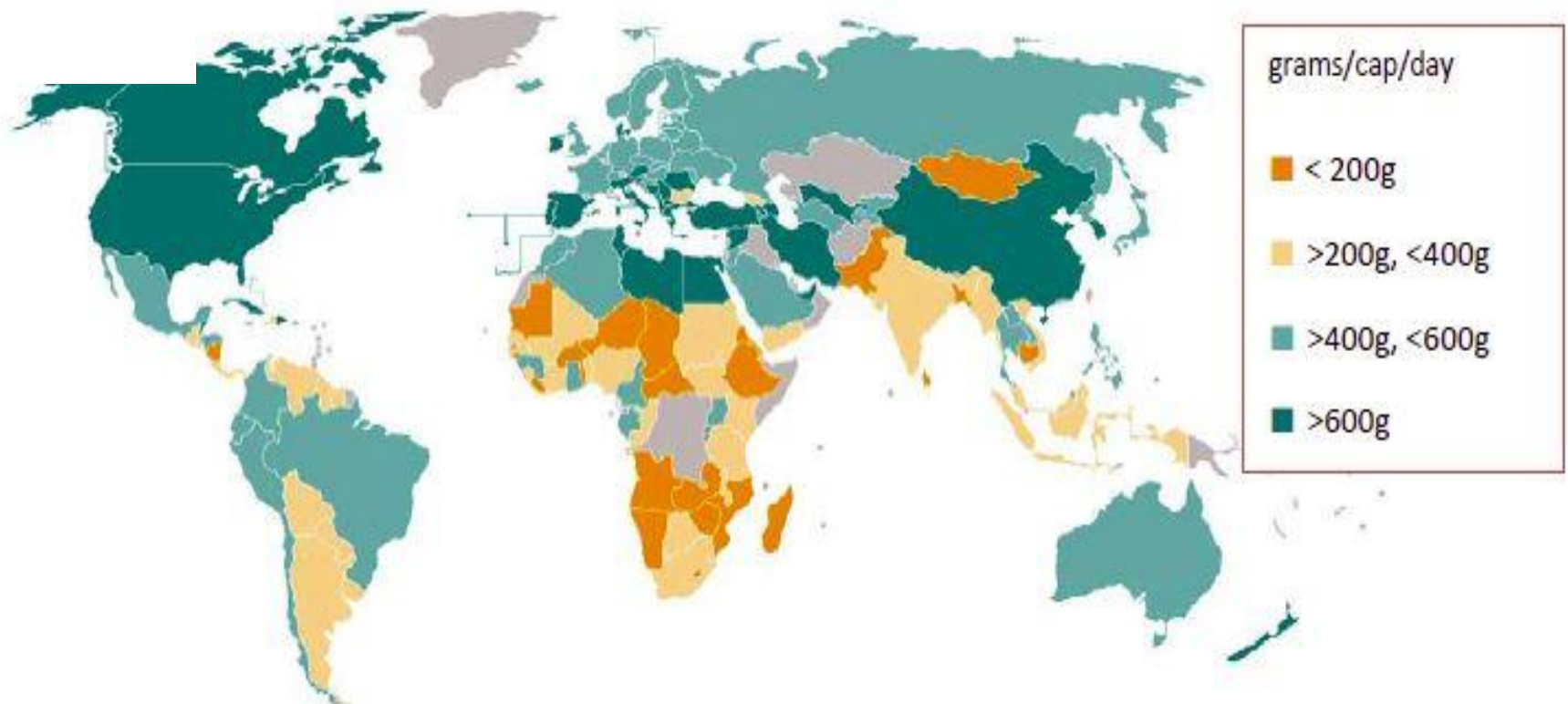


Ways in which Government and Policies can influence the Food Environment for Healthy Diets

HEALTHY DIETS ARE NOT THE DEFAULT

Agric-food policies and nutrition goals are not aligned

Figure 2.7 Fruit and vegetable supply per capita, 2009



Source: FAOSTAT. Map from Wikimedia commons.

Note: FAO database contains small island states not visible at this resolution.

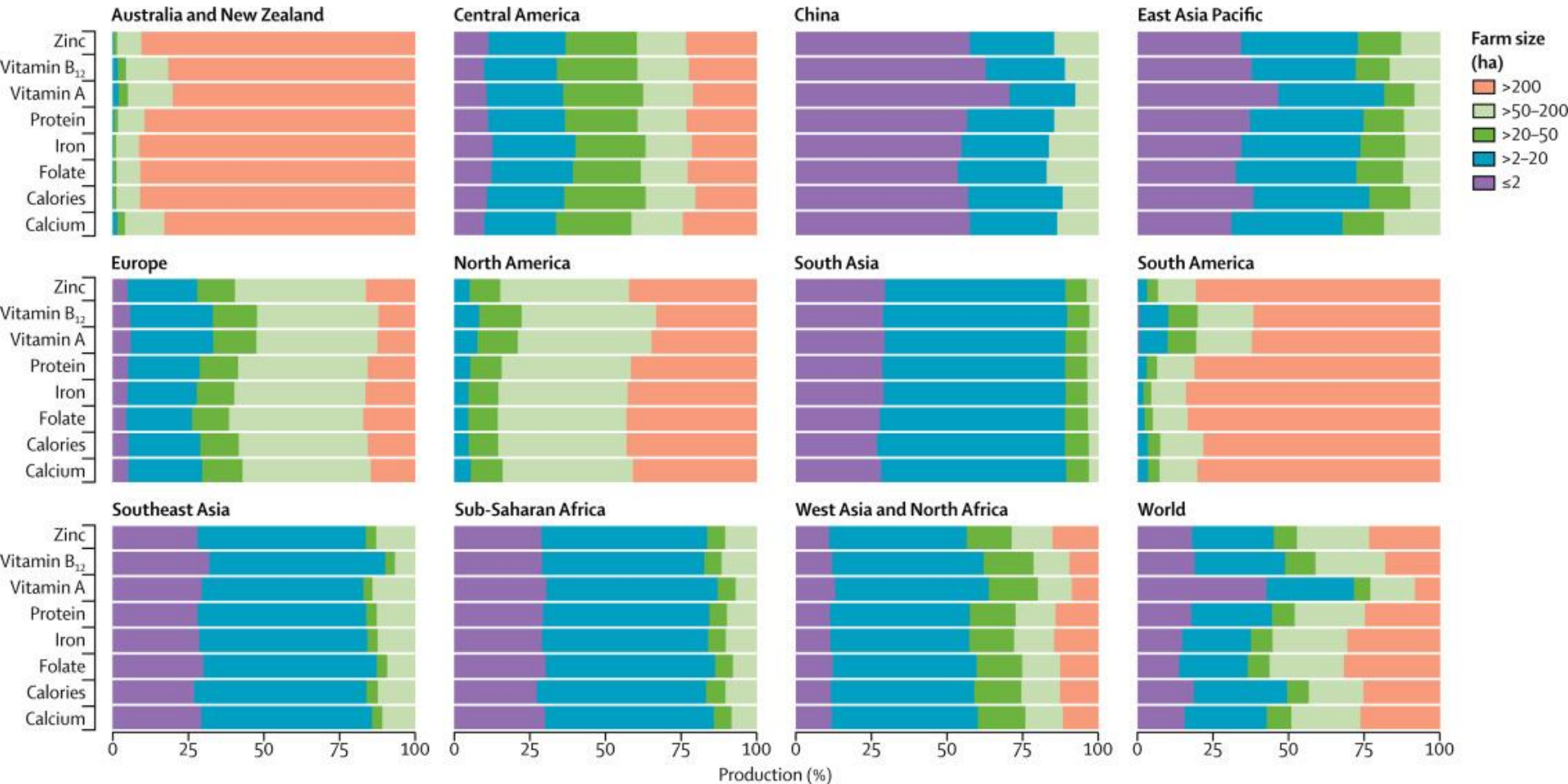
NUTRITION OBJECTIVES IN AGRICULTURAL POLICIES AND PROGRAMS:

**INCREASING AVAILABILITY AND AFFORDABILITY OF NUTRITIOUS,
HIGH QUALITY FOOD**



4. Support Small and Medium Holder Farmers

53-81% of micronutrients in the food supply are produced by small and medium farms. These farms make up 84% of all farms and 33% of the land areas globally and are more predominant in Asia and sub-Saharan Africa



Maintaining agro-biodiversity of traditional food systems is key



Policies and Strategies to promote healthier diets - cont.

- Taxing unhealthy food stuffs
 - The Sugar Tax e.g. Mexico, South Africa
- Taxing ultra-processed foods e.g. Chile
- Restrictions on advertising of unhealthy foods and snacks and drinks
 - E.g. Brazil
- Mandatory food labelling
 - e.g. Europe, USA, Canada, Japan etc.

EMPOWER CONSUMER:

USING FOOD LABELLING TO INFLUENCE FOOD ENVIRONMENTS

THE CHILI EXPERIENCE



In Chile, one out of three children under 6 years of age is overweight. Starting from June 27th, 2016, a law of food labelling and advertising will be active to curb the ongoing epidemic increase of obesity and non-communicable diseases. It includes:

- incorporating easy-to-understand front-of-packages labelling and specific messages addressing critical nutrients:



- decreasing children's exposure to unhealthy foods by restricting marketing, advertising and sales, in particular in schools.

Food Based Dietary Guidelines: Countries with official FBDGs



FBDGs: Communication tool to promote healthy diets and nutritional well-being.

We need data for better policy making

KNOW WHAT PEOPLE EAT

BETTER DATA
BETTER POLICIES
BETTER DIETS



TAILORED
ANSWERS
DIFFERENT

GLOBAL INDIVIDUAL FOOD CONSUMPTION DATA TOOL (FAO/WHO GIFT)
PROVIDING TAILORED ANSWERS FOR HEALTH, NUTRITION AND AGRICULTURE POLICY

- FAO/WHO Global Individual Food Consumption Tool
- Need for a clear **definition of Healthy diets** that links to agriculture improved nutrition and optimal health outcomes

Global Opportunities to
Reform the agriculture and
food systems for Healthy Diets

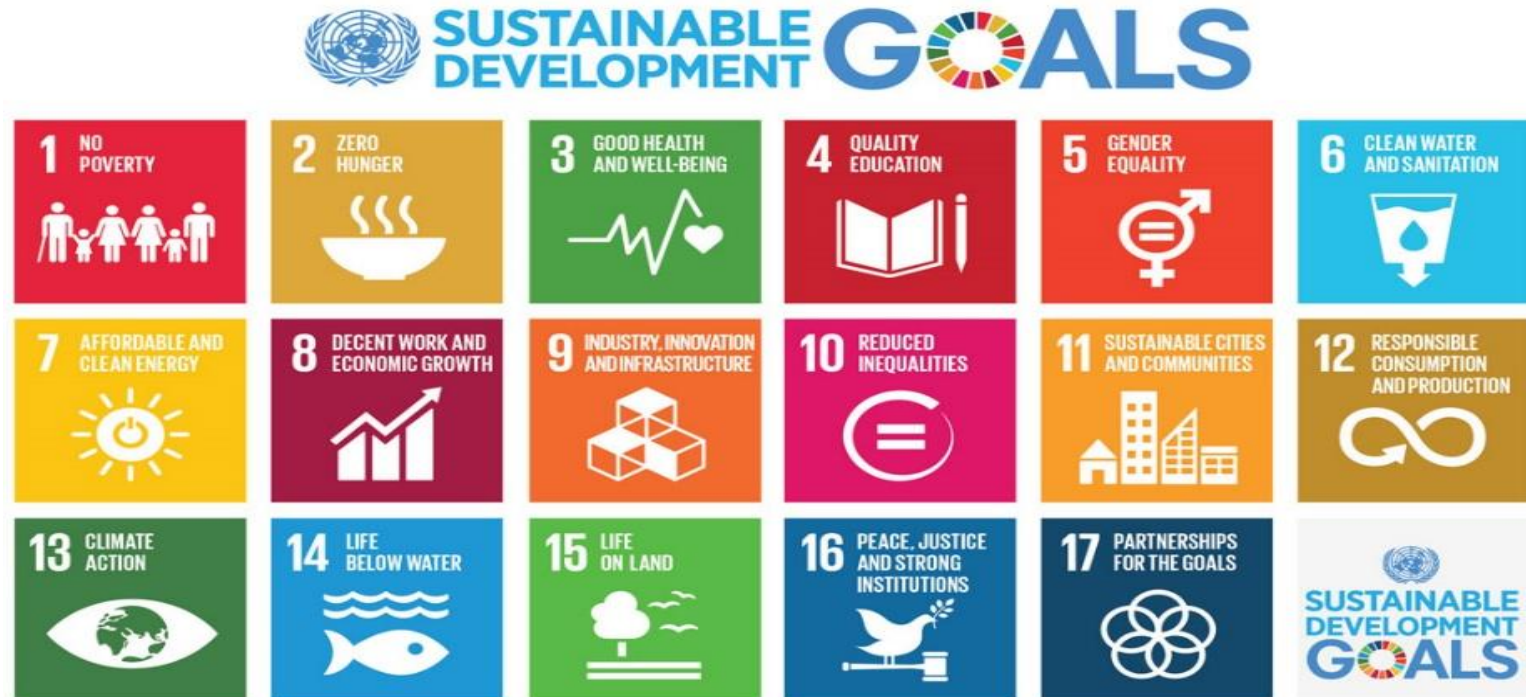
Global Agriculture Agenda – What and who drives it ?

- The UN System – FAO, IFAD, and CFS etc.
- The CGIAR system - Who is the CGIAR?

Consultative Group on International Agricultural Research (+50 years)

...ILRI, WorldFish, IRRI, Bioversity International, CIP,
Africa Rice Center, CIAT, CIMMYT, IFPRI, IATA,
ICRISAT, ICARDA, CIFOR...

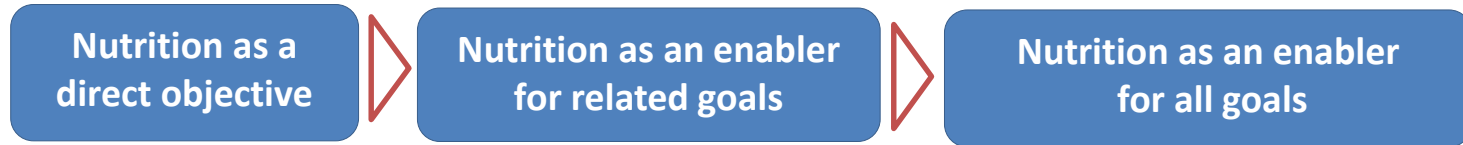
The 2030 Agenda for Sustainable Development: “...We pledge to leave no one behind”



Goal 2: End hunger, achieve food security and improved nutrition and promote sustainable agriculture

Goal 3: Ensure healthy lives and promote well-being of all at all ages

Nutrition is central to the SDGs



SDG Vision for nutrition:
End all forms of malnutrition, address the nutritional needs throughout the lifecycle, give universal access to safe and nutritious food sustainably produced and ensure universal coverage of essential nutrition actions.

UNITED NATIONS DECADE OF
ACTION ON NUTRITION



2016-2025



General Assembly

Distr.: General
15 April 2016

Seventieth session
Agenda item 15

Resolution adopted by the General Assembly on 1 April 2016

[without reference to a Main Committee (A/70/L.42 and Add.1)]

**70/259. United Nations Decade of Action on Nutrition (2016–
2025)**

Aim: To accelerate implementation of ICN2 commitments, achieve Global Nutrition and Diet-related NCD targets by 2025, and contribute to the realization of the SDGs by 2030

- The Nutrition Decade **is for everybody**
- An opportunity to build **momentum to fight all forms of malnutrition**
- A time for all stakeholders to **take ACTION**
- A unique opportunity **to work together** to end malnutrition in all its forms

Six Action Areas to address within the Decade

- 1. Sustainable food systems for healthy diets**
- 2. Aligned health systems providing universal coverage of essential nutrition actions**
- 3. Social protection and nutrition education**
- 4. Trade and investment for improved nutrition**
- 5. Enabling food and breastfeeding environments**
- 6. Review, strengthen and promote nutrition governance and accountability**

Where to next? A holistic approach is required...

- Working with the **entire agriculture and food systems+**
- **Multi-sectoral and inter-disciplinary approach**, with links to health systems, education, and social protection
- **Policy coherence** between agriculture, food, health, trade, education, gender, environment etc.
- **Increased investments** for nutrition programming
- **Capacity building** at all levels and across sectors
- **Continued advocacy** by all to all
- **Telling good stories** for impact.
- **Agriculture taking centre stage** for optimum nutrition – beyond quantity
- Promoting **good governance** for food systems and nutrition
- Holding ourselves (individually and collectively) to **account**

In the end...

“When the music and drumbeat changes, the dance must also change”

African, Nigerian Yoruba proverb

NUFFIELD can and sure will change the world dance of agriculture, nutrition and food systems – Go NUFFIELD!!!!

Thank You!

Nutrition:
Putting people
at the heart of
our work

