



# FEED THE FUTURE

The U.S. Government's Global Hunger & Food Security Initiative

This presentation is part of the

## **Agriculture and Nutrition Global Learning and Evidence Exchange (N-GLEE)**

held in Kampala, Uganda from December 10-12, 2012.

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Strengthening Partnerships, Results  
and Innovations in Nutrition Globally



# Making agriculture work for nutrition: from challenges to opportunities

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# Nutrition in the context of food security

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- “Food security exists when all people at all times have physical and economic access to sufficient, safe and nutritious food that meets their dietary needs and food preferences to lead a healthy and active life” (WFS, 1996)
- National food security vs. *household food security*
- Need to create an enabling environment at community and household level to support good nutrition of individuals, esp. pregnant and lactating women and young children:
  - life-cycle approach
- Food security → **Healthy diets** (for all forms of malnutrition)

# New challenges to food security

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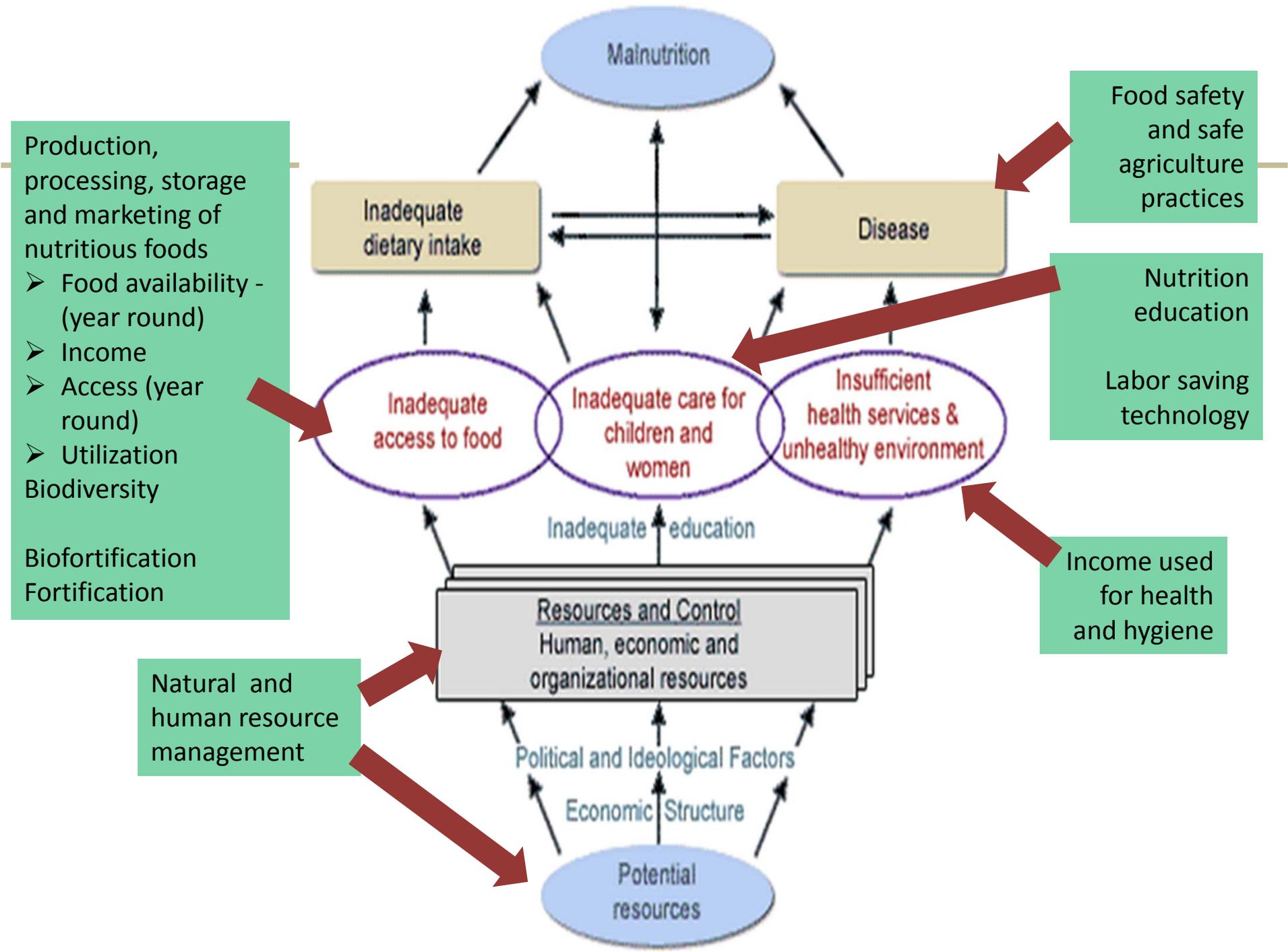
- A growing, young and urbanizing population
- Changing consumption patterns:
  - Greater reliance on markets
  - Increased used of processed foods
  - Increase or loss of diet diversity
- Food price volatility
- Climate change → Increased occurrence of shocks
- Access to productive resources
- Reconciling economic and nutritional priorities
- Diet-related disease and double-burden of malnutrition

# A global momentum on food ... *and nutrition?* ... security

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- L'Aquila Initiative – GAFSP
- CAADP – Maputo Declaration in 2003; “revival” in 2010
- High Level Task Force for Food Security & Comprehensive Framework for Action (2008/2011)
- G8 New Alliance
- Zero Hunger Challenge
- Committee for World Food Security
  - Discussions on Food and Nutrition Security





# Making agriculture work for nutrition

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- ❑ **First, do no harm!**
- ❑ Design for nutrition impact *and measure it*
- ❑ Understand local causes of malnutrition by *“livelihoods group”*
- ❑ Identify and target the most vulnerable
- ❑ Promote production and access to *diverse and safe* foods (livelihoods diversification)
- ❑ While protecting the environment (**sustainable diets**)
- ❑ Provide nutrition counseling
- ❑ Gender-sensitive approach (supporting women, engaging men...)
- ❑ Promote urban-rural linkages
- ❑ *Work with others – across sectors and stakeholders*

# Agriculture planning with a nutrition perspective

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- “Nutrition-sensitive value chains”: identifying opportunities for enhancing the contribution of specific value chains. (e.g. promotion of nutritious varieties)

*need to be put in the context of...*

- “Nutrition-sensitive food systems”: looking at food systems as a whole, ensuring environmental sustainability, dietary diversity and reduced dependency on single products

→ **Planning agriculture to meet  
CONSUMER NEEDS**



# Efforts in the food and agriculture sector to improve nutrition impacts

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- Strengthening the evidence-base:
  - indicators and stronger M&E
  - operational research and impact evaluations
  - Capacity-development on planning and evaluating for nutrition impact
- Improve mapping and investment tracking for F(N)S (CFS)
- Guidance and capacity development for mainstreaming nutrition in agriculture policies and programs
- Joint programming and targeting to link agriculture to health and social protection

# Challenges in making agriculture work for nutrition

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- Agriculture = private sector
  - how to create incentives?
  - from “trade-offs” to “win-wins”
- Accountability???
- Joint targeting: reconciling different approaches (community/household targeting vs. individual targeting)
- Institutional capacities at national and local level
  - government
  - private sector
  - civil society
  - How to scale up and sustain?

# Entry points for linking agriculture to multi-sectoral efforts on nutrition

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- Agriculture “waking up” to its role in improving nutrition
  - NEPAD CAADP Nutrition Capacity Development workshops
  - “nutrition-sensitive, responsible investments”
- Greater attention to governance and decentralization
- Increased attention to resilience / social protection
- School-based programmes:
  - School feeding
  - Link to local agriculture
  - Nutrition education and school gardens

# Nutrition...

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Putting people at the heart of agriculture

