



FEED THE FUTURE

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

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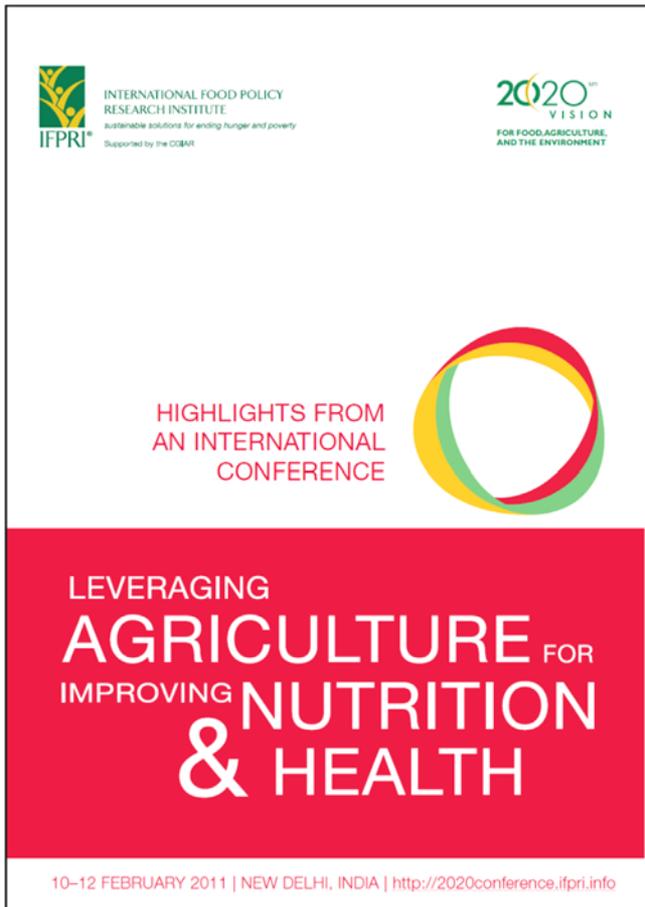

Strengthening Partnerships, Results
and Innovations in Nutrition Globally

Nutrition Sensitive Value Chains

Strengthening the linkages between
agriculture and nutrition

March 6, 2013

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Reference: Hawkes and Ruel, 2011. Value Chains for Nutrition. Background paper #4. IFPRI 2020 Conference on Leveraging Agriculture for Improved Nutrition and Health. New Delhi, 2011.

The Concept: Value Chains

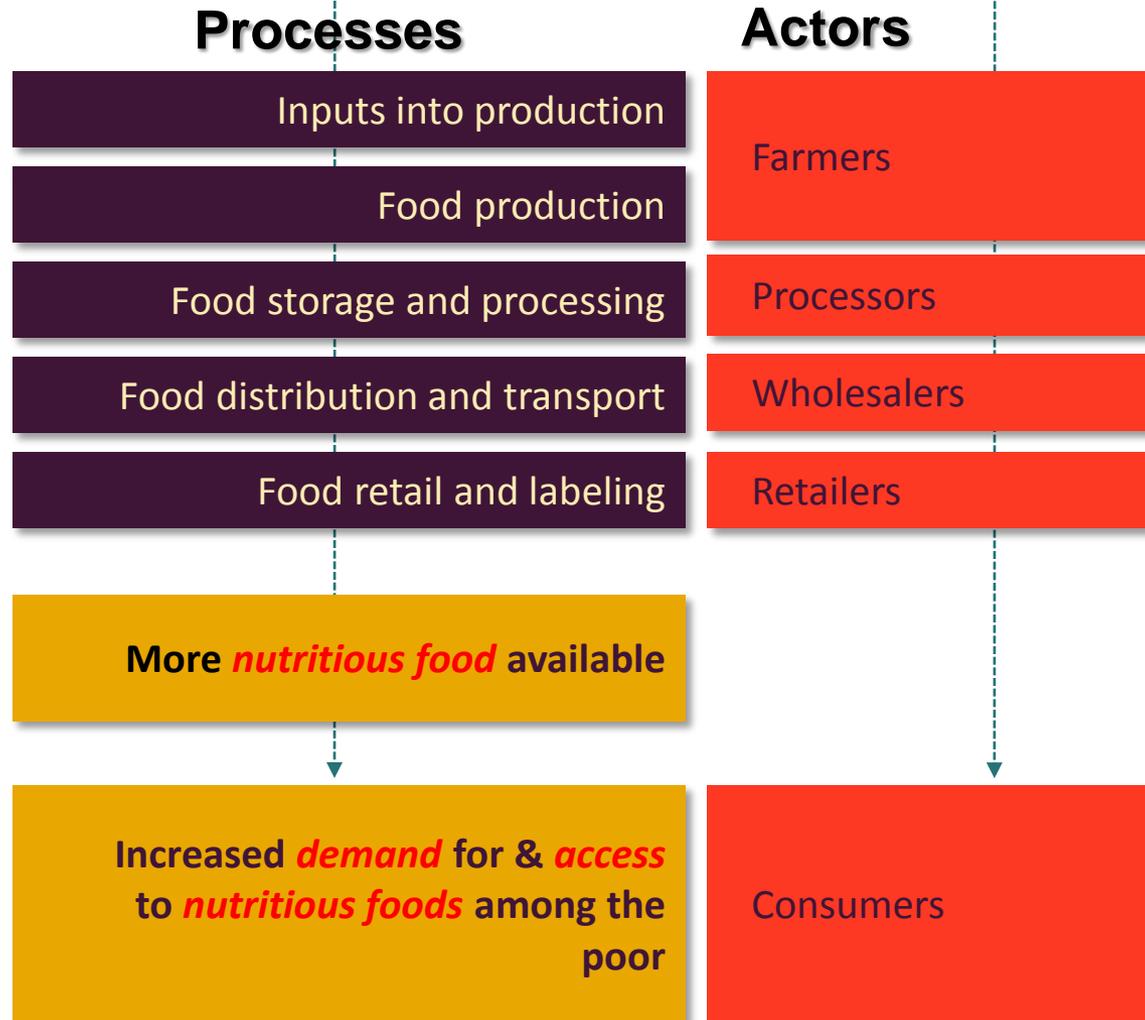
- In agriculture, the term value chain refers to: **the full range of activities that are required to bring a food product from conception, through the different phases of production, to delivery to final consumers and disposal after use.**
- A “*value* chain” exists when all of the actors in the chain operate in a way that maximizes the generation of “value” (usually economic value) along the chain.

Nutrition-sensitive Value Chains

- A *nutrition sensitive* value chain will maximize the potential for added *nutritional* value along the chain, by maximizing, conserving, or adding nutrients at key points.
- **Goal:** Increase the demand for, and access to nutritious foods by identifying and using leverage points to improve nutrition through the value chain

AIM: TO MAKE MORE NUTRITIOUS FOODS AVAILABLE TO THE POOR; AND INCREASE THE DEMAND FOR AND ACCESS TO NUTRITIOUS FOODS AMONG THE POOR

Nutrition-Sensitive Value Chain



What may happen to nutrients along the VC?

Value Chain

Processes

Actors

Inputs into production

Food production

Food storage and processing

Food distribution and transport

Food retail and labeling

Food available to consumers

Food purchased by consumers

Farmers

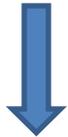
Processors

Wholesalers

Retailers

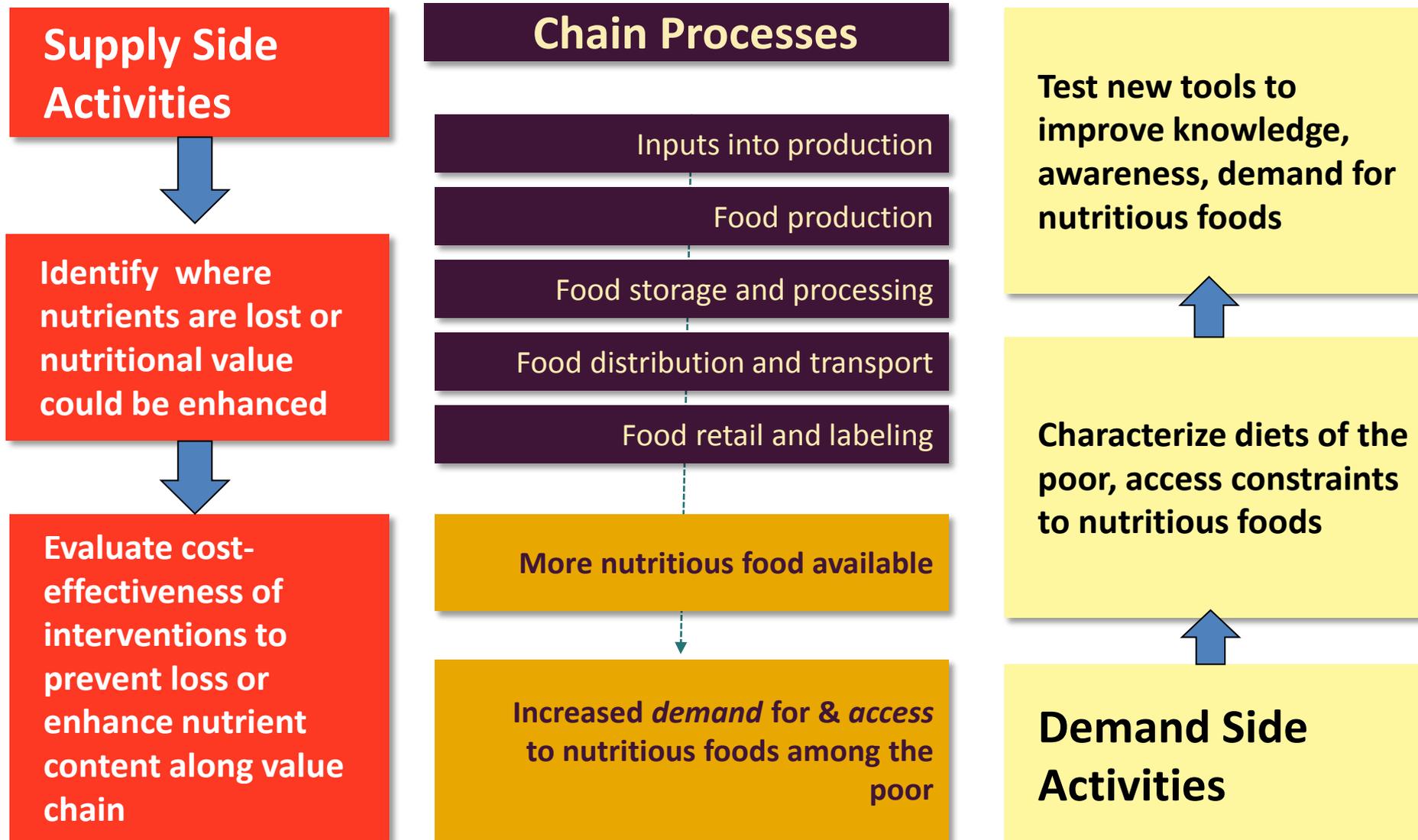
Consumers

- Low nutrients
- Lose nutrients
- Become unsafe
- Spoil
- Be wasted



- Less nutrients in food
- Less food available
- Food more expensive
- Food less affordable for the poor

Nutrition-Sensitive Value Chain



Conclusions

- Value chains have the potential to be developed to improve nutrition outcomes while also providing solutions to development challenges in other sectors, not least, in agriculture
- Value chain approaches provide a framework for leveraging agriculture for improved nutrition by improving availability, access, intake of nutritious foods; and creating demand
- Each value chain requires its own set of approaches
- There is an evidence gap

What are the Information Gaps?

- How feasible is it to design and implement nutrition sensitive VC?
- Which VC are most suitable for incorporating nutrition, in different contexts?
- Can the trade-offs between *economic* value and *nutrition* benefits be successfully addressed?
- What is the impact (and cost-effectiveness) of working on nutrition sensitive VC to increase access of the poor to nutritious foods, diverse diets, nutrition security?
- What is the role of the public sector and how can public/private partnerships be successfully implemented in this context?
- Are nutrition sensitive VC a cost-effective approach to addressing the nutritional needs of mothers and children (1000 days)?