

# Agricultural Policy & Nutrition Outcomes

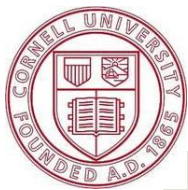
– getting beyond the pre-occupation with staple crops



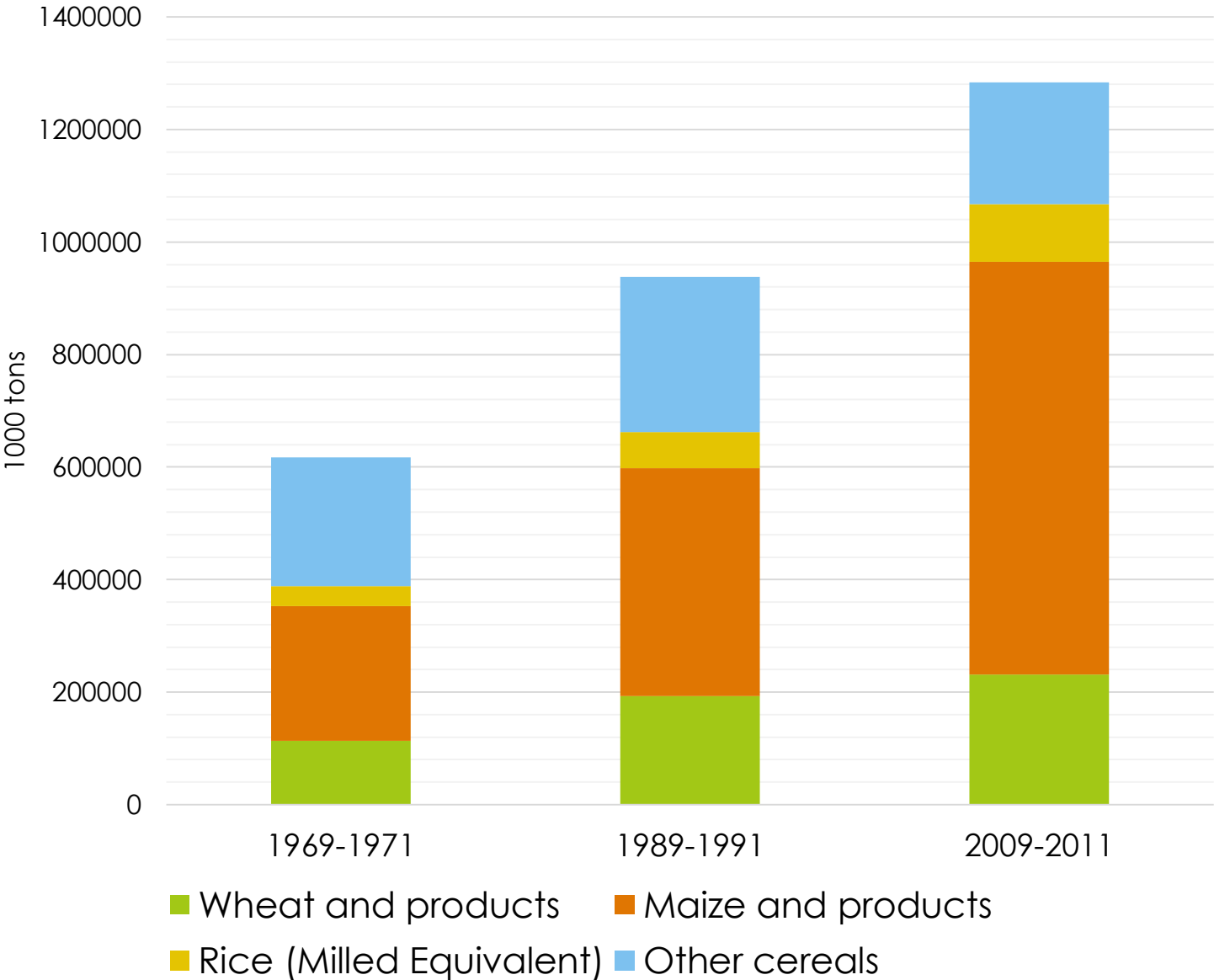
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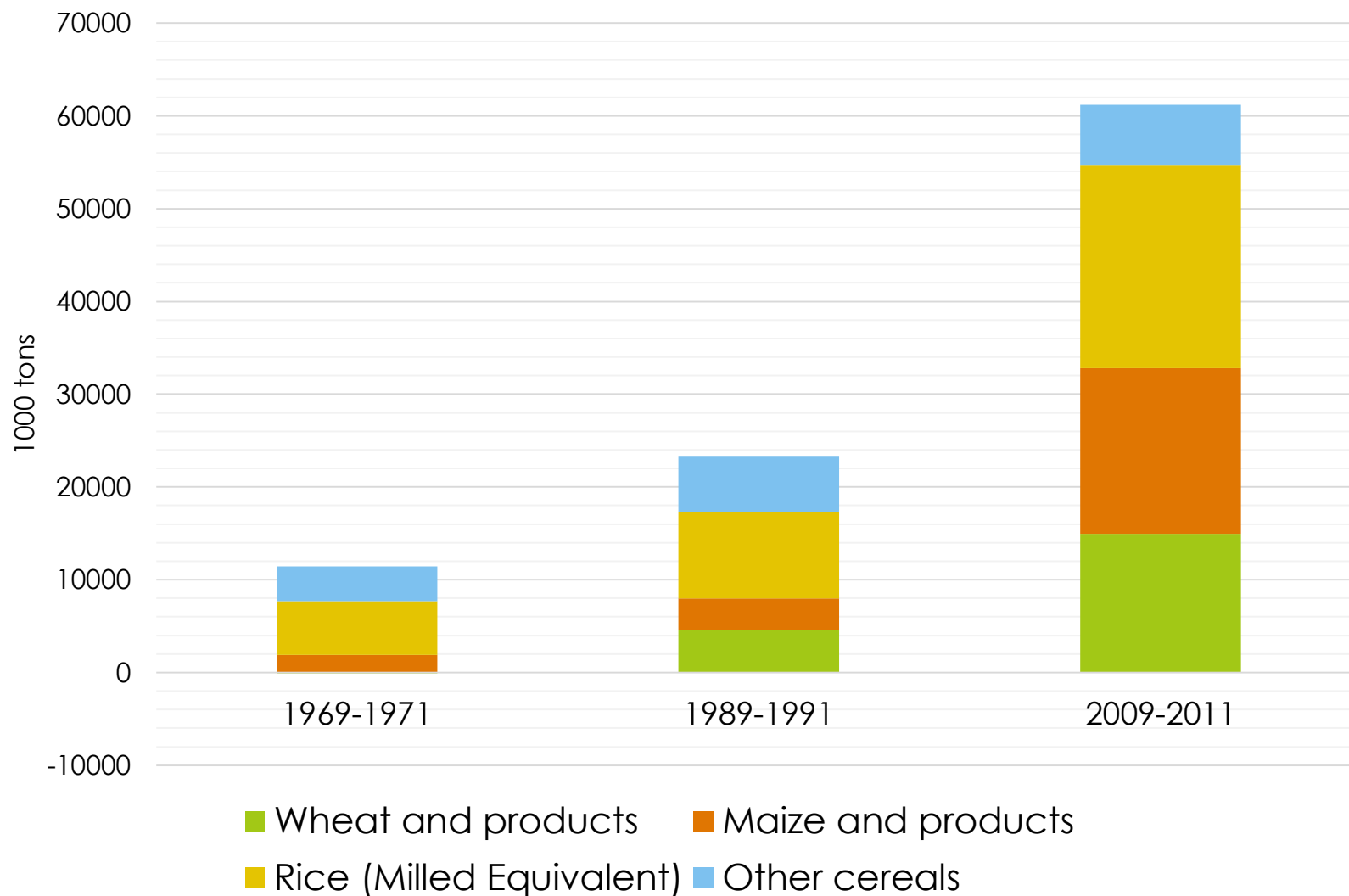
**College of Agriculture and Life Sciences**



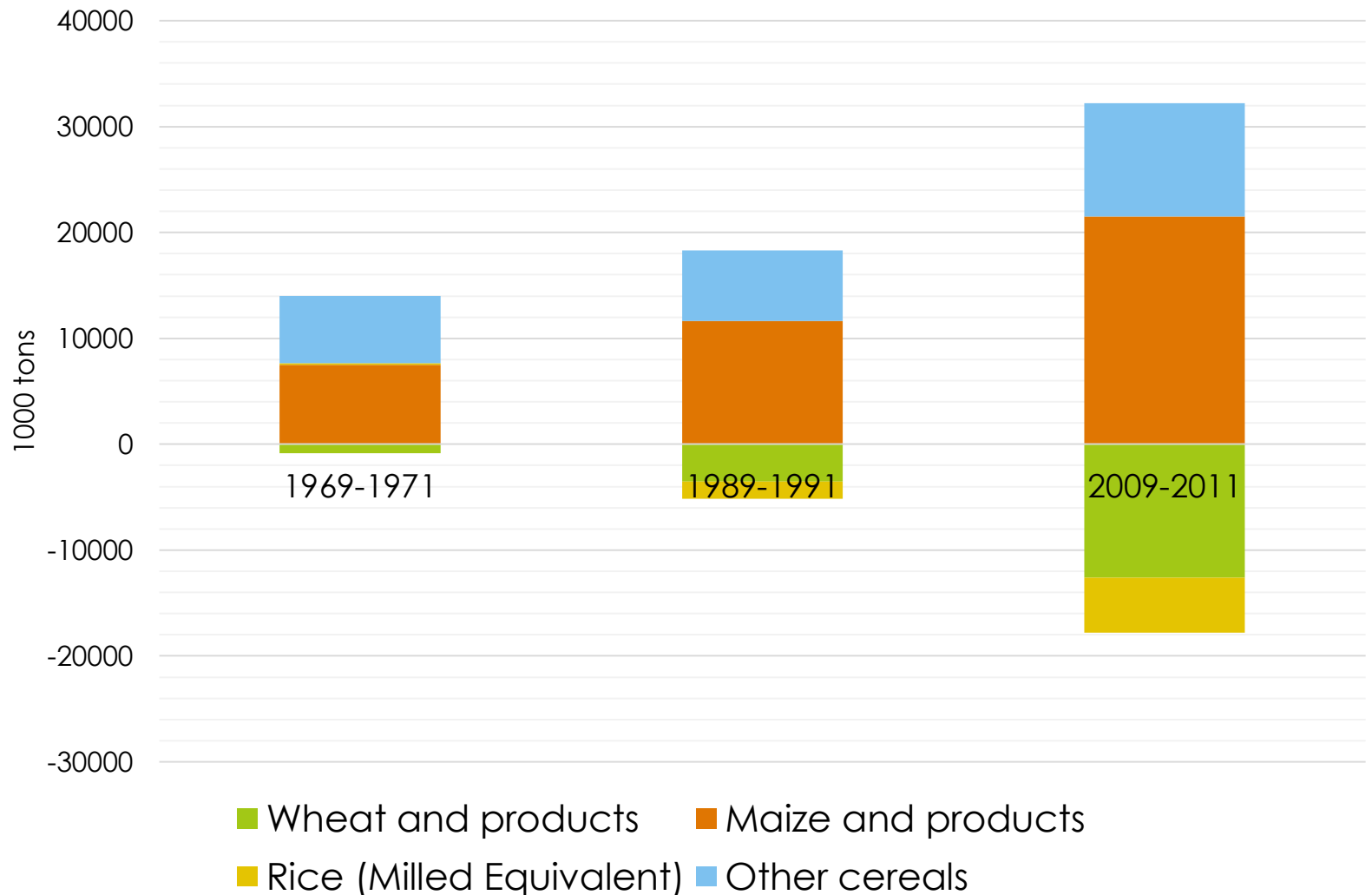
# Difference in global cereal production and food consumption 1969-2011



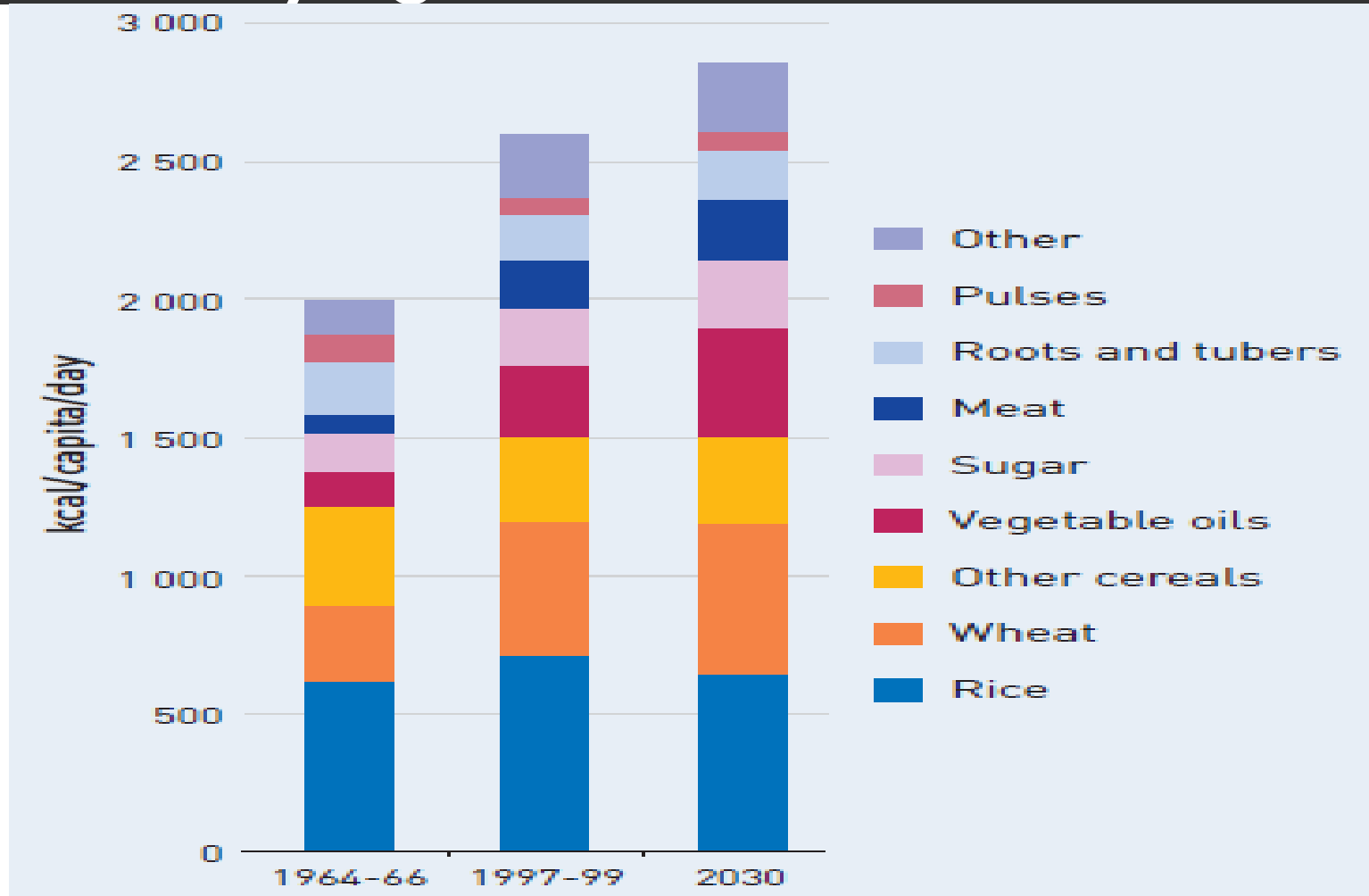
# Difference in cereal production and food consumption in Southern Asia 1969-2011



# Difference in cereal production and food consumption in Sub-Saharan Africa 1969-2011



# Diets in developing countries are diversifying .....



Source: FAO, World agriculture: towards 2015/2030

.....but production trends don't reflect diet diversification.

Why is producer response low for non-staples?

# Policies biased towards cereal production

- Green Revolution mindset: cereal self-sufficiency seen as fundamental to national food security
- Rapid increase in cereal production, decrease in real food price
- Rapid cereal intensification neglected micronutrient security:
  - Traditional crops displaced
  - Price of non-staple crops rose rapidly relative to staple crops

# Poor infrastructure and high transaction costs

- Lack of cold storage and reliable transport: public investment has been in storing of grain reserves
- Switching to non-staple cropping requires new skills and knowledge for small-holders
- Non-cereal crops are not supported or protected under most subsidy programs
- These challenges amount to very high risk that without incentive small-holders are unwilling to assume



# Donor funding and CGIAR priorities are not consistent with the diet transformation

- After huge rises in cereal production, donor funding for agriculture dwindled
- Rekindling of donor funding for ag in 2008, but still favoring cereal production
- Reinforcing the focus on increasing cereal crop production

# What are the options for crop-neutral intensification?

- Level playing field for policy support
- Infrastructure investments for transport & storage of perishable products
- Market development – investment in local markets, and reduce transactions costs of integrating into value chains
- Rationalize food stock policies, including local procurement & stocking options
- Delinking individual food security from national staple grain self-sufficiency

# Thank You

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