



Tackling Food Insecurity: Challenges Ahead

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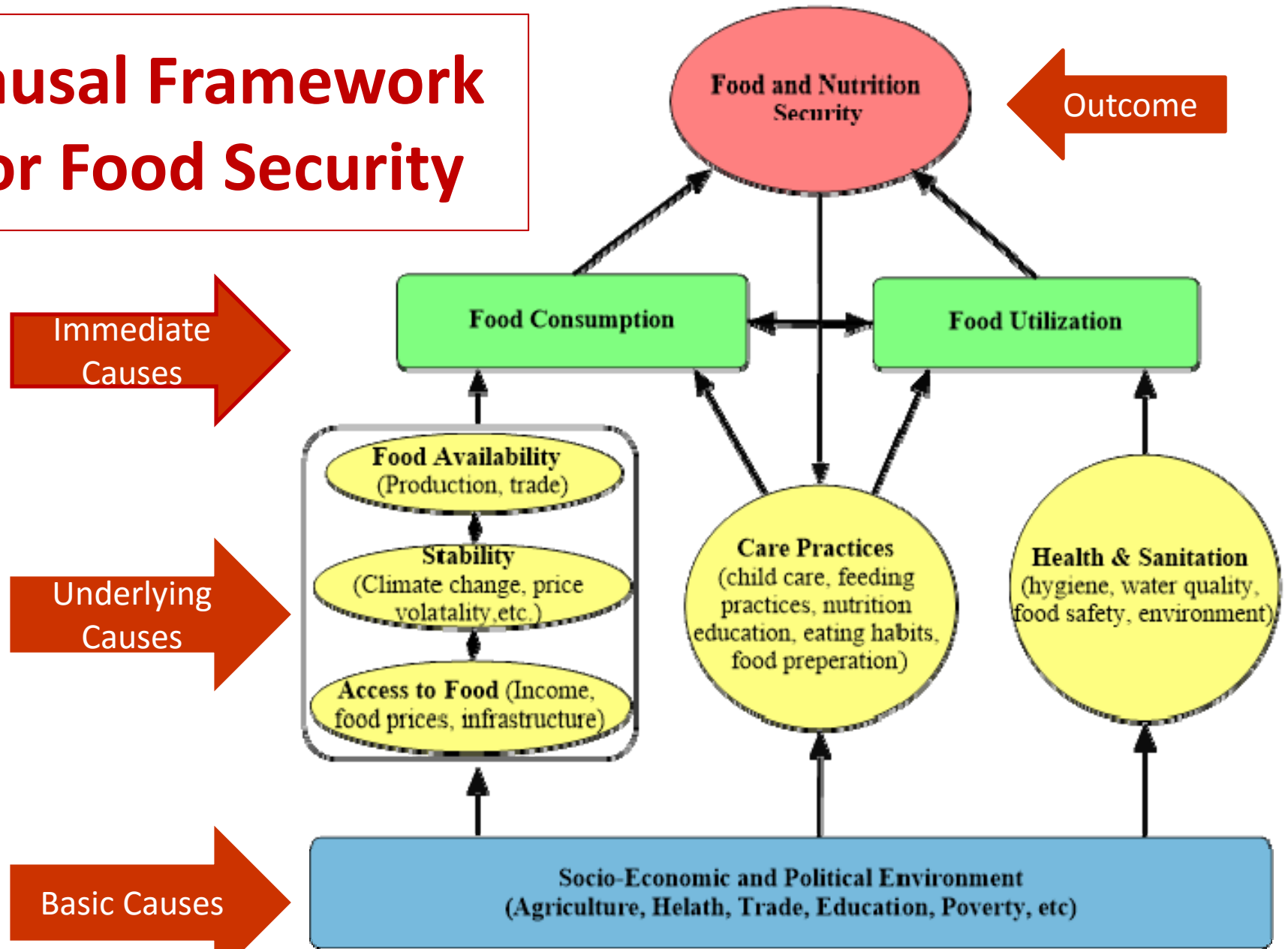


Food Security

“when all people, at all times, have physical, social and economic access to sufficient, safe and nutritious food to meet their dietary needs and food preferences for an active and healthy life” (FAO, 1996).



Causal Framework for Food Security



Are we food secure?



Food availability in Sri Lanka by major food groups in 2014

	Production		Imports		Available Supply	Food Net	Food (g/day)
	Qty (000Mt)	%	Qty (000Mt)	%			
Cereals	4,835.4	90.3	522.0	9.7	5,356.8	3,477.3	469.4
R&T	421.9	77.4	123.2	22.6	545.1	411.6	54.9
Sugar	54.9	9.3	539.0	90.9	592.9	556.5	75.1
Pulses	73.2	31.2	161.7	68.9	234.9	224.5	30.3
Vegetable	1,055.7	86.4	184.3	15.1	1,221.4	1,109.0	149.7
Fruits	609.8	94.8	62.5	9.7	643.1	631.9	85.3
Meat	162.1	98.3	2.8	1.7	164.8	164.8	22.3
Eggs	92.8	100.0	0.0	0.0	92.8	91.1	12.3
Fish	582.2	91.5	75.3	11.8	636.1	329.1	44.4
Milk	307.4	77.3	90.0	22.6	397.8	298.7	40.3
Oil & Fats	939.4	102.4	18.5	2.0	917.5	755.2	101.9
Total	9,134.7	84.6	1,779.2	16.5	10,803.1	8,049.8	1,085.9

Source: Food Balance Sheet 2014, DCS



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Per Capita Availability of Calories and Protein

	Calorie (Kcal)	Protein (g)
2005	2,430	60
2006	2,419	60
2007	2,369	60
2008	2,552	61
2009	2,434	62
2010	2,688	67
2011	2,573	66
2012	2,691	69
2013/14	2,863	75
2015	2,730	73

Source: Food Balance Sheets, DCS



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Trends in Household Income and Poverty

Survey period	Mean household income (Rs./month)	Incidence of poverty (%)
2002	12,803	22.7
2006/07	26,286	15.2
2009/10	36,451	8.9
2012/13	45,878	6.7

Source: HIES, DCS

The total number of road kilometers:

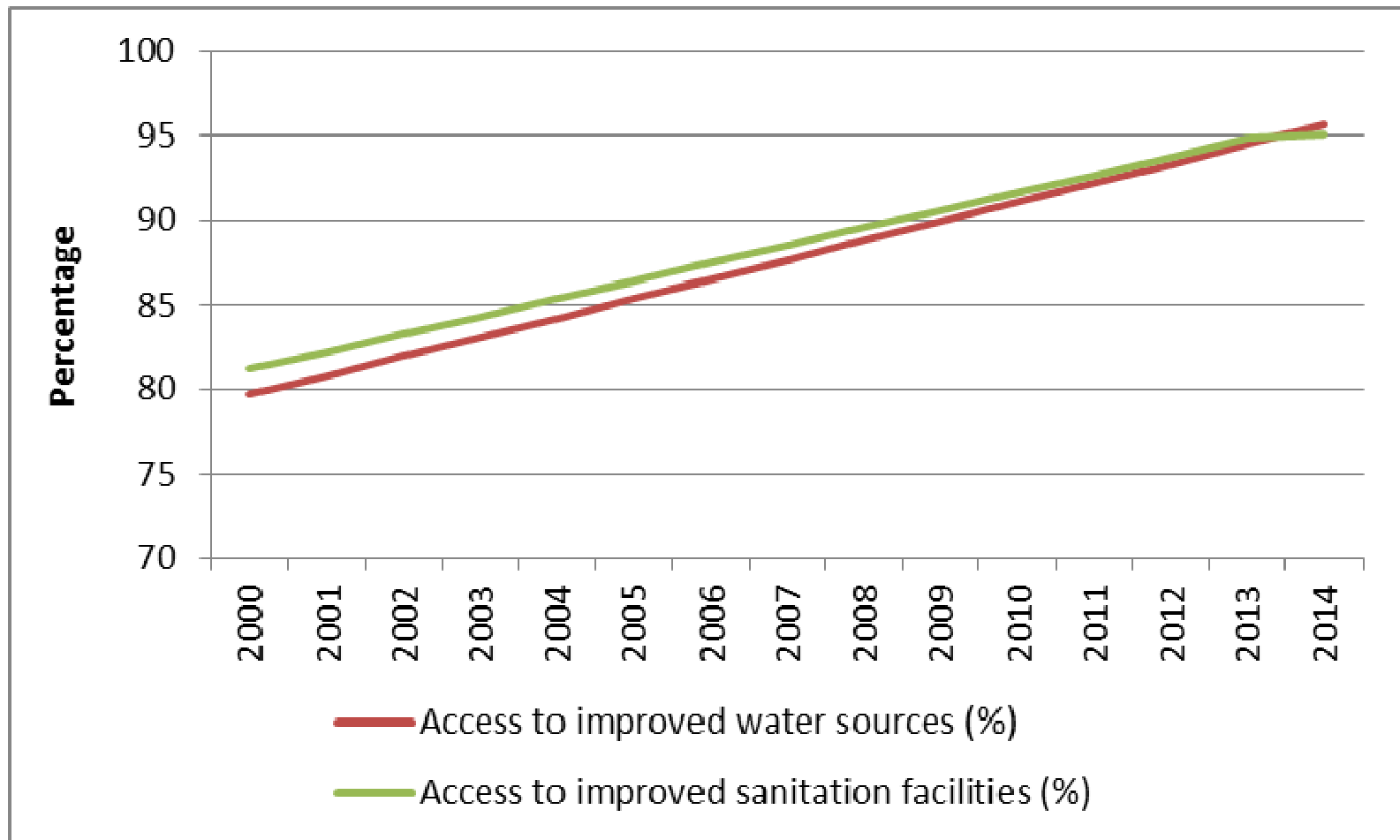
26,351 km in 2005 → 31,280 km in 2015



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Health & Hygiene

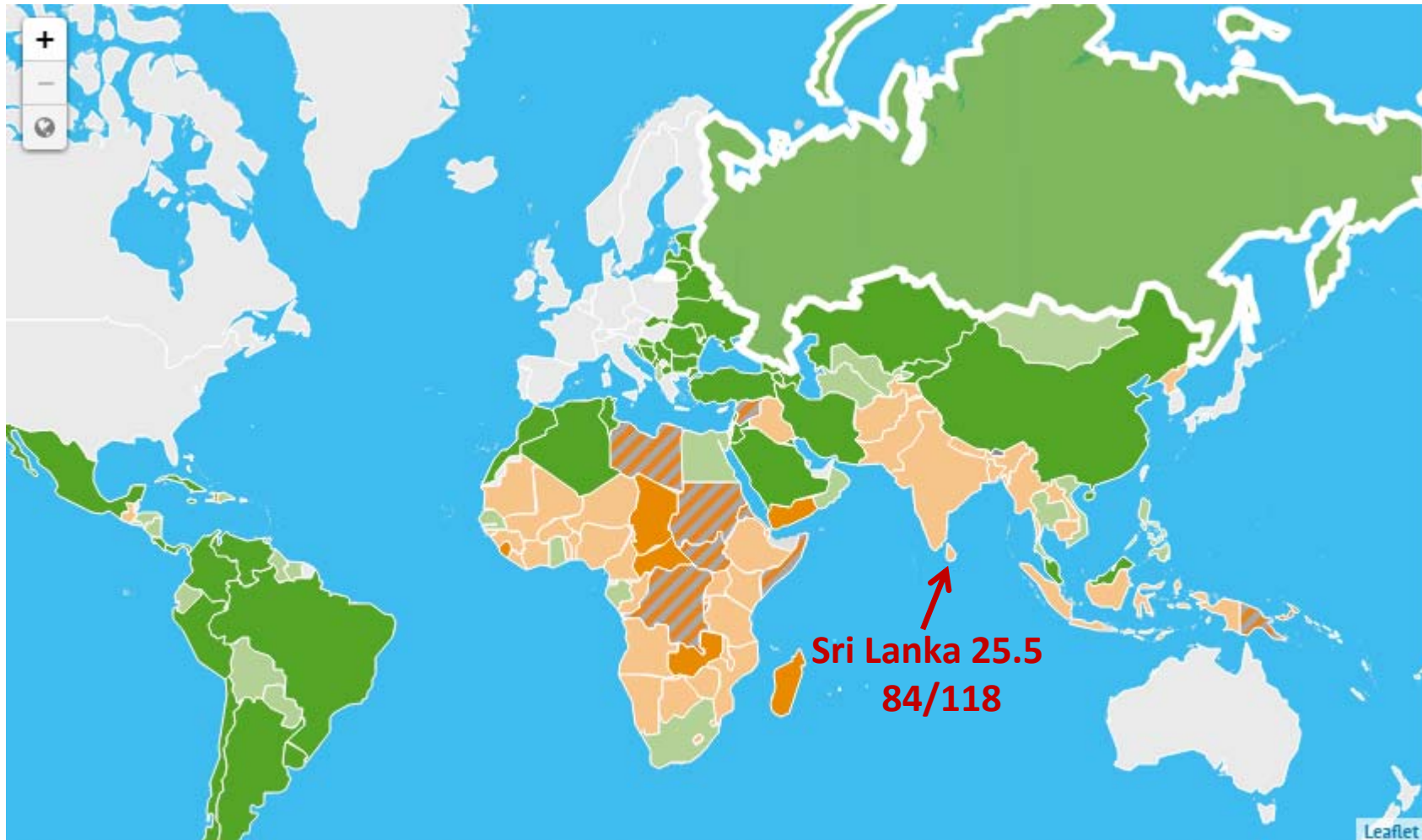


Source: FAOSTAT

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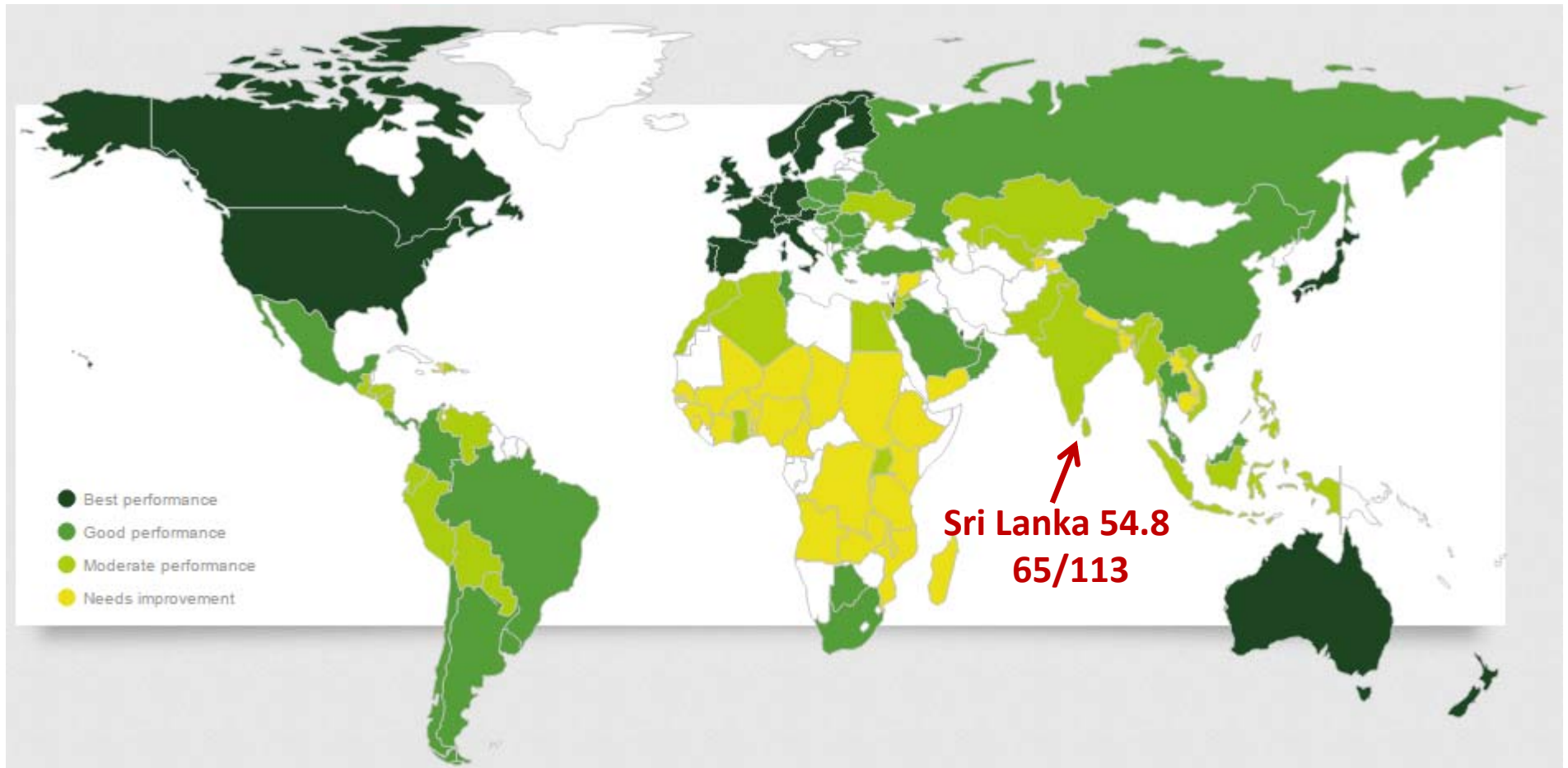
Global Hunger Index 2016



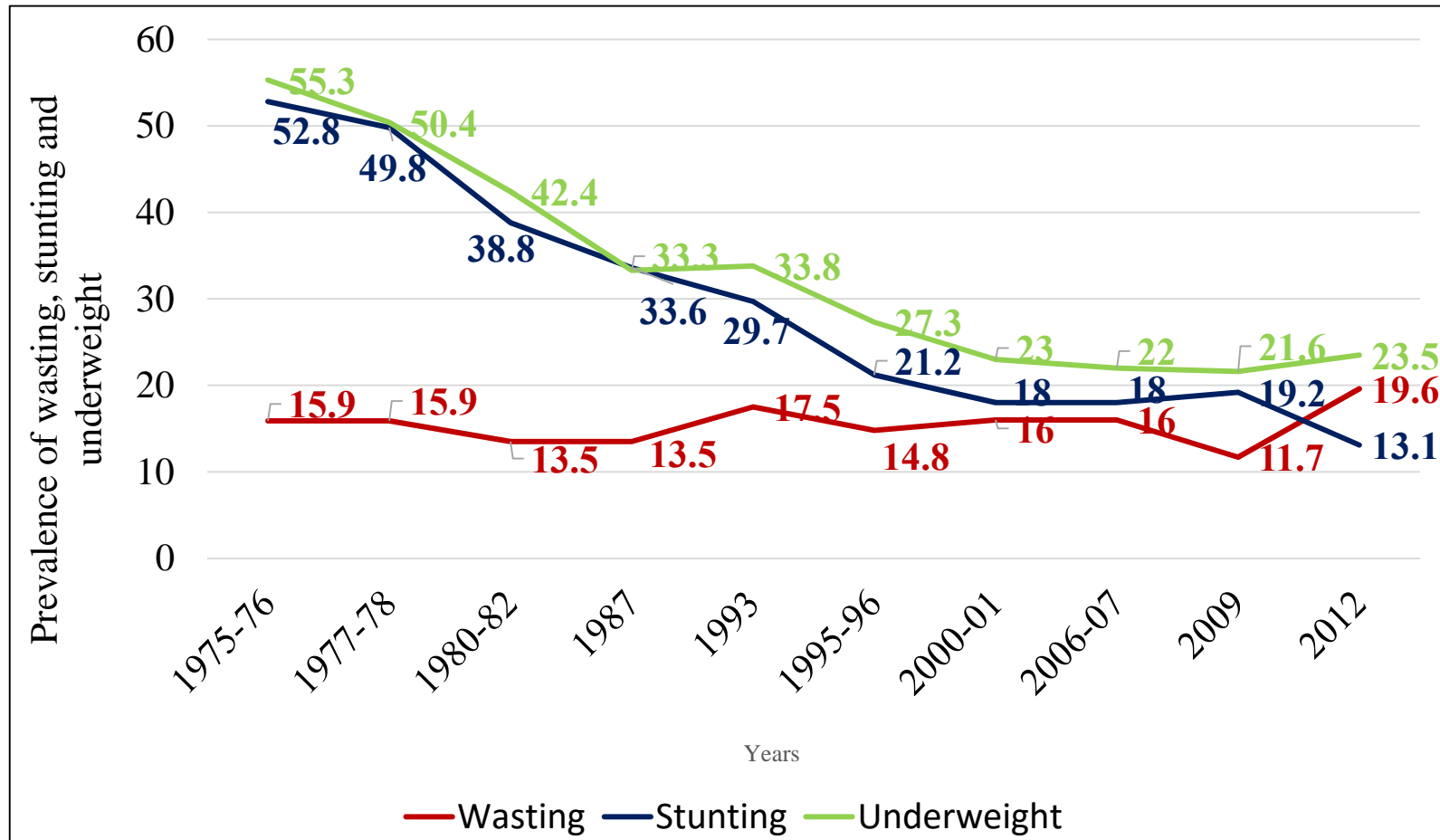
Sri Lanka 25.5
84/118



Global Food Security Index 2016



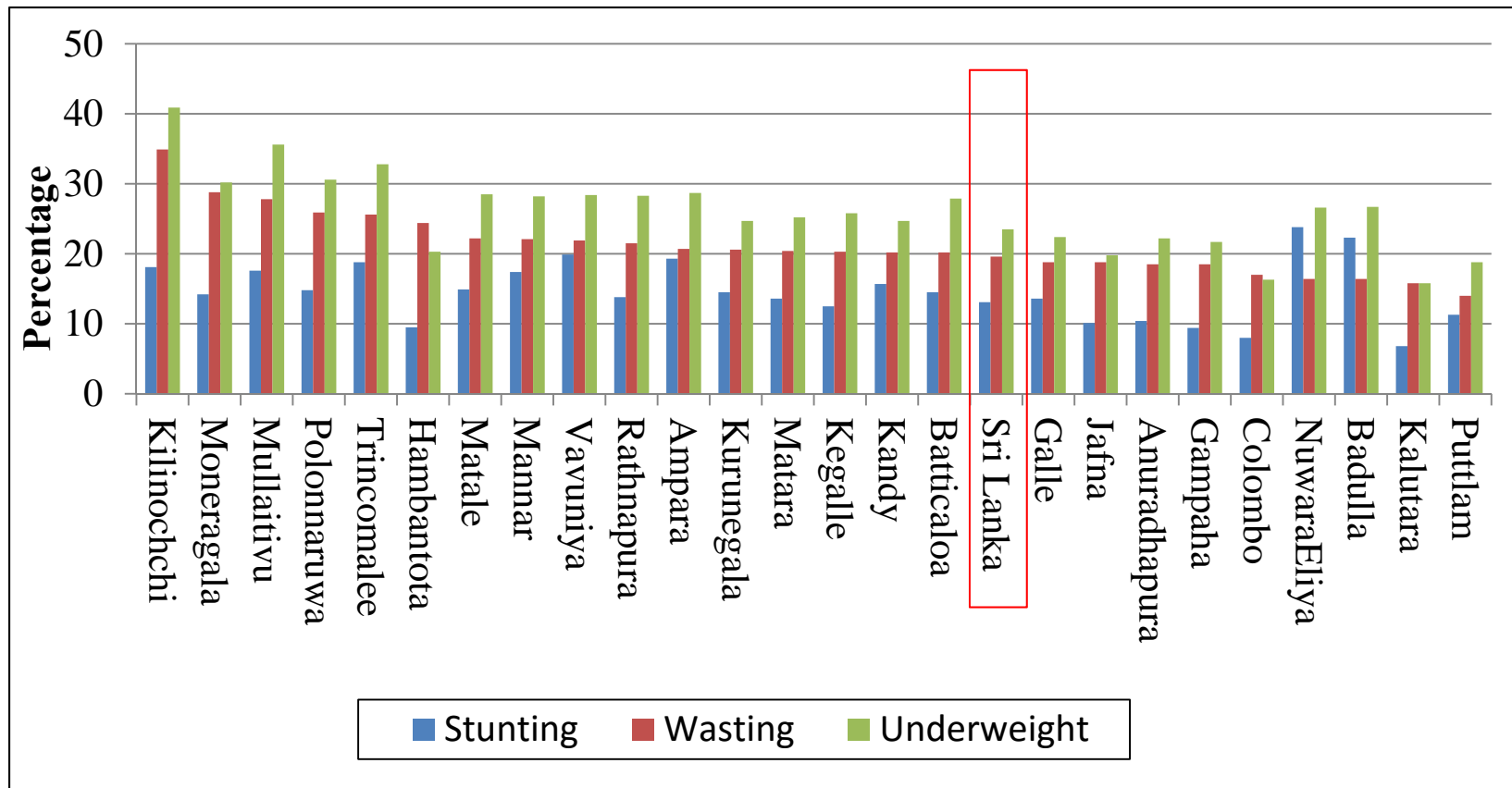
Malnutrition



Prevalence of Undernourishment in South Asia

Country	Undernourished population (%)
Afghanistan	26.8
Bangladesh	16.4
India	15.2
Maldives	5.2
Nepal	7.8
Pakistan	22
Sri Lanka	22

Disparity of malnutrition



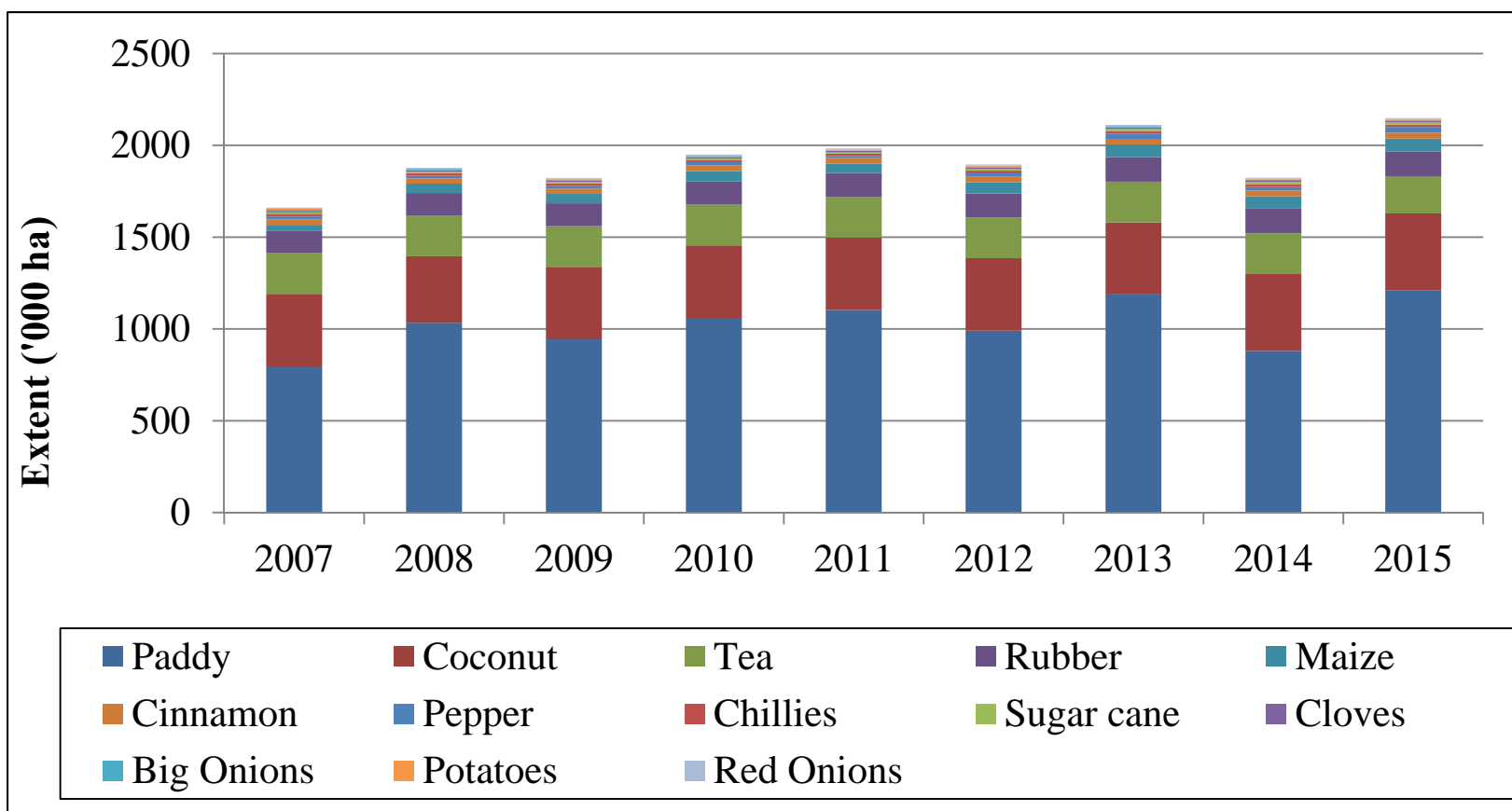
Are we producing enough nutritious food for the future?



Yield Trends of Major Selected Food Crops

Food product	Yield (t/ha)					
	2010	2011	2012	2013	2014	2015
Rice	4.5	4.0	4.4	4.3	4.3	4.4
Maize	3.2	3.2	3.7	3.1	3.4	3.7
Sorghum	1.2	1.4	1.5	1.4	1.4	1.7
Green gram	1.2	1.2	1.3	1.3	1.3	1.3
Cowpea	1.1	1.2	1.4	1.3	1.3	1.4
Soya bean	1.8	1.5	1.2	1.8	1.7	1.8
Black gram	1.0	0.8	1.0	0.9	0.9	0.9
Ground nuts	1.5	2.0	2.0	2.0	2.1	1.7
Red onion	11.9	11.8	11.9	12.1	13.0	12.5
Big onion	11.4	10.8	12.7	13.2	14.3	12.2
Chilies	3.7	3.4	4.0	4.8	4.6	4.7

Land use pattern in Sri Lanka



Impact of climate change on rice yield in Sri Lanka

Agro-climatic zone	Current yield (kg/ha)		% change in 2030		% change in 2050		% change in 2080	
	Maha	Yala	Maha	Yala	Maha	Yala	Maha	Yala
Dry-Low	3,498	3,863	-4.2	-6.5	-16.1	-19.8	-29.1	-34.2
Intermediate-Low	4,885	4,612	-2.7	-3.5	-10.6	-15.1	-24.8	-31.5
Intermediate-Mid	4,992	4,761	-1.9	-3.1	-9.3	-12.7	-22.5	-30.3
Intermediate-Upland	3,492	2,955	-1.3	-2.7	-7.5	-11.4	-20.3	-27.5
Wet-Low	3,910	3,711	-0.9	-1.5	-6.0	-10.4	-19.4	-25.1
Wet-Mid	3,538	2,795	-0.8	-1.4	-3.6	-8.2	-18.3	-23.6
Wet-Upland	3,134	2,706	5.7	3.1	2.1	-2.0	-8.6	-12.4

Source: Ahmed and Supachalasai (2014)



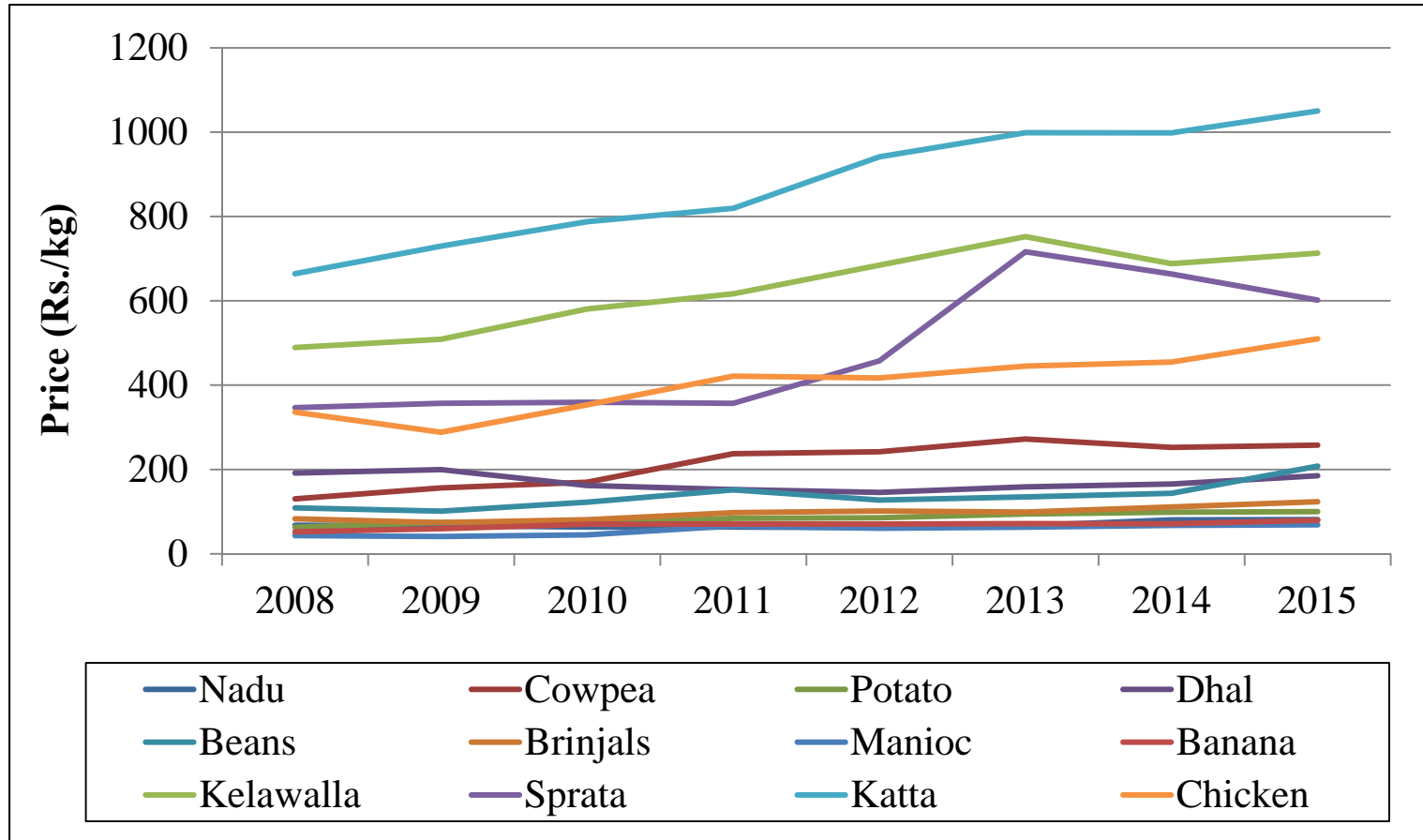
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Distribution of income shares over income deciles and sectors

Decile group	Income group (Rs.)	Percentage of households (%)				Share of income (%)			
		Total (%)	Urban (%)	Rural (%)	Estate (%)	Total (%)	Urban (%)	Rural (%)	Estate (%)
1	Less than 10,836	10.0	4.5	11.0	14.1	1.5	0.5	1.8	3.3
2	10,836 - 16,531	10.0	6.3	10.6	13.8	3.0	1.2	3.5	6.3
3	16,532 - 21,286	10.0	6.3	10.6	13.8	4.1	1.7	4.8	8.8
4	21,287 - 25,903	10.0	7.5	10.4	13.0	5.1	2.5	5.9	10.1
5	25,904 - 30,814	10.0	8.1	10.3	12.2	6.2	3.3	7.0	11.4
6	30,815 - 36,758	10.0	9.3	10.2	10.1	7.3	4.5	8.2	11.2
7	36,759 - 45,000	10.0	10.9	10.0	8.3	8.9	6.4	9.8	11.1
8	45,001 - 57,495	10.0	12.1	9.6	6.3	10.9	8.8	11.8	10.4
9	57,496 - 83,815	10.0	15.6	9.0	4.9	14.9	15.4	14.9	11.0
10	More than 83,815	10.0	19.4	8.3	3.5	38.0	55.8	32.3	16.5

Average nominal retail prices of selected food commodities



Is utilization of food a concern?



- **Changing in food habits** with emerging urbanization: Shifting towards less nutritious diet, food consumption away from home, effect of advertising
- **food safety issues:** Use of additives exceeding the permitted levels, poor implementation of regulations food preparation, packaging and labeling
- **Limited data and data analysis on food consumption pattern and dietary intake** informing behavior change promotion
- **Lack of appropriate behavior change communication strategy** with identified tools, mechanisms and funding allocated



Key Recommendations



Food Systems Approach

- Agriculture should be viewed as the central element (agricultural & food-based approach)
 - Sri Lanka has a large food production sector which is the backbone of the country's food availability, accessibility and stability
 - Around 30 per cent of the labor force of Sri Lanka is still engaged in agriculture and is producing about 80 per cent of the food requirement of over 20 million people



Investments

- Public investment allocations should be transitioned from output and input price subsidies towards strengthening economically profitable and socially justifiable interventions,
 - agricultural infrastructure development (e.g., irrigation and storage facilities)
 - agricultural research and extension
 - Reforming the current incoherent land and irrigation policies should be done to foster a shift from low value to high value agriculture



Private Sector & PPP

- Maintain public sector interventions only when they are strongly justified
- Secure **private sector** participation and **public private partnerships** where feasible where feasible to create a facilitatory environment
 - Strengthen trader-farmer contracts (through Dedicated Economic Centers, contract grower systems, etc) in order to integrate small holders with dynamic value chains
 - Facilitating the linkages between producers and the modern value chain actors



Buffer Stock Maintenance

- Developing a national strategic food reserve (buffer stocks) of essential commodities to stabilize prices, consumption and food security
 - Establish **National Food Bank** by National Government in collaboration with Provincial Administration to ensure adequate stocks of staple food is maintained in each province of the country.
 - Encourage the establishment of **non-profit charity based/community level food banks**.



Livelihood diversification and community based resilience

- Implementation of national climate adaptation plan and community-based resilience-building
 - **in situ production and in situ storage** at household level and village or provincial level, especially of diverse food crops with a high nutrition value
 - Nutrition education and awareness



Health Intervention

- Nutrition and health interventions should be undertaken concurrently
 - **nutrition specific/health interventions only as short term focus**
 - **nutrition sensitive interventions should be the main focus** targeting long term sustainability of food and nutrition security.



Nutrition catered Safety Nets

- **Nutrition catered social protection** to protect the poor and vulnerable groups such as the poor, malnourished and the victims of natural disasters and social emergencies
- **The gaps and weaknesses in the current social protection system** and existing programmes must be addressed.



Institutional Coordination

- A food security policy package should be adopted by the state as one of the top policy priorities for a stipulated time horizon
- The problem of coordination and inter-agency friction has to be eliminated
 - by bringing down the number of agencies or/and
 - placing all the policies and programmes in individual ministries related to food security in Sri Lanka under a single institutional umbrella at the highest levels of political authority in the country



Thank you



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