

Repositioning agriculture to achieve human nutrition and planetary health



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Key Messages

The world faces multiple burdens of malnutrition and environmental challenges

Agriculture must be repositioned for human nutrition and planetary health

Policies are critical in repositioning agriculture for broad development outcomes



Key messages from the Global Nutrition Report 2017

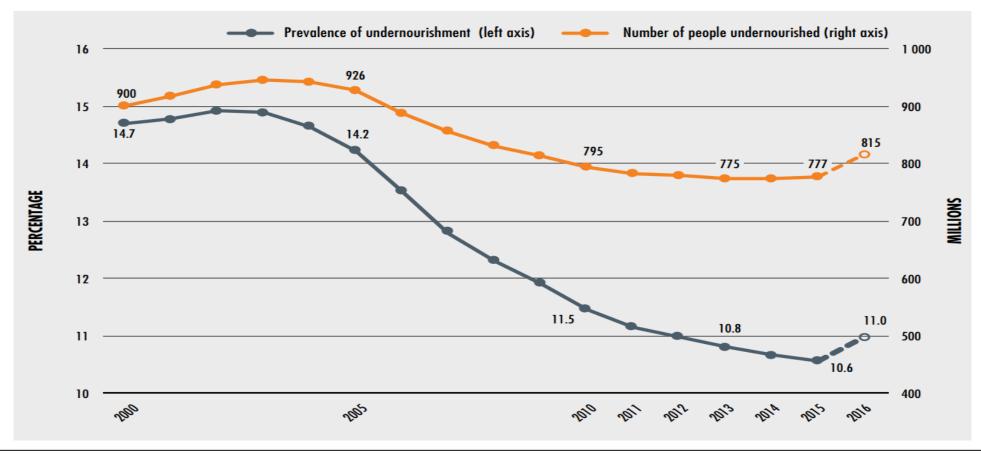
- The world faces a grave nutrition challenge
- Improving nutrition can catalyze achievement of the SDGs
 - Achieving other SDGs will help end malnutrition
- Data gaps hinder accountability
- Political commitment is essential to the SDGs
- There are opportunities to end malnutrition and achieve multiple development goals

Agriculture will play a critical role

Shenggen Fan, December 2017 Source: GNR 2017

After years of progress, hunger is on the rise





38 million face food insecurity in four conflict-afflicted countries: Nigeria, Somalia, South Sudan, and Yemen

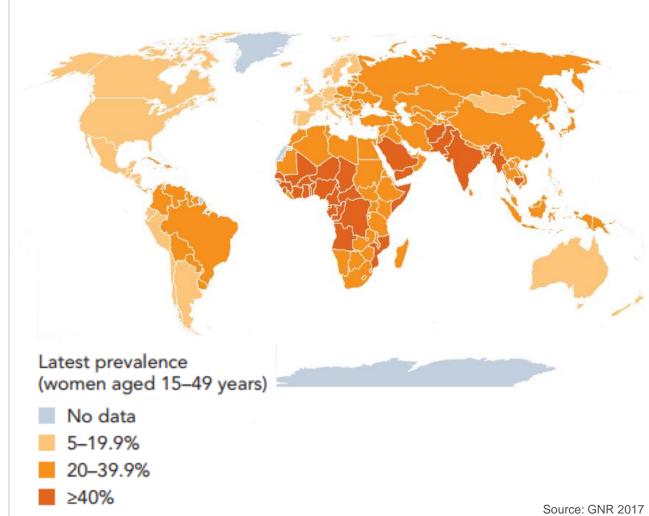
Shenggen Fan, December 2017 Source: FAO 2017, GNR 2017

Undernutrition has reduced, but still persists

Prevalence of stunting in children under 5 (%)



Prevalence of anemia among women aged 15-49, 2016

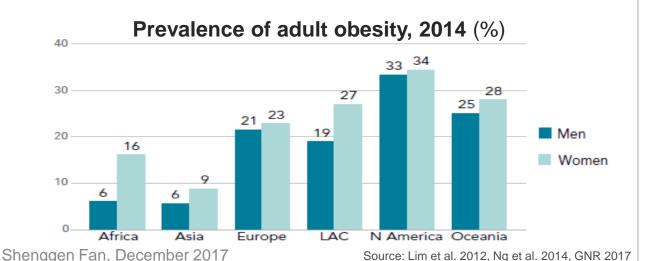


Shenggen Fan, December 2017

There is a growing crisis of overweight, obesity, and NCDs...

Globally,

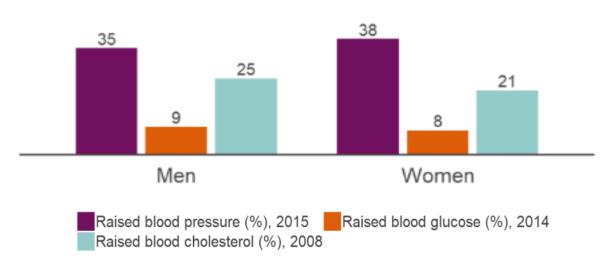
- 2.1 billion are overweight/obese
 - 62% live in developing countries
- 3.4 mil. deaths annually related to overweight and obesity



Unhealthy diets contribute to obesity and NCDs, including diabetes, heart disease, stroke, and cancer

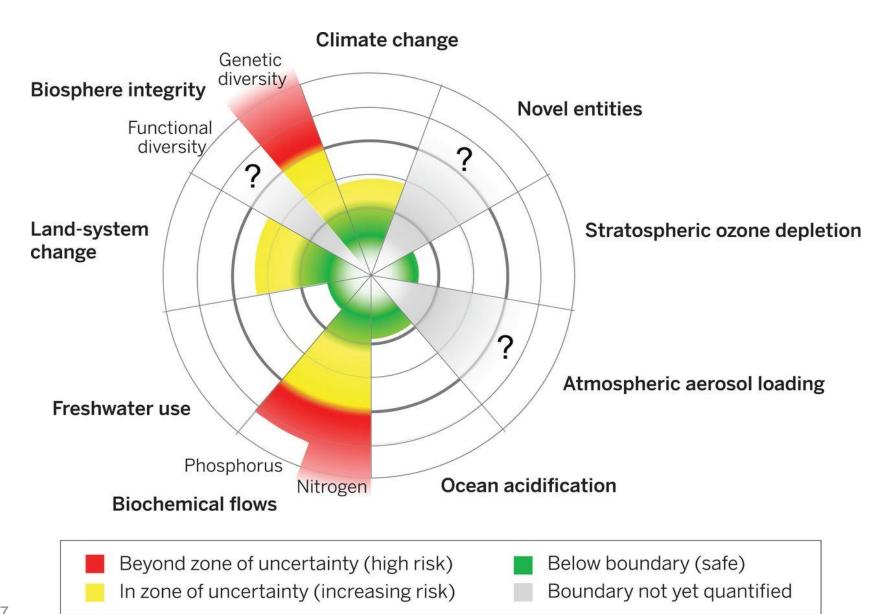
Source: WHO 2015

Metabolic risk factors for diet-related NCDs globally (%)



Source: GNR 2017

...AND the world is reaching planetary boundaries



Agriculture plays key roles for human nutrition and planetary health



Agriculture is critical for nutrition

Agriculture-Nutrition pathways

- 1. Agriculture as a source of food (own production)
- 2. Agriculture as a source of income
- 3. Agricultural policy and food prices affecting purchasing power and consumption patterns
- 4. Agriculture income's effect on spending patterns

Gender dimensions (rural women)

- 5. Women's status and intra-household decisions and resource allocation
- 6. Women's ability to care for young children
- 7. Women's own nutritional status





Agriculture and food affect health

Producers

- Increased productivity & production of nutritious & healthy food
 - Impact health of smallholders & subsistence farmers
- Agriculture-related, water-borne, zoonotic diseases
- Overuse of pesticides, growth hormones, antibiotics (AMR)
- Agriculture takes up women's time & takes time away from providing child healthcare
 - Time-saving technologies can help

Consumers

- Agricultural productivity → reduce food prices, esp. for healthy food
 - Nutritious food improves health
 - BUT unhealthy food & overconsumption can lead to overweight & obesity
- Overuse of pesticides, growth hormones, antibiotics (AMR)

Overall

- Agricultural practices & investments → growth in agricultural sector, nonfarm sector → increase income & improve health
- Climate change: carbon & methane emission, increased temperature, diseases

Agriculture can do more to save water, land and energy

Hydroponic, vertical or indoor farming

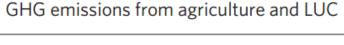
- Estimated US\$750 million in North American private investment in vertical farming (through Q3 2017)
- Economically viable and sustainable

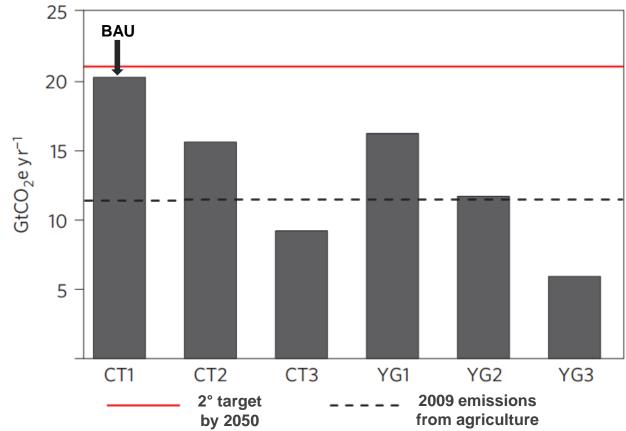
Biotechnology

- 'Cultured' meat (e.g. Memphis Meats, Hampton Creek, Impossible Foods)
 - Production involves 78-96% lower GHG emissions,
 99% lower land use, 82-96% lower water use
 depending on conventional meat product compared



Agriculture is key for climate mitigation





CT1 = Current yield trend

CT2 = Current yield trend & 50% food waste reduction

CT3 = Current yield trend & 50% food waste reduction & Healthy diets

YG1 = Yield gap closure (sustainable intensification)

YG2 = Yield gap closure & 50% food waste reduction

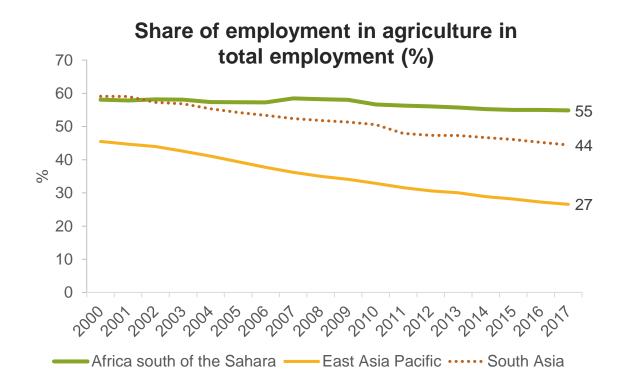
YG3 = Yield gap closure & 50% food waste reduction & Healthy diets

Without drastic changes to agri-food systems, we will not be able to meet the 2°C target

- Under BAU, agriculture will emit 20.2
 GtCO2e/yr, almost reaching 2°C target
 emission allowance for all sectors in 2050
 (~21 GtCO2eyr-1)
- Food system transformation will be key for sufficient mitigation, e.g. yield gap closure, food waste reduction, and healthy diets (YG3 scenario)

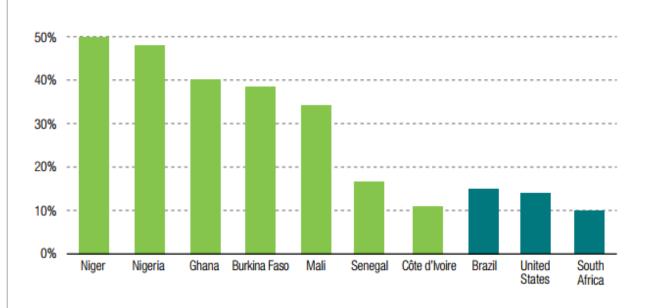
Source: Bajželj et al. 2014

Agriculture and non-farm food employment is critical, especially in Africa



Across the whole food system, 22% of total food economy jobs are in off-farm activities in West Africa

Share of food processing employment in total manufacturing employment



Future jobs in food systems will require higher knowledge due to technological innovations

Source: World Bank 2017, OECD 2017

Agriculture is critical to address inequalities

Women face constraints in agriculture

- Productive asset ownership e.g. land and livestock
- Control of productive inputs
 e.g. access to credit, insurance, technology
- Systemic gender differences
 e.g. base education levels; natural resource knowledge

Women produce less not because of inefficiency or inability—they lack equal access to resources

Barriers limit smallholders' profitability

- Limited farm size
- Limited access to finance and capital
- Inadequate access to modern markets
- Food price increases and volatility
- Rising agricultural-related risks to health

Smallholders provide up to 80% of food in Asia and Africa south of the Sahara yet make up the majority of poor and hungry

Agriculture is central to the bioeconomy

Bioeconomy: Sustainably provides products and services with biological resources

- Comes from plants, microbes, animals, biodiversity, biotechnology, carbon, biological knowledge
- Involves agriculture, forestry, fisheries, textiles—and beyond

Examples of consumer bio-products



Biomaterials in car industry



Biobased building materials



Enzymes lowering effective washing temperate



New sugar substitutes



Bioplastics



Biopharmaceuticals based on proteins



Implants made from spider fibers



Biofuels based on forest residues, straw etc.

Shenggen Fan, December 2017

Source: von Braun 2017

Agriculture can help maintain culture and tradition

- Many traditional farmers provide environmental services e.g. watershed conservation, biodiversity protection and carbon storage—and cultural services
- Globally Important Agriculturally Heritage Systems (GIAHS)
 opens opportunities for jobs and markets through the
 "cultural economy"
- Agro- or eco-tourism can compensate farmers' conservation measures
- Farmers organizations will play a big role



Shenggen Fan, December 2017 Source: FAO

The global agri-food system must be repositioned to achieve the SDGs

New agri-food system

Nutrition- & health-driven

Productive & efficient

Environmentally sustainable & climate-smart

Inclusive

Business friendly







































Over half of SDGs relate to food security and nutrition

Policies are critical in repositioning agriculture for broad development outcomes

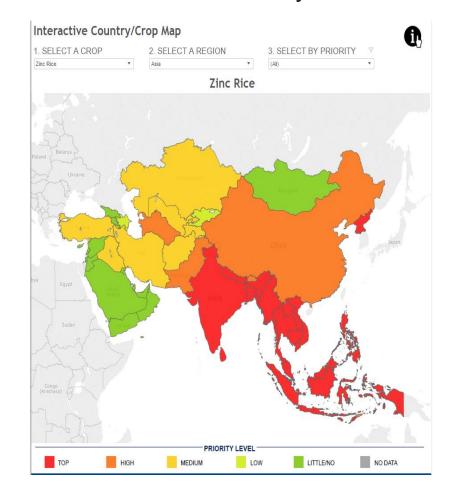


Advance nutrition-driven agricultural technologies

- Invest in agricultural R&D to produce more with less
- Support technologies that promote diversification of food production (e.g. vegetables, pulses, fruits)
 - E.g. Nepal prioritizes crop production diversity, which is linked to diet diversity and improved child nutrition outcomes (UNSCN 2013, Shively and Sununtnasuk 2015)
- Advance frontiers for nutrition-driven technologies, e.g. biofortification
 - Increasing nutrient density through plant breeding, agronomic practices



Biofortification Priority Index



Use ICTs to improve food safety and market access

Smallholders can benefit from urban markets, but can also be excluded due to strict food safety requirements

- Improve surveillance, e.g.
 - Mobile phones, internet tracking for better accuracy, comprehensiveness
- Promote e-commerce, e.g. G20 initiative in China
 - Connects rural farmers with supply and demand information on agricultural produce and materials, and consumer products



Shenggen Fan, December 2017 Source: ADB 2009

Reduce food loss and waste

33% of all food is lost or wasted—primarily fruits, veg., roots, tubers

Invest in post-harvest technologies and infrastructure

- Improving roads, rail, electricity to address post-harvest losses can reduce hunger and child malnutrition of 4m children in 15 years (Rosegrant et al 2015)
- E.g. Zero energy cool chambers (ZECC) in India increase shelf-life, reduce weight loss for fruits and veggies (WRI 2013)

Use ICTs to distribute soon-to-expire foods

 Mobile apps can help businesses donate surplus food (e.g. Zero Percent), match excess food with hungry people (e.g. MyFoody, Waste No Food)

Promote policies to curb retail food waste

• E.g. France's ban on supermarkets throwing away quality food before best-before date

Invest in productive safety nets

Social protection can secure basic livelihoods, protect from risk and vulnerability, and stimulate growth

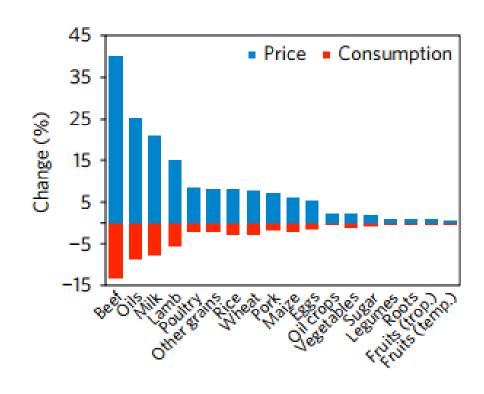
- Promote better-targeted, productive, cross-sectoral safety nets e.g.
 - Ethiopia's Productive Safety Net Program

 Access to safety nets and ag. support improves food security
 - Bangladesh's Vulnerable Group Development Program
 Food security, nutrition interventions + income-generating activities
 AND adding behavior change communication can boost nutritional impacts of interventions
- Promote social protection for urban poor & hungry
 - By 2020, 85% of poor in Latin America, 40-45% in Africa and Asia will live in cities or towns
 - E.g. Public works, conditional or unconditional cash transfers

Use taxes for sustainable, nutritious, and healthy diets

- Tax nutrient-poor foods and subsidize nutrientrich foods
 - Eliminate subsidies of nutrient-poor foods (US \$500+ billion/year) and convert to investments for more nutritious crops (e.g. vegetables) (Tiffin and Arnoult 2010)
- Taxing emissions-intensive foods (e.g. meat and dairy) could avoid more than 100,000 deaths in 2020 (Springmann et al. 2016)
 - Two-thirds due to changes in dietary risk factors
 - One-third due to changes in weight-related risk factors

Changes in prices and consumption by food commodity (%)



Shenggen Fan, December 2017 Source: Springmann et al. 2016

Fix the fundamentals

Develop rural infrastructure

- Investments in rural roads shown to have large impact on agricultural growth and poverty reduction (Fan 2007)
- Access to WASH is strongly linked to child stunting reduction (Smith & Haddad 2014)

Strengthen institutional and regulatory frameworks

- Promote land rights and efficient land markets
- Improve food safety monitoring with capacity strengthening along the value chain and more resources for monitoring agencies

Promote open, transparent, and fair trade

- Eliminate distortionary trade policies
- Fill domestic gaps with appropriate imports





Close gender gap in agriculture

- Improve mother's health and nutrition
 - Burkina Faso: Enhanced Homestead Food Production (E-HFP) showed decrease in prevalence of maternal underweight and enhanced empowerment (Olney et al. 2016)
- Reform institutions to strengthen resource rights
 - Vietnam: Land titling for women improved reallocation of household expenditures toward food, among others (Menon et al. 2014)
- Improve access to inputs and credit
 - Ghana: Women's ability to make credit decisions significantly improved dietary diversity for women and girls (Malapit and Quisumbing 2015)
- Provide agric. training and information
 - Bangladesh: Livelihood assistance and training increased savings for productive assets (Meinzen-Dick and Quisumbing 2012)



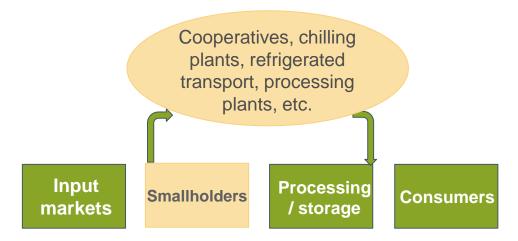
Picture source: Farming First and FAO 2014

Support smallholders and develop youth

Support inclusive marketing in food value chains

Link smallholders to modern agrifood value chains

India's improved dairy chain



- 4.5% increase in production / yr (1970-2001)
- Consumers gained more, better-quality milk

Develop young farmers

- Land, capital, and skill-building are crucial to develop next generation of farmers
- Improve rural infrastructure to increase access to services, goods, jobs, and leisure
- Young people + opportunity = "Youth dividend"

Source: Cunningham 2009 Source: Brooks, Zorya, and Gautam 2012

Working together to accelerate progress

What Compact2025 does

Assists countries to refine and implement their road maps for action toward ending hunger and undernutrition by 2025

How?

By developing national and subnational networks of researchers and policymakers who identify evidence tool gaps

Special focus

Enhancing implementation and capacity at national and subnational levels







Upcoming global gathering in Bangkok, Thailand (late 2018)

Accelerating progress through multisector food system transformation