



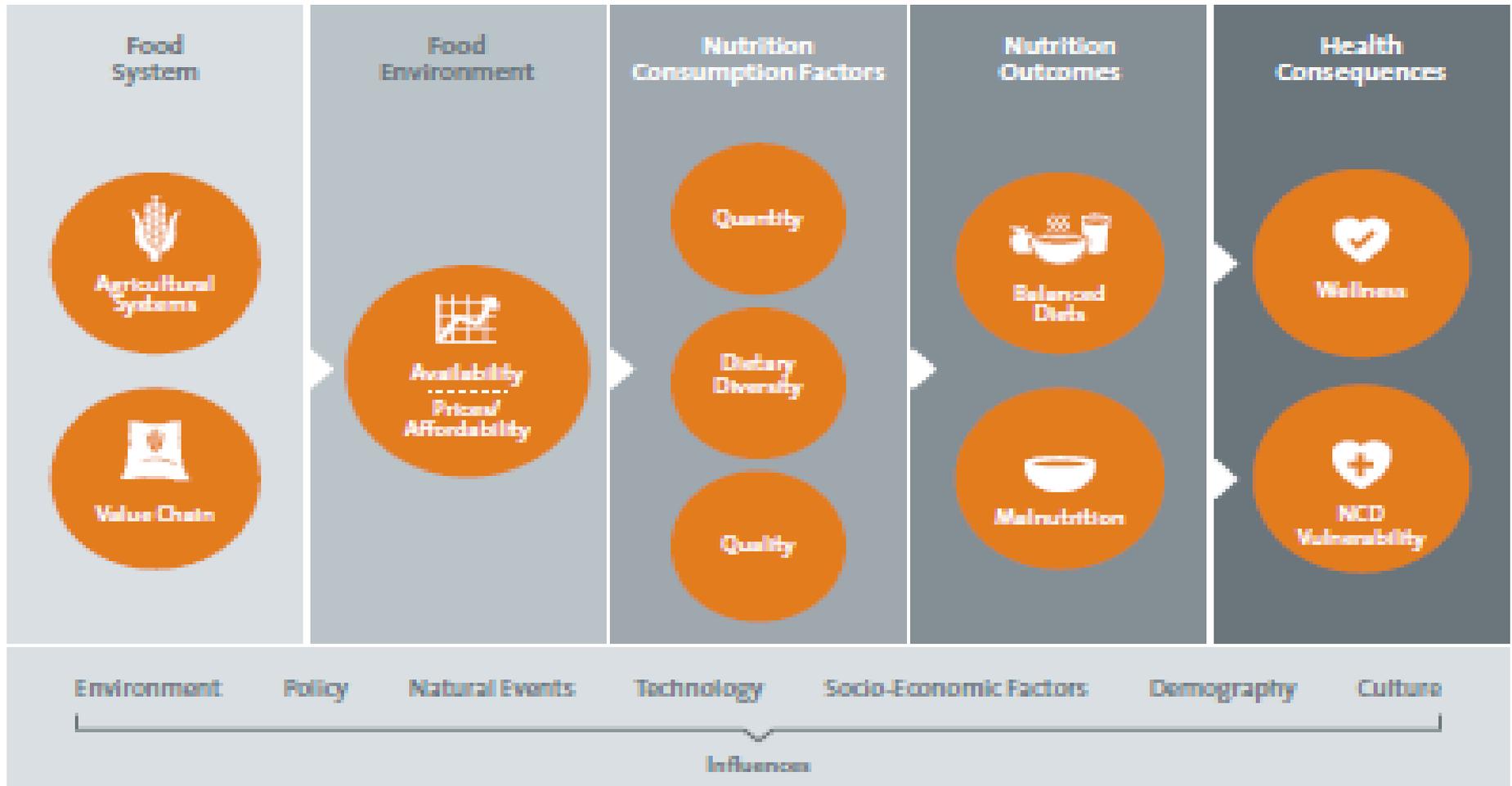
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# Agriculture for Improved Nutrition and Health

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# Agriculture, Nutrition and Health Links

Figure 5: Linkages between the Food System & Health Consequences



Source: Nugent, 2011. "Bringing Agriculture to the Table," Chicago Council on Global Affairs

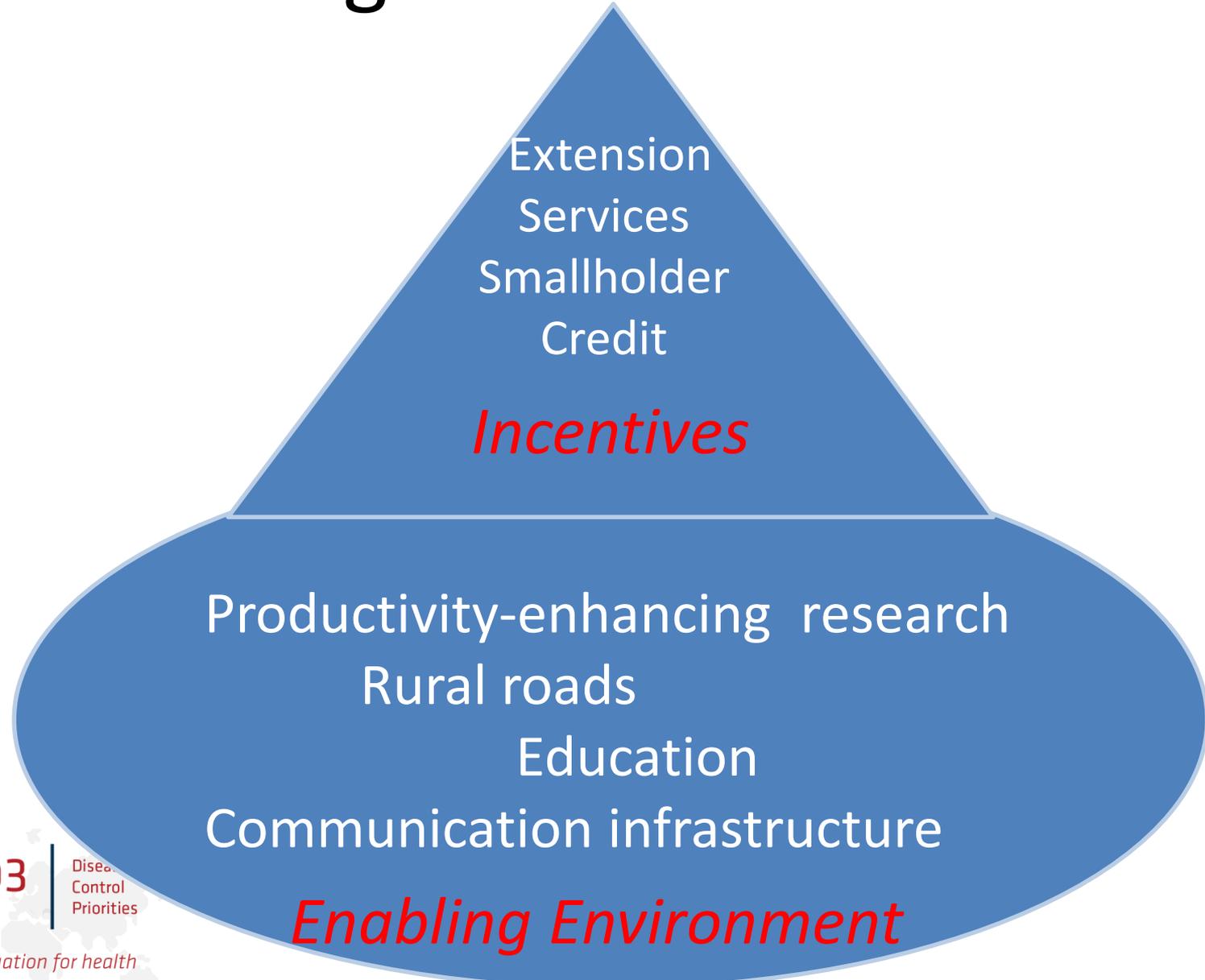
# Main points

- The role of public and private ag investment
- Proven high-return ag investments
- Is agricultural investment socially beneficial?
- Using the nutrition transition to define investment needs
- Investments to support F&V production

# Role of Ag Investment

- Private sector requires
  - Competitive returns
  - Term-limited (usually short)
  - Capturable gains
- Public sector should produce
  - Social returns, broadly distributed
  - Over a long time horizon
  - “Enabling environment”
  - Aligned incentives
  - Avoid social harms

# Proven agricultural investments



# Expenditures on ag/food subsidies

- HICs spent \$252 billion in 2011 on agricultural and food subsidies (EU, US, Japan, So. Korea).
- CAP *still* absorbs 40% of EU budget (Anderson et al, 2013)
- 2013 US Farm Bill: direct payments of \$4-18 billion/year on commodity crops (corn, wheat, soybeans, cotton, rice), >\$9 billion/year in crop insurance subsidies.
- Ag taxation shifting into ag subsidization (India, China)

# Economic and health benefits of changing the food supply



## Fruits and vegetables in U.S.

- Save 127,000 lives
- Reduce health care costs by \$17 billion
- Produce \$11 trillion in lives saved (VSL method)

# Evidence-Based Population Strategies to Improve Diet

<b>Media and Education</b>	<ul style="list-style-type: none"><li>• Sustained, multi-mode campaigns focused on specific foods/drinks, either alone (IIa B) or as part of larger multi-component strategies. (I B) †‡§</li></ul>
<b>Labeling and Information</b>	<ul style="list-style-type: none"><li>• Mandated nutrition facts, front-of-pack labels/icons, or menu labeling to influence <i>industry</i> behavior and product formulations. (IIa B) †</li></ul>
<b>Schools</b>	<ul style="list-style-type: none"><li>• Multicomponent diet and activity program including classes, teacher training, supportive policies, environmental changes, family components. (I A) †</li><li>• School garden programs (IIa A) †; fresh fruit &amp; vegetable programs. (IIa A) †</li></ul>
<b>Workplaces</b>	<ul style="list-style-type: none"><li>• Comprehensive worksite wellness programs for diet, activity, tobacco. (IIa A) †</li><li>• Increased availability of healthier options and/or strong nutrition standards, combined with on-site prompts, labels, or icons. (IIa B) †</li></ul>
<b>Economic Incentives</b>	<ul style="list-style-type: none"><li>• Subsidy strategies to lower prices of more healthful foods/drinks. (I A) †</li><li>• Tax strategies to increase prices of less healthful foods/drinks. (IIa B) †</li><li>• Long-term agricultural and related policy changes on infrastructure to facilitate production, transportation, marketing of healthier foods. (IIa B) †</li></ul>
<b>Bans and Mandates</b>	<ul style="list-style-type: none"><li>• Restrictions on marketing of less healthy foods/drinks to youth on TV (I B) †, near schools and public places (IIa B) †, and on packages (IIa B) †.</li><li>• Direct bans (e.g., sodium, trans fat) or mandates (e.g., vegetable oils). (I B) †§</li></ul>

# Fruit and Vegetable (F&V) Supply, Need, and Supply:Need Ratio, Overall and by Country Income Level

	<i>n</i>	Supply	Need	Supply:Need Ratio
Full Sample, all countries	170	1.15 (0.01 – 524.25)	1.90 (0.02 – 282.50)	0.78 (0.05 – 2.01)
Low Income	34	0.97 (0.05 – 7.50)	2.36 (0.13 – 30.18)	0.42 (0.05 – 0.99)
Lower-middle Income	43	1.01 (0.01 – 142.51)	1.49 (0.02 – 241.62)	0.63 (0.19 – 1.72)
Upper-middle Income	50	1.52 (0.01 – 524.25)	1.71 (0.02 – 282.50)	0.87 (0.24 – 2.01)
High Income	43	1.60 (0.04 – 71.63)	1.64 (0.05 – 64.59)	1.02 (0.55 – 1.86)

# Policy Framework for Investment in Ag

- Investment policy
- Investment promotion and facilitation
- Human resources and skill development
- Trade policy
- Environment
- Responsible business conduct
- Infrastructure development
- Financial sector development
- Taxation

Leveraging the private sector for smallholder participation in markets

Enabling conditions to scale-up producer organizations

Value chain financing

Source: NEPAD-OECD (2011)

# Locally-determined Investment Needs

Stage of Transition	Infrastructure	R&D	Education and Training	Institutions	Financing	Technology
Pre-transition, low-income	Farm to market roads	Local varieties, tolerant to drought, flood, and biotic risks. Orphan crops. Nutrient dense foods	Nutrition-sensitive extension. Increased use of herbicides to reduce weeding.	Farmer coops	Microfinance, especially insurance and other risk management devices.	Pest control
Transitional, low-income	Climate change mitigation Improve cold chain and cold storage	Local varieties, tolerant to drought, flood, and biotic risks Nutrient dense foods. Orphan crops.	New crops. Increased use of herbicides to reduce weeding.	Farmer coops	Value chain financing	Mobile technology for market information, post-harvest fortification
Transitional, middle-income	Remove constraints on small investors. Improve cold chain and storage.	To develop packaging, branding, product differentiation		Nutrition-sensitive agribusiness		Promote sustainable production, especially important for edible oil production
Post-transition, high-income		Align commodity priorities toward quality and diversity		Regulation and monitoring of food system outcomes		Promote sustainable production

# What investments are needed for F&V Production?

## Farm Level

- Labor or labor-saving mechanization
- Irrigation
- Agribusiness services: financing inputs, technical assistance
- Small-scale post-harvest storage and processing
- Risk management advice

## Societal Level

- **R&D for productivity enhancement**
- Upgrade traditional markets
- Crop insurance
- Market infrastructure: distribution facilities, loans, **marketing programs**

# Comparing Investments

## Private Sector

### R&D

\$2 billion/year maize (Monsanto, DuPont Pioneer)

\$181 million/year for 22 vegetable crops (Monsanto)

### Commodity Marketing

\$300 million/year for dairy and livestock

## Public Sector

### R&D

\$121 million/year for maize

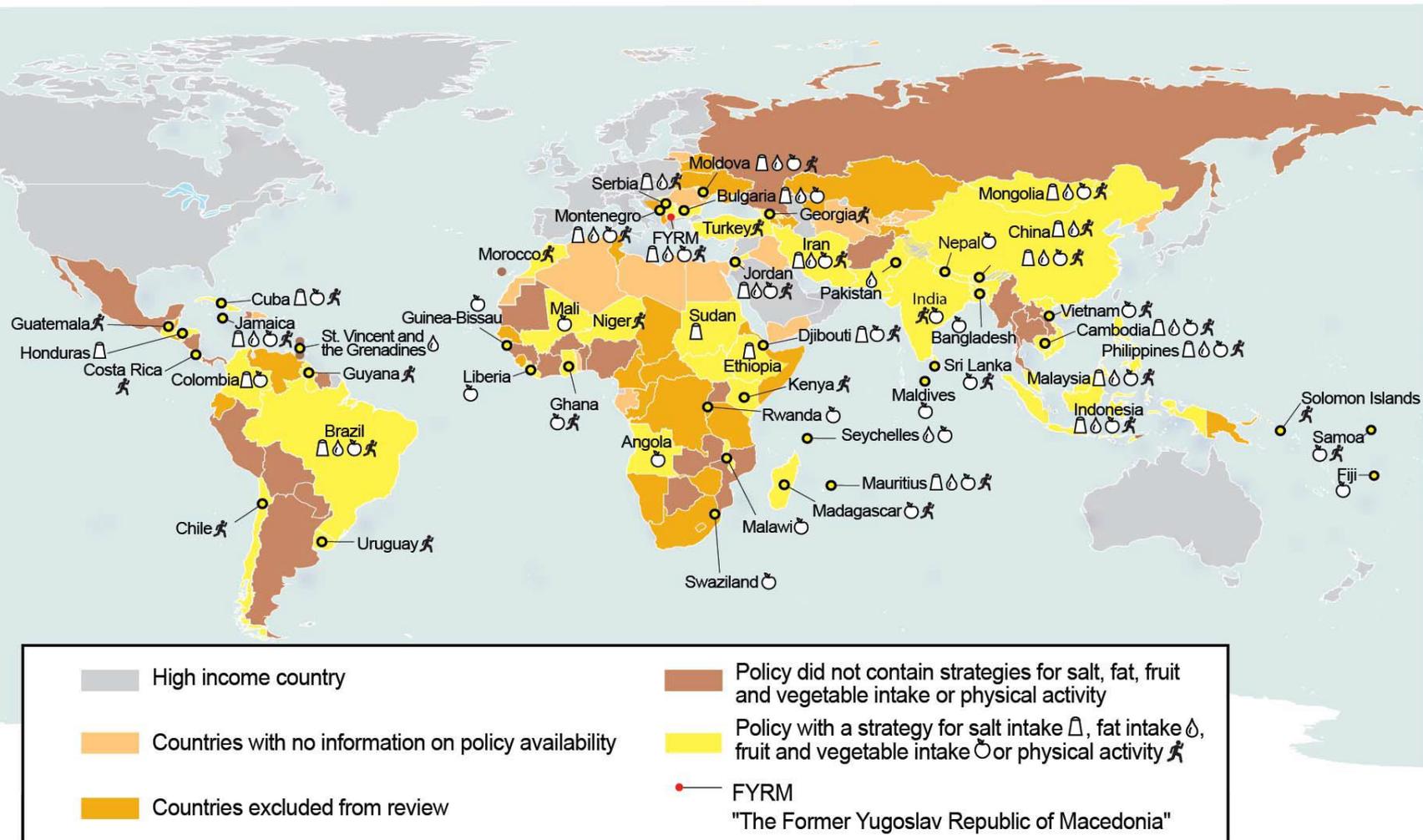
\$13 million/year for green leafy vegetables

### Commodity Marketing

5-a-Day

\$7 million (est.) required for a major marketing campaign

# P.A. and Diet-related Prevention Policies



# Conclusions

- In the short-run, for health purposes, prefer nutrition subsidies to ag commodity subsidies
- In the long-run, need allocative shifts in ag (probably not with a health rationale, maybe a development one would fly)
- Move towards a “do no harm” stance
- Urge transparency in policies (politicians choose inefficient tools if they can be less transparent-EWG)

# THANK YOU

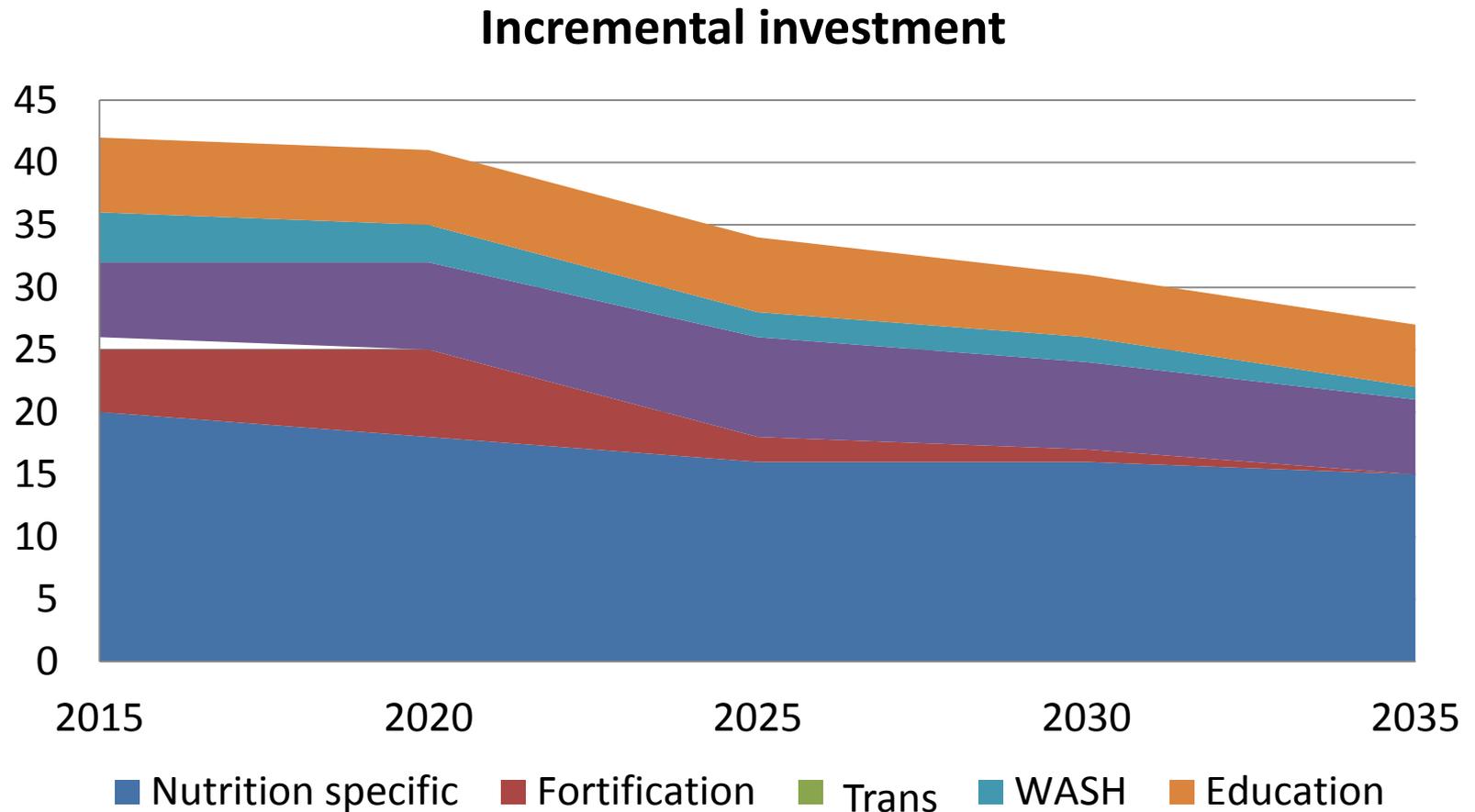


**DCP<sup>3</sup>**

Disease  
Control  
Priorities

*economic evaluation for health*

# Making the Investment Multi-sectoral



Source: FAO, State of Food and Agriculture, 2012