



FEED THE FUTURE

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



INNOVATION LAB FOR
FOOD SECURITY POLICY RESEARCH,
CAPACITY, AND INFLUENCE (PRCI)

Policy harmonization- global goals, international agreements and conventions, regional, national, and sub- national level

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Outline

- What is Policy harmonization
- Global Examples from SDGs
- Food System Approach to Nutrition security
- Translation into National Policy in Myanmar
- Review of Nepal agricultural policy for harmonization
- Discussions

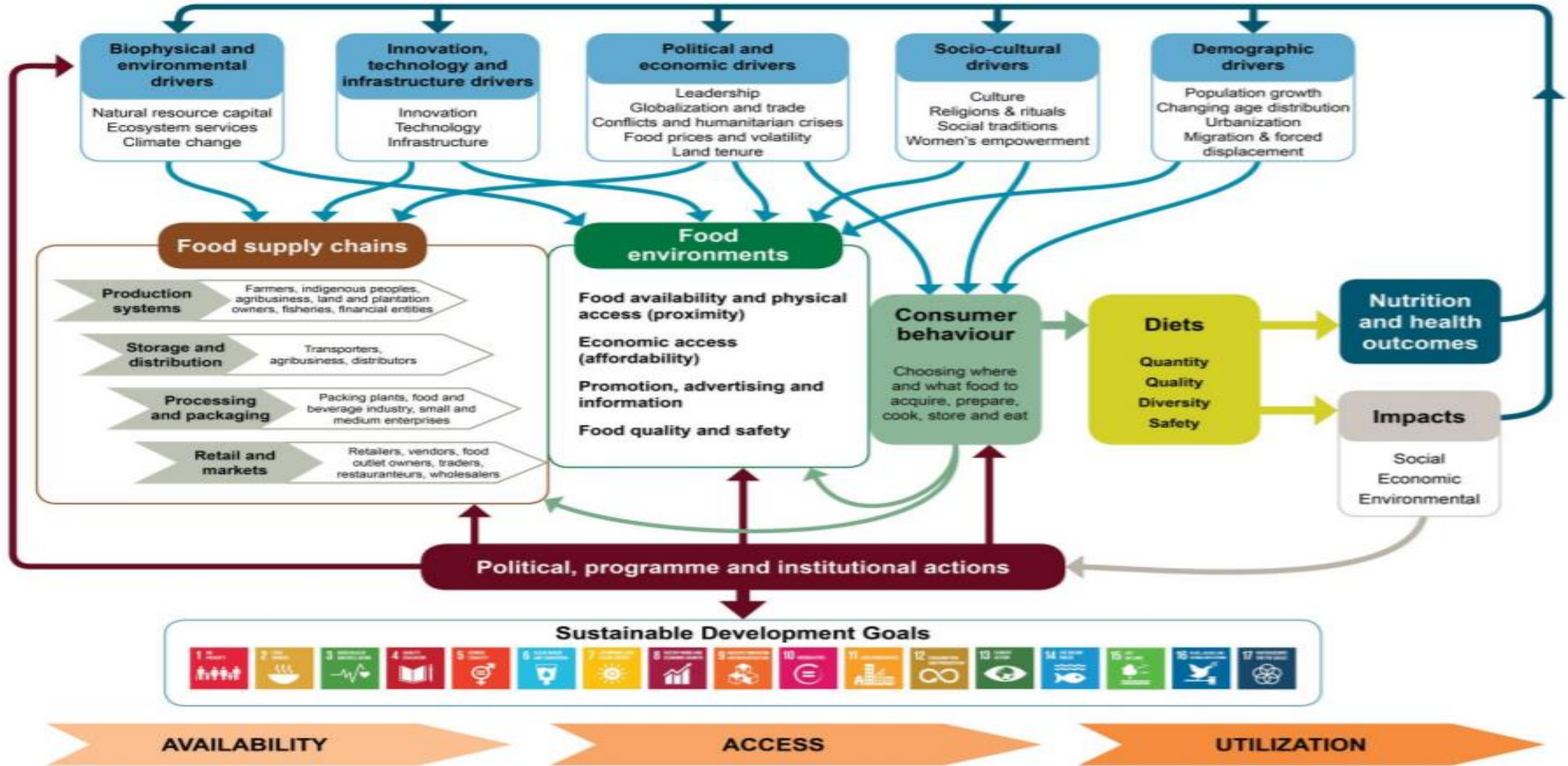
Global goals - SDGs



Global policy goals – SDGs (source: UN)

- “provide political leadership, guidance and recommendations for sustainable development;
- enhance integration of the three dimensions of sustainable development in a holistic and cross-sectoral manner at all levels;
- provide a dynamic platform for regular dialogue and for stocktaking and agenda-setting to advance sustainable development;
- have a focused, dynamic and action-oriented agenda, ensuring the appropriate consideration of new and emerging sustainable development challenges;
- follow up and review progress in the implementation of sustainable development commitments contained in [Agenda 21.](#)”

National Level - Food Systems Approach to Nutrition



Source: HLPE, 2017

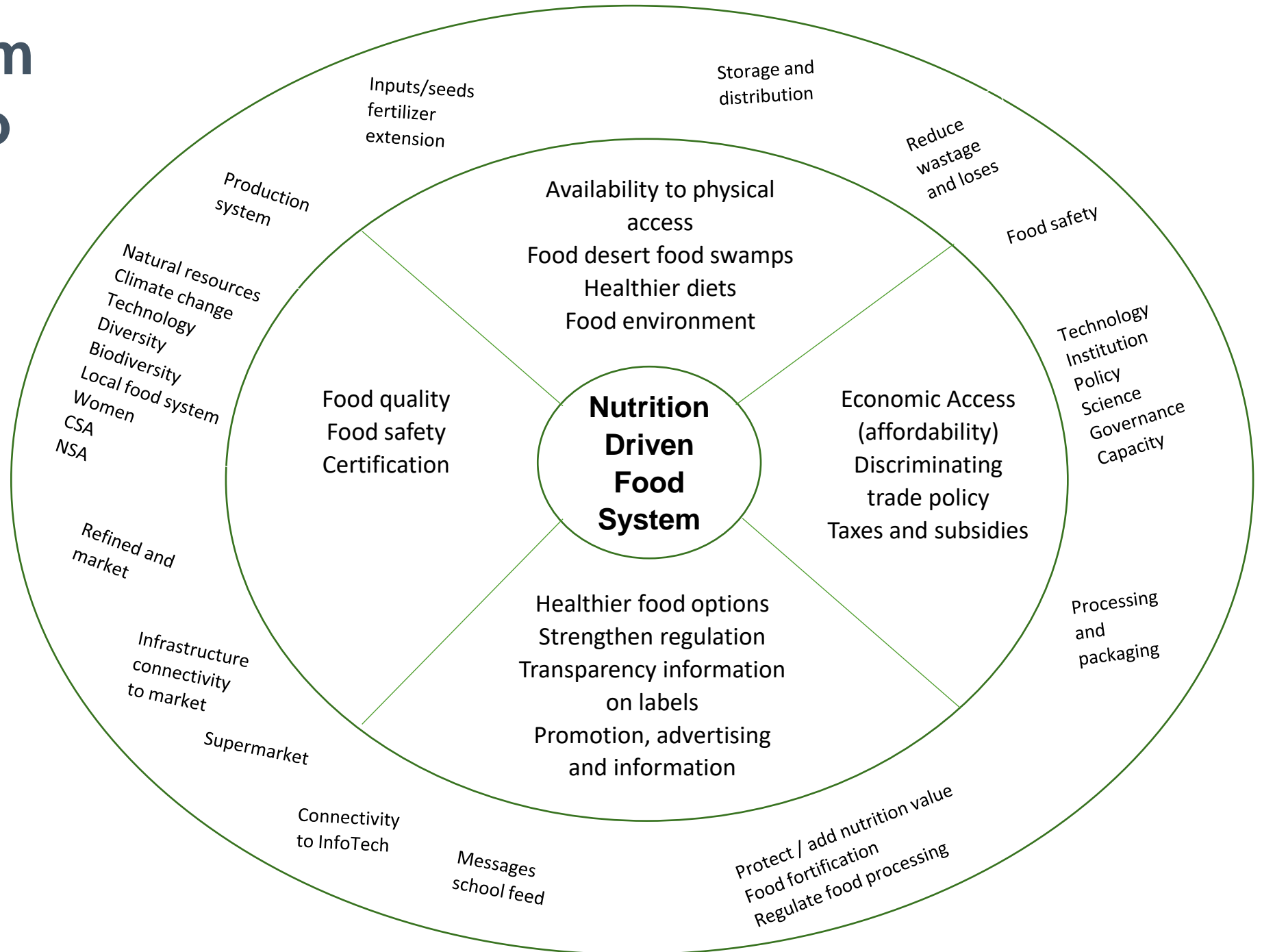
Basic premises harmonizing food system approach

1. Persistence of malnutrition and undernutrition
2. Nutrition outcomes change with stage of economic growth
3. Sectoral transformation of the agriculture sector
4. Food systems evolve and adapt as economies grow and develop (traditional, mixed, modern)
5. Limited research on indirect effects of agriculture on nutrition, or the effect of policies or governance
6. Limited impact of agriculture on nutrition due to poor policy, institutional and program linkages
7. Implement policies that affect food system and are nutrition sensitive

Why - Food System Approach to Nutrition

- Systematic approach to check nutrition outcomes
- Audit current Policy- and program orientation
- Identify Nutrition-specific policy and program interventions beyond one sector
- Gaps in Policy needing attention
- Gaps in Investments in sectoral approaches

Food System Approach to Nutrition – looking at the Details



Agricultural Transformation and Nutrition Outcomes

– Conventional wisdom

1. Structural transformation based on agriculture growth leads to economy-wide income and wage growth.
2. Increased income influences the demand for calories (Behrman & Deolalikar 1987, Pitt 1983, Sahn 1988, Strauss & Thomas 1995)
3. Potential to raise the demand for diet diversity (Doan 2014, Du et al. 2004).
4. Role of productivity and income in determining the nutrition and health status
5. Conversely, poor nutrition and health, especially in low-income developing countries, has an adverse impact on agricultural productivity
6. Relationship between income and nutrition, health is bidirectional and is an important driver of economic and social change

What does recent literature tells us?

1. Income increases can result in increased demand for diet diversification
2. Rising demand for vegetables, fruit, livestock, and dairy products (pingali 2007)
3. But supply has been a problem due to poor policy framework
4. Weak supply responsiveness lead to high relative prices of nutrient dense foods
5. Policy focus on enhancing the diversity of the food system needed
6. Micronutrient-rich horticultural and livestock products
7. Nutritional gains is an outcome of a larger set of multisectoral policies.

What are the challenges in a typical developing economy? (Nepal, Myanmar, Cambodia, Laos)

- Improving nutrition through value chains
- The markets for nutrient rich foods poorly developed
- Low investment nutrient rich food production
- High transaction costs for participation in markets
- Limited integration into the new food system

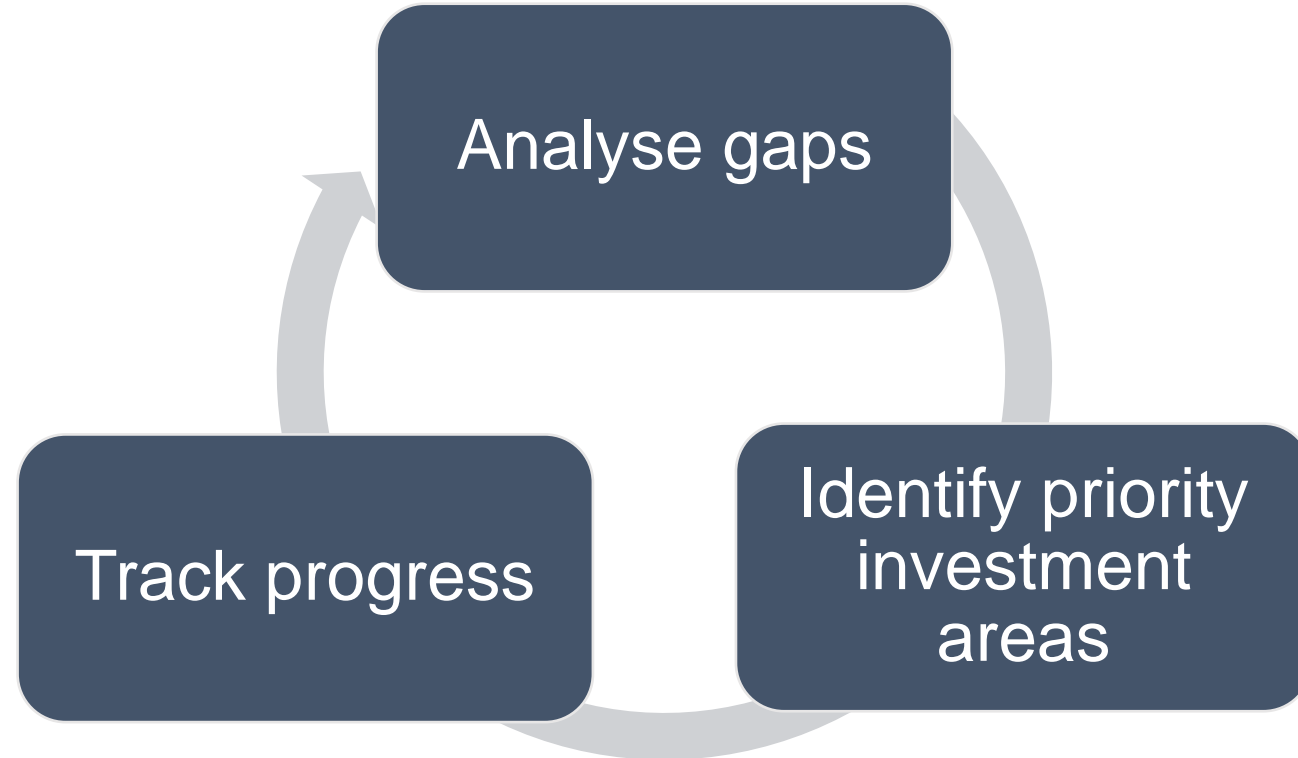
What are proposed policy solutions in the literature?

1. Incentivize on-farm diversification – policy and institutional incentives
2. Investment in rural market infrastructure – cold storage and markets
3. Producer cooperatives and aggregation models – organize producers
4. Increase investment in agricultural research on micronutrient-rich foods
5. Increase the human and institutional capacity for nutrition sensitive agriculture – at all levels
6. Learn and adapt new technological solutions – industrial and bio-fortification
7. Policy options that specifically focused on the nutrition enhancement of production systems

General solutions for increasing nutrition outcomes in a food system context

1. Diversification of food production systems
2. Trade and markets for nutrient rich foods
3. Increase rural market infrastructure
4. Industrial food fortification
5. Social safety net and Supplementation
6. Food safety and quality control
7. Biofortification of staple grains

Operational Framework: Analyze Gaps, Identify Priority Investment Areas, and Track Progress



Operational Framework: Analyze Gaps, Identify Priority Investment Areas, and Track Progress

- This framework is broken down into the following three steps:
 1. Analyze gaps in the policy currently being implemented;
 2. Identify priority investment areas (with the help of the strategy diagnoses and;
 3. Track progress to ensure that the strategy being implemented is climate-resilient.



Example 1: Gap analysis for nutrition sensitive food system

Step 1: Analyze gaps

- Review of policies and regulation related to food systems.
- Analysis of the extent to which each policy promotes nutrition.
- Identify gaps in the current policy and steps needed to reach the ideal nutrition sensitivity.
- Comparative analysis between different policies

Outcomes	Current plans/evidence needed	Analysis and data for effective implementation of the Agriculture Development Strategy	Gaps
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Step 2: Identify priority investment area

- The gaps identified in step 1 will help form an investment plan which is compatible with the countries current situation.

Outcomes	Investment Priorities
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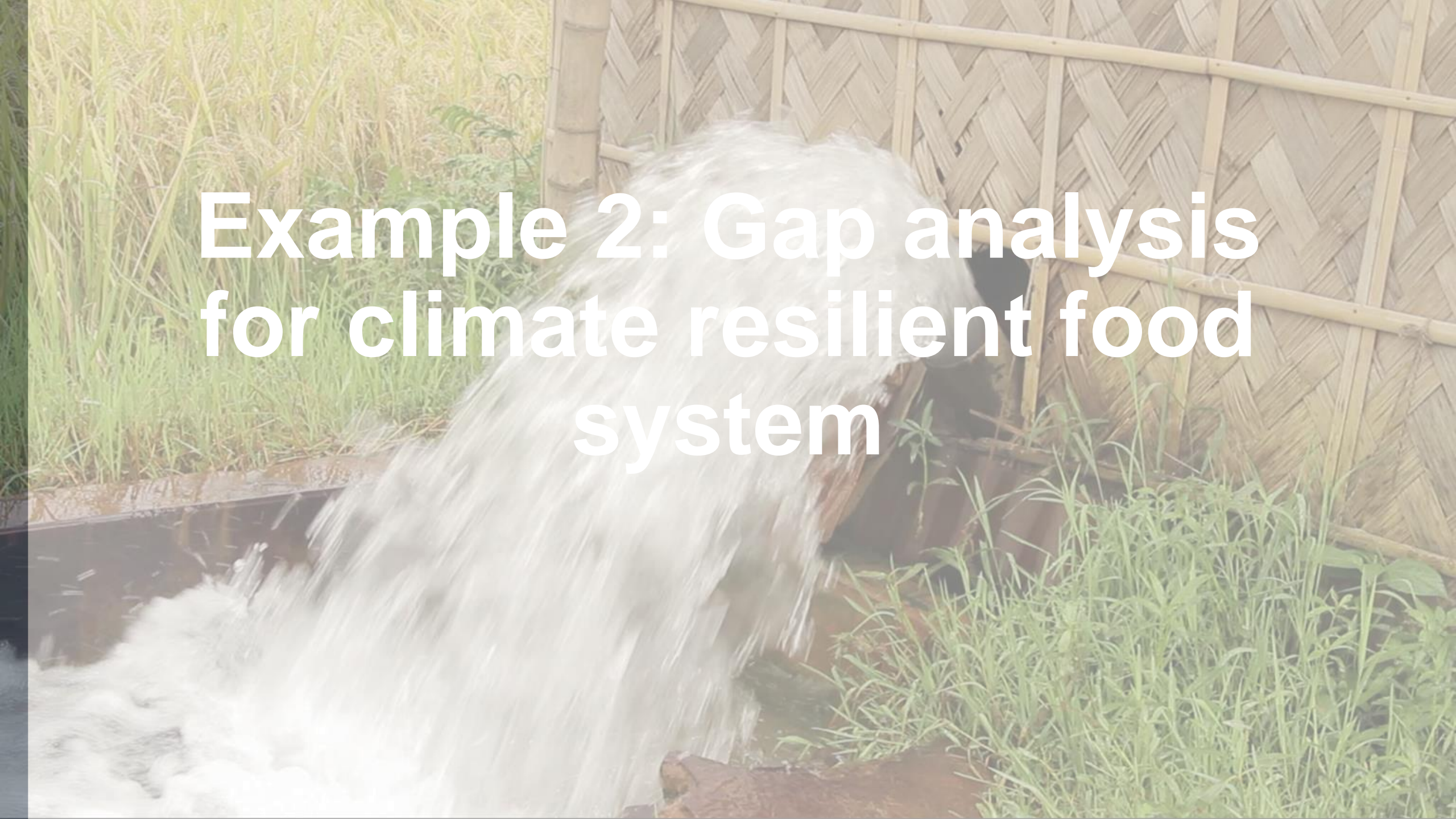
- For each of the outcome area we identify the investment priorities through a consultative process

Step 3: Identify priority investment area

- Track progress to ensure that the agriculture strategy/policy being implemented is nutrition sensitive.

Outcomes	Indicators for Nutrition Sensitive Food System
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- For each of the outcomes, we identify the indicators and track the progress on them in a consultative manner

A photograph showing a traditional water control structure made of woven bamboo. Water is flowing through a narrow opening in the structure, creating a small waterfall effect. The structure is surrounded by lush green rice plants and other vegetation. The background shows more bamboo structures and a field.

Example 2: Gap analysis for climate resilient food system

Step 1: Analyze gaps

- Review of policies and regulation related to food system.
- Analysis of the extent to which each policy is climate resilient.
- Identify gaps in the current policy and steps needed to reach the ideal nutrition sensitivity.
- Comparative analysis between different policies



Step 2: Identify priority investment area

- The gaps identified in step 1 will help form an investment plan which is compatible with the countries current situation.

Outcomes	Investment Priorities
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- For each of the outcome area we identify the investment priorities through a consultative process

Step 3: Identify priority investment area

- Track progress to ensure that the agriculture strategy/policy being implemented is climate resilient.

Outcomes	Indicators for Climate Resilient Food System

- For each of the outcomes, we identify the indicators and track the progress on them in a consultative manner

Thank you!