



World Food
Programme

SAVING
LIVES
CHANGING
LIVES

Food System Transformation: Power of Food Fortification

Delivering For Nutrition – WFP side event

December 2024

Availability and Affordability of Healthy Diets Remains a Challenge in Fragile Settings



■ Fragile settings, defined by WFP's corporate alert system

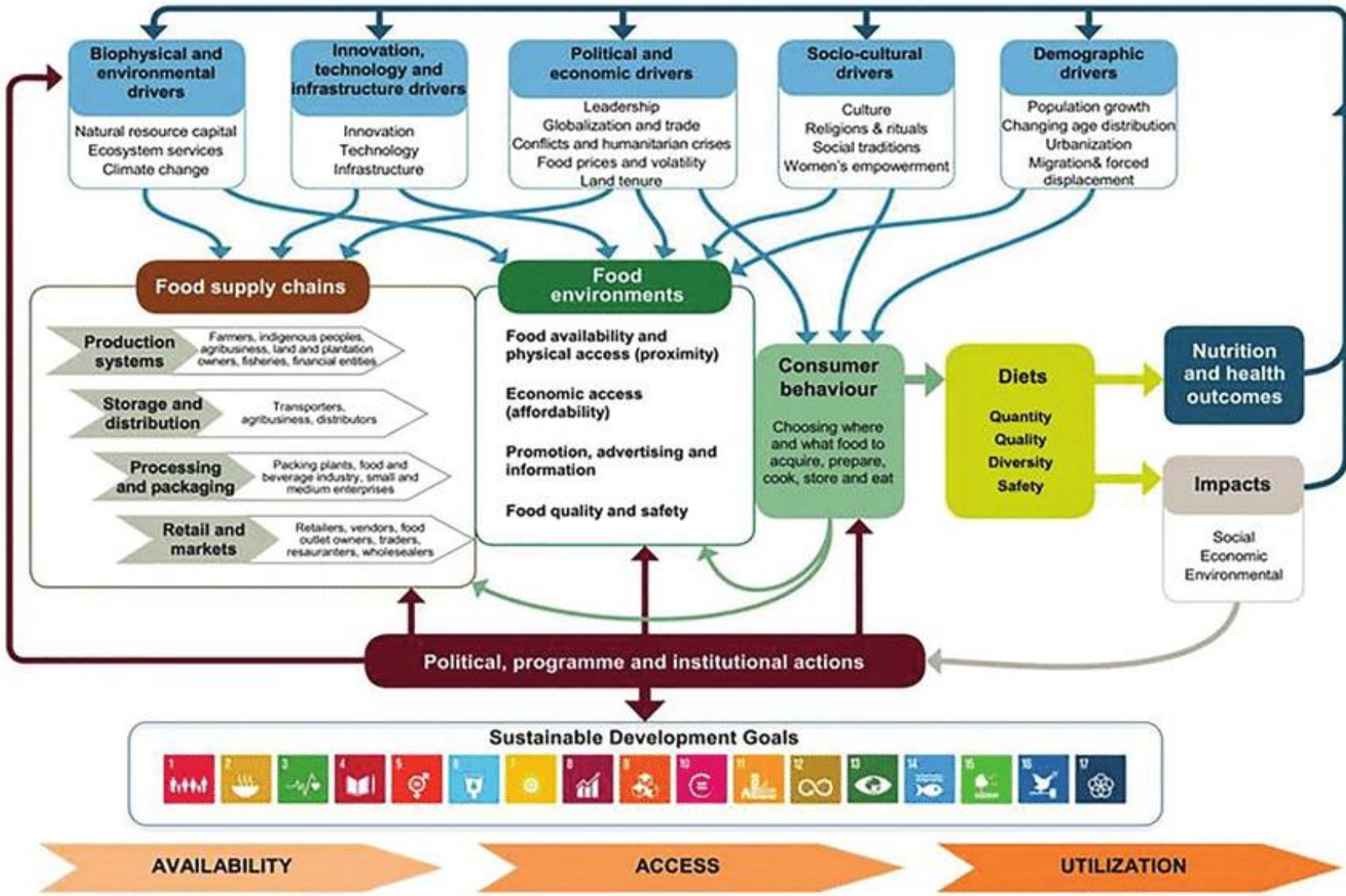
149 M Stunted	45 M Wasted	39 M Overweight
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Global

Children under five years

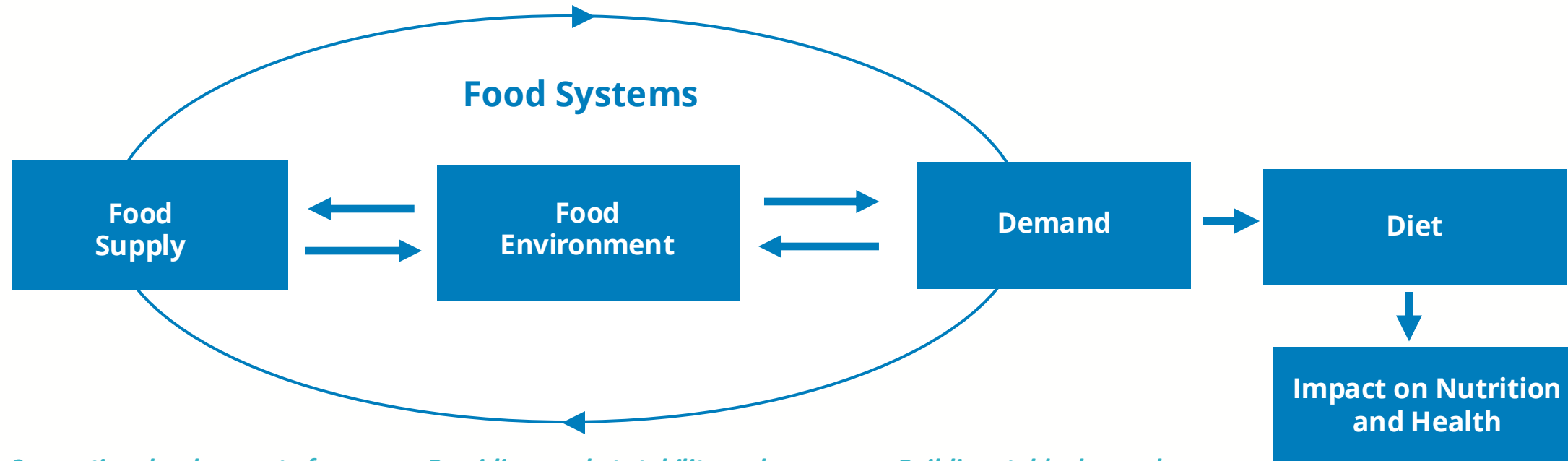
- **Food systems** today **do not ensure** adequate, affordable, safe nutritious foods for **healthy diets**.
- Recurrent **conflicts, displacement, climate events and economic shocks** increase food insecurity and malnutrition.
- **2.8 billion people** are **unable to afford** the cheapest, locally available, **healthy diets** (SOFI 2024).
- **Inequalities** are evident: **71.5 percent** of the population in **low-income countries** are **unable to afford a healthy diet** compared to **21.5 percent** in **upper-middle-income countries** (SOFI 2024).
- **71 percent of children** (6–23 months) are **not fed the recommended minimum diverse diet** (UNICEF 2021).
- **1 in 2 children** under 5, and **2 in 3 women** of reproductive age suffer from at least one **micronutrient deficiency** (Stephenson et al, 2022).
- **Unhealthy diets**, a leading risk factor for noncommunicable diseases, are responsible for more than **73 percent of deaths globally** (GBD 2017).

Improving Diets require a transformative approach to Food System



Food System Interactions proposed by High Level Panel of Experts. FAO, 2017

Leveraging government-led and humanitarian programmes to strengthen food systems for improved supply of nutritious food



Supporting development of sustainable supply chains

Providing market stability and improving food quality framework

Building stable demand

- Food transformation via industry platforms
 - Staple food fortification
 - Complementary food production
 - Local production of Specially Formulated Foods (SFFs)

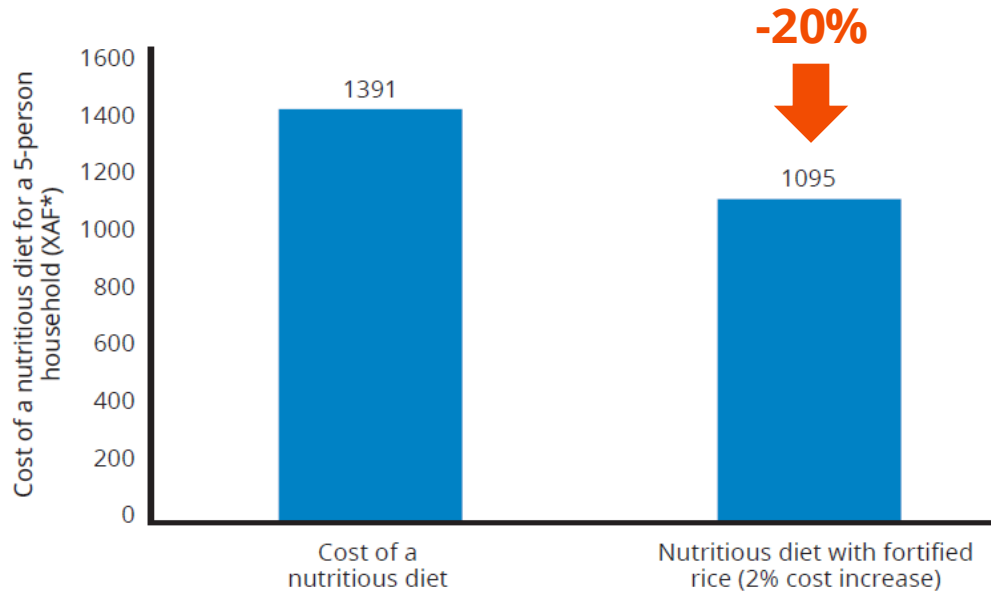
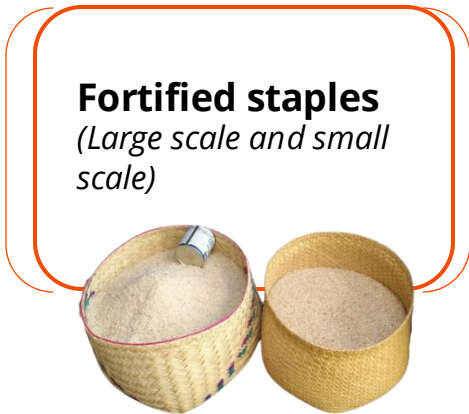
- Improving regulatory frameworks and standard setting
- Food safety and quality assurance

- Government Social Protection
- School based Programs
- Humanitarian assistance
- Open markets and retail
- Social behavior change

- Reaching the most vulnerable who have the greatest gap in meeting their nutritional requirements

- Increasing affordability through economies of scale

Fortification: A cost-effective intervention to deliver essential micronutrients for healthy diets



FNG – Ivory coast -2019

- Cost of the Diet (CotD) analyses in fragile contexts show that **60-80% of families cannot afford the lowest cost nutrient-adequate diet**. The **cost of a nutritious diet is 3-6 times more than an energy-only diet** (FNG, WFP).
- Addressing the affordability gap is key. **Fortified staples** as part of a diverse diet can go a long way towards meeting nutrient requirements and supporting cost effective intervention (e.g., Ivory Coast).
- On a weighted average, **every US \$1 invested** in food fortification generates **US \$27 in economic return** from averted disease, improved earnings, and enhanced work productivity (GAIN and BMGF).

WFP's strategic approach to Food Fortification

STRATEGIC
GOAL

Scaling up access to sustainable, affordable and healthy diets for populations at greatest risk of malnutrition by improving the quality of and demand for nutritious (fortified) foods

FOCUS
AREAS

1

Evidence building,
policy & advocacy

2

Leveraging
institutional demand
to reach the most
vulnerable at scale

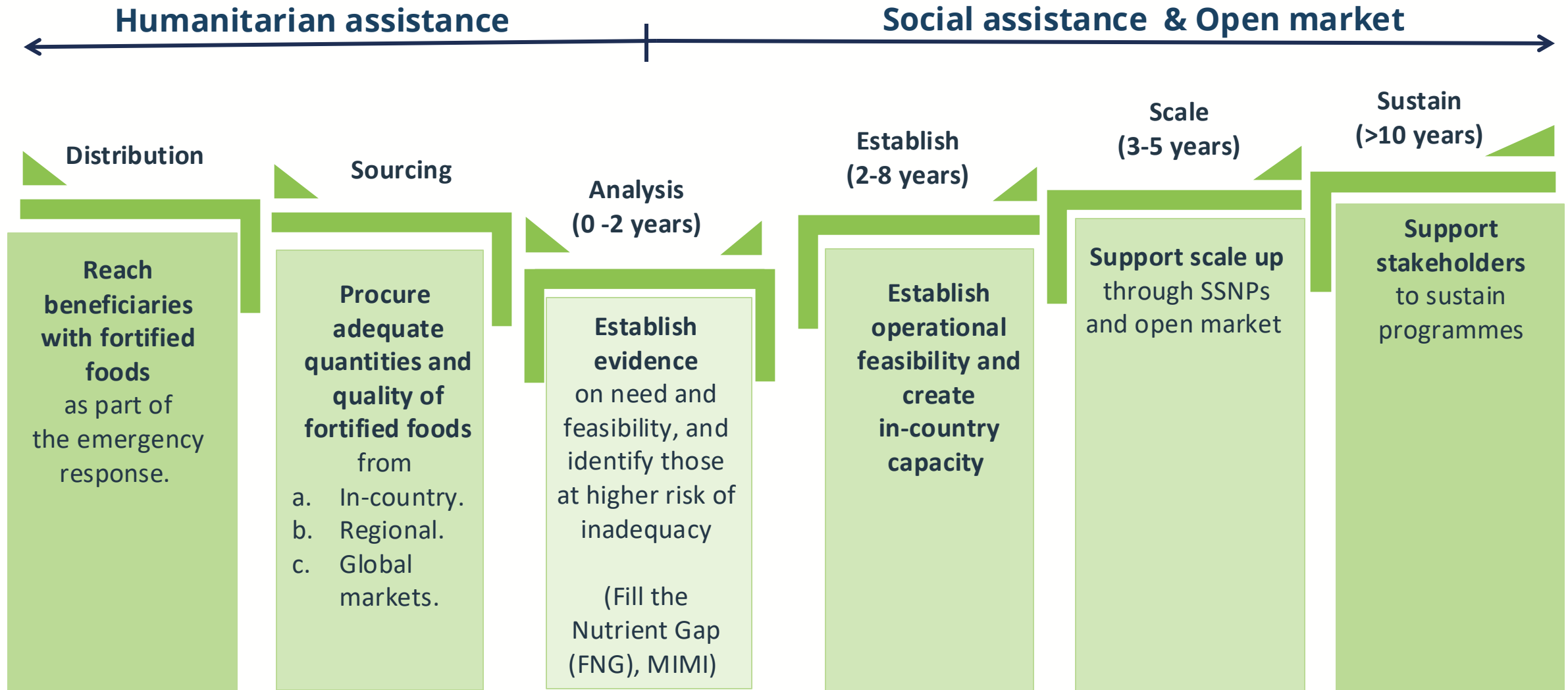
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Ensuring impact with
quality supply

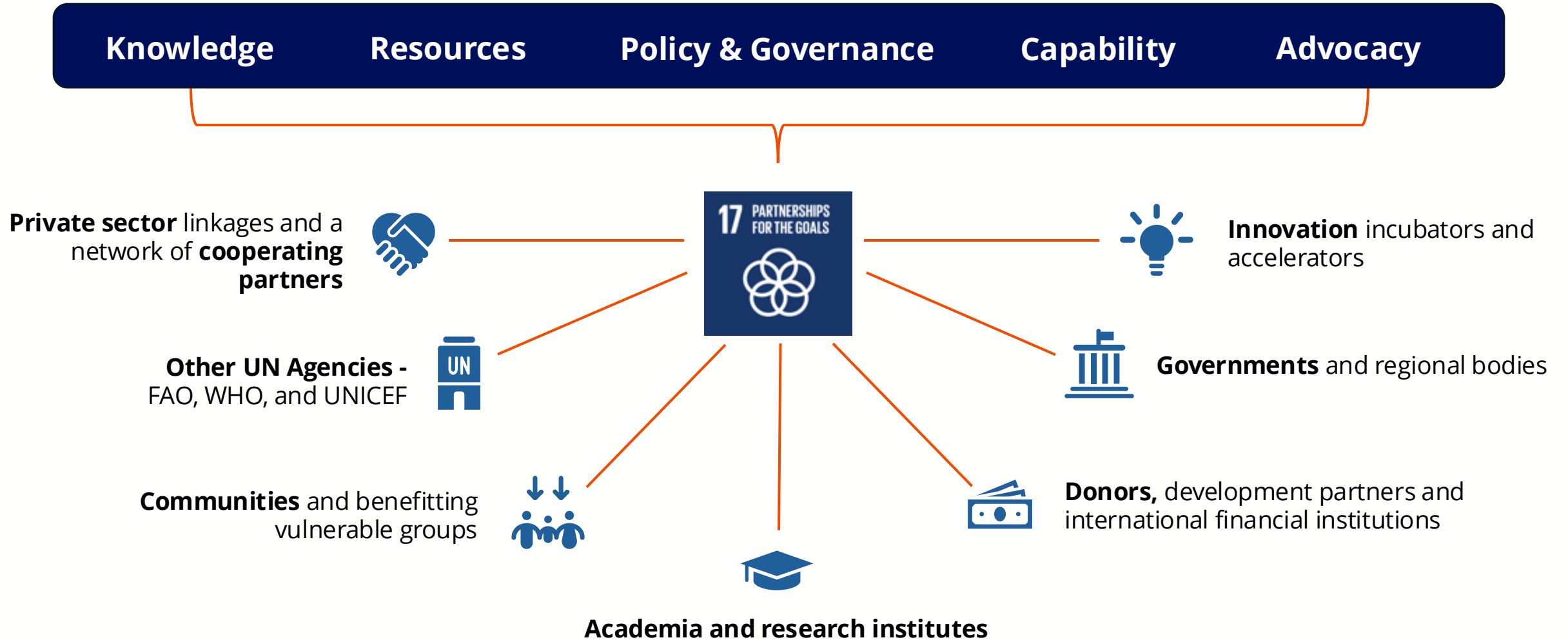
ENABLERS

Capacity strengthening and partnerships
Leveraging opportunities
Innovative approaches
Knowledge management

Journey of Food Fortification across Humanitarian and Social Assistance Programmes



Food Fortification is multi-stakeholder intervention





Thank You