

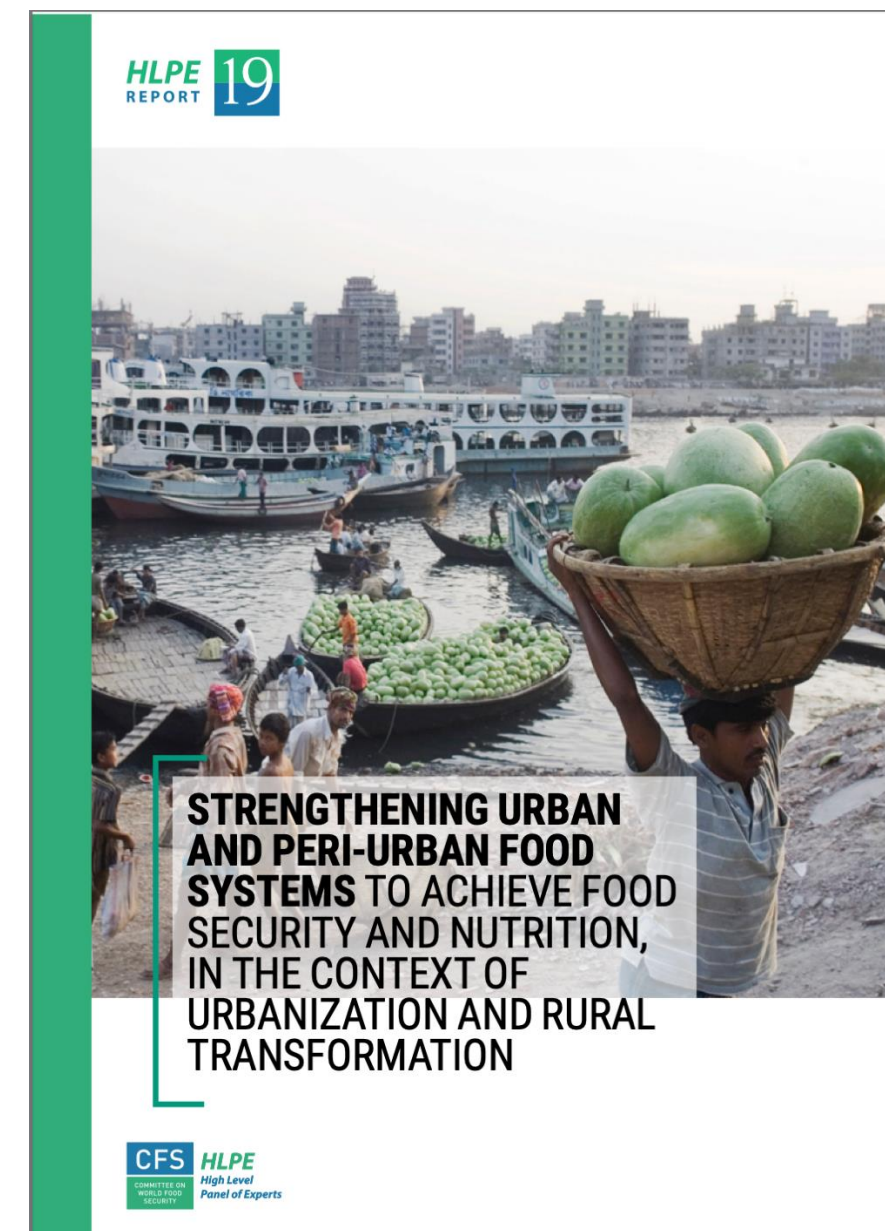
Urban governance as a scalable tool for nutrition in South Asian cities.

Lessons from the 2024 HLPE-FSN urban and peri-urban food systems report.

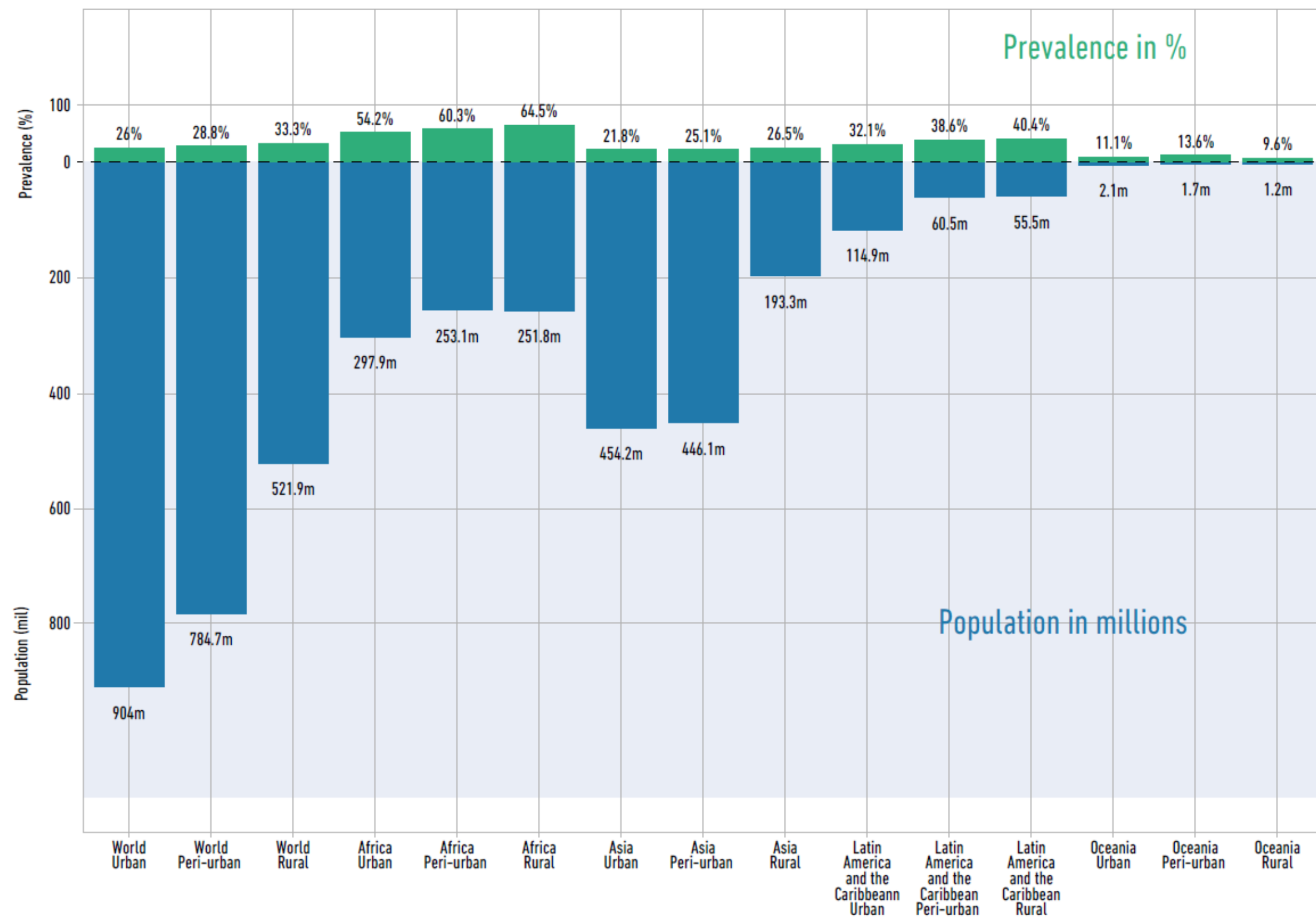
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Rationale and methods

- National food security and food system policies have neglected U-PU food security and nutrition (FSN) and largely ignored the role of local governments in shaping food systems and FSN outcomes. There is an urgent need to redirect food security and food system policy and investment to address this growing challenge.
- Global review of evidence on food systems, food security and nutrition, policy and governance opportunities.
- Development of recommendations converted to CFS policy recommendations.



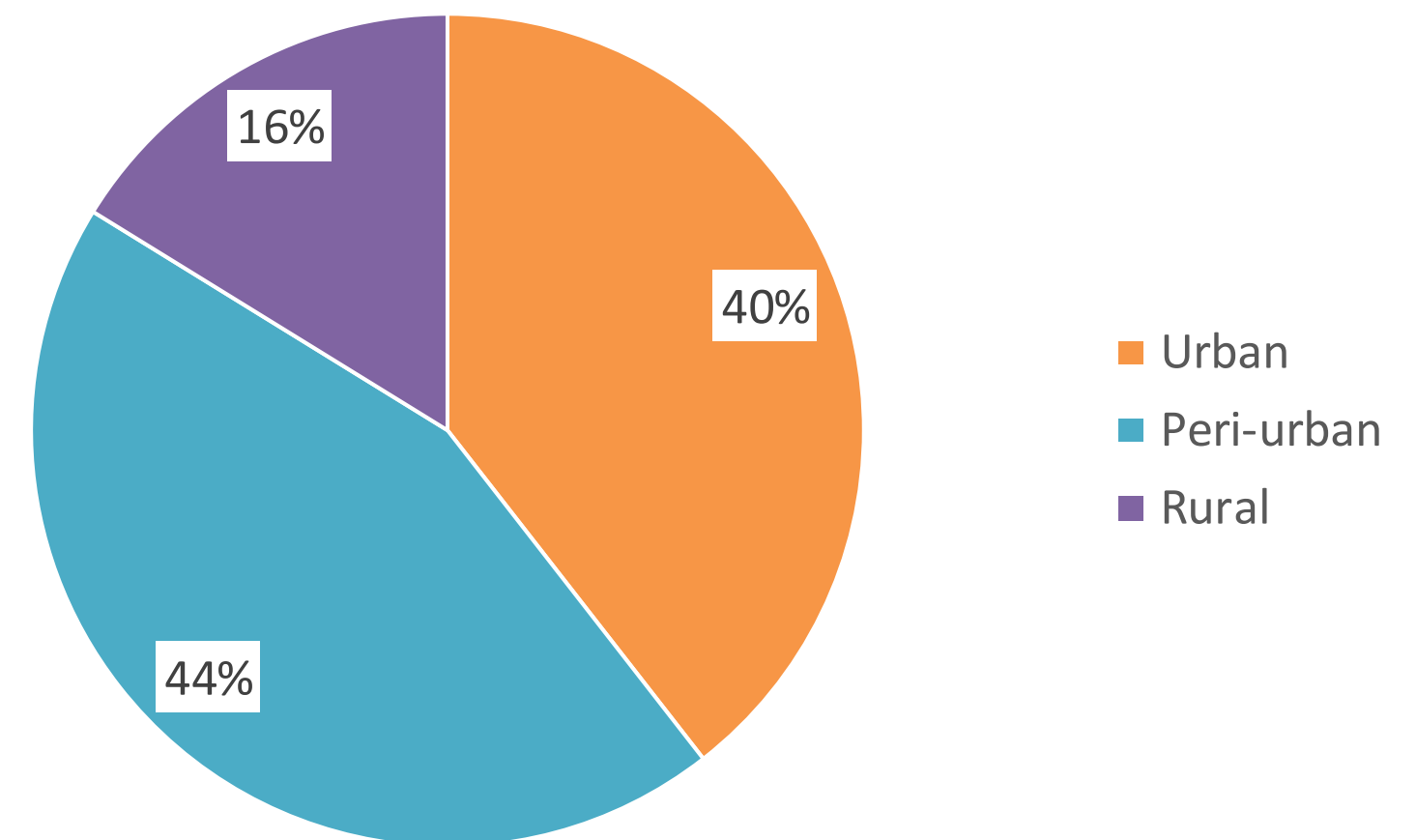
Food and nutrition security an increasingly urban problem



Food insecurity in S Asian context

- Challenge of urban informality/slums
 - Infants and young children particularly vulnerable due to low breastfeeding rates, undernutrition, poor sanitation
 - Water, Sanitation, Waste Management, Safe Storage, Food retail environment and safety, Environmental risk and vulnerability, Access to employment

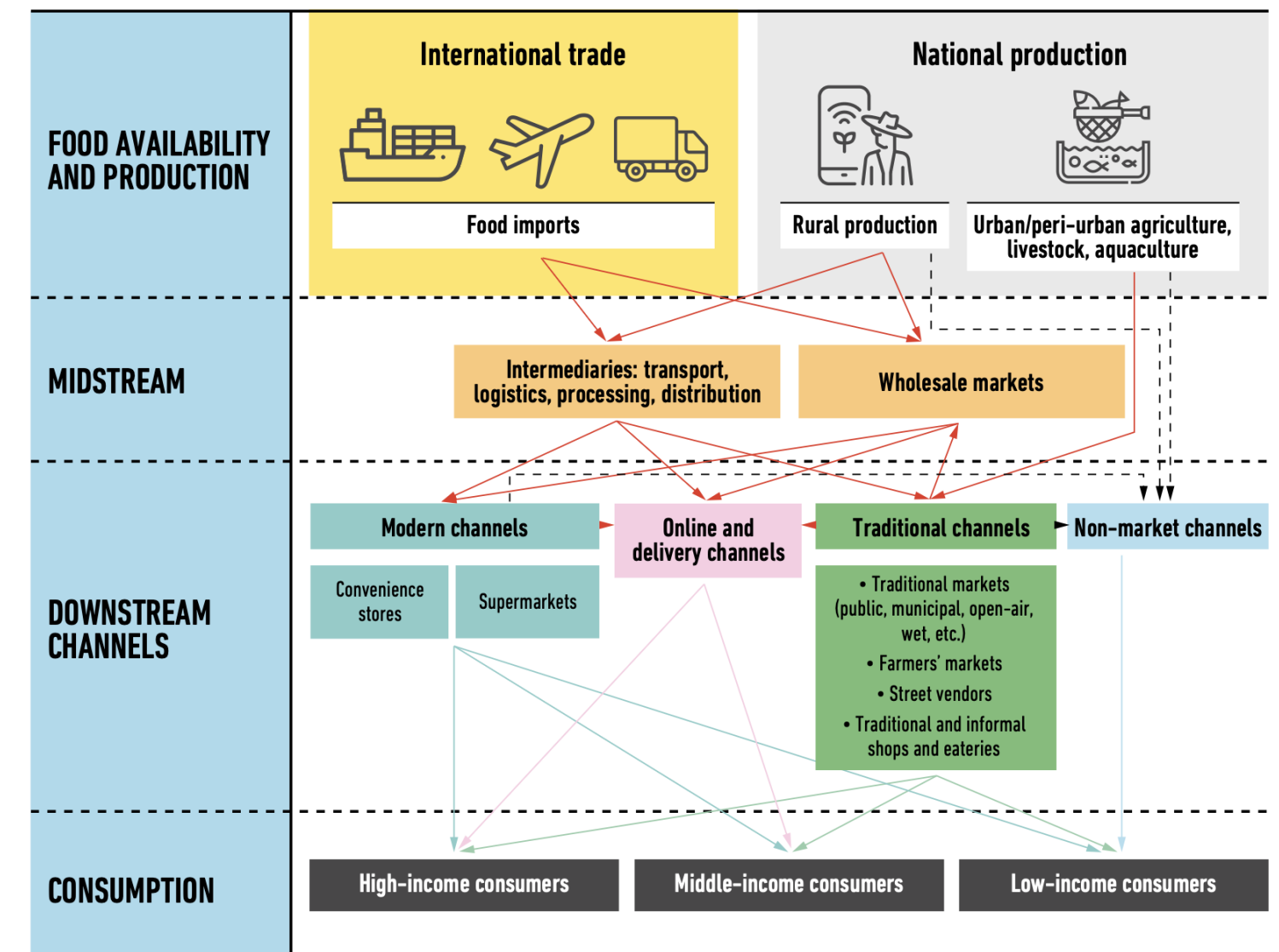
Moderately or severely food insecure
(Southern Asia, 2022 - FAOStat)



South Asian urban food system context

- Lower levels of supermarketization than most regions
- Presence of traditional and informal sector – rapidly adapting
- Loss of peri-urban agricultural land
- Increasing consumption of food away from home

INTERACTIONS IN URBAN AND PERI-URBAN FOOD-SYSTEM ACTIVITIES



Notes: Colours are used to differentiate the various activities discussed in the chapter. Dotted lines indicate that only a small fraction of the production gets from the source to the destination.

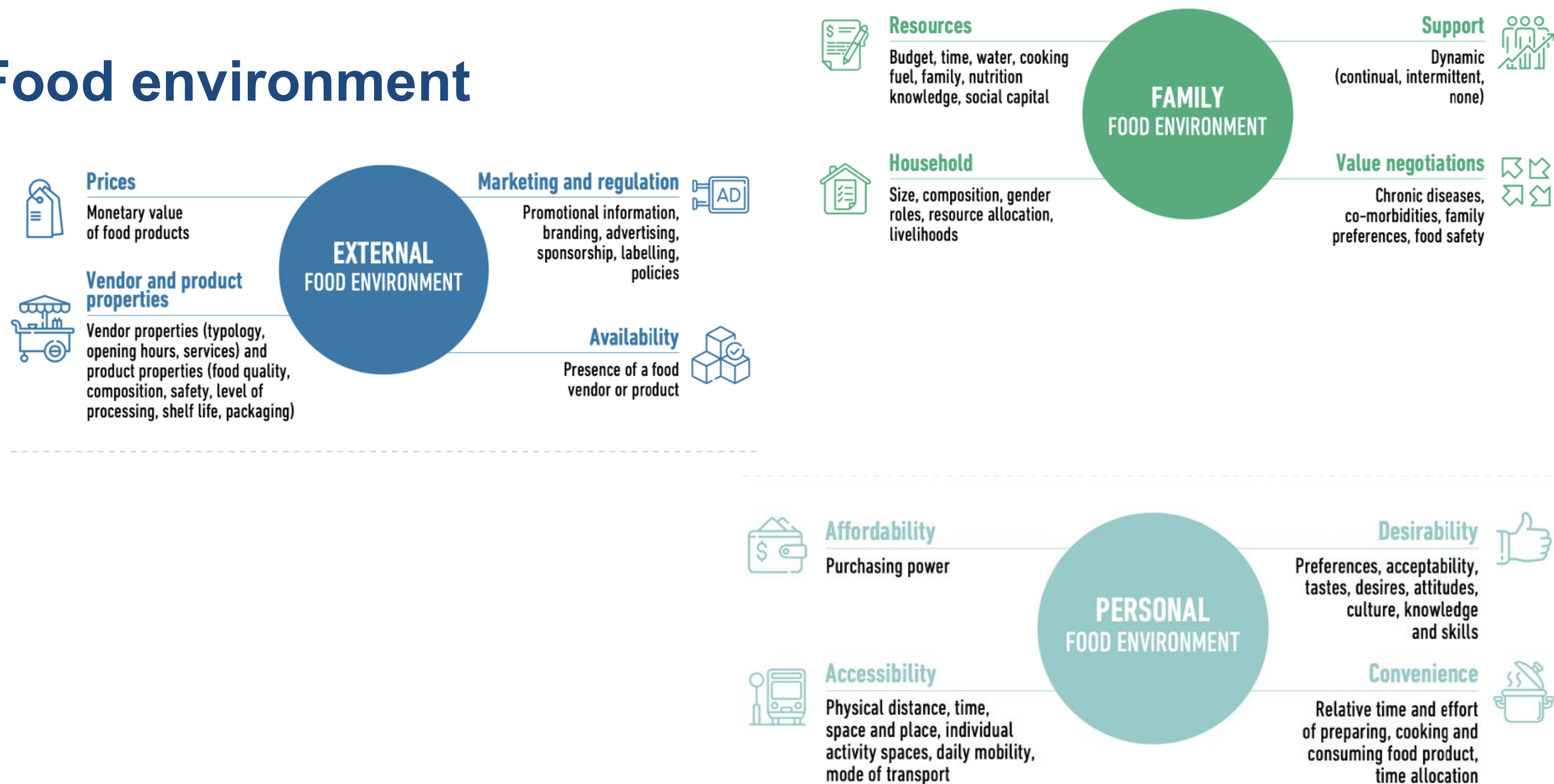
Urban and peri-urban food systems

- Food systems **traditionally oriented towards availability and affordability of foods for urban** populations.
- Increased presence of highly processed **obesogenic foods**.
- Responsiveness of urban food system to income poverty, time poverty and infrastructure poverty: **ensuring accessibility can undermine nutrition. A food system maladapting to urban context.**
- Urban and peri-urban food systems are however often **unsustainable, fragile, unjust, prone to shocks, and not aligned with healthy diets.**

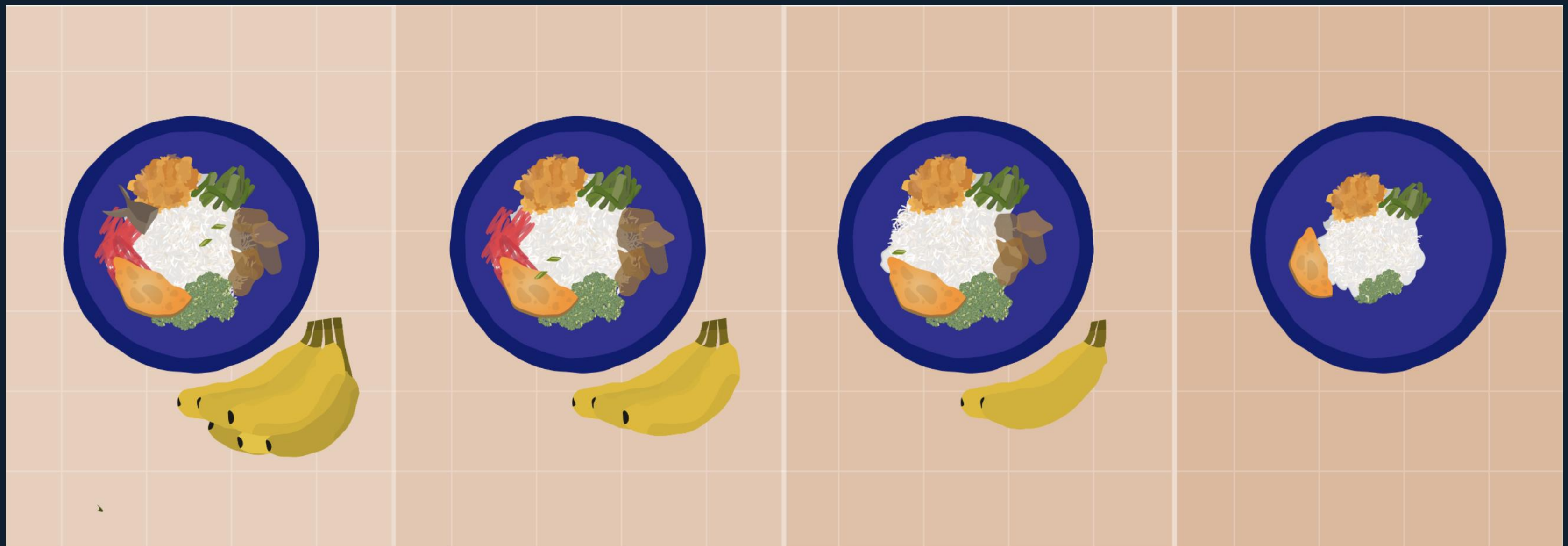
Particular issues facing S Asian urban context

- Rapid urbanization
- High slum rates
- Affordability of healthy diet
- Rapidly changing food environment
- Climate vulnerability
- Relative absence of urban food and nutrition specific policy and data

Food environment



Colombo, Sri Lanka – urban diet change



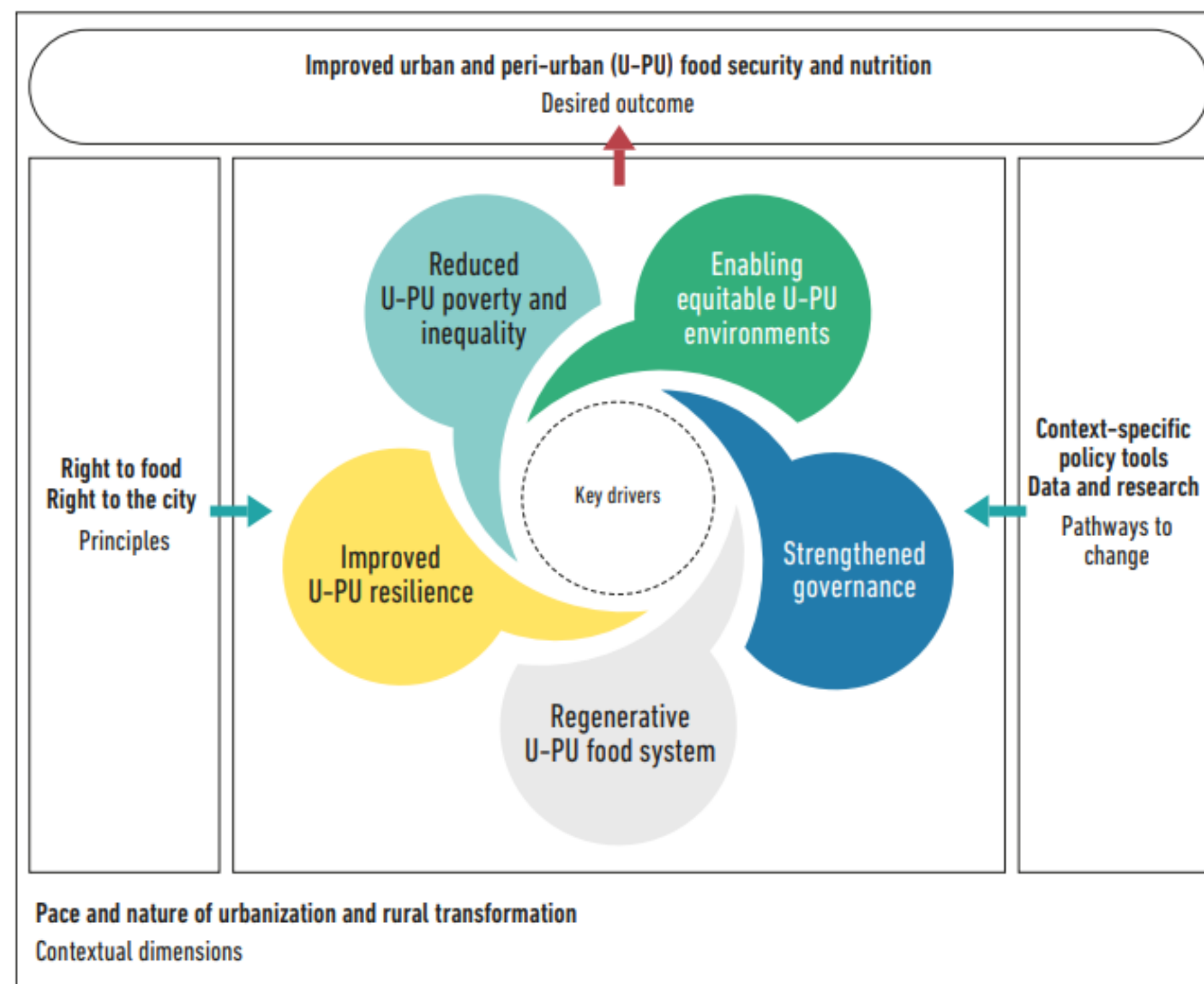
The way in which the food plate has changed over the past three years.

Urban food systems governance

Complex nature of urban and peri-urban food systems: **multi-level, multilateral and multi-actor governance processes** within and beyond the state.

Understand the **powers of local governments**, inclusive of the degree of decentralization, mandates, and capacities, & their relationships to other levels of government, and other actors.

HLPE 19 Theory of Change



Scaling for impact

- Scaling out – Leveraging policy and practice networks for context informed learning
- Scaling up – Embedding nutrition in urban policy and planning – a significant governance gap
- Scaling deep – Lived experience informed work, deep partnering with local civil society actors
- Data and data to policy pathways essential



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