

Assessing the need for integrated micronutrient data to support evidence-based nutrition decisions by Indian food system stakeholders

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BACKGROUND

- Access, usage and interpretation of publicly available micronutrient data from health, nutrition, agricultural and intervention sources is crucial for evidence-based decisions in nutritious food systems.
- This research focussed on identification of priority needs, requirements, challenges and aspirations of key Indian food systems stakeholders in relation to micronutrient data.

METHODS

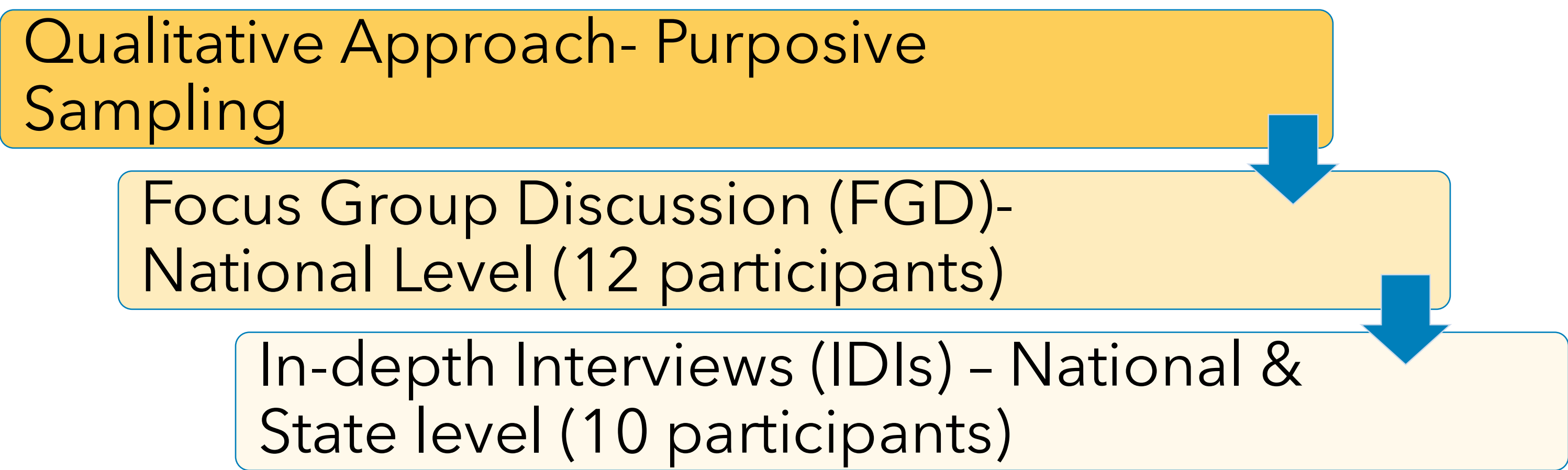


Fig 1. Steps of data collection

- Sample comprised of stakeholders across health, nutrition and agriculture sector India at national and state level (Fig. 2)
- Stakeholders reported the following uses of data:

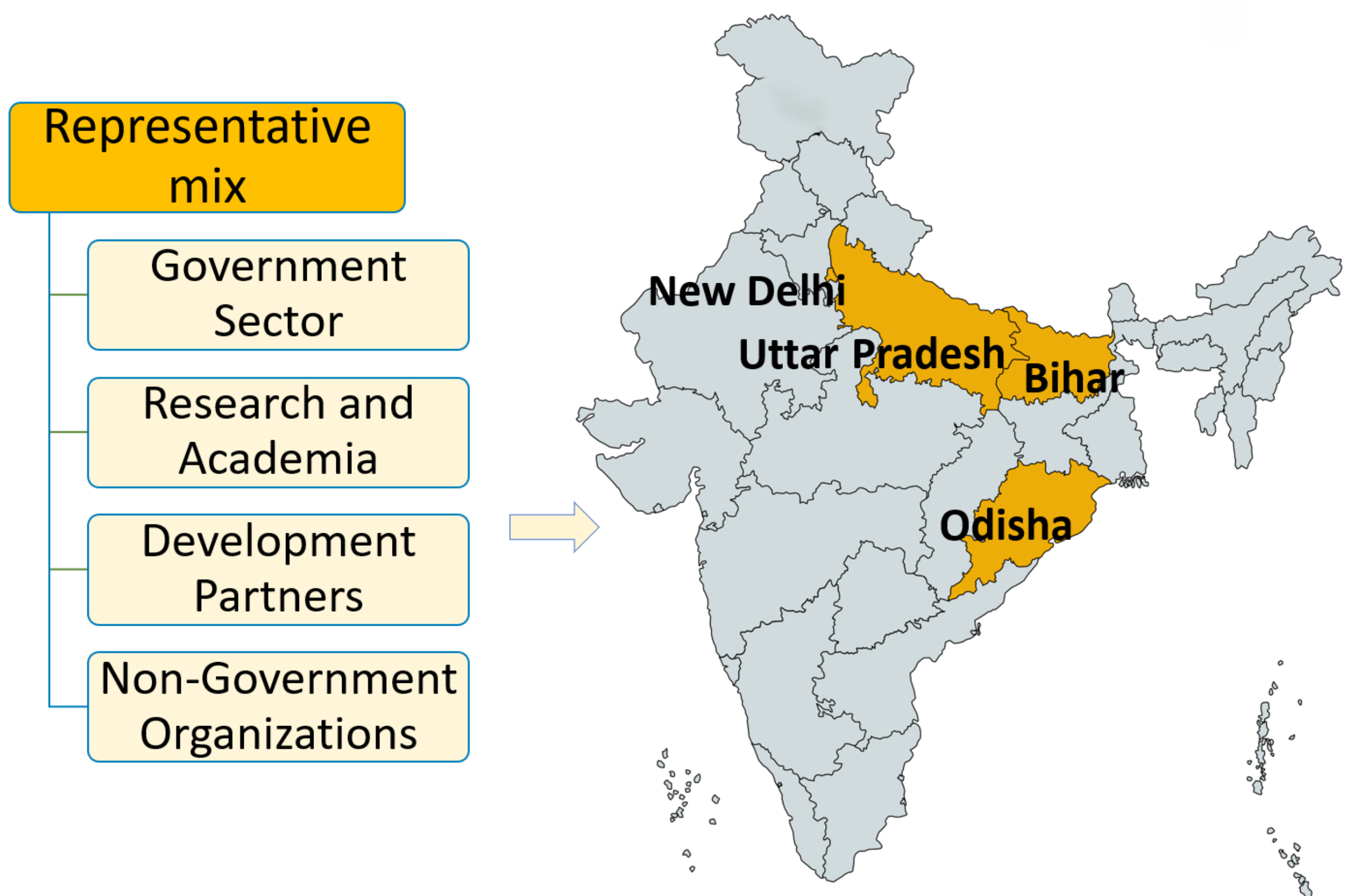
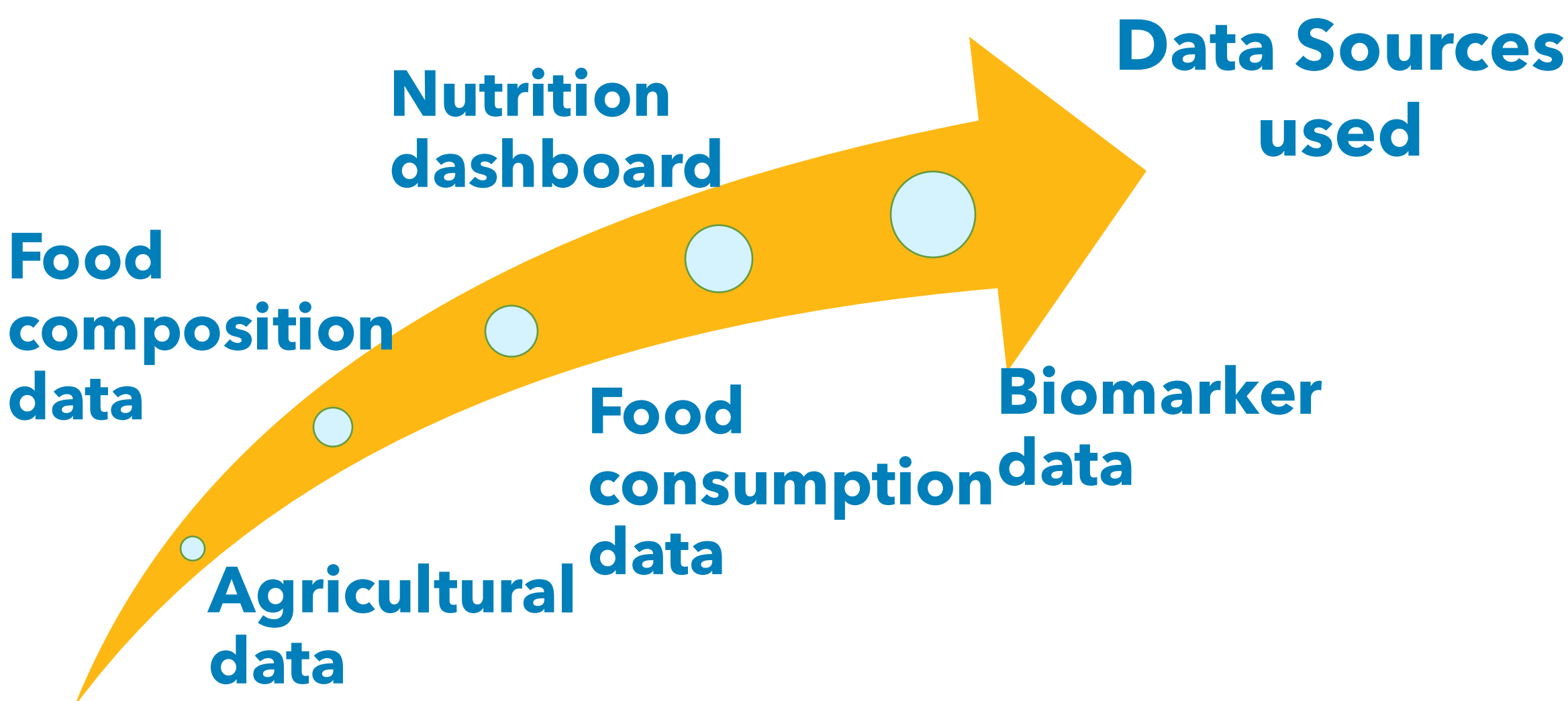


Fig 2. Sample selection

RESULTS

- Stakeholders reported the following micronutrient data sources that were used:



- Stakeholders reported the following uses of data:
 - Scaling up fortification, supplementation and social safety nets
 - Estimating micronutrient deficiencies (Iron and vitamins)
 - Updating policies and plans

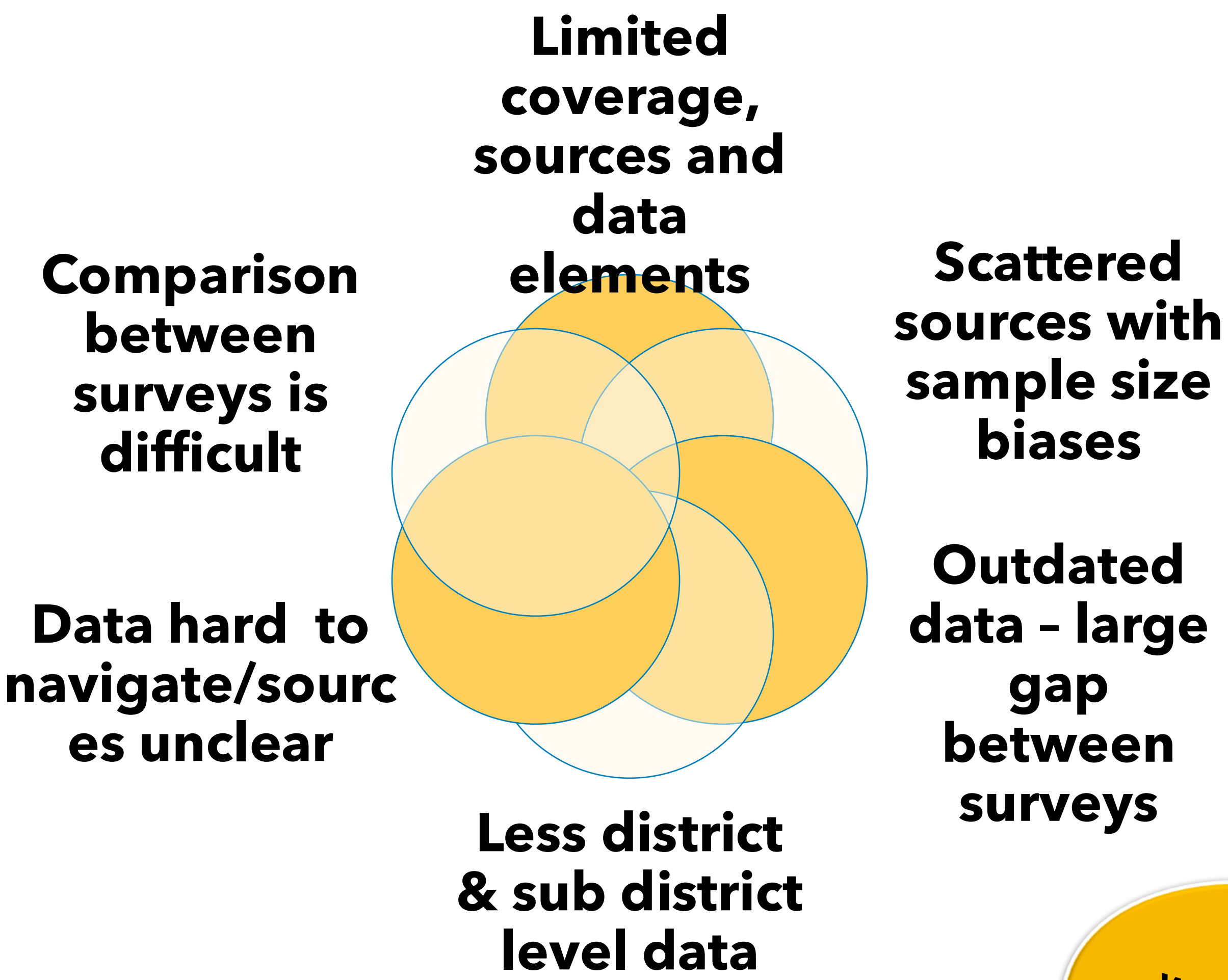


Fig 3. Challenges with existing data sources

"We need workable data" – Chorus at FGD

Needs and Aspirations

- Consolidated and harmonized district-level data across health, nutrition, and agriculture.
- Integration of soil composition, mineral nutrient, biomarker, food consumption, and food composition data.
- Comprehensive, recent, and inclusive datasets covering all population groups, with granular, geographically and seasonally disaggregated information.
- Availability of cost, projection, and analytical data, access to both raw and consolidated/processed datasets.
- Development of customizable platforms and tools for user-specific access across sectors and stakeholders.

CONCLUSION

