



# Food assistance as a safety net

Programs, choices and evidence

*Social Safety Nets Core Course 2014*

Ugo Gentilini  
World Bank, GSPDR

- Concepts and definitions (what is 'food assistance')
- Food assistance programs (what forms does it take)
- Making choices (comparing impacts and costs; issues to consider)
- Wrap-up

- Concepts and definitions
- Food assistance programs
- Making choices
- Wrap-up

# Food as a critical part of a broader equation. A few numbers...

Access to food

**72** % of income spent on food by the poorest households (upper bound)



Food insecurity

**805** million people are undernourished (minimum dietary energy requirement)



(Mal)nutrition

**165** million children under-5 are chronically malnourished or stunted (low height-for-age)

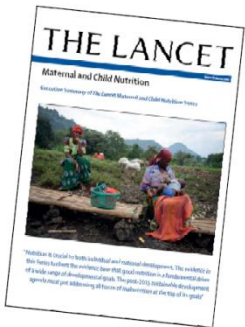


**45** % of child mortality caused by malnutrition (3.1 M/year)

Mortality

**46** % higher hourly wages among Guatemalan adults due to better nutrition in childhood

Economic investment

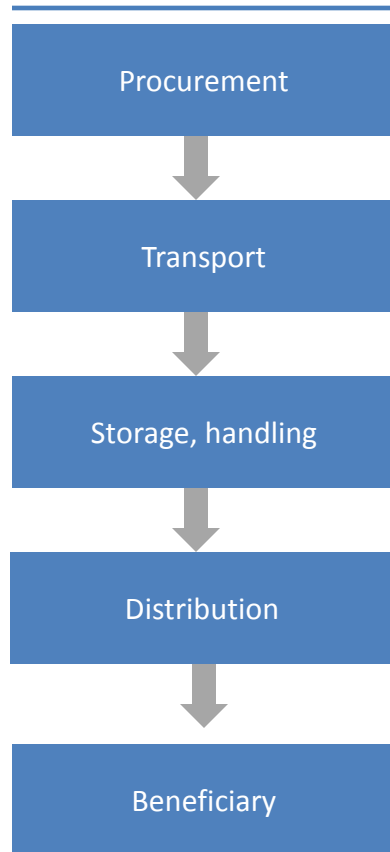


# Unbundling ‘food assistance’

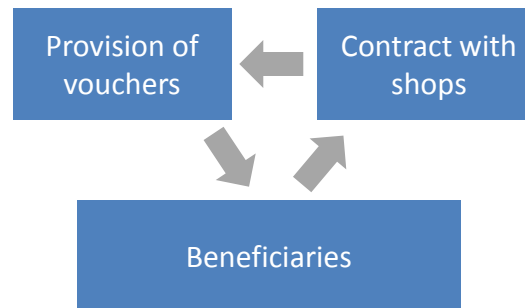


- What it includes
  - Measures that “... improve *access* to, and consumption of, adequate, safe and nutritious food”
  - Cash transfers, vouchers, food transfers (if with external assistance = ‘food aid’)
  - Design devised accordingly (e.g., transfer size, M&E)
    - (Hint: we do not here consider large cash lump grants or similar, but transfers for an amount to access a basic food basket + little top-up)
- Programs
  - Unconditional, conditional, public works
  - Formally provided by governments
  - Fully or partially subsidized

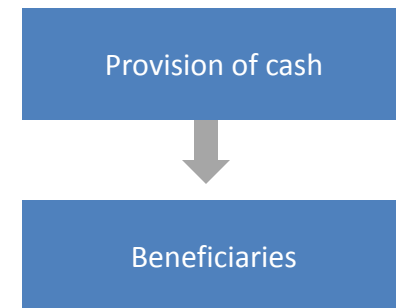
## Food



## Vouchers



## Cash



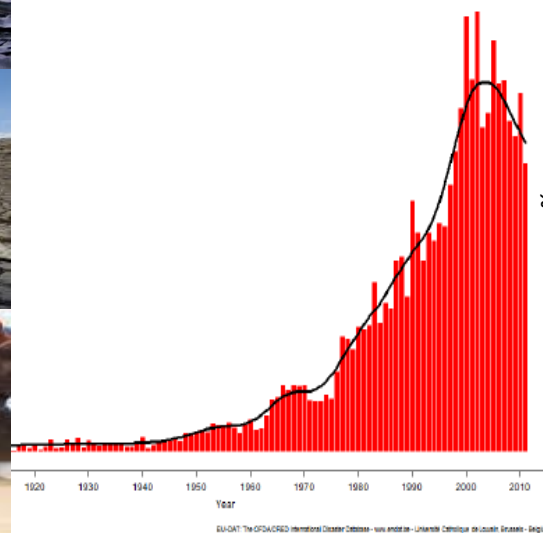
- Concepts and definitions
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# Unconditional food programs

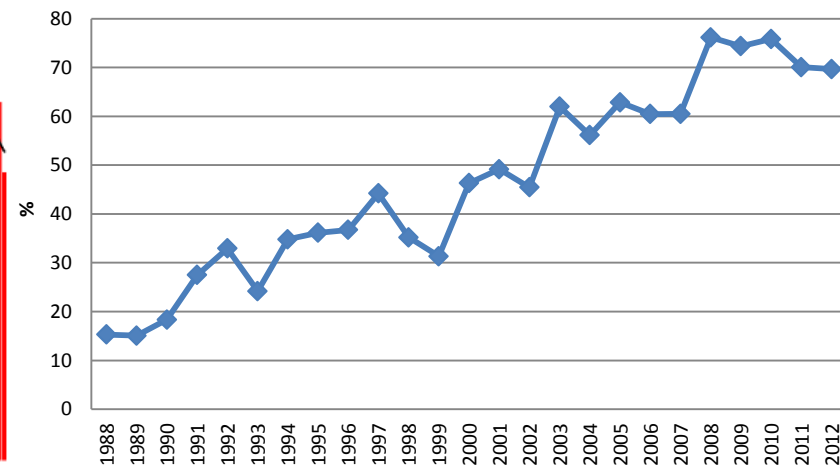
- Bulk of response in early phases of natural disasters and conflict
  - Emergency programs now 70% of international food aid (tot: 4.7 M tons; 0.2% of global production)
  - 'General food distribution': reaching 43.7 million people in 2012
  - Some 14.5 million people received 'nutritional supplementation'
  - Currently: 6M Syrian displaced; 1.5M for ebola crisis; 2.5M in South Sudan; 500,000 people in C.A.R



Number of disasters










Share of emergency food aid out of total



Source: WFP-FAIS (2014)

- A food transfer consist of commodities of various quantity and quality
  - Traditional cereals, pulses and oil
  - ‘Ready to Use Therapeutic Foods’, lipid-based products for treatment of severe acute malnutrition
  - Costs higher for high-quality products (R&D, imported, shelf life, etc.)

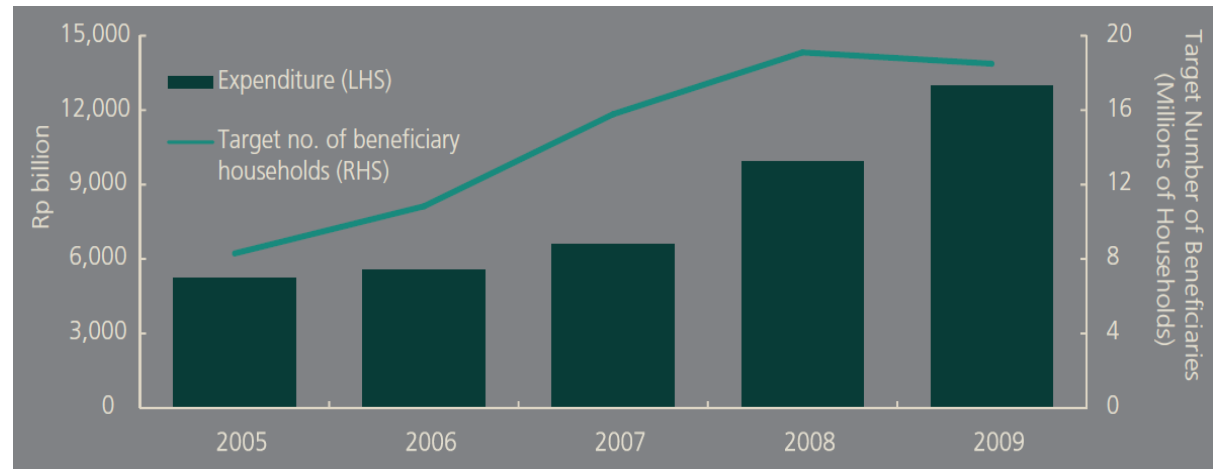
	Lipid-based Nutrient Supplement (LNS) Medium Quantity (20-50g)			Fortified Blended Food (FBF) (100-200g)		LNS Small Quantity (≤20g)	Micronutrient Powders (1g)
	<b>Plumpy'doz®</b> (Peanut-based)	<b>eeZeeCup™</b> (Peanut-based)	<b>Wawa Mum</b> (Chickpea-based)	<b>Super Cereal Plus</b>	<b>Super Cereal²</b>	<b>Nutributter®</b> (Peanut-based)	<b>Micronutrient Powders (MNP)</b>
							
Target group	Children 6-23 months	Children 6-23 months	Children 6-23 months	Children 6-23 months	Pregnant and Lactating Women	Children 6-23 months	Children 6-59 months School age children
Key Ingredients	Vegetable fat, peanut, sugar, milk powder, whey, V&M, cocoa	Vegetable fat, peanut, sugar, skimmed milk powder, V&M	Chickpeas, vegetable oil, milk powder, sugar, V&M	Corn/wheat/rice soya, milk powder, sugar, oil, V&M	Corn/wheat/rice soya, V&M	Peanuts, vegetable fat, sugar, skim milk powder, whey, V&M	Vitamins and minerals (V&M)
Daily ration	46g portion (1/7 portion of a pot)	46g portion (1/7 portion of a pot)	50g sachet	100-200g (200g includes provision for sharing)	100-200g (200g includes provision for sharing)	20g sachet	1g sachet every second day
Nutrient profile	247 kcal, 5.9g protein (10%), 16g fat (58%). Contains EFA, meets RNI and PDCAAS	253 kcal, 6.0g protein (10%), 15g fat (56%). Contains EFA, meets RNI and PDCAAS	260 kcal, 6.5g protein (10%), 14.5g fat (50%). Contains EFA, meets RNI and PDCAAS	394-787 kcal, 16-33g protein (17%), 10-20g fat (23%). Contains EFA, meets RNI and PDCAAS	376-752 kcal, 15-31g protein (16%), 8-16g fat (19%). Meets RNI and PDCAAS	108 kcal, 2.6g protein (10%), 7g fat (59%). Contains EFA, meets RNI and PDCAAS	Meets RNI  (No energy, fat or protein content)
Duration of intervention	Duration will be aligned with national guidelines and will vary with different situations, contexts and objectives (e.g. prevention of acute vs. prevention of stunting) as well as target group. Please refer to programme design guidance for more information.						
Shelf life³	24 months	18 months	24 months	18 months	12 months	24 months	24 months
Packaging details	Primary packaging: 325g pots. Carton: 12.7kg (gross) and 11.7kg (net) has 36 pots	Primary packaging: 325g pots. Carton: 12.7kg (gross) and 11.7kg (net) has 36 pots	Carton: 10.5kg (net) has 210 sachets	Primary: 1.5kg (net) bag; Secondary: 15kg (net) carton has 10 bags; or 18kg sack has 12 bags	25kg (net) bags	Carton: 11.95kg (gross) and 10.92kg (net) has 546 sachets	Carton: 14kg (gross) has 240 boxes; 30 sachet in each box. *Packaging varies with supplier

- Domestic, institutionalized programs
  - Specific risks in lifecycle, e.g. Chile's PNAC (2kgs of powdered milk per month from birth to two years of age, i.e. 8.9 M children) and PACAM (4.7 M senior, +60-70)
- Various models of 'public distribution systems'
  - Evolved from price stabilization functions to safety net programs
  - Often as partially subsidized commodities
  - Substantial scale: at least 850 million individuals; ~\$18 billion

Country	Program	Beneficiaries (M)	Cost (\$ Bill)
India	TDPS	180*	7
Iraq	PDS	32	5
Mexico	Diconsa	0.67*	0.37
Egypt	Baladi	70	3.64
Indonesia	Raskin	18.5*	1.4

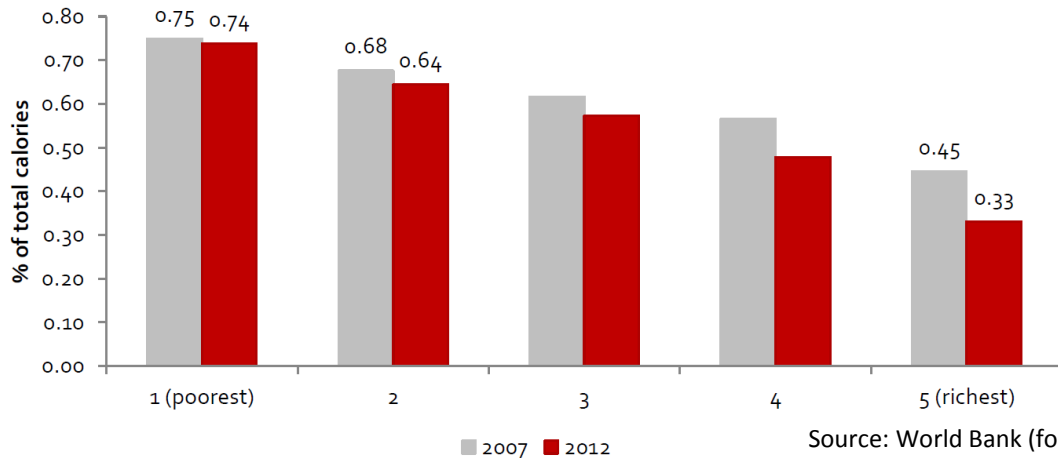
\*households. Source: internal work in progress, LAC SP database , ASPIRE

## Indonesia



Source: World Bank (2012)

## Iraq



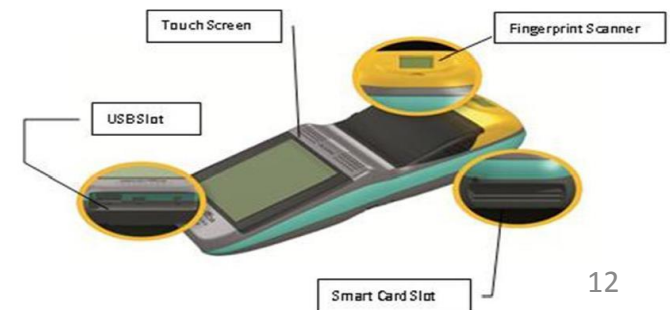
Source: World Bank (forthcoming)

- Lots of ongoing innovations
  - E.g., India's Chhattisgarh state...

# Targeted Public Distribution System in Chhattisgarh state

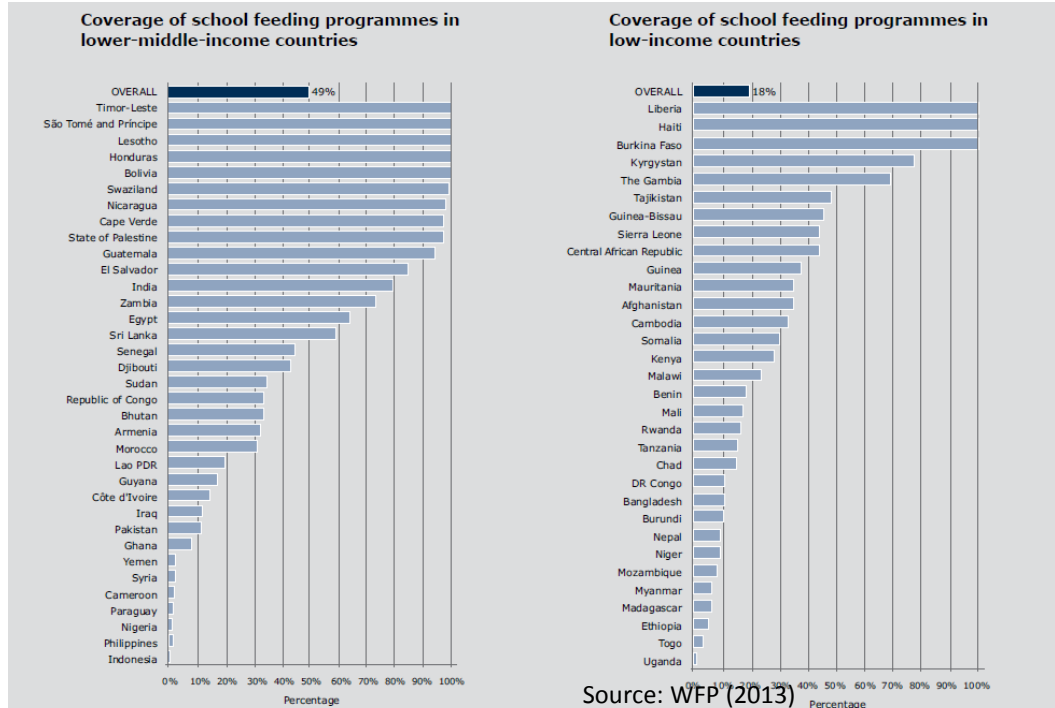
(more in BBL next week!)

- From pre-assigned 'fair price shops'...
  - 'Leakages' at various points; multiple visits to the shop, possible mistreatment of beneficiaries, overcharges, long waiting hours (i.e., 4-5h)
- ... to competition and reform
  - Increase in the number of shops
  - Decentralized procurement schemes
  - Portability: choosing shops, COREPDS
  - Per capita access increased 5-fold, from 600 grams/month in 2004-5 to 3.2 kg per month in 2007-8. Calories soared by 880%

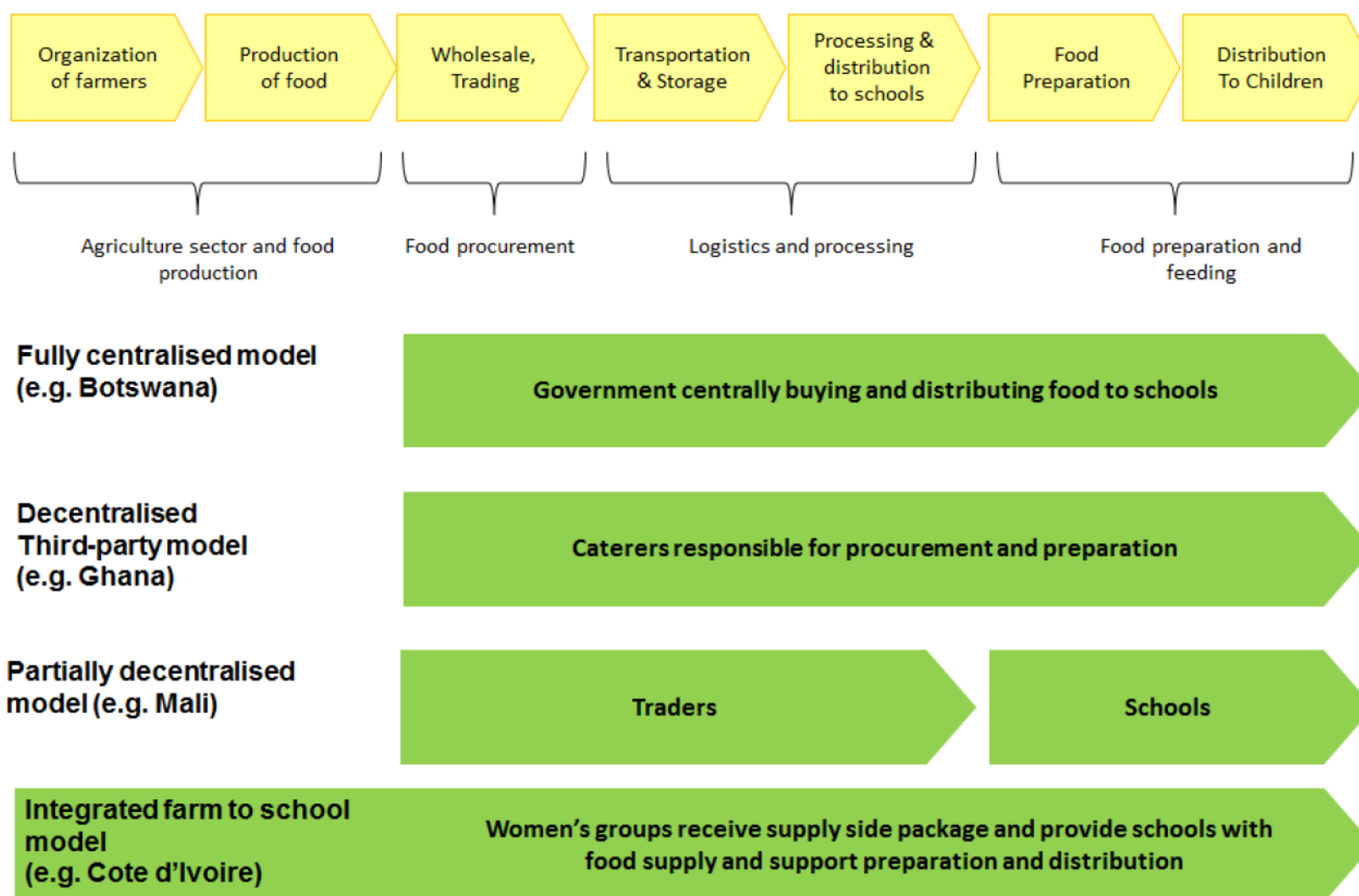


# Conditional food transfers: school feeding

- Provision of food to children conditional to attendance
- Two basic modalities
  - On-site meals and take-home rations (and snacks)
- Coverage of 368 million children worldwide, \$75 billion/year (2011)
- Admin costs: 10-20% depending by model
  - Could peak to 42% in less-mature programs

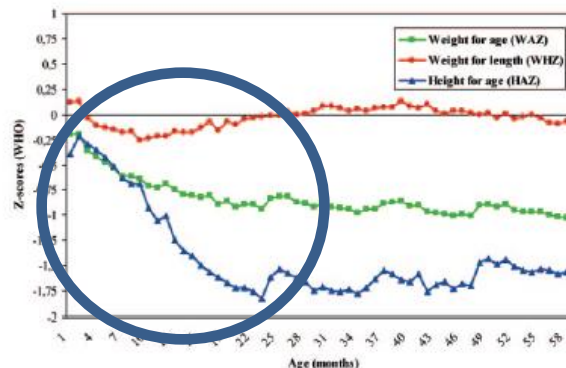


# School feeding models



# Impacts on nutrition

- Highly debated issue
  - Missing critical age window of 0-24m
  - Possible indirect effect through THRs (e.g. Burkina Faso: weight for age increased by 0.38 sd for children 12-60 m whose sisters were eligible for THRs, Kazianga et al. 2009)



Source: Shrimpton et al. (2001)

- Micronutrient status
  - Biscuits fortified with iron and iodine reduced absenteeism and some dimensions of cognitive function (Alderman and Bundy 2011)
  - When locally-procured, role for fortification using prepackaged mixes
- Anemia (e.g. Uganda)
- Deworming (common to include in planning)

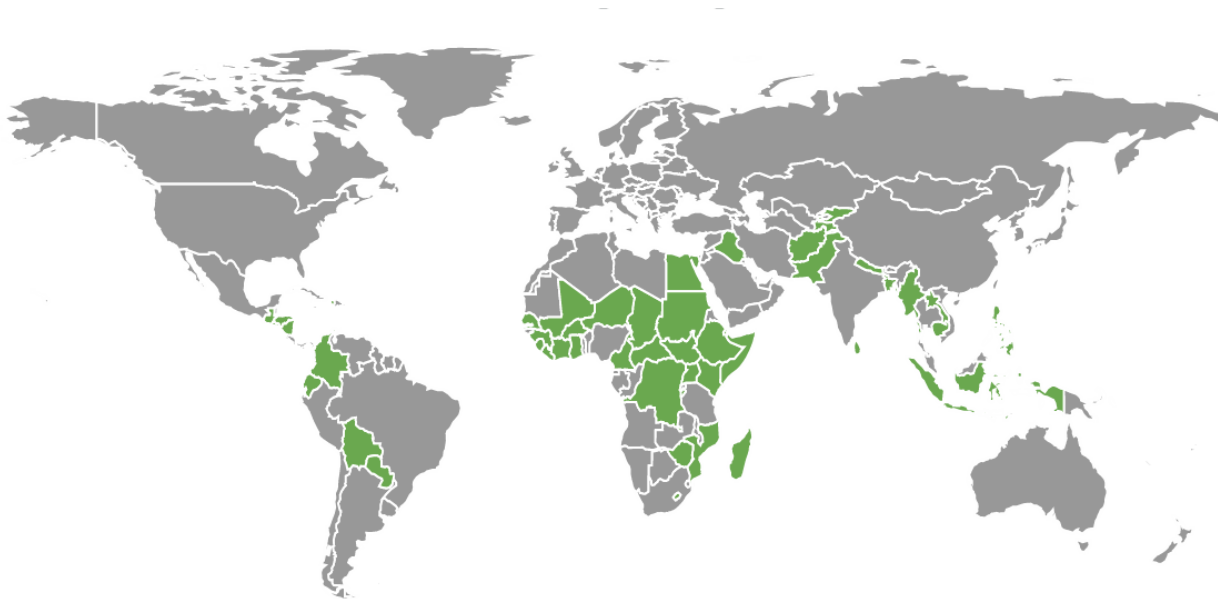
# Impacts on education and income



- Considerably effective in enrolment
  - Uganda: 9% increase in children aged 6–13 who started school (Alderman et al 2010)
  - Bangladesh: 14% difference (in communities with and without SF (Ahmed 2004)
  - Burkina Faso: new enrollment of girls by about 5-6% (Kazianga et al. 2009)
  - Kenya: 30% increase (pre-school) (Vermeersch and Kremer 2005)
- Cognitive skills
  - Mixed evidence on learning (supply-side, quality of education as key, e.g. Pritchett 2013...)
  - E.g. Uganda impact on math test scores (children aged 11-14), but not test of literacy
- Targeting
  - School-targeted as generally progressive (Lindert et al. 2010)
  - THRs as gender-targeted (double in transfer size, e.g. Gelli et al. 2009)
  - Expanded in crises, but where existed (e.g., Burundi, CAR, Ghana, Liberia, Togo, and Philippines)

# Food for work

- In a nutshell, provision of food commodities for labor-intensive activities

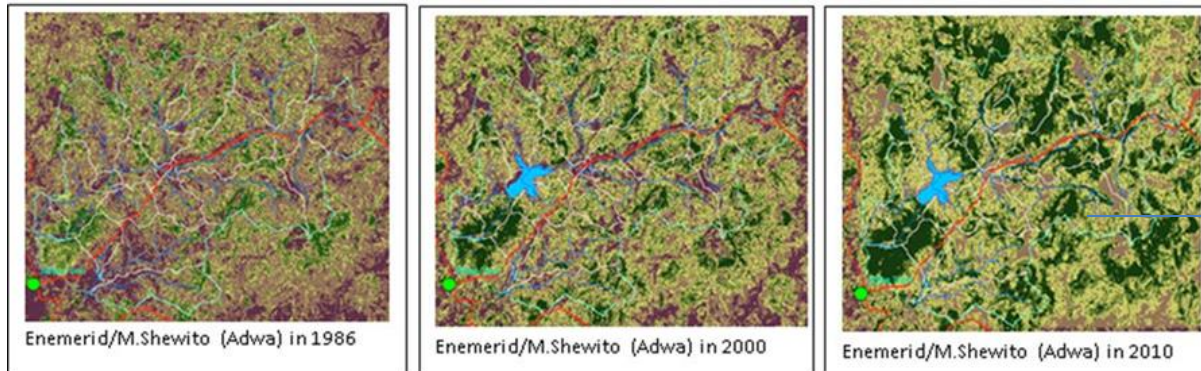


- Reaching about 15.1 million people in 2013
  - Sudan about 1M people, Kenya 158,000
- Various design issues
  - Wage setting, self-targeting, etc. (more from Subba tomorrow)
  - Non-food costs: 30-40% when 'safety net oriented'



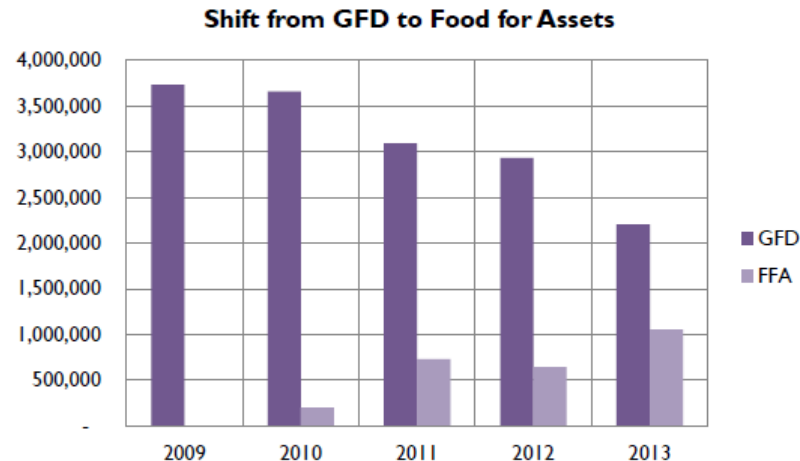
# Food for work

- Different models, e.g. Ethiopia
  - Long history for FFW before PSNP (EGS)
  - PSNP and MERET



Source: WFP, based on Zeleke (2013)

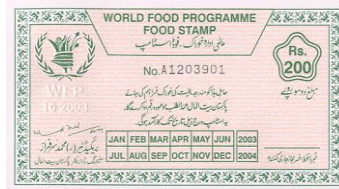
- Changing composition in early-recovery
  - E.g. Sudan



# Vouchers

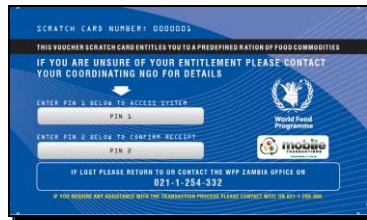
- Usually unconditional; can be quantity or value-based
- Different ways of provision/payment...

Paper-based



Pakistan (1990s)  
Burkina Faso

Semi-paper



Zambia  
Zimbabwe

Phone-based



Syria

Swipe-cards



Palestine  
Lebanon

# Integration and multipliers

- Gaza
  - Crisis in 2014, voucher platform used to channel humanitarian assistance (300,000 people)
    - Cards uploaded to serve 84,000 people with water and sanitation items, and 14,000 children received school uniforms
- Lebanon
  - Coverage 882,850 people in October 2014 alone (75% of refugees)
  - US\$30 per person, US\$345M in 2014 (expected to generate US\$517 M in the economy)
  - 416 shops; +1,300 jobs and US\$3M in capital investments (space and storage)
  - Vouchers delivered with Mastercard®; online monitoring; payment of merchants within 48h
  - Informing the Emergency National Poverty Targeting Programme (E-NPTP) in Lebanon





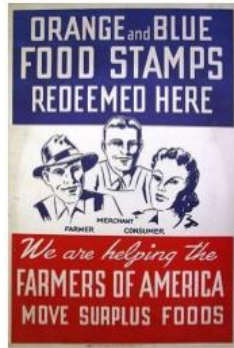
Ms Mabel McFiggin of Rochester, New York



*First printing of SNAP (food stamps), Washington D.C., April 20, 1939*

# Introduced in waves ...

Pilot 1939-43...



+



... then stopped. No program between 1943-61...

... then pilot again (1961) and eventually enshrined into law (1964)



## Participation Growth after Act of 1964



1965: 561,261  
1966: >1,000,000  
1977: 2,000,000  
1971: 10,000,000  
1974: 15,000,000

## Food stamp act of 1977 (S. 275)



- Most importantly, eliminated purchase requirement (like food stamps today)
- Got rid of categorical eligibility, requirement that houses have cooking facilities
- Established eligibility at the poverty line
- Reduced the amount of deductions included in computing net income
- Raised the limit to \$1,750/household
- Penalized families whose head quit job
- Restricted eligibility for students & aliens
- Fraud Disqualification
- Also created many new and effective ways to manage and apply for the program

## Early 1980's



Under President Reagan, major cuts were made via these changes:

- More penalties for those who quit their jobs
- State option to require recipients to search for jobs
- Counting retirement accounts as resources
- Looking at gross income rather than just net income
- More adjustment periods

1984- EBT starts (Electronic Benefits Transfer)

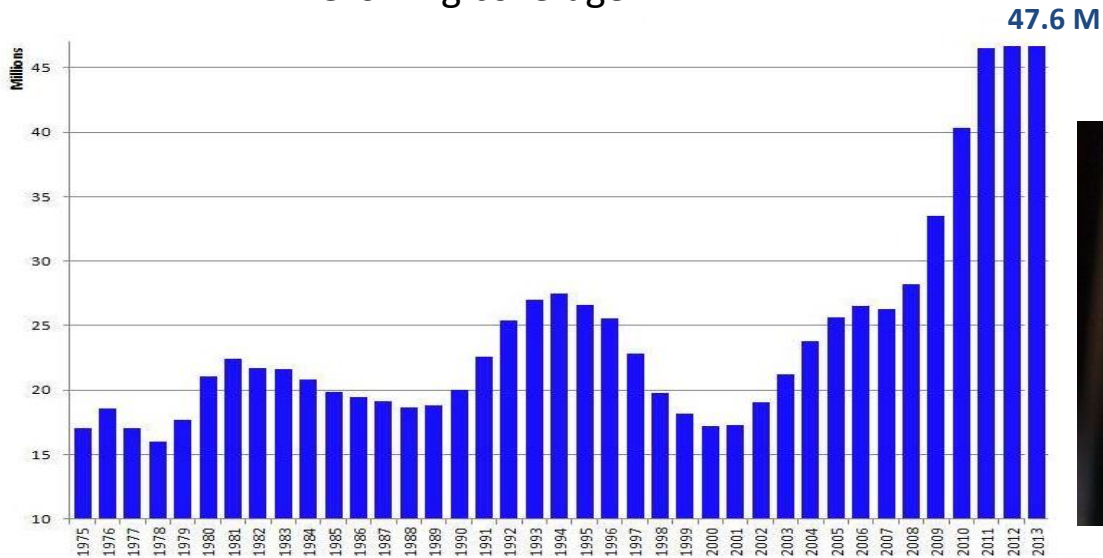
## 1990's

Due to the increasing amount of hungry Americans, a large amount of funding was reinstated.

- Elimination of Shelter Deduction Cap
- Establishing deductions for those who owe legally required child support
- Raising the amount of money allotted per child
- Expansion of EBT



## Growing coverage...



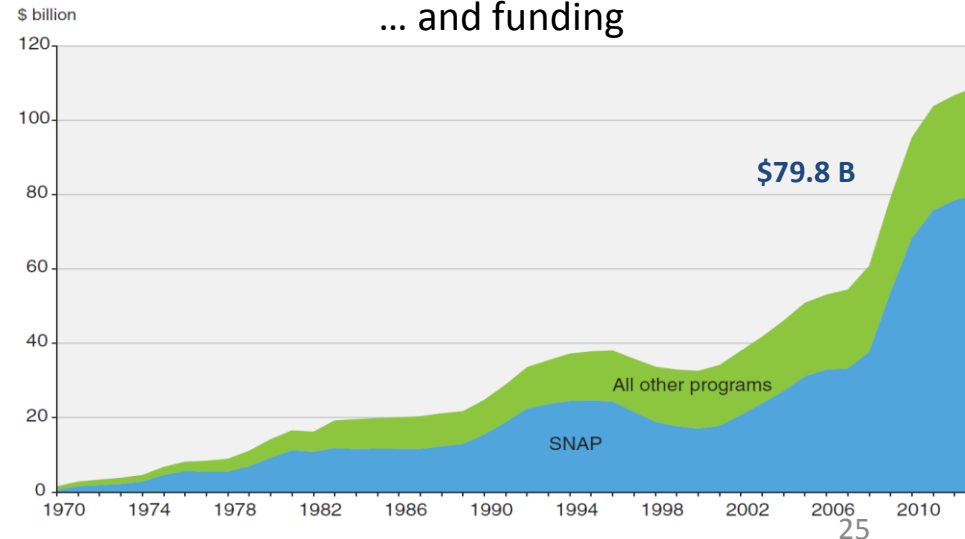
Source: Oliveira (2014)



- Means-tested, below poverty line (\$1,628/month for a 3-person family in 2014)
- Monthly transfer of \$148 - \$563 (pending on HHs size)
- Admin cost: 8%
- 246,000 retailers; generated \$1.7 in economic activity for \$1 injected (Moody's Analytics)

Source: Center on Budget and Policy Priorities

## ... and funding



Source: Oliveira (2014)



## Quasi-formal food assistance: food banks

Country	Number of beneficiaries
United States	37,000,000
France	3,642,991
Italy	3,380,000
Poland	3,200,000
Spain	1,667,770

Country	Beneficiaries as share in total population (%)
Lithuania	14.9
Slovakia	13.1
Slovenia	12.5
United States	11.9
Romania	11.1

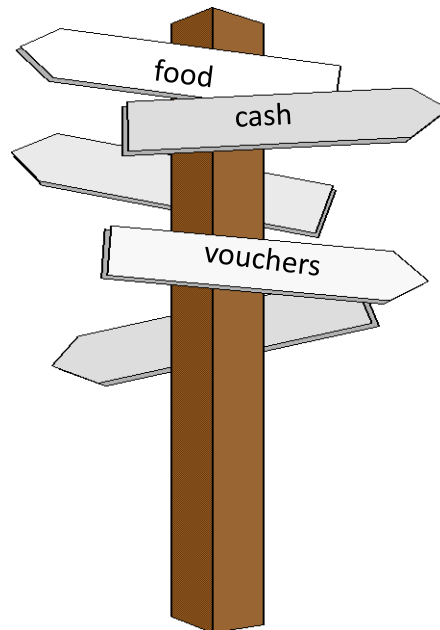
Source: Gentilini (2013)



Range of other models: e.g., Brazil's *restaurante popular*



- Concepts and definitions
- Food assistance programs
- Making choices
- Wrap-up



# What do we know about cash versus food?

- Can be ideological and polarizing...

*“[T]he big reason poor people are poor is because they don’t have enough money. (...) So let’s abandon [vouchers and in-kind transfers] and just give money to those we should help out.” (C. Kenny, CGD)*

*“The economist’s traditional, normative dictum on benefits in-kind may be analytically elegant (...) but practically dead wrong.” (U. Reinhardt, Princeton University)*

- Political economy can play an important role
  - Constituencies
  - Perceptions
  - Paternalism vs fungibility

# What do we know about cash versus food?

- Lots of evidence on *individual* cash, food and voucher programs
  - Comparisons somewhat ‘by inference’
- But little about about *relative* performance? In other words, deliberate comparisons...
  - Same context
  - Equal objectives
  - Consistent design (transfer size, frequency)
  - ... and using RCTs/quasi-experiments

# SNAP evidence

- *“... virtually every study finds food stamps increase household nutrient availability at 2 to 10 times the rate of a like value of cash income” (Barrett 2002)*
- Explaining the “cash out puzzle”
  - ‘Labeling’ effect inducing a sense of moral obligation to use in-kind transfers for their intended food consumption purpose (Senauer and Young 1986)
  - Gender and decision-making behaviors in multi-adult households (Breunig and Dasgupta 2005)
  - Alterations in household budgeting and planning of monthly purchases (Wilde and Ranney 1996)
  - Others...

# New generation of comparative evaluations

Program	Country	Program type	Modality	Cash (\$)	Food (n)	Size as % of ore-program HH exp.	Transfer frequency	Exposure	Delivery mechanism
PAL	Mexico	CT, UT	Cash, Food	13	7	11.5	Monthly (cash), bi-monthly (food)	trial 1 year	Biometric debit cards
Zinder project	Niger	PW, UT	Cash, Food	50	5	11.5	Bi-weekly	6 months	Mobile ATMs, smart cards
PSNP	Ethiopia	PW, UT	Cash, Food	16.2	3	N/A	Monthly	6 months per year	N/A
Early Childhood Development	Uganda	CT	Cash, Food	10.2	3	12.7	6-8 week cycle	12 months	Mobile money cards
Colombian refugees project	Ecuador	CT	Cash, Food, Vouchers	40	V=9 F=4	10	Monthly	6 months	ATM card

Program	Country	Program type	Modality	Cash (\$)	Food (n)	Size as % of ore-program HH exp.	Transfer frequency	Exposure	Delivery mechanism
IDPs project	Democratic Republic of Congo	UT	Cash, Vouchers	18.5	V=10	18.96	Bi-monthly	7 months	Bank accounts
Unconditional safety net	Yemen	UT	Cash, Food	49	2	N/A	Bi-monthly	6 months	ID card via Postal Savings Corporation
Scholarship pilot program	Cambodia	CT	Cash, Food	5	1	2.5	Monthly	10 months	On-site manual distribution
CTPP	Sri Lanka	UT	Cash, Food	9.8	6	26.3	Bi-weekly (cash), bi-monthly (food)	3 months	Samurdhi Bank
IGVGD, RMP	Bangladesh	UT, PW	Cash, Food	19.7	1	30 (cash) 15.5 (food)	Bi-monthly (cash), monthly (food)	2-4 years	Public banks

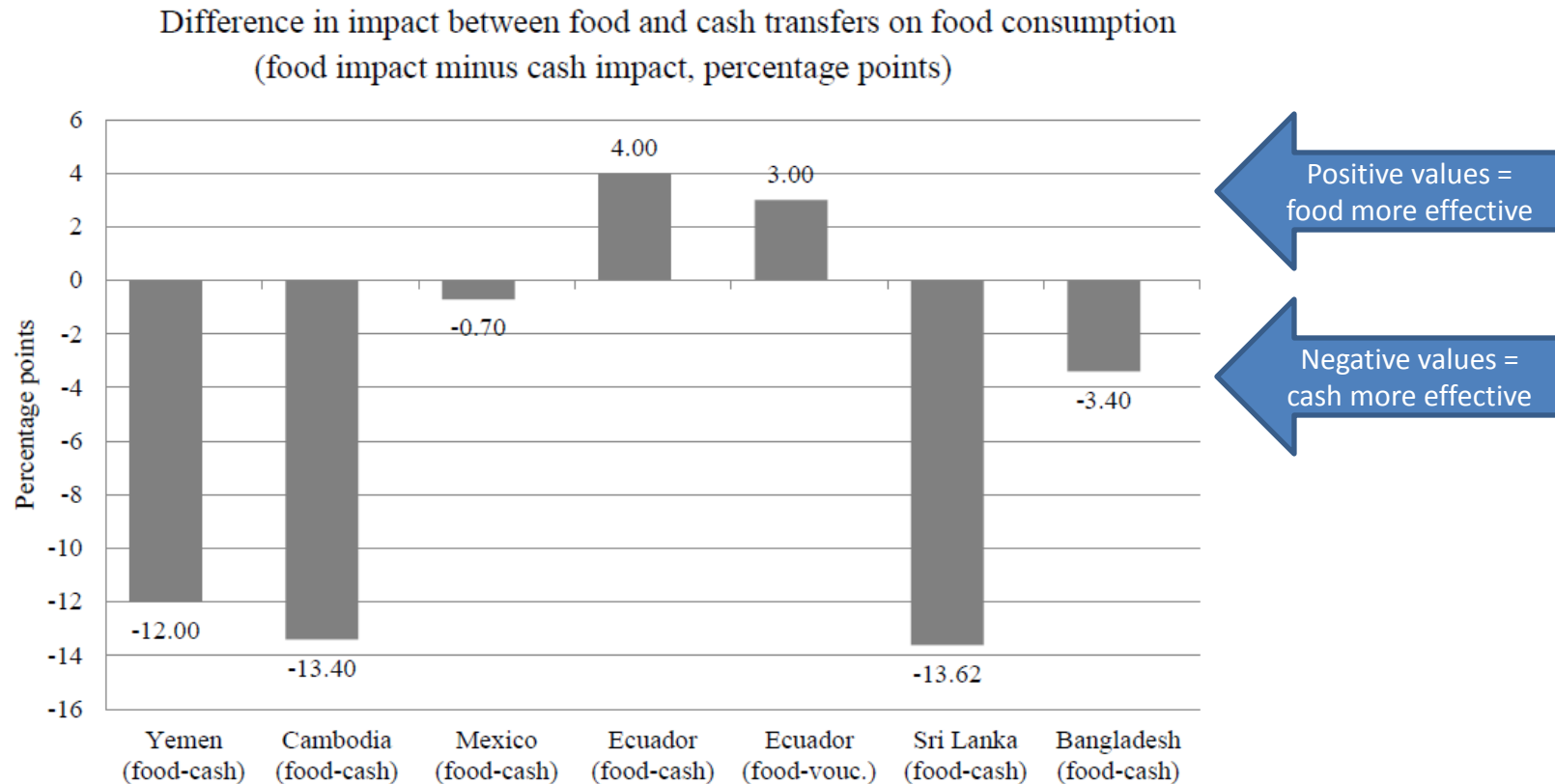
- What do they tell us?
  - Impacts
  - Other related findings
  - Costs

# Impacts



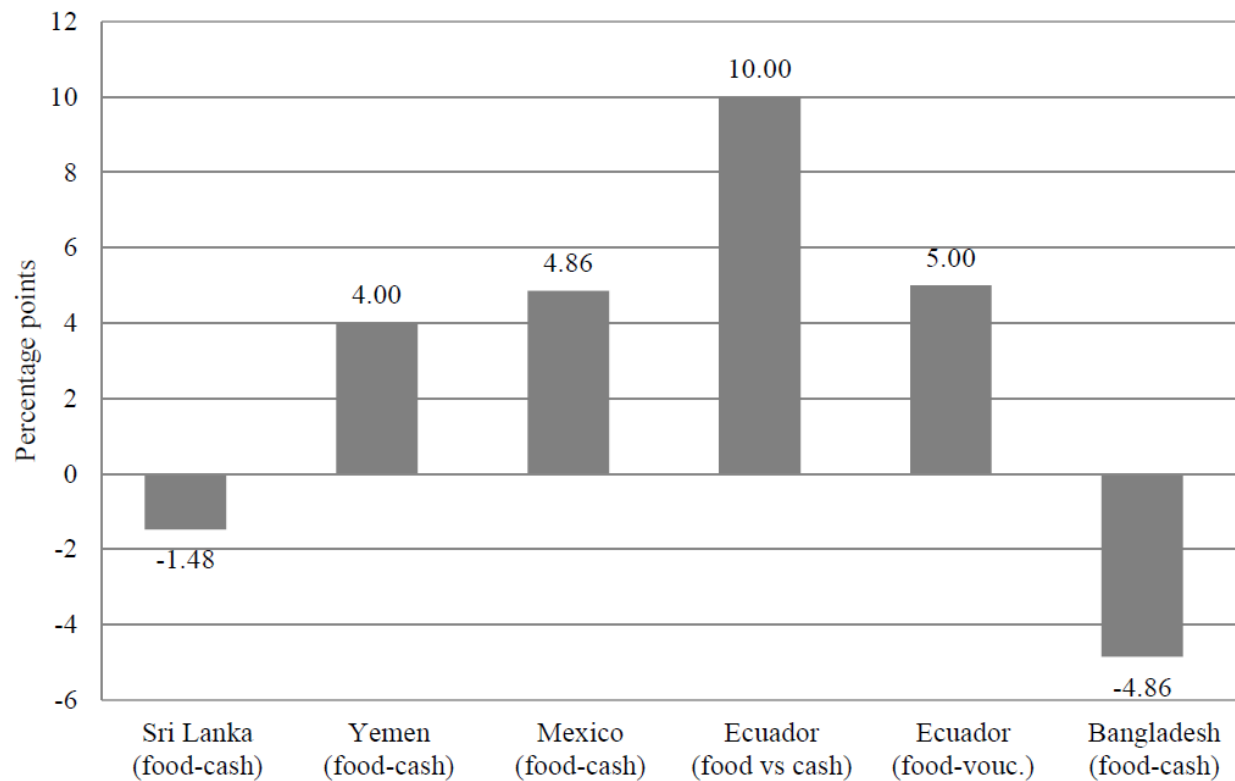
	Mexico	Niger	Ethiopia	Uganda	Ecuador	Congo, DR	Yemen	Cambodia	Sri Lanka	Bangladesh
Total Consumption	✓						✓	✓		✓
Food Consumption	✓	✓			✓		✓	✓	✓	✓
Non-food consumption	✓	✓			✓		✓	✓	✓	
Food gap			✓	✓						
Food diversity		✓		✓	✓	✓	✓	✓	✓	
Caloric in-take					✓		✓		✓	✓
Anthropometric measures								✓		
Income			✓					✓		✓
Assets								✓		
Poverty headcount	✓									✓
Labor market participation	✓									
Anemia	✓			✓						
School dropout rates								✓		
Cognitive development				✓						

## Emerging insight: cash used for food of higher value...



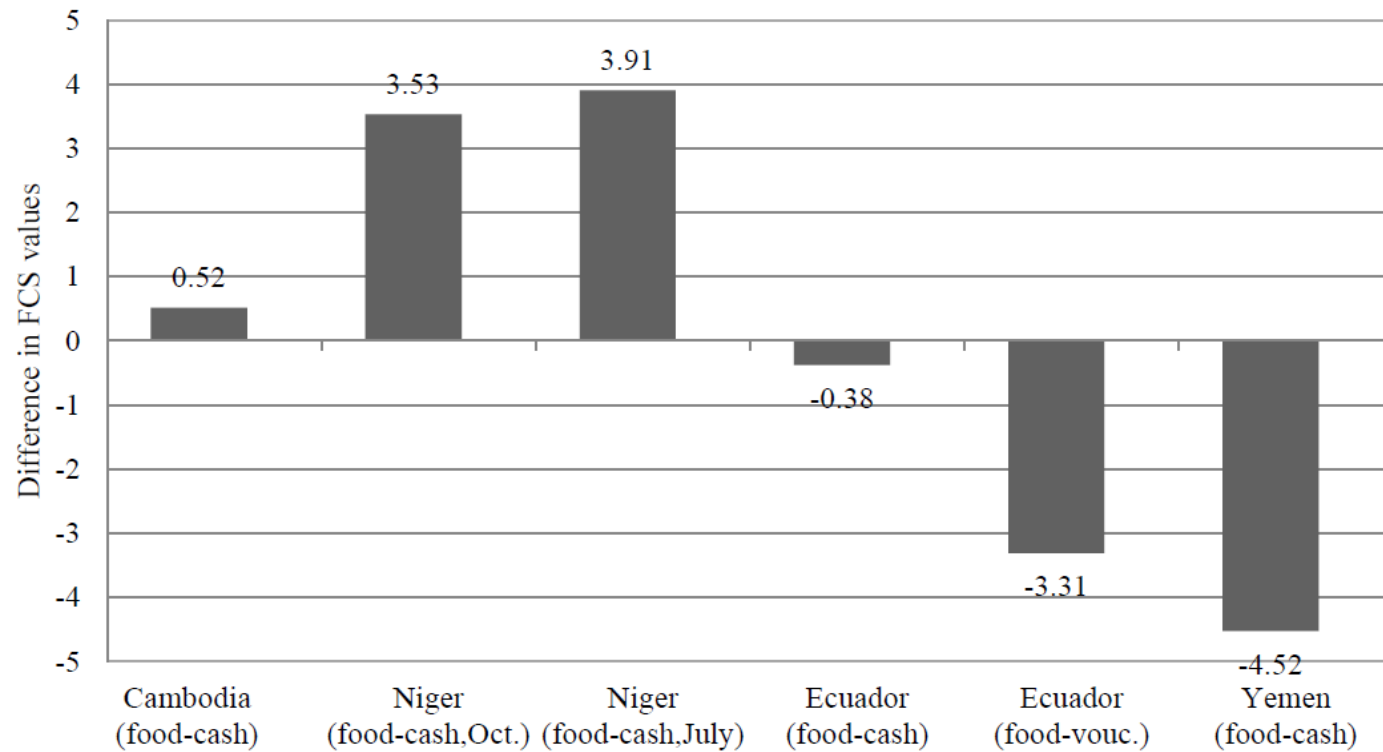
## Emerging insight: food augments calories intake...

Difference in impact between food and cash transfers on per capita calorie in-take  
(food impact minus cash impact, percentage points)



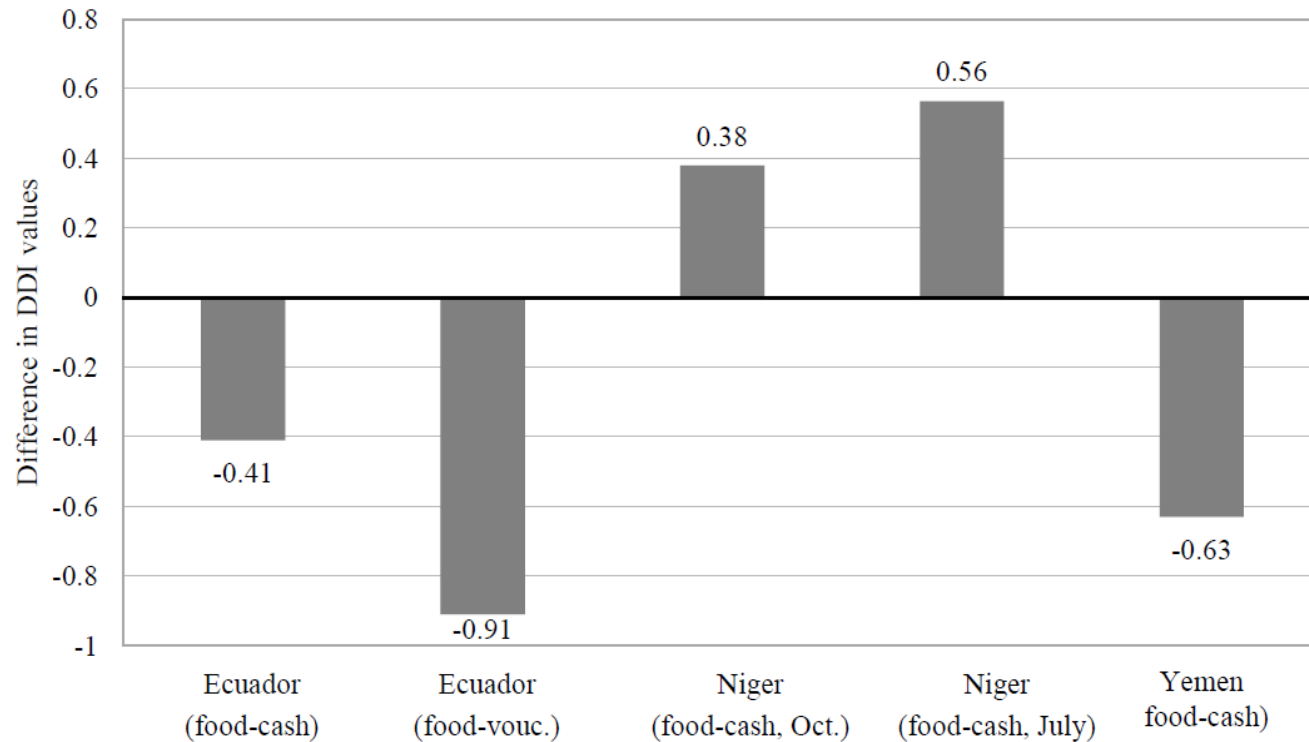
## Emerging insight: mixed impacts on diversity (i)...

Difference in impact between food and cash transfers on Food Consumption Scores  
(food impact minus cash impact, indicator values)



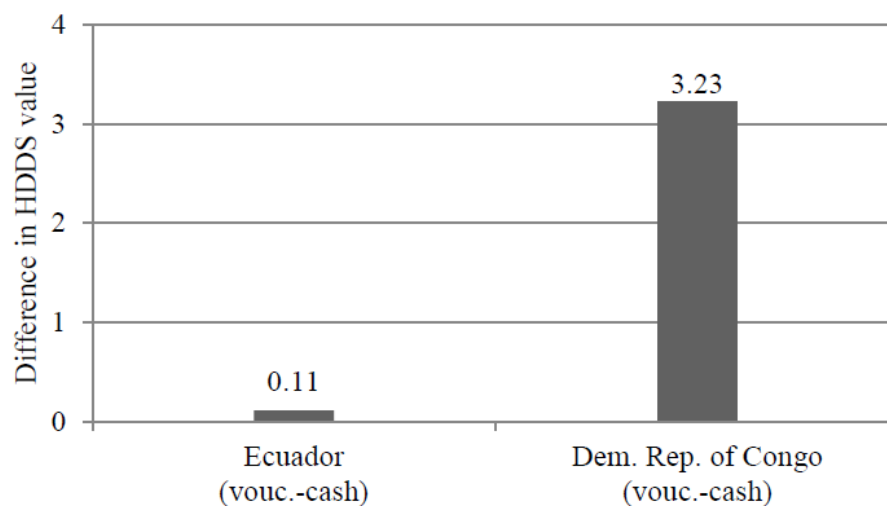
## Emerging insight: mixed impacts on diversity (ii)...

Difference in impact between food and cash transfers on the Dietary Diversity Index  
(food impact minus cash impact, indicator values)



## Emerging insight: mixed impacts on diversity (iii)...

Difference in impact between vouchers and cash transfers on Household Dietary Diversity Scores (vouchers impact minus cash impact, indicator values)



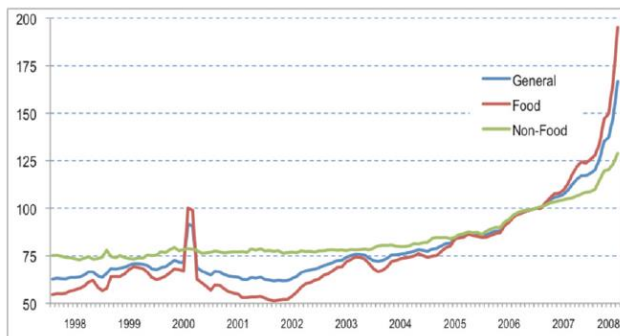
Some other findings and implications

# Markets and implementation capacity

- Approaches to markets can vary
  - A working markets as prerequisite
  - ... or a working market as an outcome, i.e. transfers attracting markets (e.g. fairs)
- General consensus to use in-kind food programs when/where markets are not 'functioning'
  - Integration, competition, availability
  - Different actors in the supply chain
  - Assessment tools (MIFIRA, EMMA...)
- Price dynamics can alter program performance and people's preferences
  - Two scenarios....

# Price dynamics (unpredictable shocks)

- Ebola in West Africa
  - Monrovia: in 2 weeks (August), cassava prices increased by 30%
  - Sierra Leone: in 6 months prices for local rice ranged from -20% to +42%
- PSNP in Ethiopia
  - High food prices in 2008 increased market value of food transfers was between 1.4 - 3 times the value of cash transfers

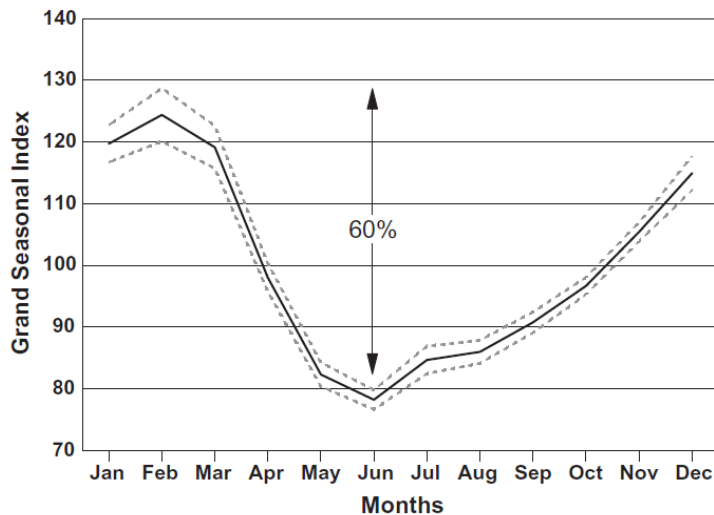


Transfers	Received		Stated Preference	
	2006	2008	2006	2008
Cash only	15%	21%	9%	3%
Food only	19%	26%	55%	84%
Mixed (cash + food)	66%	53%	36%	13%
<b>Total households</b>	<b>100%</b>	<b>100%</b>	<b>100%</b>	<b>100%</b>

Source: Sabates-Wheeler and Devereux (2010)

# Price dynamics (seasonal/predictable)

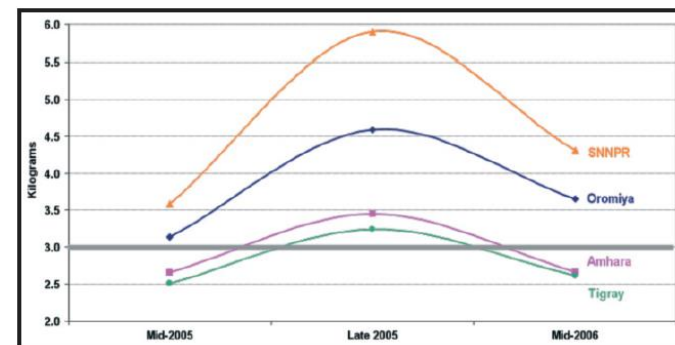
## Mean seasonal price change in the Malawi maize market, 1989-2009



Source: Ellis and Manda (2012)

The PSNP payment rate was set at 6 Birr per day in 2005-06 to purchase 3 kg of cereals

- 2.5 kg (in Tigray) to as much as 5.9 kg (in SNNPR)

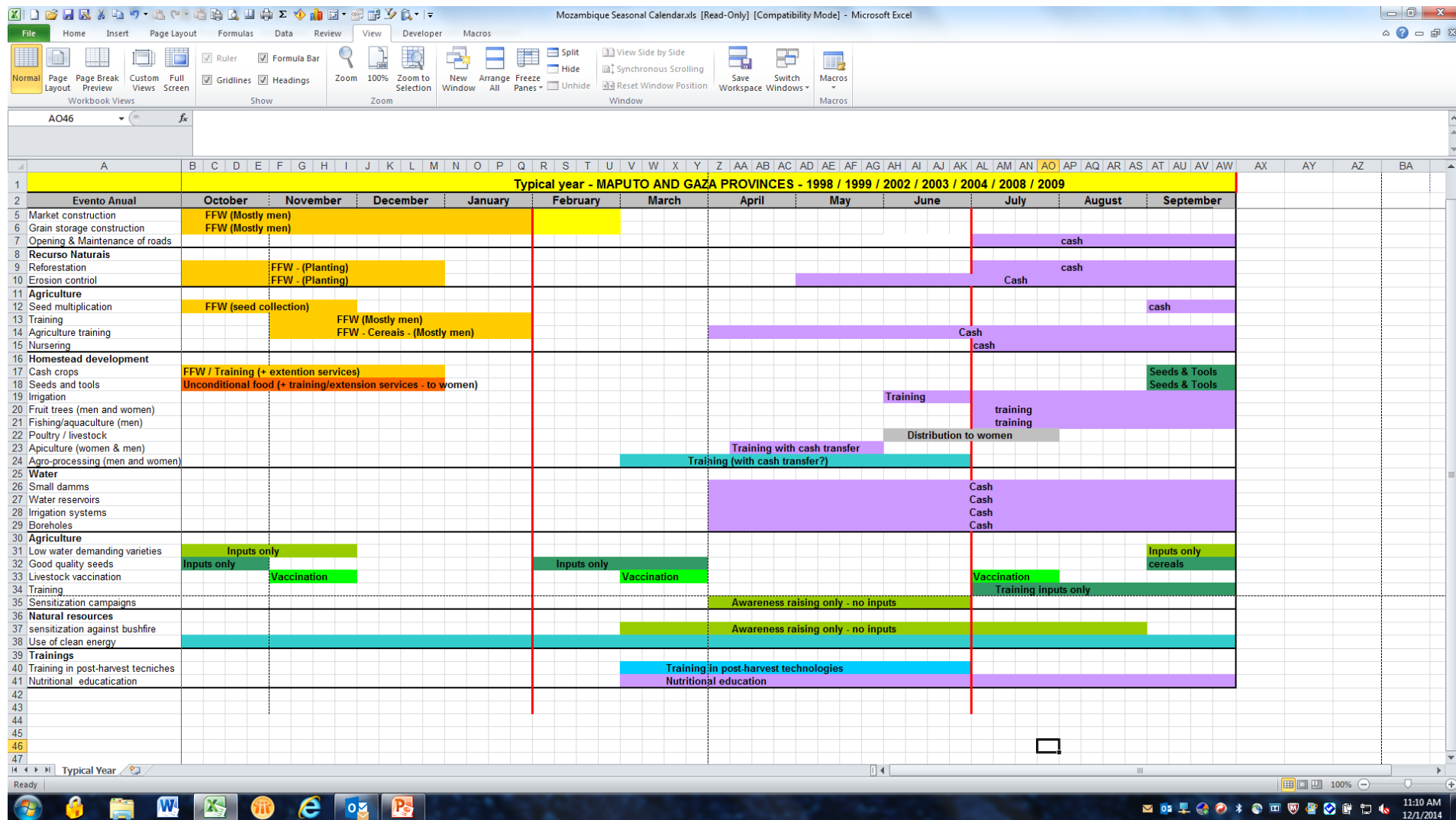


Source: Sabates-Wheeler and Devereux (2010)

# What to do about it?

- Switch from cash to food transfers
  - At what point? Identifying benchmarks (e.g., Malawi 2008-09, MKW63/kg)
  - Contingency plans established and triggered rapidly
- Extend the duration of transfers when food prices rise
  - For how long? 3 months in Ethiopia 2011
- Index-link cash transfers to the cost of a basic food basket
  - E.g., FACT and DECT
  - Which commodities?
  - Price observed at measurement stations vs periphery (basis risk?)
  - Relatively easy to increase transfer size; less so to reduce it?
- Provide a combination of cash plus food
  - Simultaneous provision, e.g., Swaziland's 'Emergency Drought Relief' programme. Operationally challenging
  - Seasonal planning when possible

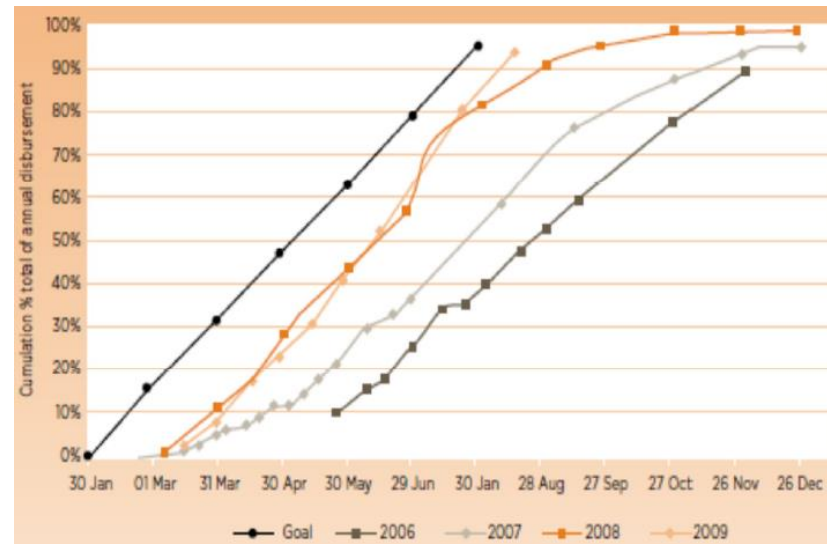
# Snapshot of cash-food seasonal planning in Mozambique



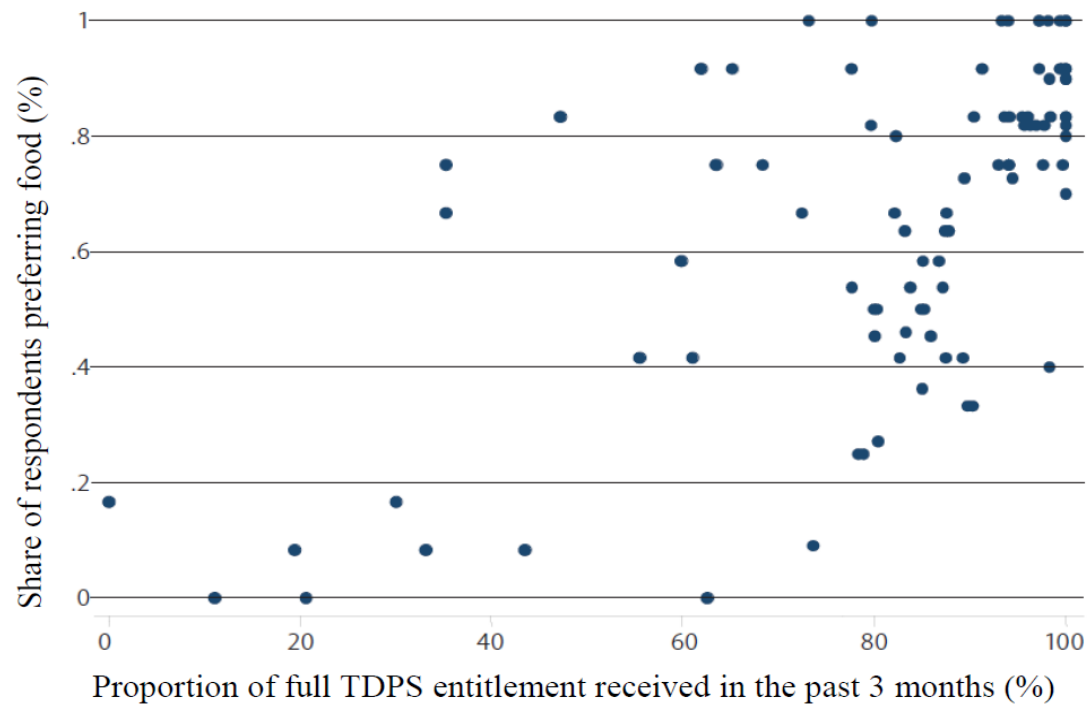
# What to do about it?

- Provide transfers in the form of commodity-denominated vouchers
  - Transfer risk to retailers; their interest to participate may vary
- Each options suggests that... operational capacity is key
  - Availability of pre-existing systems
  - Logistics, partnerships, coordination, delivery building blocks
  - And takes time to build and enhance...

Improving timeliness of PSNP transfers



## Pragmatic preferences in India



Source: Kheera (2011)

# Costs



- In general, costs lower for cash (and vouchers) than food
  - At least about 2 times lower
  - Less logistics (transport, storage, etc.)

Costs (USD) per transfer and transfer ratios

Country	Food	Cash	Vouchers	Food-cash ratio	Food-vouchers ratio	Vouchers-cash ratio
Dem. Rep. of Congo	-	11.34	14.35	-	-	1.2
Ecuador	11.46	2.99	3.27	3.8	3.5	1.09
Mexico	2.29	0.31	-	7.3	-	-
Niger	10.27	2.89	-	3.5	-	-
Uganda	6.41	3.24	-	1.9	-	-
Yemen	9.84	2.65	-	3.7	-	-

*Source:* Cunha (2014), Margolies and Hoddinott (2014), Aker (2013)

- BUT....



- Diverse analyses methods, breadth and depth
- Often they may not disaggregate by...
  - Set-up (fixed) vs. running (variable) costs
  - Planned (design) vs. actual implementation costs (e.g., Zambia)
  - Emerging of more nuanced tools (VFM, Ryckembusch et al., Gelli et al., etc.)
- Consider beneficiary transaction costs (time and money)
- Beyond delivery cost: account for cost of food basket
  - Cost of food often *assumed* to be = local market value of food, not procurement cost
  - Procurement cost can be higher/equal/lower than local market value, altering results

*... let's look at some of these, with an application to Yemen*

## Example: Yemen

- Cost for the agency: food 4 times higher (food \$9.84; cash \$2.65)
- Cost for people: cash 4 times higher

Why? Location of distribution points matter:

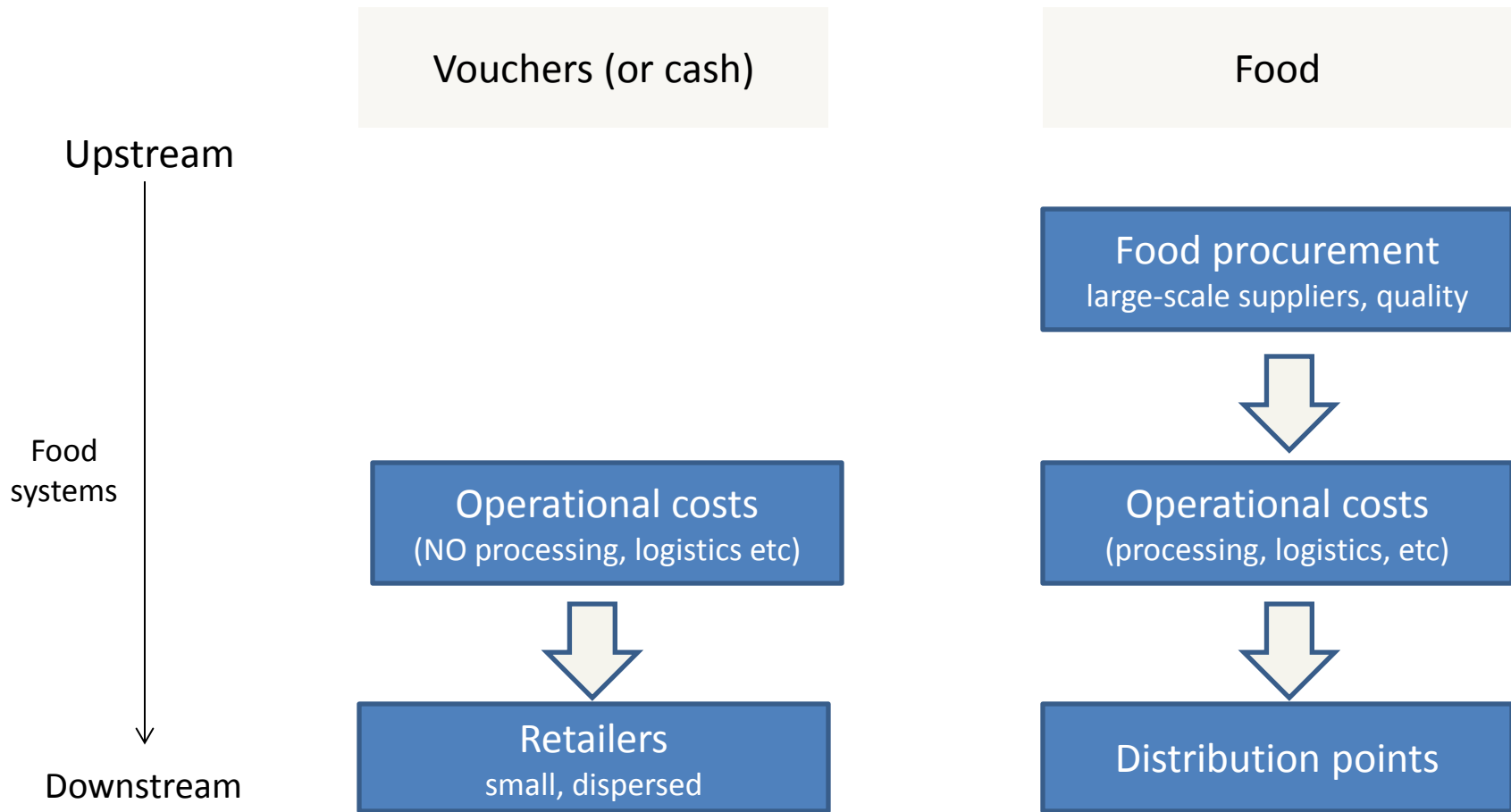
- Food trucked into the villages: high cost for agency, little for beneficiaries
- Cash through (limited) local post offices: low cost for agency, high for beneficiaries

Beneficiary transaction costs for obtaining transfers (time and monetary)

Cost	Ecuador			Niger		Uganda		Yemen	
	Food	Cash	Vouchers	Food	Cash	Food	Cash	Food	Cash
Time for travel and waiting (hours)	2.2	1.2	1.8	1	1	2.6	2.6	1.9	2.7
Transport costs (% of transfer value)	5.3	3.7	4.1	0.8	0	0	0	2	8.6

Source: Margolies and Hoddinott (2014)

# Stylized supply chain



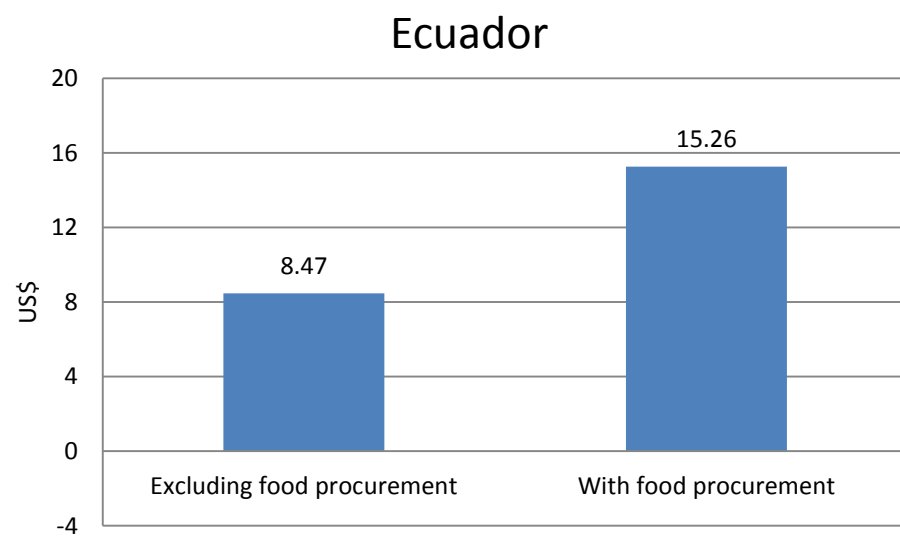
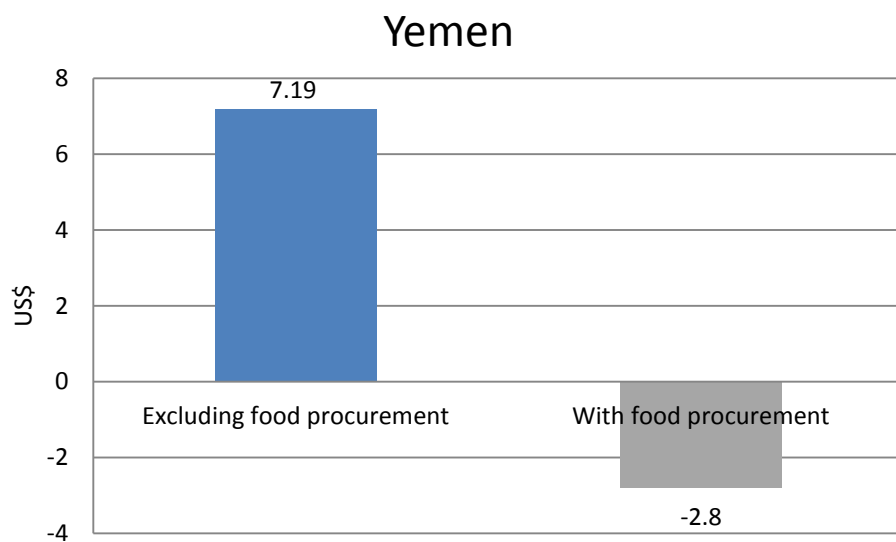
Economies of scale in food procurement *may* offset savings from less logistics for vouchers (and cash)

## Example: Yemen

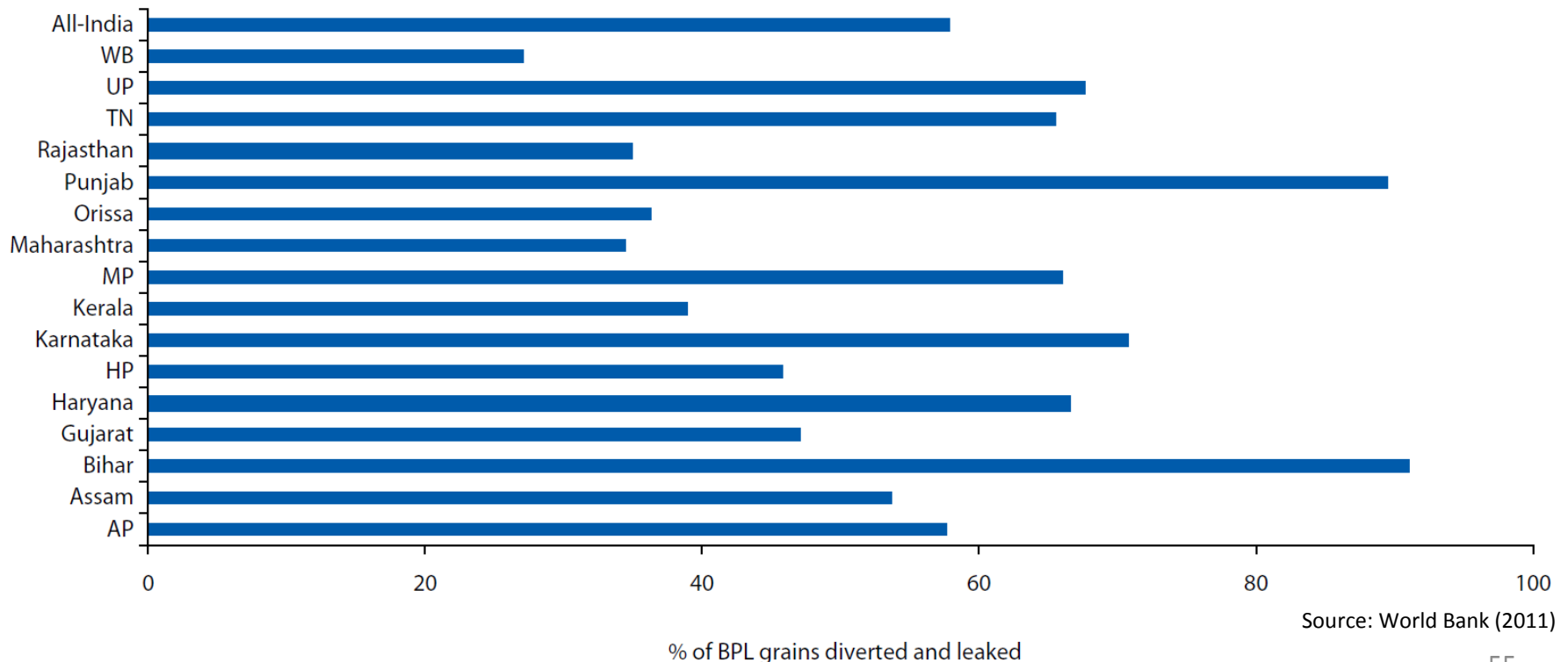
- Cost for the agency: food 4 times higher (food \$9.84; cash \$2.65)
- Difference = \$7.19 (cash more efficient)

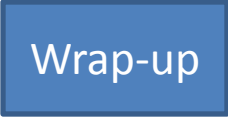
What if we include cost of food?

- Procurement cost: \$39.01; local market value: \$49
- So total cost for cash: \$51.65 (\$49+\$2.65); for food: \$48.85 (\$39.01+\$9.84)
- Difference = - \$2.8 (food more efficient)



- Averting (dis)economies of scale: large procurement and logistics space demands investment in adequate accountability and transparency
  - Avoiding ‘leakages’, or diversion and losses of food at various points in supply chains, hence not reaching intended beneficiaries
  - E.g., TPDS in India: around 58% of grains ‘leaked’ in early 2000s (Planning Commission)
  - May need to consider possible leakages in efficiency analysis



- Concepts and definitions
- Food assistance programs
- Making choices
-  Wrap-up

# Take-aways

- Taken individually, both food and cash transfers work
  - Plenty of supportive evidence on each
  - What about *relative* performance?
- Good news: less ideology, more comparative evidence
  - Deliberate evaluations based on counterfactuals
  - Gradual building of evidence base to inform future choices (but lab-type evaluations...)
- Be specific about objectives and their measurement
  - ‘Food security’ objectives as too generic
  - Food consumption, calories, dietary diversity...
- Understand and tailor program to context
  - Assessing markets and operational capacities

# Take-aways

- Impacts not stemming from inherent merits of cash or food. How they are designed matters greatly
  - Target group, transfer size (and how it is used), frequency, food basket composition, etc.
- High standards for impact evaluations; now raising the bar for costs
  - Big agenda for standardization of practices (evaluations and institutions)
  - *Cost-effectiveness* as ideal comparative metric, “... \$ to achieve objective X in context Y”
  - Dilemma? High-efficiency & low-effectiveness; high effectiveness & low-efficiency...
- Beginning of an agenda, not the end of it
  - Results revolving on food security, little on other dimensions
  - Not much on longer-term effects (e.g., chronic malnutrition, morbidity, cognitive dev.)
  - More on challenging contexts (e.g., first phase of a disaster)
  - Combinations? (Langendorf et al. 2014 somewhat on all of the above...)
  - Urban areas?
  - Vouchers as underexplored?
  - Intra-community effects and social relations?
  - Others?

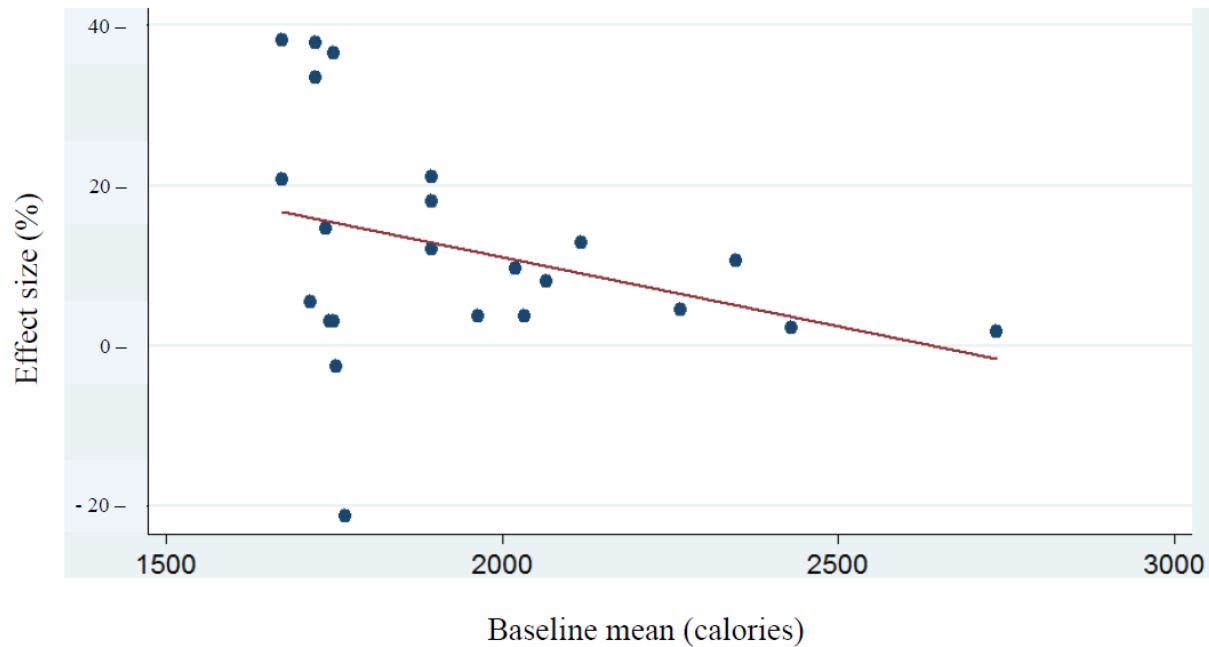


Thanks!

[Ugentilini@worldbank.org](mailto:Ugentilini@worldbank.org)

# Initial conditions matter

Impacts decline by 2 percentage points very 100kcal – i.e. more effective when initial calories are low



Source: Hidrobo et al. (2014)

# Across the board for implementation processes

Iris scan  
(India)



Digital  
thumbprints  
(Malawi)



Online, real-  
time  
monitoring  
(Zambia)



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## VALIDATE VOUCHER REFERENCE

Enter the voucher reference below

Voucher reference

required fields \*

OK

BACK



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[Accounts](#) [Transfers](#) [Payments](#) [My profile](#) [Vouchers](#) [Bill Payment](#) [Survey Management](#)

## Voucher project filter

Description :

Voucher term : -- make selection --

Linked to customer : -- not applicable --

Pre registration required : -- not applicable --

Allow designated recipient : -- not applicable --

Allow pin 2 : -- not applicable --

required fields \*

SEARCH

CANCEL

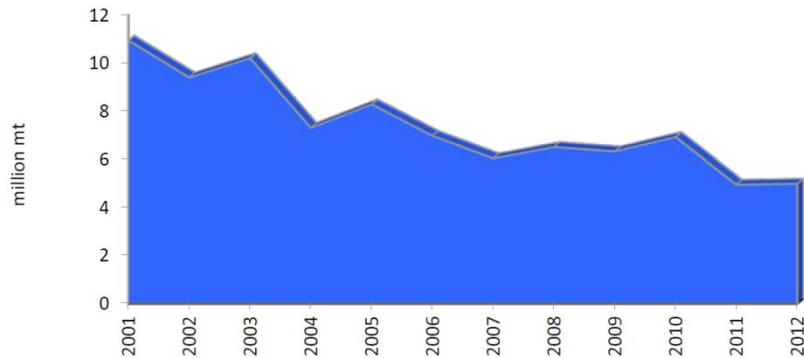
## Voucher project list

NEW

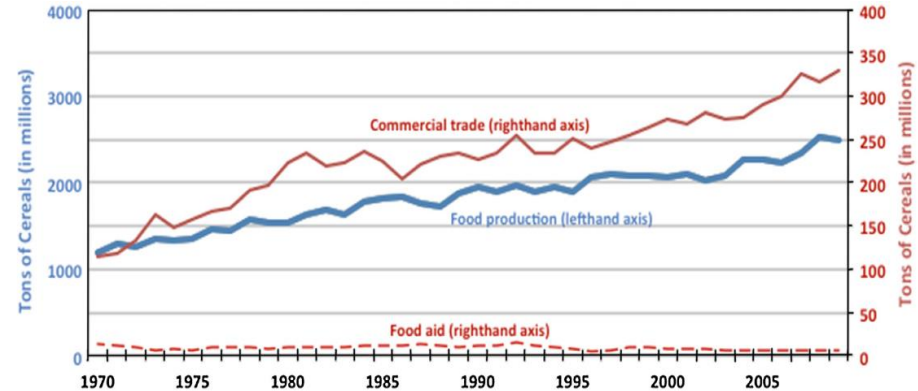
No.	Description	Start date	Linked	Pre reg	Location	Pre users	Pre recipients	Activate	De-act	Batches	Config	View	Del
1.	WFP - Drainage Volunteer Support	24 Dec 10	yes	yes		0	0						
2.	WFP - Drainage Voucher Project	11 Nov 10	yes	yes		0	0						
3.	WFP - Volunteer Support	1 Apr 10	yes	yes		0	0						
4.	WFP - MMC voucher project	1 Mar 10	yes	yes		0	0						
5.	WFP - TB voucher project	1 Nov 09	yes	yes		0	0						
6.	WFP - ARV voucher project	1 Nov 09	yes	yes		0	0						

total pages [1] :: total records [6]

# International food assistance (food aid)

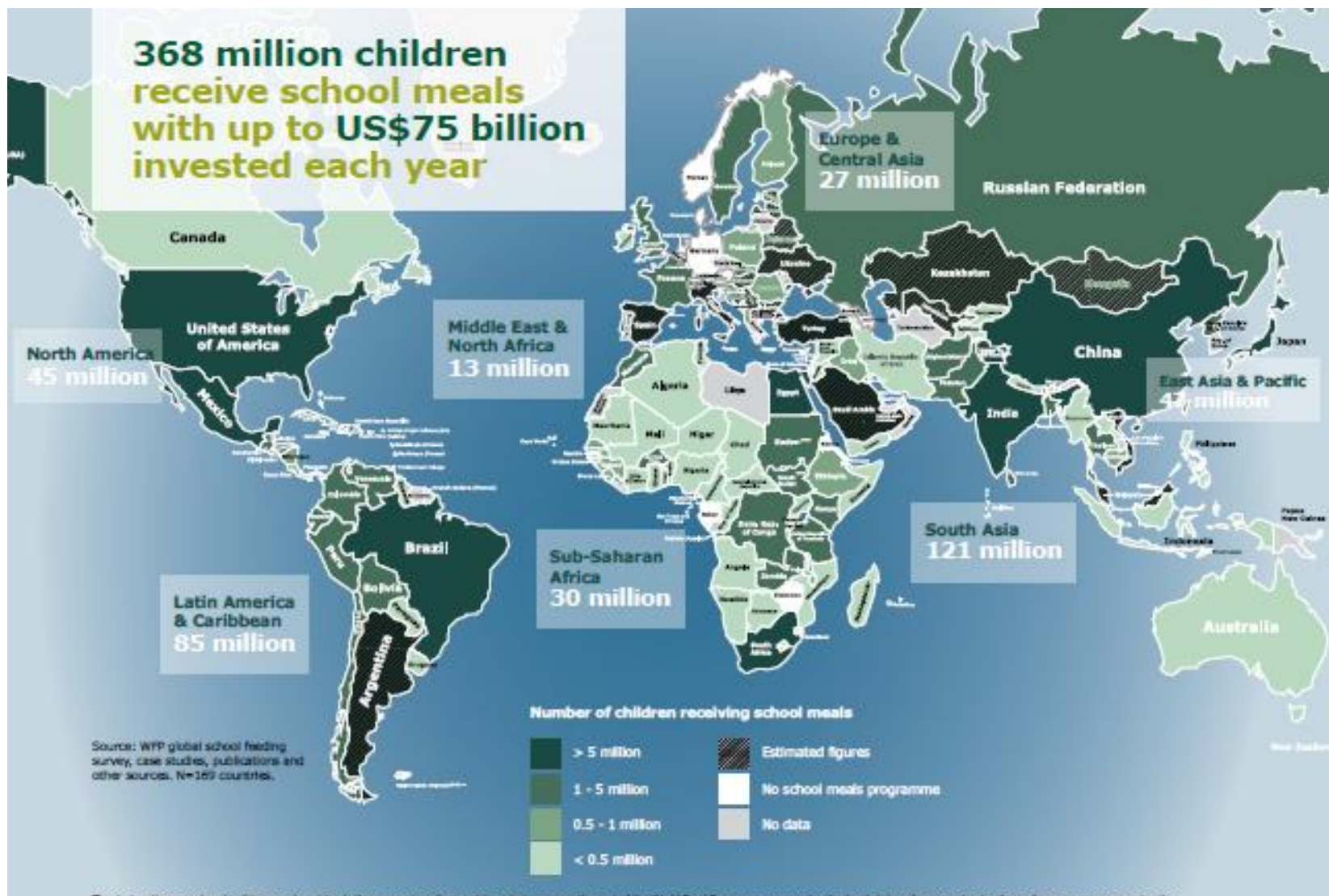


Source: WFP-FAIS (2014)




Source: Lentz and Barrett (2013)

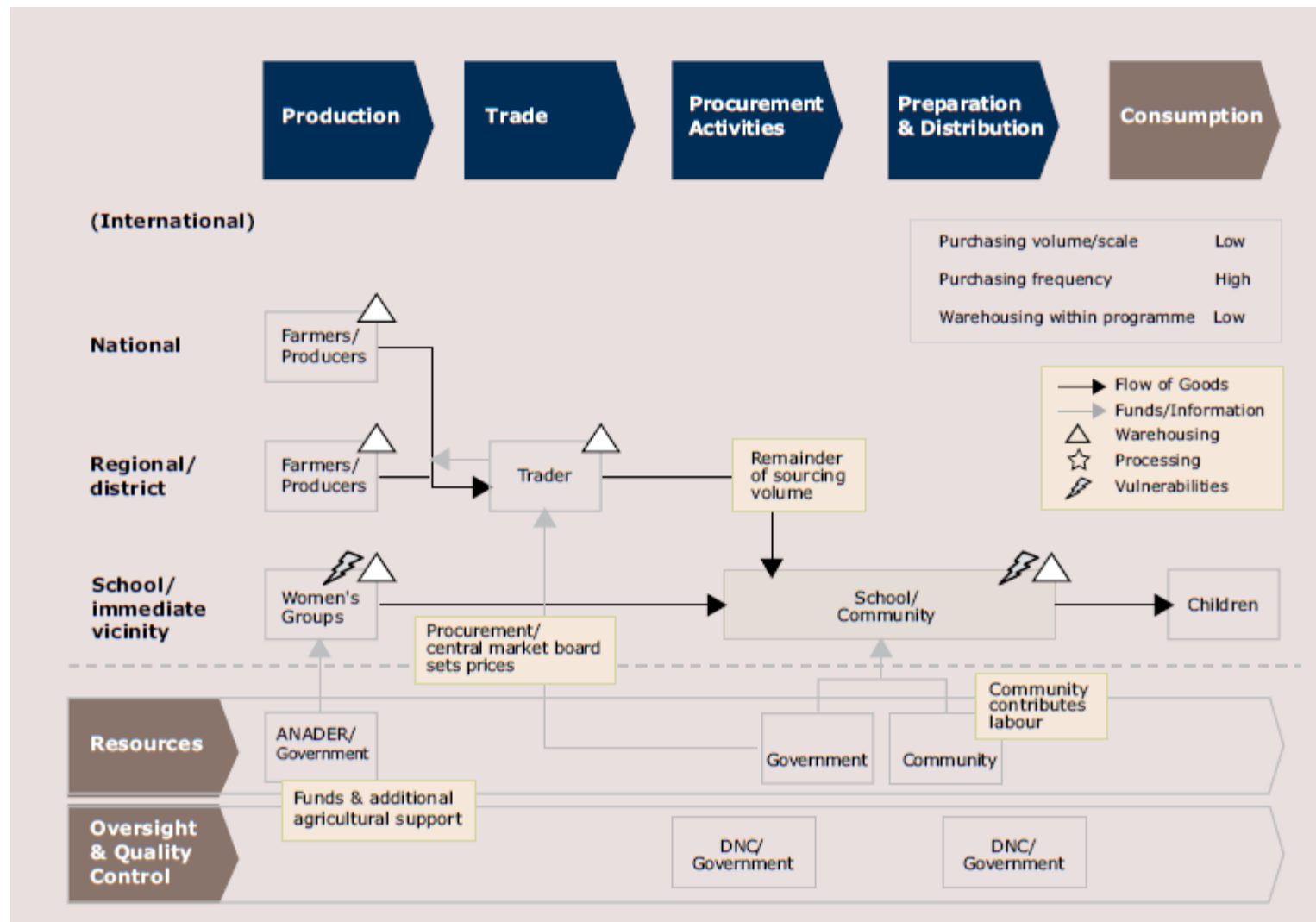
- Less volume
  - Decline by 66%; 0.2% global trade
- Local procurement
  - From 1% to 19.4% of total programs



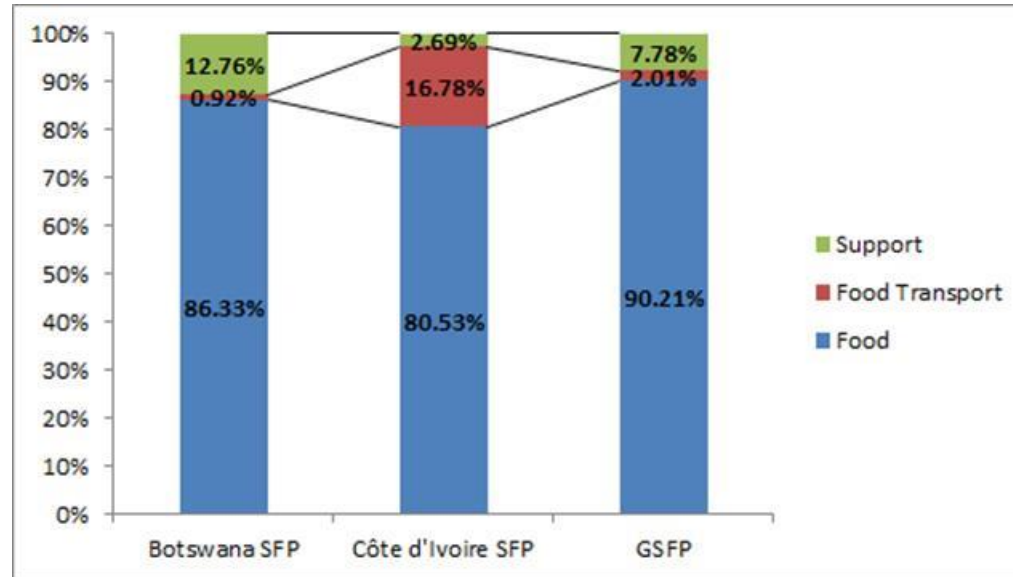
# Stages in program practice

	Stage 1	Stage 2	Stage 3	Stage 4	Stage 5
	Programs rely mostly on external funding and implementation				Programs rely on government funding and implementation
Policy framework for school feeding	limited	increased	strong	strong	strong
Government financial capacity	limited	moderate	increased	strong	strong
Government institutional capacity	limited	limited	moderate	increased	strong
Countries	Afghanistan Malawi Mali Kenya Lesotho CAR Ethiopia Cambodia Côte d'Ivoire Ghana El Salvador Nigeria India DRC Haiti Rwanda Madagascar Ecuador Jamaica Chile Sudan Tanzania Niger Senegal Honduras Botswana Brazil Zimbabwe Pakistan Mauritania Namibia				

Source: Bundy et al. (2009)



- SF models and cost structures



Source: PCD (work in progress)

## Social relations (intra-community-level)

### ZECT in Zimbabwe

Respondent type	Food	Cash+food	Cash	Importance weighting
Scores out of 10				
Recipients (standing from sharing)	7.3	6.8	2.6	8.6
Non-recipients (amount received from sharing)	8.5	5.1	0.6	9.6

Source: MacAuslan and Riemenschneider (2011); Kardan et al. (2010)

# Nutrition as an economic investment

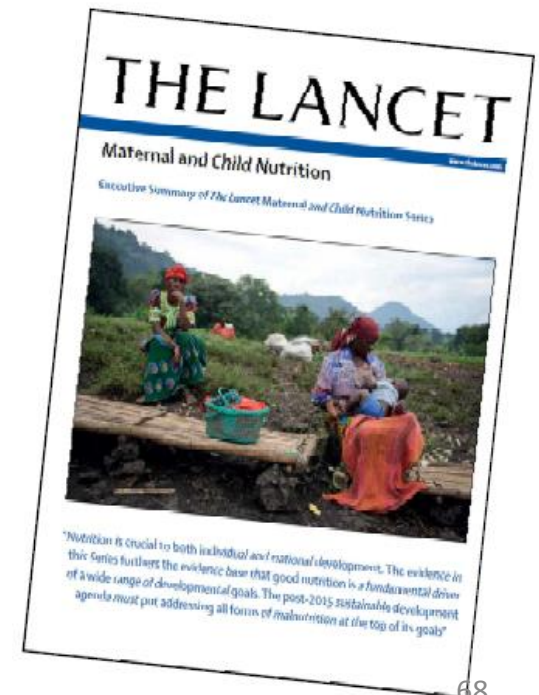
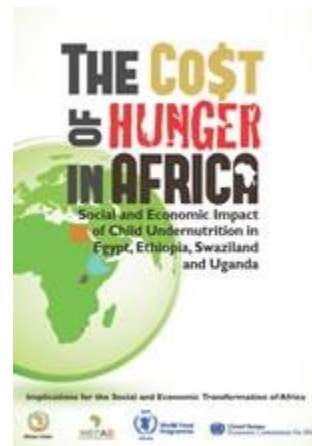
- Direct channels: early child nutrition, cognitive skills, education attainment, labor productivity
  - E.g. Guatemala: +46% in average wages (Hoddinott et al. 2008)
- Savings in GDP

## The Challenge of Hunger and Malnutrition

Jere R. Behrman, Harold Alderman  
and John Hoddinott

Population Studies Center, University of Pennsylvania,  
Human Development, Africa Region of the World Bank and  
Food Consumption and Nutrition Division, International Food Policy Research

COPENHAGEN  
CONSENSUS 2004



# Measuring food security

FAO undersnourishment

Caloric intake/Food quantities

Food expenditures

Dietary Diversity/Food Consumption Score

HFIAS/Hunger Scale

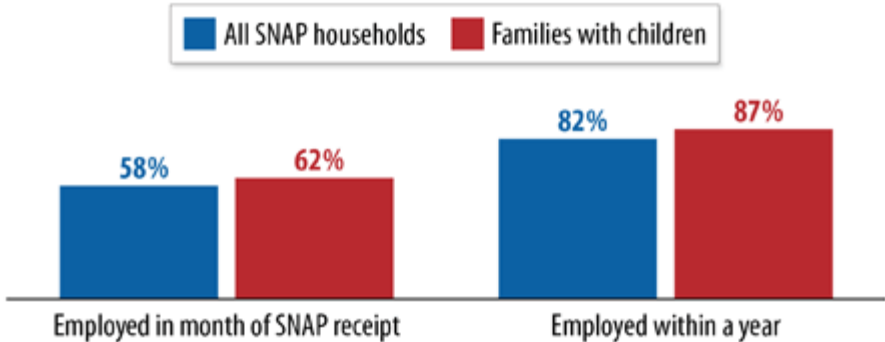
Coping Strategy Index

Qualitative, e.g. food adequacy

Anthropometrics

## SNAP Households with Working-Age Non-Disabled Adults Have High Work Rates

Work participation during the previous and following year for households that received SNAP in a typical month

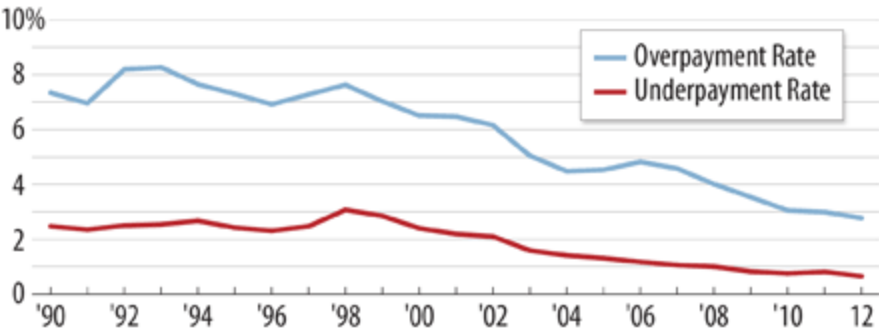


Source: CBPP calculations based on 2004 SIPP Panel data.

Center on Budget and Policy Priorities | [cbpp.org](http://cbpp.org)

## SNAP Error Rates Are at an All-Time Low

(Fiscal years 1990-2012)



Source: Quality Control Branch, U.S. Food and Nutrition Service

Center on Budget and Policy Priorities | [cbpp.org](http://cbpp.org)

# Food assistance as an important factor in food security and nutrition

