

Agriculture & Nutrition

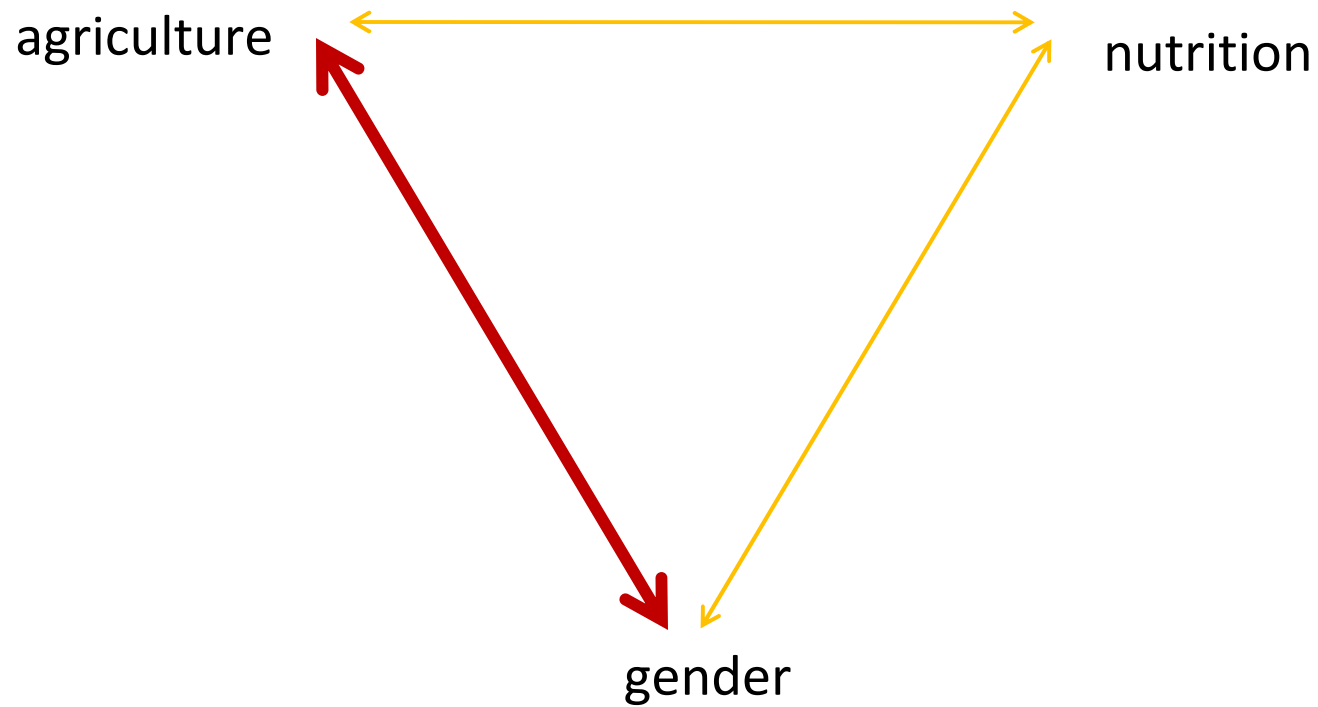
Why Gender Matters



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Agriculture, nutrition *and* gender





Agriculture and gender

Agriculture and gender

GA

WID

SA

PR&D

PRA

PAR

PTD

Gender-Responsive Participatory Research
in Agriculture and NRM

Agriculture and gender

- SWP-PRGA
promoting capacity strengthening and use of gender-sensitive participatory research approaches
- Engendering Agricultural Research Initiative (IFPRI/GFAR)
integrating gender into agricultural R&D priority-setting
- Gender platform in the new CGIAR
mainstreaming gender-responsive participatory research throughout the CGIAR Mega-Programs



Agriculture and nutrition

Agriculture and nutrition

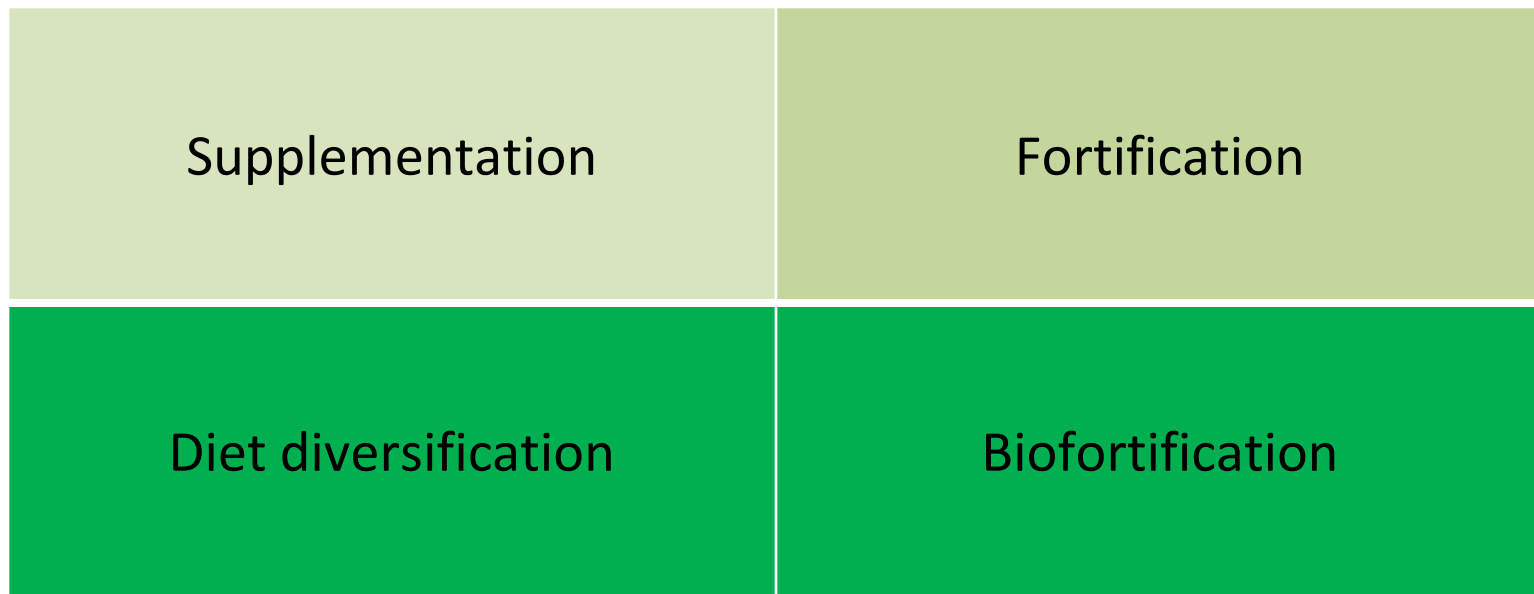
- *Malnutrition*: insufficient, excessive or imbalanced consumption of nutrients; diet lacks nutrients needed by human body for good health
- *Status of malnutrition*: undernutrition, overnutrition
- *Increasing food production* per se is insufficient to solve nutrition problems

Agriculture and nutrition



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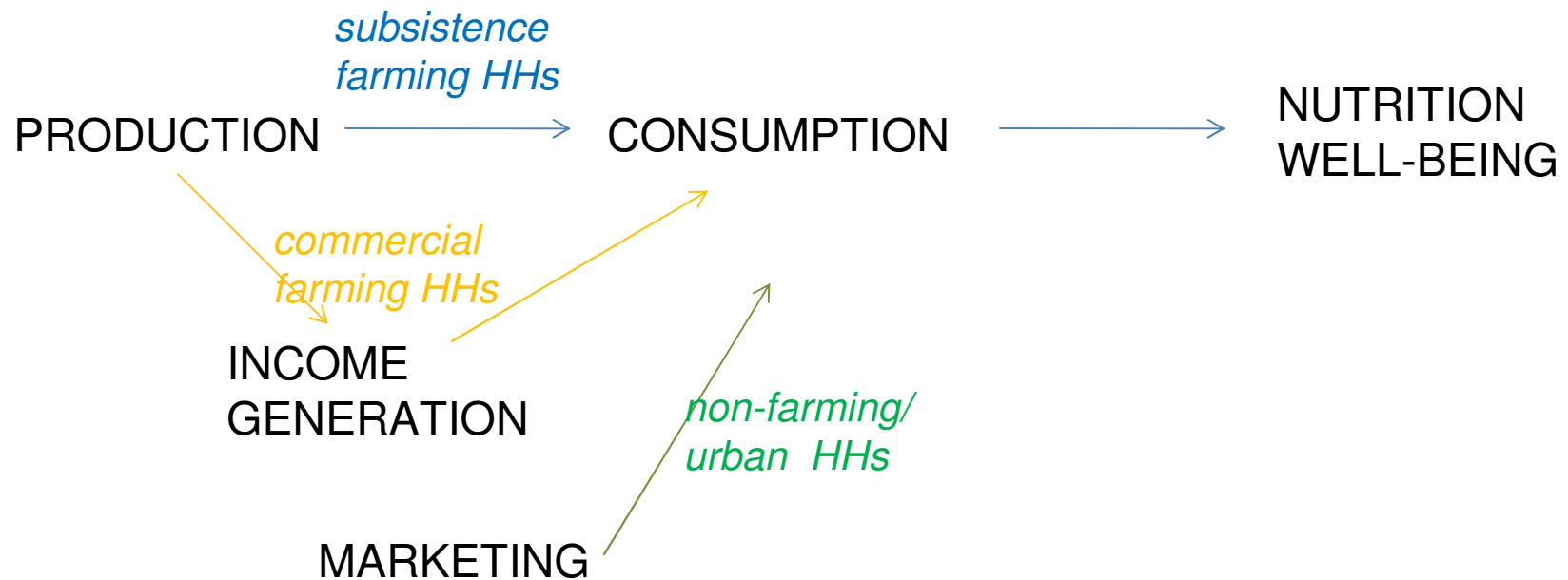
Nutrition Improvement Strategies: *the role of agriculture*



(adapted from HarvestPlus, Micronutrient Initiative)

Agriculture and nutrition

Pathways from Agriculture to Nutrition



Hawkes and Ruel 2008, IFPRI 2009, World Bank 2007, Bonnard 2001, Berti et al 2004

Agriculture and nutrition

CGIAR Health and Nutrition Initiatives

- Agriculture and Health Research Platform
transdisciplinary research on 2-way linkages between agriculture and health, through enhanced policy and program effectiveness
- HarvestPlus
breeding and disseminating micronutrient-dense staple crops for better nutrition
- MegaProgram 4 Agriculture and Health
agrobiodiversity for nutritional diversity, agriculture-related human diseases, food systems and value chains, others



Nutrition and gender

Nutrition and gender

- Historically in developing world, *malnutrition = undernutrition*
- Today, malnutrition covers a wider range of *nutritional challenges* e.g. obesity
- Malnutrition determines *health status* and ability to overcome illness
- MDG 5: improving maternal health

Nutrition and gender

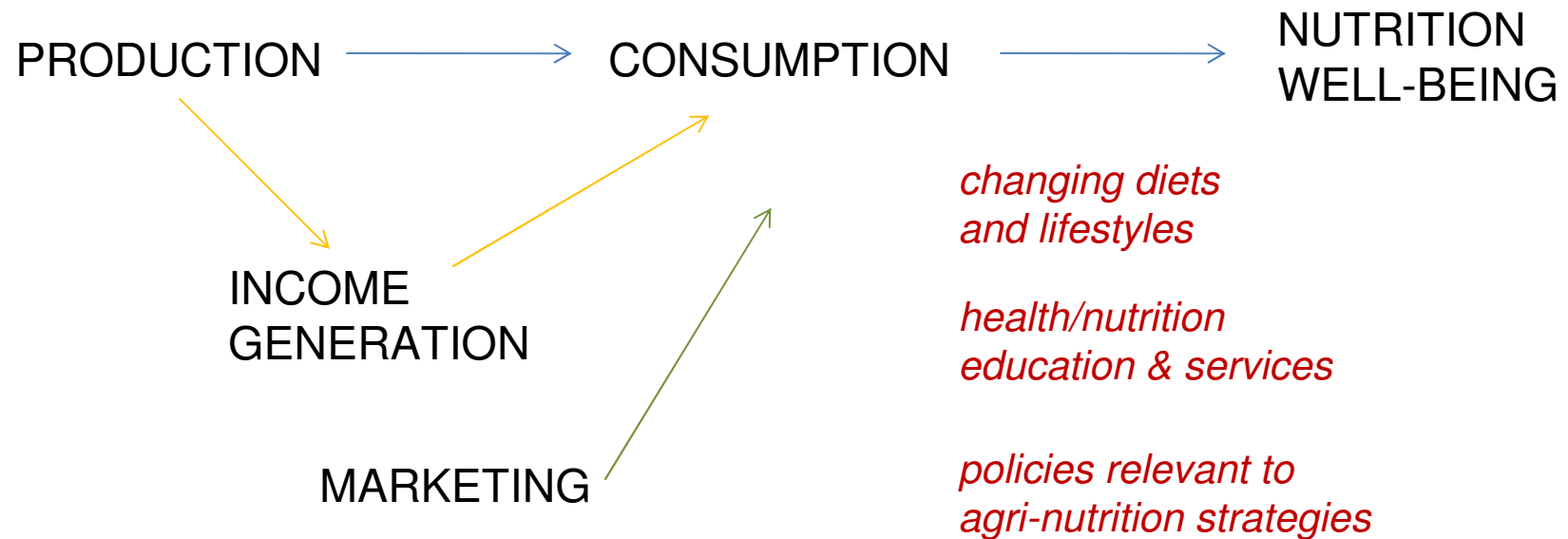
Determinants of nutritional status

- Availability and access to right amounts and combinations of food of adequate nutritional quality
- Feeding and care-giving practices
- Access to health care services

(adapted from UNICEF, 1990)

Nutrition and gender

Pathways from Agriculture to Nutrition



Nutrition and gender

- Biologically, women and men differ in needs for nutritional well-being
higher Fe for women, especially child-bearing
- Among most nutritionally vulnerable groups are pregnant and lactating mothers
*most of the programs on agri-nutrition link has focused on child nutrition**
- Among women, there are nutrition-related differences across generations, across social groups, between developed and developing world, and between developing countries
“Best places in the world to be a mother”: Norway at the top, Afghanistan at the bottom, Cuba tops LAC region*

Nutrition and gender

- Women are primarily responsible for feeding their families
- Women spend more of their income and resources on food than men do
- Women engaged in commercial farming are more likely to be motivated by family/social welfare benefits besides cash income
- Nutrition programs achieve better outcomes when these include strategies for women's education and empowerment
- Women “eat least and last”: myth or fact?

Agriculture, nutrition *and* gender

KEY ROLES OF WOMEN IN AGRI-NUTRITION STRATEGIES

- Women as food producers
- Women as income-earning farmers
- Women as health/nutrition-care providers
- Women as nutritionally vulnerable population
- Women and men as partners in agri-nutrition efforts

Agriculture, nutrition *and* gender

Women's Role	Insight	Examples of Research Agenda
<i>Food producer</i>	Women and men equally contribute to HH food supply and availability	Women's participation in nutrition-oriented agricultural technology devt Enhancing production systems associated with women (homegardens, year-round cropping systems, crop diversification) Addressing prodn and post-prodn constraints (seed, storage, climate change)
<i>Income-earning farmers</i>	Women significantly (re)invest their income in food and nutrition	Gender-responsive market chain devt Agri-food value chain development to include nutrition along with economic and social values Entrepreneurship , business devt for high-nutrition value chains
<i>Health/nutrition caretakers</i>	Women are key decision-makers and stewards of HH food and nutrition security	Introducing agri-food strategies within broader nutrition interventions (including education, healthcare services)
<i>Nutritionally vulnerable group</i>	Women's nutritional status determines their productive and reproductive roles, and affects intra-HH nutrition/health	Developing agricultural innovations targeting nutritional issues affecting women (micronutrient biofortification) Introducing strategies for enhanced access to healthcare and education services
<i>As partners with men in agri-nutrition</i>	HH and community dynamics require social learning and collective action by women and men	Understanding and overcoming social norms and political economies of agri-nutrition systems