

Food and Nutrition Security

UNSCN Meeting of the Minds Nutrition impact of food systems

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United Nations
System

Standing Committee on
Nutrition

Evolution of underlying concepts

Food Security

- Evolved over time from 'freedom from hunger' in the early 1940s into broad concept encompassing ...
- the 4 dimensions:
 - Availability of food
 - Access to food
 - Utilization
 - Stability

Nutrition Security

- Evolved over time from 'Multi-sectoral nutrition planning' approach in the 1970s and UNICEF conceptual framework
- with the 3 determinants:
 - Access to adequate food
 - Care and feeding practices
 - Sanitation and health



Current definition

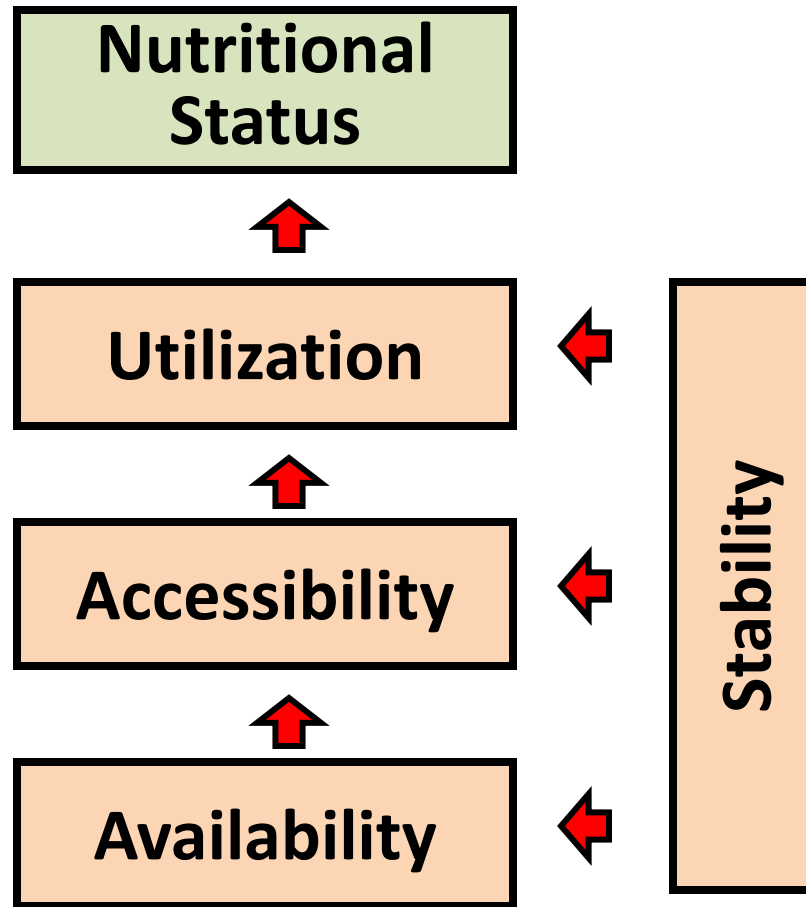
Food Security

‘Food security’ exists when all people, at all times, have physical, social and economic access to sufficient, safe and nutritious food to meet their dietary needs and food preferences for an active and healthy life.

based on FAO definition (1996, 2009)



Food Security dimensions



Food Security Dimensions (WFS, 1996)

Four food security dimensions – and nutrition linkage

availability

- domestic production
- import capacity
- food stocks
- food aid

access

- Poverty/
purchasing power
- transport and market infrastructure
- food distribution

stability

- weather variability
- price fluctuations
- political factors
- economic factors

utilization

- food safety & quality
- clean water
- health & sanitation
- care and feeding

Source: FAO



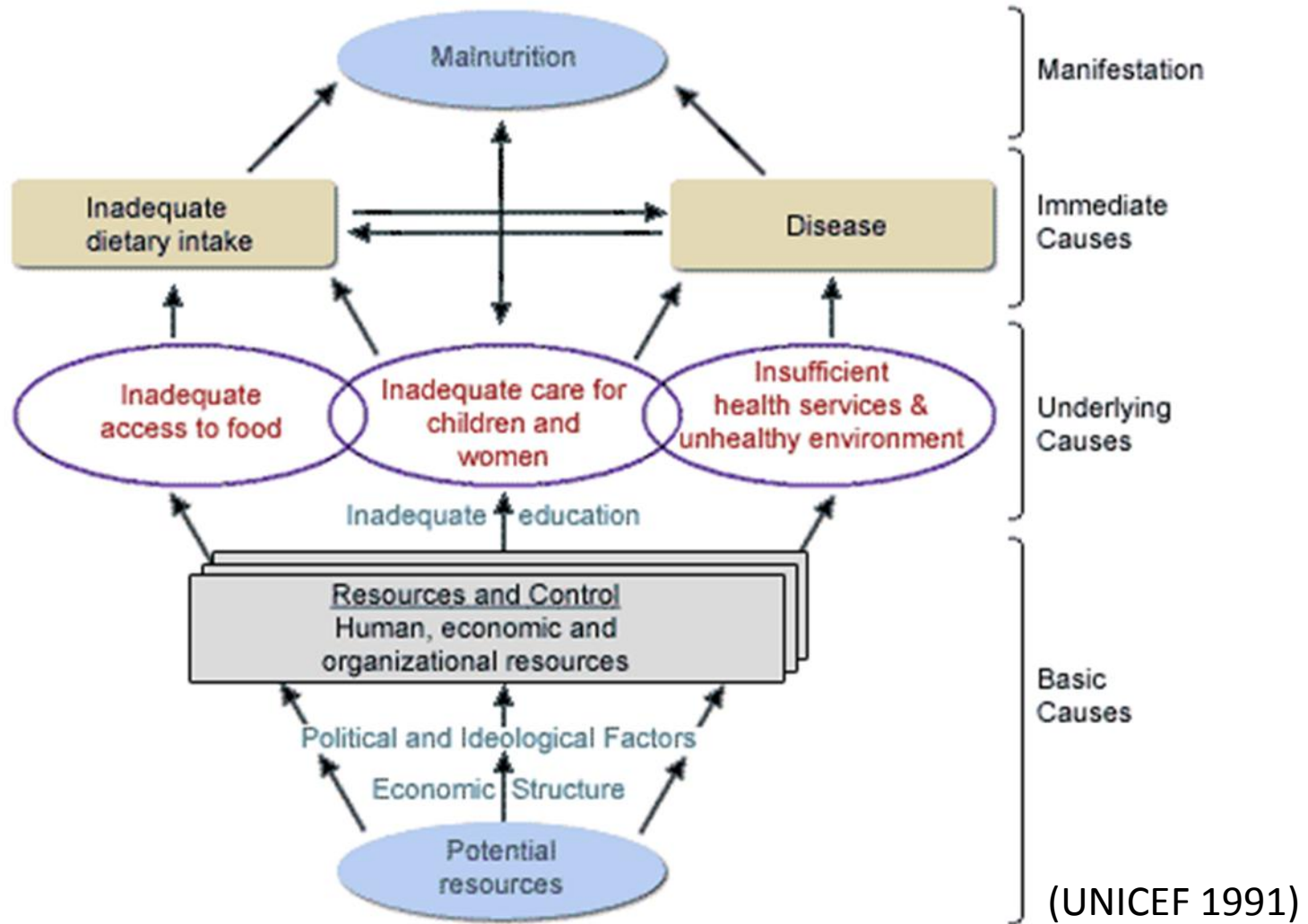
Nutrition dimension



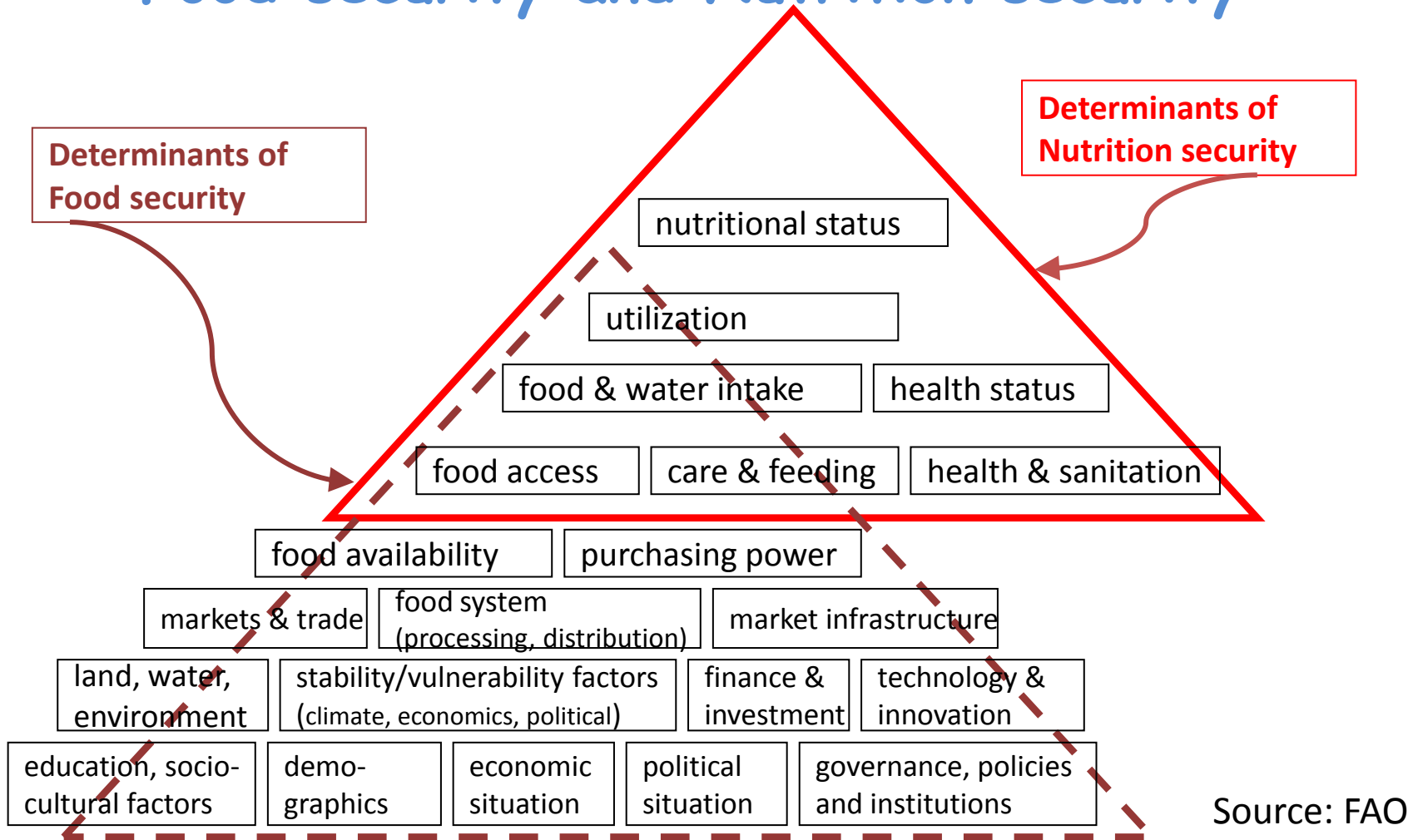
- The term 'food security' does not clearly spelt out the nutrition dimension which is only implied to.
- Not spelt out is actual food consumption but simply having access to food.
- The use of different terms to express this dimension
- Policy makers and practitioners encounter problems due to Lack of consistency in the use of these terms
- Prevents meaningful discussions on how best to achieve food security and improved nutrition



Conceptual Framework of Malnutrition



Determinants of Food security and Nutrition security



'Food and Nutrition Security'

- **Has become into increasingly wide-spread use**
- **Is integrated way to combine both concepts linguistically and conceptually**
- **Expresses a single integrated development goal**
- **Emphasizing to achieve both food security and nutrition security**

Food production	Biological approach
Food systems	Sociological aspects
Socio-economic aspects	Health and sanitation concerns
- **Encourages better integration of actions**
- **Greatly facilitates communications, decisions and actions that support the eradication of hunger and malnutrition.**



Proposed definition

‘Food and Nutrition Security’

“Food and nutrition security exists when all people at all times have physical, social and economic access to food, which is consumed in sufficient quantity and quality to meet their dietary needs and food preferences, and is supported by an environment of adequate sanitation, health services and care, allowing for a healthy and active life.”



Thank you



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Conceptual Framework of the Nutritional Status at Household Level

