Improving Health and sustainability impacts of the edible oil sector in India: A qualitative policy analysis

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wellcome

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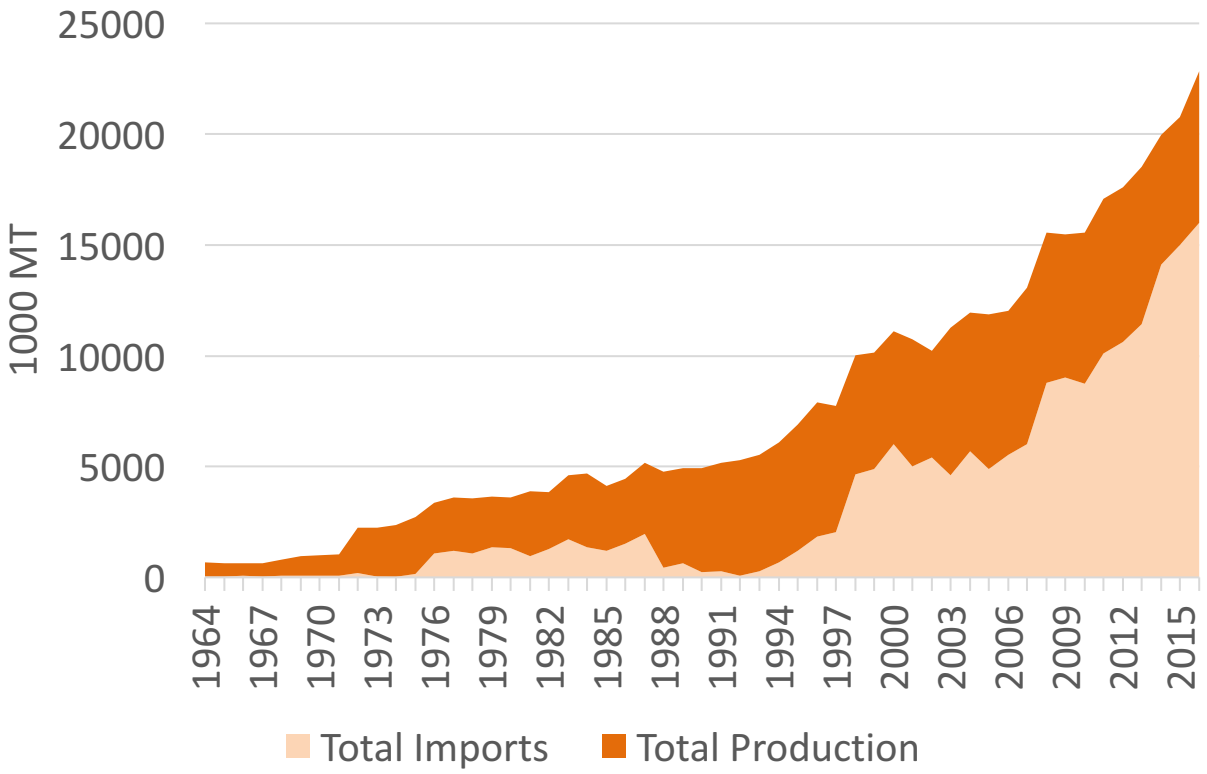
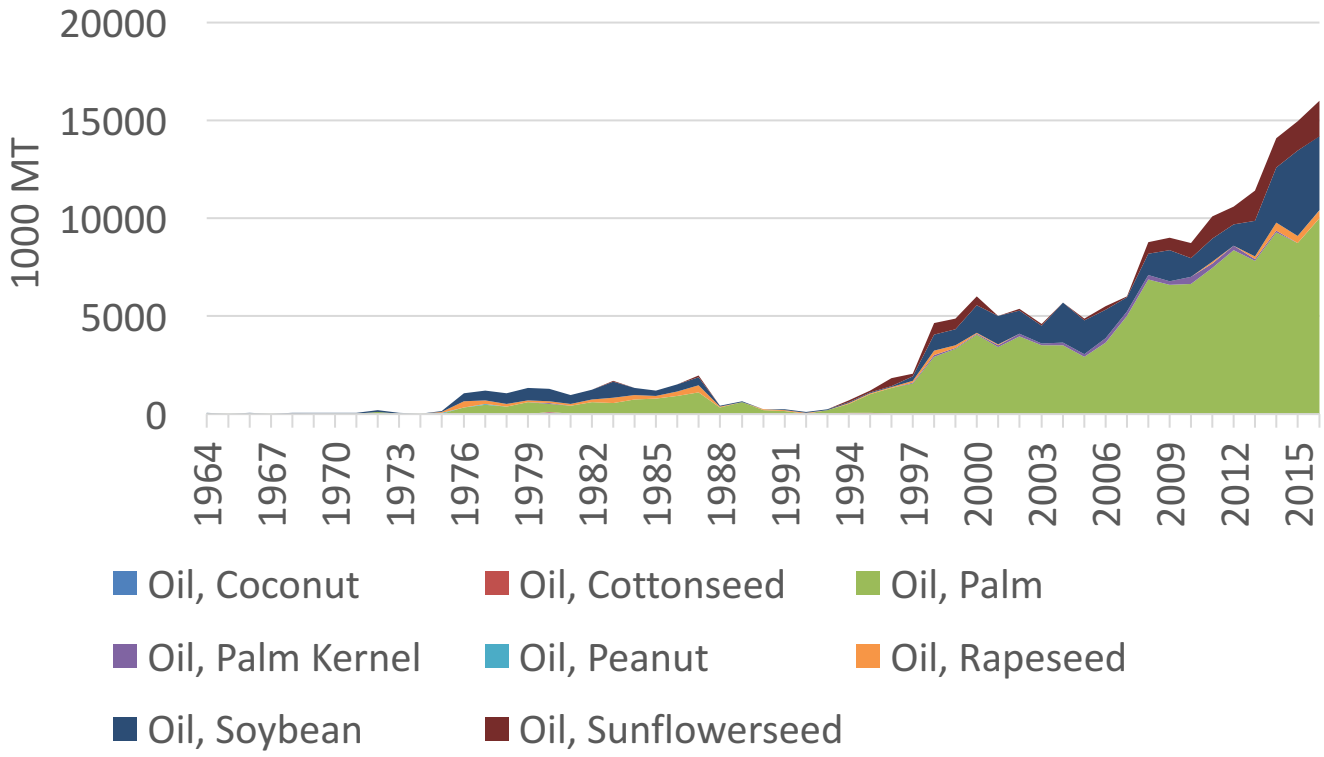
Context: Production, import and consumption trends



Increased imports

Increased and unequal consumption

Context: Production, import and consumption trends



Sustainability in supplying countries
Constraints to domestic sector expansion
Nutrition and NCD

Context: Production, import and consumption trends

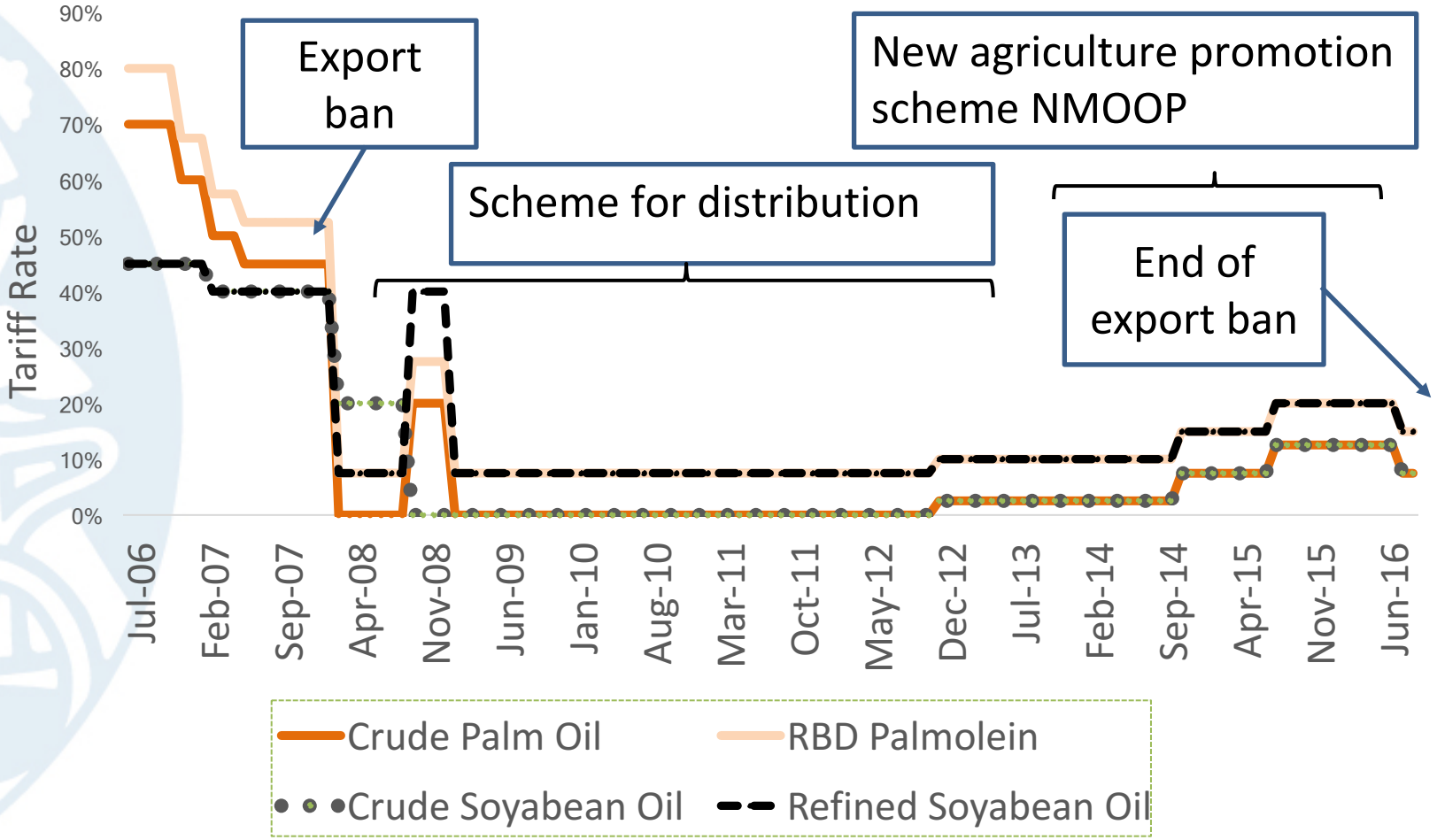
Context: Oil processing industry

Rapidly changing industry

Consolidation and integration into larger firms and processing units

Increased influence of global consumer brands

Context: Interacting policy interventions



What constitutes a desirable outcome?

Achieve a sustainable, strong domestic sector for oilseeds, reducing import dependency, while promoting a balanced consumption of edible oils as part of a healthy diet

Methods

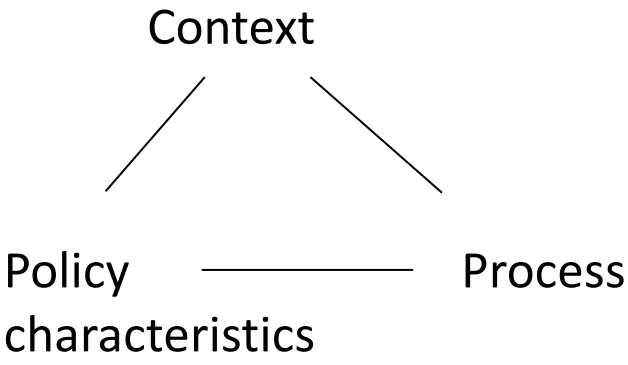
Expert and stakeholder interviews. Policy document analysis

Value Chain analysis

Policy analysis.
Adapted from Grindle and Thomas (1991)

Characteristics in each segment

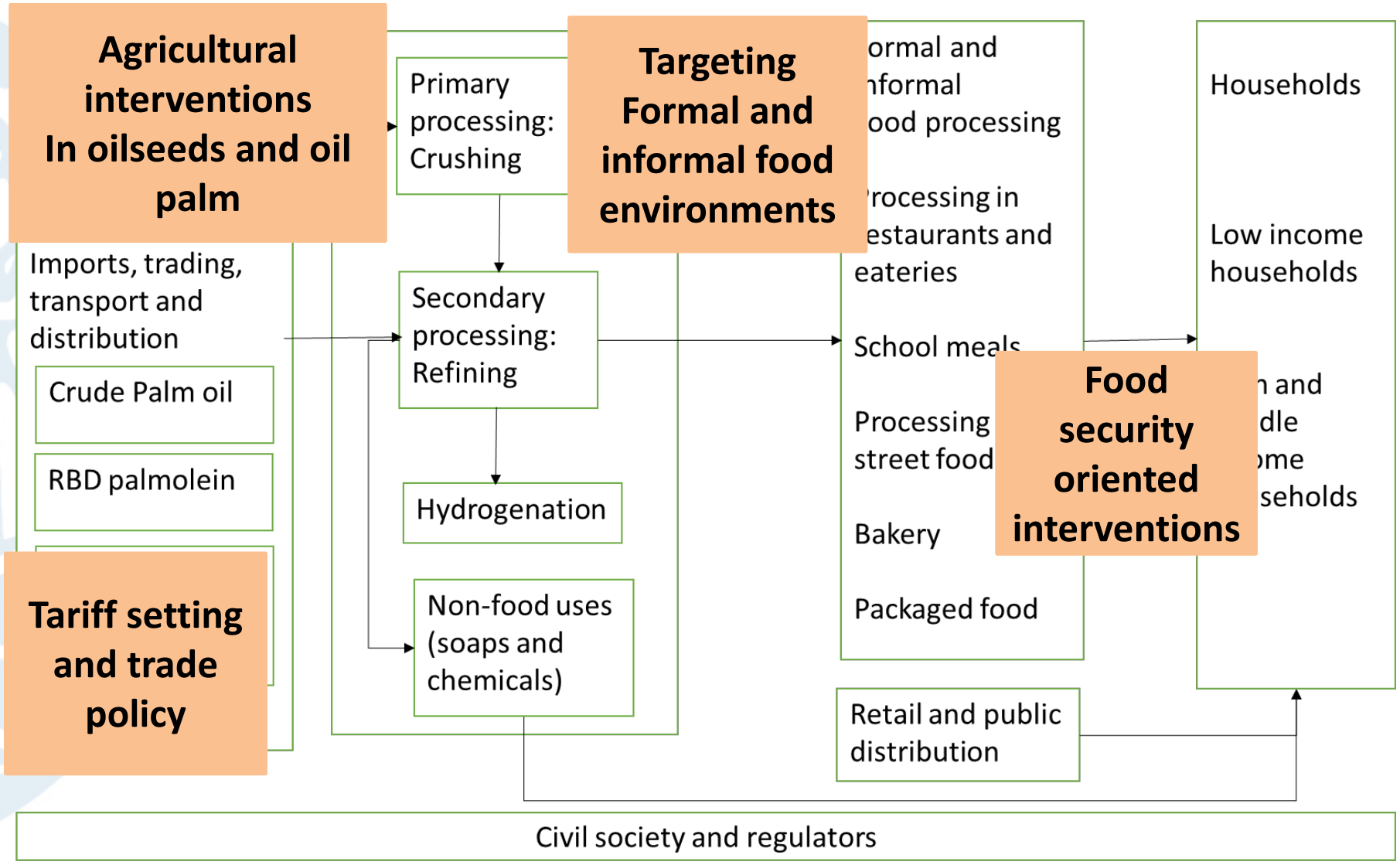
- Policy and regulation
- Technological
- Financial: costs and profits
- Organizational, ownership and power



Key points for intervention Coherence

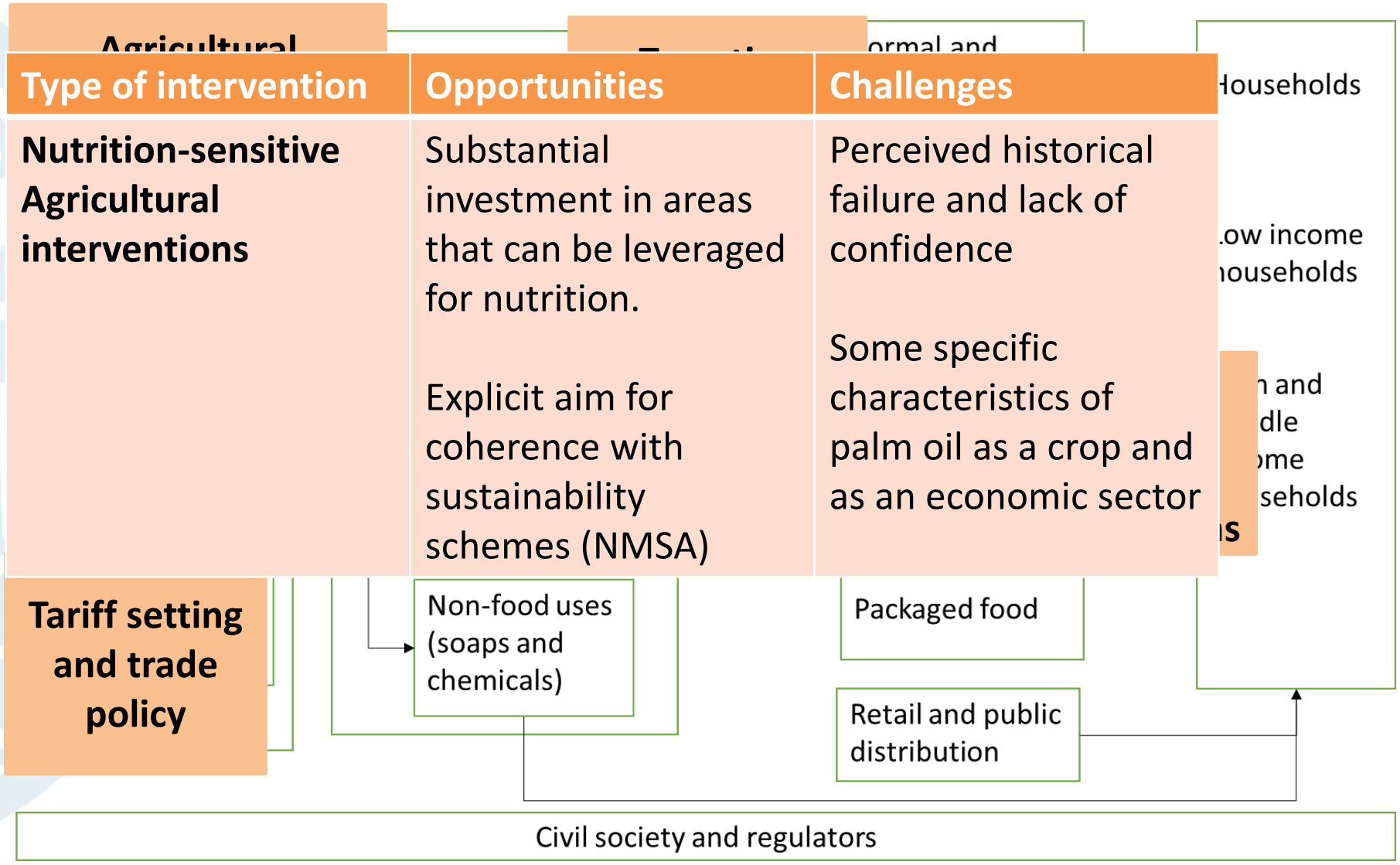
Opportunities/ Challenges

Key points for coherent intervention



Key points for coherent intervention

Type of intervention	Opportunities	Challenges
Nutrition-sensitive Agricultural interventions	Substantial investment in areas that can be leveraged for nutrition. Explicit aim for coherence with sustainability schemes (NMSA)	Perceived historical failure and lack of confidence Some specific characteristics of palm oil as a crop and as an economic sector



Tariff setting and trade policy

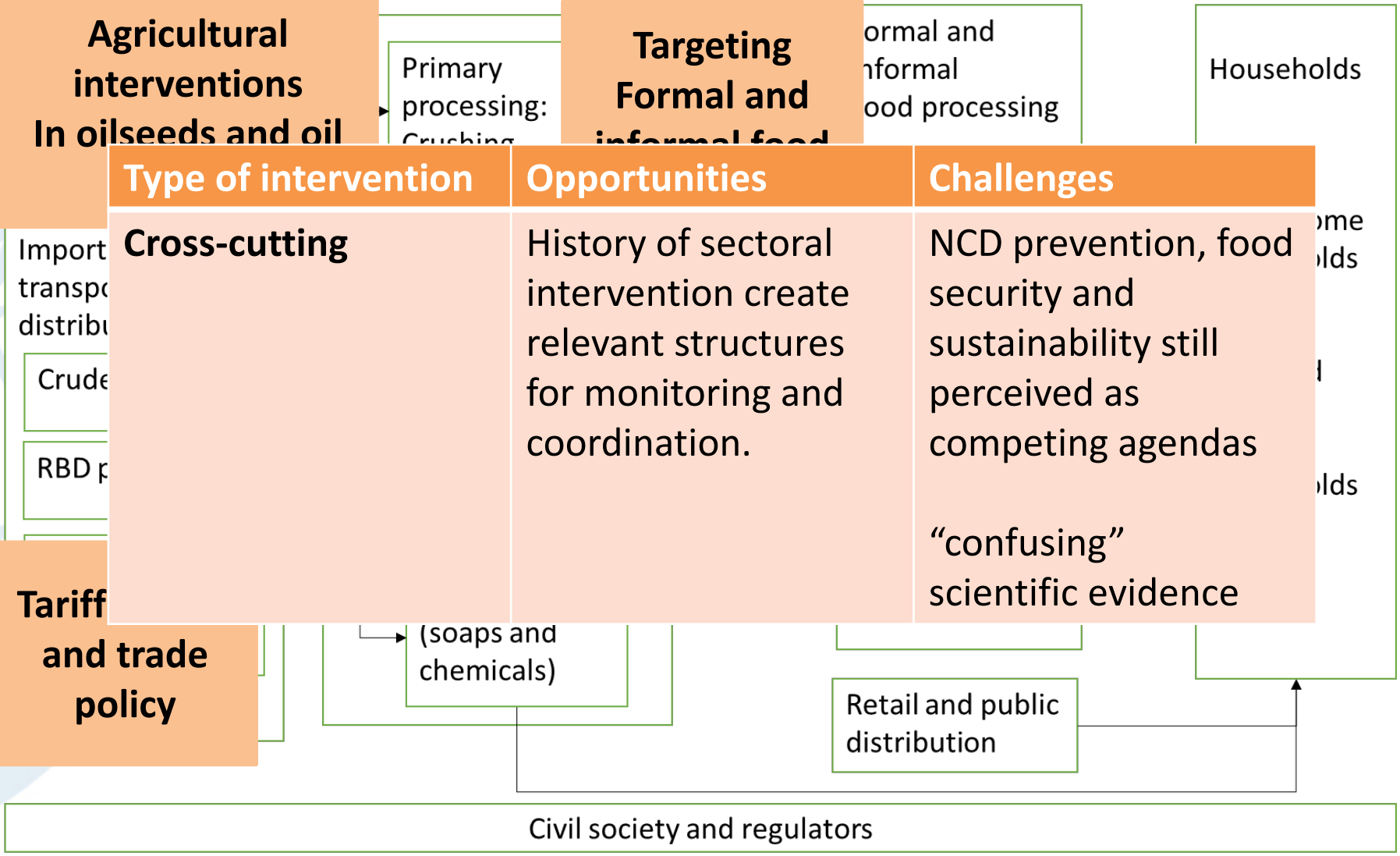
Key points for coherent intervention

Agricultural interventions In oilseeds and oil

Targeting Formal and informal food

Type of intervention	Opportunities	Challenges
Cross-cutting	History of sectoral intervention create relevant structures for monitoring and coordination.	NCD prevention, food security and sustainability still perceived as competing agendas “confusing” scientific evidence

Tariff and trade policy



Key insights

- No single policy intervention can address all issues
- Advice to consumers about consumption of specific oils not highly effective.
- Instead, coherent targeting of key points along the value chain:

1. There are opportunities for climate and nutrition-sensitive agricultural policies in the oilseed sector

2. A broader agenda for tariff setting could support other interventions

3. Initiatives to improve food environments and combat NCD are gaining traction but are fragmented and not highly visible.

4. Alignment of short term food security oriented interventions (distribution and fortification) to ensure that short term objectives are balanced with long term goals in the sector.

References

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- Grindle, Merilee, and John Thomas. 1991. 'Public Choices and Policy Change'.
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- Figure 2.Fatty Acid Profiles of Common Fats and Oils. Source: USDA Dietary Guidelines for Americans (USDA, 2010)
- Shankar, Bhavani, et al. "Policies for healthy and sustainable edible oil consumption: a stakeholder analysis for Thailand." *Public health nutrition*20.6 (2017): 1126-1134.

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