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The U.S. Government's Global Hunger & Food Security Initiative

Contributing to the Global Food Security Strategy:

Feed the Future Innovation Lab for Nutrition

Patrick Webb, PhD

Shibani Ghosh, PhD

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Friedman School of
Nutrition Science and Policy



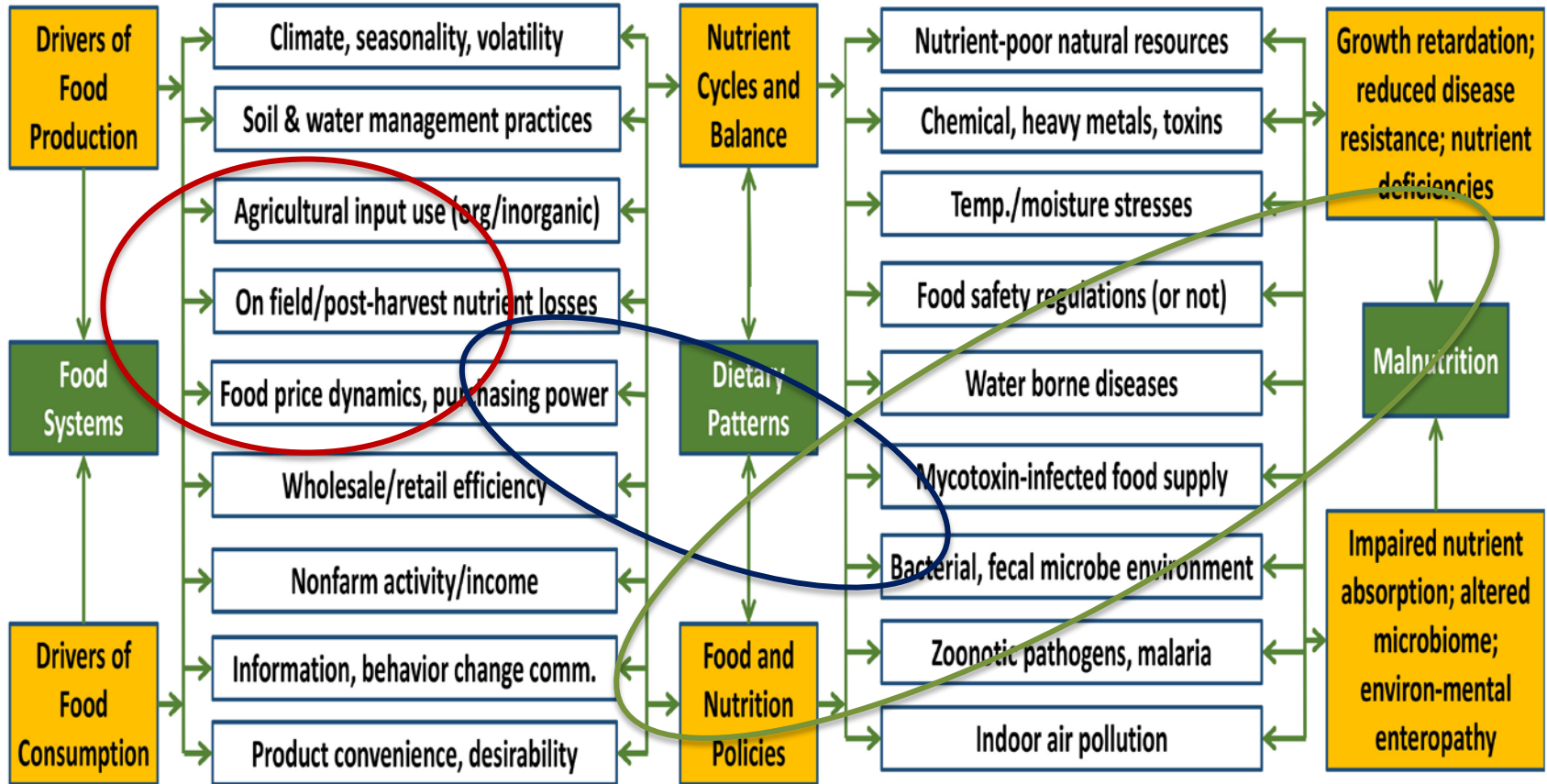
KEY RESEARCH THEMES

- What *measurable* impacts do **investments in agriculture** have on nutrition (positive and/or negative)?
- Does **quality of nutrition governance** (individual and institutional commitment/capacity) affect impact of nutrition policies and programs?
- What **biological mechanisms** must be better understood to design interventions to improve nutrition?



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Source: Authors



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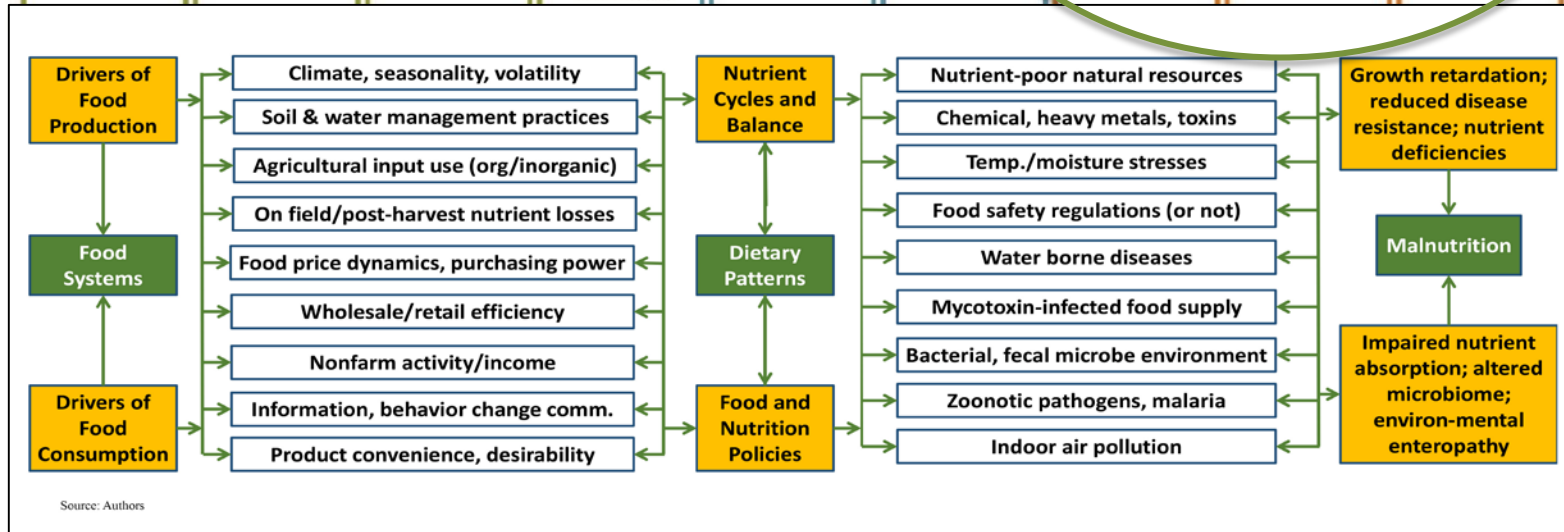
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Goal: Sustainably reduce global hunger, malnutrition, and poverty

Objective 1
Inclusive and sustainable agricultural-led economic growth

Objective 2
Strengthened resilience among people and systems

Objective 3
A well-nourished population, especially among women and children



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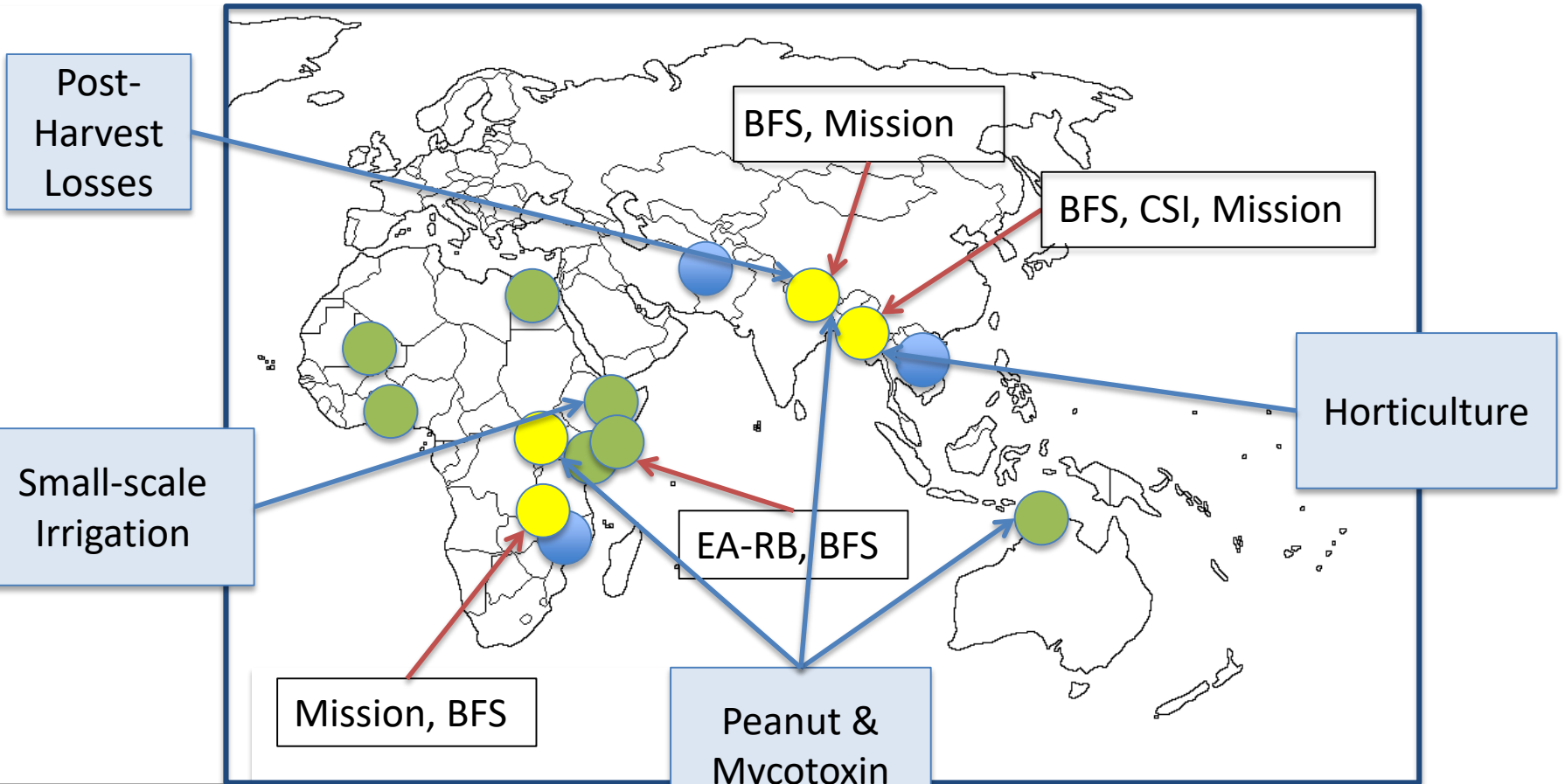
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WHERE IS NUTRITION INNOVATION LAB WORKING?



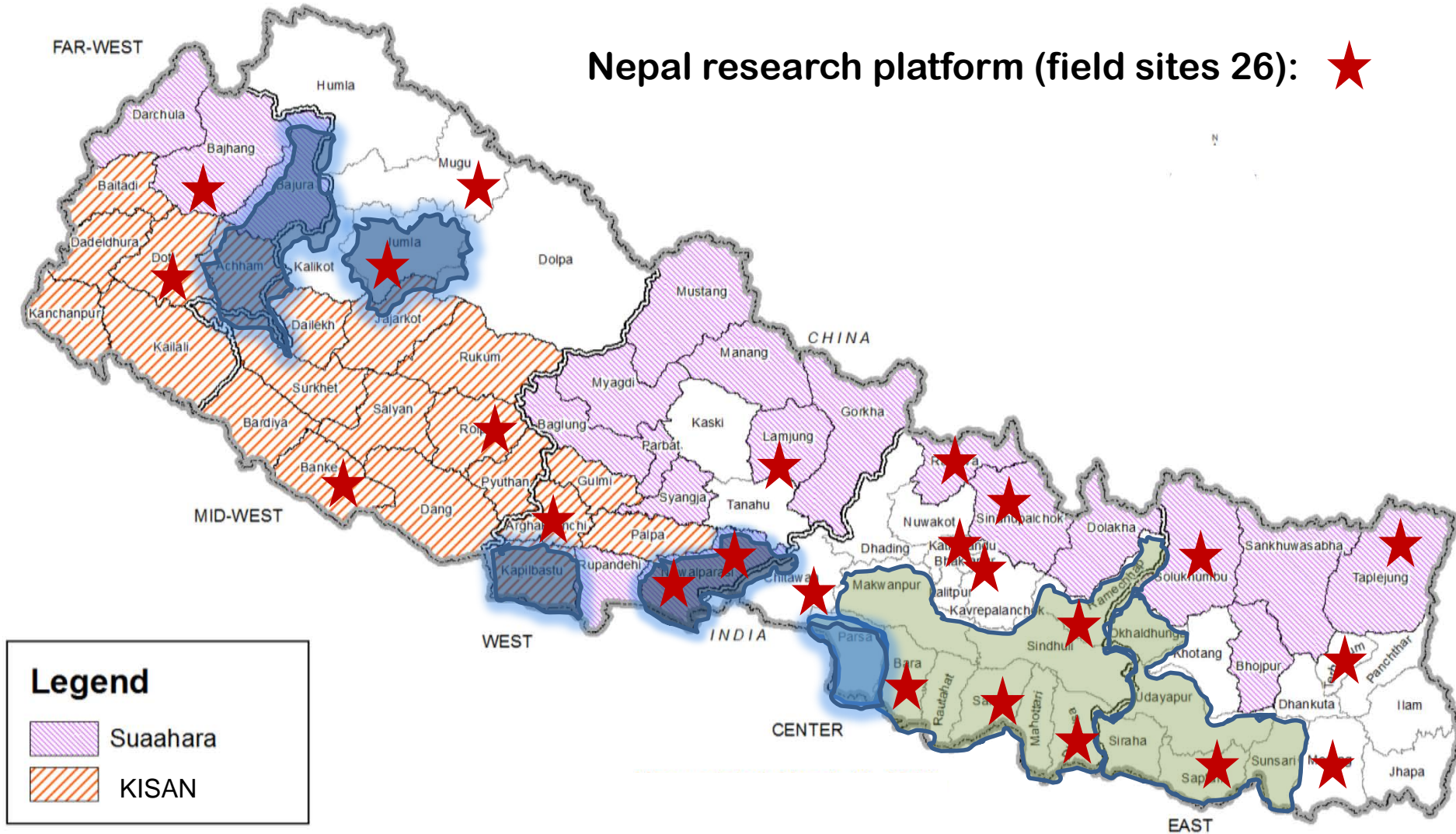
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Nepal research platform (field sites 26): ★



Legend

- Suaahara
- KISAN

- Sunaula Hazar
- Multi-Sector Nutrition Plan



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THE LANCET

Maternal and Child Nutrition - June, 2013

www.thelancet.com

Research on ***nutrition governance*** is “limited to a handful of studies...systematic evidence about processes related to inter-sectoral and multi-sectoral actions is urgently needed.”

“The Series identifies a set of ten proven nutrition-specific interventions, which if scaled up from present population coverage to cover 90% of the need, would eliminate about 900 000 deaths of children younger than 5 years in the 34 high nutrition-burden countries —where 90% of the world’s stunted children live.”

Maternal and Child Nutrition



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ENABLING POLICY ENVIRONMENT

“We will place strong emphasis on the policy environment”

| Interviews with Nepal civil servants | R1 (N=732) (2013) | R2 (N=654) (2014) | R3 (N=116) (2015) |
|---|----------------------|----------------------|----------------------|
| | % | % | % |
| Lacking financial resources to implement | 39.3 | 44.8 | 50.9 |
| Colleagues in other sectors not adequately trained | 38.1 | 25.9 | 26.7 |
| Lack information sharing across sectors | 52.0 | 54.3 | 50.0 |





INFORMING PROGRAM DESIGN

“This strategy aims to break silos and integrate programming across sectors.” (GFSS 2017, p.34)

- **Uganda** – Community Connector: Tailoring may improve acceptance and uptake, but makes rigorous evaluation of impact challenging.
- **Bangladesh** – programs promoting aquaculture and/or horticulture:
 - a) engage women more,
 - b) market products further and
 - c) raise women’s consumption of both ASF and hort. products.
- **Nepal** – Duration+intensity of exposure to program inputs determine impacts Livestock intervention: wasting fell 4 years after start, not prior.



NEPAL PROGRAMMING – IMPACTS?

| Rate of change 2013-2014 | Suaahara | Non-Suaahara |
|-------------------------------------|----------|--------------|
| Routine use improved feed (poultry) | 43.1*** | 17.5*** |
| Home garden ownership | 25.7*** | 17.5*** |
| NGO worker visited children in home | 0.4 | -0.8*** |
| Women's 7 day intake fruit/veg | 0.5 | -0.6*** |
| Women's Diet Diversity Score | 0.1 | -0.2*** |
| % moderate wasting (<-2SD - >-3SD) | -1.7 | 0.7 |
| % children stunted (<-2SD) | -1.8 | 2.4** |





MARKETS

“Our strategy is to improve institutions, **markets**, choices.”
(GFSS 2016, p.34)

Nepal panel data:

- Increased production diversity leads to 1.4% increase in women's dietary diversity (WDD).
- But distance to market modifies effect of production diversity on diet diversity. Child DD higher with production diversity *only if further* from markets.

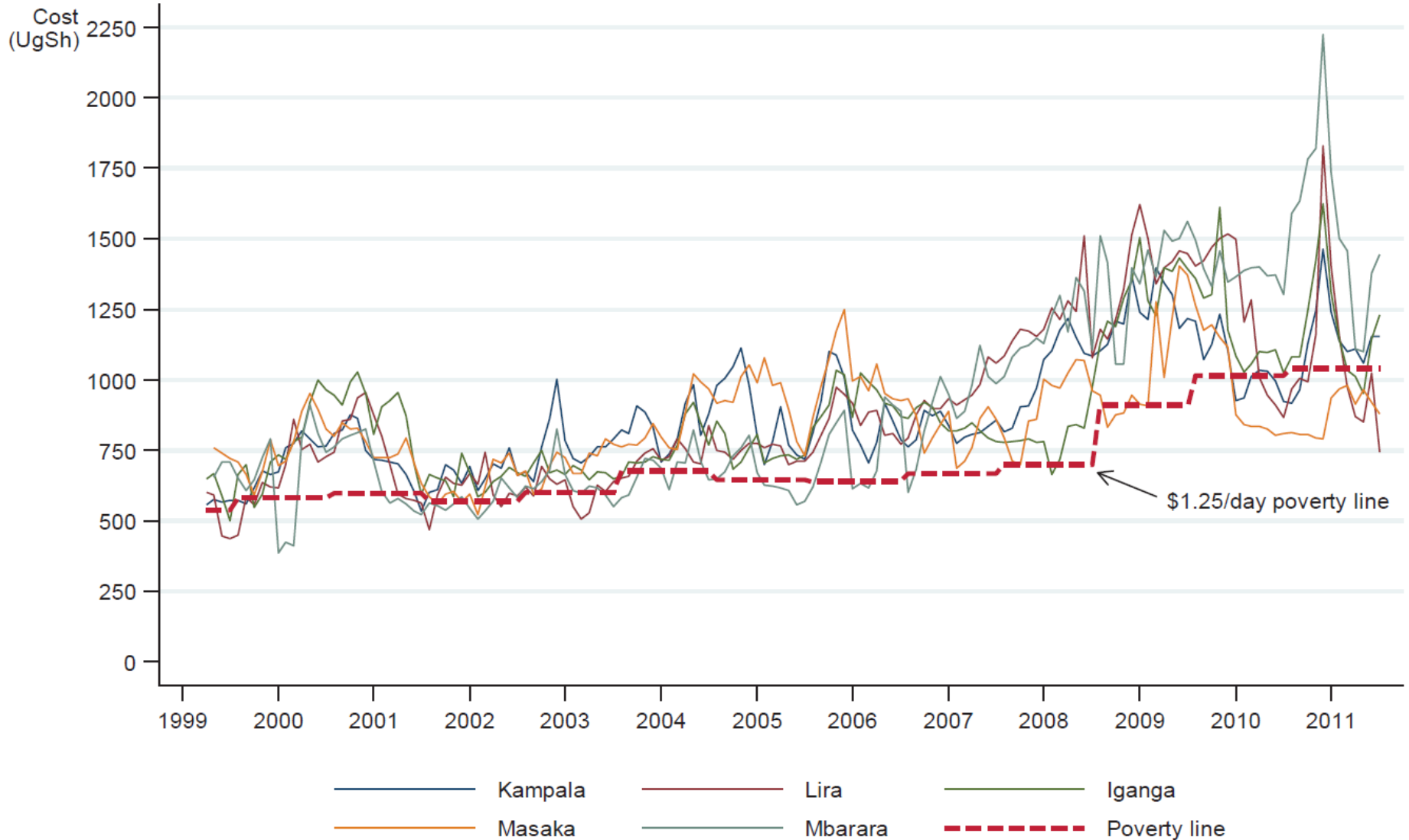




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Least-cost Nutritionally-adequate Diet for Uganda





FORTHCOMING ATTRACTIONS

- When and how *does agric. production diversity = diet diversity?*
- *Do mycotoxins impact birth outcomes* and child growth, in what contexts? What agric./post-harvest technologies help?
- Does promoting agricultural growth among richer farmers help *poor non-farmer consumers?*
- Are we measuring the right WASH indicators? What really predicts stunting *where diets are adequate?*



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Feed the Future Innovation Lab for Nutrition's Global and Local Partners

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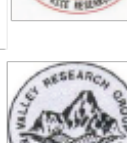


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