

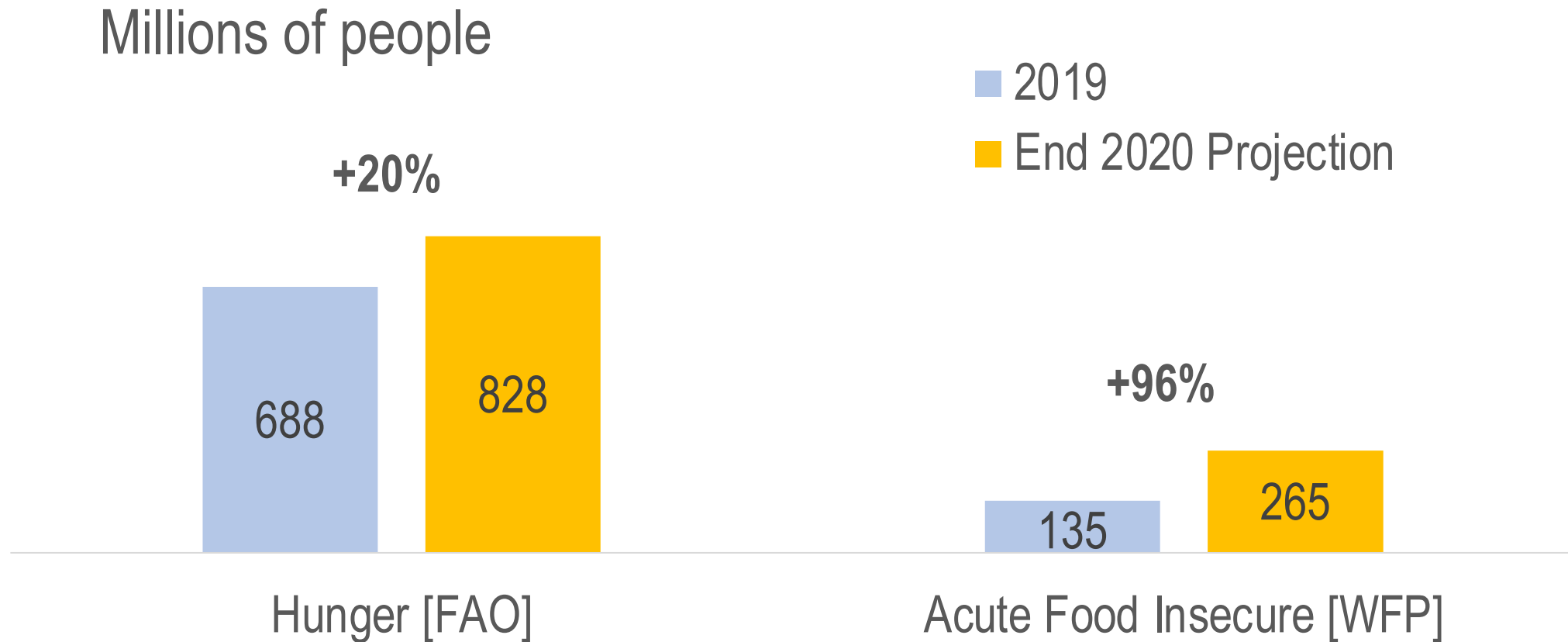


# Seeding a Food-Secure Future

Martien van Nieuwkoop  
Global Director, Agriculture and Food Global Practice  
World Bank

Singapore, September 10, 2020

# Global hunger & acute food insecurity are projected to rise in 2020

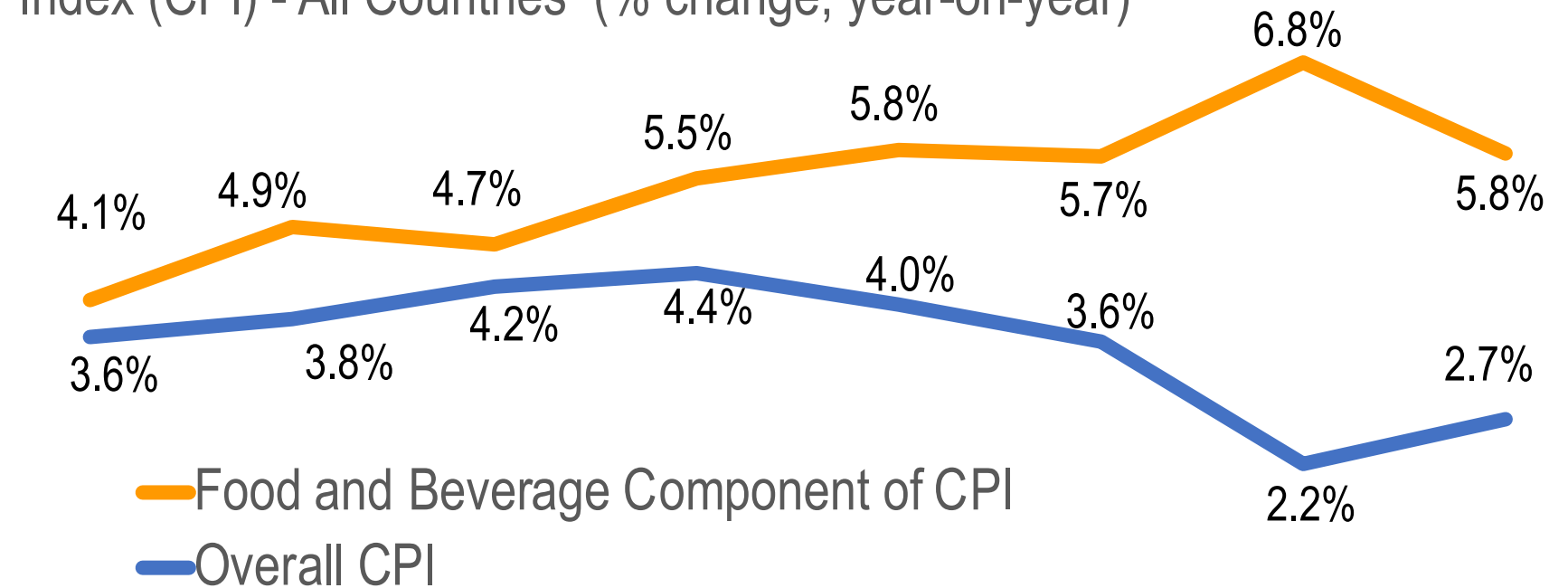


FAO = Food and Agriculture Organization  
WFP = World Food Program

# Local food prices have increased and at a faster rate than overall inflation



Average Food Inflation Relative to Overall Consumer Price Index (CPI) - All Countries (% change, year-on-year)



October    November    December    January    February    March    April    May

2019

2020

# COVID-19 is impacting food security through multiple pathways

Disruptions to supply chains

Higher food imports costs with currency depreciations

Reduced incomes

Weather extremes and the locust outbreak are exacerbating impacts

**Food Insecurity**

# Food system weaknesses have amplified impacts

Inadequate food safety



Animal-to-human  
disease transmission

Malnutrition



Weakened immune  
systems

Obesity



Increased severity  
of impact

Inflexible supply  
chains



Food loss  
& waste

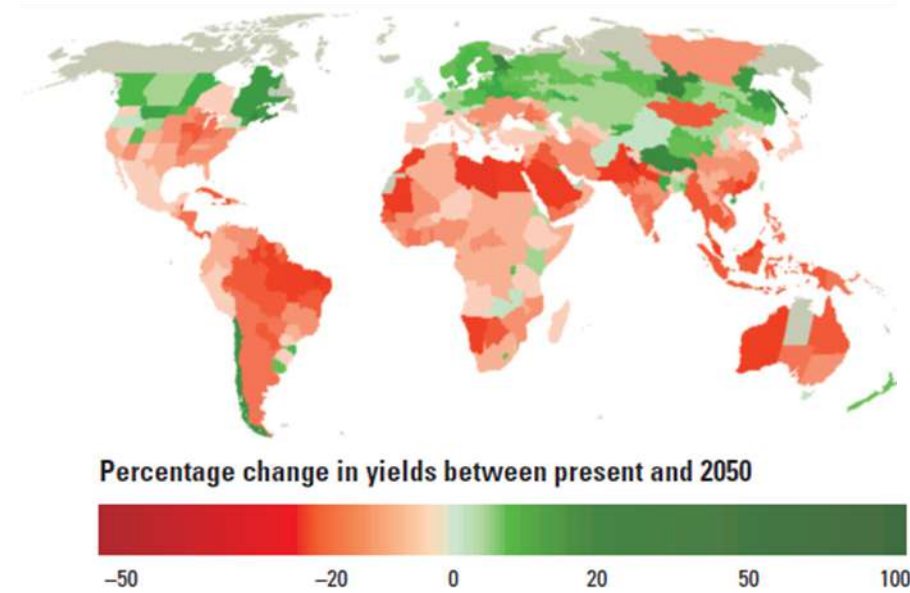
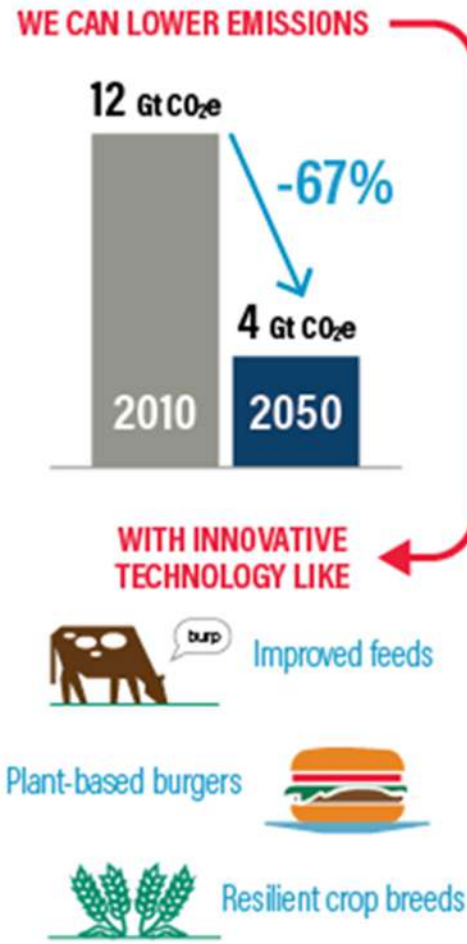
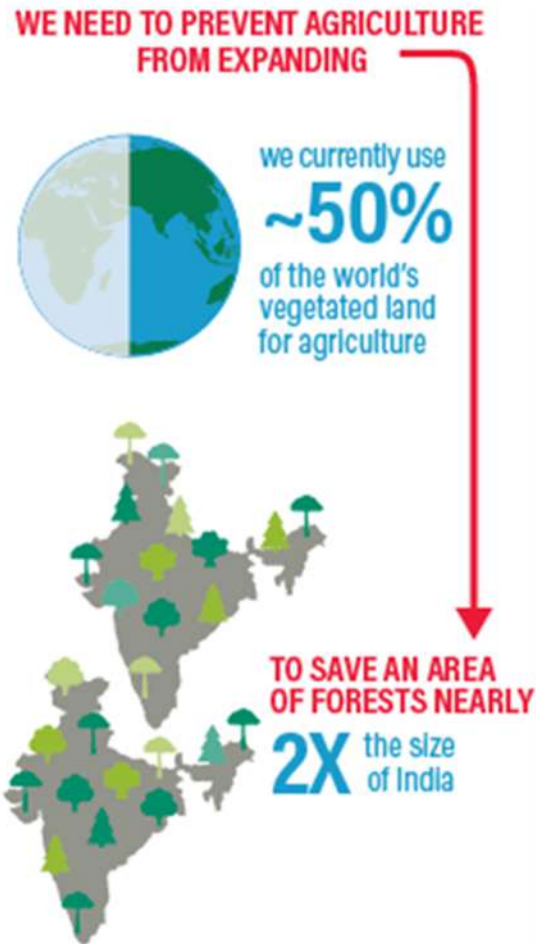
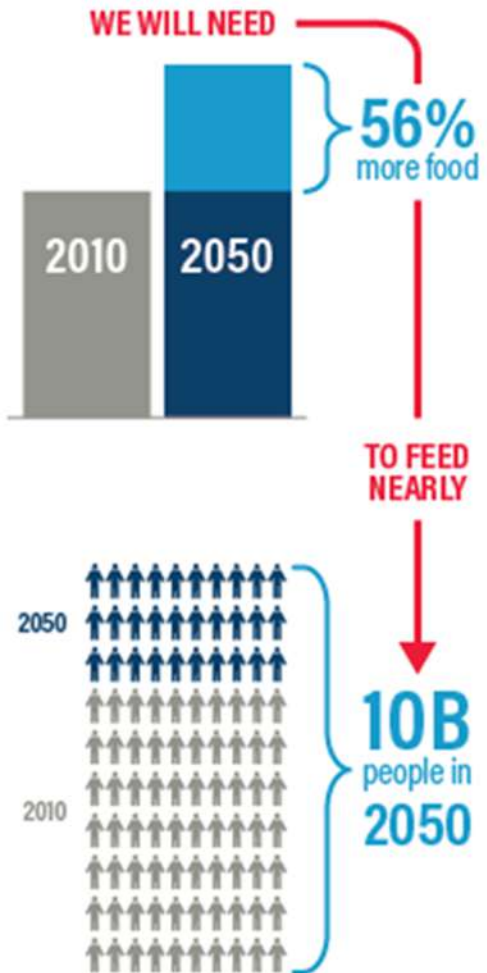
# Broader challenges remain

How do we feed 10 billion (mainly urban) people...

...without using more land...

... while lowering emissions

... while improving climate resilience and reducing water stress



...and lifting the extreme poor who work in the food system out of poverty?

# 10 Critical (Multi-sectoral) Transitions Needed to Transform Food Systems

**Business Opportunity**  
\$4.5 trillion annual opportunity for businesses associated with the ten critical transitions by 2030

**Investment Requirements**  
\$300-\$350 billion required each year for the transformation of food and land use systems to 2030

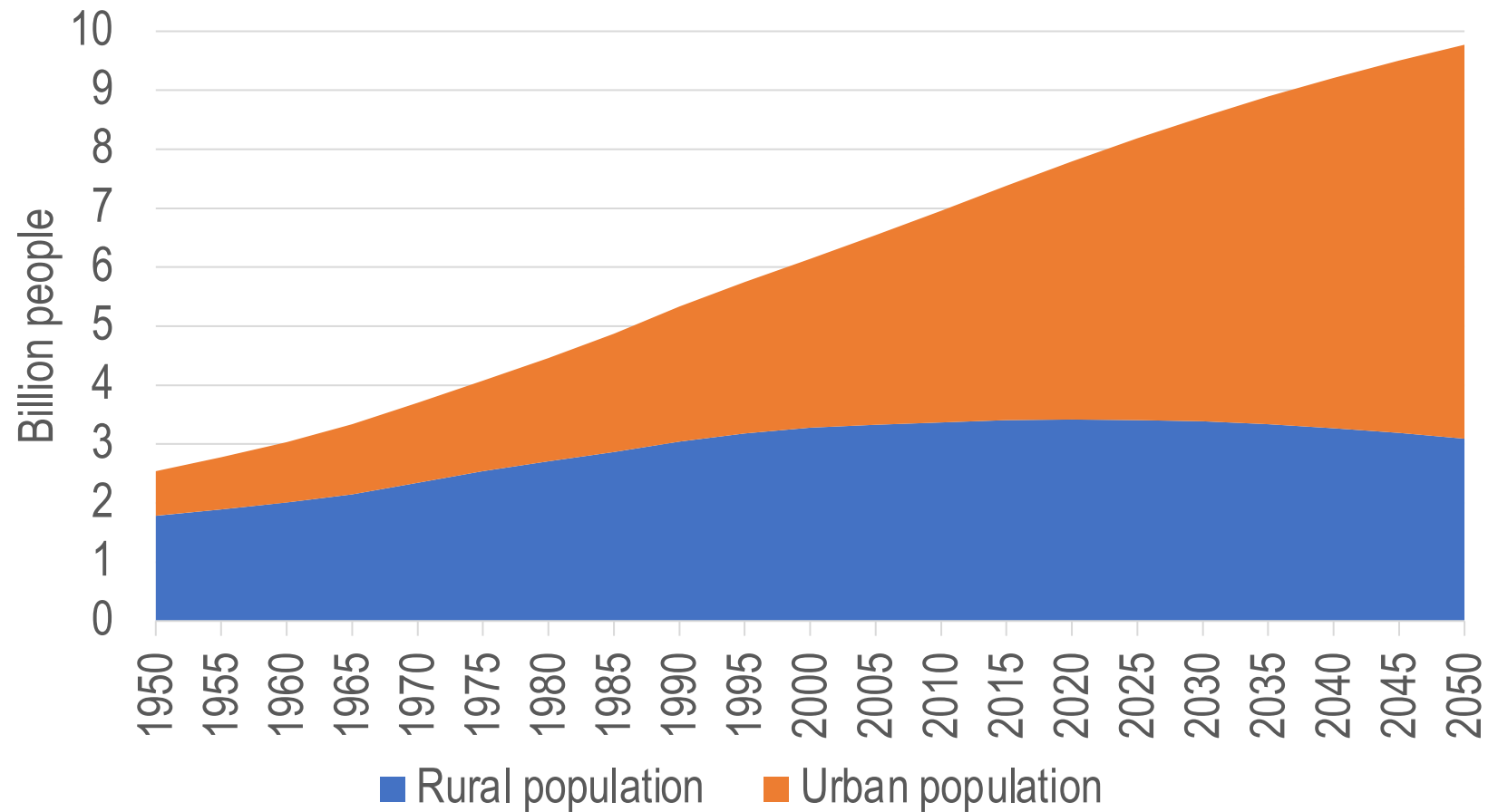
**Economic Prize**  
\$5.7 trillion economic prize by 2030 and \$10.5 by 2050 based on avoided hidden costs



# There are 4.4bn people to feed in cities today. 2.3bn more by 2050



The world's urban population is projected to increase by more than 50% over the next 30 years





# Urban Asia's challenges and opportunities

## Challenges

- 535m in urban slums with complex food issues
- 1/4 of urban Asia is food insecure
- Large loss of farmland due to urban conversion
- Other hotspots
  - foodborne illness
  - diet-related non-communicable diseases
  - food plastics and other waste
- Hybrid systems - small 'modern', large informal

## Opportunities

- Growing middle class
- Rapid dietary/eating pattern change
  - higher value foods
  - out-of-home eating
- Wide scope for food business innovation
  - food service
  - e-commerce
  - bio-economy
- Food culture as an attraction for domestic and international tourism

# Are cities in Asia ready?

## Recipe for Progress:

Advancing the Urban Food Agenda in Emerging Asia

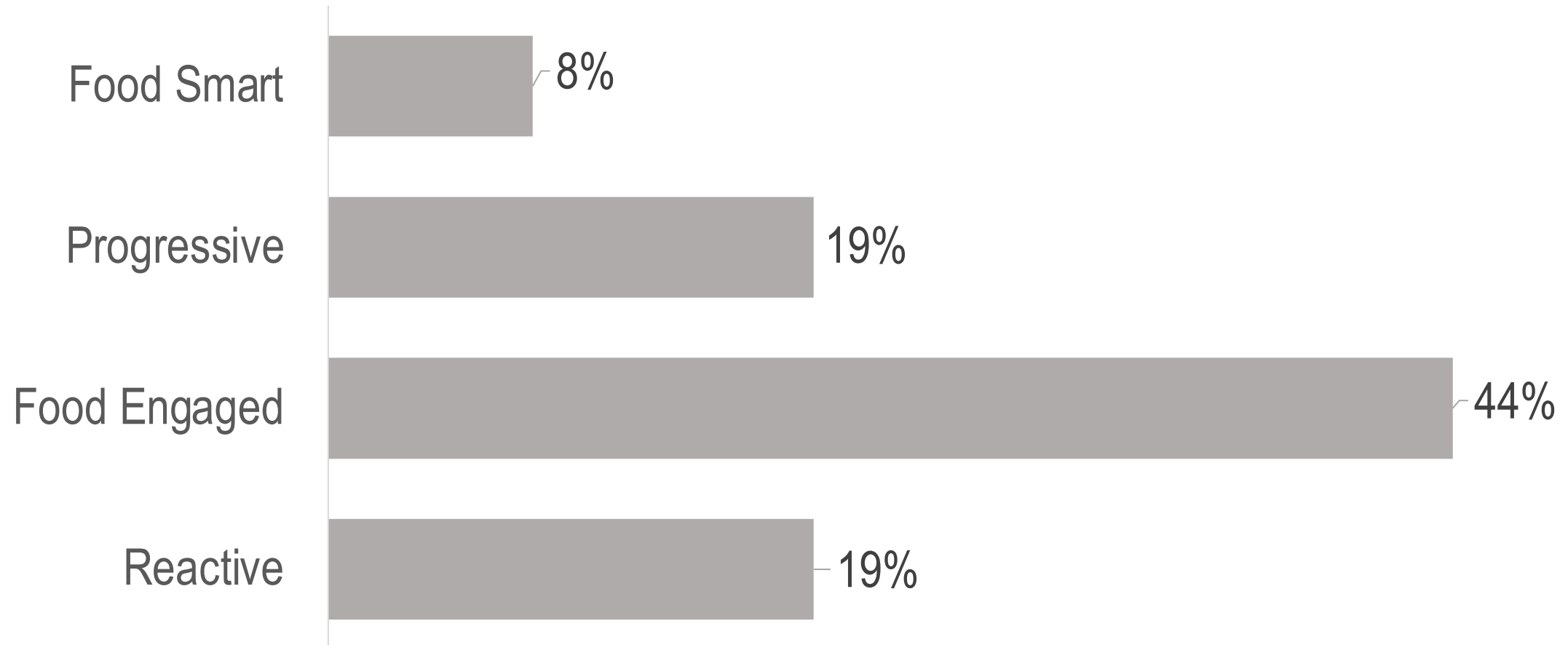


## **RICH** food systems

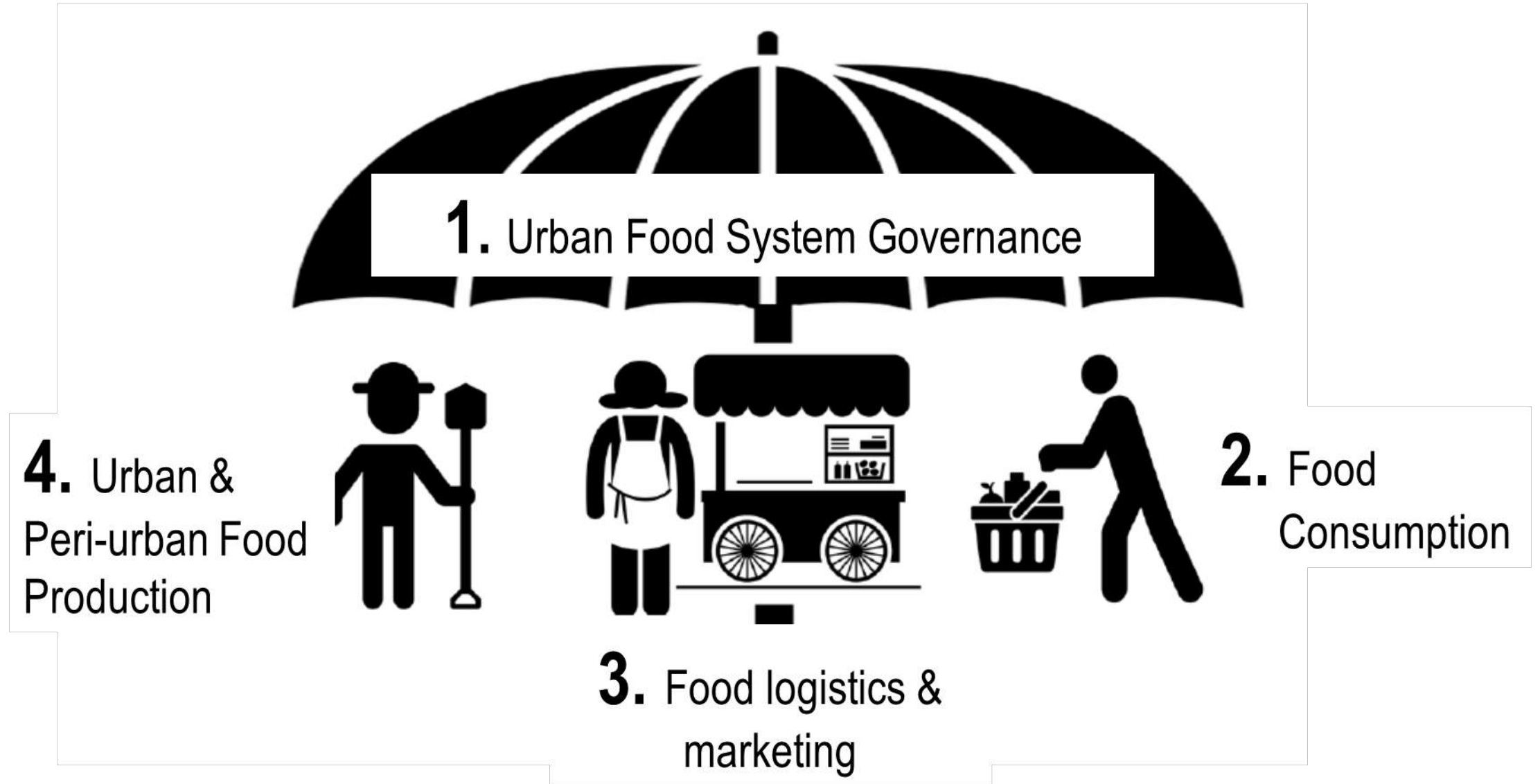
- **R**eliable
- **I**nclusive
- **C**ompetitive
- **H**ealthy

# Some cities are more engaged on urban food systems than others

Share of 170 Sampled Cities in 21 countries in Asia



# What more can cities do?





# 1. Urban food system governance

To address urban food issues

**Examples:**

Logistics (to manage food inflows to cities)

Food safety

Urban agriculture

School food equality

Food waste

Stakeholder engagement

Integration in plans

Laws

Responsibility

Modes of intervention

Resources

Performance tracking

To improve food system outcomes...

Healthy city people

Healthy city economy

Healthy city environment

...with due consideration to other outcomes that also matter to cities

## 2. Urban food consumption



### Influence food choice

E.g.

Consumer education

Pricing/food taxation

Institutional procurement

### Manage food waste



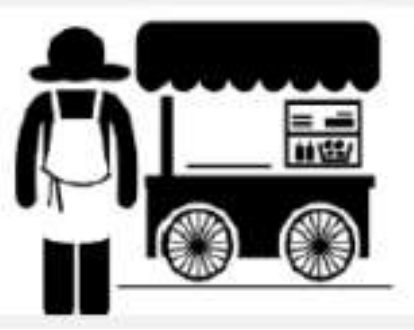
### Safety nets

E.g.

School food equality

Food banks

Soup kitchens

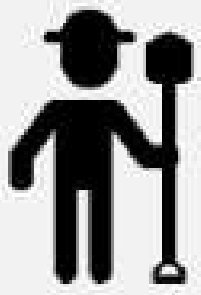


## 3. Food logistics and marketing

### e.g. Informal food sector

- Engage with informal sector actors
- Improve transportation to designated informal markets
- Invest in food market upgrades
- Progressively hold informal sector players to higher standards
- Develop clear and consistent policies and guidelines





## 4. Urban (and peri-urban) food production

### e.g. Agricultural land protection in the city vicinity

- Planning activities that curb pressure for urban expansion on farmland
- Compact urban design
- Land-use restrictions that protect farmland (e.g. urban boundaries, greenbelts, agricultural zones)
- Fiscal measures to curb market pressure to sell farmland
- Farm and food economy support measures that increase the value of farming

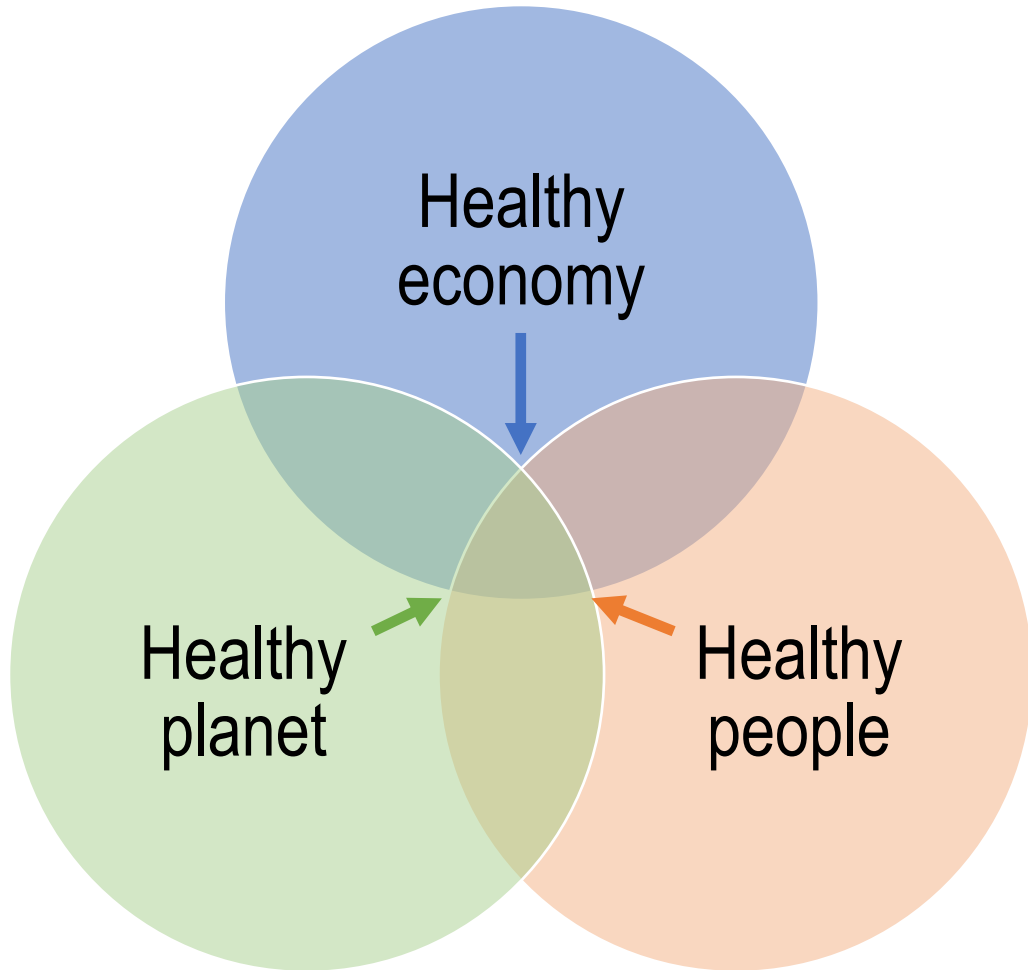




# Call to Action



# World Bank support for agriculture and food



- Support through national (and state) government
- Financial and technical assistance
- Longer-term focus on:
  - Increasingly deliver on multiple objectives at the same time.
    - Healthy people
    - Healthy economy
    - Healthy planet
  - Helping repurpose public support
  - Crowding-in private sector finance