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AGRARPOLITISCHER DIALOG BRASILIEN · DEUTSCHLAND

Crises and Challenges in Global Food Systems

Joachim von Braun

Distinguished Professor at Bonn University,

Chairman of the Scientific Group of the Food Systems Summit in 2021.

Brasilia, September 28, 2022

Crises and Challenges in Global Food Systems

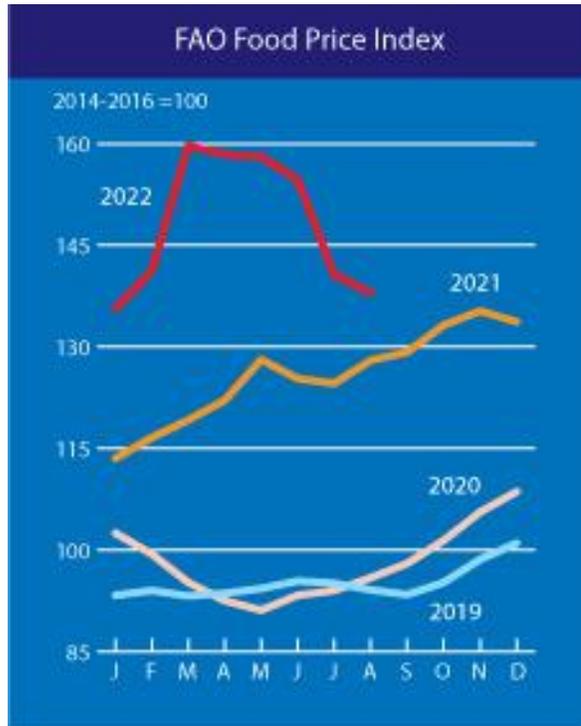
Overview

1. Crises causes & Consequences
2. Solutions and way forward

*What **Brazil** does in food, agriculture, and environment matters for the world*

*What happens to **world food**, agriculture and environment matters for Brazil*

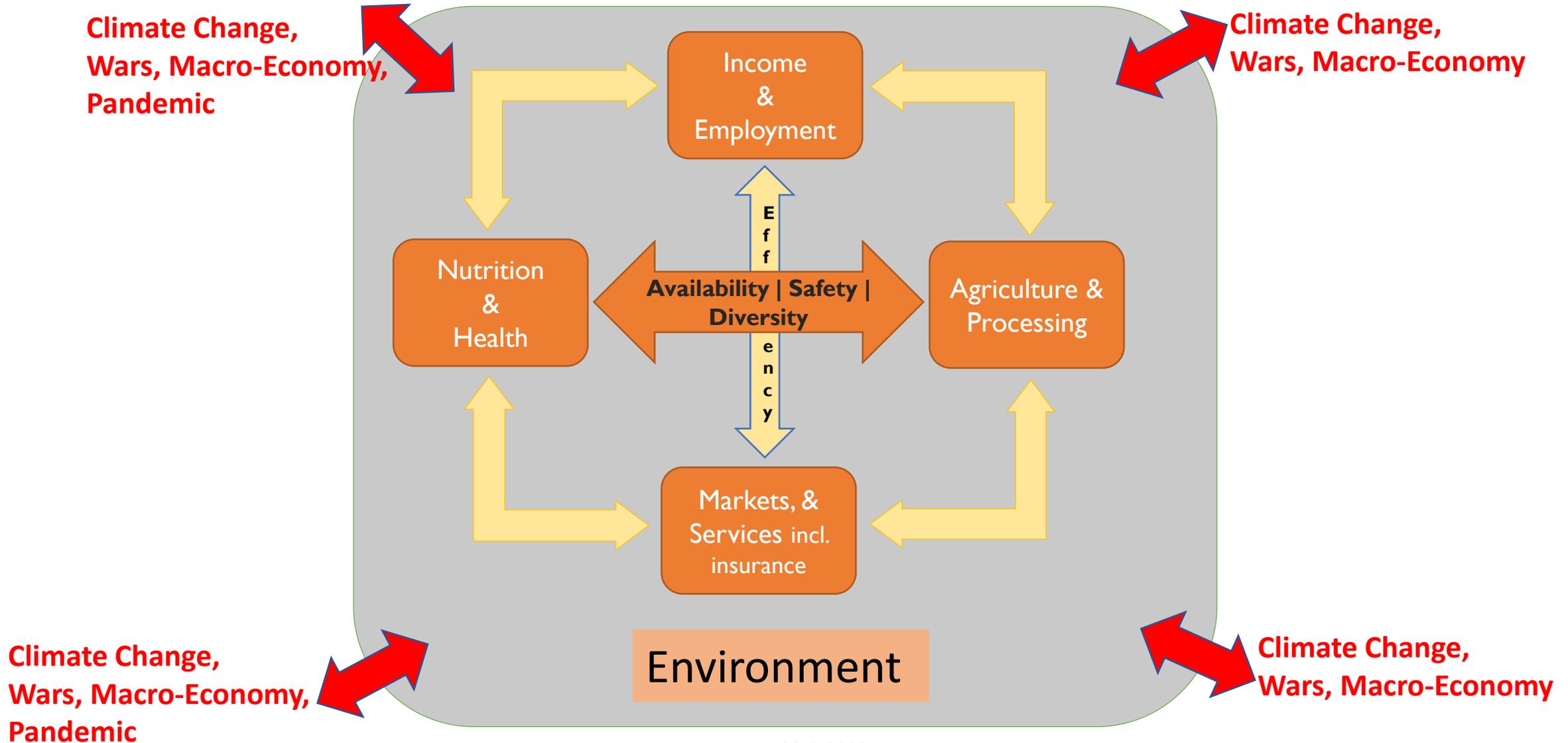
The multi-dimensional crisis



1. **Covid19** disrupting food **value chains**
2. **Climate change** destroys food systems **resilience**
3. **Wars and super power conflicts** add uncertainty to **investment** and hinder **trade**
4. **Food price** inflation make **healthy diets unaffordable**
5. **High energy prices and fertilizer costs** constrain agriculture and food industries
6. **Accumulated debts** cut social protection and nutrition programs
7. **Destruction of nature** erodes biodiversity and food system

<https://www.fao.org/worldfoodsituation/foodpricesindex/en/>

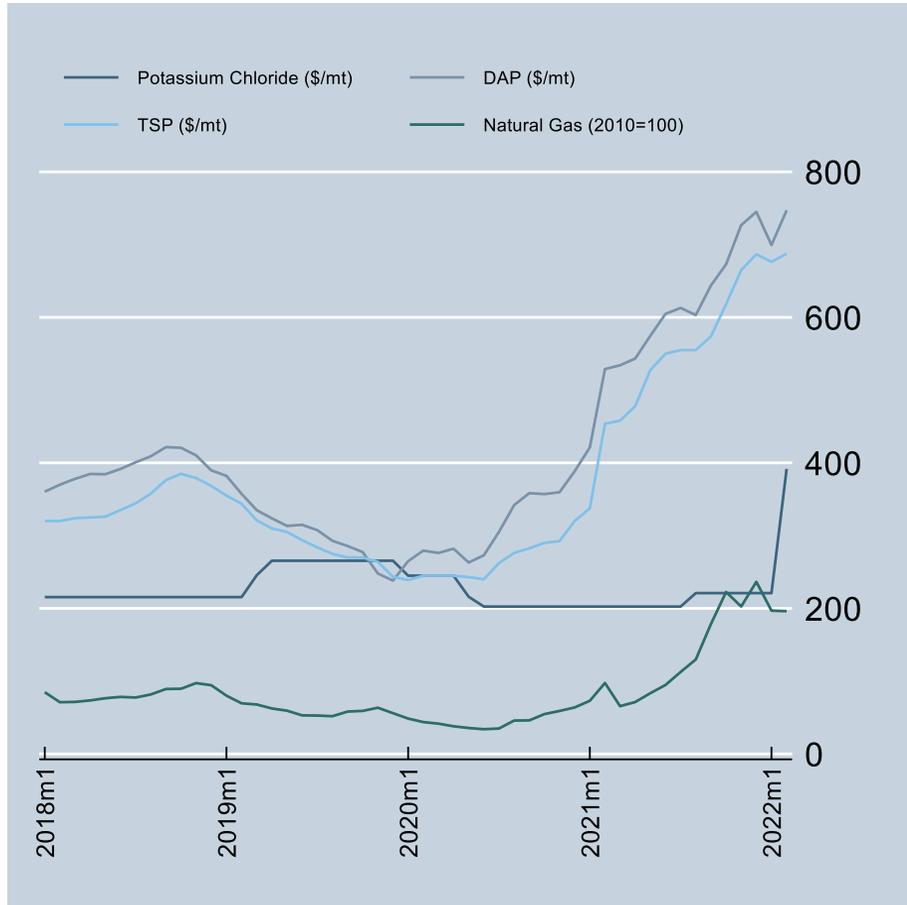
Food System under Resilience Stress



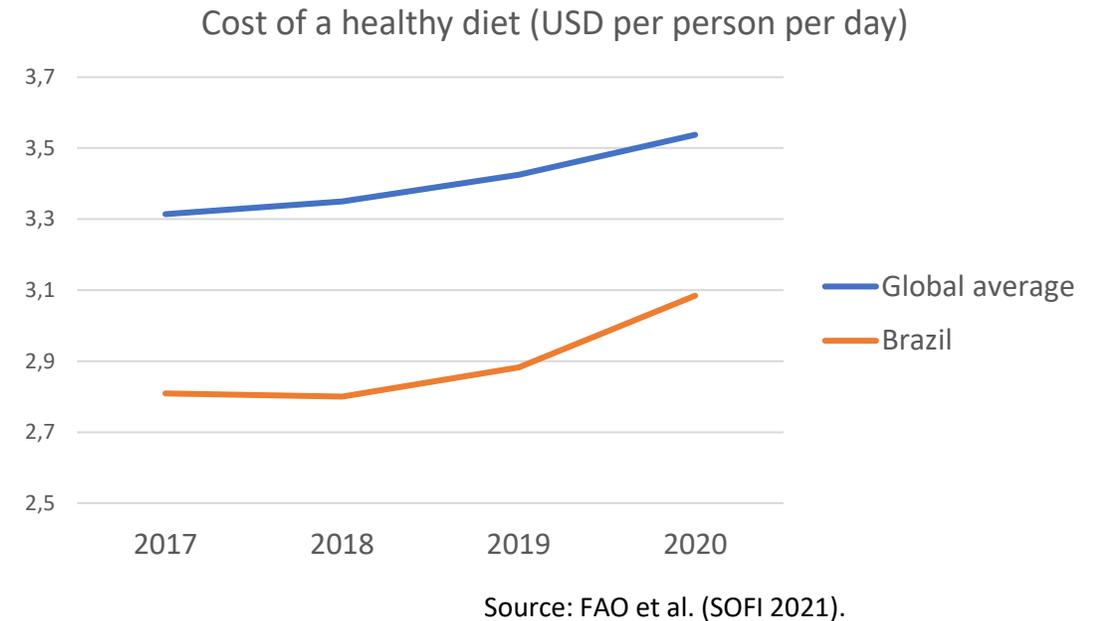
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Source: adapted von Braun et.al. Nature Food 2021

High energy & fertilizer prices make food production expensive



Source: World Bank 2022 (pink sheet).

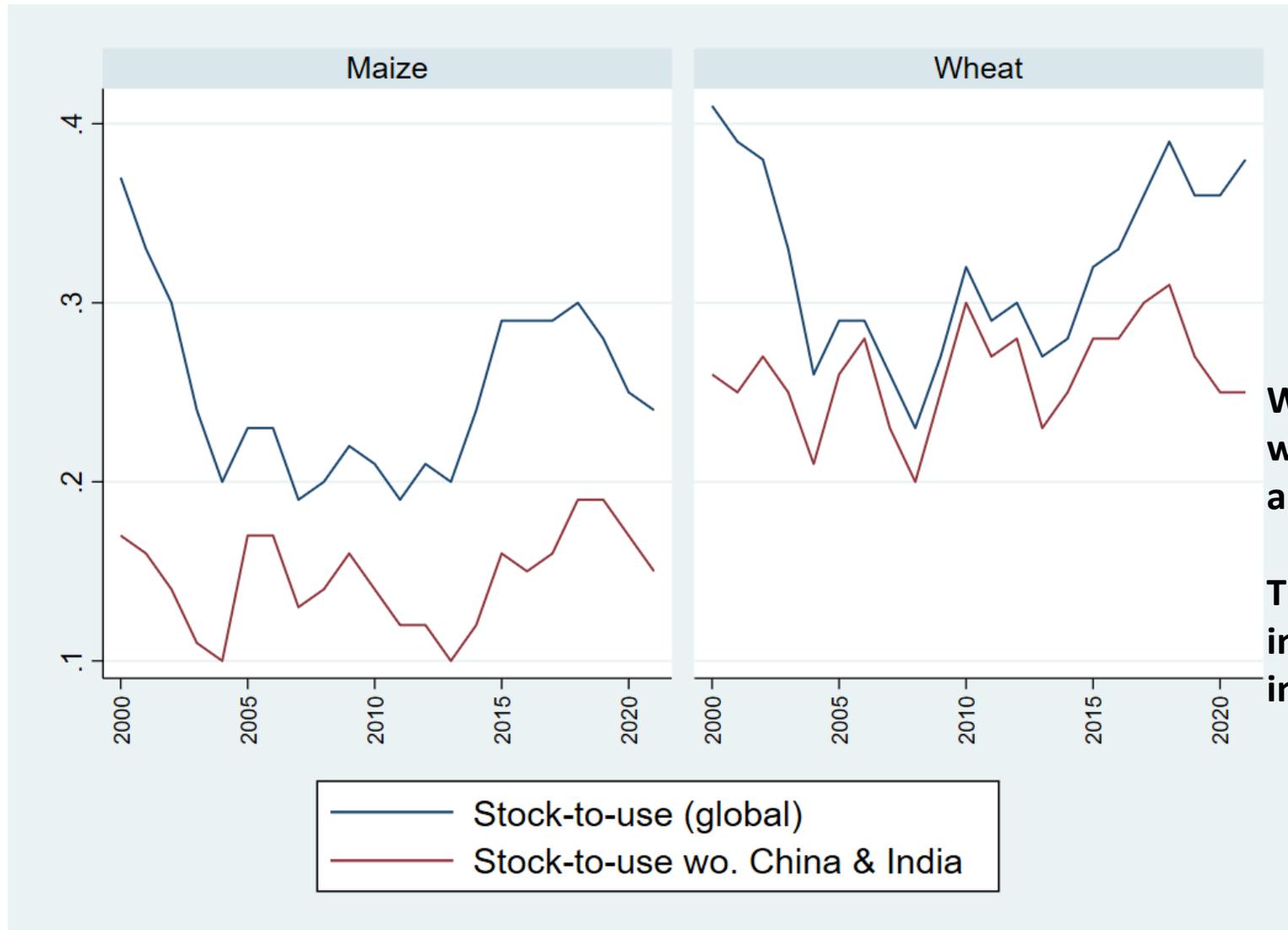


Source: FAO et al. (SOFI 2021).

Global food price inflation is mainly driven by cereal and vegetable oil prices.

Brazil Fertilizer Imports from Russia about 20%

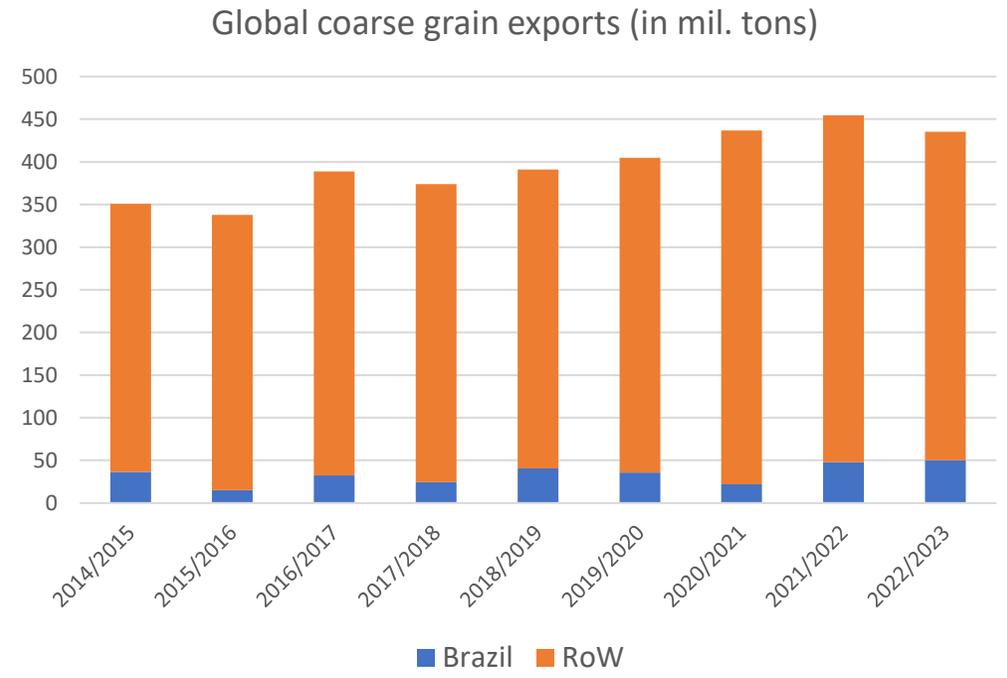
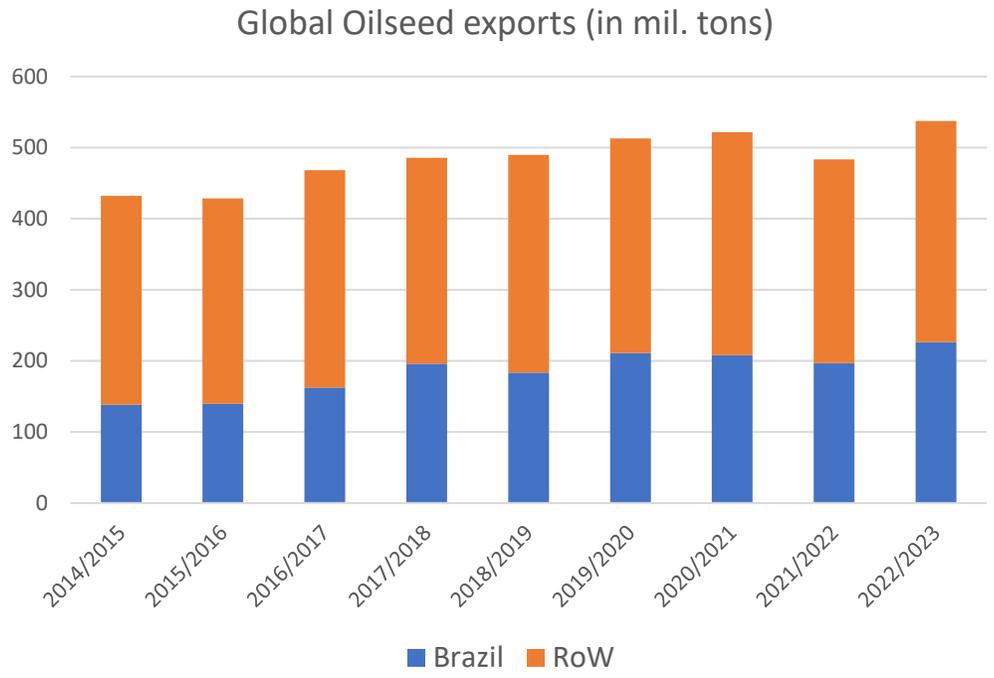
New global dynamics of Cereal Stocks



Watch speculative tendencies when stock to use ratios decline and price volatility increases .

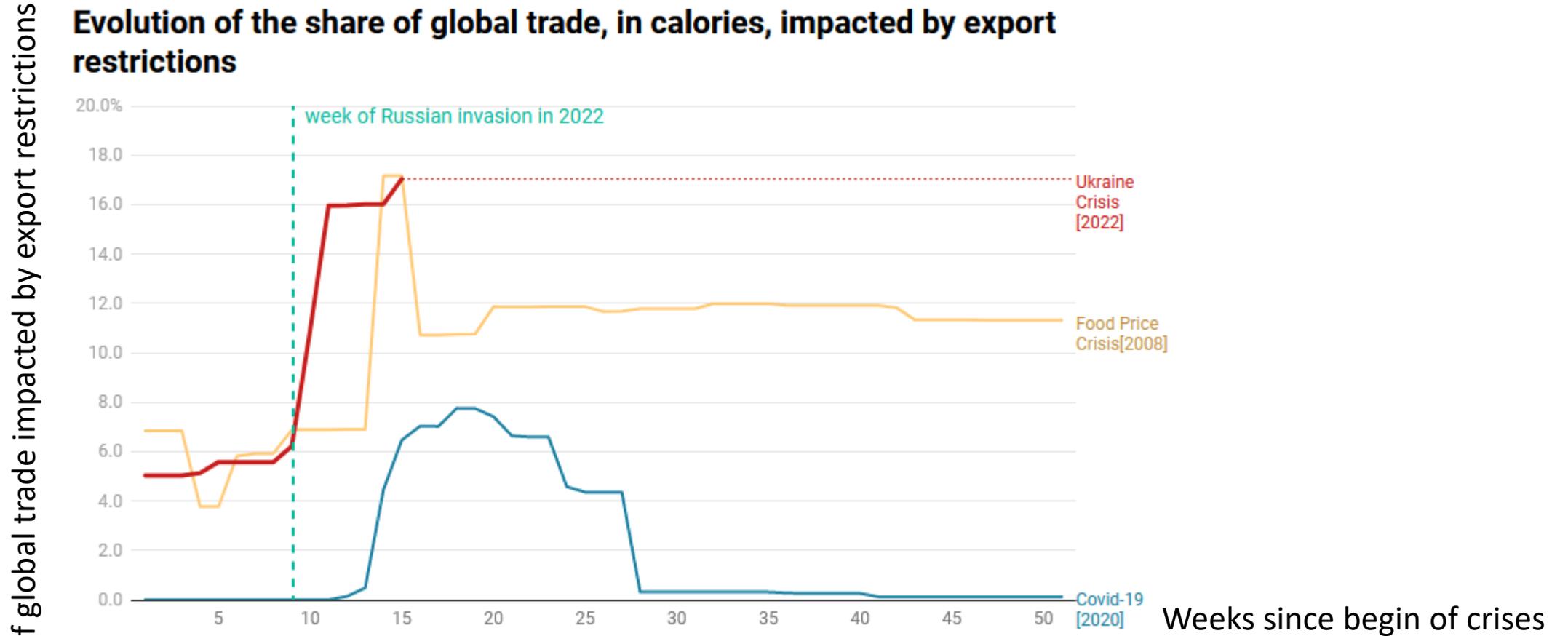
The % non-commercial traders in commodity markets increased a lot in 2022

The War affects global food trade – Brazil is gaining importance



Source: USDA, PSE 2022.

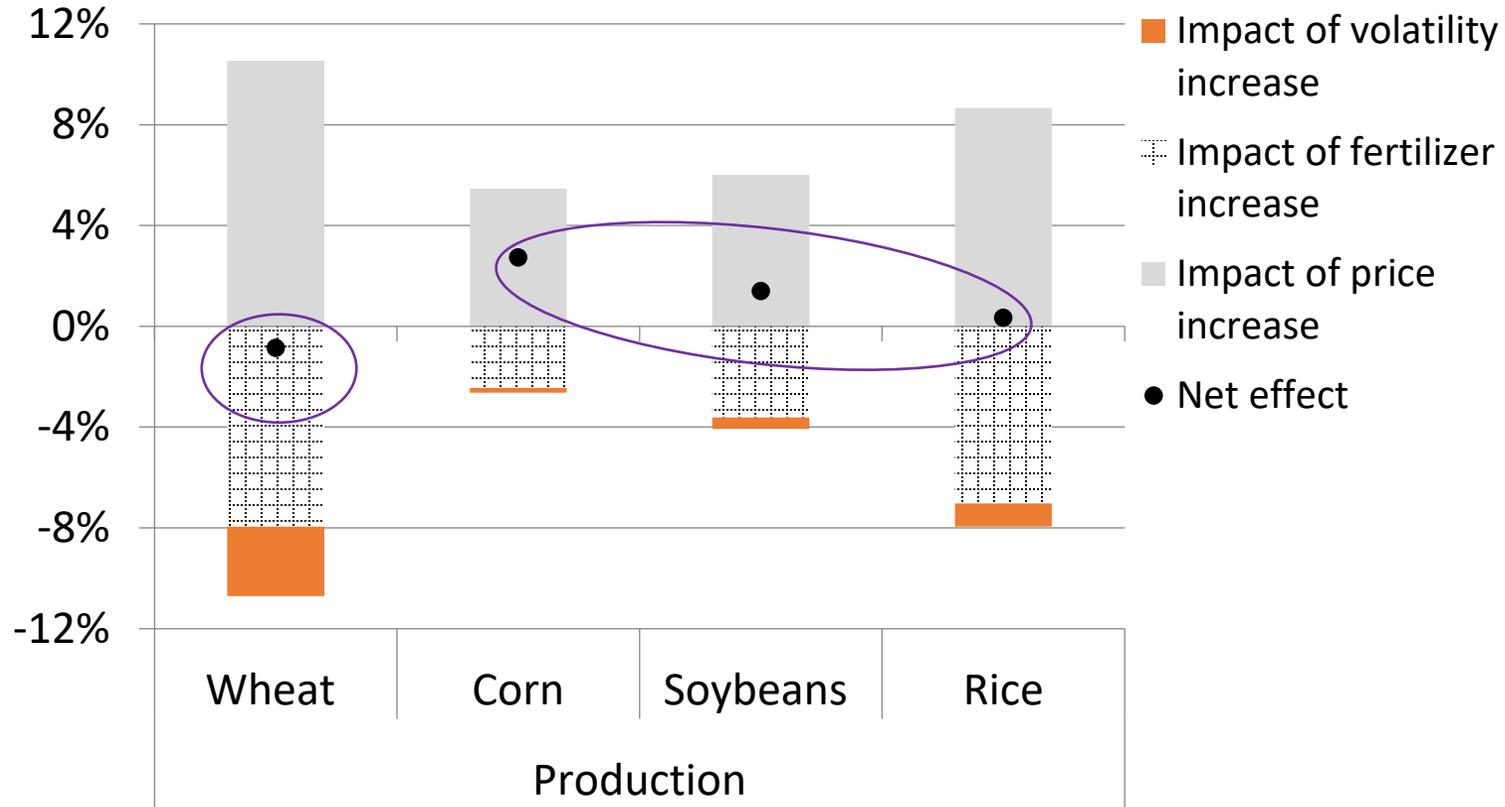
Export Restrictions in Crises: increasing uncertainty



X-axis shows the week of the year. 1= first week of the year. Data extracted from the Export restriction tracker on April 12th 2022.

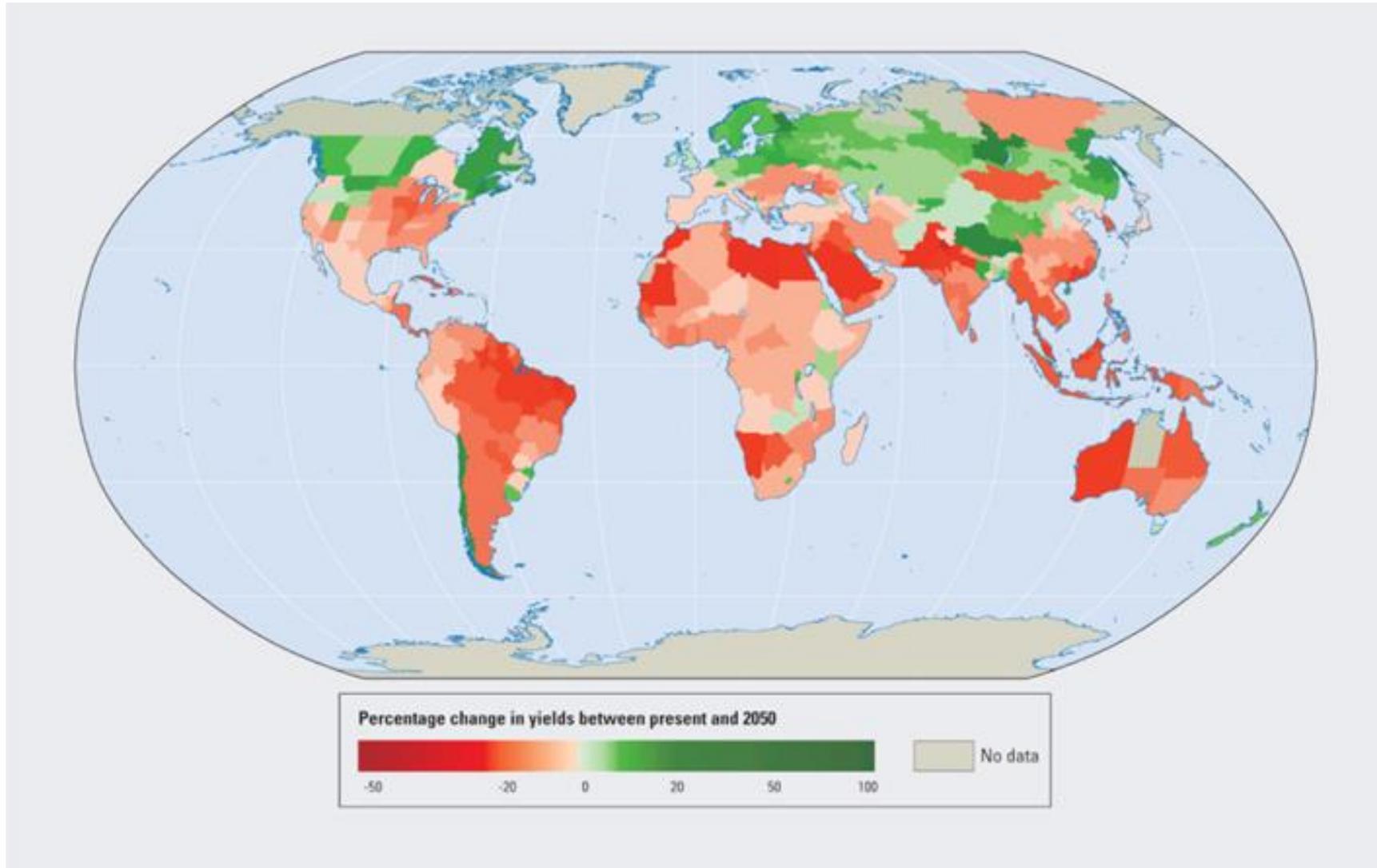
Chart: David Laborde • Source: IFPRI • [Get the data](#) • [Embed](#) • [Download image](#)

Volatile prices reduce supply response (Net-Impacts in the 2006–2010 Period)



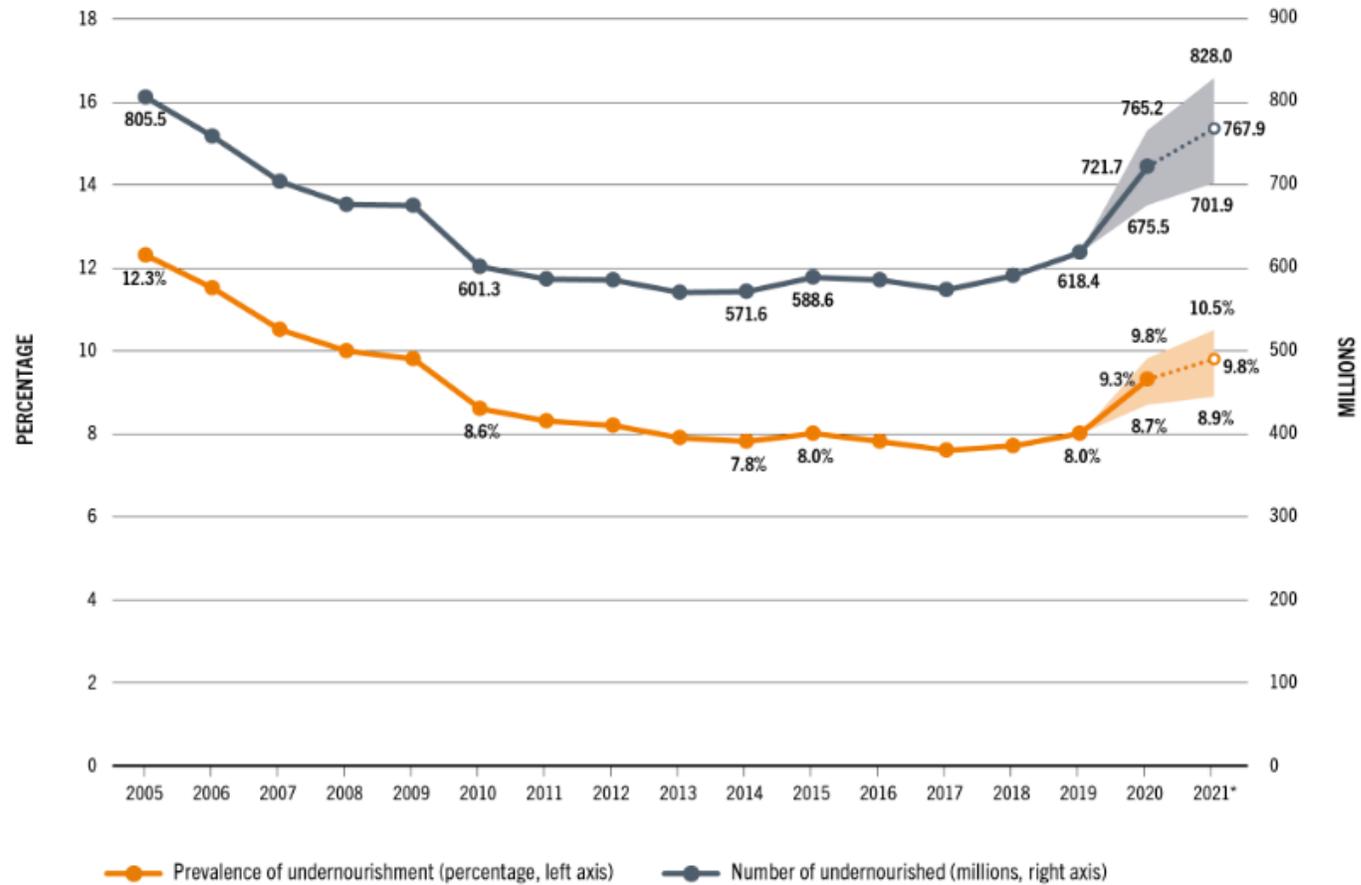
The increase in **price volatility (and fertilizer prices)** during the 2006-2010 period significantly **weakened** the positive supply response towards higher **price levels**

Climate change and crop yields



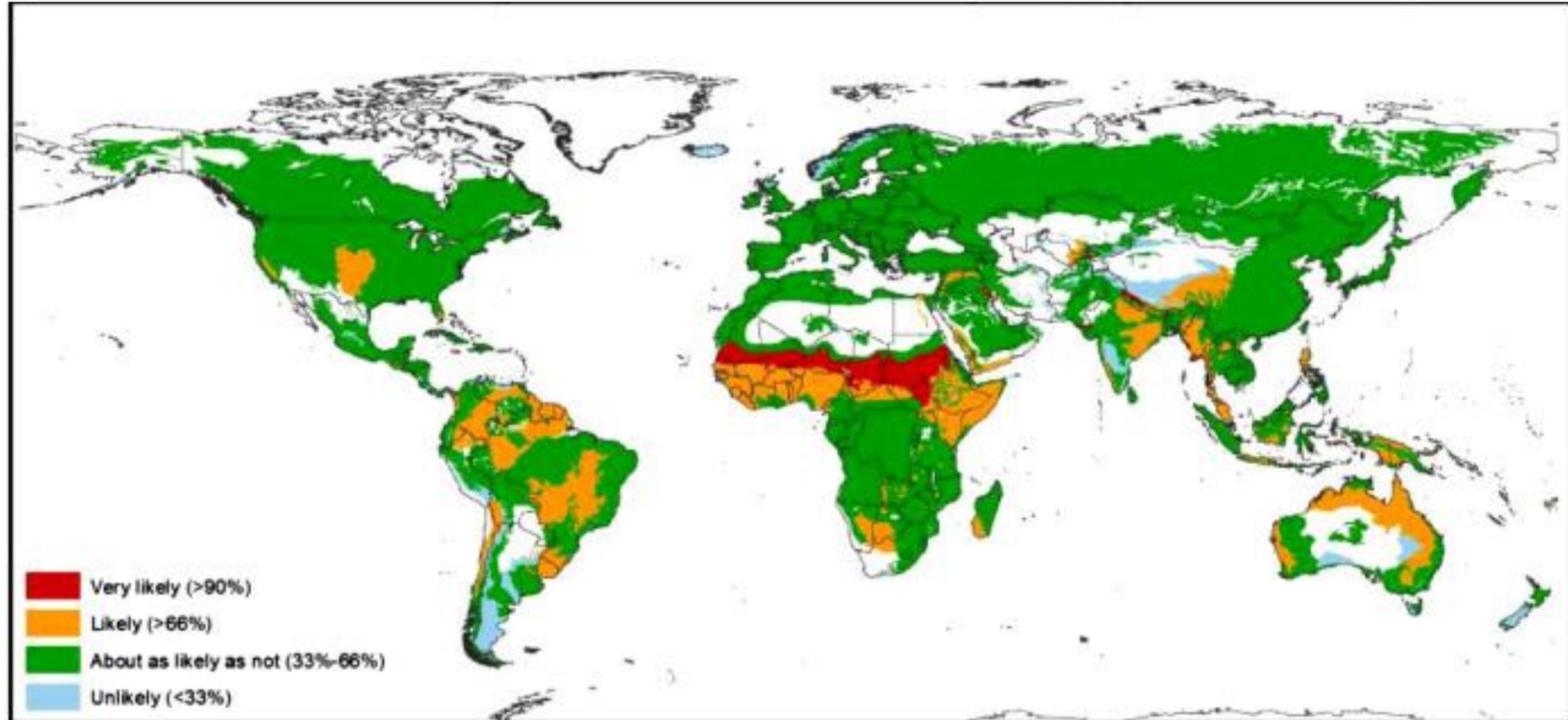
Source: World Bank Publishers, World Bank Development Report 2010, <http://wdr10online.worldbank.org/>

Global hunger in times of Crises



Source: FAO (2022).

Climate change already had negative impact on biodiversity



Between 1981–2010

Source: Segan et al. (2016). *Global Ecology and Conservation*: 5:12–21

Increasing Debts

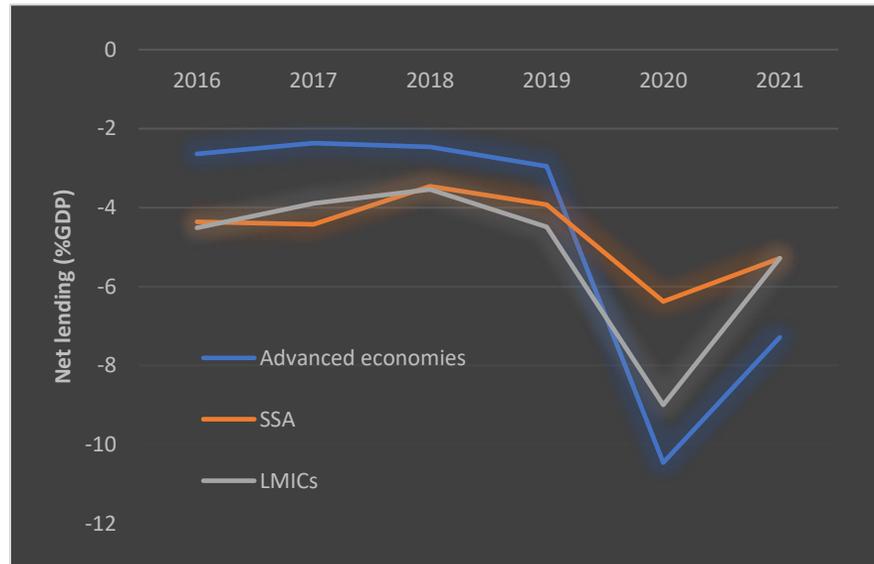
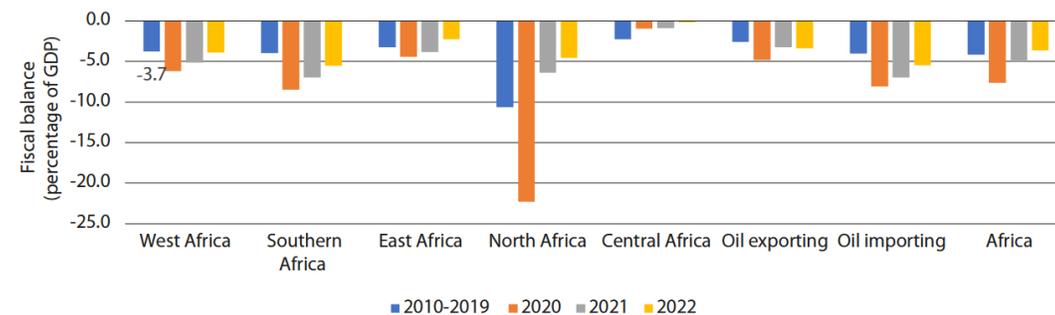


FIGURE 2: Average net lending to GDP ratio before and after the Covid-19 p
Data source: IMF (2022).

- From May 2020 to December 2021, the *Debt Service Suspension Initiative* suspended [\\$12.9 billion in debt-service payments](#) for 48 countries.
- **External debt stocks of developing countries grew by 8 per cent to US\$11.1 trillion in 2021, with worsening risk profiles**

Figure II: Fiscal balance



Source: IMF (2021).
Note: Data obtained in July 2021.

Crises and Challenges in Global Food Systems

Overview

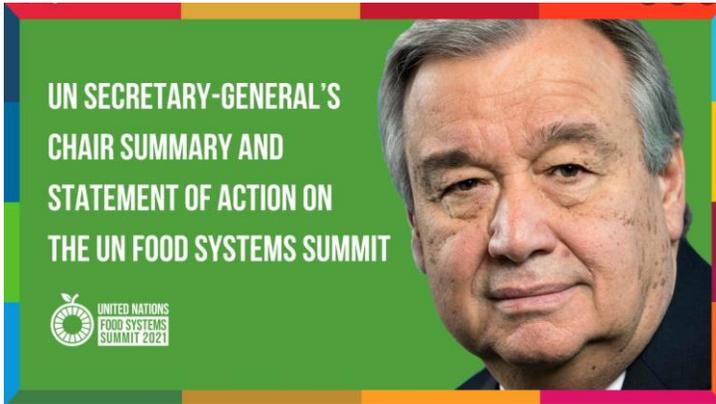
1. Crises causes & consequences
- 2. Solutions & way forward**

Food System Transformation to What?

Vision:

the Food System needed in LAC and globally is productive, efficient, sustainable, resilient - serving peoples' nutrition, inclusion, and protects ecologies – embedded in a circular bioeconomy.

“The Food Systems Summit Made It Clear that Transformative Action in Food Systems is Fundamental to Achieving the SDGs...”



Action must be driven at country-level by governments in their local contexts. **Five action areas** to help inform the transitions needed to realize the vision of the 2030 Agenda:

- (1) Nourish All People;
- (2) Boost Nature-based Solutions;
- (3) Advance Equitable Livelihoods, Decent Work and Empowered Communities;
- (4) Build Resilience to Vulnerabilities, Shocks and Stresses; and
- (5) Accelerating the Means of Implementation

163 Member State
Statements (77 HoSG)
108 National
Pathways Submitted

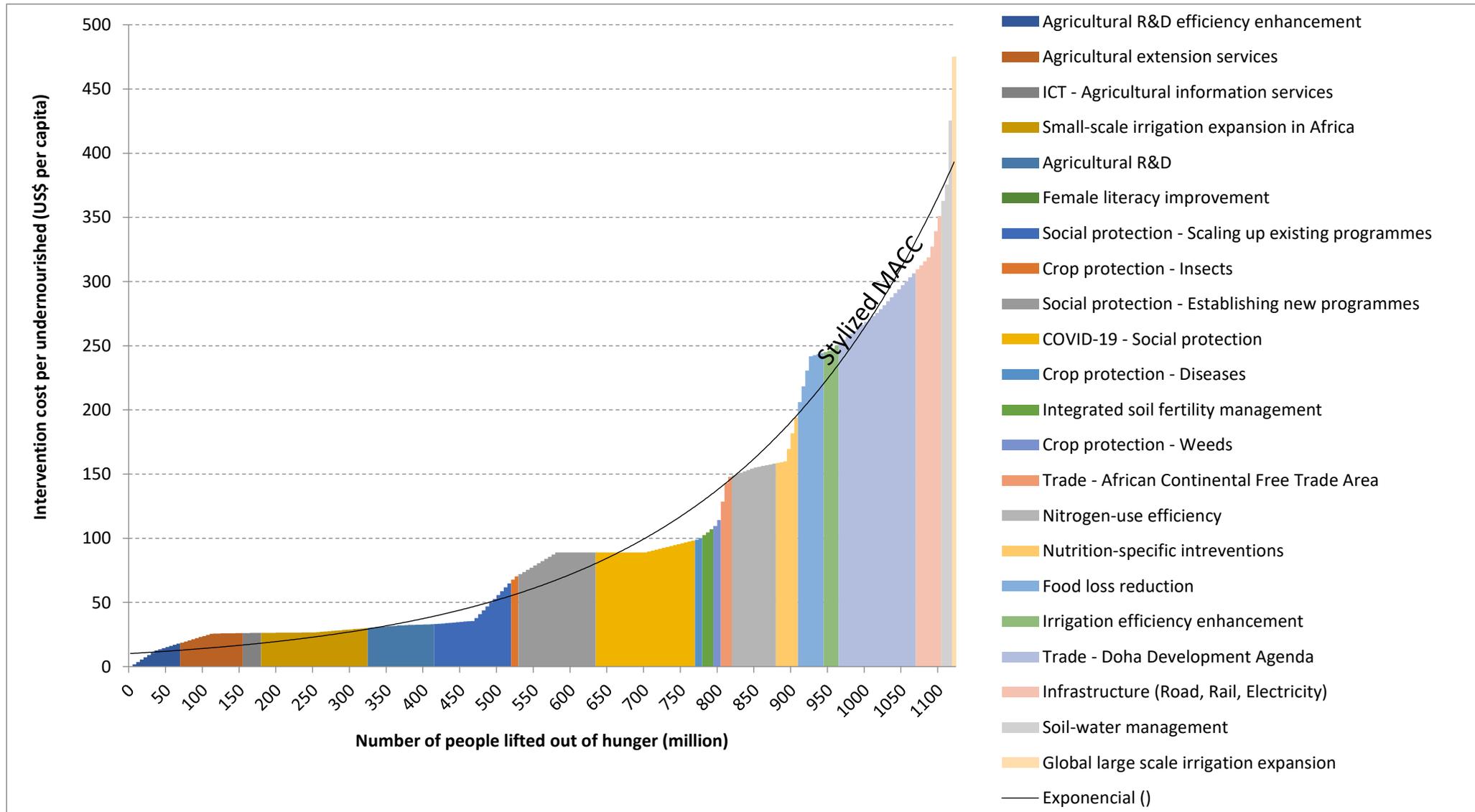
Scientific Group –
Science Reader

A Science agenda for resilient food systems

1. A bundle of context specific policy and institutional **innovations to end hunger and increase availability and affordability of healthy diets** and nutritious foods
2. **De-risk food systems** and strengthen resilience, in particular for climate-neutral, climate-positive, and climate-resilient food systems
3. Innovations for efficient and fair **land, credit, and labor arrangements**
4. **Bioscience innovations** for peoples' health, systems' productivity, and ecological wellbeing
5. Technology-based and policy innovations for productive **soils, land and water, and to protect the agricultural genetic base and biodiversity**
6. Innovations for sustainable **fisheries, aquaculture**, and protection of coastal areas and oceans
7. **Digital innovations** for efficiency and inclusiveness of food systems and rural communities

J von Braun, K Afsana, L Fresco and M Hassan. 2021. Food systems: seven priorities to end hunger and protect the planet. *Nature* **597**, 28-30 (2021) <https://doi.org/10.1038/d41586-021-02331-x>

Estimation of the Incremental Costs of Hunger Reduction



Source: B. Chichaibelu, M. Bekchanov, J. von Braun, M. Torero. In Food Policy (Oct, 2021).

<https://www.sciencedirect.com/science/article/pii/S0306919221001299?via%3Dihub>

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Understanding TRUE COSTs OF FOOD

Market prices do not take into account...

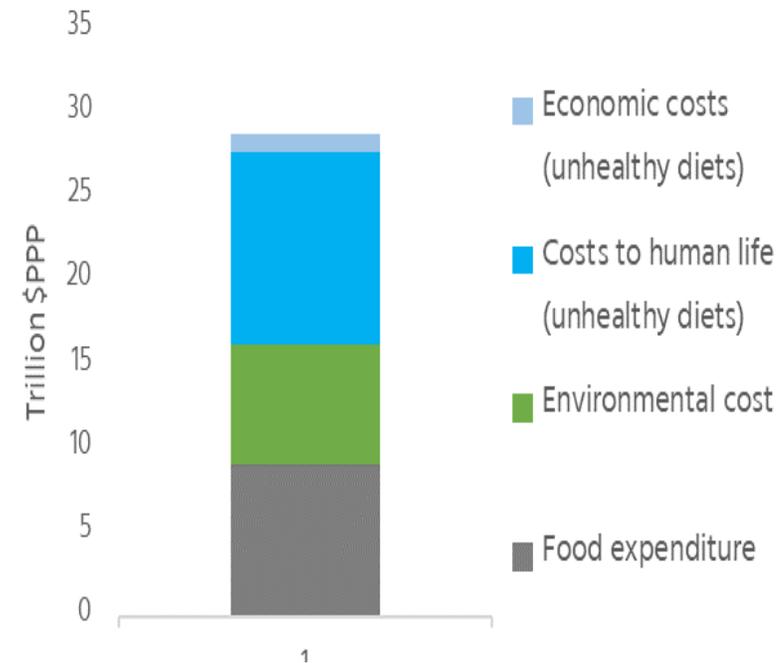
- benefits of affordable or healthy food
- costs of unhealthy or unsustainable food

Business' profits not reflect value created/reduced for society

GDP of food system does not reflect contribution to welfare

> Sustainable & healthy food is expensive

> Unsustainable & unhealthy food is too cheap



US\$ 9 trillion in market

28 trillion True Costs per annum

S. Hendriks et.al. 2021. The True Cost and True Price of Food. A Brief for the Scientific Group UN FSS

Social safety nets and financing

- During the pandemic, 209 countries adopted 1600 social safety measures (ILO)
- Domestic resource mobilization will not be enough. International support needed, incl. debt relief for LIC
- Needed improved quality of safety nets with nutrition, health, school feeding components

Structural economic policy issues higher on agenda

1. Strengthen policy implementation capacities for policies related to

- innovation,
- environment,
- social,
- land use & rights

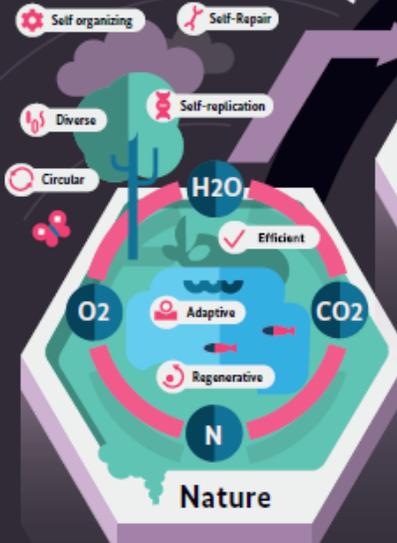
2. Facilitate global and local involvement in food systems policies by

- smallholders and
- traditional population groups

Making Bioeconomy Reality to Overcome Crises

BIOECONOMY

Nature provides
Natural systems and processes



Nature provides
- Renewable energy and materials
- Biodiversity

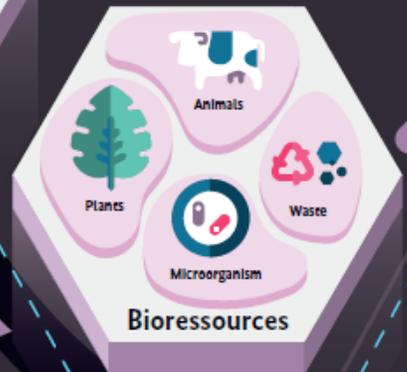
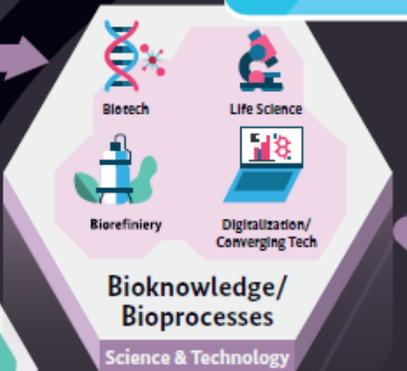
Reduce

Maintain

Reuse

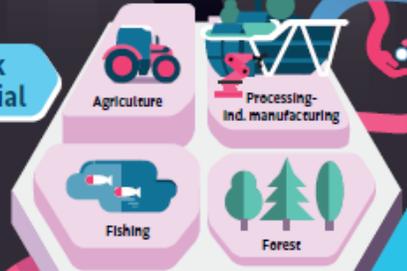
Recycle

Embrace principles of circularity and cascaded resource use



Apply
Special qualities of biological resources & processes for the benefit of humans and nature

Unlock potential



Achieving SDGs
Improving human well being & social equality
Reducing resource consumption and building up ecosystems



International Advisory Council on Global Bioeconomy



GLOBAL BIOECONOMY SUMMIT 2020

What: Policy actions to address the global food crisis

Short term:

1. Keep food and fertilizer markets open, avoid restrictive trade policies
2. Grain stock management by EU, USA, India, China, LAC...
3. Short-term changes in food production – reduce grain-based bioenergy and feed
4. Social protection and nutrition actions and support for affordable input prices

Long-term:

1. Further investment in food systems infrastructures to increase resilience
2. Massive increase in R&D for agricultural productivity

How: Address governance challenges to prepare for complex global food crises

- UN: follow up to Food Systems Summit
- G7: Alliance for Food Security (with UN & G20)
- Regional and national food systems actions

- Private sector: address investment risks
- Science: build science – policy interface

Kornher, Baumüller, von Braun. G7 Development Assistance for Food Systems to Lift 500 Million People out of Hunger by 2030 Policy Brief, March 2022.
https://www.zef.de/fileadmin/user_upload/ZEF_Policy_Brief_39.pdf