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Impact Evaluation within Feed the Future

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Feed the Future: Goal and Objectives

Goal

- **Sustainably reduce global hunger and poverty by tackling their root causes and employing proven strategies for achieving large scale and lasting impact**

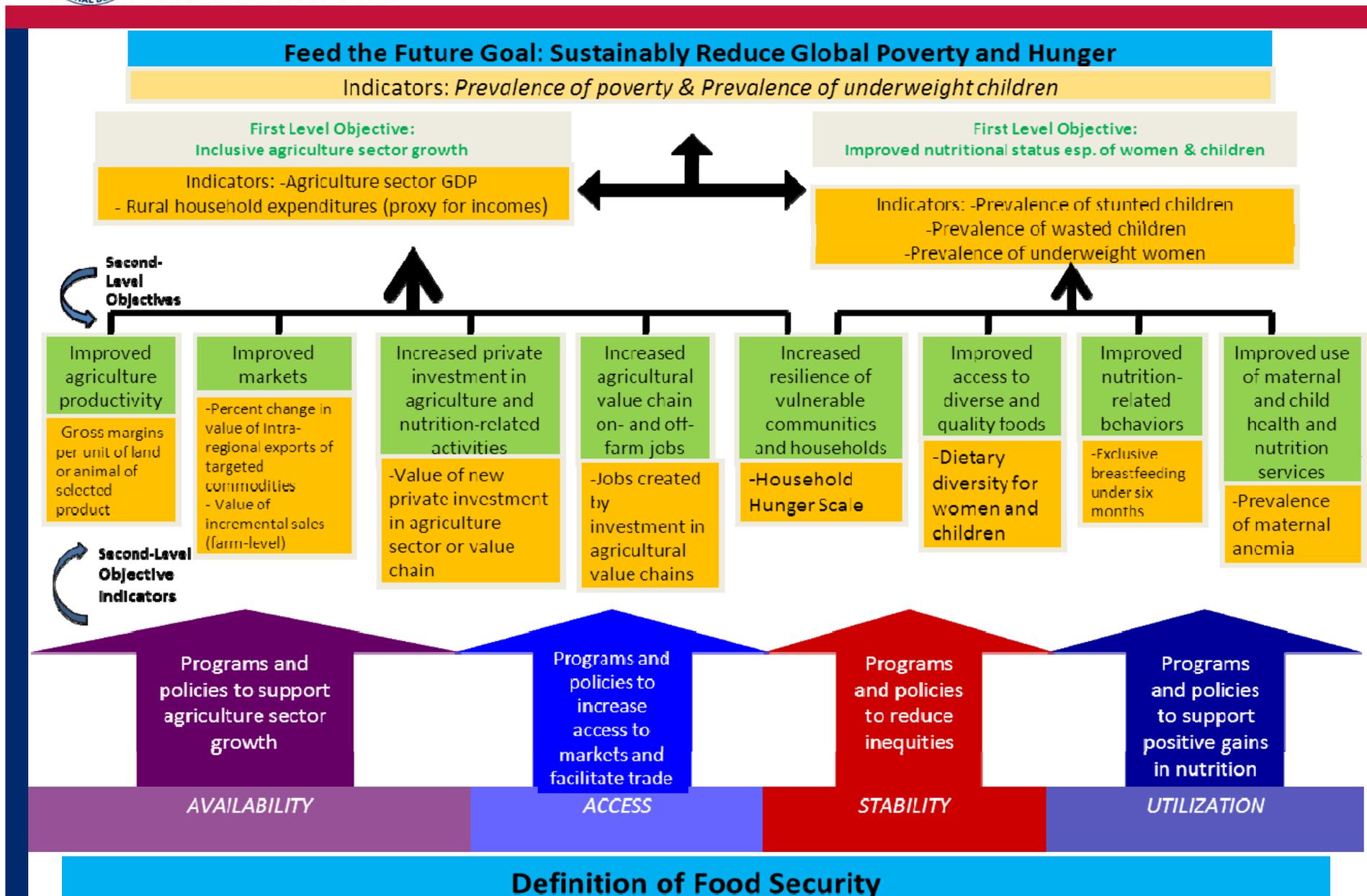
Objectives

- **Accelerating inclusive and sustainable agriculture sector growth**
- **Improved nutritional status, especially for women and children**



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Feed the Future: Results Framework





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Feed the Future Implementation

- **20 Country Programs**

Region	Countries
Africa	Ethiopia, Ghana, Kenya, Liberia, Malawi, Mozambique, Rwanda, Senegal, Tanzania, Uganda, Zambia
Asia	Bangladesh, Cambodia, Nepal, Tajikistan
Latin America and the Caribbean	Guatemala, Haiti, Honduras, Nicaragua

- **5 Regional Programs**

- ECAM - Central America Regional Mission
- RDMA - Regional Development Mission in Asia
- Southern Africa Regional Mission
- West Africa Regional Mission



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Feed the Future Strategy - Tanzania

Proposed Trainings (Examples)

- Increase smallholder farmer incomes through enhanced productivity and improved domestic and export marketing of agricultural products
 - The activities include management training, marketing tools, business lobbying skills, and technical assistance for developing and marketing policy reforms

- Improve the productivity of the agricultural sector particularly irrigated rice and horticulture by rehabilitation of existing irrigation schemes and development of new ones
 - Training and technical assistance for the development of infrastructure management and maintenance procedures such as design of water tariff structures, collection of user fees, and enforcement of noncompliance, and improved procedures for improving the efficiency of water use management



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Feed the Future Strategy - Bangladesh

Proposed Trainings (Examples)

- **Strengthen Extension Services to Farmers**
 - Establish a small grants program with the private sector on youth training in aquaculture, horticulture, and livestock industries to prepare candidates for rural employment

- **Improve on-farm productivity and value chain marketing**
 - Upgrading skills of farmers in their target area through training programs that provide access to the latest technologies, variety seeds, and inputs



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Feed the Future Strategic “Results” Priorities

- Ensure core indicators for FTF are integrated into USG country and regional strategies and baselines/targets are set
- Ensure high quality statistical data are available to support tracking of food security trends and monitor the context in which we are investing FTF funds
- Ensure there is analytical capacity to USE the data to support decision processes and to inform policy and program design
- **Ensure impact evaluations are integrated into USG programming and a system of learning/sharing is established.**



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Recent Evaluation Practice

- Highly variable, dependent on sector-specific norms, field interest
 - Very limited requirements, no “enforcement”
- Major focus on collecting and reporting performance indicators, crowding out evaluation
- Methodologically variable, few explicit quality standards, “underdesigned”
- Very limited use of impact evaluations (GH, DG)
- Vulnerable to potential conflicts of interest



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New Evaluation Policy

- Clear and consistent terminology
 - Performance evaluation
 - Impact evaluation
- Aggressive requirements
 - Integrated into project design
 - Performance evaluations for “large” projects
 - Impact and/or performance evaluations for “proof of concept” or “pilots”; impact evaluations focus on fundamental hypotheses about micro-level behavior
- Strong, appropriate methods
 - Required baselines (in repository)
 - Clear evaluation questions, linked to specific decisions
 - Sound social science methods (quantitative and qualitative)
 - Reviews of scopes of work and draft reports for large, high-profile evaluations



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New Evaluation Policy

- Unbiased
 - Implementing partners do not evaluate themselves
 - Implementing partners required to share information from implementation
 - Evaluation teams led by external experts
- Transparent
 - Registration of evaluations at outset
 - Disclosure / dissemination of findings with limited exceptions
- Useful
 - Required references during program design, portfolio reviews
 - Mission orders for evaluations, including for use of findings
 - Highlighted in Evidence Summits