



SHOWCASING RESULTS AND DEMONSTRATING IMPACT

Subject 1 - The Challenge: Agricultural Research contributing to achieve the SDGs



A paradigm shift towards diversified agroecological systems

International Panel of Experts on Sustainable Food Systems

- Co-Chaired by :
 - Olivier De Schutter
 - Olivia Yambi
- 22 members



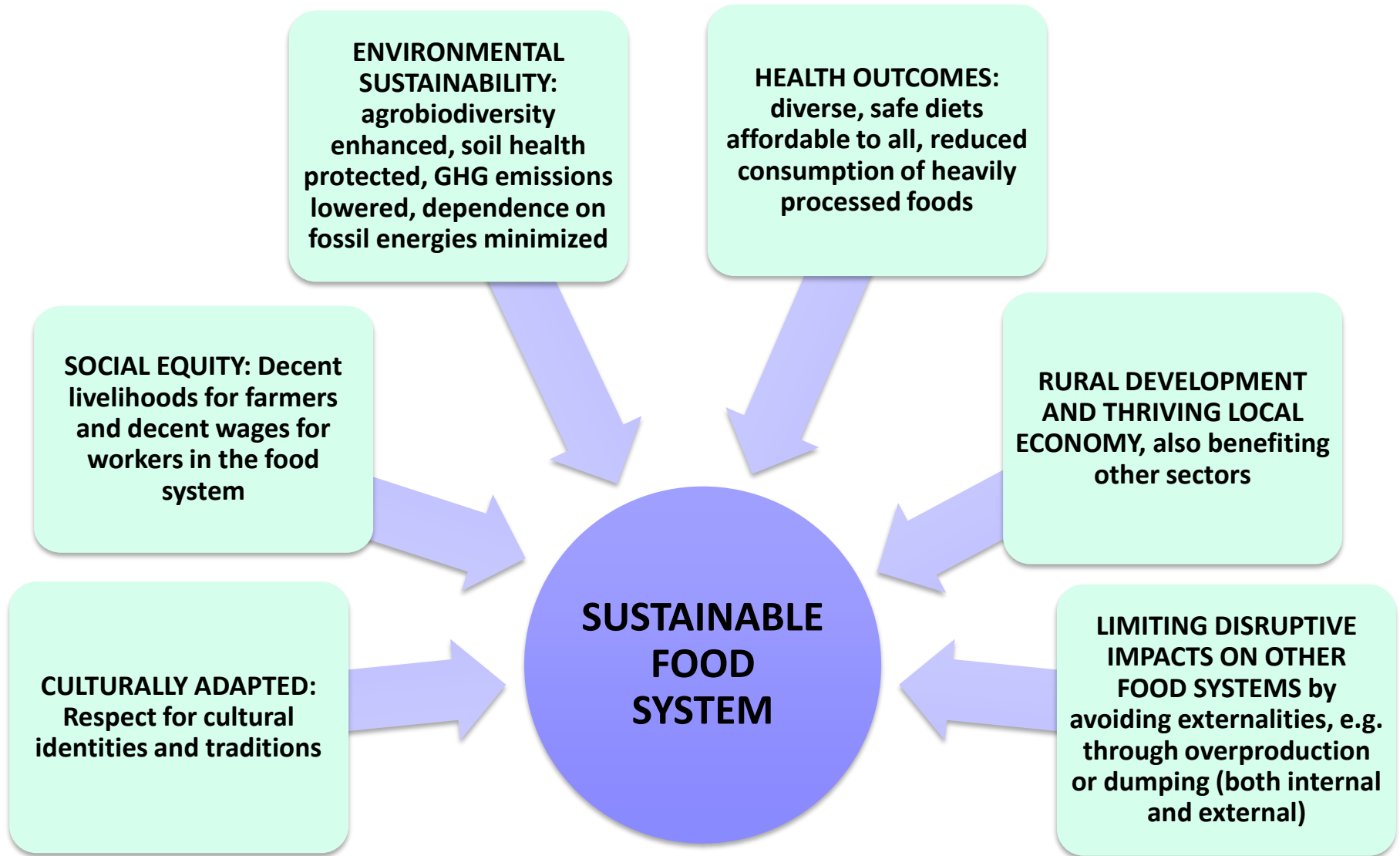
A PANEL OF EXPERTS

- With cross-regional balance
- Combining different disciplines, allowing for a holistic « food systems » approach to reform
- Not only academic, also CS and constituencies
- Transdisciplinary approach, combining different sources of knowledge to support the transition to sustainable food systems
- Independent in order to define research agenda without outside interference and to address the political economy dimensions of food systems reform

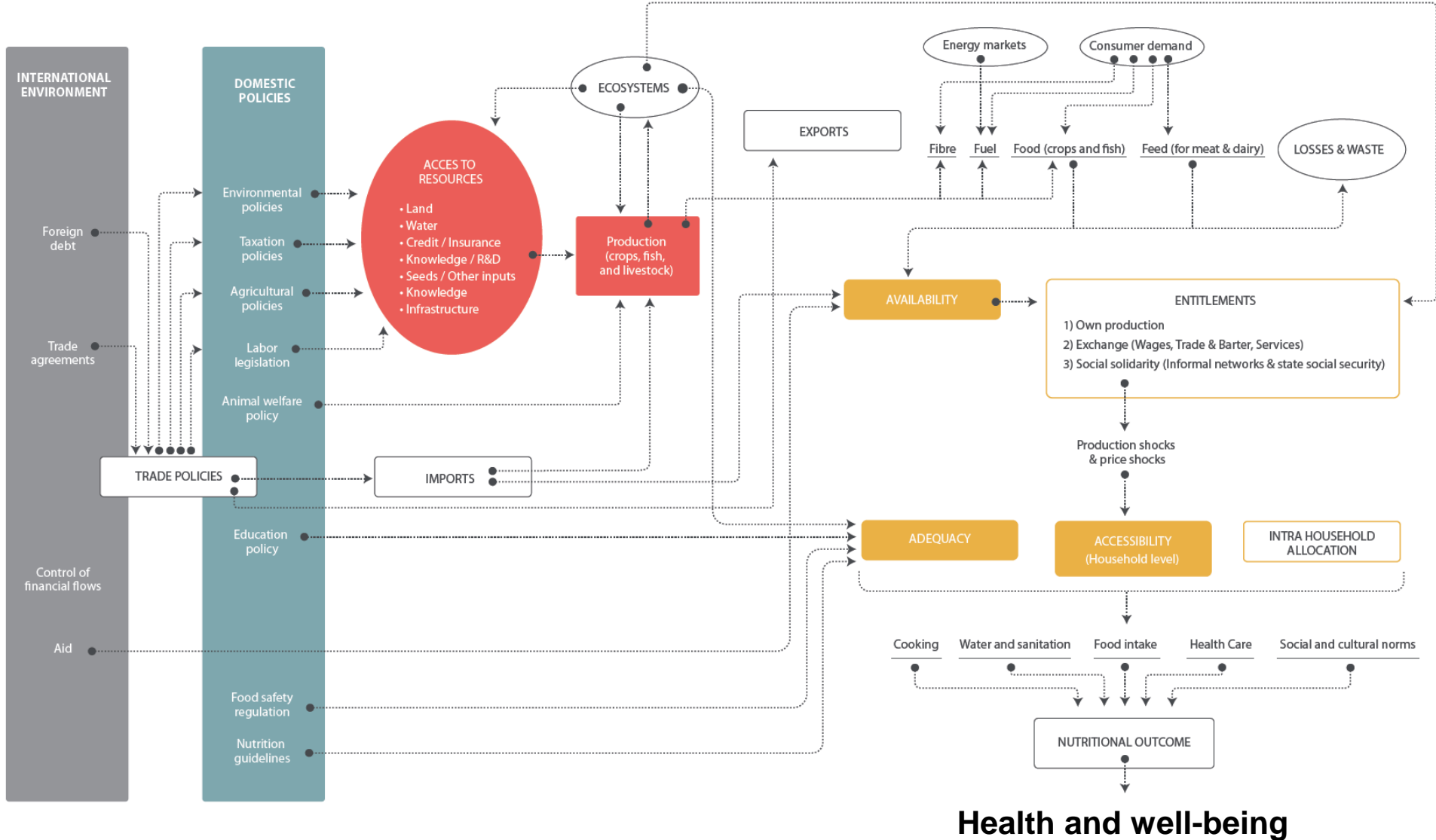
Sustainable development goals

- Very strong call for a holistic, integrated approach in implementing the 17 sustainable development goals
- Sustainable Food Systems are an essential approach to achieve integration
- Diversified agroecological systems are needed to achieve sustainable food systems

A « SUSTAINABLE » FOOD SYSTEM



WHAT IS A FOOD SYSTEMS APPROACH?



What is wrong with our food systems?

- Triple burden of malnutrition
 - Hunger, micronutrient deficiencies, obesity & NCDs
- Environmentally unsustainable
 - Biodiversity losses, water pollution, soil degradation, GHG emissions, unsustainable use of natural resources, low resilience ...
- Social inequities
 - Poverty, disempowerment ...
- Neglect of cultural values

IPES-Food Report

PATHWAYS TO SUSTAINABLE FOOD SYSTEMS:

a paradigm shift from monoculture and industrial agriculture to diversified agroecological systems

- **How the dominant paradigm has led us to the problems we are confronted with today**
- **How diversified agroecological systems can provide solutions**

A major question

How come that despite the expanding evidence base of the potential of diversified agroecological systems to deliver on all the dimensions of sustainable food systems we do not see a major transition in that direction?

→ The political economy of food systems

What prevents change: 8 Lock-ins

- Path dependency
- Trade and export orientation
- Expectation of cheap food
- Compartmentalized thinking
- Short term thinking
- “Feed the world” narratives
- Measures of success
- Concentration of power

8 Emerging opportunities for a transition to diversified agroecological systems

- Global recognition (MEA, IAASTD, FAO, 10YFP)
- Changing policies (CAP, Brazil, Cuba)
- Emerging multi-stakeholder initiatives (JRC, NL, FPCs)
- Integrated landscape thinking (City region, ILM, LPFN)
- Integrated food systems science (FSCs)
- Peer-to-peer action research (CaC, FFS ...)
- Healthy Eating and Sustainable Sourcing (OA, FT ...)
- Short supply chains

Creating a supportive environment

- Full cost accounting
- National/regional food policies & strategies
- Facilitate access to land
- Support measures to farmers for transition
- Remove policy barriers to diversity
- Support for community based organizations

Different markets for products

- Farmer markets
 - Producer cooperative outlets
 - Seasonal basket purchasing agreements
 - Contract farming
 - Public procurement agreements
- closer links between producers & consumers

Re-orient innovation and knowledge pathways

- Develop system approaches in education, breaking down disciplinary siloes
- Re-orient public research (national and CGIAR) towards agroecology, moving from input intensive agriculture to knowledge intensive agriculture and participatory research
- Collaboration between agricultural extension and public health extension services

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Thank you!



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