

Development pathways for agricultural commercialisation to FNS

KB Global FNS

KB SI4VC

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Programme

- 10:00 – 10:25 Introduction to the work in pillar 1
- 10:25 – 10:55 Reflect on the framework and its possible use for guiding policy development
- 10:55 – 11:00 Wrap - up

Work done in KB22 Pillar 1

- KB 22 Pillar 1: Aim, objectives and questions
- Development conceptual framework
- Applied study: Case Myanmar (Design, Results and conclusions)

KB 22 Pillar 1



- Identify nutrition sensitive agriculture pathways in which improved production technologies and social innovation processes enable



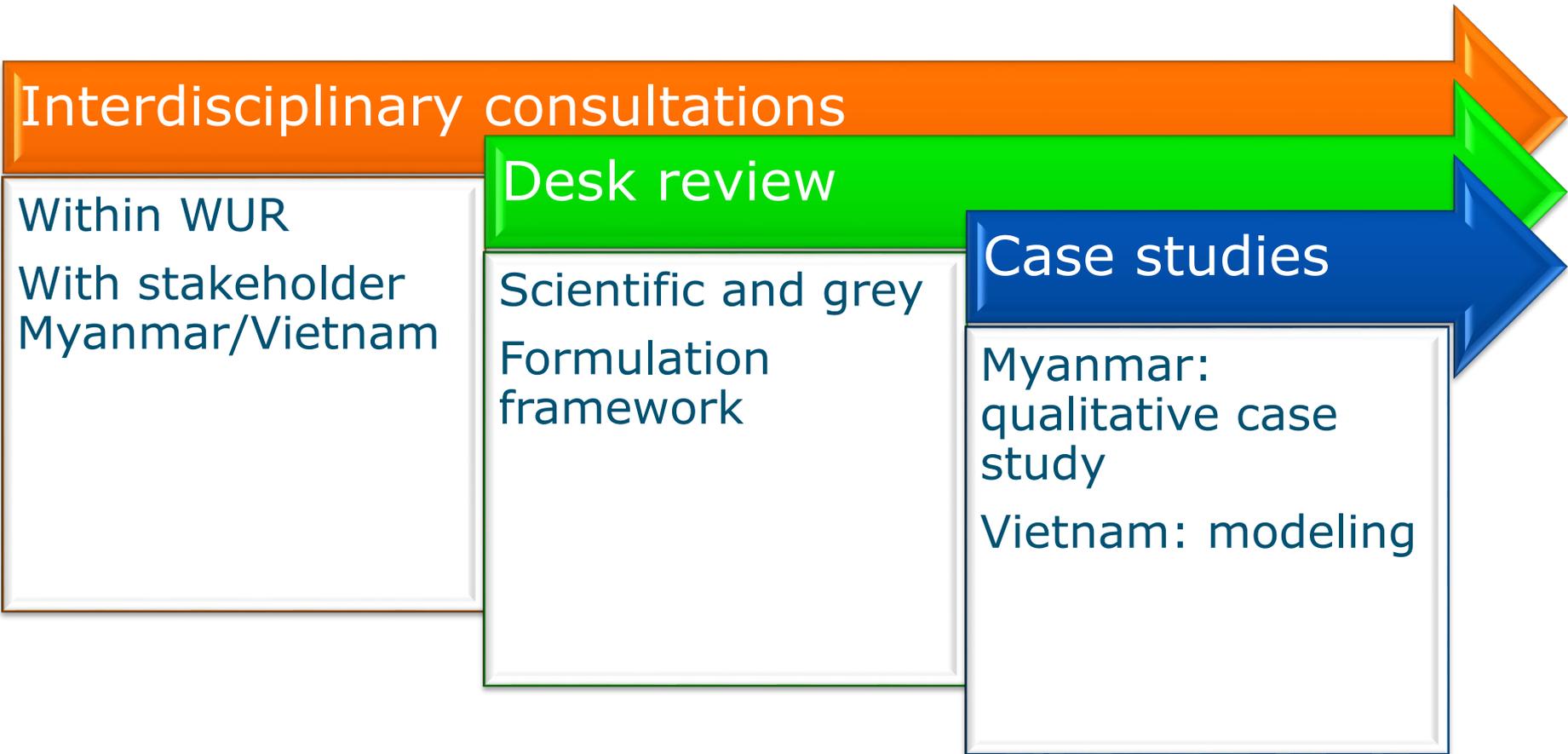
- more efficient use of resources in an environmentally sustainable way;
- increase production/yields of nutritious commodities like fruits and vegetables;
- contributing to stability and increased availability of nutritious foods to vulnerable population groups.

Research question

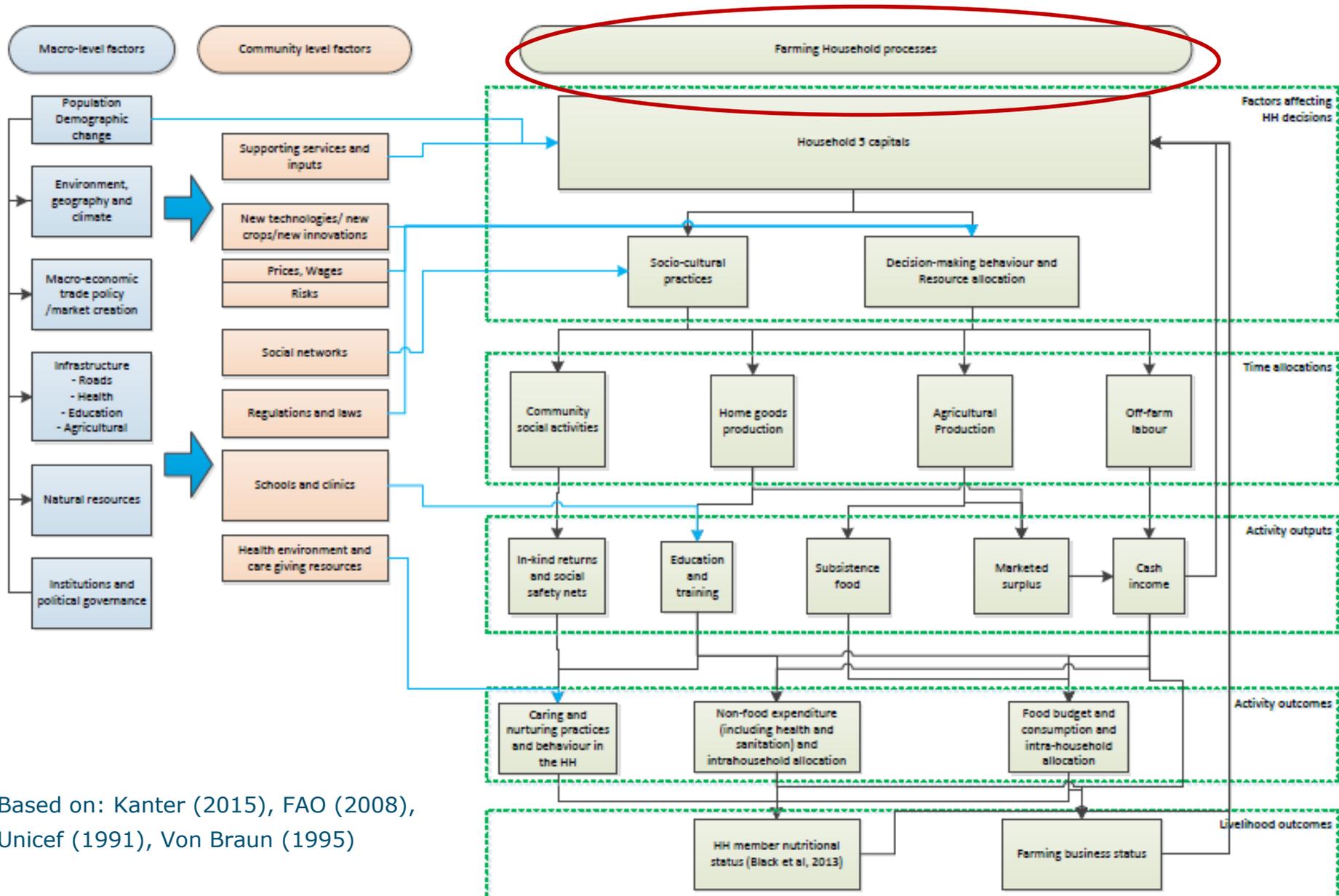
- Which alternative farming models/pathways can be applied stimulating both commercially viable agriculture and improving the production and consumption of nutritious foods by vulnerable consumers and (young) farmer households?

- Research setting:
 - Global (desk review)
 - Regional: south east asia

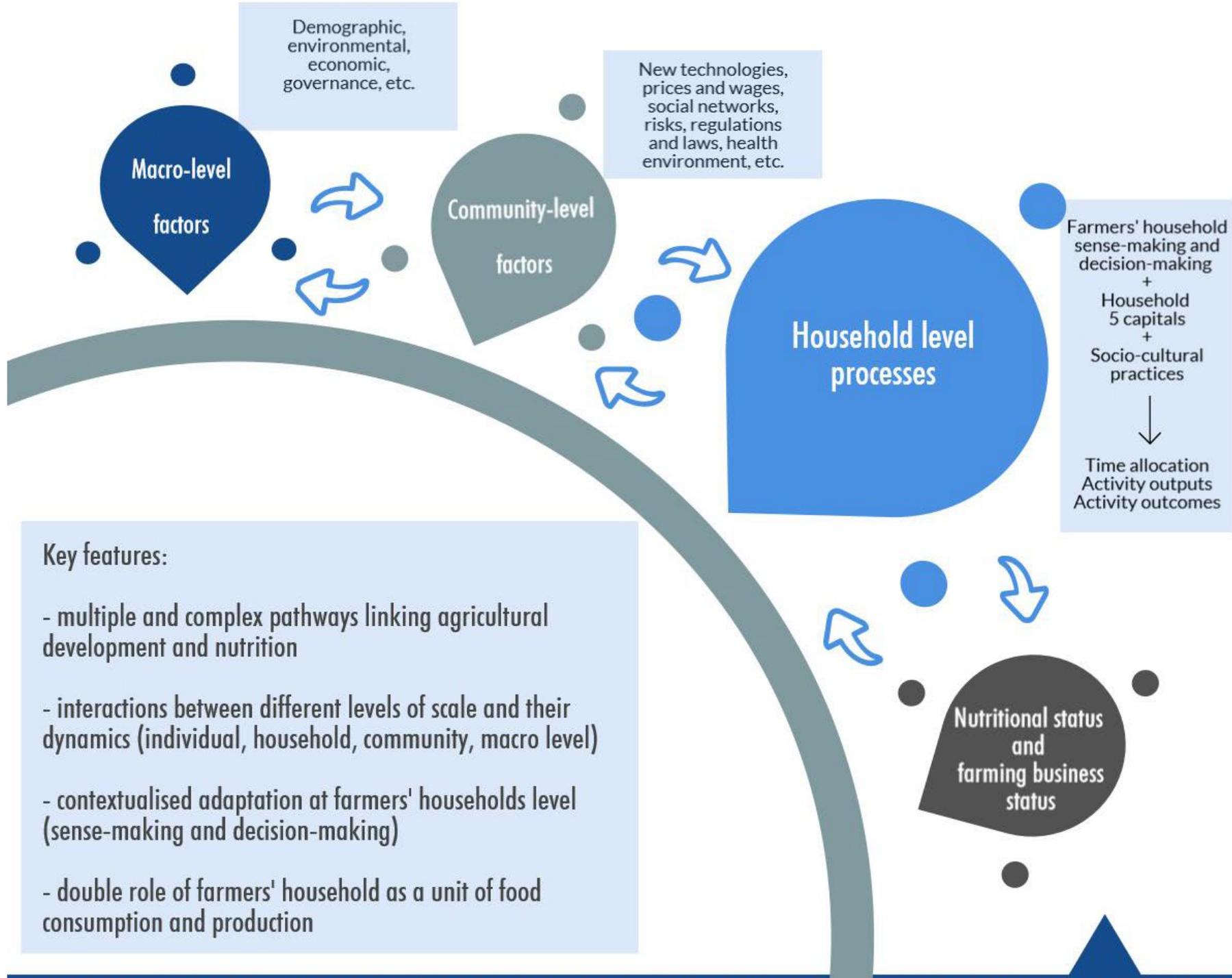
Overall KB22 Pillar 1 approach



Conceptual Framework

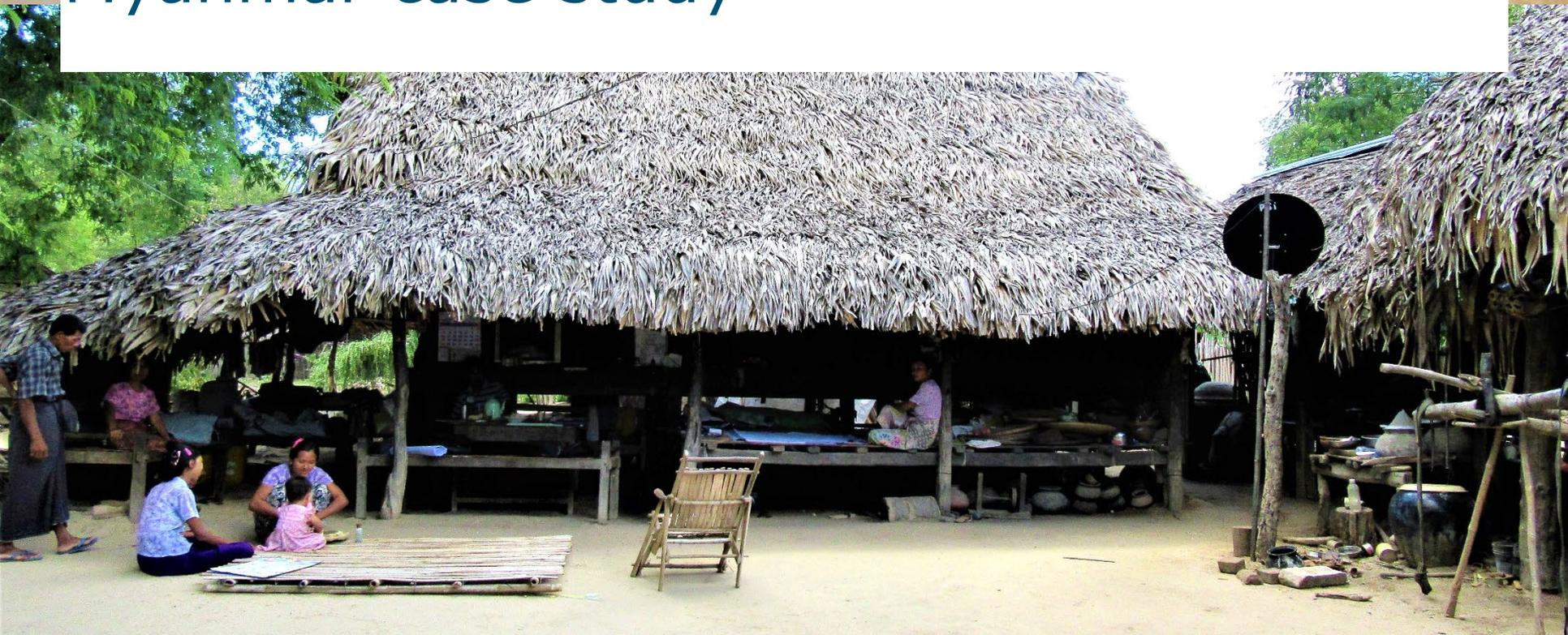


Based on: Kanter (2015), FAO (2008), Unicef (1991), Von Braun (1995)





Myanmar case study

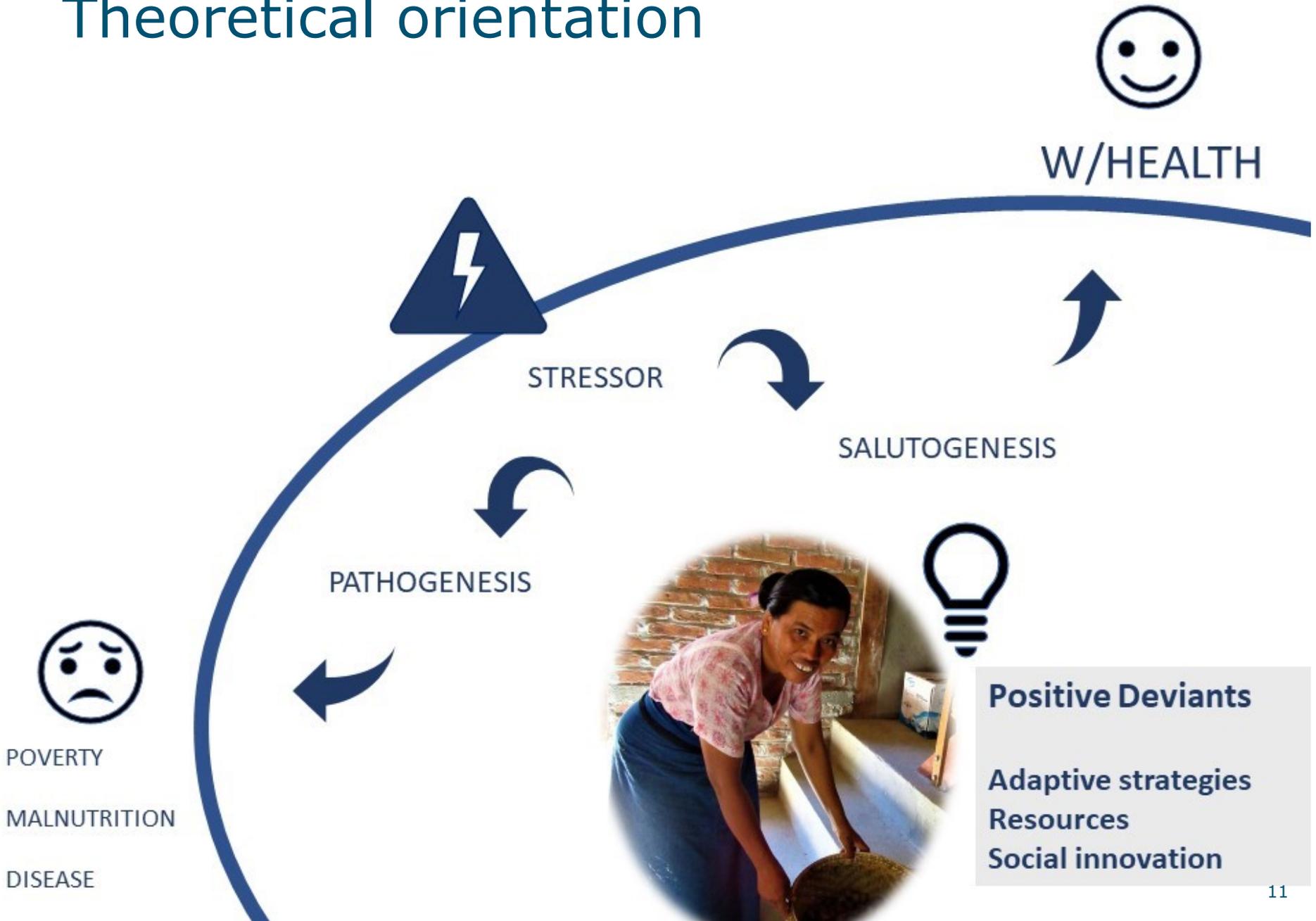


Research questions

1. What are the forms of agricultural commercialisation in which Myanmar farming households are engaged?
2. What are the decision-making strategies used by farming households and how do they deal with changes and challenges with regard to agricultural livelihoods and assets?



Theoretical orientation



Design

- Desk review done to describe major developments in Myanmar's agricultural transition, based on the framework;
- Zone for fieldwork: Dry Zone in central Myanmar.
- In-depth interviews done using a life course perspective with farming households (n=14).
- Purposive sampling done to select smallholder households (<5 acres) in four villages.
- Transcripts were translated and analysed using open coding.



Results desk review

- 'Silo mentality': investments in agriculture happen separate from those in food or nutrition
- Knowledge gap when it comes to research on decision making patterns for food choices, intra-household food allocation and cultural determinants of malnutrition.
- Individuals develop adaptive strategies to provide a stable income to their family, increase their yields, deal with unexpected events and guarantee a healthy diet to their family members.

Farmers' adaptive strategies



Stressors:

- Landlessness
- Droughts
- Pests
- Debt
- Health problems
- Fluctuating prices

Adaptive strategies:

- **Mixed livelihood**
- Migration
- Work harder
- Save money
- Change type of crop
- Improve agricultural practices
- Extend/borrow land
- Borrow money
- Sell cattle

Farmers resistance resources

Internal



Intelligence



Faith

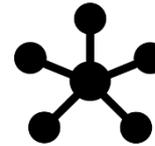


Values

External



Family unity
and support



Knowledge
sharing



Community
/ village
support

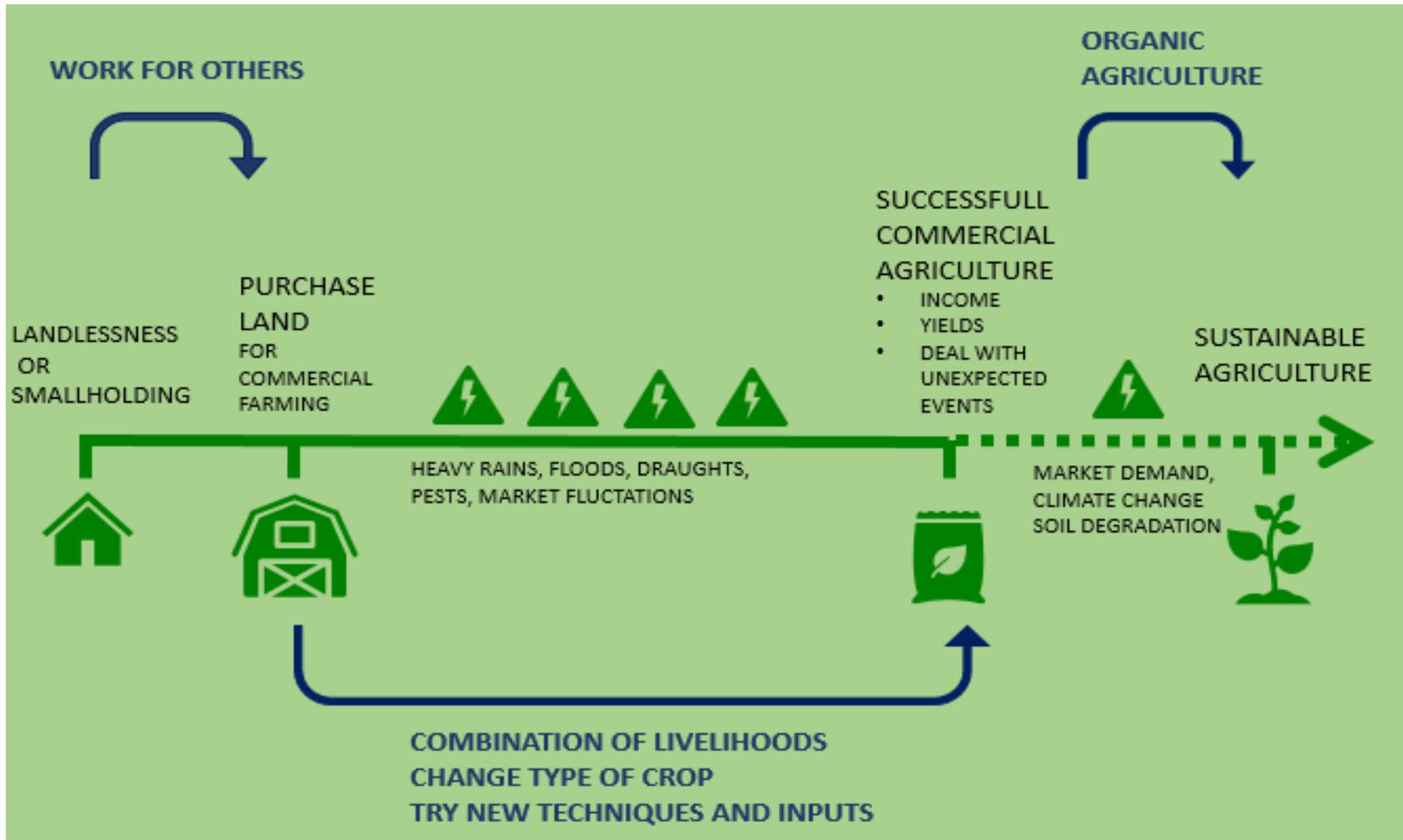


NGO

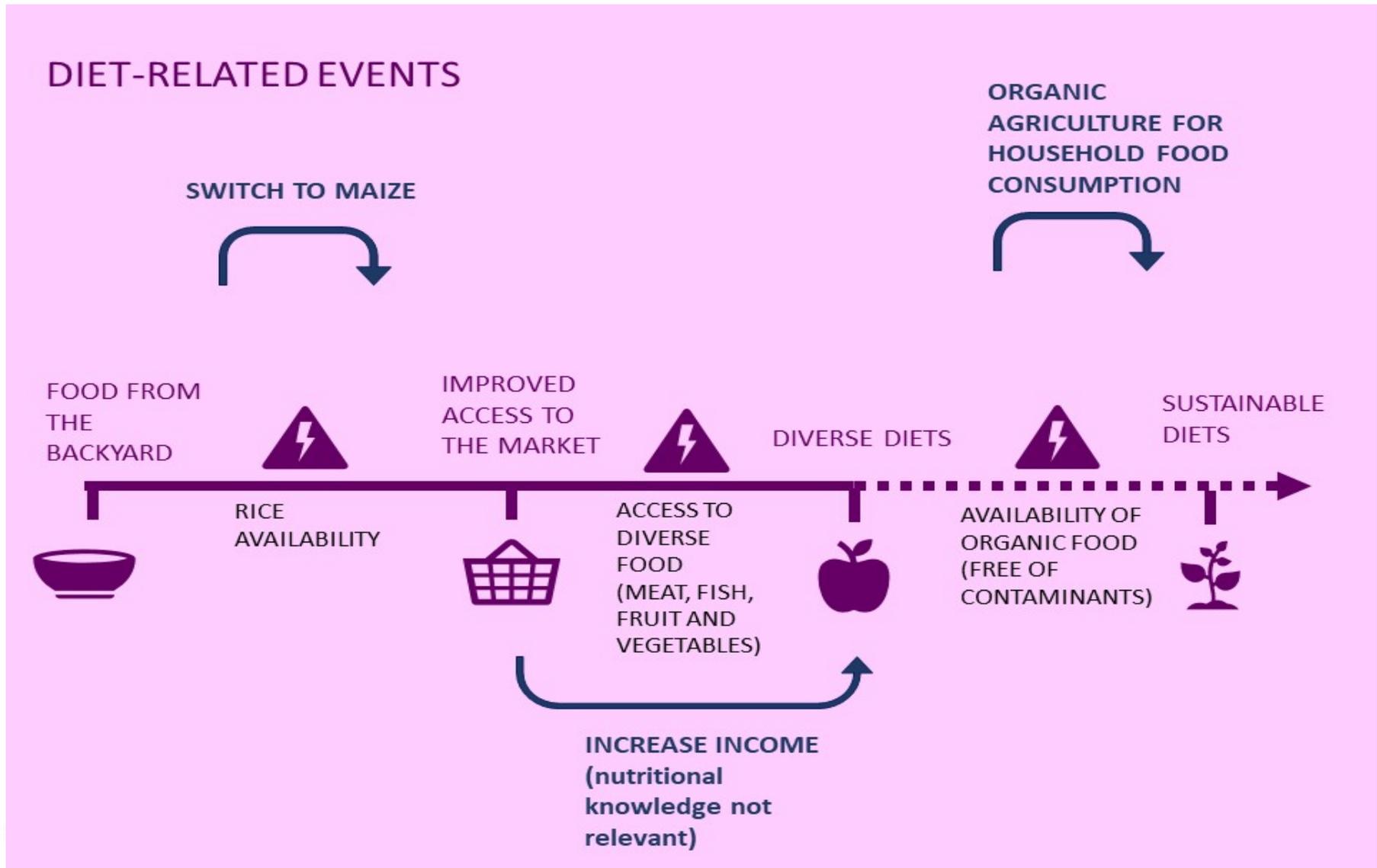


Government

Farmers' adaptive strategies in response of agricultural related events



Farmers' adaptive strategies in response of diet related events



Conclusions

- Diversification of livelihood strategies and socio-emotional support throughout the life course play a major role in successful farming and food and nutrition security outcomes.
- Livelihood diversification as a key strategy challenges the general tendency towards specialisation in production used by agri-businesses, and also the mono-directional livelihood solutions used by NGOs.
- The salutogenic approach holds potential to capture adaptive strategies for health and well-being, thus contributing to deeper understanding of farm household resilience.
- Lack of nation wide data availability hampers the monitoring of the impact of food system transitions in Myanmar.
- Framework proved useful to identify stressors and adaptive capacity at different levels

Strengths and limitations

Strengths

- Positive deviant approach provides different entry points for interventions
- Timeline method helps to make explicit sense-making and decision-making processes; process of self-reflection on life-course enjoyable learning experience for farmers.

Limitations

- Due to the sample strategy, conclusions can not be generalized (biased for positive + small numbers of respondents).
- Process of translation reduce the quality of the analysis.
- Lack of specific data on FNS and agriculture development in the area created difficulties in positive deviants definition.

Thank you for
your attention



Main references

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