

# WFP & social protection: an update on policy & programs

Show & Tell Seminar, May 2011

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**World Food Programme**

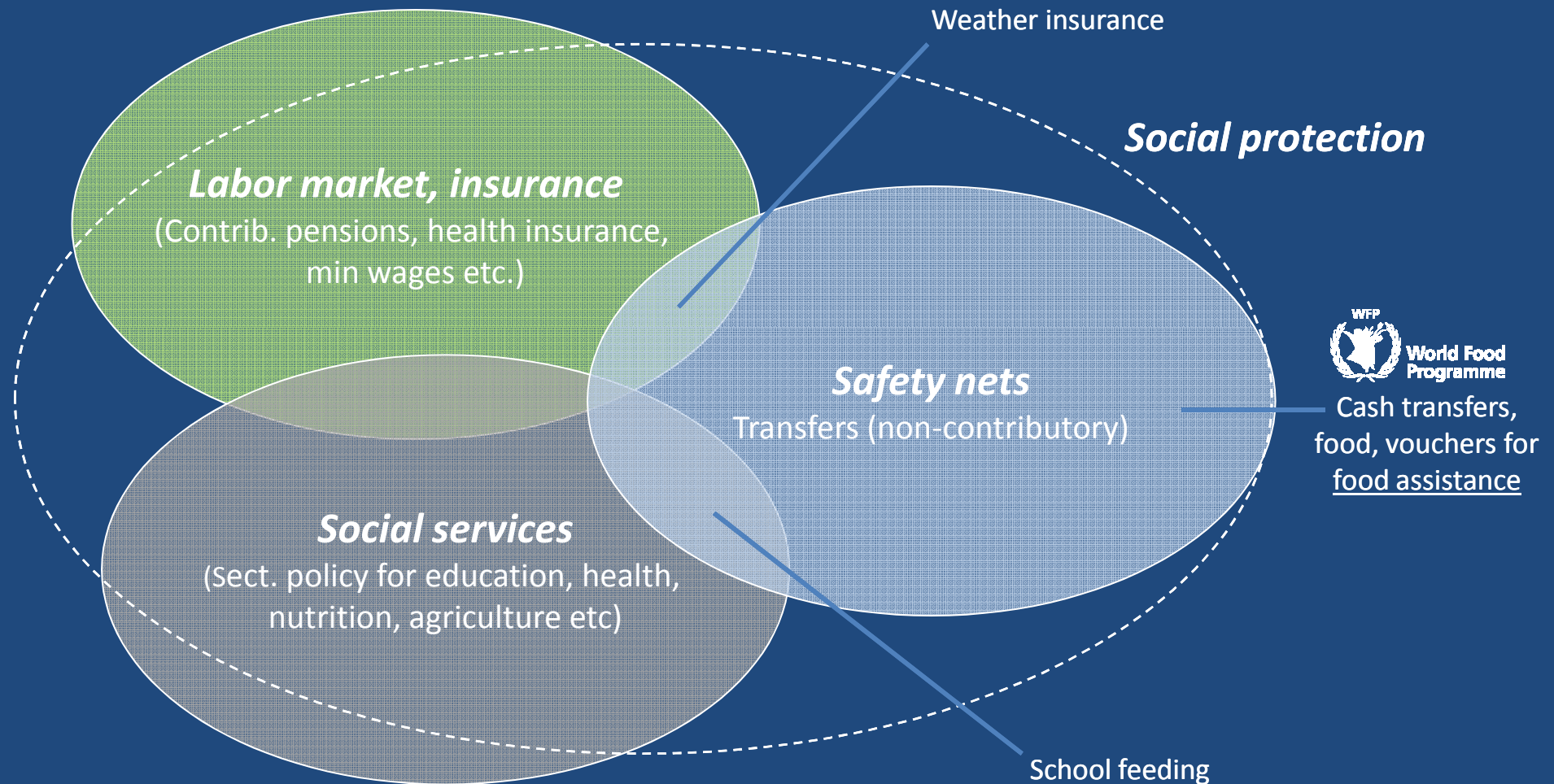


# Vibrant interest

- Global and regional initiatives
  - SPF-I, G20, UN, AU
- Policy-research hubs
- The “SP-istas” in the blogosphere
  - *Let’s Talk Development, Poverty Matters, Development Horizons, From Poverty to Power...*
- Blend of old & new challenges
  - Intersection with longstanding debates
  - Wide range of perspectives... and analytical commonalities

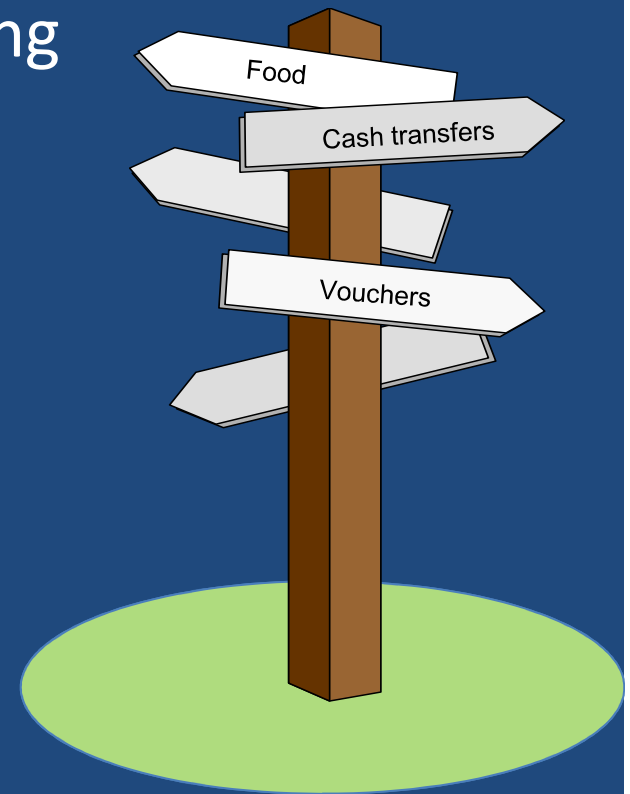


# Conceptual framework



# Broadening WFP's safety net toolbox

- Major organizational shift
- Deepening understanding and measurement of multiple factors shaping decision-making
- Quick update on:
  - Scale
  - Effectiveness
  - Efficiency
  - Delivery innovations

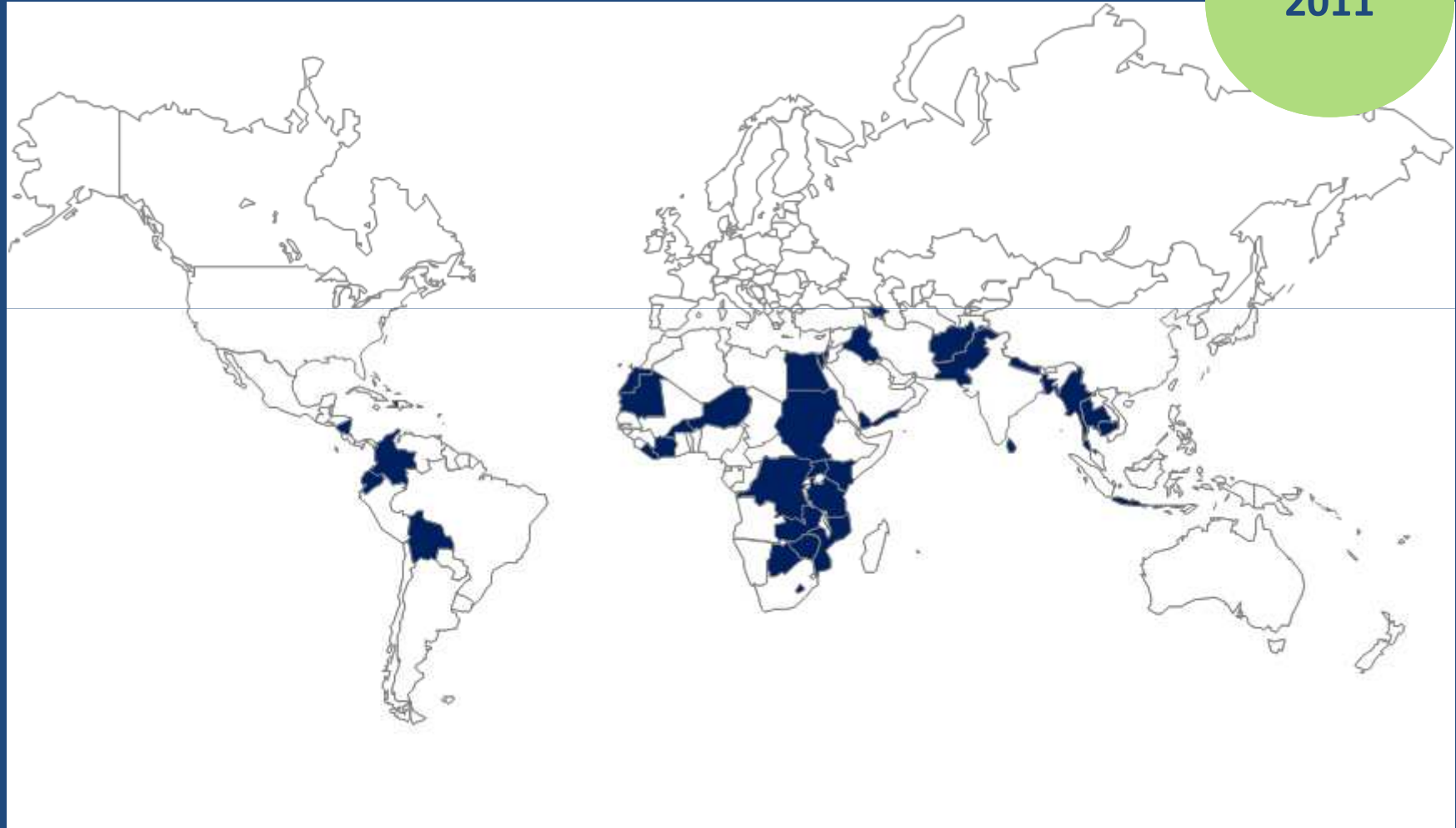


## 2008

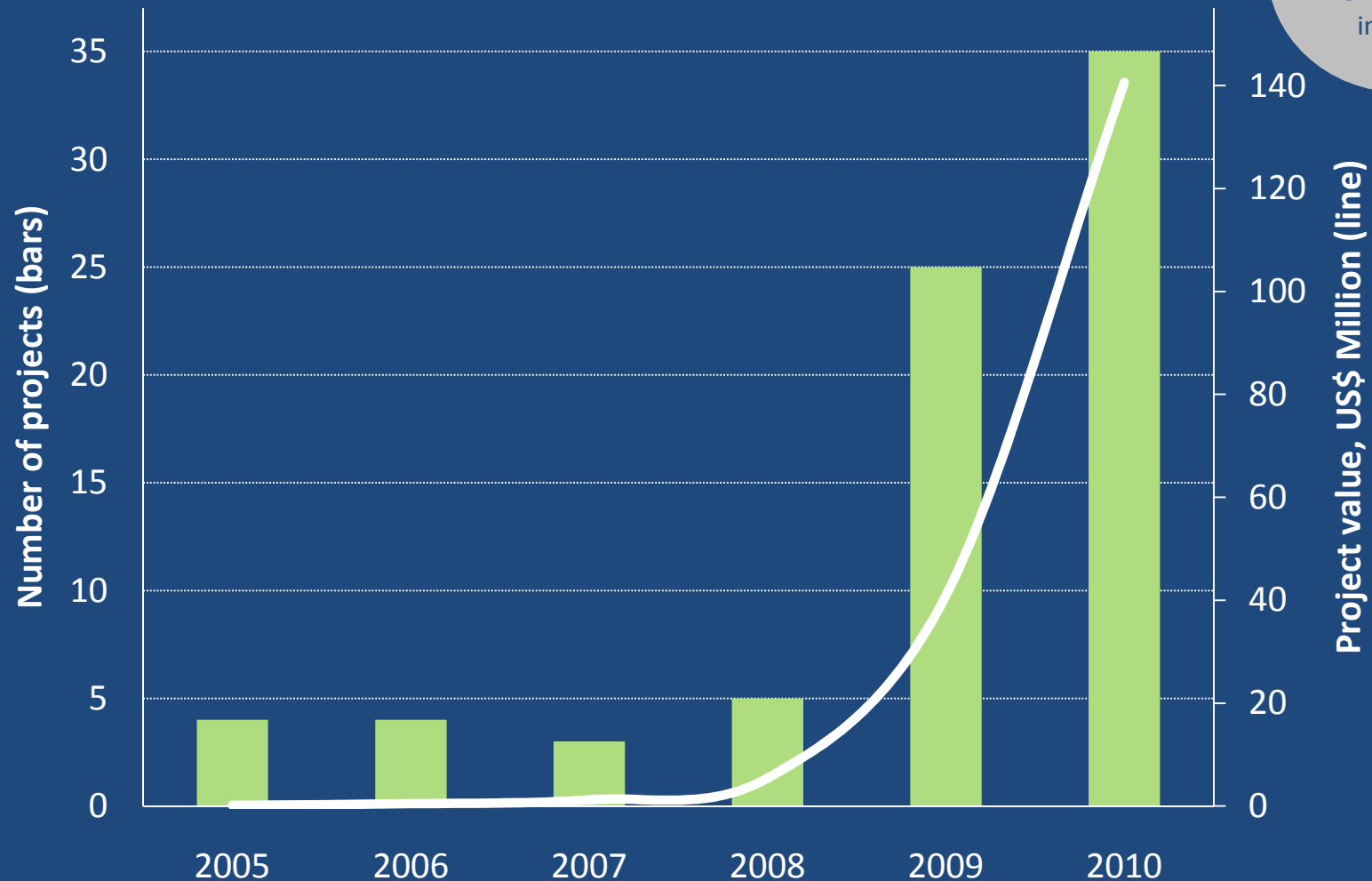


# Global cash-based programs

2011



# Exponential growth in volume



**4.2M**

Beneficiaries  
in 2010

# Effectiveness: selected issues

- Program objectives
  - Microeconomics and “cash-out” puzzle
  - Food as medicine (e.g. Plumpy-Doz<sup>®</sup>)
- Capturing externalities (e.g. empowerment, multipliers)
- Test how design may affect outcomes
  - Frequency, duration and predictability
- Role of complementary interventions (conditionalities)

School enrolment (Mexico, IFPRI)	
CCT vs. CT	CCT + 9.7 percentage points
School dropout (Malawi, World Bank)	
CCT vs. CT	No statistical difference



# Effectiveness: new experiments

- Quantitative evidence on impacts and costs
- Causality nexus and limitations of RCTs
- Ongoing operations, final results in mid-2012

- Ecuador: triple urban comparison
- Niger: seasonal work programs
- Timor Leste: asset-creation
- Uganda: early child nutrition
- Yemen: relief transfers
- Cambodia: school meals

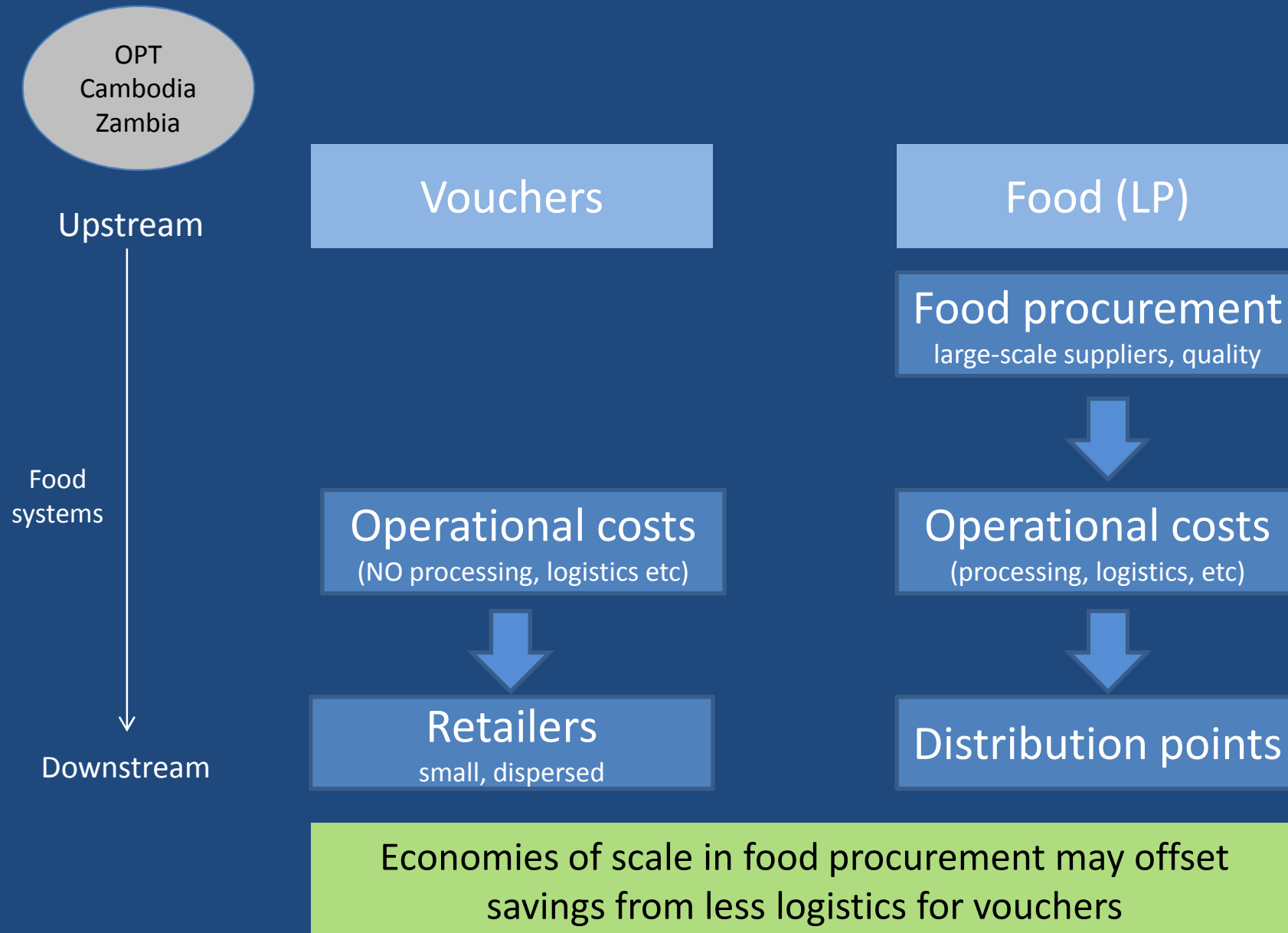
In partnership with



# Efficiency: selected issues

- In principle, costs may be lower for cash and vouchers
  - Less logistics (outsourcing transport, storage etc)
  - Beneficiaries transaction costs (time, travel, resale of food)
- But...
  - Set-up (fixed) vs. running (variable) costs
  - Planned (design) and actual implementation costs
  - Cash-based transfers need basic implementation conditions
  - Cash transfers different from vouchers

# Efficiency: counterintuitive findings?



# Tailoring delivery models for vouchers...

Afghanistan  
Burkina Faso

Zambia  
Zimbabwe  
Mozambique

Syria  
OPT

Low-tech

high-tech



# ... and for cash transfers

Malawi  
(2005)

Sri Lanka

Pakistan  
(flood relief)

Philippines

Malawi  
(2010)

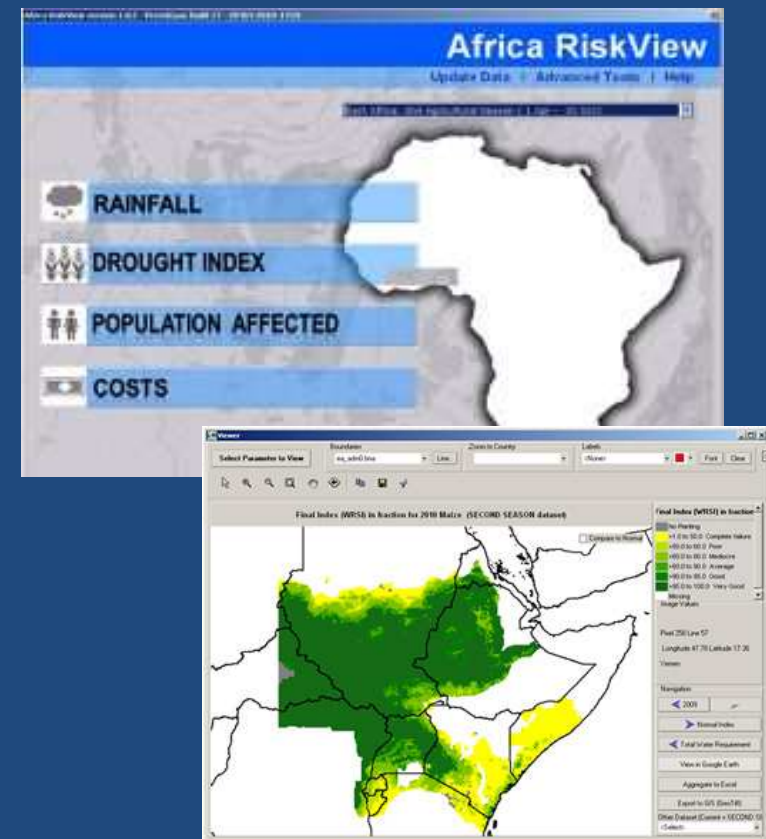
Low-tech

high-tech →

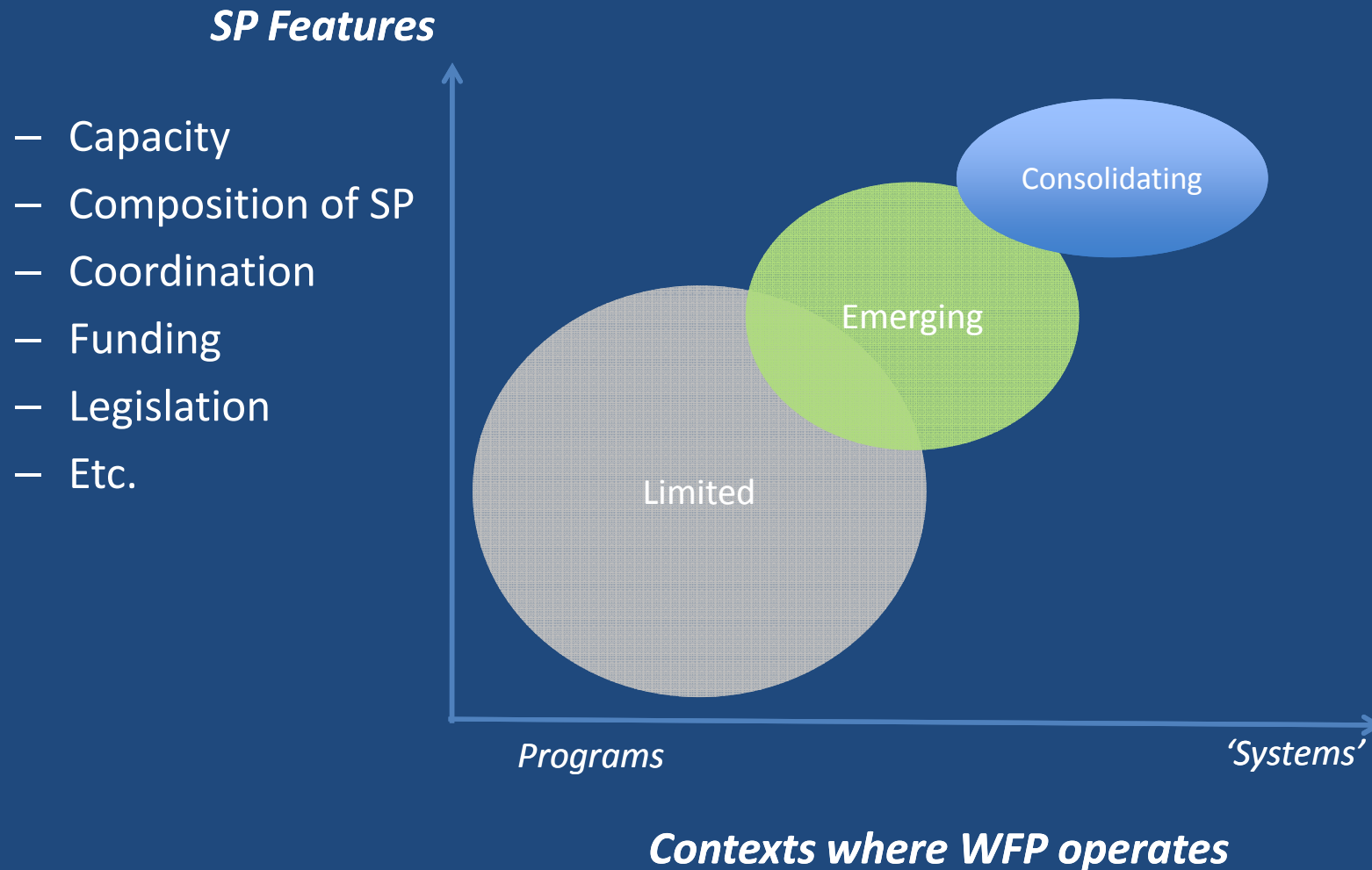


# A glance at ex-ante SP programs

- Insurance and risk management products
  - Satellite & weather data, modelling needs, scale-up costs
- Micro-level initiatives
  - Farmers crop insurance (China)
- Scaling-up national systems
  - Safety net contingency financing
  - LEAP-PSNP (Ethiopia)
- Continental platform
  - Africa 'Risk view' (with AU)



# ... tailoring *overall* approach to stage in SP development





## ... tailoring *overall* approach to stage in SP development

- Understanding and appraising context
- Help building systems
  - E.g. Ethiopia “PSNP+”
  - Mozambique: operationalizing SP strategy
- Defining WFP roles
  - Assessment, design, implementation, M&E, policy
  - Catalyzing and adapting global lessons
- Produce (and use) credible and practical evidence
  - New wave of publications...





## Rethinking School Feeding

Donald Bundy, Carmen Burbano, Margaret Grosh, Aulo Gelli,  
Matthew Jukes, and Lesley Drake



Climate and Society No. 2



The Rome-based agencies are studying the relationship between the food and agricultural sector and national DRM systems, and are working together to integrate humanitarian and development activities in DRM.

**Disaster Risk Management in food and agriculture**

... sectors/topics

... regional  
perspectives

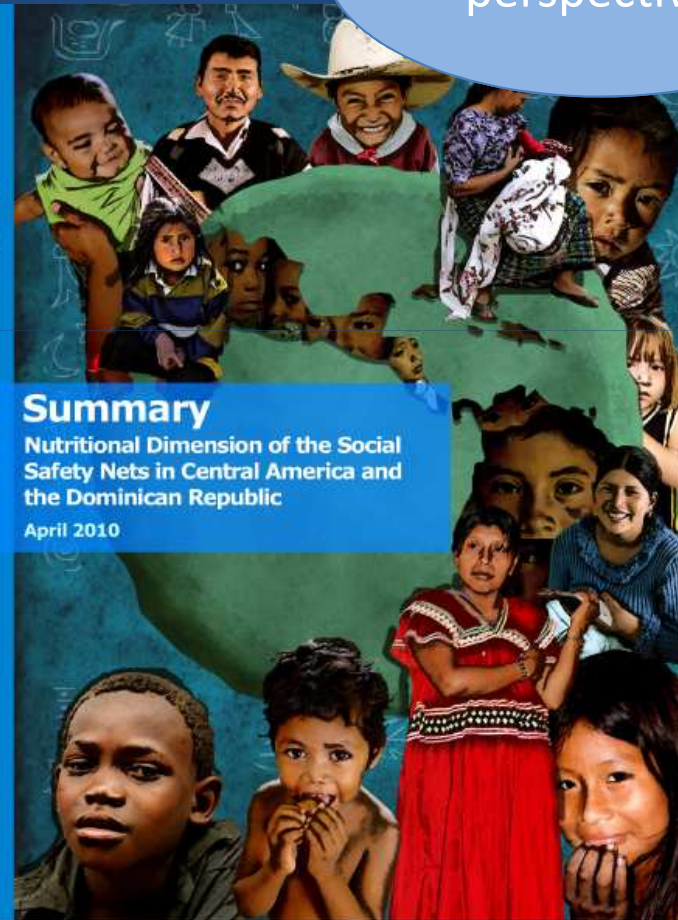
## Summary of Findings

OMC Region-Wide Study on National Food Subsidy & Safety  
Net Programs: Opportunities for WFP Capacity Support



World Food Programme  
*Fighting Hunger Worldwide*

*Fighting Hunger Worldwide*



## Summary

Nutritional Dimension of the Social  
Safety Nets in Central America and  
the Dominican Republic

April 2010



World Food Programme  
[wfp.org](http://wfp.org)

Edited by Steven Were Omamo, Ugo Gentilini and Susanna Sandström

Foreword by Josette Sheeran

## Revolution: From Food Aid to Food Assistance

**Innovations  
in Overcoming  
Hunger**



**World Food Programme**

... overarching  
innovations

- New edited volume
- Wide range of issues underpinning SP
- 22 chapters, 400pp.
- 50 practitioners, policymakers, academics
- Send an email for free copies ([Ugo.Gentilini@wfp.org](mailto:Ugo.Gentilini@wfp.org))

# So in the coming future...

- Update of cash & vouchers policy paper in June 2011
- Update of SP policy paper in mid-2012
- Upgrading capacity and evidence-base
  - “Cash-for-change” initiative, new centre of excellence in Brazil
- Furthering engagement
  - ... especially on upstream policy issues at country level
  - Conceptual clarity in the field (workshop in June 2011)
  - From definitions to practice (lessons & guidance)

Danke!



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