Better lives and a better planet through livestock

Strengthening the Resilience of Food Systems and Livelihoods in Kenya

Kelvin Shikuku, CGIAR & International Livestock Research Institute
k.m.shikuku@cgiar.org

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Resilience defined

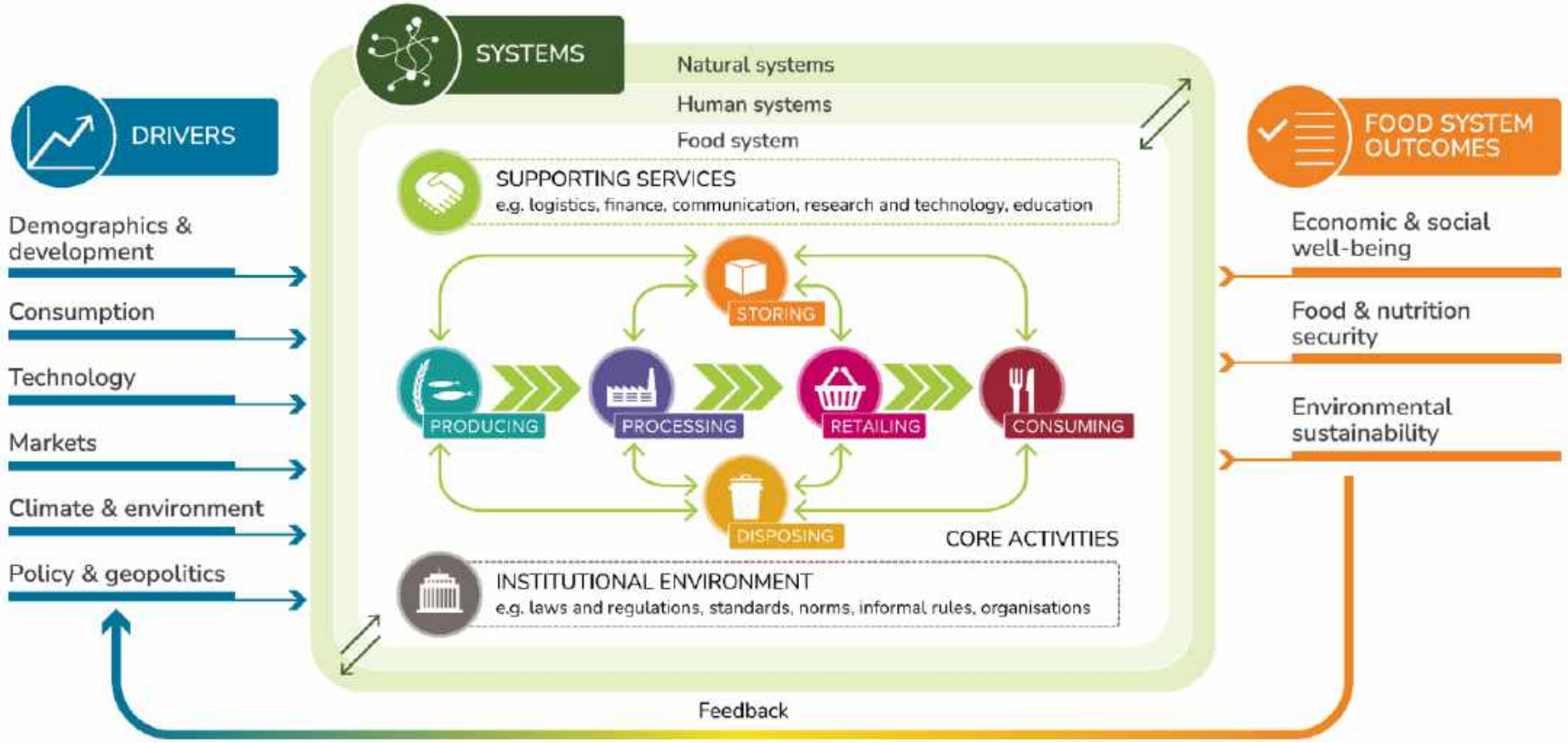
The ability of people, households, communities, countries, and systems to **mitigate, adapt to, and recover from shocks and stresses** in a manner that **reduces chronic vulnerability and facilitates inclusive growth**.

What is food system resilience?

- The capacity of food systems to deliver desired outcomes in the face of shocks and stressors.
- The delivery of desired outcomes depends on the capacity of food systems to anticipate, prevent, absorb, and adapt to the impacts of shocks and stressors.
- There is increasing concern that food systems are insufficient in this capacity (Fanzo et al. 2021).

Why is food systems resilience important?

Building food system resilience is necessary to withstand shocks and stressors and maintain progress towards desired outcomes, such as food and nutrition security and equitable livelihoods for all in a healthy ecosystem.



Source: de Jong et al. (2024)

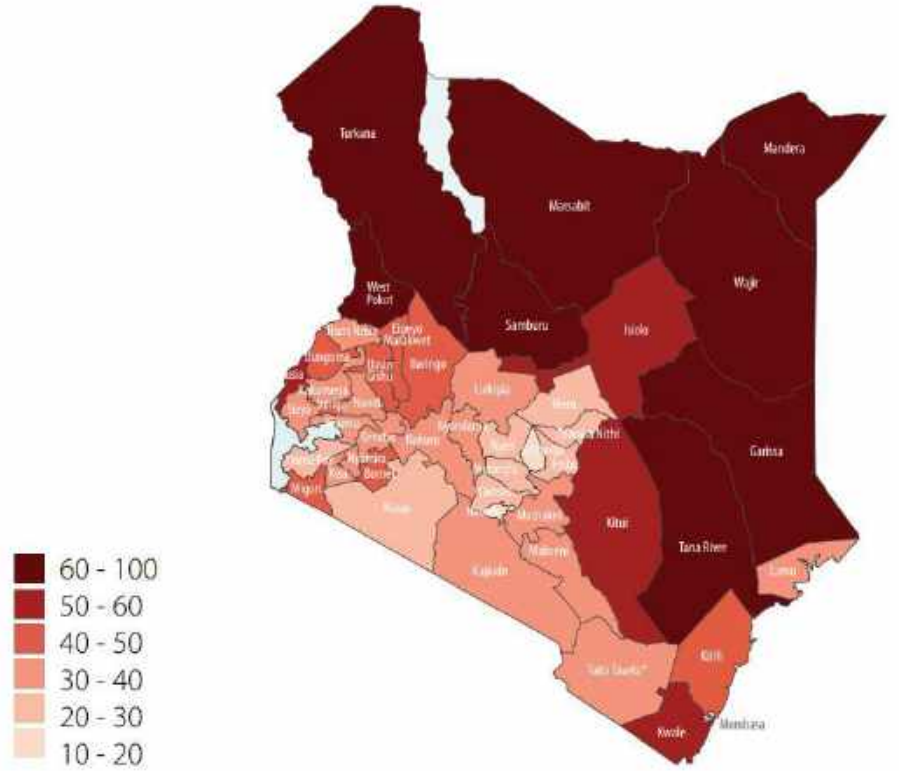
What does it take to deliver food systems outcomes?

1) Resilience to shocks & stressors.
2) Sustainability over the long-term.
3) Equitable in terms of costs and benefits to different social groups.

Status of Kenya's food system outcomes

Economic and social wellbeing

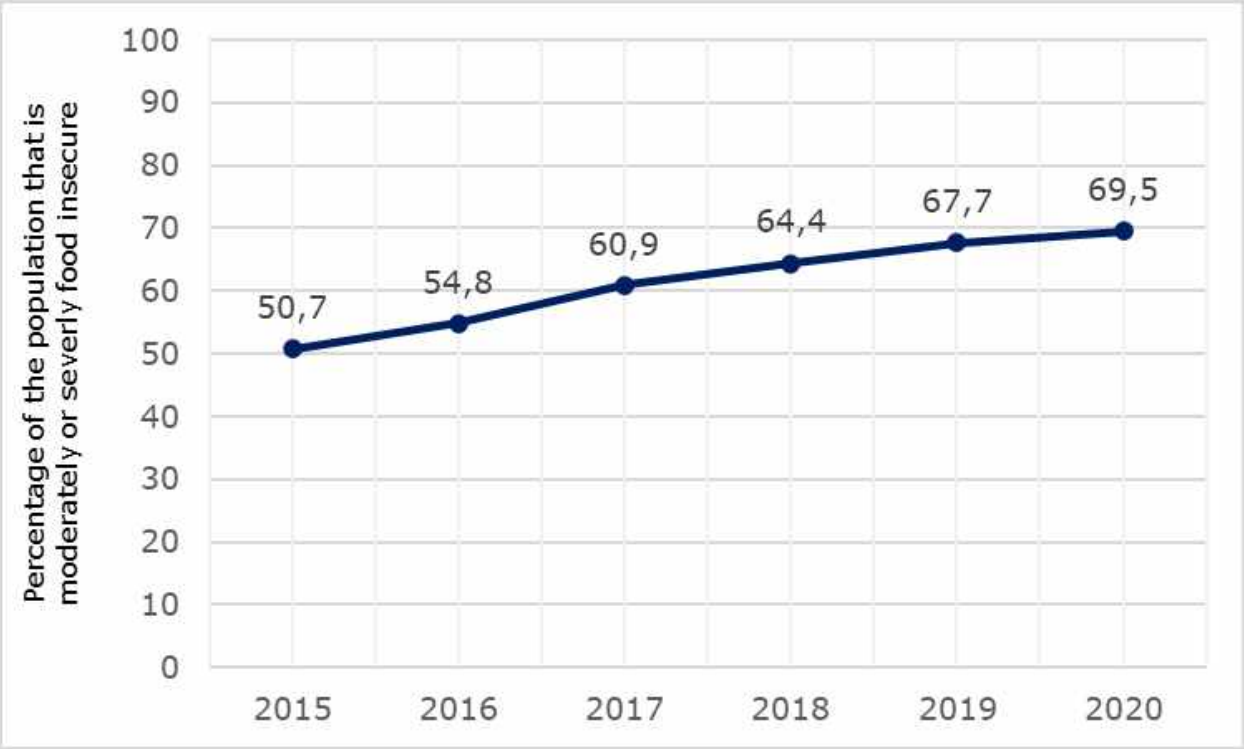
- Agriculture accounts for highest share (21.2%) of GDP (KNBS, 2023).
- Employment in agriculture declined by 7% between 2010 to 2022.
- About 75-80% of pop < 35 years old (NCPD, 2017)—unemployment among youths ≈ 35%.
- Population living below the poverty line declined from 46.7% in 2005/06 to 33.6% in 2019, but pandemic reversed the trend with poverty rates increasing to above 40% in 2020.



Source: World Bank, (2023)

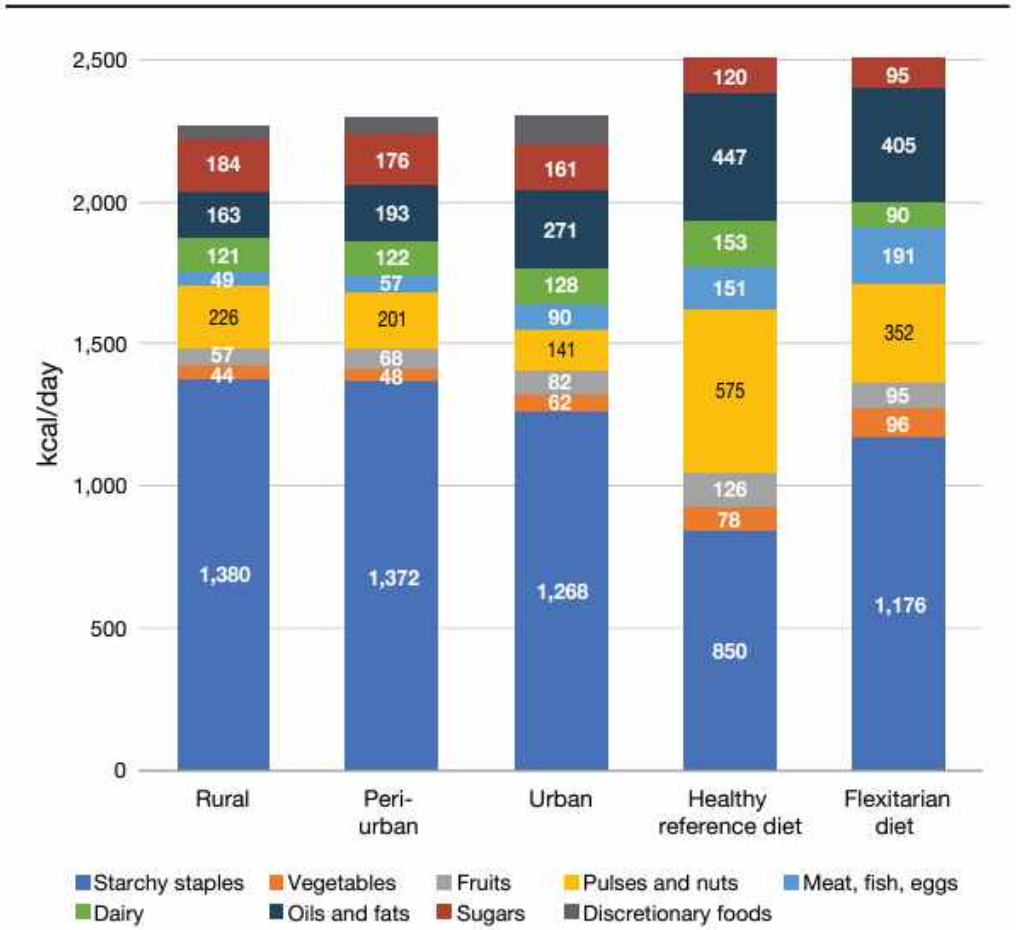
Status of Kenya's food system outcomes

Food and nutrition security



Source: de Jong et al. (2024)

>70% of the pop severely or moderately food insecure in 2023 (FAO, AUC, ECA & WFP, 2023).



Source: Breisinger et al., 2023

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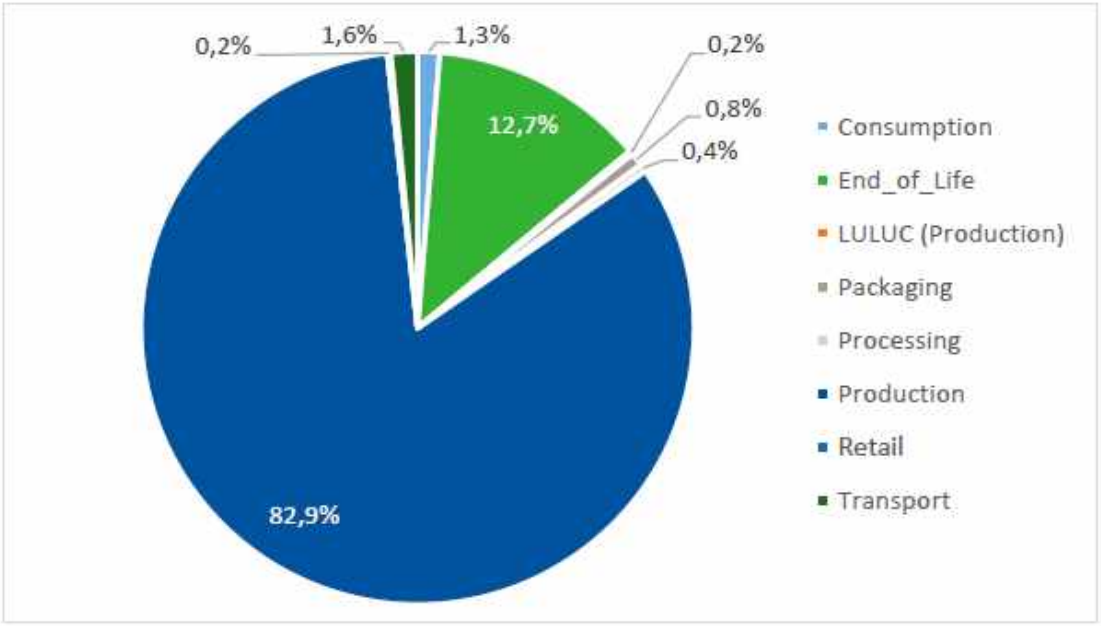
Status of Kenya's food system outcomes

Environmental sustainability

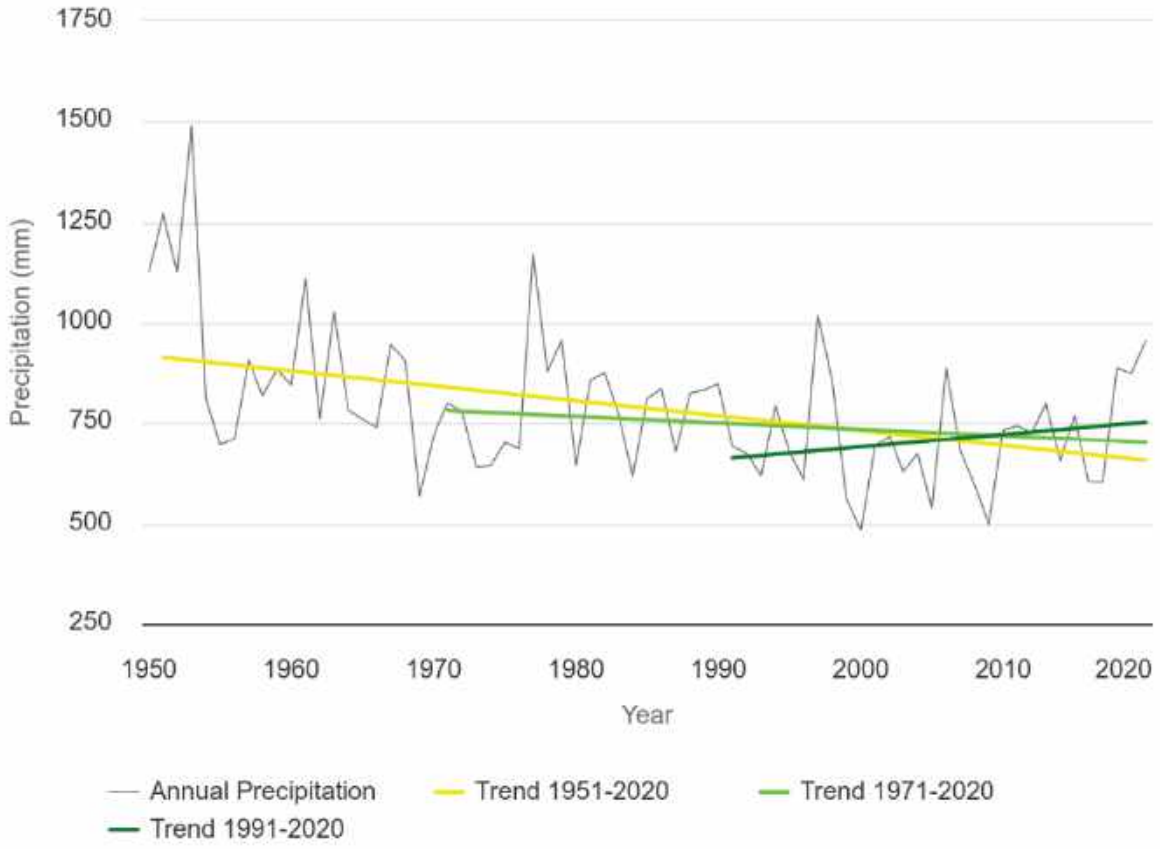
- 11% of tree cover lost between 2001 and 2022.
- Soil degradation, including soil erosion, depletion of soil nutrients and decline in fertility.
- Freshwater use by Kenya's agriculture sector responsible for roughly 80% of all freshwater withdrawals between 2016 and 2020.
- Food system emissions account for 73% of total national emissions in Kenya.



Source: FAOSTAT and Crippa et al. (2022)

Drivers of Kenya's food system

- ❑ Demographics and development
- ❑ Consumption
- ❑ Technology
- ❑ Markets
- ❑ Climate and environment
- ❑ Policy and geopolitics.



Source: de Jong et al. (2024)

4 Capacities important in food system resilience building

Ensure Agency capacity

The means and capacities of people to mitigate risks and to respond to shocks

Create Buffer

Resources to back on in the face of shocks and stressors

Stimulate Connectivity

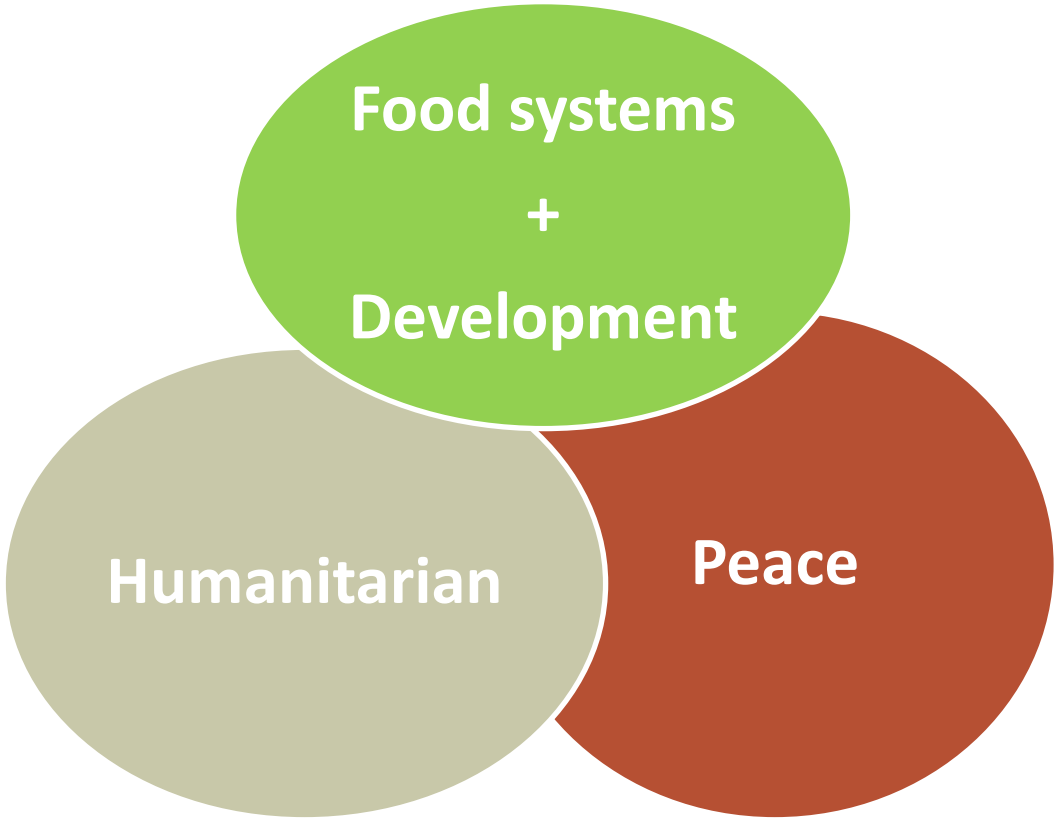
The interconnection of and communication between actors and market segments

Enhance Diversity

Diversity at different scales and in different places, from production to consumption and from farm level to regional diversity.

Taking a Humanitarian, Development, and Peace nexus

- Humanitarian: Save lives now!
- Food systems & Development: How can we strengthen resilience long-term from a development perspective?
- Peace: Insecurity begets humanitarian crises that begets development crises.



The Kenya Food Systems Resilience Program (FSRP)

- "The Kenya Food Systems Resilience Program (FSRP) aims to tackle the underlying structural challenges of food insecurity and reduce beneficiaries' sensitivity to unpredictable climate, crisis, and conflict events."

Components of the Kenya FSRP

C1: (Re)Building resilient agricultural production capacity.

1) Data and digital agriculture systems at the national and county levels.
2) Climate smart agriculture technologies and practices.
3) Community engagement and technology transfer.

C2: Supporting sustainable development of natural resources.

1) Water availability for crops and animals.
2) Rangeland management for crops and livestock.

C3: Access to domestic and international markets.

1) Strengthening of farmer producer organizations.
2) Market infrastructure and enterprise development.
3) Credit worthiness of crop and livestock farmers.

C4: Greater focus of food systems resilience in national and regional policymaking.

C5: Contingent emergency response.

Other (select) examples

- The Kenya Climate Smart Agriculture Project (KCSAP).
- The National Agricultural and Rural Inclusive Growth Project (NARIGP).
- The Emergency Locust Response Project (ELRP).
- De-Risking, Inclusion, and Value Enhancement of Pastoral Economies in the Horn of Africa (DRIVE).

A few concluding remarks

- In order to building food system resilience, we must have an accurate understanding of potential risks faced by actors and building skills, approaches, and institutions to assist in withstanding shocks & stressors while maintaining their essential functions.
- Focus on building systems that are adaptable, robust, and sustainable:
  - Capable of bouncing back from disruptions while continuing to provide affordable, nutritious, and safe food for all.
- We can no longer assume that pandemics, food price shocks, increases in fertilizer and fuel prices, drought and floods will not happen and affect the communities where we work.
- Actors are experiencing multiple shocks at once—bundled sociotechnical and financial innovations increasingly important.

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