

World Food Program Nutrition and Sustainable Food Security

WISHH

Nutrition and Development

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World Food Program (WFP)

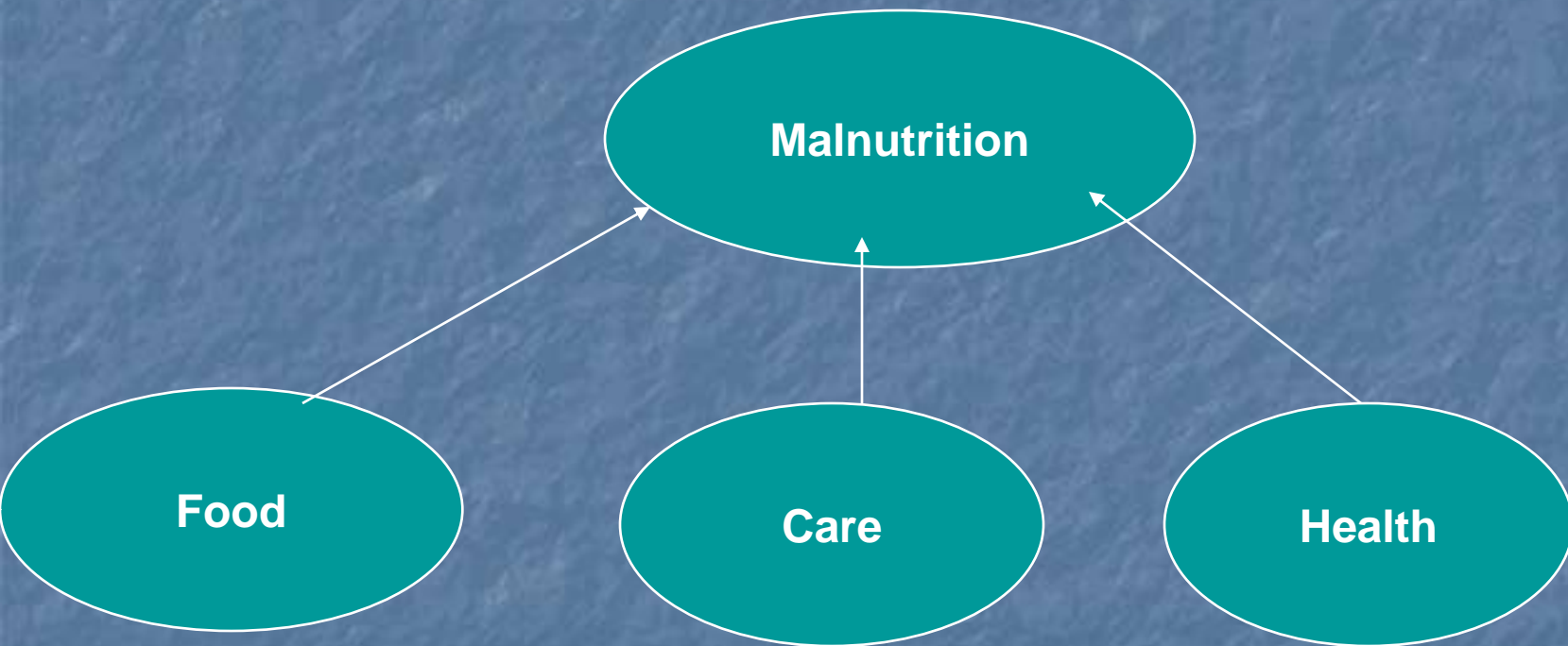
- Food assistance agency of the United Nations
- Aim to reach 100 million people in 2009
- Operating in 77 countries
- Over 11,000 staff – 80% field based
- Working with 2,800 local and int'l PVOs

Nutrition – The Context

Lancet Series January 2008

- Maternal and child under-nutrition is the underlying cause of over 3.5 million (1/3rd) child deaths worldwide annually
- Intergenerational nature of malnutrition
- Stunting in first 2 years of life results in decreased cognitive development, poorer school performance, lower economic activity.

The conceptual framework for underlying causes of malnutrition



Sustainable Food Security

FAO:

Food security exists when all people, at all times, have physical, social and economic access to sufficient, *safe and nutritious* food which meets their dietary needs and food preferences for an active and healthy life.

World Food Program (WFP)

1960s:

Food surplus world

Question: How do we fill the cup?

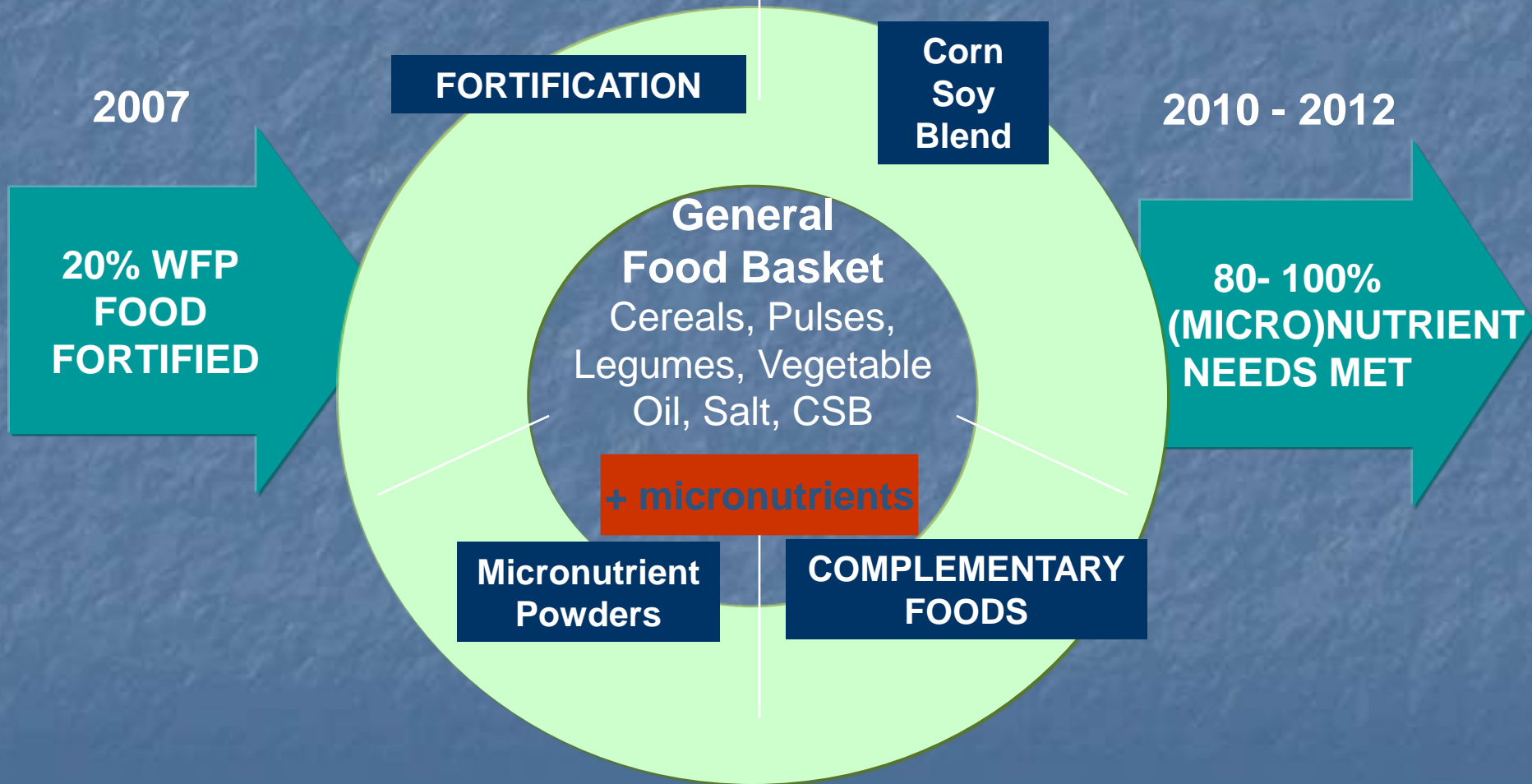
2008:

Post food surplus world

Increase in cash contributions

Question: What's in the cup ?

What is WFP Doing ?



What is WFP Doing ?

- Review/expanding existing products
- Incorporating new products – RUTFs, RUFs
- Policy dialogue –World Bank, REACH

Review of Existing Products – CSB

- ✓ relatively low cost
- ✓ limited cooking time
- ✓ good mix of proteins and micronutrients

- X not all potential micronutrients included
- X diluted / weakened during cooking
- X iron and zinc absorption limited
- X not ideal for meeting high nutritional needs of young children (u/2)

CSB – Proposed Changes

- Improved micronutrients specs
- Dehulling soy beans (thus decreasing fibre and phytate content)
- Reduction in aflatoxin levels
- CSB *plus milk, oil and sugar* – for young children

RUTFs - SAM

Ready to Use Therapeutic Foods
– RUTF

Treatment of Severe Acute
Malnutrition (SAM)



UNICEF/SCN Statement

UNICEF the lead agency for RUTF

Advantages

- Allow Community Based Therapeutic Care (CBC) – potential collaborative role of WFP
- Shelf Life
- Not water based

Micro Nutrient Powders (MNP)

- In emergency settings, for every child suffering from SAM, 8 to 10 suffer from moderate malnutrition
- Traditional fortification of veg oil and salt
- Micro nutrient powders offer new opportunities

MNP (con'd)

- Sprinkles / MixMe
- One dose (1 gram) per person per day contains one full RNI of vitamins and minerals
- WFP partnering with DSM
- Enables product to be tailored to target group, unlike traditional fortified staples.
- Avoids quality issues of local fortification of foods



Supplementary Plumpy

Uses soy

For children over one year of age

Being piloted by WFP in Somalia and Ethiopia



Indian RUF

- Chick peas, milk powder, soy bean oil, rice flour, sugar, vitamins and minerals
- Foil wrapped
- Similar to Plumpy Doz
- Still being developed / tested

Policy Dialogue

Global Architecture of Nutrition

“all those interested in working to eliminate maternal and child under-nutrition need to come together...” (Lancet)

Policy dialogue at national level in developing countries – inter-ministerial nature of nutrition

REACH

Ending Children Hunger and Under-nutrition

5 areas of focus:

- Improving the feeding of infants
- Increasing micronutrient intake
- Improving hygiene/parasite control
- Treating severe acute malnutrition
- Increasing availability/accessibility of food

REACH con'd

- Country led, solutions approach, building on existing structures, focusing on scale
- WFP, WHO, UNICEF, FAO in partnership with PVOs, other UN agencies, academic institutions
- Pilots in Laos and Mauritania

Conclusion

Combine the best of the old
with the opportunities of the
new