



World Food  
Programme

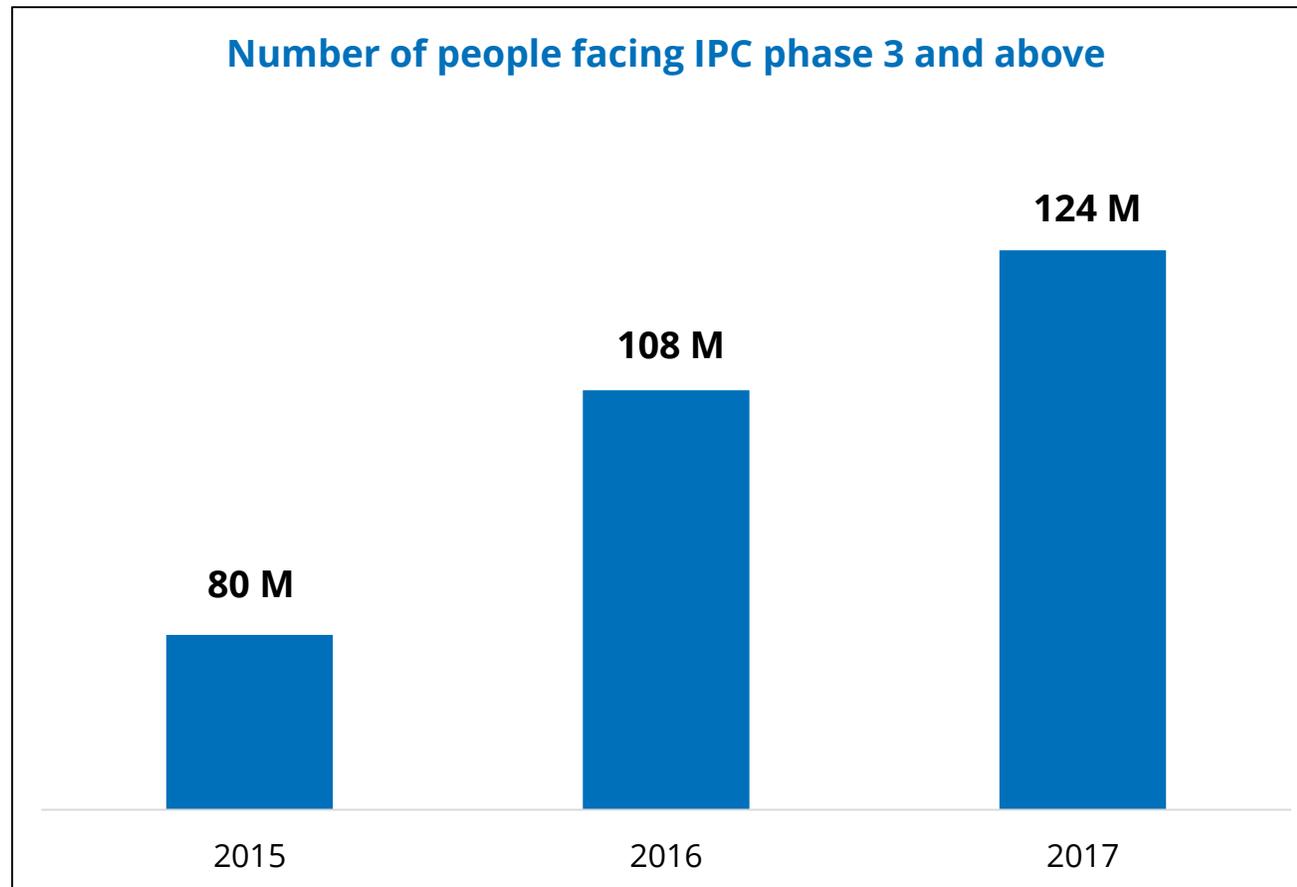


SAVING  
LIVES  
CHANGING  
LIVES

# World Food Assistance 2018

*Preventing Food Crises*

# The number of people caught up in food crises is surging

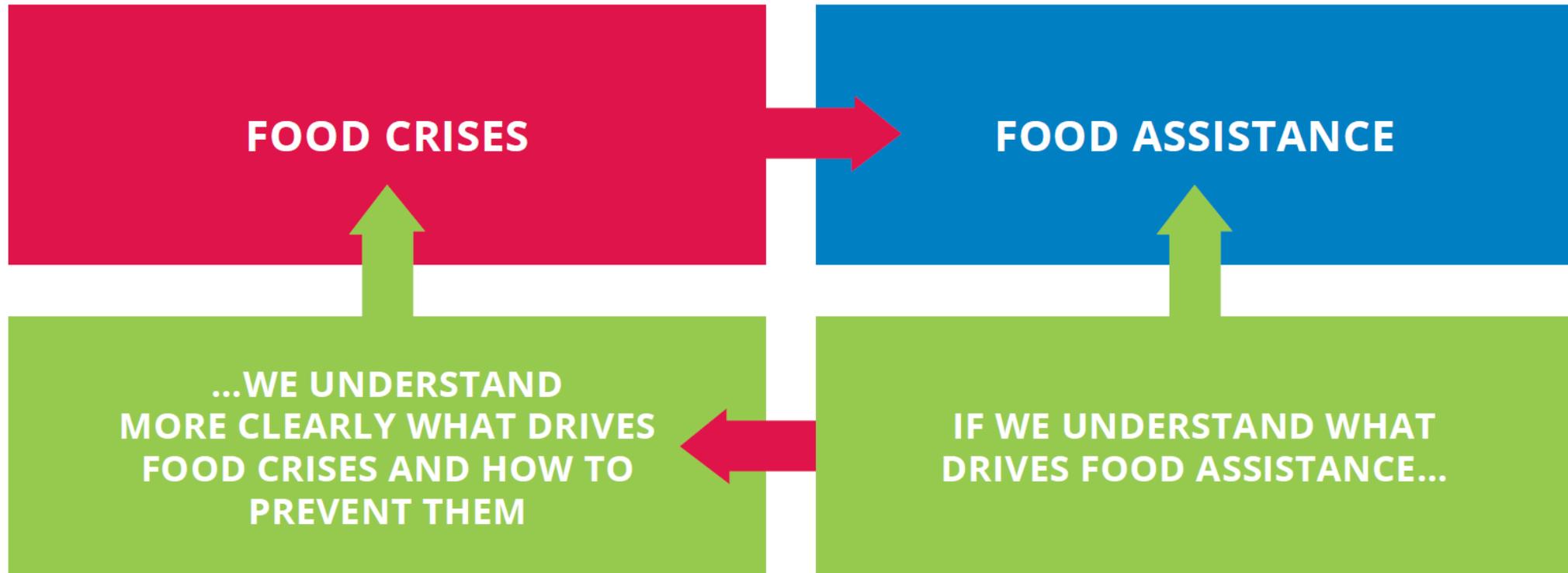


Source: Global Report on Food Crises, 2018

# What drives food crises and how can they be prevented? Anecdotally, we know...



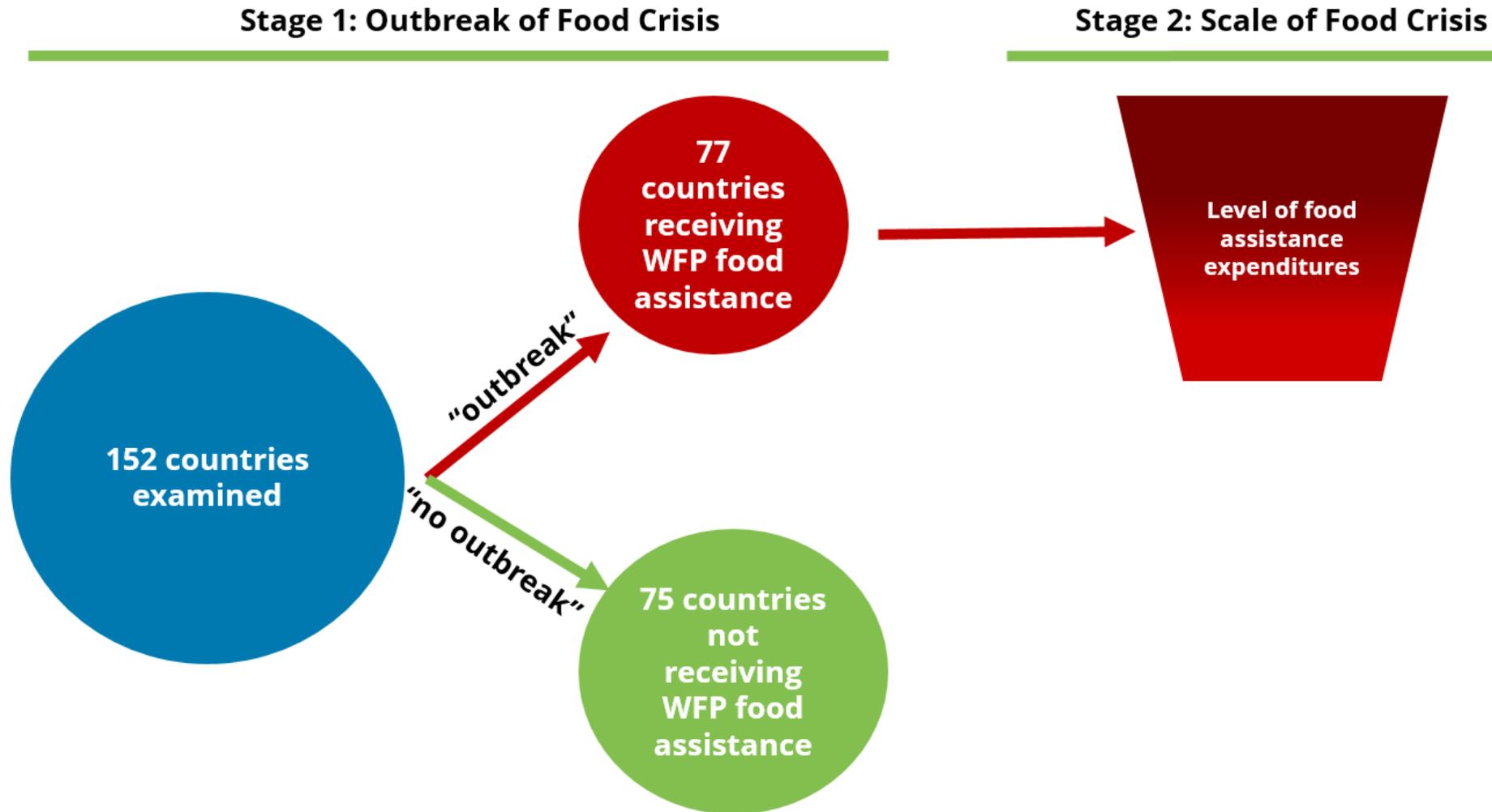
# “Food assistance analysis” sheds unique light on this fundamental question



# WoFA 2018 examines three main issues...



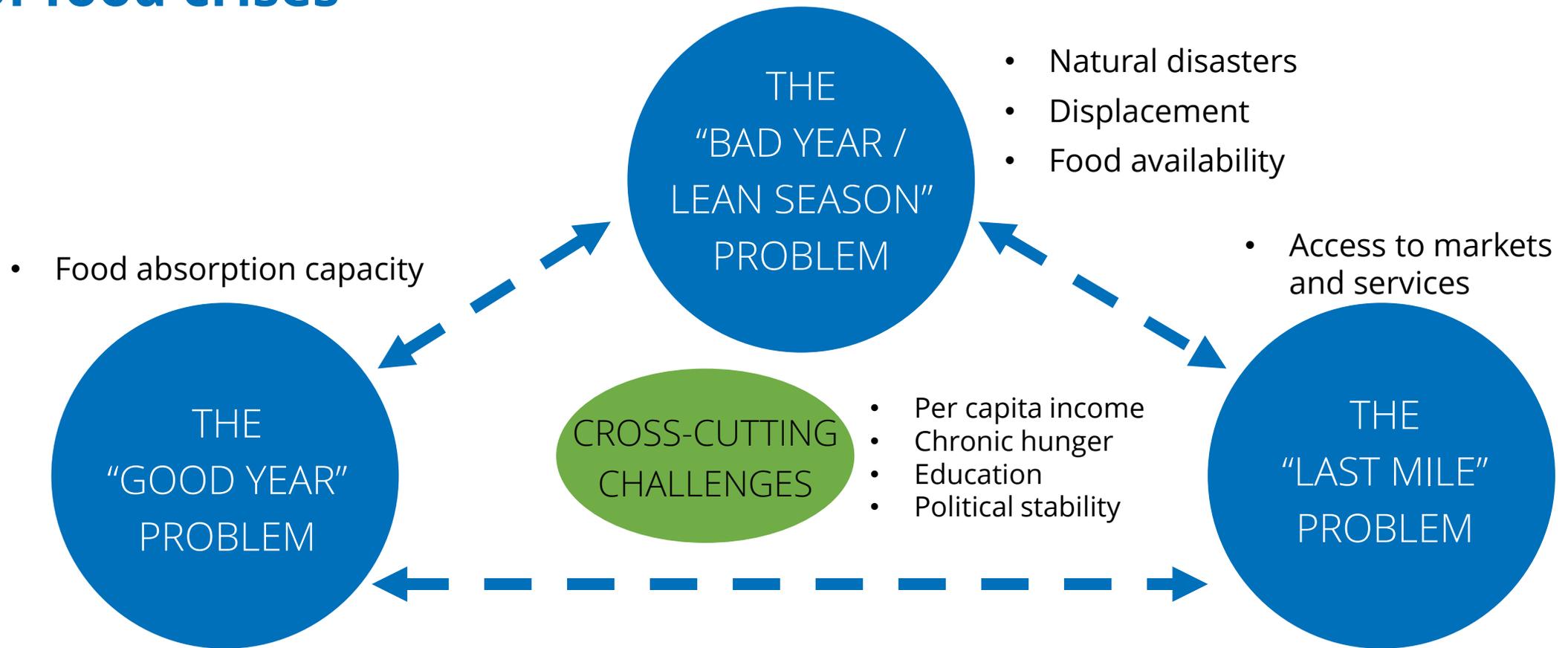
# A two stage modelling strategy is employed



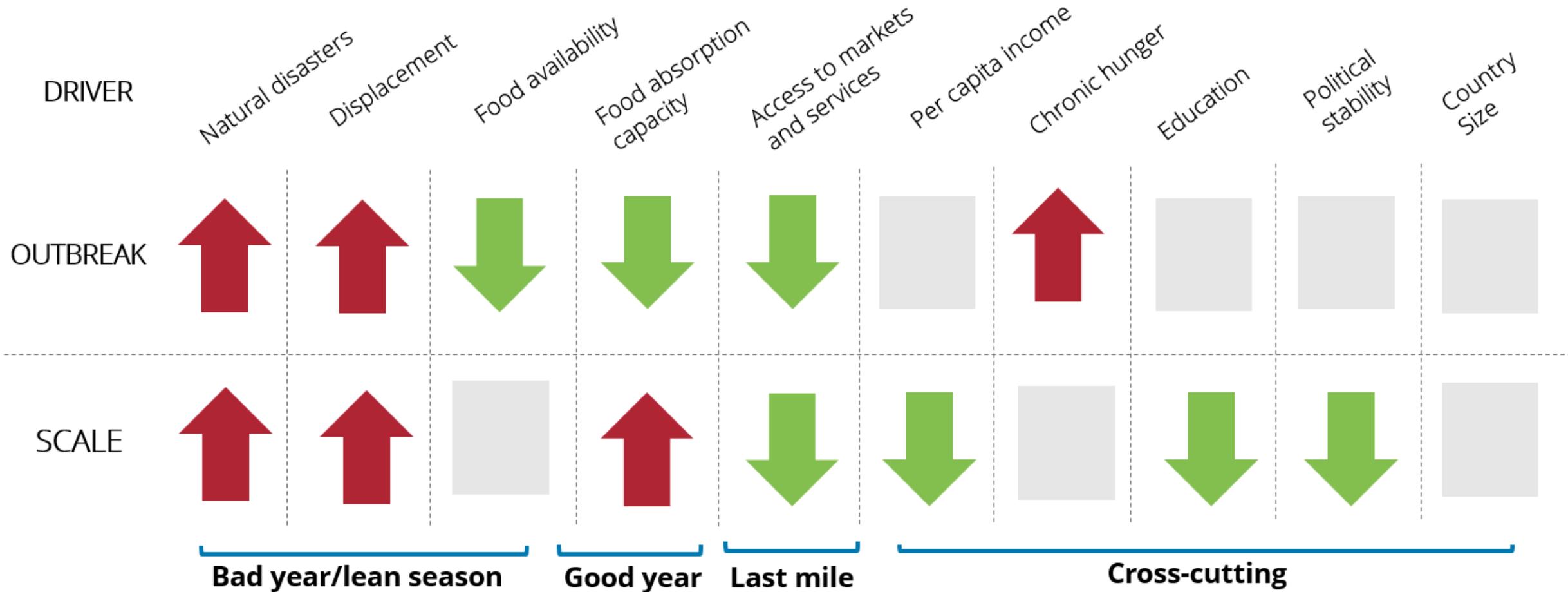
Our proposition is that both outbreaks and scales of food crises are rooted in systemic problems in food systems, and in a number of cross-cutting challenges



# Available data allow for empirical examination of linkages between these problems and challenges and food assistance expenditures, thereby shedding light on drivers of food crises



# The empirical results reveal that outbreak and scale of food crises are driven by different sets of factors



# The impacts on food assistance expenditures vary by driver

## CRISIS INTENSIFIERS

A 1% increase in the share of population that is **uprooted**



A 1% increase in the share of population affected by **natural disasters**



A one point increase in the **food absorption capacity** growth rate



## CRISIS MITIGATORS

A one point increase in the **political stability index**



An additional year of **education**



An additional kilometre of **road** per 1000 people

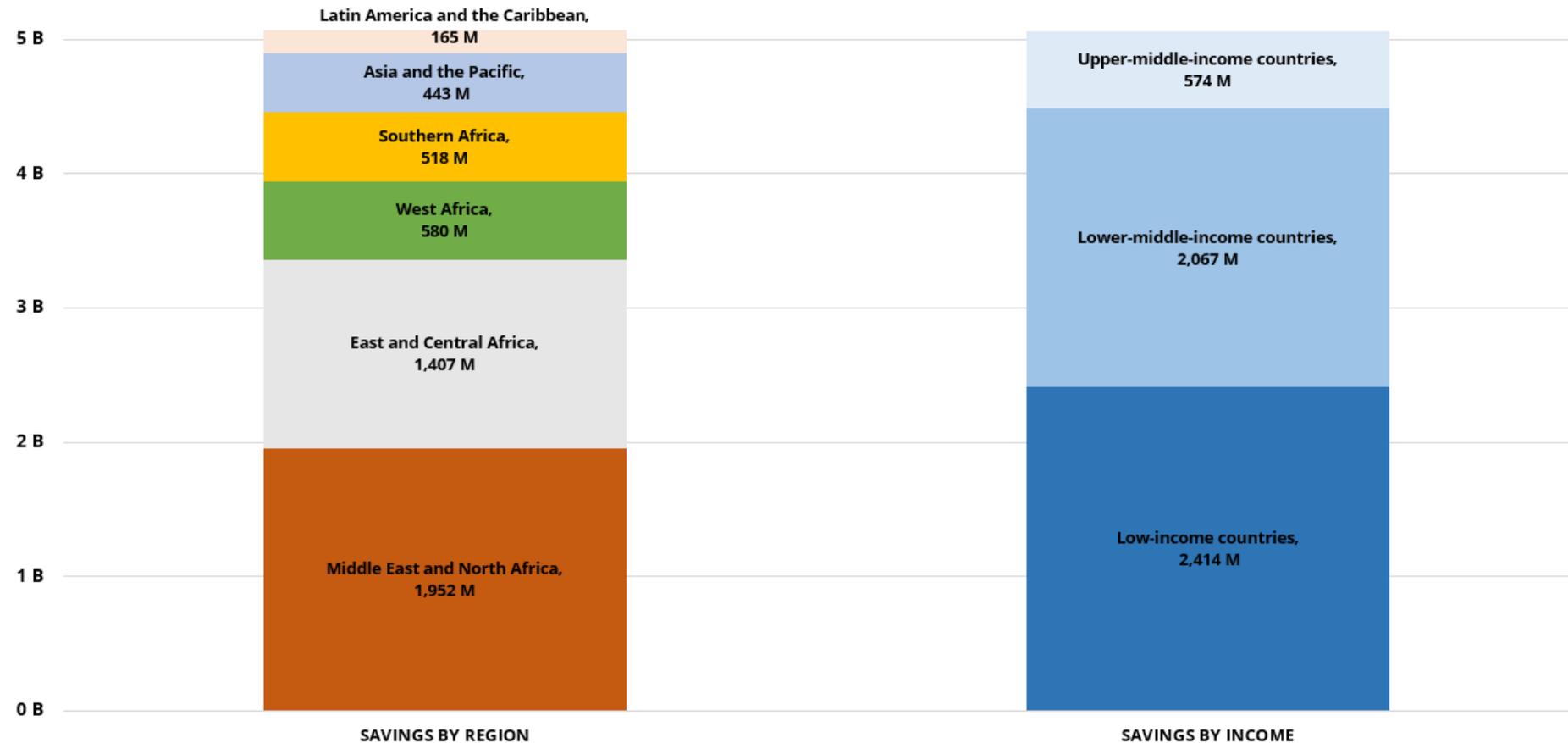


1% increase in **per capita income**

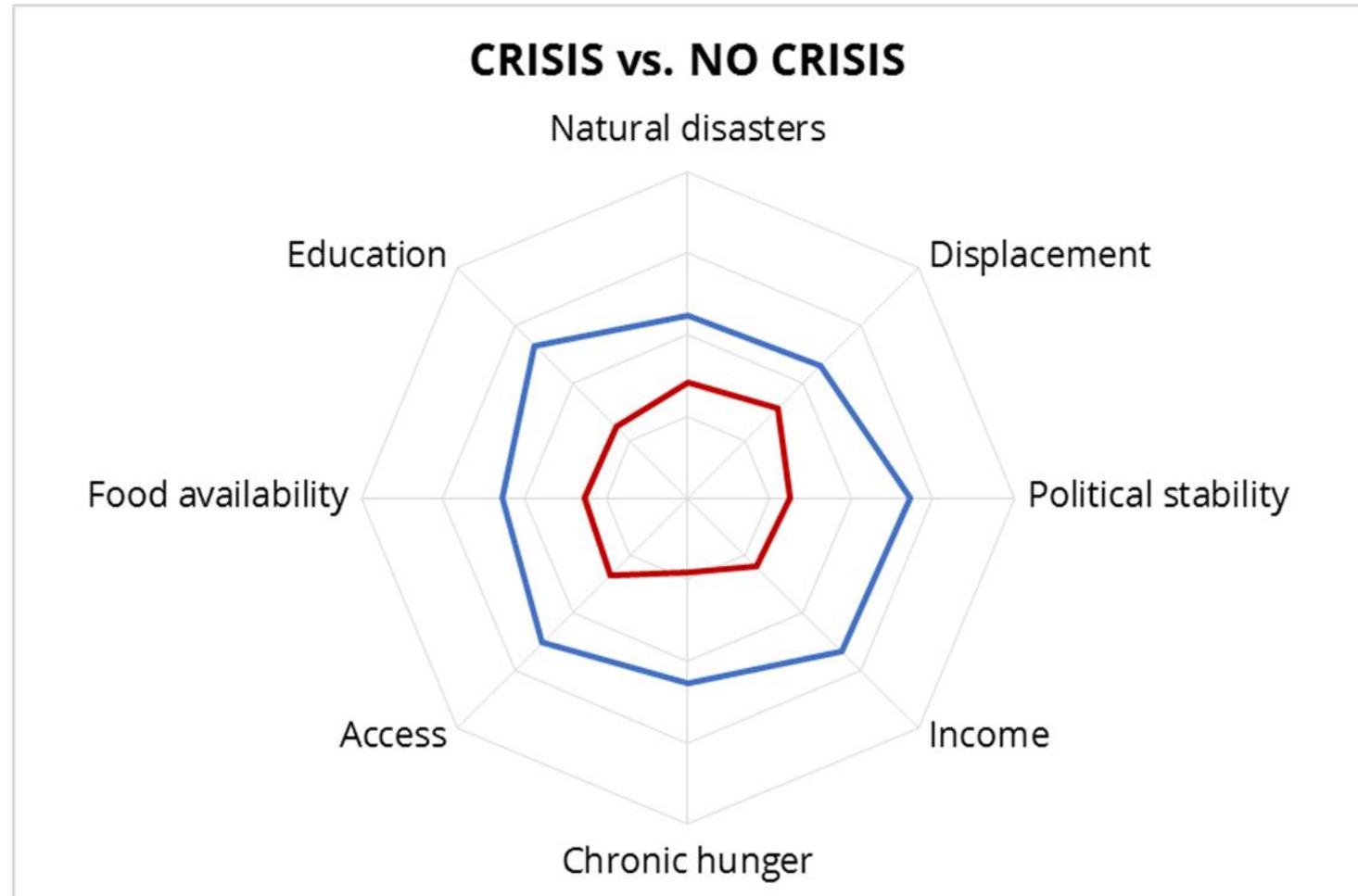
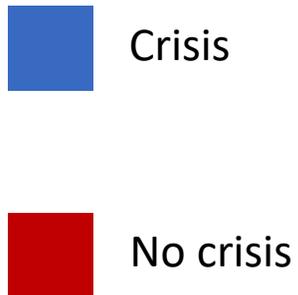


# The distribution of food assistance savings across regions and income group fits with patterns of actual expenditures (USD)

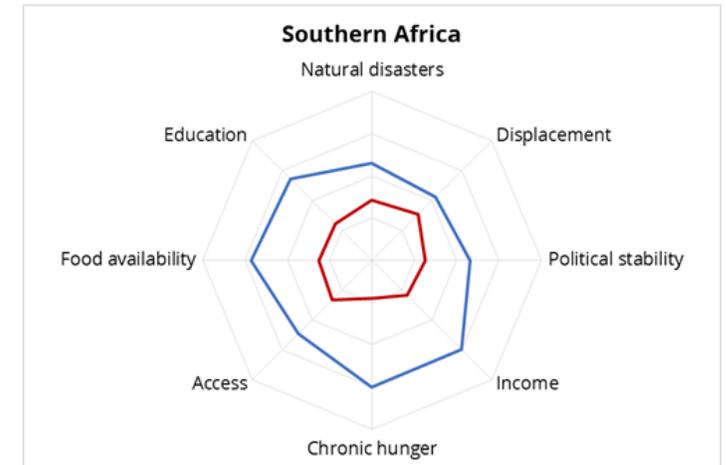
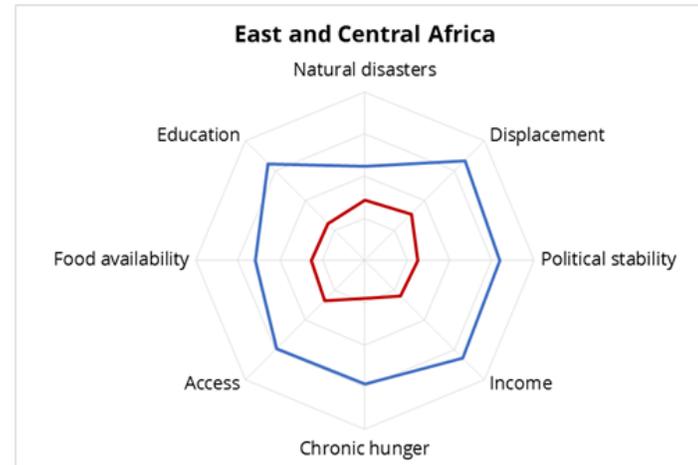
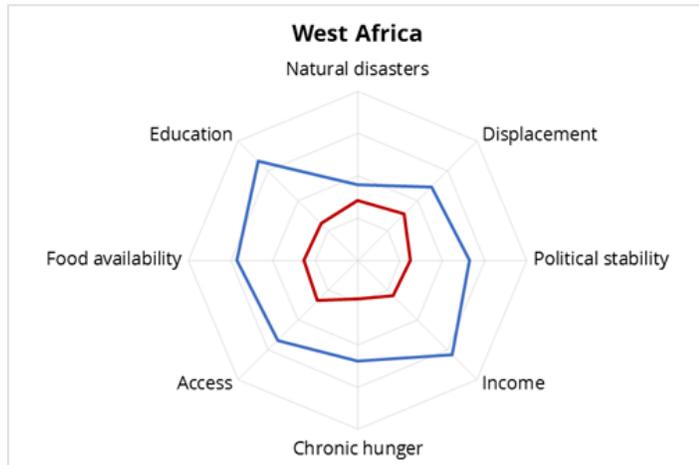
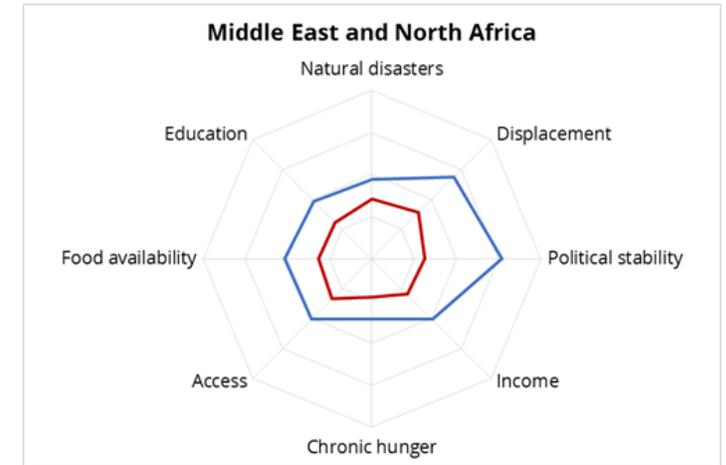
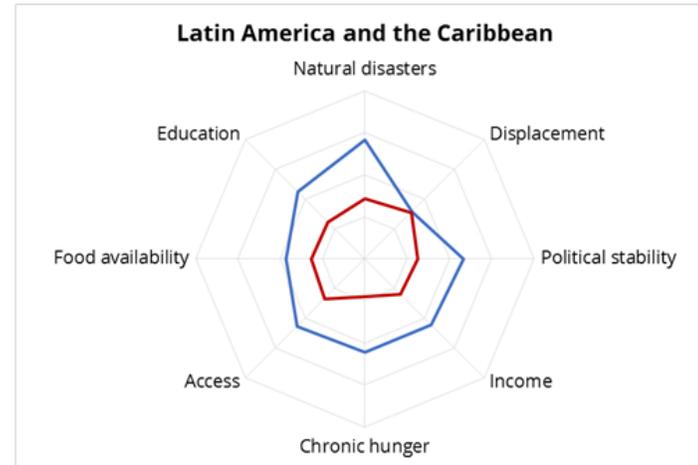
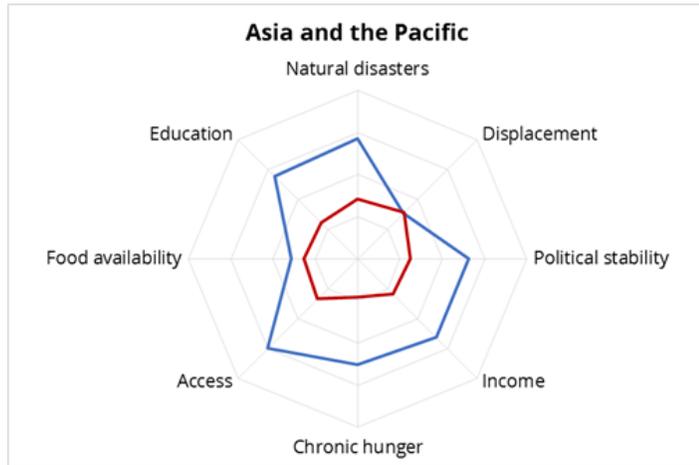
POTENTIAL SAVINGS 2016



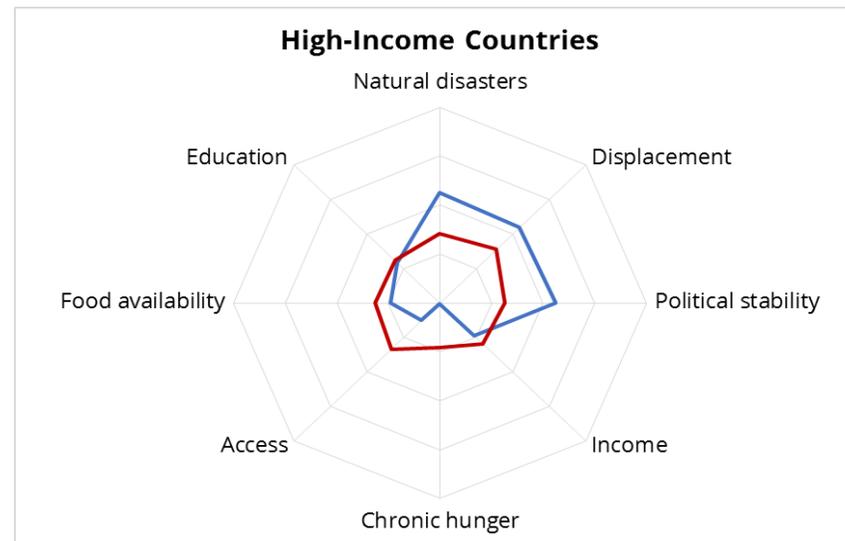
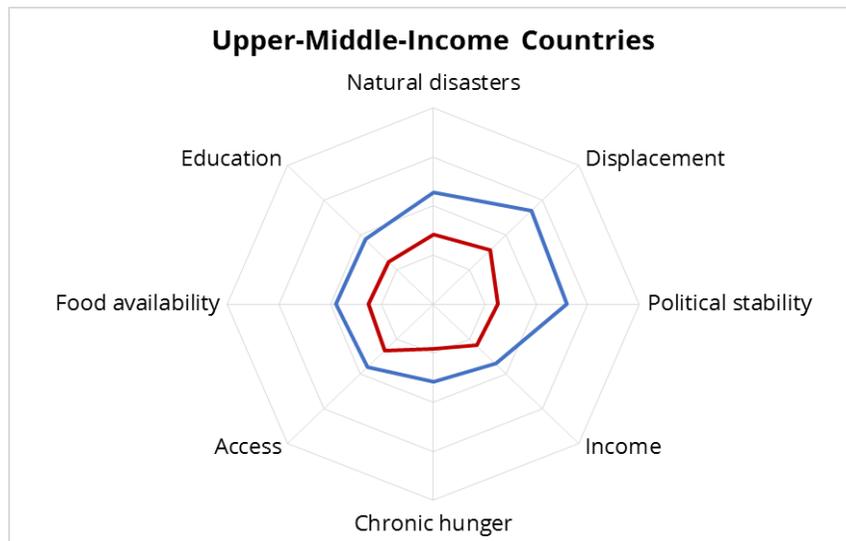
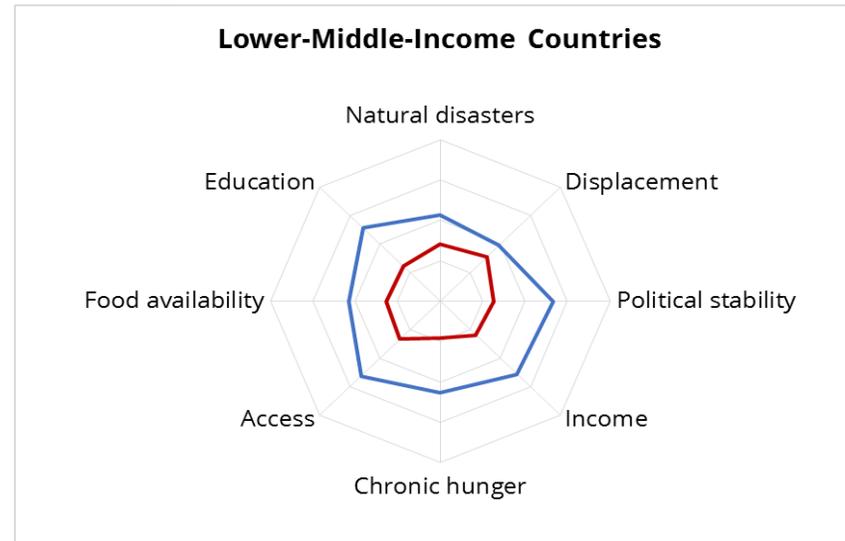
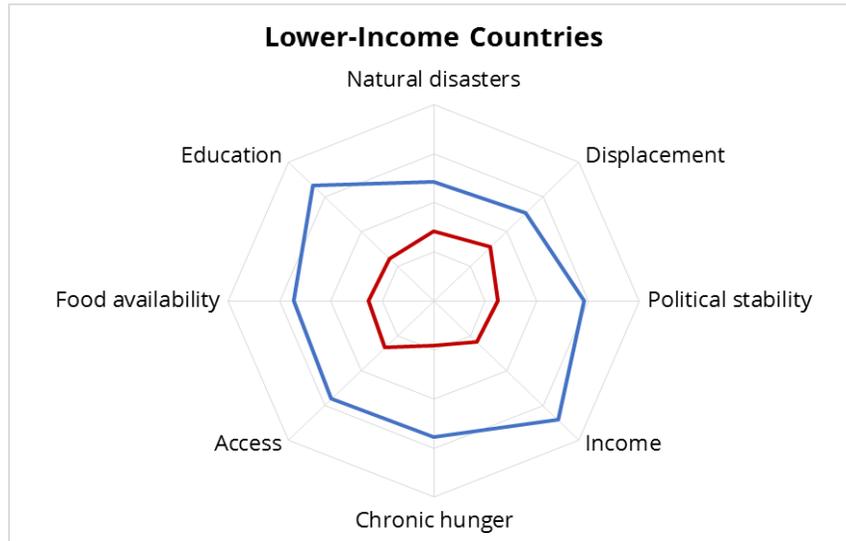
As expected, the factors that increase the risk of food crises are more important in the set of countries where WFP is operational than they are in other countries, but their relative importance differs significantly



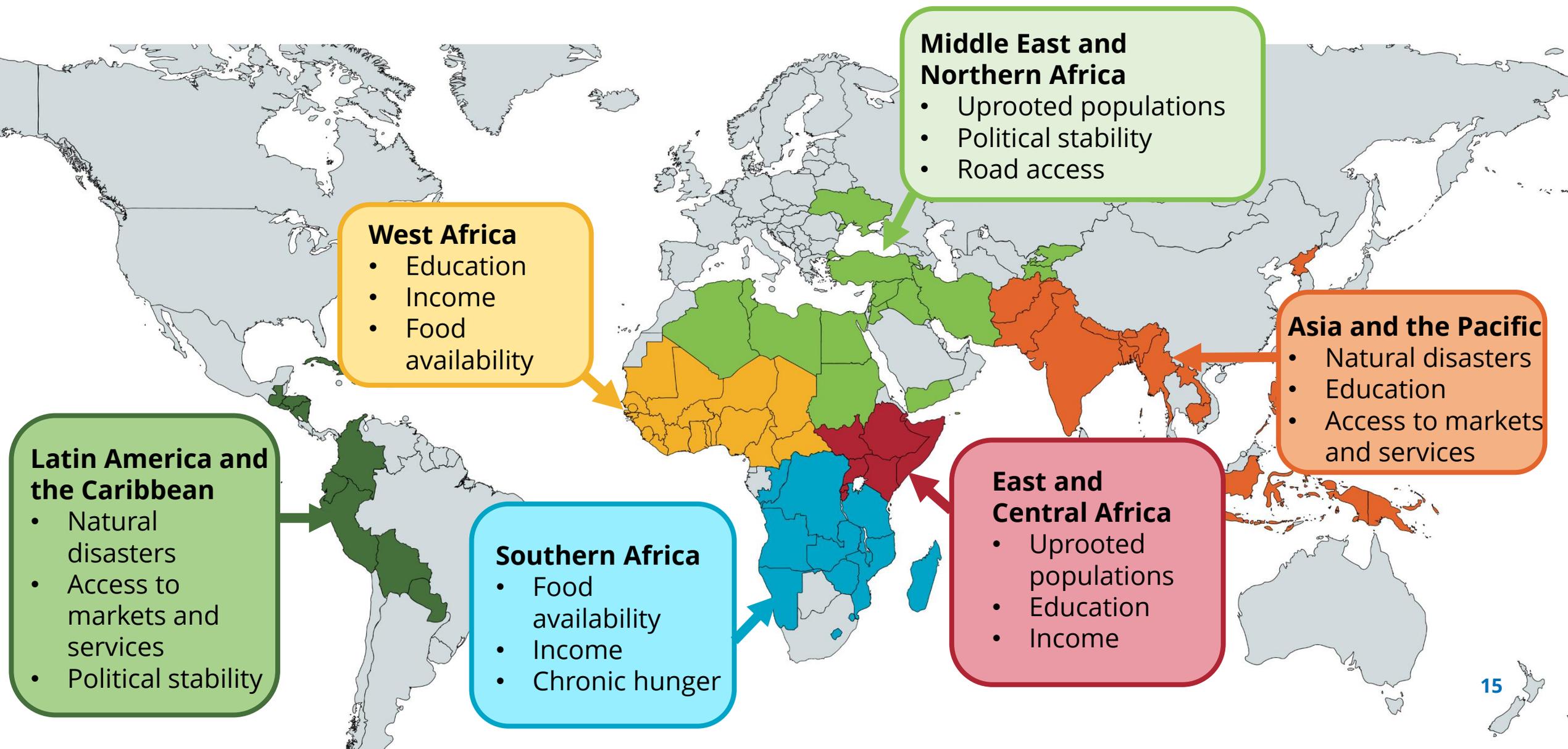
# The importance of identified risk factors differs across regions...



# ... and also across income groups



# Priorities for preventing food crises vary across regions...



# ...and across income groups

## LOWER-INCOME COUNTRIES

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- Income
- Education
- Chronic hunger

## LOWER MIDDLE-INCOME COUNTRIES

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- Political stability
- Education
- Road access

## UPPER MIDDLE-INCOME COUNTRIES

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- Uprooted populations
- Political stability
- Road access

## HIGH-INCOME COUNTRIES

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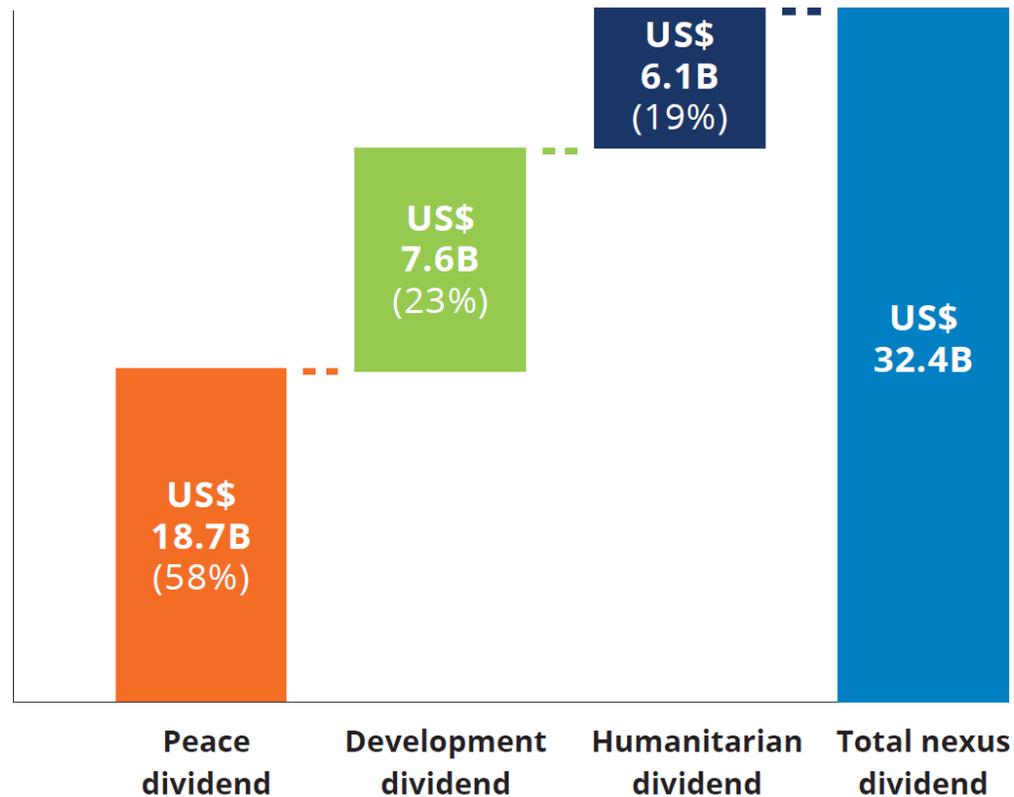
- Natural disasters
- Uprooted populations
- Political stability

# Food crisis risk factors straddle the humanitarian-development-peace nexus

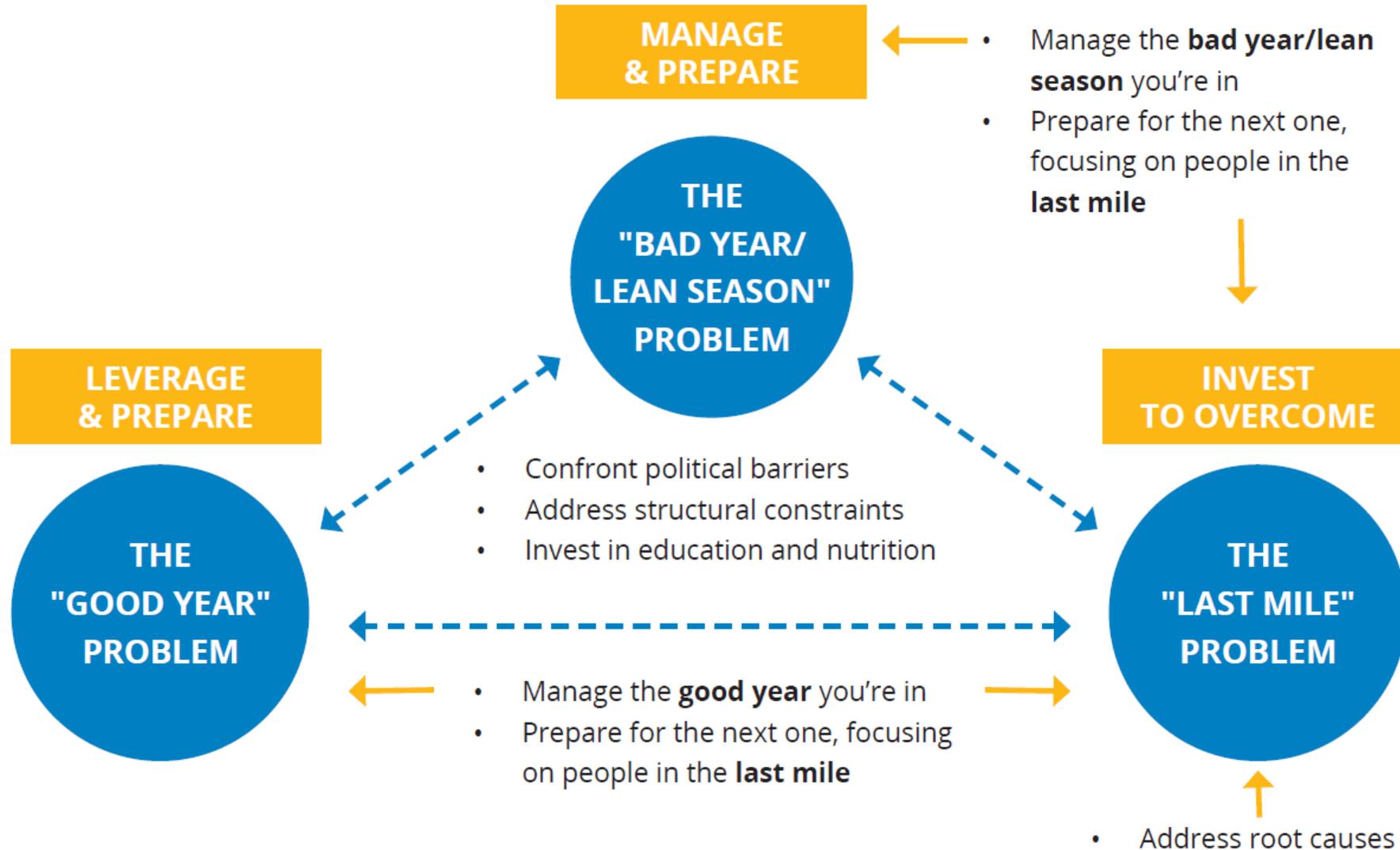


# Food assistance-related humanitarian-development-peace “dividends” are significant

Estimated food assistance-related savings 2009-2016



# In summary, to prevent food crises...



# So What?

## Regarding Food Crisis Prevention...

- 1. Peace and political stability are by far the most important areas for attention and investment**
  - But even under conditions of relative instability, risks of food crises can be significantly reduced through targeted investment in a range of areas
- 2. Food crisis prevention is relevant for all countries – it is not the preserve of high-income countries**
  - Lower income countries that improve nutrition, education, and infrastructure can significantly limit outbreaks and expansions of food crises
- 3. Emergency preparedness is vital, but food crisis prevention extends well beyond that**
  - The span of food assistance across a range of contexts reveals a wider set of requirements
- 4. Food crisis prevention is never-ending but highly rewarding**
  - It is a long-term investment agenda with very high near-term returns

## Regarding Food Assistance...

- 1. Food assistance does indeed bridge the humanitarian-development-peace nexus**
  - The magnitude of food assistance-related nexus dividends points to a vital bridging role
- 2. Food assistance reflects systemic failures in food systems**
  - Food assistance programmes can be potent platforms for food system strengthening
- 3. Food assistance reflects deeply-rooted gaps in political, social, and economic performance**
  - The geography, duration, and magnitude of food assistance expenditures provide strong signals for rewarding development investment
- 4. “Food assistance analysis” is an exciting and high-potential new area of attention for researchers and practitioners**
  - It opens scope to rigorously predict food assistance needs in different contexts, improving planning and budgeting

Thank you

