



Policy coherence for nutrition

A role for science



United Nations System Standing Committee on Nutrition

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Ghent., Tropentag

UNSCN

- Established as a UN System Standing Committee by **ECOSOC Resolution** in 1977. Since 1 January 2016, Secretariat located at FAO HQ, Rome.
- Current Chair: IFAD Vice-President C. Richter

Mandate

- Keep under review the overall **direction, scale, coherence and impact** of the UN System response to nutrition problems;
- Be point of **convergence** to harmonize UN policies, activities;
- Provide initiative in development and **harmonization of concepts, policies, strategies and programs** in UN System;
- **Appraise** experience and progress towards achievement of objectives, and lay down **guidelines** for mutually supporting action at UN interagency and country levels.

UNSCN

- Is **universal** in scope
- Advocates a **human-right based** approach to nutrition
- Concentrates on the **UN system**
- Works on **all forms of malnutrition**
- Promotes **intersectoral** analysis and action
- Focuses on **global** issues that relate to local realities and needs



Products

1. Annual **World Nutrition Reports** before its current format: Global Nutrition Report
2. Flagship publication: **43 SCN News**: peer reviewed publication, distributed worldwide substantively contributing to nutrition conversations
3. **Policy** documents, leading to discussion and policy coherence
4. **Technical briefs and guidance**: consistent delivery of nutrition programmes

UNSCN Strategic Plan 2016-2020

- **Inclusive** and **open** to all **UN agencies** having significant interest or engagement in nutrition. Members include **IAEA, UNWomen, UNEnvironment, UNHCR, OCHA, UNDESA, UNIDO** and **CEB**. **CGIAR** is associate member. Growing membership.
- **Steering committee: FAO, IFAD, UNICEF, WFP, WHO**, UNSCN Chair and Secretariat
- **Subsidiarity principle**, including delegation of responsibility to members on behalf of UNSCN

Strategic Objectives

1. Maximize UN **Policy coherence and advocacy** on nutrition
2. Support **consistent and accountable delivery** by the UN System
3. Explore **new and emerging** nutrition-related issues
4. Promote **knowledge sharing** across the UN System



Political impetus for action against malnutrition

2016: UN Decade of Action on Nutrition 2016-2025



The aim of the Nutrition Decade is to **accelerate implementation** of the ICN2 commitments, **achieve** the Global Nutrition and diet-related NCD targets by 2025 and contribute to the **realisation** of the SDGs by 2030



Role of UNSCN

- **Governments** are the lead actors in setting **national policy frameworks** within which other public or private actors can operate
- **UN agencies support governments** in their framework-setting role (support for policy development, increase access to nutrition resources, technical and functional support, implementation efforts)
- Emerging issues, knowledge and policy development: role of UNSCN and science

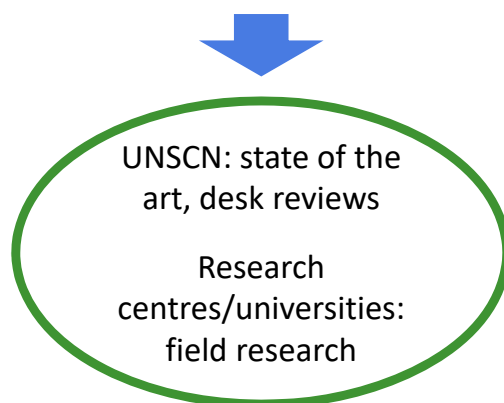
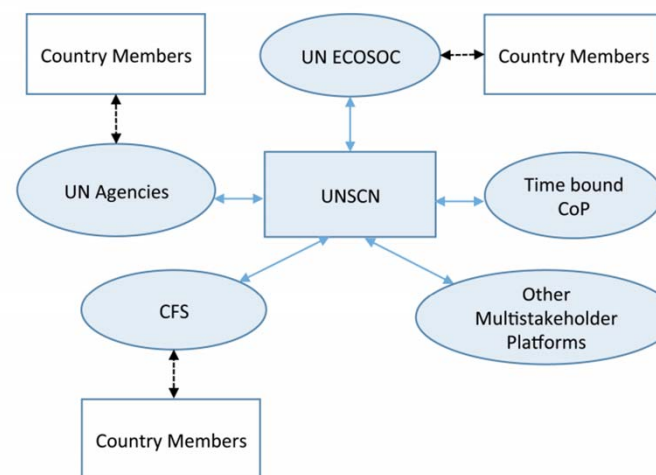
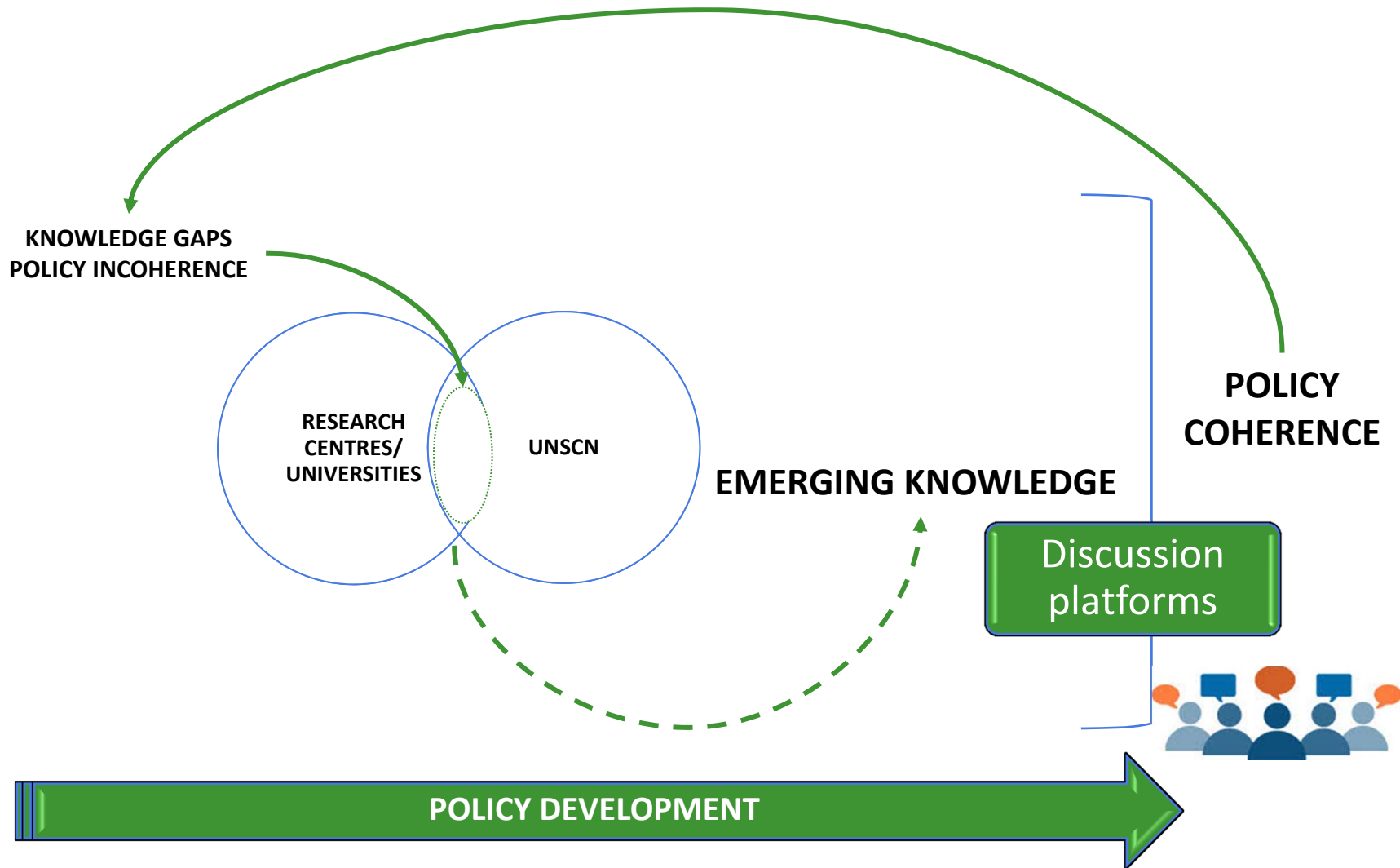


Figure 4.
UNSCN ways of working



Note
Solid line signifies direct working relationship. Broken line signifies indirect working relationship via other actor/platform.

Emerging knowledge, knowledge gaps and policy development



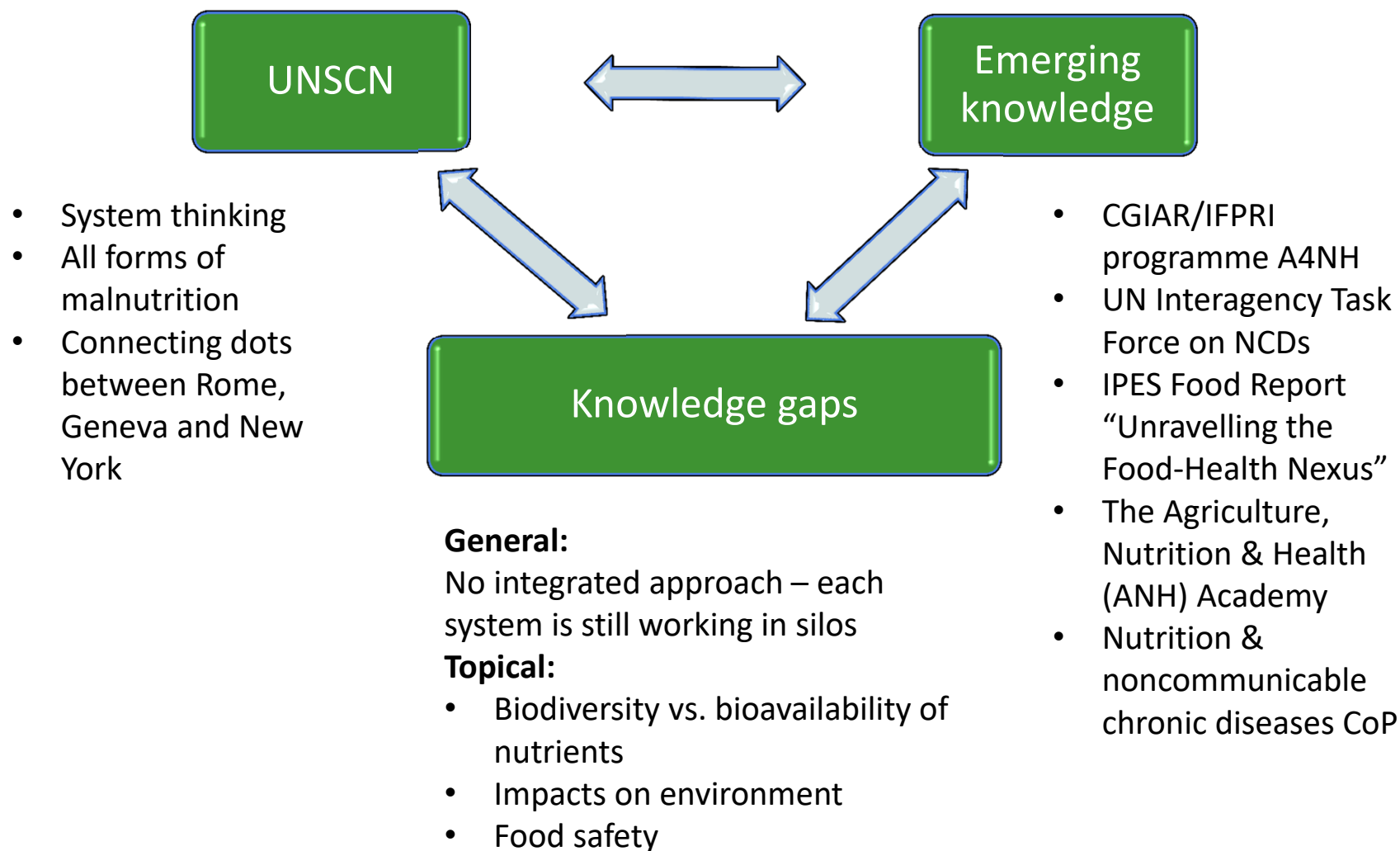
EMERGING KNOWLEDGE, KNOWLEDGE GAPS AND POLICY DEVELOPMENT

New and emerging Cross-sectoral issues

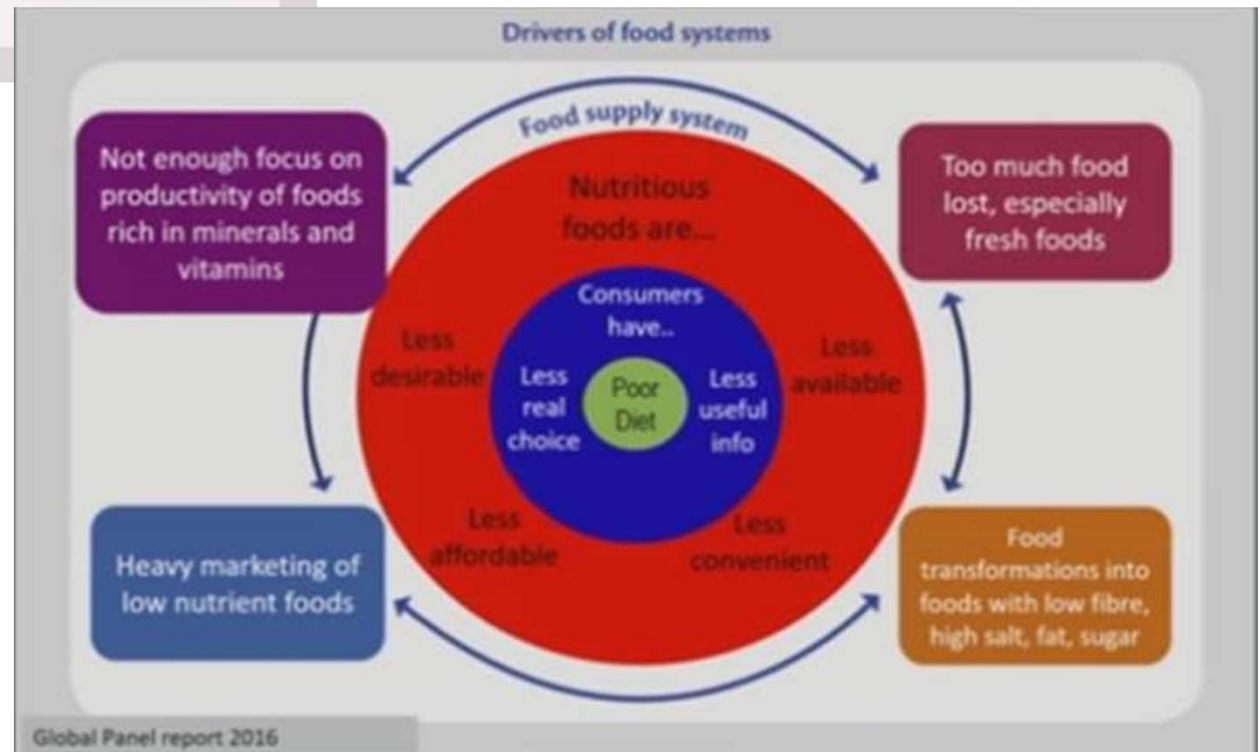
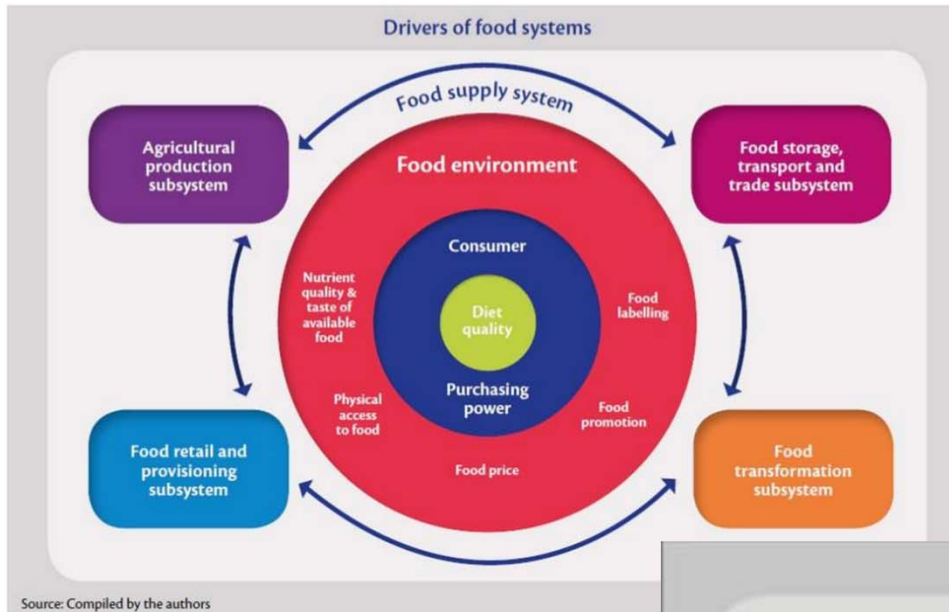
1. Nutrition, food systems and health systems
2. Nutrition, food systems and social protection
3.
 - A. Migration and Nutrition
 - B. Rural transformation, urbanization and nutrition
4. Climate and nutrition, resilience of food systems, mitigating greenhouse gas emissions

**NUTRITION TOO IMPORTANT TO LEAVE TO
NUTRITIONISTS ALONE**

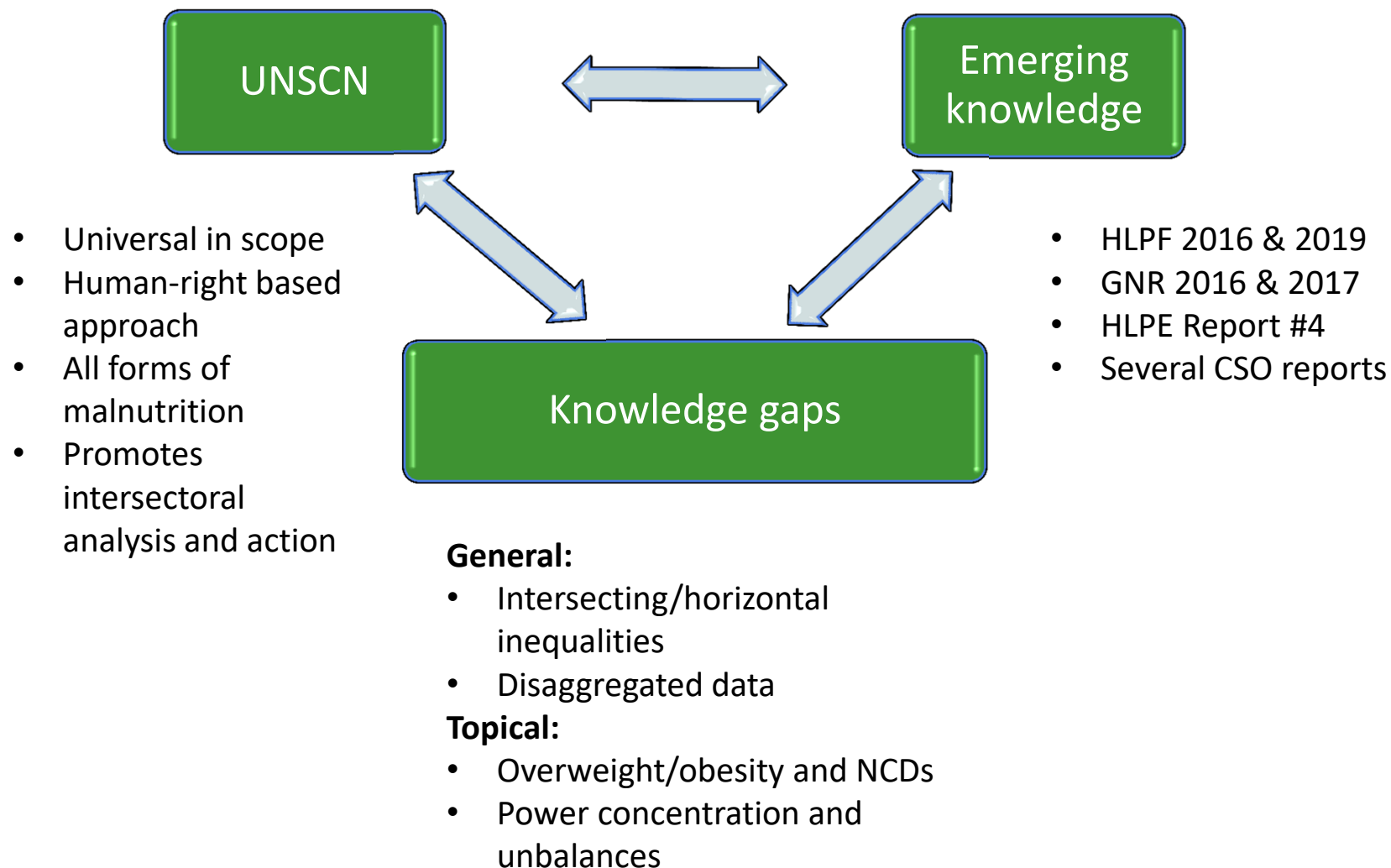
1. Nutrition, food systems and health systems



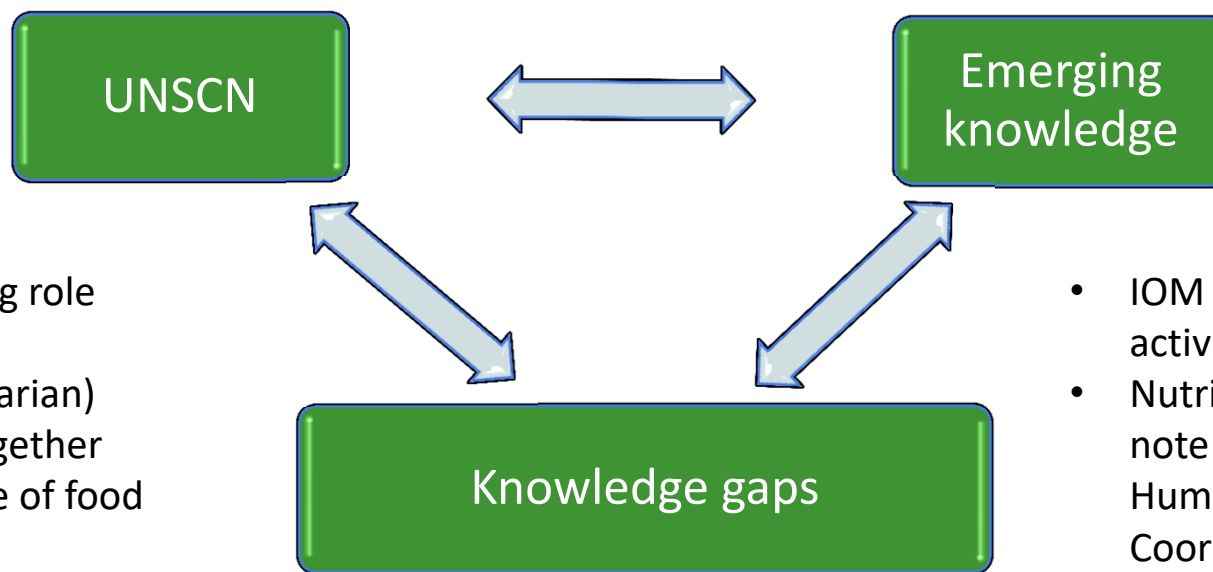
Food systems and diets



2. Nutrition, food systems and social protection



3. A) Migration and Nutrition



- Convening role bringing (humanitarian) actors together
- Resilience of food systems
- Policy coherence: Short term interventions in line with long term interventions

General:

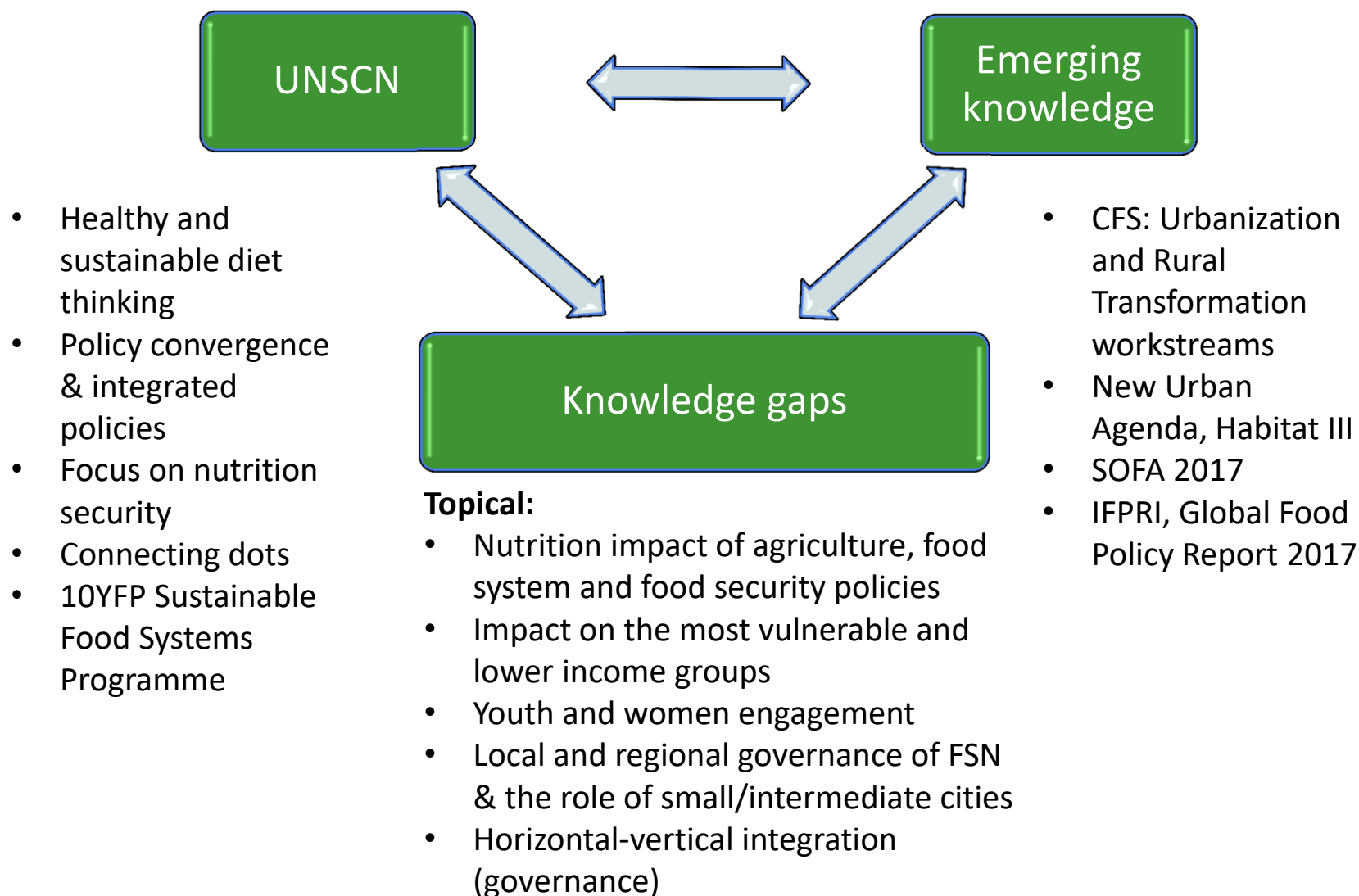
- Missing data for people on the move

Topical:

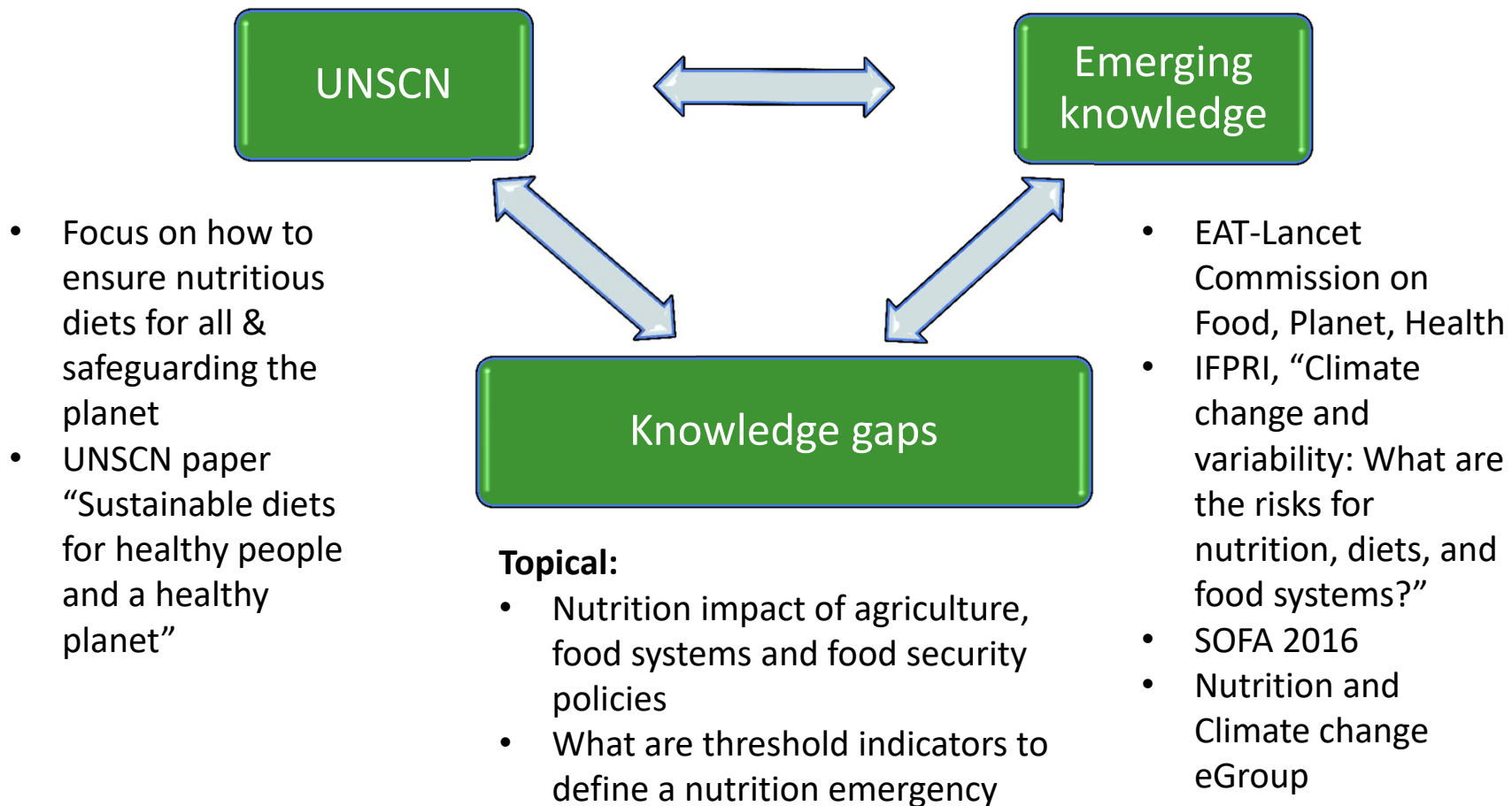
- Threshold indicators to define a nutrition emergency
- Resilient food systems for both host communities and displaced people.
- Horizontal-vertical integration (governance)

- IOM nutrition activities
- Nutrition guidance note for the UN Humanitarian Coordinators
- SOFI 2017
- CFS, FFA for Food Security and Nutrition in Protracted Crisis
- Emergency Nutrition Network (ENN)

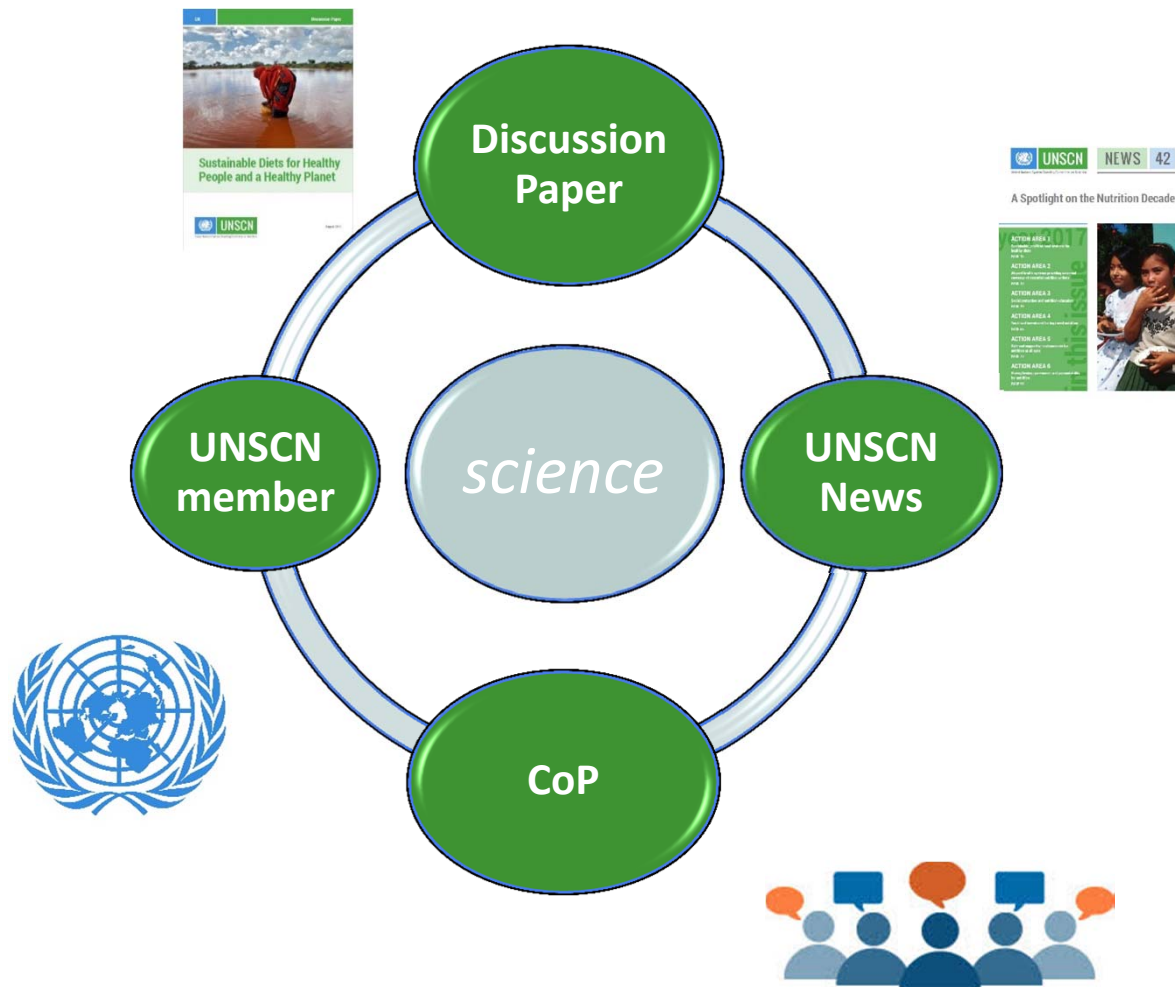
3. B) Rural transformation, urbanization and nutrition



4. Climate and nutrition, resilience of food systems, mitigating greenhouse gas emissions



Articulation of question!





UNSCN vision

A world free from hunger and all forms of malnutrition is attainable in this generation



United Nations System Standing Committee on Nutrition

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