



# Dairy Products: Whole foods for the future

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CEP CNE  
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Make today matter



UNIVERSITEIT VAN PRETORIA  
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Faculty of  
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Fakulteit Gesondheidswetenskappe  
Lefapha la Disaense tša Maphelo



Source: UN

# DAIRY PRODUCTS

Whole foods

For the future

Food matrix

Sustainable diets



Part 1



Part 2

# Part 1: FOOD MATRIX

## Description

- *whole of chemical components (nutrients and non-nutrients) of food plus*
- *their molecular & supra-molecular relationships plus*
- *and the way those components are mechanically & structurally organised*
- *at micro-, meso-, and macroscopic scales*
- *as they appear in nature and change over time, or following food processing*

Adapted from:  
Capuano et al (2019);  
Kaufmann & Palzer (2011)

affecting the

- *release*
- *mass transfer*
- *accessibility*
- *digestibility*
- *stability*

*of many food compounds*  
(cited by Aguilara et al, 2018)

The food matrix (consumer perspective) is the result of

- Raw materials
- Product processing (at home and/or industrial) & changes during shelf-life
- Consumption & digestion

# “Raw materials”

The food as it comes from nature :

➔ “Traditional” / “conventional” foods

Many matrix differences

Natural differences in

bioaccessibility (*release of a nutritive compound from its food matrix into the digestive juices of the GIT*)  
and

bioavailability (*proportion of nutritive compound that is absorbed and reaches systemic circulation*)

# “Raw materials”

Examples of natural (nutrient) matrix effects on nutrient bio-accessibility / bio-availability

## MACRONUTRIENTS

### **Carbohydrates:**

Monosaccharides vs polysaccharides  
Dietary fibre (soluble vs insoluble)  
Glycemic response  
Particle sizes (whole grain vs milled / solid food vs [home/natural] processed)

### **Proteins**

Amino acids vs peptides vs proteins  
Biological value (quality) of proteins  
Digestibility

### **Lipids**

Triglycerides .... Fatty acids... phospholipids... cholesterol.....

*Well-studied in  
plant-source  
foods  
? Animal-source  
foods*

## MICRONUTRIENTS

Iron: Haem vs non-haem

Vitamin A

Calcium

Vit C etc

Capuano et al (2019);  
Turgeon & Rioux (2011)

# “[Industrial] Food processing”

- Food structure engineering

includes

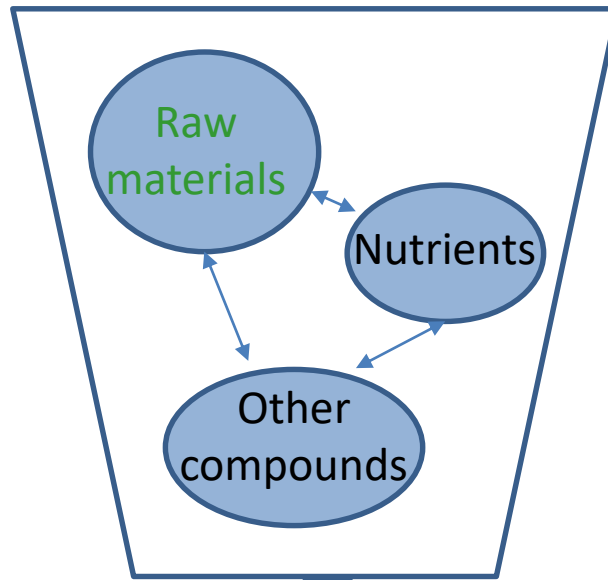
- Homogenisation, fractioning, separation, dehydration, concentration
- Heat, pressure, enzyme, membrane treatments
- Coagulation, thickening, gelling, foaming, emulsions

- Functional foods / Nutraceuticals

“**Tailoring**” of foods:

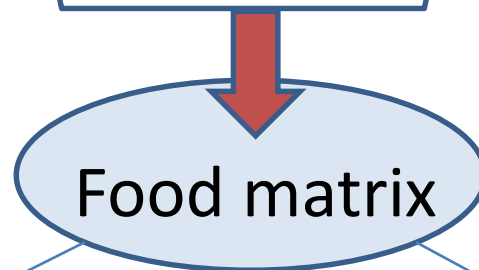
- ↓Energy (fat & sugar) density / salt reduction
- Stabilisation; ↑bioavailability of bioactive compounds; encapsulation of aroma compounds
- ↑ nutritional profile (e.g. additions e.g. bioactive compounds; fibre content)
- Modulated digestion

Kaufmann & Palzer (2011)  
Udenigwe & Fogliano (2017)  
Turgeon & Rioux (2011)



## Processing

- Physical
- Chemical
- Biochemical



## Food acceptance

- Sensory quality
- Convenience
- Self life
- Price

## Nutrient bioavailability

## Health effects

Adapted from: Turgeon & Rioux (2011)



# “Consumption & Digestion”

Foods are usually not consumed in isolation (meals / snacks): food-food interactions

Food patterns (timing/intervals of intake)

Nutrition and health status effects on bioaccessibility / bioavailability

# What about Dairy?

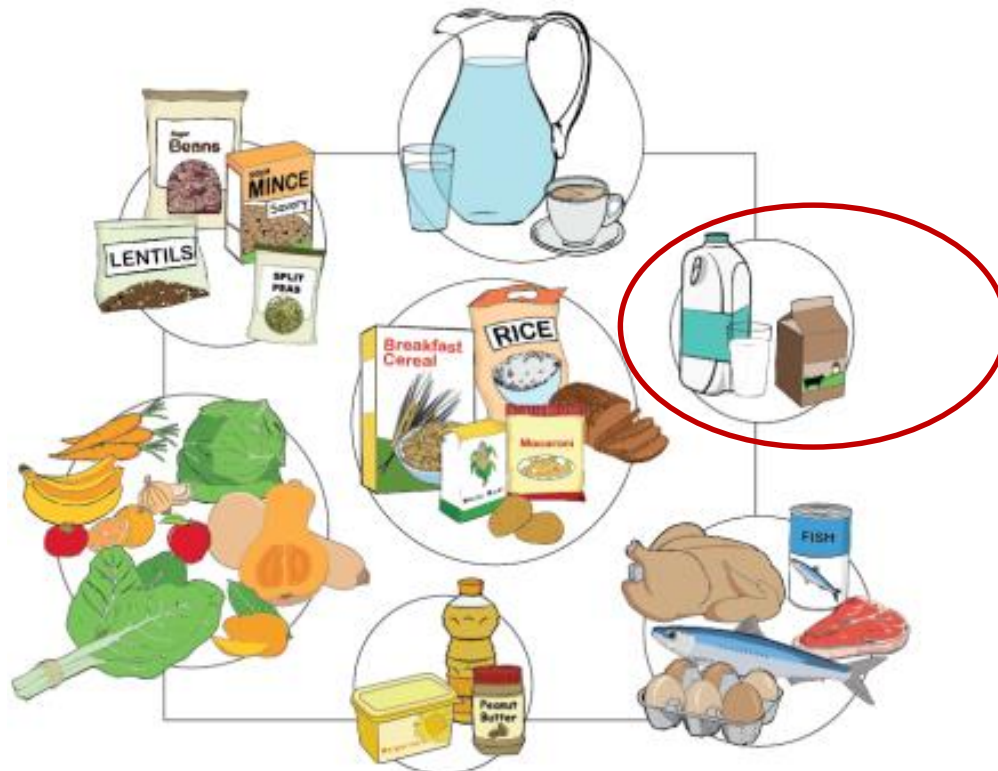
## Role of **nutrients / dairy components**

- Low and middle income countries (incl SA): Provision of *gap nutrients* known to be deficient or marginal (for meeting DRI's); → e.g addressing “Hidden Hunger” & need for high biological value proteins
- For industrialised and emerging economies (nutrition transition): Prevention of non-communicable diseases.  
Focus on
  - calcium
  - protein (type & amount)
  - fat (total, type and milk fat globule membrane: “MFGM”)
  - CHO (fermentation)

**BUT diets consist of foods** (not nutrients & other components in isolation)

➔ Food Based Dietary Guidelines

**Have milk, maas or yoghurt every day**



# BUT: Dairy is not a homogenous food group

## Composition:

Dairy product	Calcium (mg/100g)	MFGM (mg/100g)	Protein (amount [mg/100g]; type)	Fermented	Fat structure	Protein network
Milk, skimmed	124	15	3.5; Whey/casein	No	Tiny native MFG/potential MFGM	Liquid
Milk, 3.5% fat	116	35	3.4; Whey/casein	No	Native MFG or homogenised milk fat droplets/potential MFGM	Liquid

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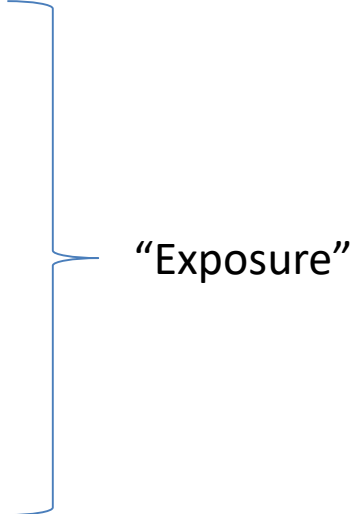
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Cheese (25% fat)	659	150	23.2; Casein	Yes	MFG/aggregates/free fat	Solid / viscoelastic

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Cream (38% fat)	67	200	2; -	No	Native MFG or homogenised milk fat droplets/potential MFGM	Liquid
Butter	15	-	<1; -	No/Yes	Continuous fat phase (water in oil emulsion) / MFGM residue traces	-

# The health effects of dairy products differ

- Different research questions, e.g.
    - **Total dairy** vs **dairy products**
    - Dairy **components** (e.g. Ca) separately vs components within dairy matrix
    - Dairy within a whole diet
  - Different health effects (end points :“outcomes”) studied
  - Different **study designs**
- 
- “Exposure”



# Health effects of dairy : **Total** vs **products**

Study	End point	Findings
Meta-analyses of <u>observational</u> studies	Stroke risk	<p><b>Total</b> dairy intake: Not associated</p> <p><b>Specific products:</b></p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• Total milk: Per 200g/d increment in intake: 7% ↓ risk</li> <li>• High-fat milk: Direct association</li> <li>• Cheese: Per 40g/d intake marg. inverse association</li> <li>• Yoghurt: No association.</li> <li>• Combining ≥2 dairy products: Per 200g/d: 9% ↓ lower risk</li> </ul>
	Hyper-tension	<p><b>Total</b> dairy, low-fat dairy and milk: Linear inverse association</p> <p><b>Specific products:</b></p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• Low-fat dairy: Per 200g/d: 4% ↓ risk</li> <li>• High-fat dairy, fermented dairy, yoghurt: no association.</li> </ul>
	T2DM	<p><b>Total</b> dairy intake: Inverse relationship per 200g/d increment</p> <p><b>Specific products:</b></p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• Yoghurt: For 80g vs 0g/d: RR: 0.86</li> <li>• Cheese, cream, total milk, low-fat milk, high-fat milk, total high-fat dairy: Not associated</li> </ul>

# Health effects of dairy products vs **components**

Study	End point	Findings
<u>Intervention studies</u> comparing dairy products to components	Weight loss / Body compos	Weight loss <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• Cow's milk: 5.8%</li> <li>• Control: 4.3%</li> <li>• Ca-fortified soy milk: 3.8%</li> <li>• Ca-suppl: 4.8%</li> </ul> <p style="text-align: right;">} Dairy matrix effect related to the <b>Ca &amp; protein</b></p> <p>Skimmed milk vs casein vs whey protein compared with water:            Skimmed milk &amp; milk proteins ↑ lean and fat mass (Dairy <b>protein</b> effect)</p>
	Cardiovas risk	<p>Ca from milk &amp; low-fat yoghurt attenuated postpran lipaemia, in contrast to Ca supplement.</p> <p>Ca supplement vs meal with supplement vs dairy product meal vs Ca-fortified juice: Largest delay in serum Ca ↑ in dairy product meal.</p>
	Bone health	<p>Ca supplement vs Ca + Vit D vs cheese: Cheese had higher % change in cortical thickness of tibia in 10-12 year old girls.</p> <p>Dairy products vs Ca suppl vs control: Dairy products consumers: greatest ↑ pelvis and spine density and total bone mineral density.</p>

# Health effects of dairy products vs **components**

Study	End point	Findings
<b>Intervention studies</b> <u>controlling for</u> within-dairy product differences	Blood lipids	<p>Cheese, milk and butter in whole diets made “equivalent” through addition of fat, protein and lactose: No difference between cheese and milk in terms of effect on blood lipids, yet butter still increased LDL-cholesterol. Thus protein and lactose do not explain difference between cheese and butter on blood lipids.</p> <p>Meals including 45g fat in sour cream, whipped cream, butter or cheese resulted in different post-prandial effects on serum triglycerides and HDL cholesterol</p>

# Health effects of dairy products in a **full diet**

Study	End point	Findings
<b>Intervention studies with full diet designs</b>	Blood lipids	<p>Cheese vs butter: Fat delivered as butter has a different effect than fat delivered in cheese matrix.</p> <p>Cheese vs full-fat yoghurt: No difference.</p> <p>Buttermilk (rich in MFGM) vs skimmed milk with same amount of fat vs butter: Buttermilk and skimmed milk similar, but butter increased total cholesterol.</p>

# In summary

- Nutrients from dairy food group are not forgotten
- The matrix of dairy products differs
- Dairy products are unique, and should be studied accordingly
- The matrix
  - adds to our understanding of dairy-disease relationships
  - Explains some previous contradictory findings



# Remember

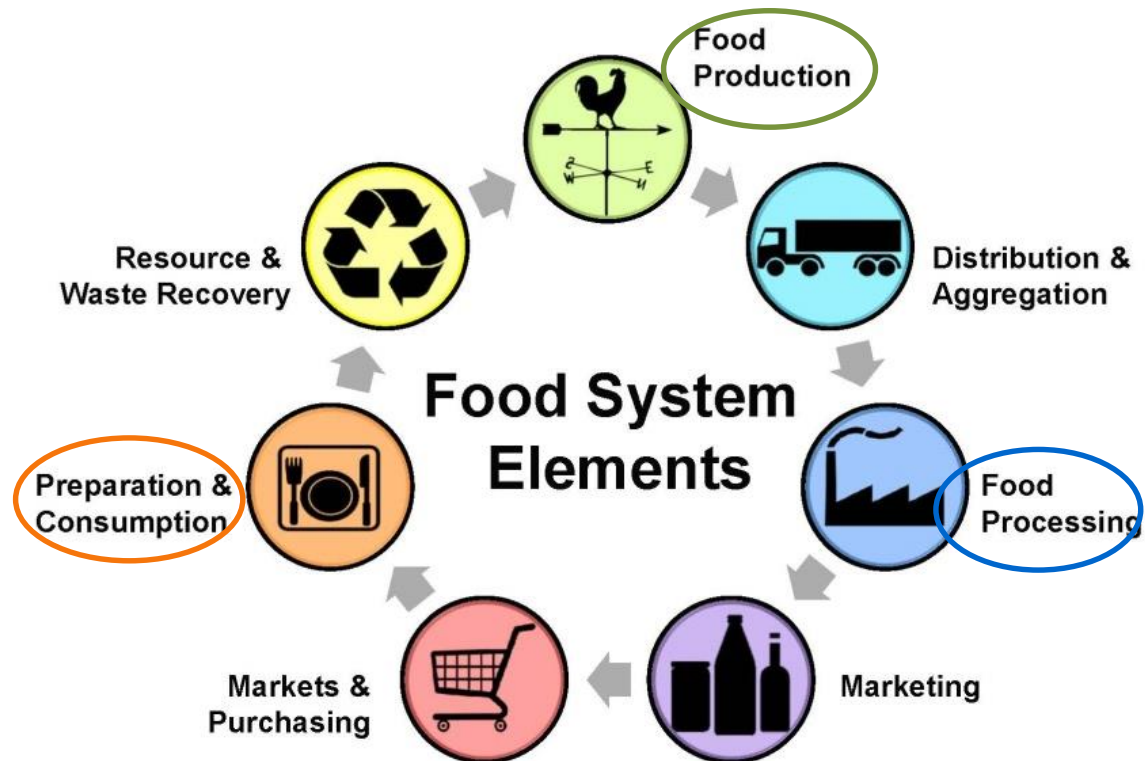
- The matrix of dairy products is the result of the
  - original product (food production)
  - processing
  - consumption

Adapted from: Kaufmann & Palzer, 2011

- The matrix of dairy products is the result of the

- original product (food production)
- processing
- consumption

➔ Food System



# Part 2

## DAIRY AS PART OF A SUSTAINABLE DIET



Source: UN



# Background

## HEALTH & NUTRITION

### Global nutrition situation:

>820 million people lack enough food (Food insecurity)

**2 billion:** Micronutrient deficient (Hidden hunger)

**Many more consume too much food of poor quality** (Rockström et al, 2019)

→ Overweight/obesity (Callahan et al, 2019):

In 2016:

- 50 million girls + 390 million women
- 74 million boys + 281 million men

→ Nutrition transition & Double burden of disease

Global **Burden of Disease** Study 2017

(Lancet, 2018):

Diet-related risk factors have largest impact on Disease Burden

***“Unhealthy diets pose a greater risk to morbidity and mortality than does unsafe sex, and alcohol, drug and tobacco use combined”***

# Background

## ENVIRONMENT

### Food production

Among the largest drivers of environmental change, including:

- Climate  $\Delta$
- $\downarrow$  Biodiversity
- Freshwater use
- Interference in N<sub>2</sub> and P cycles
- Land-system  $\Delta$

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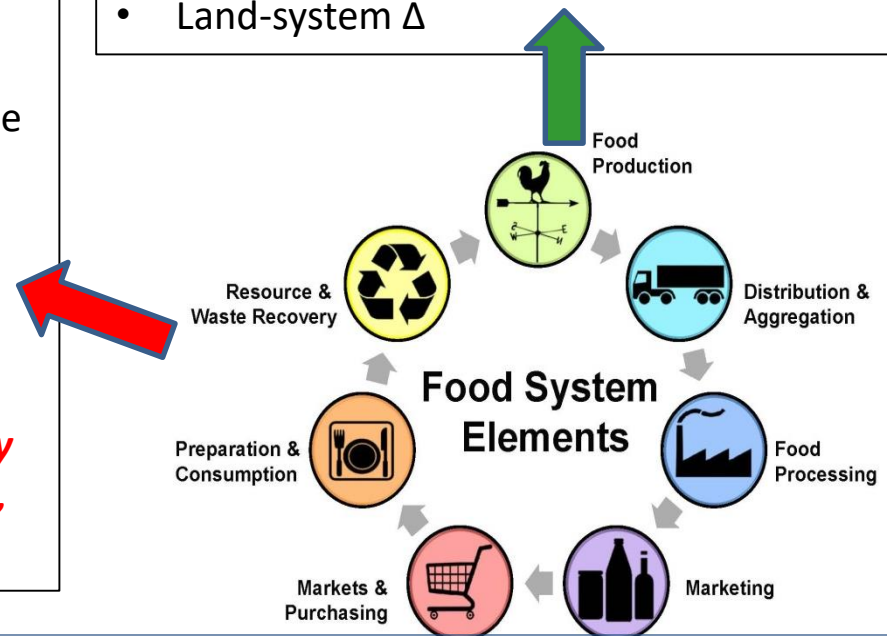
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- Freshwater use
- Interference in N<sub>2</sub> and P cycles
- Land-system  $\Delta$



# Background

## Additional factors:

- Changes in size and age distribution of population:
  - By 2050 world must increase food energy by about 70%, without additional land use conversion for food
- Urbanisation
- Income growth
- Globalisation of diets; changing food preferences
- Competition for natural resources.... etc, etc, etc

 We live in **anthropocene**, i.e. a “*geological epoch that is characterised by humanity being the dominating driver of change on Earth*”.

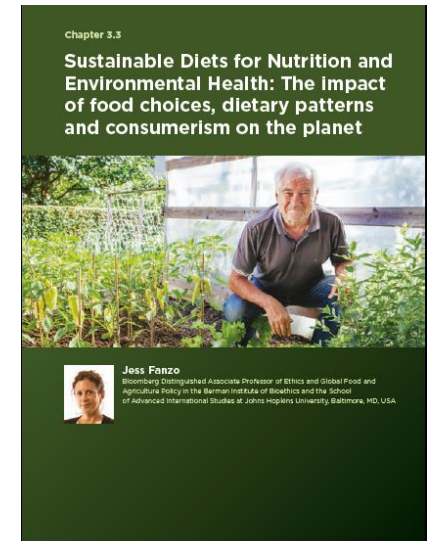
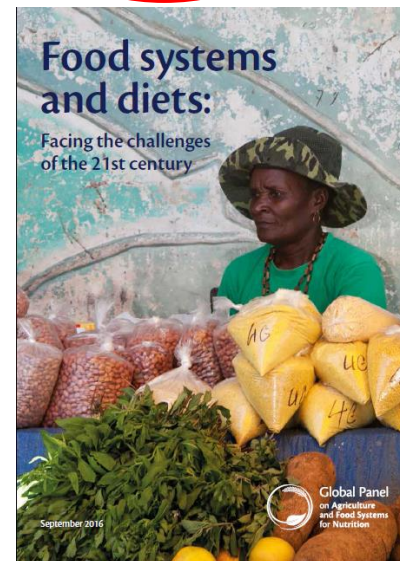
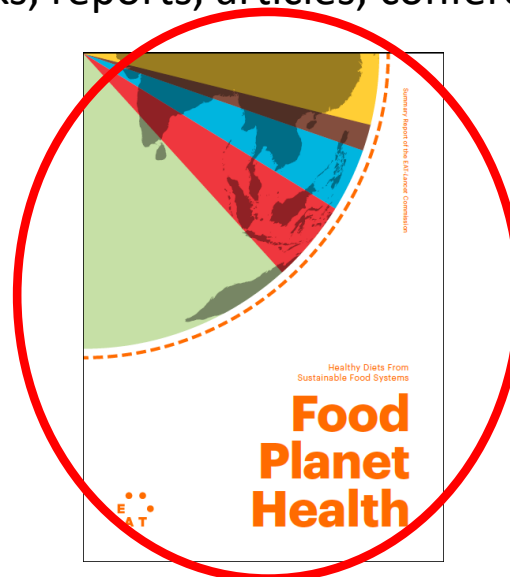
# Sustainable Development Goals (SDG)



Food Systems & Diets related to most SDG

# Sustainable diets

Many recent publications: Books, reports, articles, conference proceedings



# Sustainable Diets

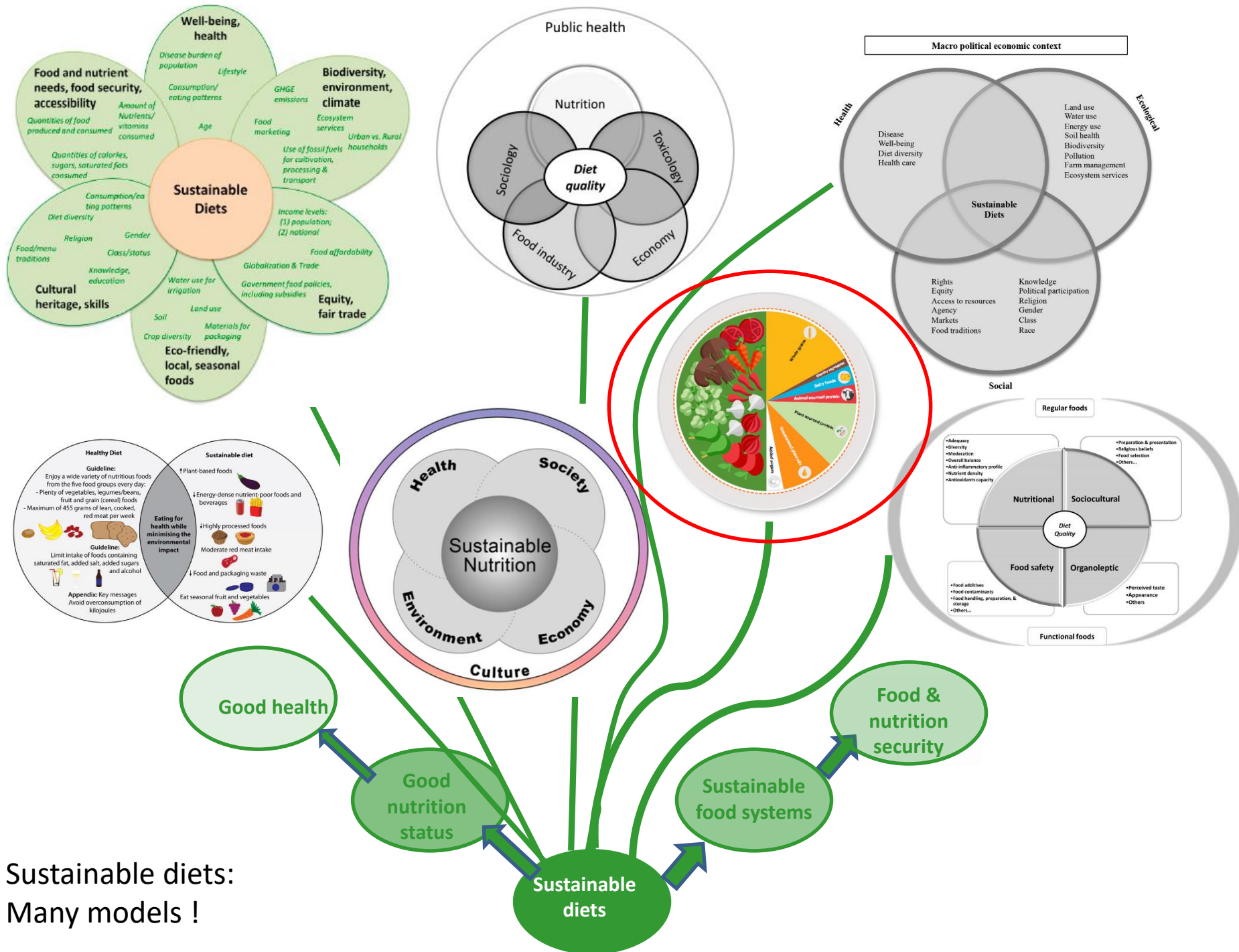
“Diets that are

- Protective and respectful of biodiversity and ecosystems
- Culturally acceptable
- Accessible
- Economically fair and affordable;
- Nutritionally adequate
- Safe and
- Healthy;
- while optimizing natural and human resources”

Environment

People-centered

Health





# “PLANETARY HEALTH DIET”:

Integrates **health** and **environmental** dimensions




















**One GOAL** (EAT-Lancet, 2019):  
“To achieve **planetary health diets** for nearly 10 billion people by 2050”

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## Food in the Anthropocene: the EAT-Lancet Commission on healthy diets from sustainable food systems

Walter Willett, Johan Rockström, Brent Loken, Marco Springmann, Tim Lang, Sonja Vermeulen, Tara Garnett, David Tilman, Fabrice DeClerck, Amanda Wood, Malin Jonell, Michael Clark, Line J Gordon, Jessica Fanzo, Corinna Hawkes, Rami Zurayk, Juan A Rivera, Wim DeVries, Lindiwe Majele Sibanda, Ashkan Afshin, Abhishek Chaudhary, Mario Herrero, Rina Agustina, Francesco Branca, Anna Lartey, Shenggen Fan, Beatrice Crona, Elizabeth Fox, Victoria Bignet, Max Troell, Therese Lindahl, Sudhvir Singh, Sarah E Cornell, K Srinath Reddy, Sunita Narain, Sania Nishtar, Christopher J L Murray

# “PLANETARY HEALTH DIET”

	Macronutrient intake grams per day (possible range)	Caloric intake kcal per day	
 Whole grains <b>Rice, wheat, corn and other</b>	<b>232</b>	<b>811</b>	 <b>Emphasised foods</b>
 Tubers or starchy vegetables <b>Potatoes and cassava</b>	<b>50</b> (0-100)	<b>39</b>	 <b>Limited intake</b>
 Vegetables <b>All vegetables</b>	<b>300</b> (200-600)	<b>78</b>	 <b>Emphasised foods</b>
 Fruits <b>All fruits</b>	<b>200</b> (100-300)	<b>126</b>	 <b>Emphasised foods</b>
 Dairy foods <b>Whole milk or equivalents</b>	<b>250</b> (0-500)	<b>153</b>	 <b>Optional foods</b>
 Protein sources <b>Beef, lamb and pork</b>	<b>14</b> (0-28)	<b>30</b>	 <b>Limited intake</b>
<b>Chicken and other poultry</b>	<b>29</b> (0-58)	<b>62</b>	
<b>Eggs</b>	<b>13</b> (0-25)	<b>19</b>	 <b>Optional foods</b>
<b>Fish</b>	<b>28</b> (0-100)	<b>40</b>	
 Legumes	<b>75</b> (0-100)	<b>284</b>	 <b>Emphasised foods</b>
<b>Nuts</b>	<b>50</b> (0-75)	<b>291</b>	
 Added fats <b>Unsaturated oils</b>	<b>40</b> (20-80)	<b>354</b>	
<b>Saturated oils</b>	<b>11.8</b> (0-11.8)	<b>96</b>	
 Added sugars <b>All sugars</b>	<b>31</b> (0-31)	<b>120</b>	

# PLANETARY HEALTH DIET

# SA FBDG

-  Whole grains  
**Rice, wheat, corn and other**
-  Tubers or starchy vegetables  
**Potatoes and cassava**
-  Vegetables  
**All vegetables**
-  Fruits  
**All fruits**
-  Dairy foods  
**Whole milk or equivalents**
-  Protein sources  
**Beef, lamb and pork**  
**Chicken and other poultry**  
**Eggs**  
**Fish**  
**Legumes**  
**Nuts**
-  Added fats  
**Unsaturated oils**  
**Saturated oils**
-  Added sugars  
**All sugars**



Make starchy food part of most meals



Eat plenty of vegetables and fruit every day



Have milk, maas or yoghurt every day



Eat dry beans, split peas, lentils and soya regularly



Fish, chicken, lean meat or eggs could be eaten daily



Use fat sparingly; choose vegetable oils rather than hard fats



Use sugar and food and drinks high in sugar sparingly



Be active!



Enjoy a variety of foods

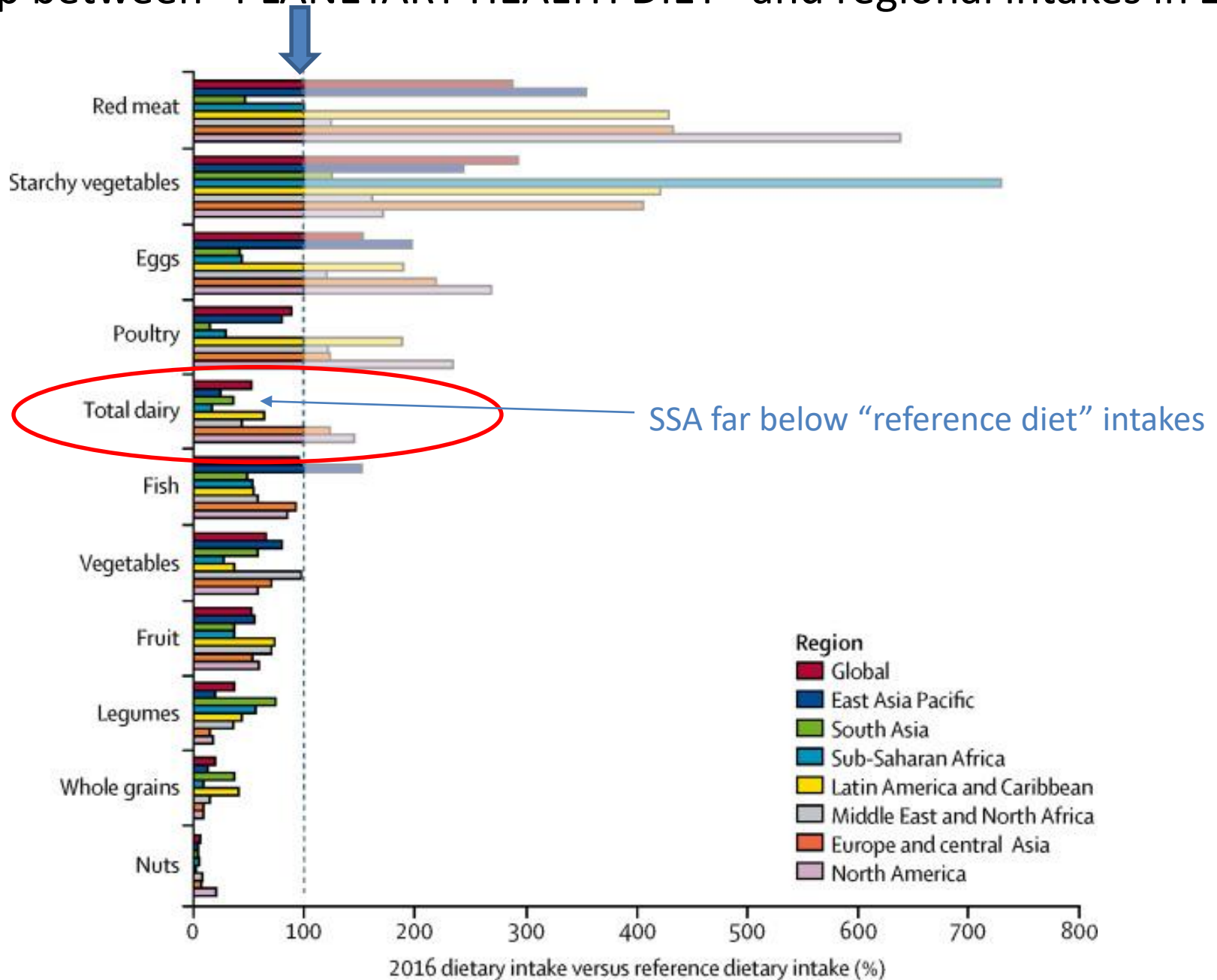


Drinks lots of clean, safe water



Use salt and food high in salt sparingly

# Gap between “PLANETARY HEALTH DIET” and regional intakes in 2016

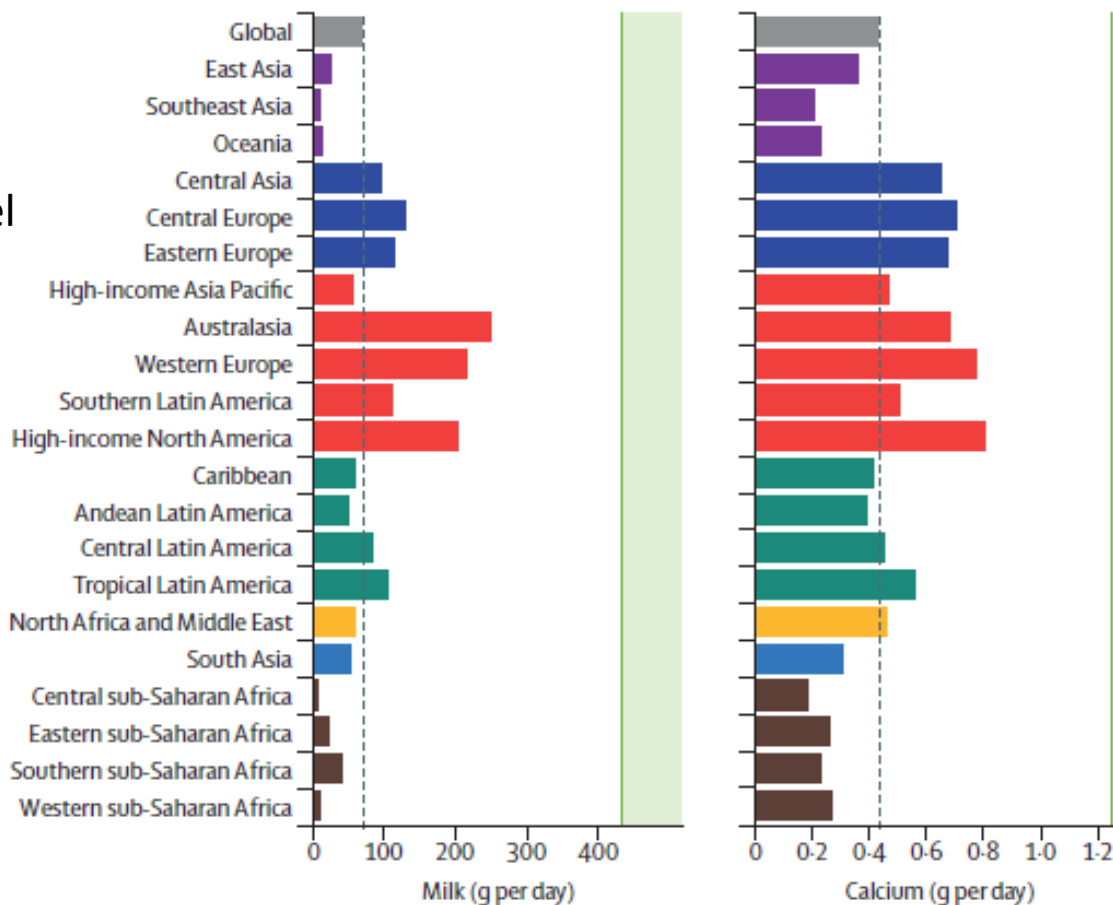


# GBD Study: Health effects of dietary risks in 195 countries

(Lancet, 2019)

Optimal level  
of intake:

**Milk:** 435g  
(350-520g)



Optimal level of  
intake:

**Calcium:** 1250mg  
(1000-1500mg)

# Sustainable diets:

## How do we get there?

EAT-Lancet (2019):

**Five Global Strategies** for “Great Food Transformation by 2050”

1. “Seek international and national commitment to shift toward healthy diets”
2. “Reorient agricultural priorities from producing high quantities of food to producing healthy food”
3. “Sustainably intensify food production to increase high-quality output”
4. “Strong and coordinated governance of land and oceans”
5. “At least halve food losses and waste (align to SDG)”

# Sustainable diets:

How will we (in South Africa) get there?

Promoting “healthy” nutrients / foods / diets

## **Government-driven:**

- Food-based dietary guidelines

### Challenges (SA):

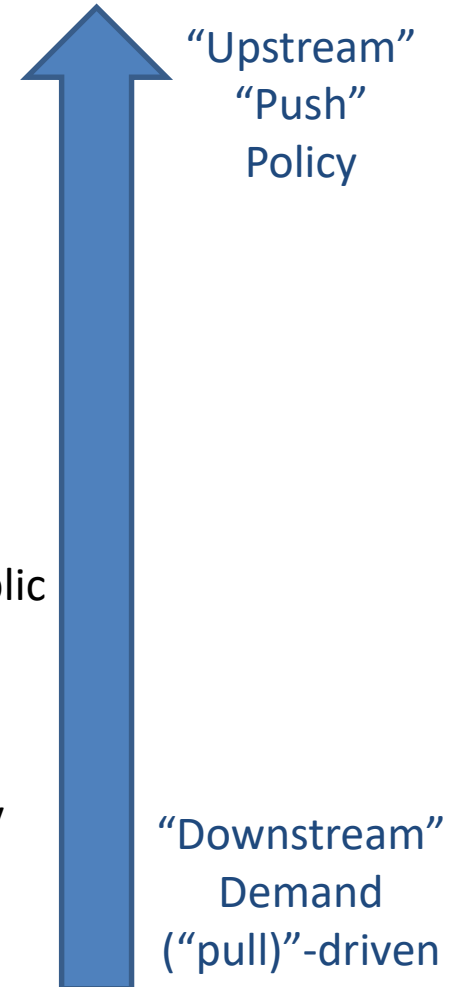
- ? Non-quantitative (how to measure progress?)
- ? Environmental considerations
- ? Economic (vested) interests

## **Consumer-driven:**

- Empowered/nutrition-literate and environmentally aware public

### Challenges:

- Cost / affordability
- Culture-sensitivity and -specificity
- Preferences; Resistance to change (old habits); Diverse society (Stages in Nutrition transition)
- Convenience



Other consumer / food-related suggestions from around the world → for debate (? Local relevance)

Regional and seasonal products

Organic foods

Minimally processed foods (Whole food system to be considered)

Fair trade products

Enjoyable eating

Resource-saving housekeeping

- Switch to renewable energy
- Saving energy & water in the kitchen (eg energy-efficient appliances)
- Plan shopping trips
- Prevent food waste
- Prevent packaging waste etc



# The other (non-food-related) factors

## Sustainable food production

Earth system process	Control variable*
Climate change	Green house gas (GHG) emissions
Land system change	Cropland use
Freshwater use	Water use
Nitrogen cycling	N application
Phosphorus cycling	P application
Biodiversity loss	Extinction rate

\* Each with boundary (cut-off range)

## Some (founded and unfounded) concerns:

“Centralised control of dietary choices” / “Decisions cast from above”

“One size does not fit all” / Rejection of “Global Dietary Guidelines”

“Nutritional inadequacy”

“Economic implications for producers and consumers”

“Local and regional preferences / cuisine and realities”

Industry does not want any food disparaged

Dietary guidance may move from a food group to an individual food approach (Sustainable diets vs Sustainable foods?)

?New political coalitions

## Yet:

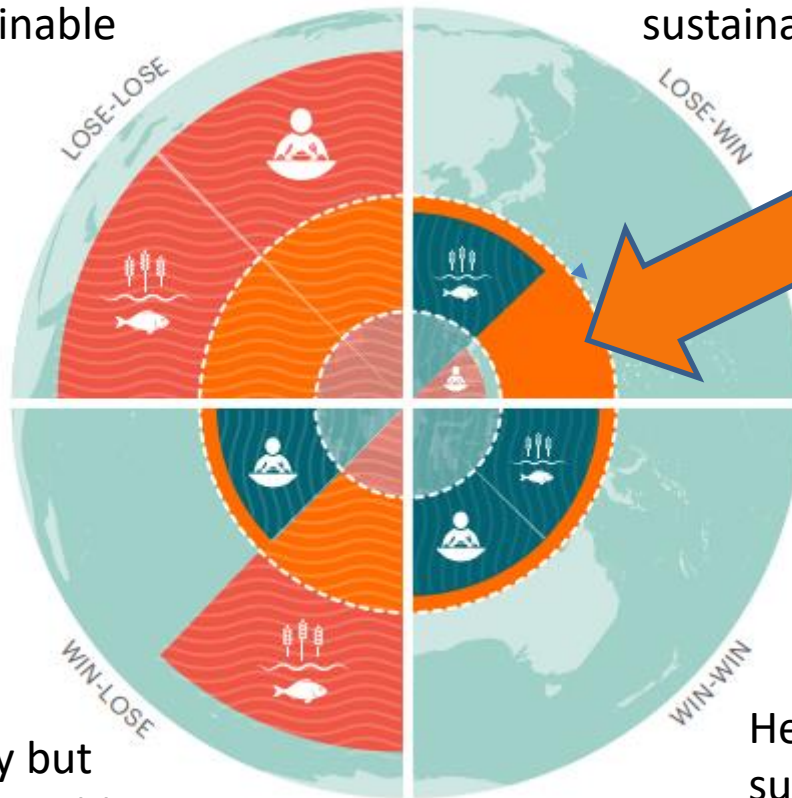
- Planetary diet = First quantitative set of targets that integrate “Healthy diet” with environmental concerns to create “Reference diet” (... for all people & for the planet)
- “High level of certainty” that global adoption will result in ↑ global health and environmental benefits
- Ongoing debate encouraged for *global* commitment: Environment matters cannot be individualised
- Some uncertainties remain: Science & research remains self-correcting
- This is only the beginning of integrative research, but time is running out for the planet/environment
- Beware of “soufflé” arguments (they tend to deflate)  
→ Invest in scientifically sound and ethical arguments ...

# The options....

Unhealthy and unsustainable

Unhealthy and sustainable

**Orange ring =  
Safe operating space  
(boundary)**



Healthy but unsustainable

Healthy and sustainable

# The Future

Towards mathematical / nonlinear optimisation modelling to design **Sustainable diets** through integration of

- adequacy / **H**health,
- **A**ffordability,
- (cultural) acceptability / **P**reference,
- environmental
- **R**eliable (safe & stable) criteria

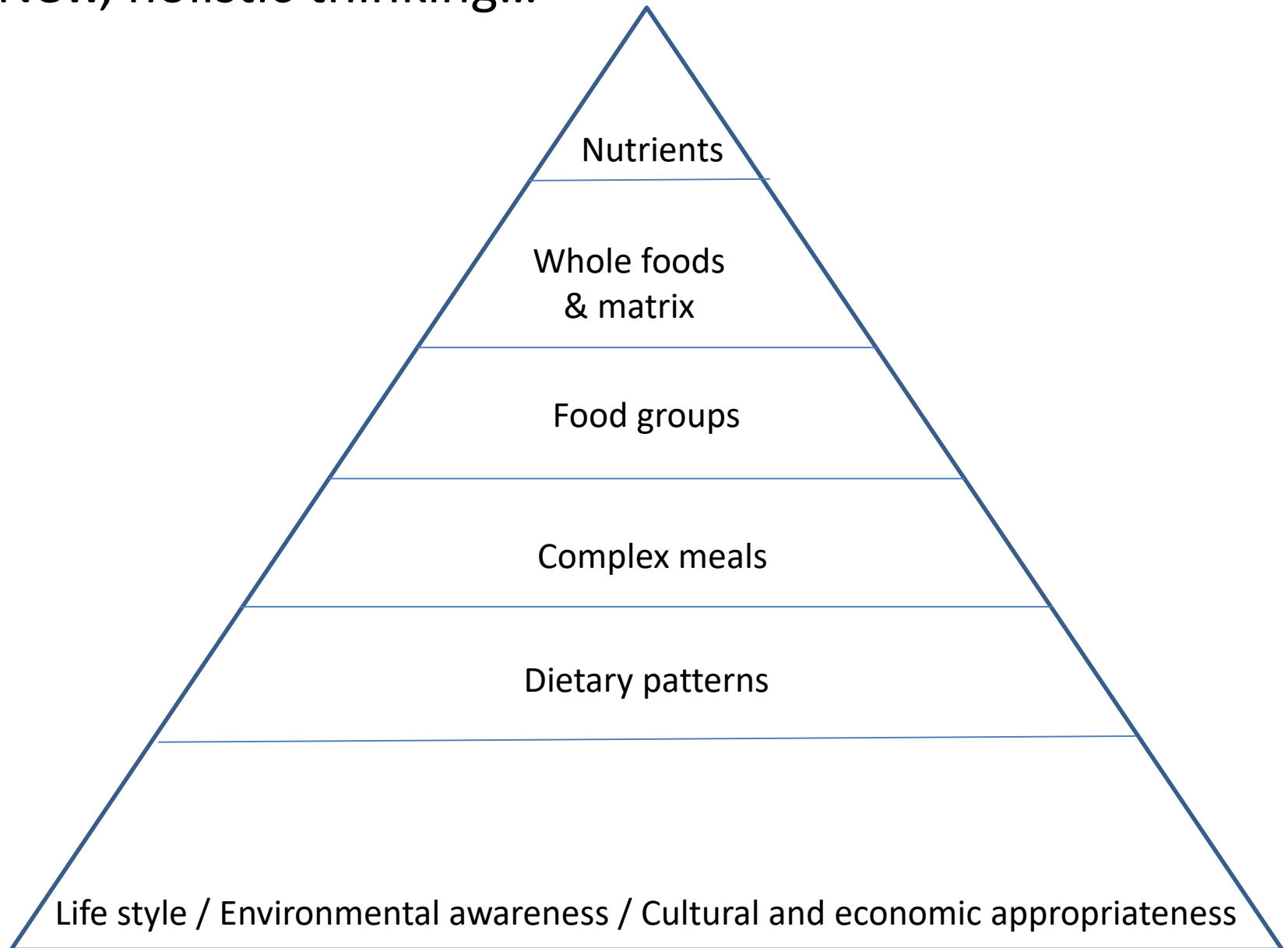


(Chaudhary & Krishna, 2019; Donati et al, 2016; Gazan et al, 2018; Herforth et al, 2014; **Mertens et al, 2016**)



**“SHARP”**

# New, holistic thinking...



# DAIRY in HEALTH & NUTRITION

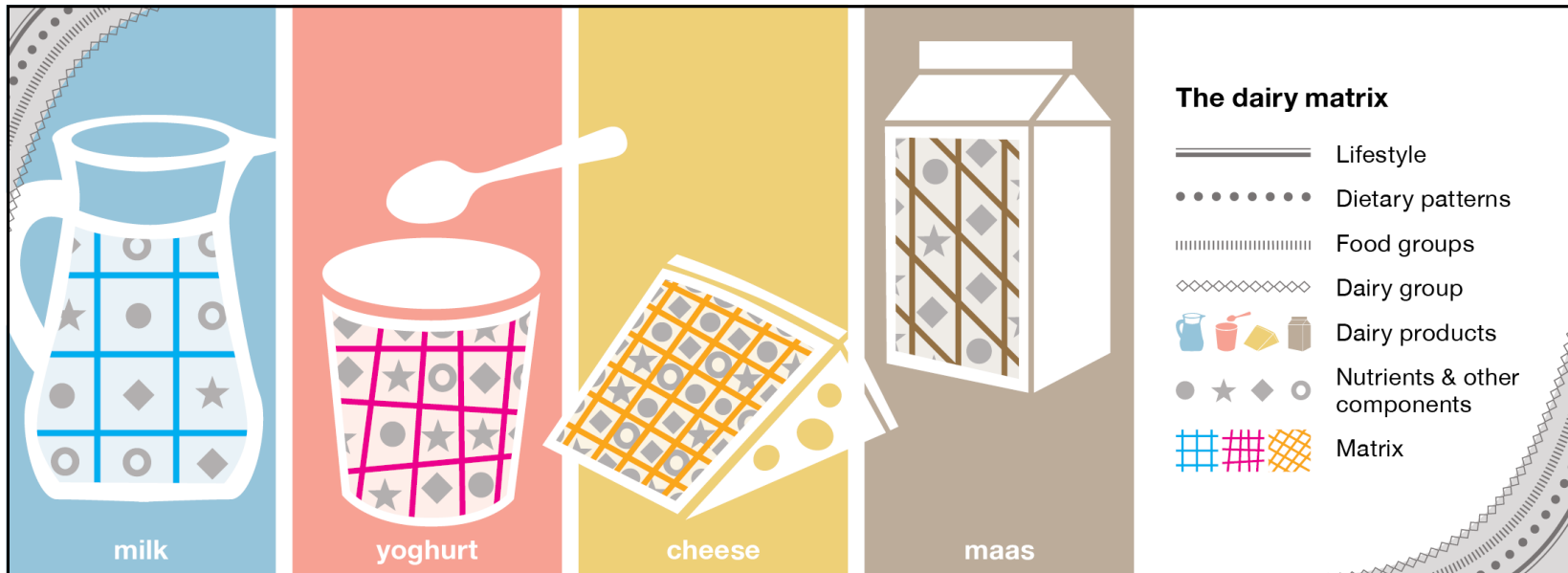
*Complexity replaces reductionist simplicity:*

From nutrients,

to whole foods and their unique matrices  
to dietary patterns & lifestyles...

Taking people, the whole food system and the environment into consideration !

*The choice and responsibility is yours!*

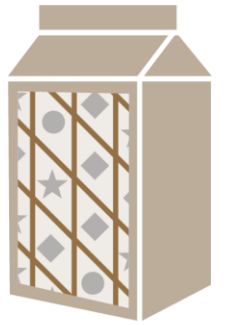
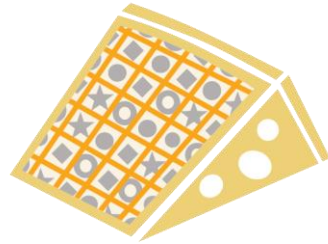
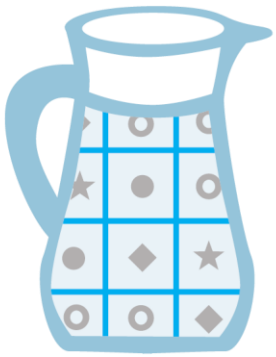


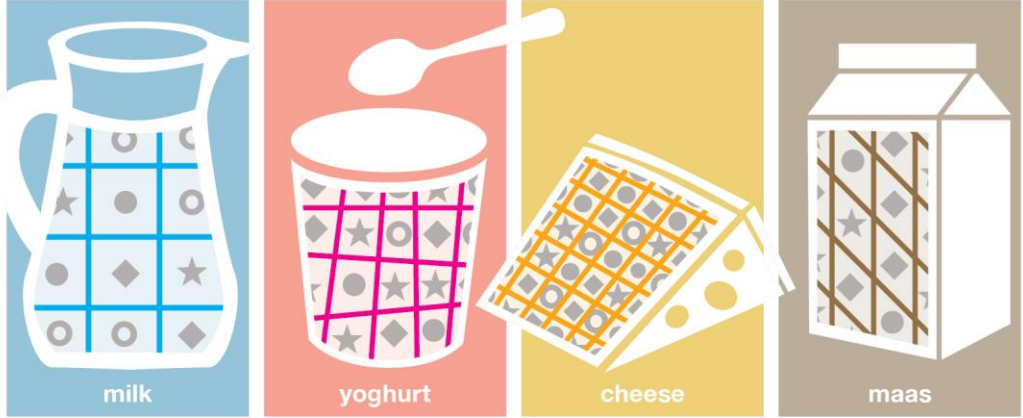
# Thank You



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**The dairy matrix**

-  Dairy products
-  Nutrients & other components
-  Matrix

