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Food Security through a Governance Lens

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Perspective Matters

- Insufficient supply  Increase production
- Entitlement and Access  Support livelihoods
- Inefficient markets  Get the policy right
- Poor Governance  ?



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The Governance Challenge



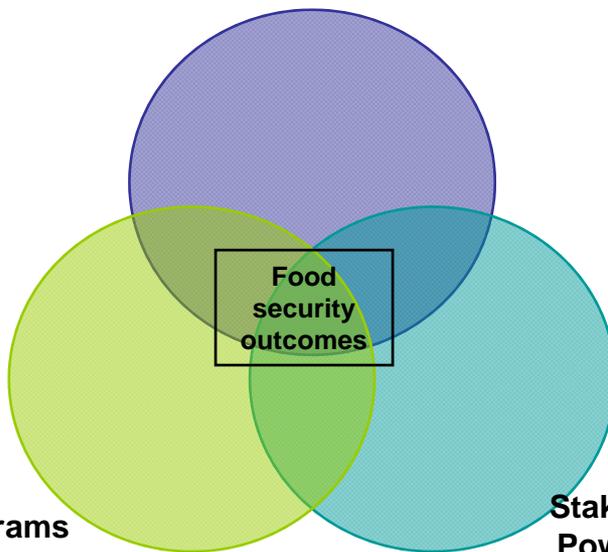
1. Not a sector.
2. Diffuse institutional responsibility.
3. Highly politicized.
4. Fuel for patronage.
5. Hunger as symptom as deeper problem
6. Stove piping within foreign assistance



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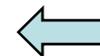
Food Security Policy and Implementation

**Public Sector Capacities
and Constraints**



Policy and Programs

**Stakeholders, Actors,
Power Relationships**





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A Tentative Vision:

Three Way Approach

- Increase capacity to respond
- Identify state actions that undermine
- Mind the Gap





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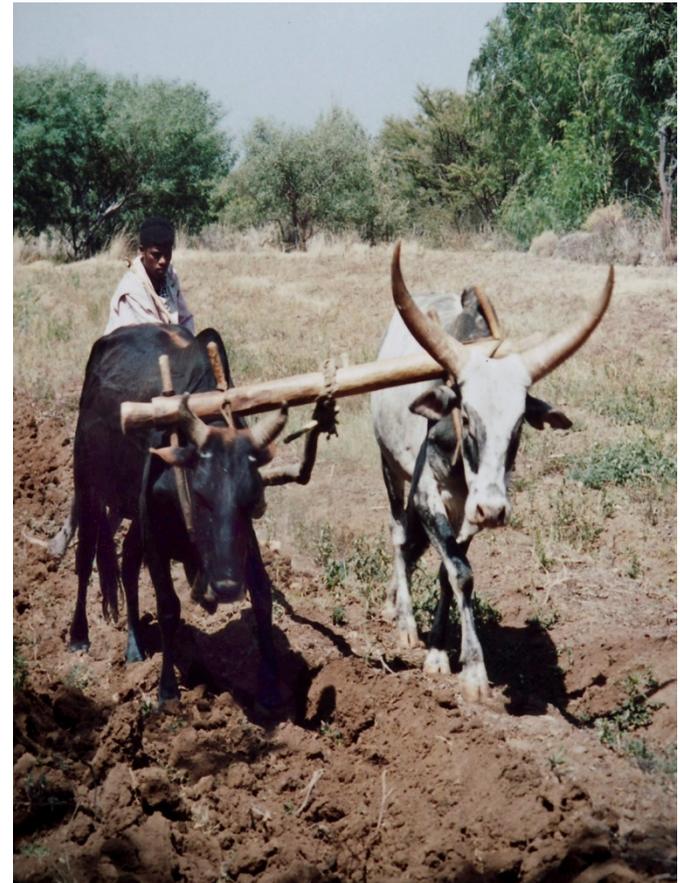
A Tentative Vision

Institutionalize what is now 'Projectized'

- Programs
- Policymaking

Policy and Institutional Coherence is Key

- Implicit policy vs. explicit policy
- Food security policy vs. economic development policies
- Coordinating bodies ineffective
- Policy incoherence generates institutional incoherence





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A Tentative Vision

Stakeholders and Power Relationships



- Understand different constituencies for food security
- Who is affected by food insecurity – voice
- Find opportunities to strengthen accountability mechanisms
- Look for the win/win – Milk in Nicaragua



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A Tentative Vision:

Good Enough Governance-

Seek specificity!

- In depth country level assessments needed
- Work backwards from the critical food security bottlenecks
- Critical public sector capacities
- Be aware of particular vulnerabilities
- Priority among priorities: institutionalized safety nets

