Attempt to represent causal relationships from FAO introductory document:

An Introduction to the Basic Concepts of Food Security (FAO)

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| Physical AVAILABILITY of food | Food availability addresses the “supply side” of food security and is determined by the level of food production, stock levels and net trade.  **(food production, affects, food availability)**  **(food stock level, affects, food availability)**  **(net trade, affects, food availability)**  **(food availability, affects, food security)**   |  |  |  | | --- | --- | --- | | **Relation** | **Source** | **Target** | | influence | food production | food availability | | influence | food stock level | food availability | | influence | net trade | food availability | | influence | food availability | food security | |
| Economic and physical ACCESS to food | An adequate supply of food at the national or international level does not in itself guarantee household level food security.  **(food supply, affects, food security)**   |  |  |  | | --- | --- | --- | | **Relation** | **Source** | **Target** | | influence | food supply | food security |   Concerns about insufficient food access have resulted in a greater policy focus on incomes, expenditure, markets and prices in achieving food security objectives.  **(policy focus on income, affects, food security)**  **(policy focus on expenditure, affects, food security)**  **(policy focus on markets, affects, food security)**  **(policy focus on prices, affects, food security)**   |  |  |  | | --- | --- | --- | | **Relation** | **Source** | **Target** | | influence | income | food security | | influence | expenditure | food security | | influence | markets | food security | | influence | prices | food security | |
| Food UTILIZATION | Utilization is commonly understood as the way the body makes the most of various nutrients in the food.  Sufficient energy and nutrient intake by individuals is the result of good care and feeding practices, food preparation, diversity of the diet and intra-household distribution of food.  **(good care, affects, energy and nutrient intake)**  **(good feeding practices, affects, energy and nutrient intake)**  **(food preparation, affects, energy and nutrient intake)**  **(diversity of diet, affects, energy and nutrient intake)**  **(intra-household distribution of food, affects, energy and nutrient intake)**   |  |  |  | | --- | --- | --- | | **Relation** | **Source** | **Target** | | influence | care | energy and nutrient intake | | influence | feeding practices | energy and nutrient intake | | influence | food preparation | energy and nutrient intake | | influence | diet | energy and nutrient intake | | influence | food distribution | energy and nutrient intake |   Combined with good biological utilization of food consumed, this determines the *nutritional status* of individuals.  **(energy and nutrient intake, affects, nutritional status of individuals)**   |  |  |  | | --- | --- | --- | | **Relation** | **Source** | **Target** | | influence | energy and nutrient intake | nutritional status | |
| STABILITY of the other three dimensions over time | Even if your food intake is adequate today, you are still considered to be food insecure if you have inadequate access to food on a periodic basis, risking a deterioration of your nutritional status.  **(inadequate access to food on periodic basis, decreases, food security)**  **(inadequate access to food on periodic basis, decreases, nutritional status)**   |  |  |  | | --- | --- | --- | | **Relation** | **Source** | **Target** | | influence | access to food | food security | | influence | access to food | nutritional status |   Adverse weather conditions, political instability, or economic factors (unemployment, rising food prices) may have an impact on your food security status.  **(weather conditions, affects, food security)**  **(political stability, affects, food security)**  **(economy, affects, food security)**  **(employment, affects, economy)**  **(food prices, affects, economy)**   |  |  |  | | --- | --- | --- | | **Relation** | **Source** | **Target** | | influence | weather | food security | | influence | political stability | food security | | influence | economy | food security | | influence | employment | economy | | influence | food prices | economy | |