# **HN 307** Policy Analysis for Food and Nutrition

# Learning Objectives

- Explain the need for policies aimed at improving food and nutrition security
- Describe the main features of food and nutrition security policies
- Explain the processes involved in formulation of F&N security policies
- Acknowledge F&N security as a policy issue cutting across different sectors
- Describe the sequence of steps in the process of FSP formulation and implementation
- •Identify the institutions which have a stake in the process of food security policy formulation and implementation

## **Outline**

- Definition, meaning and typology of policies
- What is the Food and Nutrition situation..?
- Conceptual framework for Food Security Policies (FSP)
- Typical approaches to designing FSP
- Policy Formulation and Implementation
- Institutional Framework for FSP

# What is public 'policy'?

- The basic <u>principles</u> by which a <u>government</u> is guided
- The declared <u>objectives</u> that a government or <u>party</u> seeks to <u>achieve</u> and preserve in the <u>interest</u> of national <u>community</u>
- The set of basic principles and <u>associated</u> <u>guidelines</u>, formulated and <u>enforced</u> by the governing body of an <u>organization</u>, to direct and limit its <u>actions</u> in pursuit of <u>long-term goals</u>.

### **Intended effects:**

•The intended effects of a policy vary widely according to the organization and the context in which they are made. Broadly, policies are typically instituted to avoid some negative effect that has been noticed in the organization, or to seek some positive benefit.

### **Unintended effects**

•Policies frequently have side effects or <u>unintended</u> <u>consequences</u>. Because the environments that policies seek to influence or manipulate are typically <u>complex adaptive</u> <u>systems</u>, making a policy change can have <u>counterintuitive</u> results (e.g. raising taxes in hopes of increasing overall tax revenue - may have the overall effect of reducing tax revenue by causing <u>capital flight</u>).

# Policy analysis:

 Involves determining which of various alternative policies will most achieve a given set of goals in light of the relations between the policies and the goals.

# Typologies of policies:

Policies may be classified in many different ways:

- Regulatory policies
- Distributive policies
- Redistributive policies
- Constituent policies
- International policies
- Procedural policies

# Regulatory policies

 Limit the discretion of individuals and agencies, or otherwise compel certain types of behaviour. These policies are generally thought to be best applied when good behaviour can be easily defined and bad behaviour can be easily regulated and punished through fines or sanctions. An example of a public regulatory policy is that of meeting specified standards for certain commercial/manufacured products

# Distributive policies:

 extend goods and services to specific groups or individuals. Examples include government policies that impact spending for social <u>welfare</u> programs, <u>public</u> <u>education</u> subsidies, agricultural subsidies, transport infrastructures, etc

## Redistributive policies:

 Aim to redistribute resources or benefits from one group or individual to another. Examples include progressive taxation, social security, and affirmative action programs.

# **Constituent policies**

 Designed to address the needs and concerns of specific constituencies. For example, women, minorities, or the elderly.

# International policies

 Developed and implemented at the international level to address global issues. For example, climate change, human rights, and international trade.

# **Procedural policies**

 They establish rules and procedures for decision-making processes. For example, administrative procedures, public participation processes, and conflict resolution mechanisms.

# **Assignment 1:**

 Write an investigative Essay to show (and discuss or commenting) on how the six types of policies have been incorporated in the Tanzanian society / government.

# Food and Nutrition Security Policies Framework

# What is a Food and Nutrition Policy (FNP)?

 FNP encompasses the collective efforts of the government and other stakeholders to influence the decision-making environment of food producers, food consumers and food marketing agents in order to improve the nutritional status of the population

#### **INTRODUCTION**

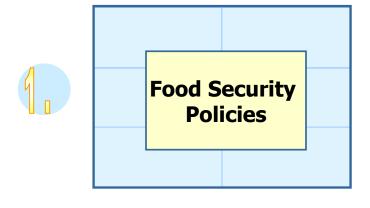
## Hunger and malnutrition require specific policy actions



Many governments have set **food security objectives** within the framework of national development policies

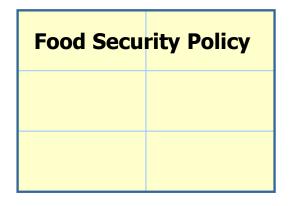
#### **INTRODUCTION**

## Typical approaches to designing Food Security Policies (FSP):



 Incorporating FSP issues into other national development policies and strategies.





 Preparing a special Food Security Policy document.

#### CONCEPTUAL FRAMEWORK FOR FOOD SECURITY POLICIES





Physical **AVAILABILITY** of food

Economic and physical ACCESS to food

Food UTILIZATION

**STABILITY** of the other three dimensions over time

**Food Insecurity** 

Food insecurity exists if even one of these conditions is not met.



**Appropriate policy measures** to remedy different FS problems should be defined.

**Problem** Remedy INSUFFICIENT SUPPLIES Increasing food supplies Improving access **INSUFFICIENT ACCESS** Improving utilization INEFFECTIVE UTILIZATION Stabilizing food supplies **INSTABILITY OF FOOD SUPPLIES** 

Interactions between the different dimensions of FS need to be considered when FSP are designed.

## **Interaction between different FS dimensions**

Low levels of agricultural production limit food supplies and also agricultural income, thus constraining access of farm households to sufficient food and making them vulnerable to temporary food shortages.



FSPs that can be used to improve the 4 dimensions of FS:

Policies to increase food supplies (availability)

Policies to improve access to food – poverty alleviation

Policies to improve utilization

Policies to ensure stability of food supplies

# Policies to increase food supplies (availability)

## Sources of food supplies:

- domestic food production; and
- food imports.

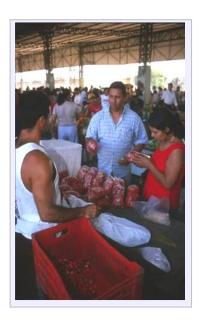


## Food availability can be increased:

- Increasing domestic food production; and
- Facilitating food imports.

## Policies to improve access to food - poverty alleviation

Access refers to capacity of households and individuals to obtain the food they need.



# **FS and poverty alleviation policies** will have to focus on:

- Agricultural development focusing on poor farmers
- Employment and income generation
- Public transfers / social safety nets

## **Policies to improve utilization**

**Effective utilization** = ability to utilize food maintaining its nutritive quality and making it available to the consumer.

## It can be inhibited by:

- lack of knowledge about proper food preparation;
- lack of knowledge about nutritional requirements;
- diseases and poor health;
- lack of hygiene, sanitation, safe drinking water.





## **Policies to improve utilization**





## Policy measures to improve utilization:

- improving food preservation and preparation technologies;
- establishment of proper food standards;
- improving public health;
- provision of safe drinking water;
- improved sanitation; and
- hygiene and nutrition education.

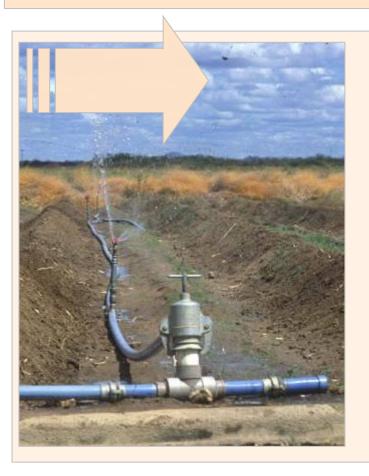
## Policies to ensure stability of food supplies



**Instabilities** in access and availability can result from:

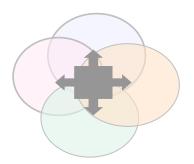
- seasonal variations of food supplies;
- annual variations of food supplies; and
- acute shortages.

## Policies to ensure stability of food supplies



Relevant policy measures for preventing temporary supply shortfalls are related to establishing a system of disaster preparedness and response, including a EWS and a set of measures to ensure food stability.

#### POLICIES WITH MULTIPLE EFFECTS ON FOOD SECURITY



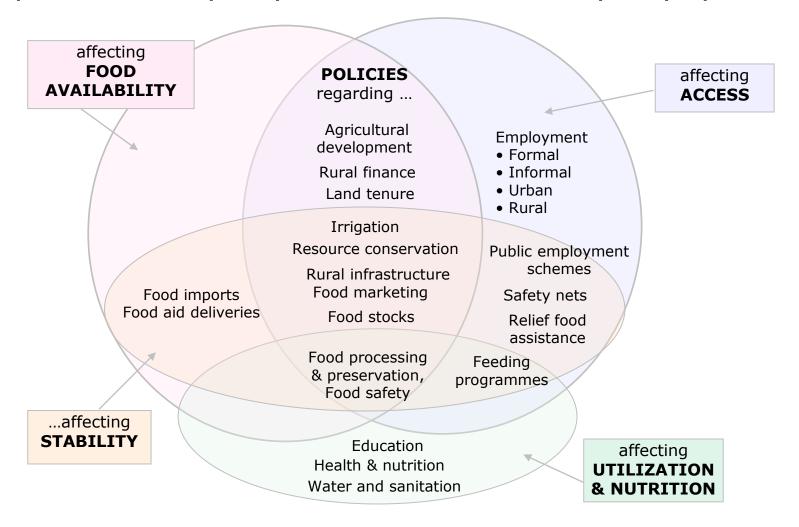
Policy measures serving more than one food security objective are called "twin-track-" or "multiple-track-approaches".

#### **Examples of "twin-track-" or "multiple-track-approaches"**

- Agricultural development policies enhancing the productivity of small and poor farmers -> increased food production and supplies; increased incomes and improved access to food; improved stability of production and access.
- Irrigation policies -> production/supplies, income/ access and stability.
- **Agricultural marketing policies** -> food production and supplies; access via producer and consumer prices and incomes; stability of access and supplies.
- Policy measures to improve rural infrastructure -> access, supply, stability, and utilization.

#### POLICIES WITH MULTIPLE EFFECTS ON FOOD SECURITY

## Multiple effects of policy measures in different policy spheres:

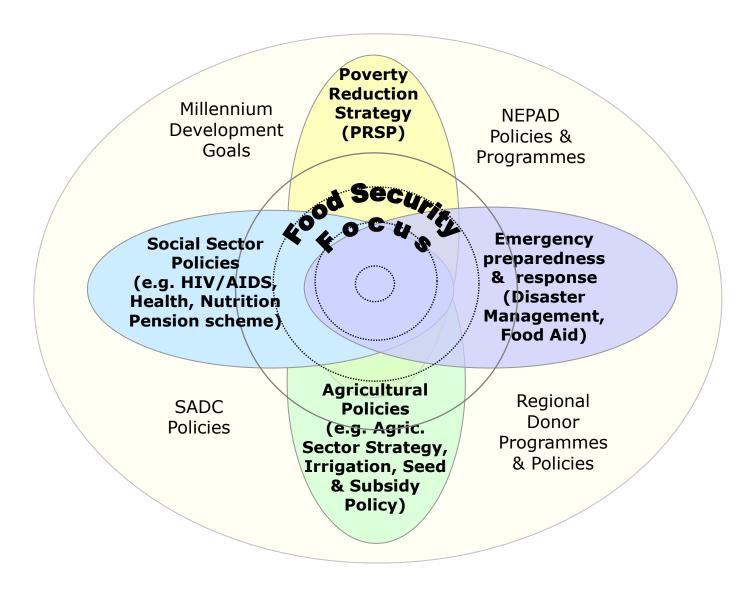


In designing food security policies, it is necessary to **review other existing policies** that are relevant for FS.



## This, in order to:

- know to what extent FS concerns are already addressed in relevant policies and strategies;
- identify policy gaps still to be filled.



# **Self Assessment Exercise:** Analyze the following sector policies / strategies / programmes for possible impact:

	Significant impact on				
Macro- / sector policy:	Access	Availability	Stability	Utilization	
Agricultural development, general					
Agricultural marketing					
Education					
Emergency preparedness and management					
Employment and income generation					
Food aid					
Food prices					
Food processing and preservation					
Food safety					

	Significant impact on			
Macro- / sector policy:	Access	Availability	Stability	Utilization
Food stocks / food reserves				
Foreign trade / food imports				
Health & Nutrition				
Input subsidies				
Irrigation				
Natural resource conservation				
Poverty reduction				
Rural infrastructure				
Social protection / safety net				
Water & sanitation				

When a macro- or sector policy is likely to have a significant impact?

	Significant impact on				
Macro- / sector policy:	Access	Availability	Stability	Utilization	
Agricultural development, general					
Agricultural marketing					
Education					
Emergency preparedness and management					
Employment and income generation					
Food aid					
Food prices					
Food processing and preservation					
Food safety					

#### **SUMMARY**

There are two typical approaches to designing food security policies:

- preparing a special Food Security Policy document; or
- incorporating food security policy issues into other national development policies and strategies.

Food security policies have to address those conditions for food security that are not (yet) fulfilled. They can be designed to:

- increase food supplies (availability);
- improve access to food poverty alleviation;
- improve utilization; or
- ensure stability of food supplies.

Policy measures serving more than one food security objective are called "twin-track" or "multiple-track-approaches".

In designing food security policies, it is necessary to review other existing policies that are relevant for food security, in order to identify policy gaps still to be filled.

# **Assignment 2:**

Do an analysis of 6 Government public policies/strategies in Tanzania on how the FS issues are covered: Check the Government website

- Health
- Agriculture Sector Development Programme 2 (ASDP-II)
- Women & Gender
- Poverty Eradication Strategy
- Community Development
- Biotechnology

# **Assignment 3:**

Improving access to food through poverty alleviation: Write an essay showing real cases to describe various ways in which the Government of Tanzania has been striving to undertake:

- 1. Agricultural development for the poor farmers in rural areas
- 2.Employment and income generation for poor people in urban areas

# **Assignment 4:**

Write an essay on <u>Public transfers</u> and <u>Social Safety Nets</u>:

- Identify the various forms that are used in Tanzania
- Discuss the different ways in which they link with FS issues.