



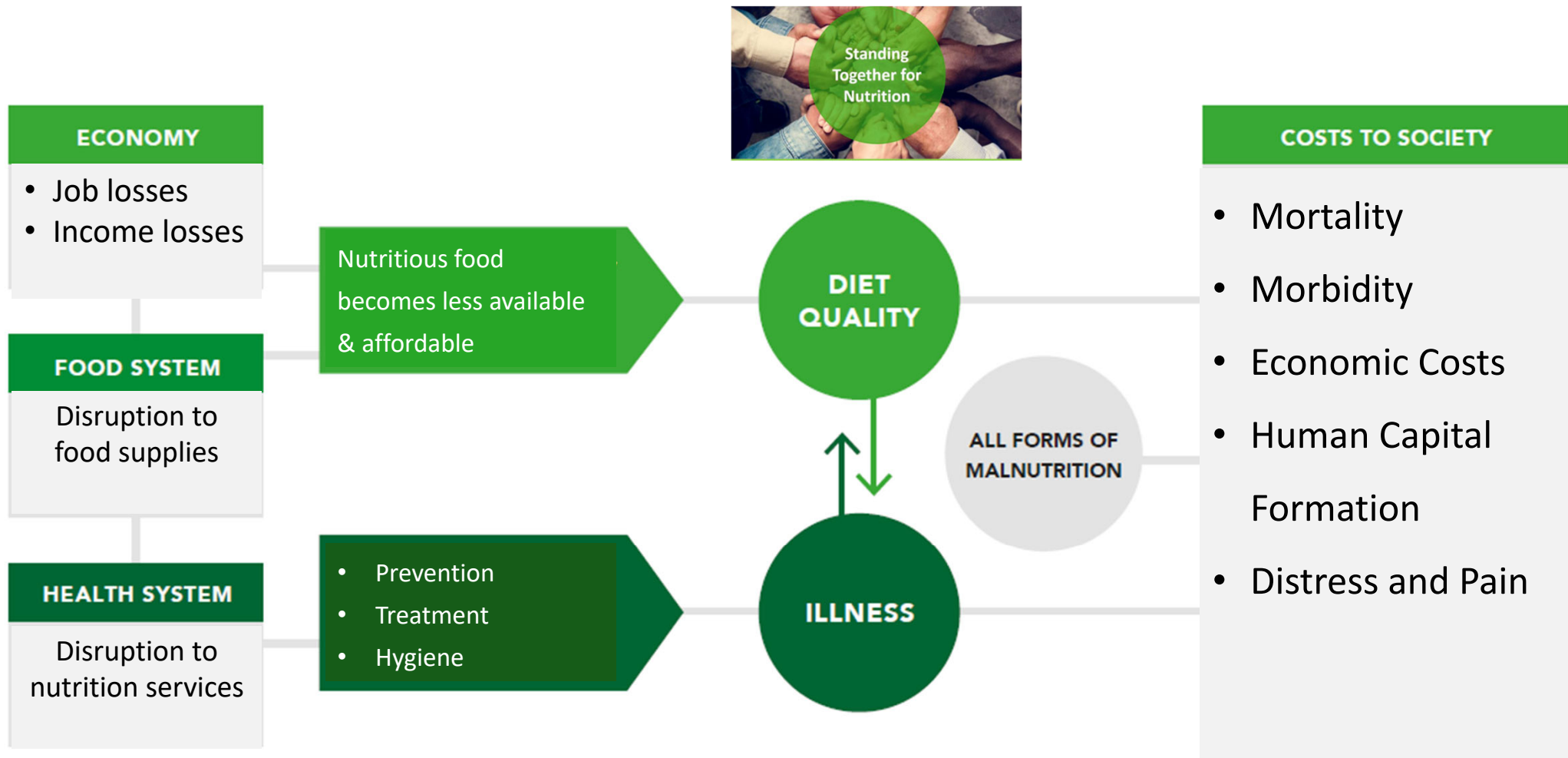
New Challenges and Opportunities for Ensuring Access to Nutrition

**Global Child Nutrition Forum -
October 2020**

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Programme Lead**

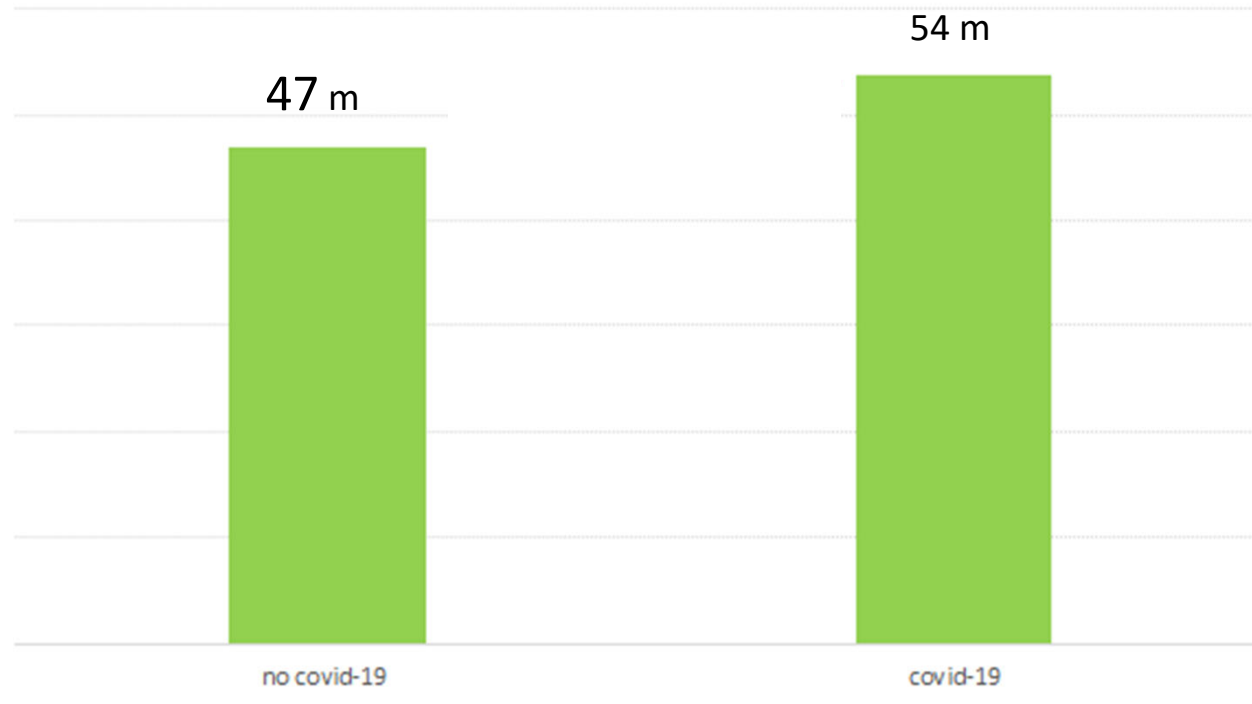


How we think COVID-19 & lockdowns impact malnutrition

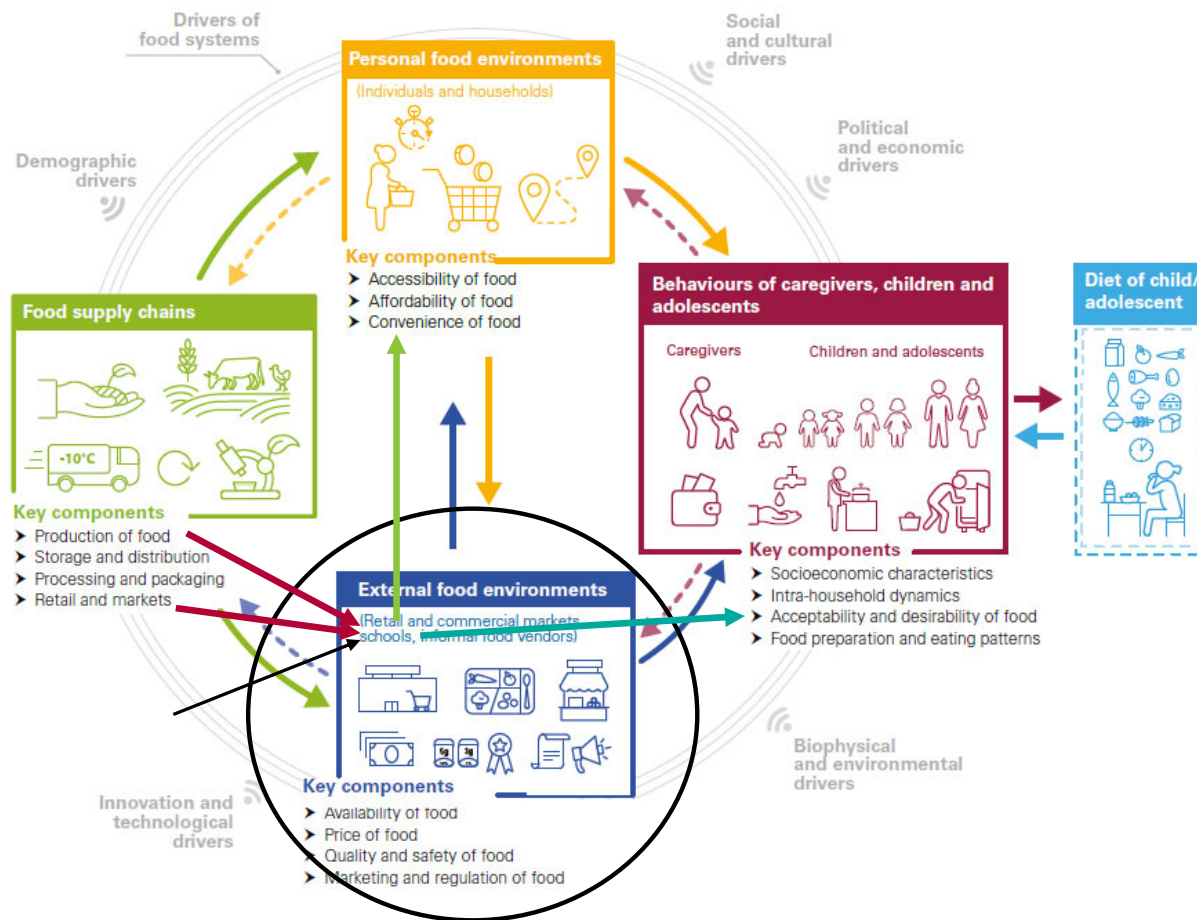


COVID-19 could result in an additional 6.7 million children with wasting in 2020

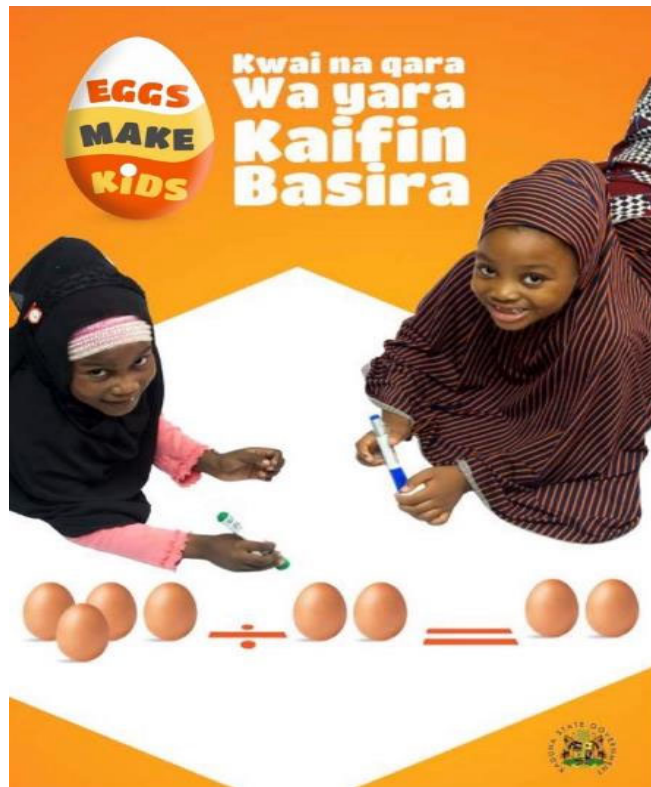
Increase in the number of wasted children under 5 in low- and middle-income countries due to COVID-19 and lockdowns



The impact of school closures is felt across whole food systems



Linking school feeding programmes with value chains and consumer behaviour in Nigeria

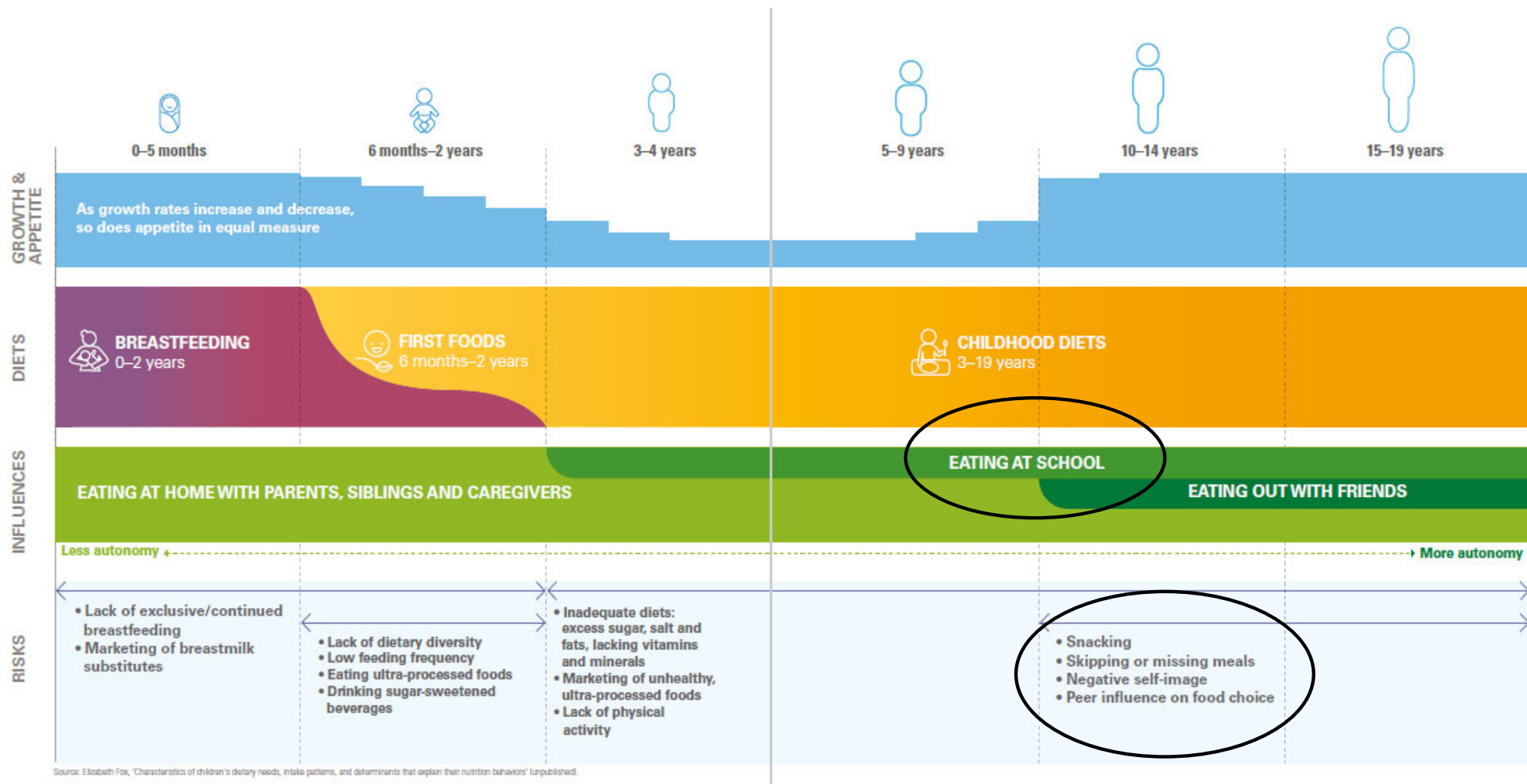


- National Egg Production initiative doesn't reach children not yet in school
- Linking education and food systems by strengthening egg value chains through National Home-Grown School Feeding Programme
- 360 degree communications approach needed to generate demand for healthy foods outside of school

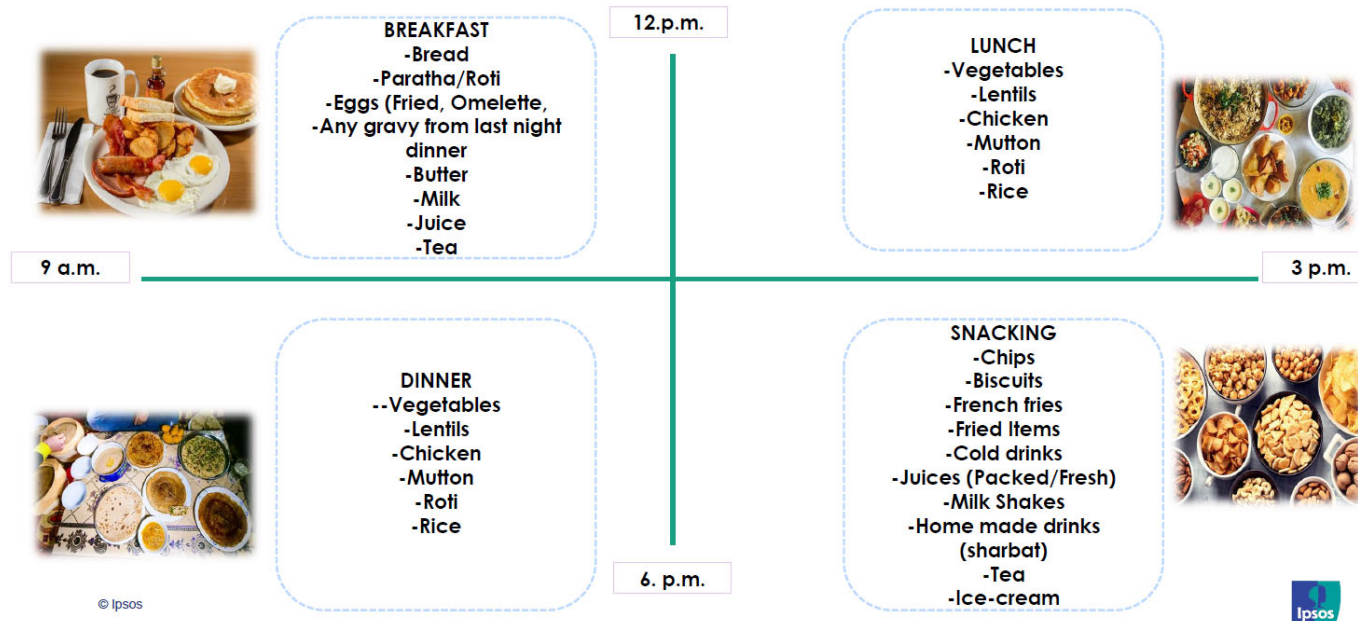
But what happens when schools close?



- COVID-19 school closures = increase in egg wastage. Local markets reported egg shortages because of blocks in the supply chain.
- Short term solution, 'Egg Mobile Truck' to bring eggs from farm to market and double up as promotion tool. Prevents SMEs in nutritious food going out of business as well as getting animal source foods to children.



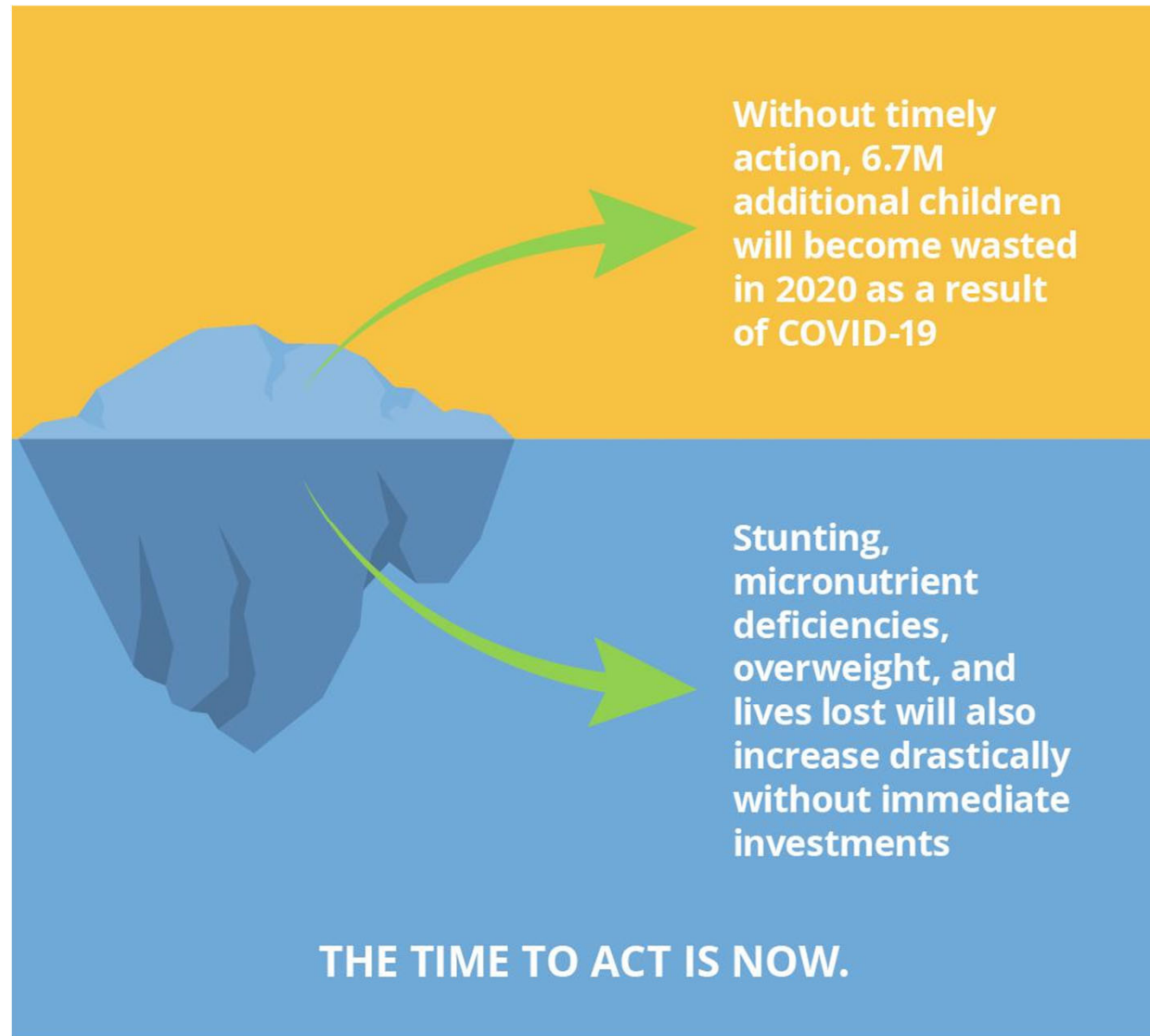
A silver lining? Can school closures be an opportunity to improve children's diets?



- COVID-19 resulted in reduction in snacking in older school age children in Pakistan.
- Long-term opportunity to promote consumption of healthy foods across school environments .

Wasting is a leading indicator—it is just the tip of the iceberg.

There is a lot more to come, unless we act, **now**



Conclusions



- Unchecked, COVID-19 and lockdowns threaten to reverse 10 years of progress in 10 months : protect all types of nutrition for the very youngest
- The impact of school closures can be felt across whole food systems leading to surprising challenges and opportunities.
- Sting in the Tail or a Chance to Remake our Food and Nutrition Systems? Both!
 - BUT need to turn short term opportunities into long term solutions.
 - Chance to improve food in and around schools.

A photograph of two young children, a boy and a girl, sitting on a wooden pallet. They are both smiling and looking towards the camera. The boy is on the left, wearing a dark long-sleeved shirt and blue shorts. The girl is on the right, wearing a black sleeveless top and purple pants. They are barefoot. In the background, there are large, stacked sacks of grain, some white and some brown. The scene is outdoors, likely in a rural or agricultural setting.

THANK YOU

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