

54th Commission on Population and Development
Expert Group Meeting 28-30 October 2020

The State of food security and nutrition in the world*

Nancy Aburto and Lorenzo Giovanni Bellù

Content

1. Number and prevalence of undernourishment and trends
2. Nutrition indicators and trends
3. Healthy and sustainable diets
4. Selected strategic options



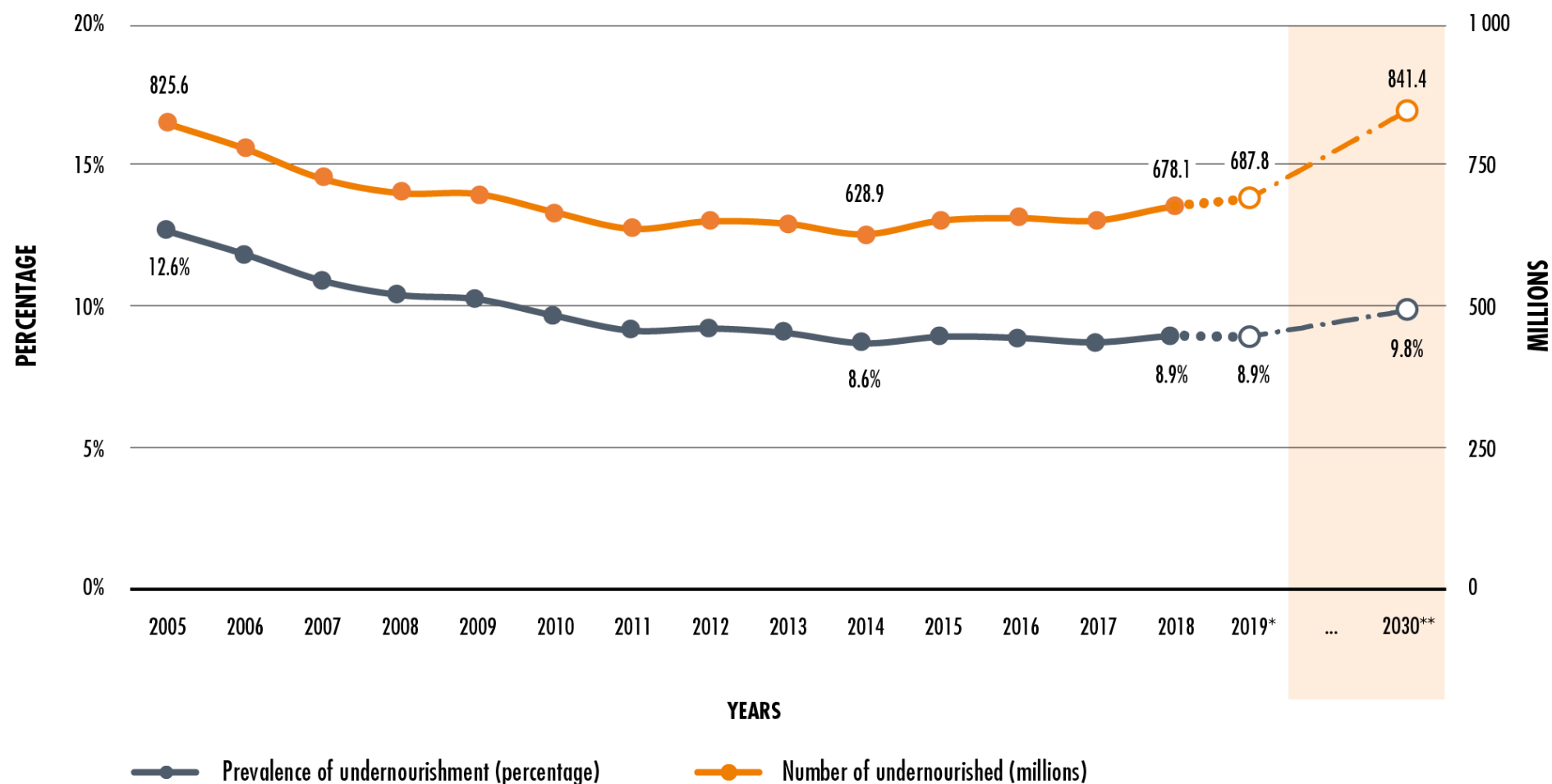
Food and Agriculture Organization
of the United Nations

* This presentation largely draws upon the Report SOFI 2020



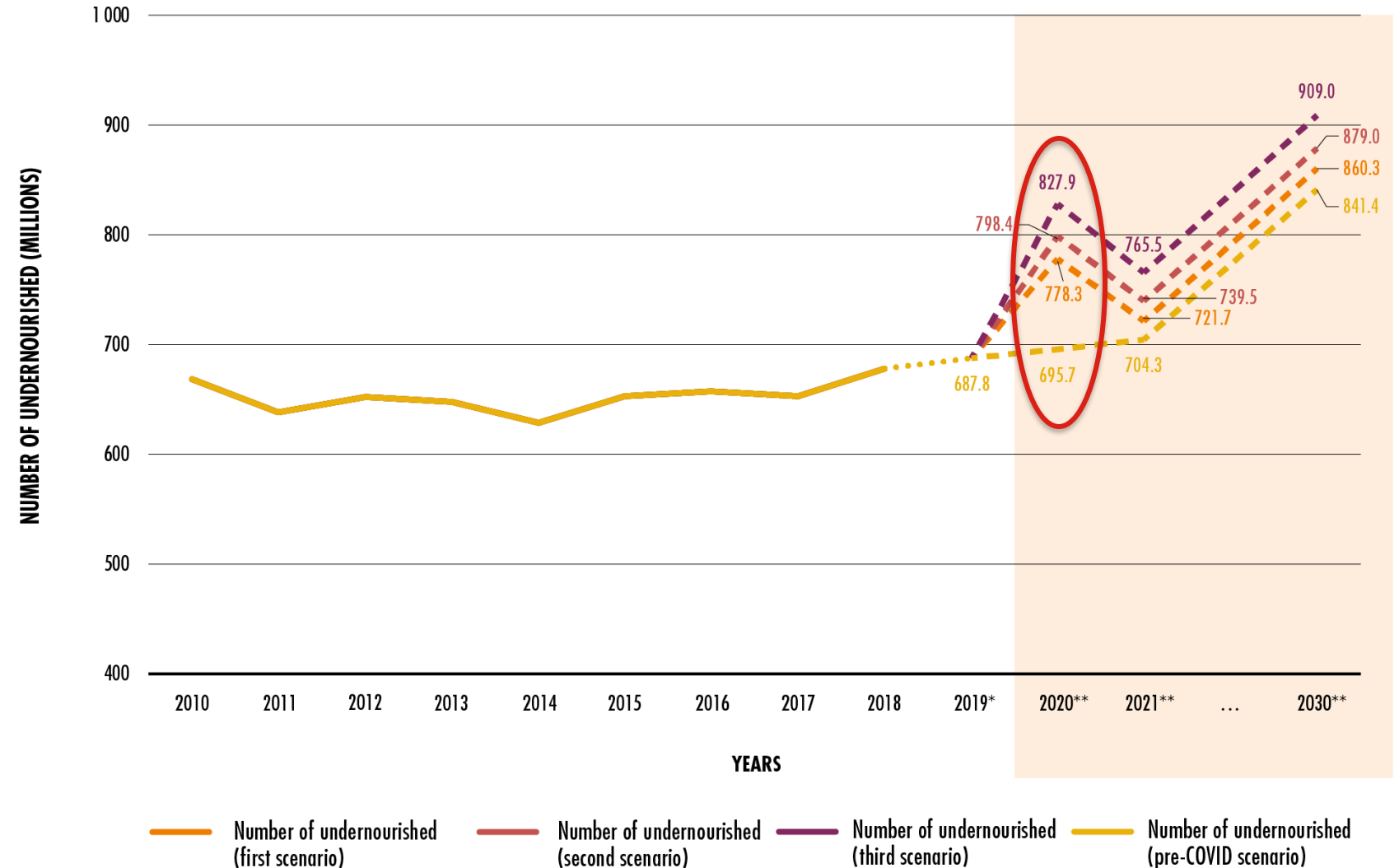
The number of hungry people and (to a lesser extent) the prevalence of undernourishment has been on the rise since 2014.

The world is not
on track to achieve
Zero Hunger
by 2030.



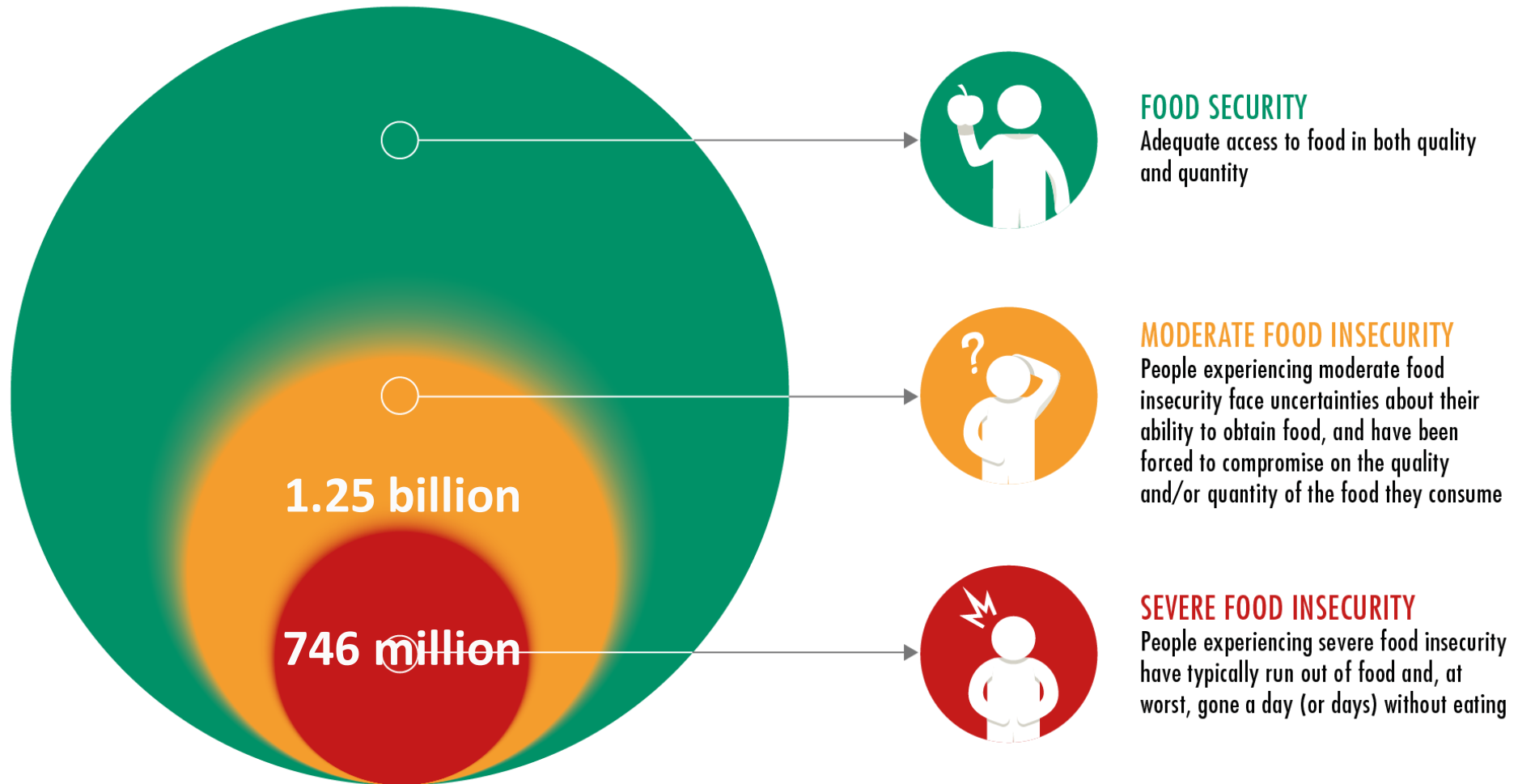


**COVID-19 pandemic
may add between 83
and 132 million people
to the total number of
undernourished
people in the world
in 2020**



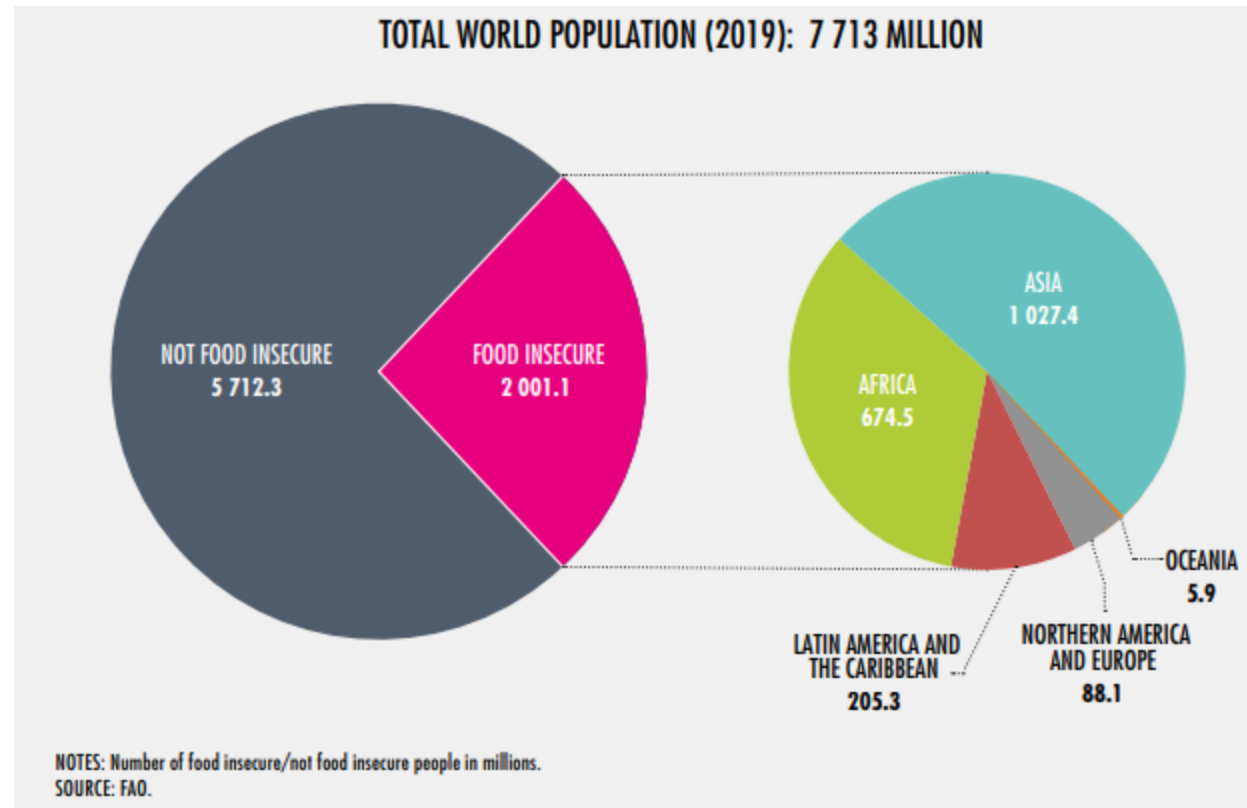


Food Insecurity is more than hunger – about 2 billion people in the world experience moderate or severe food insecurity





OVER HALF OF THE PEOPLE AFFECTED BY MODERATE OR SEVERE FOOD INSECURITY IN THE WORLD LIVE IN ASIA AND MORE THAN ONE-THIRD LIVE IN AFRICA (but FIES highlights also food insecurity in HICs)



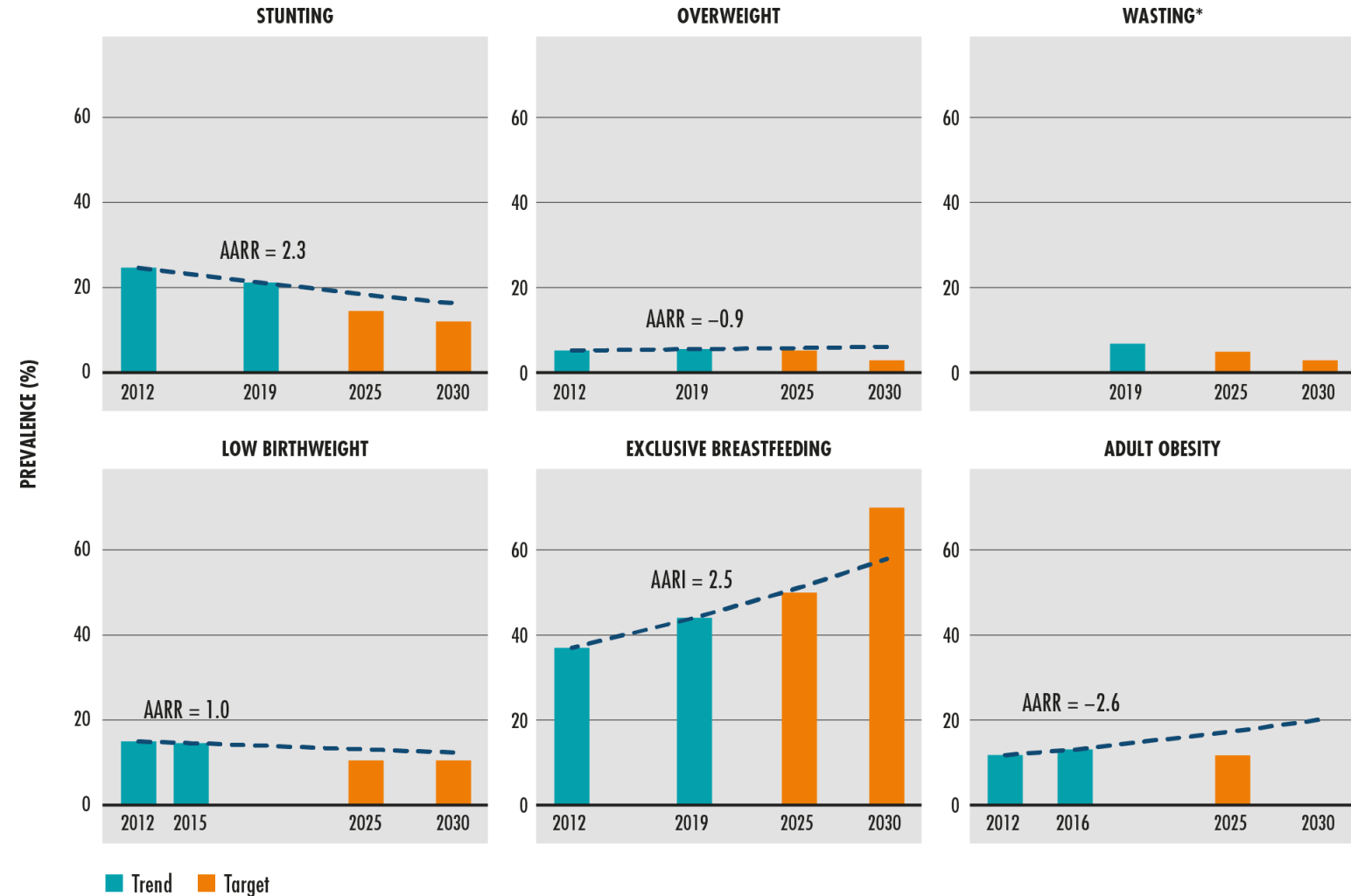


The world is not on track to defeat malnutrition

Stunting. While there is progress, the Average Annual Rate of Reduction (AARR) is too low.

Wasting. Still far from the 3% target

Adult obesity is on the rise.





The cost of a diet increases incrementally as the diet quality increases

THREE INCREASING LEVELS OF DIET QUALITY



ENERGY SUFFICIENT DIET
meets needs for short-term subsistence

NUTRIENT ADEQUATE DIET
meets required levels of all essential nutrients

HEALTHY DIET
includes foods from several food groups and
has greater diversity within food groups



The cost of a diet increases incrementally as the diet quality increases — across all regions and country income groups globally.

Very likely the cost of an healthy diet is much higher than the international poverty line, established at USD 1.90 (PPP) per day.

However, here is **no one healthy diet**,
(let alone one that includes sustainability considerations)

Assessing the **context-specific barriers**,
managing short-term and long-term trade-offs and exploiting synergies will be critical to transform food systems such that they deliver healthy (and sustainable) diets



Urgent action is needed to support a shift that makes
healthy diets affordable to all

This shift needs to unfold in a **sustainable way**, for people and
the planet, and creates synergies to spur progress on other SDGs



Transformation of food systems to increase the affordability and sustainability of healthy diets

**Policies and incentives
towards nutrition-sensitive
investment**



THE DOMAINS OF POLICY OPTIONS AND INVESTMENTS FOR TRANSFORMATION



**Nutrition-sensitive social
protection**



**Consumer oriented policies
for behavioural change**



**Implement efficient international
and internal trade and marketing
mechanisms (including
preventing social and
environmental dumping)**



**Substantially improve the
distribution of income and
income earning opportunities**

