

# Rome Partnership for Improving Disaster Risk Management in Food and Agriculture

IDRC

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WFP

# Main focus of this presentation

- Highlight the linkages between chronic food insecurity, high vulnerability, emergency response and Disaster Risk Management
- Highlight the current challenges, experiences and weaknesses of current humanitarian response or disaster management
- Highlight the importance of the new Rome based partnership that is built on comparative advantages of each institution in tackling hunger and poverty
- Provide some examples if there is time

**Partnership focuses on the needs of the poor**

## Some basic questions

- Who are the most vulnerable to hunger and food insecurity and what are the main causes?
- Who will face the greatest immediate impact of climate change and soaring food prices?
- Is the UN family using existing technology and climate resources effectively to respond to weather induced food emergencies?
- Do we have appropriate and effective response mechanisms to deal with food crises?
- How could we help the most vulnerable trapped in recurrent food crises adapt to climate change and soaring food prices?

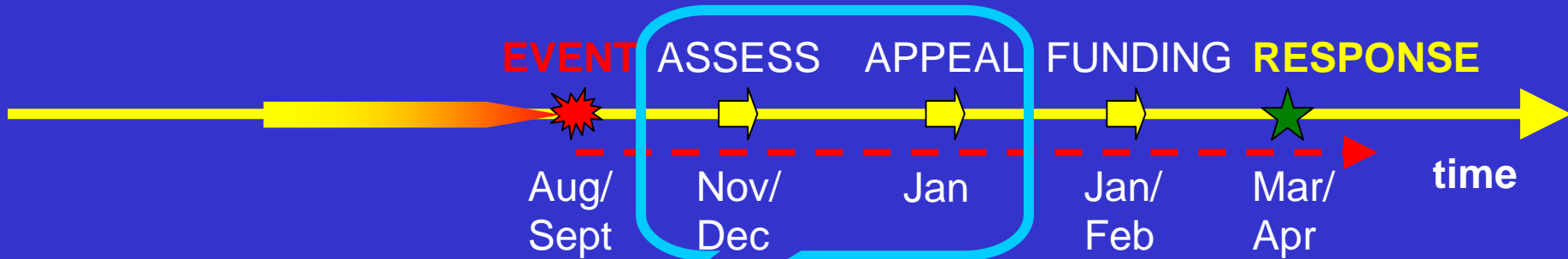
**Need for effective disaster risk management capacity**

# Current Disaster Preparedness and Response Framework

1. Pre-disaster phase
  - Identification of vulnerable populations and disaster risks – risk assessment
2. Monitoring phase
  - Early warning and contingency planning
3. Emergency assessment phase
  - Identification of populations that require assistance
4. Operational phase
  - Timely delivery of appropriate assistance
5. Post-disaster phase
  - Evaluation of impacts of the response and recovery projects

# Humanitarian Response Mechanism

## PRESENT APPROACH



## PROPOSED APPROACH



**Possible model with improved monitoring system**

# Effective Humanitarian Response Contributes to Risk Management

The effective humanitarian response is determined by the

- **Timeliness of the response and predictability of the resources**
- **Appropriateness of the response**
- **Adequacy of the response**



Decreased food production

Vicious Circle



Environmental degradation



Hunger + short-term planning



# Humanitarian Assistance Programming for Livelihood Protection and Resilience

Broadly, these activities contribute to:

- (1) reduced effects of natural disasters as a result of an increase in vegetative cover in vulnerable areas;
- (2) reduced vulnerability of households to natural hazards, allowing them to preserve key assets and build their resilience to shocks; and
- (3) Increases in vegetative cover also contribute to adaptive capacities of communities and countries by decreasing their vulnerability to flooding, landslides and drought



# Food Assistance Programming for Livelihood Protection and Resilience

Food assistance programming allows meeting households' and communities' short-term food consumption needs so natural assets are preserved:

- It allows valuable time to be directed to labor-intensive measures that would otherwise not be carried out;
- Enables investment in longer-term asset production and preservation to increase productivity; and
- Reduces risks associated with introducing new species and agricultural practices



**Increased food production + improved markets**

**Virtuous Circle**



**Sustainable agricultural projects**



**Healthy communities, partnerships + long-term planning**



# The challenges

- Institutional challenges – lack of coordinated response
- Compartmentalization of responses – development vs emergency
- Lack of comprehensive national policies and response mechanisms
- Limited use of available scientific knowledge
- Increased vulnerability of the poor due to climate change and soaring food prices – increased emergencies

# Climate Change challenges to the poor

- Increased vulnerability to agriculture production failures and losses of income
- Increased vulnerability to the spread of diseases such as malaria including to new areas (due temperature increase)
- Increased urban food emergencies as a result of increased food commodity prices
- Increased emergencies in coastal areas to sea rise and storms
- Reduced access to markets and services due to damage to infrastructure due to floods and storms
- Increased environmental degradation and change of livelihoods pattern

# The Rome Partnership

Will address some of the institutional and technical challenges by

- Developing a common risk management framework and response strategy – improve timeliness of responses
- Combining resources to address critical issues based on comparative advantage of each institution – increase funding for development
- Making effective use of latest advances in technology and Information Management
- Jointly designing and implementing innovative risk management systems – Livelihood Protection Systems, Weather Insurance etc

# Opportunities for improving Risk Management

DEVELOPMENT

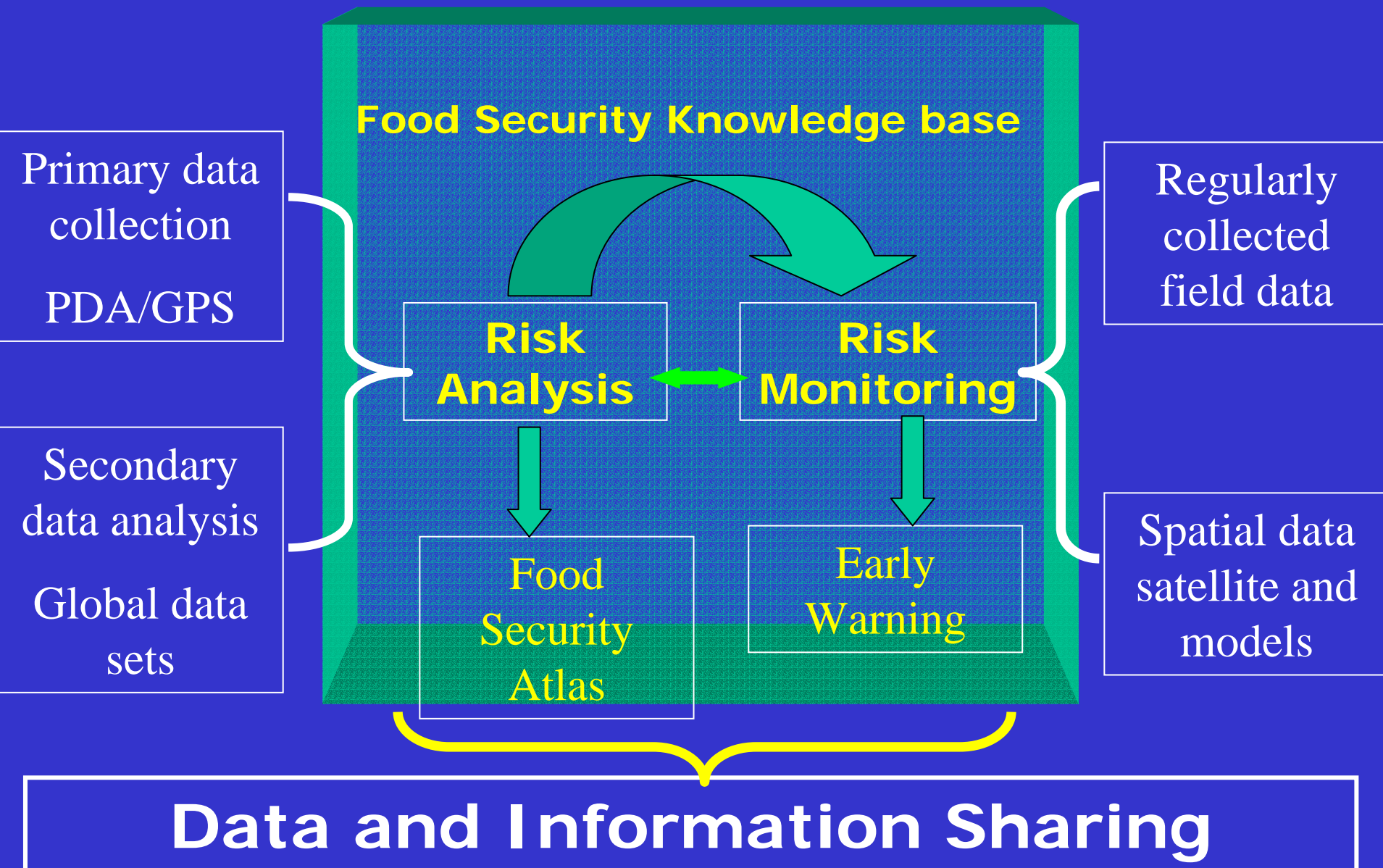
- Improvements in Food Systems
  - Improvement in agriculture production and yields
  - Improved agricultural processing and storage
  - Improved water and soil conservation

EMERGENCY

- Improved monitoring and early warning
  - Improved ICT and satellite applications
  - Improved weather forecasts
  - Improved crop models
  - Improved risk and hazard analysis and modelling
  - Innovative applications such as drought insurance

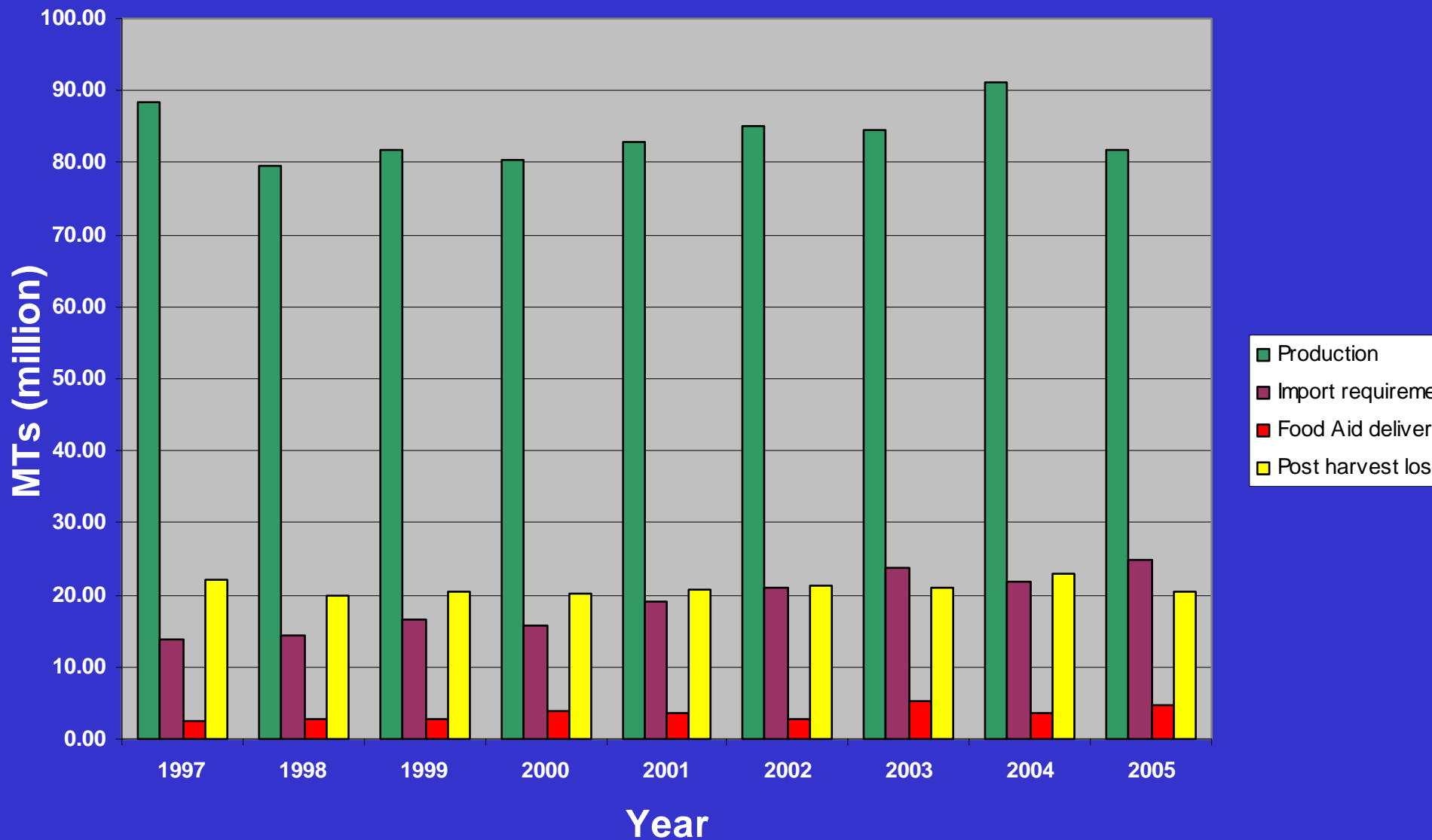
# **Some specific examples for collaboration**

# Integrated Food Security Information Management tool at a country level<sup>16</sup>

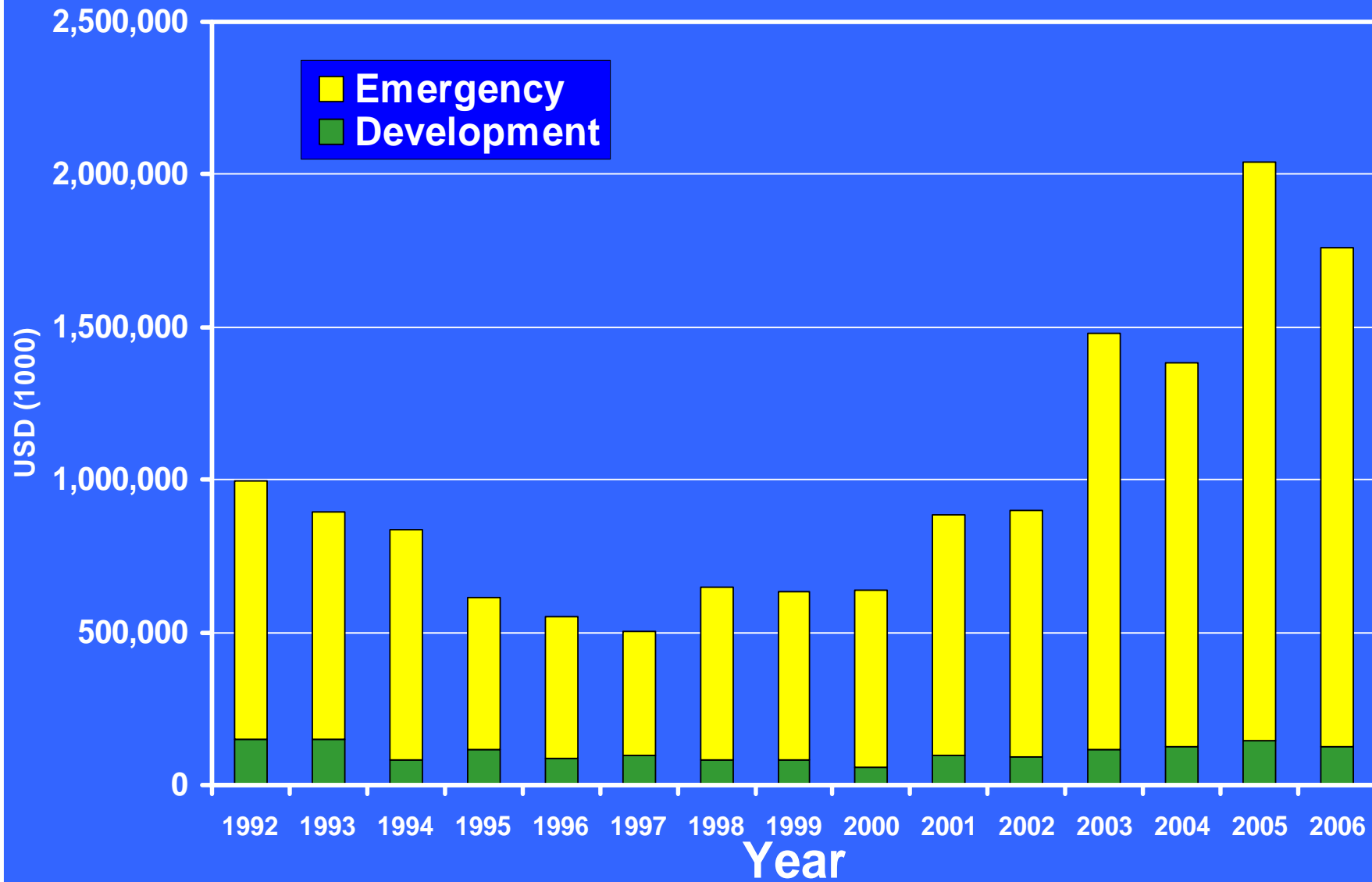




# Cereal production and import requirements (million MTs)



## WFP Direct Expenditure on Food Aid in Sub-Saharan Africa



# Baseline data sets

**Build Food Security Knowledge Base** on issues related to food insecurity risks and vulnerability in a given country context

Main layers

- Administrative boundaries
- Land Cover
- Elevation
- Farming Systems
- Livelihoods
- Vegetation/Climate
- Population Density
- Infrastructure:
- Water: Rivers – Irrigation
- Malnutrition (Underweight, stunting, wasting)
- HIV prevalence
- Livelihoods maps
- Vulnerability maps
- Drought maps

