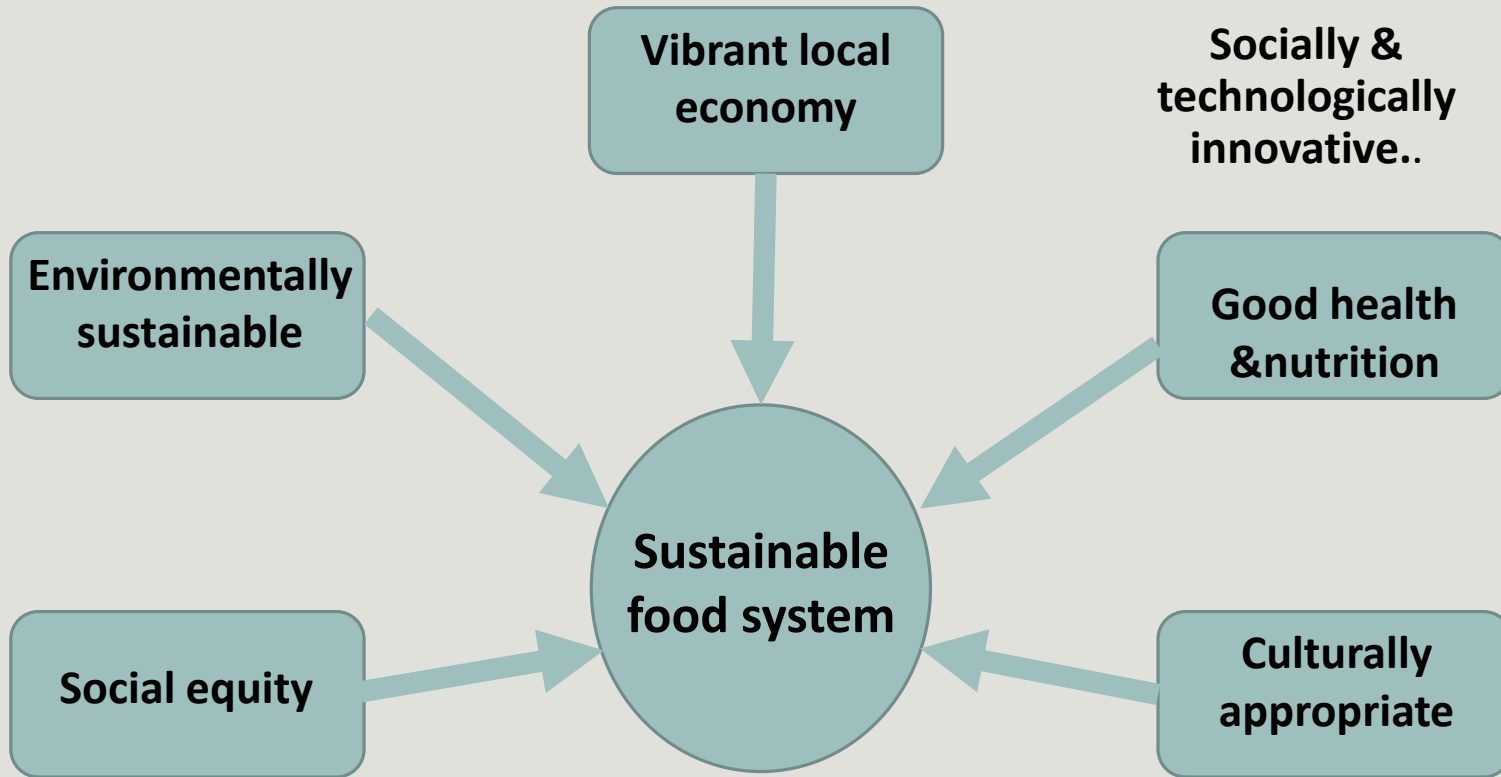




Food Systems for addressing the Nutrition Challenges

Sustainable food systems



Transdisciplinary - Political economy



FROM
UNIFORMITY
TO
DIVERSITY



A paradigm shift from industrial agriculture to diversified agroecological systems

What is wrong with our food systems?

Burden of malnutrition

- Stunting, underweight and wasting, micronutrient deficiencies, obesity & nutrition related NCDs

Environmentally unsustainable Biodiversity losses, water pollution, soil degradation, GHG emissions, unsustainable use of natural resources, low resilience ...

Social inequities

- Poverty, disempowerment ...

Neglect of cultural values

→ **Directly associated with current food systems based on industrial agriculture**

Burden of Malnutrition

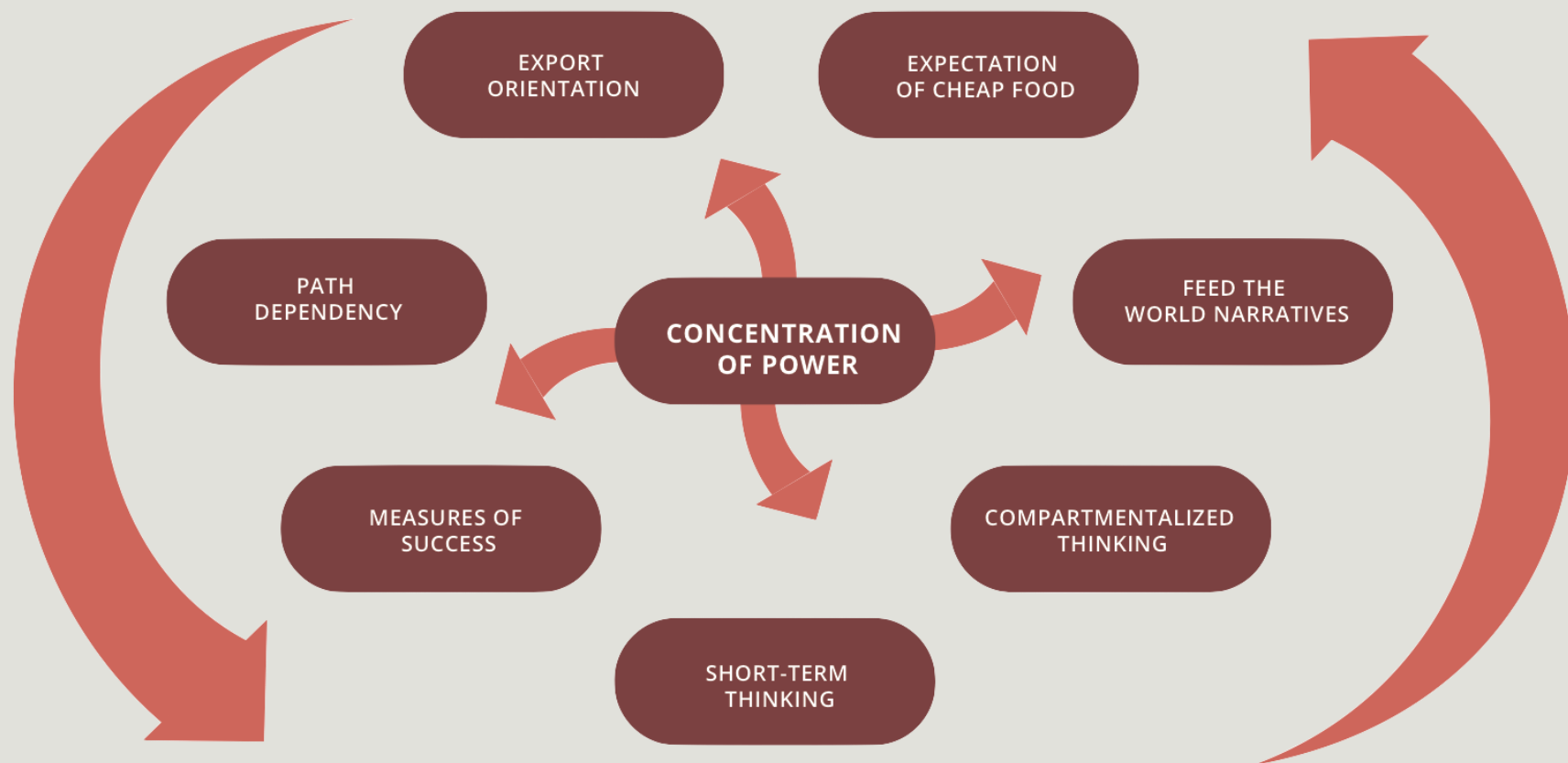
- 159 million children under 5 stunted in 2015
- 41 million overweight children in the world in 2015 – an increase of about 11 million over the past 15 years.
- 50 million children under 5 wasted in 2015.
- 2 billion adults overweight or obese
- 2 billion people with micronutrient deficiencies

Source: **UNICEF / WHO / World Bank Group Joint Child Malnutrition Estimates 2016**
; IFPRI Global Nutrition Report 2016

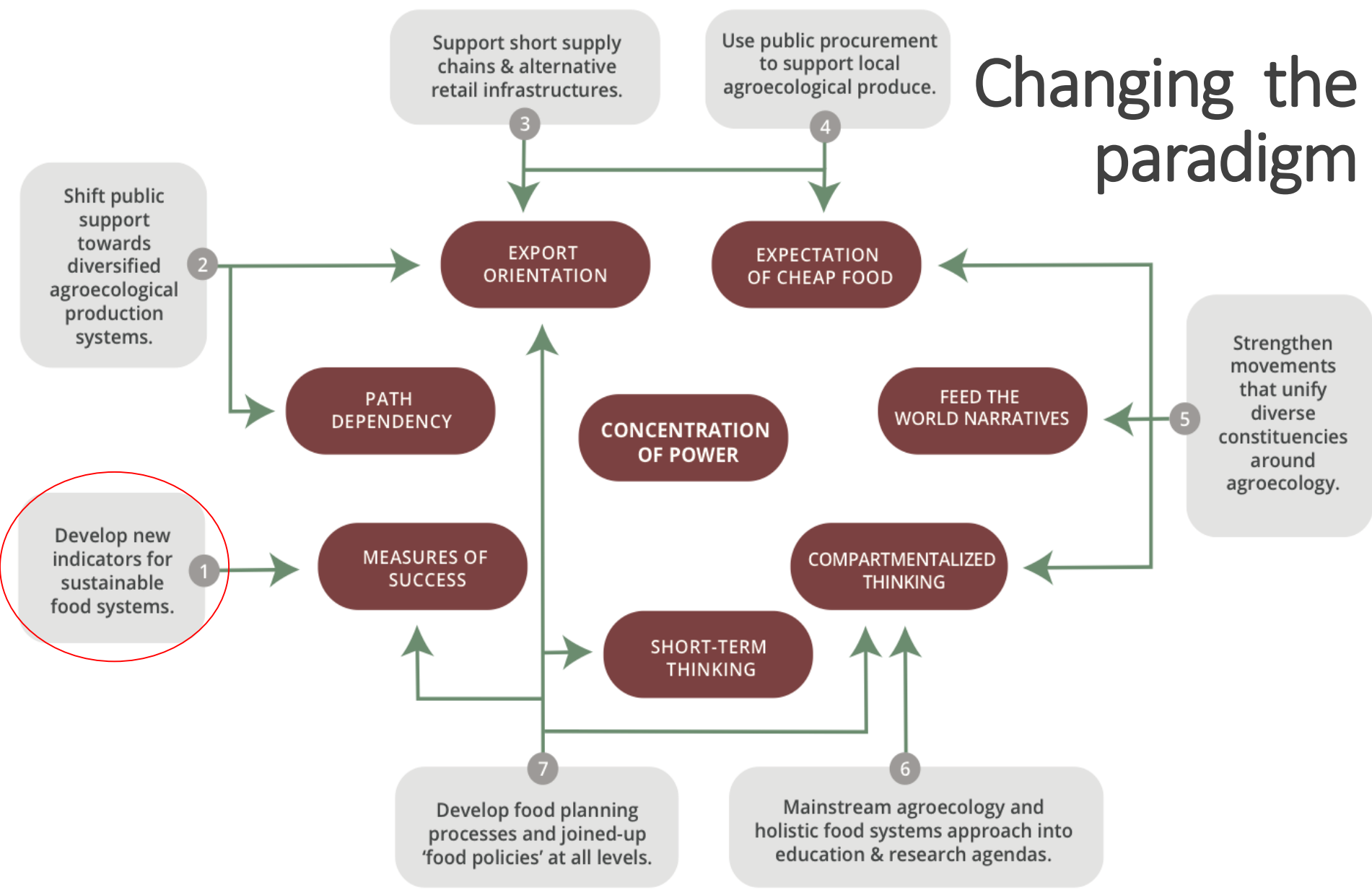
Food Security: Necessary but not sufficient

- Food, Health and Care are all necessary for nutrition security.
- Multi-sectoral action with nutrition- specific and nutrition-sensitive interventions. Increasingly being pursued in countries.

What prevents change: 8 Lock-ins



Changing the paradigm



Social and Technological Innovations

- Many innovations- at what scale and for who?
- Examples of innovations around food supplements for young children, therapeutic products etc.
- Lots of other stuff but for which markets?

Social and Technological Innovations (cont'd)

- AFSA documented case studies on health and nutrition e.g. orange fleshed potatoes (Ghana), green leafy vegetables (Kenya), permaculture (Malawi) crop intensification (Ethiopia) etc.
- processes that embrace diversity of knowledge
- Scale and context-specific programming

Health and Nutrition Apps. examples

- RapidPro for nutrition: M & E for prevention & treatment of malnutrition.
- Anthrowatch: on-going monitoring tool in food insecure areas.
- mHealth: information and services for pregnant women.

How do we get more of these e.g. for enabling shifts to consumption of healthy and nutritious diets everywhere?

Key messages

- There is progress, albeit uneven, in reducing malnutrition but it remains pervasive. Nutrition-sensitive agriculture and food systems should contribute to addressing this challenge.
- Transformation of food systems is critical to ensuring diversified and healthy diets **for all**, a necessary condition for attaining nutrition security
- New way of thinking needed at multiple levels as tweaking practices can improve some of the specific outcomes, but will not provide long-term solutions to the multiple problems.

Key messages (cont'd)

- Change is already happening and a series of modest steps can collectively shift the centre of gravity in food systems.
- Given the nature of the nutrition problem, just as programming and implementation goes multi-sectoral, innovations have to do the same.