# Food security & nutrition programs in Mongolia Policy gaps

Ts.Soninkhishig /Ph.D/

Associate professor

Department of Human Nutrition

School of Public Health

Mongolian National University of Medical Sciences

No	Food group	Supply <sup>1</sup> g/capita	Consumption <sup>2</sup> g/capita	Recommendation <sup>3</sup> g/capita
1	Milk	171	125	160
2	Livestock meat (mutton, beef, goat etc)	307	143	120
3	Flour	176	277	180
4	Vegetables	81	55	260
5	Sugar, sweetener	49	23	33
6	Potatoes	80	42	120
7	Dairy Products	225	52	180
8	Flour products /noodles, cookies, bakery)	177	155	180
9	Fruits and berries		21	200
10	All types of grains		43	50
11	Eggs		9	20
	Vegetable oil		8	10
13	Poultry		3	40
14	Fish		0	30
15	Butter, 72%	7	6	10
16	Pulses		0	40



- Aggregated
- Diversity
- Dietary guidelines
- Import dependent
- Understanding of food security

1-based on National Food Security Statistics, NSO and National Security Council, 2018

2-based on Household socioeconomic survey, NSO, 2018

3-based on the dietary guidelines, Ministry of Health, 2017

Partially import dependent

Fully import dependent

#### **FOOD ACCESSIBILITY**

Proportion of the population within, below or above the ranges of population macronutrient intake goals by income quintile levels from HSEC, NSO

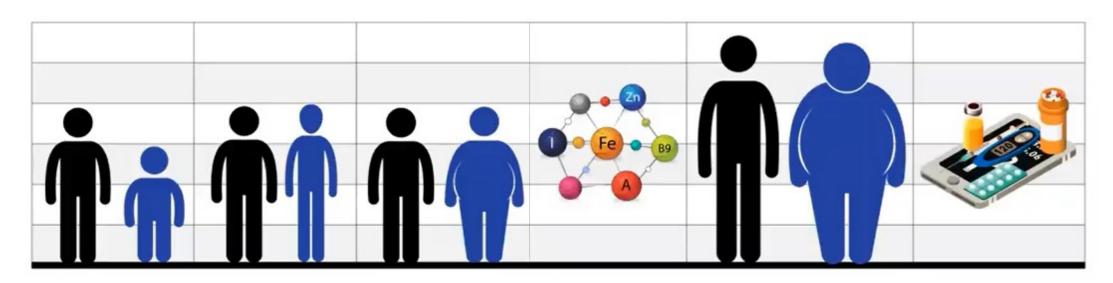
Income quantiles	Lowest	2	3	4	Highest
A balanced diet	45.9	46.0	45.8	40.8	37.5
A diet that does not meet any of the three recommended goals for energy-supplying macronutrients	7.6	10.0	10.0	12.4	16.2
Dietary energy provided by protein below the lower recommended threshold (10%)	1.0	0.6	0.9	0.7	0.4
Dietary energy provided by protein above the upper recommended threshold (15%)	37.6	40.0	38.7	42.9	46.3
Dietary energy provided by total fat below the lower recommended threshold (15%)	3.4	1.7	0.9	1.2	0.9
Dietary energy provided by total fat above the upper recommended threshold (30%)	21.2	22.6	24.7	27.4	31.7
Dietary energy provided by total carbohydrates below the lower recommended threshold (55%)	20.7	24.0	24.2	27.4	34.3
Dietary energy provided by total carbohydrates above the upper recommended threshold (75%)	0.2	0.2	0.0	0.0	0.2

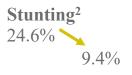
# **FOOD ACCESSIBILITY**

# Household dietary diversity and nutrient consumption, from HSEC, NSO

	Average dietary energy consumption (kcal/capita/day)	Household dietary diversity score (HCES-DDS)	Average protein consumption (g/capita/day)	Average fat consumption (g/capita/day)	Average carbohydrates consumption (g/capita/day)	Average fiber consumption (g/capita/day)
Total	2019	10	74.3	59.3	291.7	7.9
Quintiles of income						
Lowest quintile	1616	9	58.6	45.7	239.1	5.7
2	1855	10	68.3	53.7	270.3	7.0
3	2097	10	76.7	61.7	303.2	8.3
4	2314	10	85.8	69.1	330.7	9.3
Highest quintile	2590	10	96.7	78.9	363.8	11.1
Urban/rural						
Urban	1988	10	70.1	59.0	288.1	9.1
Rural	2081	8	82.5	59.9	298.8	5.4
Poverty						
Non-poor	2214	10	81.7	65.9	317.3	8.9
Poor	1525	9	55.5	42.5	227.1	5.3
Region						
West	1829	9	70.8	55.4	257.9	5.3
Highlands	2081	9	80.7	58.4	303.7	6.2
Central	2118	9	79.7	65.0	298.2	7.2
East	2276	9	86.9	64.8	330.4	8.2
Ulaanbaatar	1976	10	69	58	288	9

## **FOOD UTILIZATION Nutrition & Health**





Wasting<sup>2</sup>

### Overweight/Obesity<sup>1</sup> under 5 years of age 10.5%

Anemia<sup>1</sup> women 16.2% 14.4%

#### Overweight/Obesity<sup>1</sup> men 15-49 age 48.8% 27.6%



Hypertension 27.5%<sup>3</sup> Stroke 16.9%

Coronary heart disease #15

Liver disease& cancer #1



Diabetes 4.6 %

Leading causes of death<sup>3</sup>

Stomach cancer #1

Lung cancer #44

Stroke #3

#### Overweight/Obesity<sup>1</sup> 6-11 years of age

9.6%

28.8% 4.2%

### Anemia<sup>1</sup>

24.3%

under 5 of age 33.2%

32.9%

# Overweight/Obesity<sup>1</sup>

women 15-49 age

62.7%

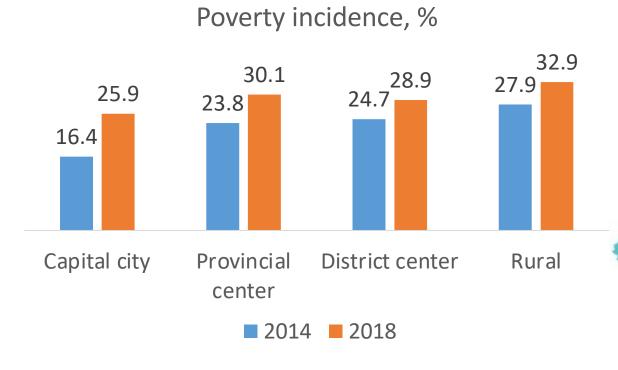
- <sup>3</sup>- https://www.worldlifeexpectancy.com/mongolia

#### <sup>1</sup>-5<sup>th</sup> National Nutrition Survey

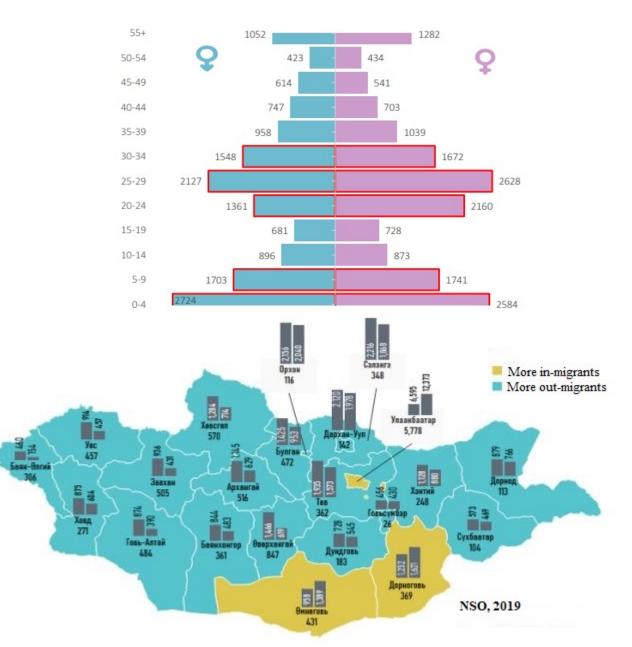


<sup>&</sup>lt;sup>2</sup>- MICS survey

# **SOCIO-ECONOMIC STATUS Migration**



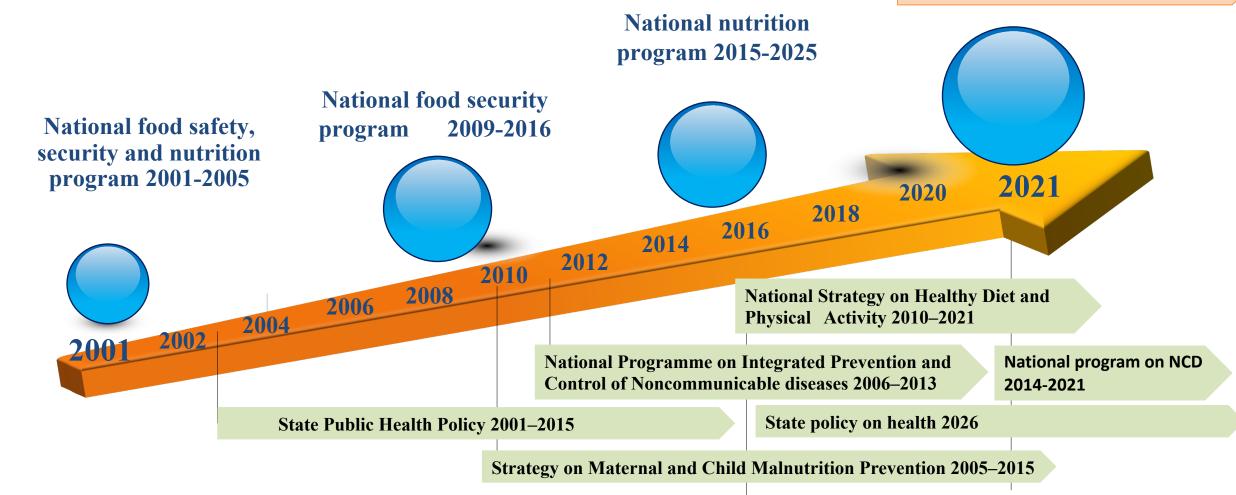
#### Number of in-migrants by age groups, NSO, 2019



# **National Nutrition Programs**

Sustainable development vision 2030

Sustainable development vision 2050



- 1. Food law (2012)
- 2. law on ensuring safety of food products (2012)
- 3. Law on Food for infants, (2017)
- 4. Law on School feeding
- 5. Law on Fortified food

State policy on food and agriculture 2016-2025

National strategy on Information, Education and Communication to promote healthy behaviors 2010-2016 Strong commitment of government: for the last few decades many national programmers and strategies were approved

Health indicators of population are not improving

Are the actions were nutrition sensitive?



KEY RECOMMENDATIONS FOR IMPROVING NUTRITION THROUGH AGRICULTURE AND FOOD SYSTEMS



# Compliance to key recommendations

No	Key recommendations	National food safety, security and nutrition program 2001-2005	National food security program 2009-2016	National nutrition program 2015-2025	State policy on food and agriculture 2016-2025
1	Nutrition objectives				
	1.1 Nutrition indicators for monitoring and evaluation system				
2	Activities to address the types and causes of malnutrition at local level				
3	Target vulnerables				
4	Collaboration with other sectors				
5	Empower women				
6	Increase food production				
	6.1 of nutrient rich foods				
	6.2 promote diversification				
7	Improve processing				
	7.1 to reduce post harvest losses				
	7.2 to retain nutritional value				
	7.3 Improve storage				
8	Expand markets and access				
	8.1 of nutrient rich foods				
9	Nutrition promotion/education				
	Total score	12	9	16	10

# Policy gaps

- The targets of policies are not insufficiently ambitious sometimes and the multisectoral programme in many cases are not costed.
- The most cost-effective, feasible and evidence-based interventions are not being prioritized over those that are less so.
- There is the lack of clarity on effectiveness of existing governance and coordination mechanisms such as the roles and responsibilities of stakeholders is not always clear, enforcement and accountability is weak, and capacity to enforce policies is not always present.
- The set of indicators to monitor and evaluate the programs and policies are not accurate and sometimes not suitable

- Failures to ensure sustainable use of scarce land resources lead to severe environmental degradation, biodiversity loss and declining agricultural productivity, posing a major threat to sustainable food security.
- The agrofood system is being challenged by climate change, weak infrastructure and value chain network, poor food safety control, territorial imbalances and urbanization
- The agrofood system does not generate fair economic returns for most informal players who dominate in the system due to accesses to land, markets, credit, extension services and are trapped in a persisting cycle of poverty

# Thank you!