

# Re-imagining Africa's Food systems Transformation: through data, Advocacy and Leadership

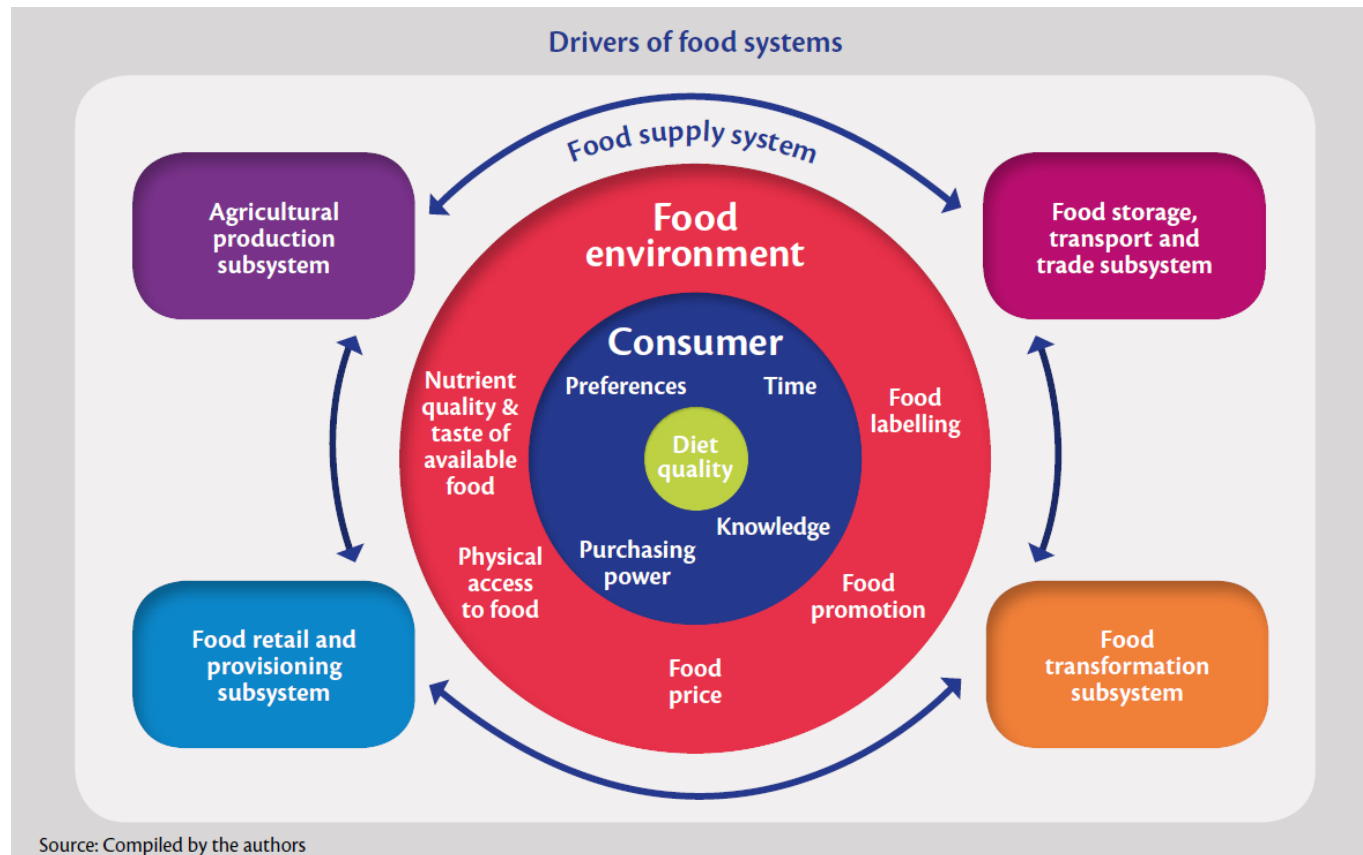
**MEALS4NCD/FERN in collaboration with  
APHRC, REPSAO, African Nutrition Society (ANS) FANUS, CAPHA, A4NH/IFPRI  
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# Outline

- **What is meant by Food systems?**
- **Food systems challenges**
- **Role of data, Advocacy and Leadership in Africa's Food Systems Transformation**

# Links between diet quality and food systems (source: Global Panel,2016)



# Failures in current Food systems

- Globally 690 million people go to bed hungry, despite producing enough food;
- Healthy diets is not affordable to 3 billion people , globally;
- Food systems do not yield equitable benefits (farmers are the poorest in many developing countries);
- Food Systems are not sustainable- produces about 29% of the global GHGs, uncontrolled depletion of natural resources (land, water, energy, loss of agri-biodiversity)

# COVID-19 Disruptions amplifies gaps in food systems

## **Disruptions and its impact:**

Increased Poverty → WB globally an additional 88-118 million would moved into extreme poverty

Loss of livelihoods: ILO: At lease 345 million affected in 2020

Increased food insecurity → WFP: 370 million children without school meals  
3 billion who cannot afford a healthy diets,  
number to rise by 267.6 million by 2022

Increased malnutrition → STfN: **additional:**

9.3 million wasted children <5;

2.6 million stunted children;

2.1 million maternal anemia

# Food Systems Transformation Goals



Source: Based on S. Fan et al., "Food Systems for Human and Planetary Health: Economic Perspectives and Challenges," *Food System Economics* (forthcoming).

**Healthy** to humans: Delivers on healthy diets for all

**Resilient** to shocks- pandemic, economic, climate change

**Inclusive/Equitable:** inequities of small holder farmers, women, etc and providing decent livelihoods

**Sustainable:** Healthy to the planet, protective of natural resources and biodiversity

**Efficient:** Delivers efficiently along the food value chain, reducing FLW

# Role of Data in Food Systems Transformation

**Data** are needed for accountability, decision making and assessing progress

But challenges exist: (Global Panel, 2015)

- Few countries collect food systems data

- Lack of statistical systems to collect and analyze data

- Lack of empirical data to assess the nutritional impact of agricultural policies and food policies.

# The Food Systems dashboard: draws on the vast amount of data to help policy makers



The Dashboard is a one-stop shop- it gathers 166 food systems indicators to better describe food systems and identify options for policy makers to promote healthy diets.

[www.foodsystemsdashboard.org](http://www.foodsystemsdashboard.org)

Source: Lawrence Haddad and Jessica Fanzo

Fanzo, J., Haddad, L., McLaren, R., Marshall, Q., Davis, C., Herforth, A., Jones, A., Beal, T., Tschirley, D., Bellows, A. and Miachon, L., 2020. The Food Systems Dashboard is a new tool to inform better food policy. *Nature Food*, pp.1-4.



# Why a Food Systems Dashboard?

- Evidence based policymaking requires sound advice, but the data are fragmented
- Policymakers are often in the dark on how to manage their food systems and need to know where and how to start
- Need for tools that contextualize food systems and their linkages to diets, nutrition and other development outcomes

Source: Lawrence Haddad and Jessica Fanzo





# Goals of the Dashboard

- **Describe:** Improve stakeholder understanding of national food systems
- **Diagnose:** Enable stakeholders to compare food systems across countries
- **Decide:** Suggest priority areas of action and necessary actors to improve food system contributions to diets and nutrition

Source: Lawrence Haddad and Jessica Fanzo





# Dashboard Users

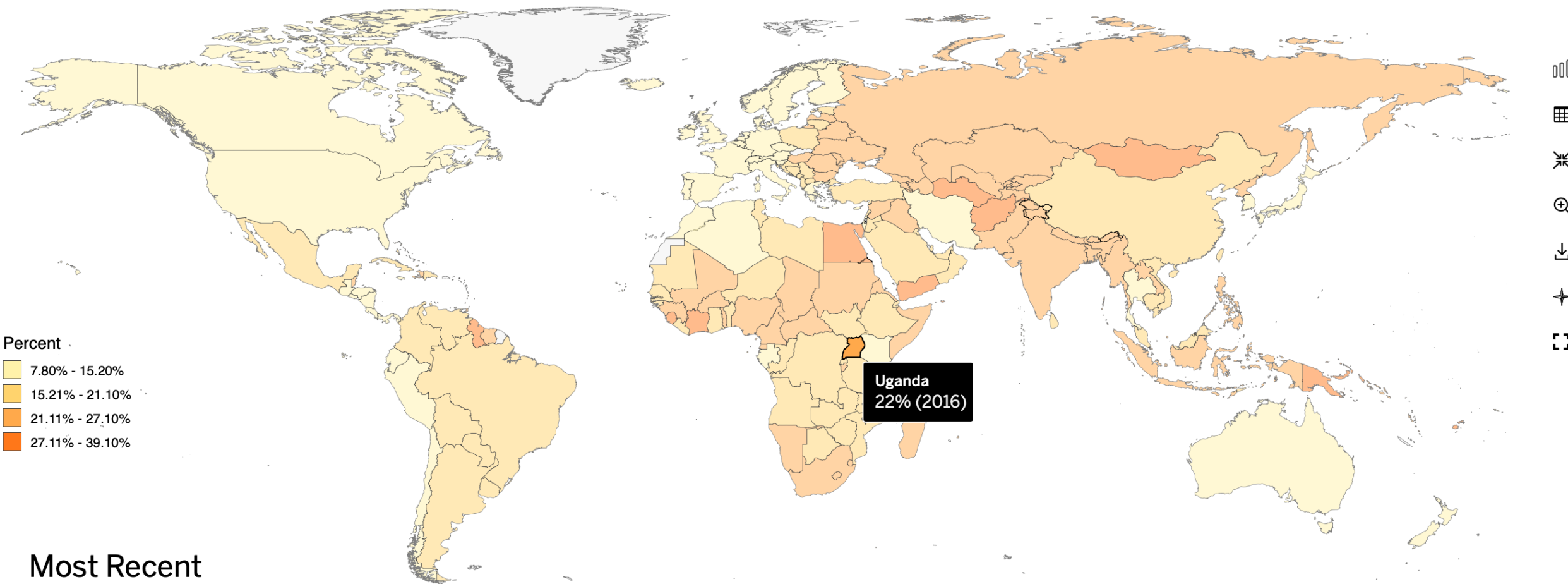
- Policymakers at the country, regional, and global levels
- National statistical agency workers
- Policy analysts in government ministries
- U.N. and NGO development practitioners
- Civil society workers
- Business leaders and entrepreneurs
- Researchers, academics, and students

Source: Lawrence Haddad and Jessica Fanzo



# Case Study 1: Kenya and Uganda

# Compared to Kenya, Uganda has high levels cardiovascular disease, diabetes and diet related cancers





FOOD SUPPLY CHAINS



FOOD ENVIRONMENTS



INDIVIDUAL FACTORS



CONSUMER BEHAVIOR

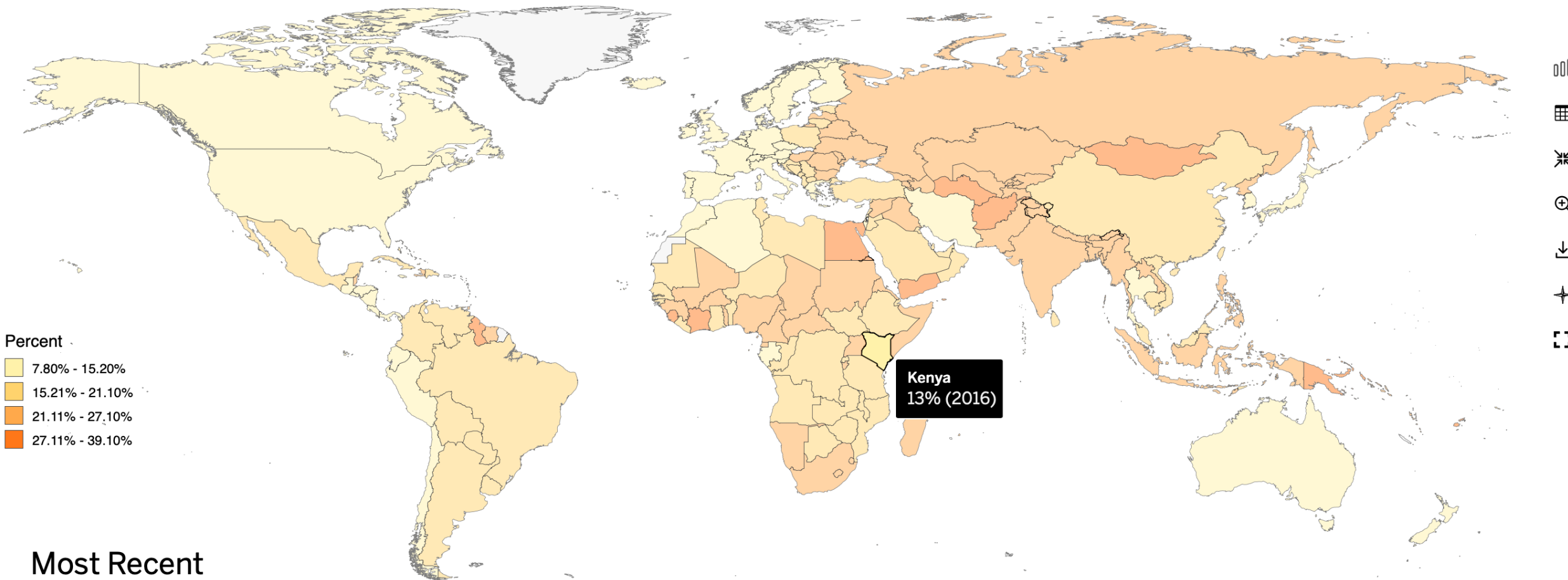


DIETS AND NUTRITION



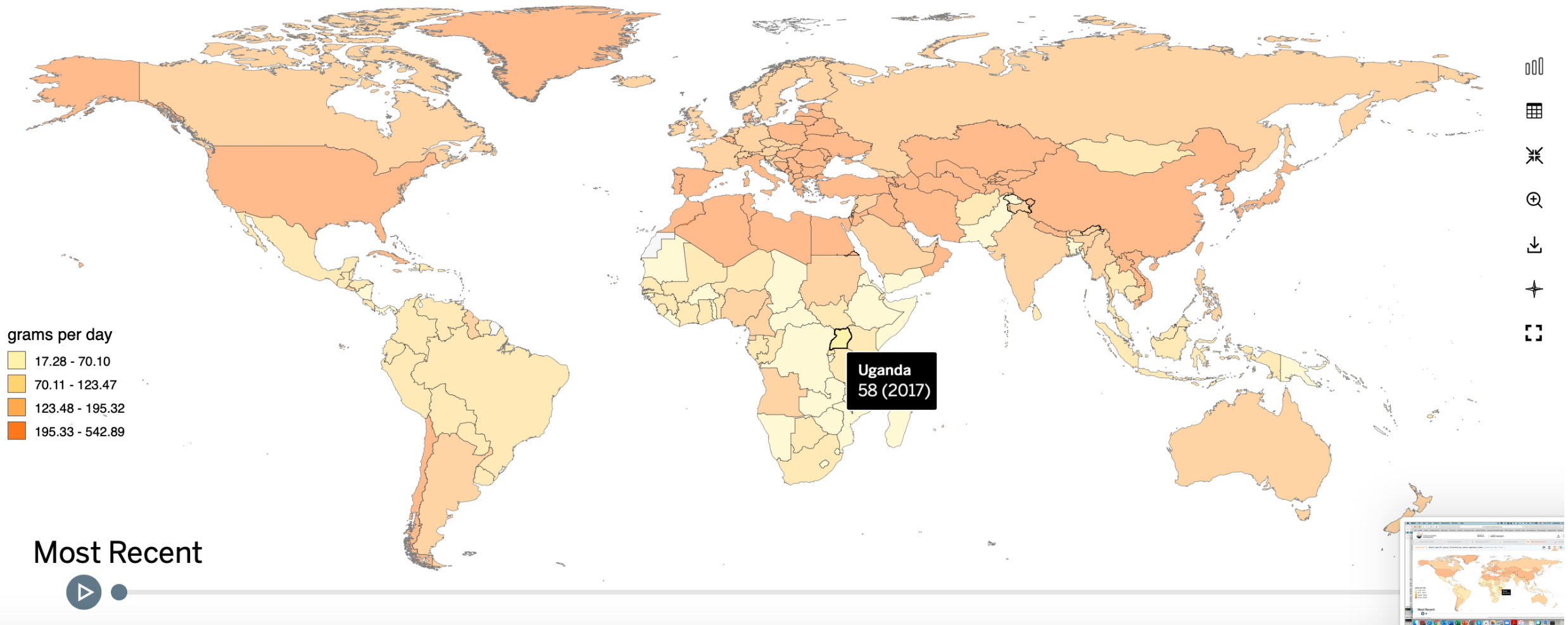
DRIVERS

NONCOMMUNICABLE DISEASES *i* Probability of dying between 30-70 years from CVD, cancer, diabetes, and CRD | Percent | Total



# Compared to Kenya, Uganda has low vegetable intake

DIETARY INTAKE ⓘ Adults (age 25+ years): Estimated per capita vegetable intake | grams per day | Total ▾







FOOD SUPPLY CHAINS



FOOD ENVIRONMENTS



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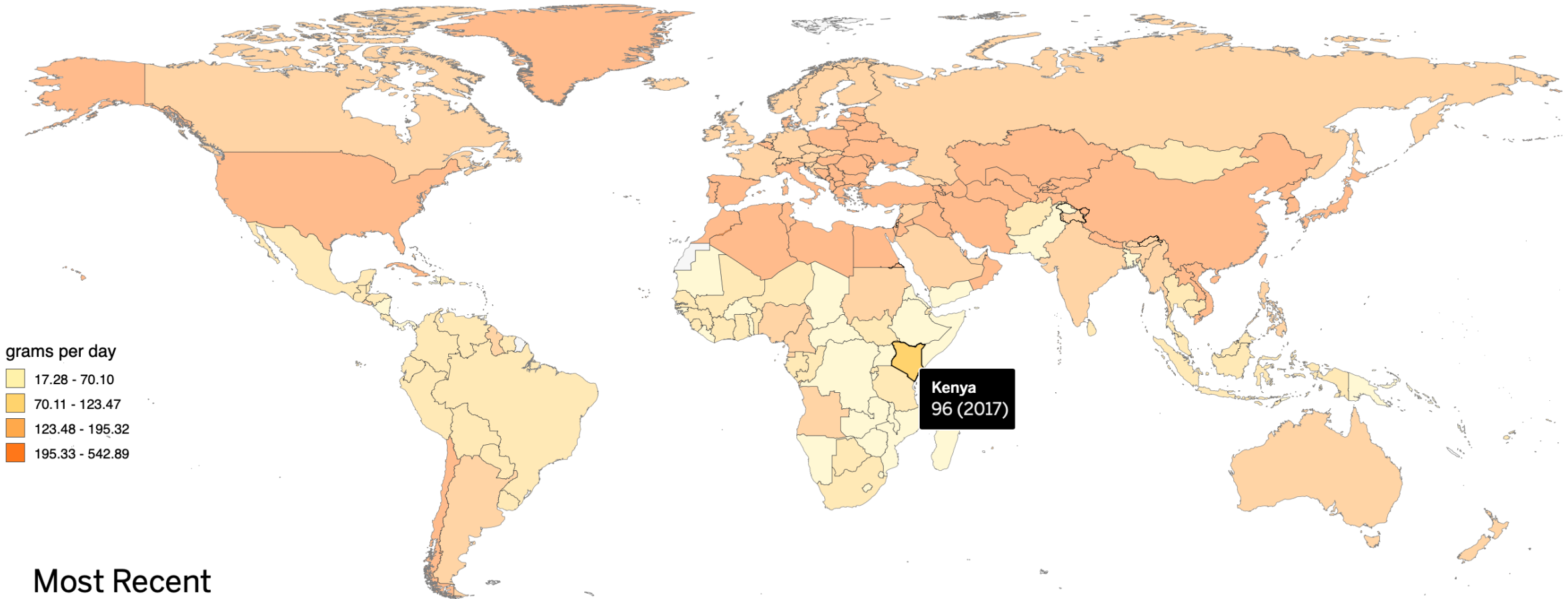


DIETS AND NUTRITION



DRIVERS

DIETARY INTAKE ⓘ Adults (age 25+ years): Estimated per capita vegetable intake | grams per day | Total



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# **Role of Advocacy and accountability in Food Systems Transformation**

**Advocacy** – a process by which individuals or groups aim to influence behaviour, relationships, actions, activities, agendas, policies, of target actors for a particular goal.

A big call for food systems transformation- Advocacy effort of member states, civil society, NGOs and academia;

Advocacy is an important tool we have to pressure Governments to make the right policies to transform food systems.

**Accountability**- in FS transformation all stakeholders need to be held accountable for their actions.

# **Role of Leadership in Food Systems Transformation**

**Leaders – Influencers, Champions, Government leaders**

They have the passion and impatience /anger to see a change

# USING FOOD LABELLING TO INFLUENCE FOOD ENVIRONMENTS

## THE CHILI EXPERIENCE



Leadership of Senator Guido Girardi of Chile made this possible

In Chile, one out of three children under 6 years of age is overweight. On June 27<sup>th</sup>, 2016, a law of food labelling and advertising became active to curb the ongoing epidemic increase of obesity and non-communicable diseases. It includes:

- incorporating easy-to-understand front-of-packages labelling and specific messages addressing critical nutrients:



- decreasing children's exposure to unhealthy foods by restricting marketing, advertising and sales, in particular in schools.



Our discussion today:

- Role of **Data** in food systems transformation;
- Role of **Advocacy and Accountability** in food systems transformation;
- Role of **leadership** in food systems transformation

**Source:** Based on S. Fan et al., "Food Systems for Human and Planetary Health: Economic Perspectives and Challenges," *Food System Economics* (forthcoming).

# Thank you