EFFICACY OF PRACTICES AND POLICIES TO IMPROVE FOOD SECURITY AND NUTRITION IN GUATEMALA

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Sinergies between research and policy advocacy to improve Food Security and Nutrition

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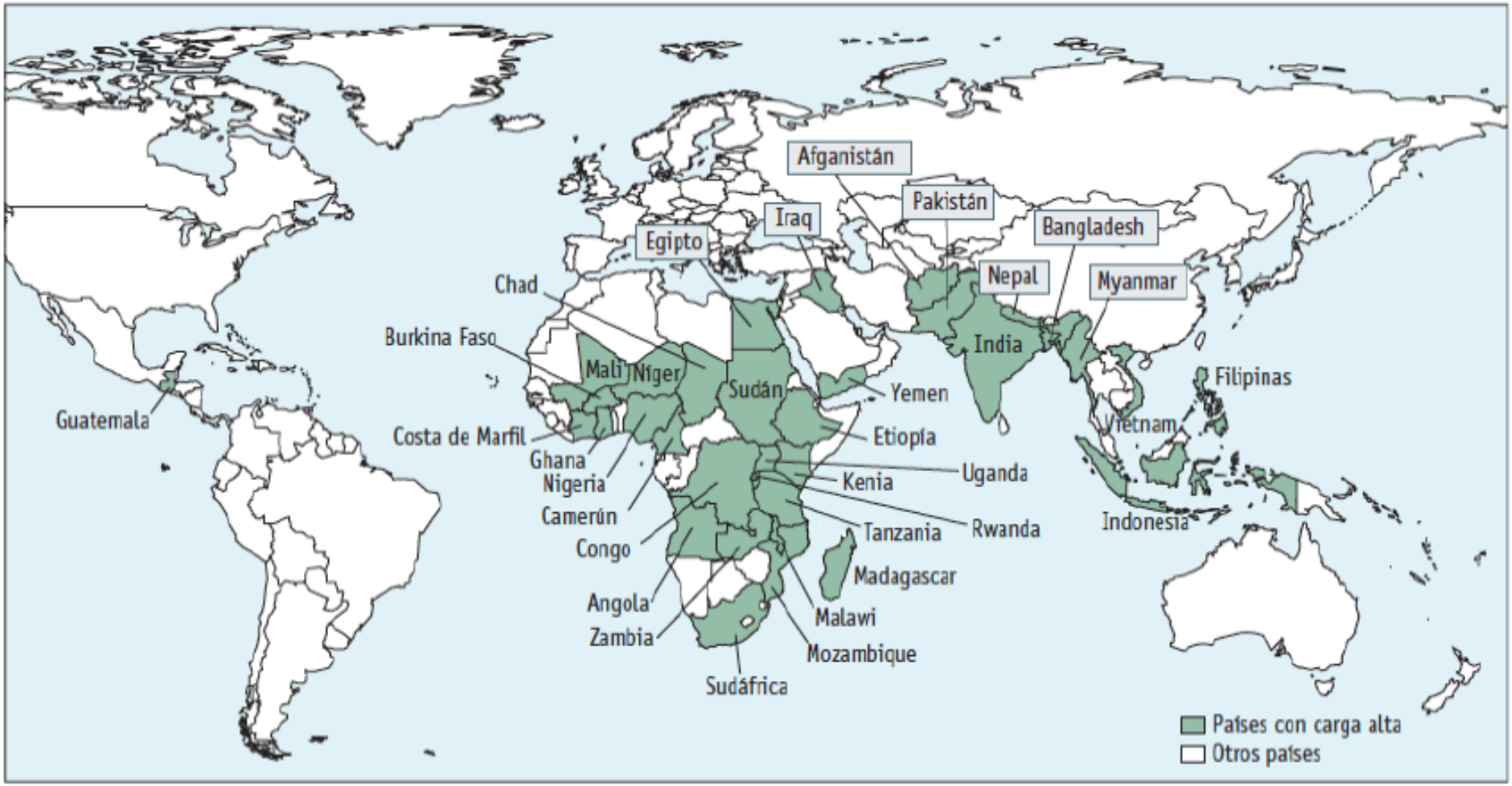
Outline

- Undernourisment in the world and Guatemala
- About the project
- Some results
- What more

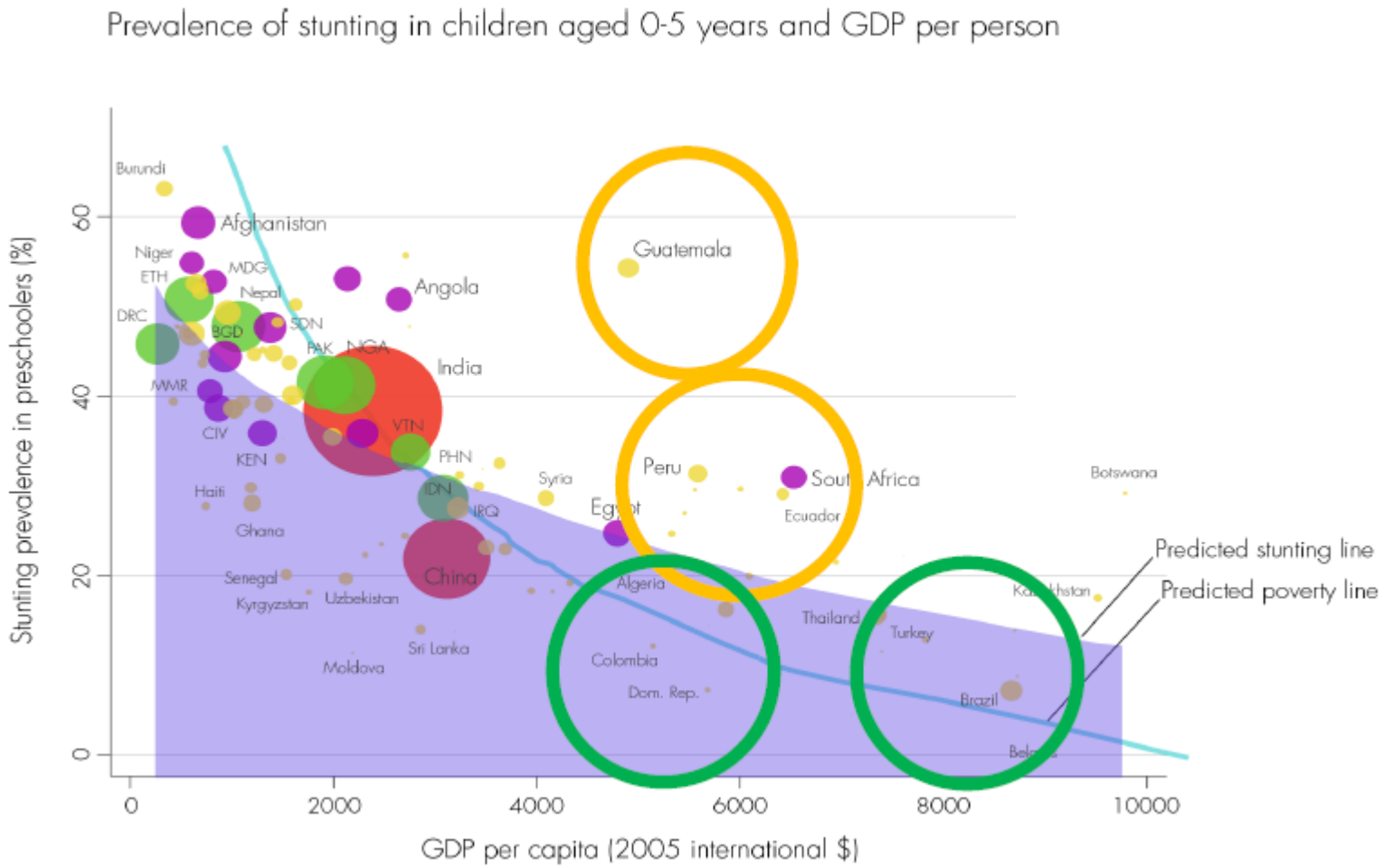
Undernourishment in the world

90% of children with chronicle undernourishment live in 34 countries



Source: Lancet Series, 2013

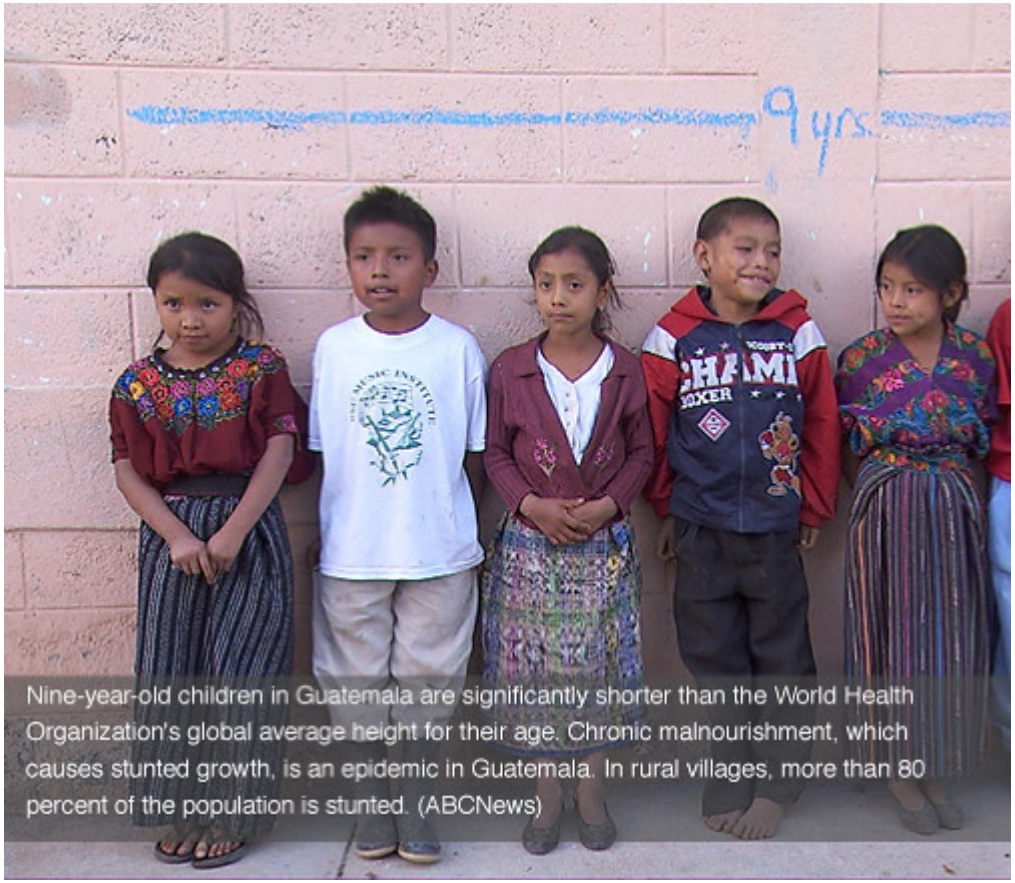
Undernourishment in Guatemala



Source: Ruel and Landerman, Lancet Series, 2013

Undernourishment in Guatemala

- Guatemala is within the 36 high-burden countries for stunting (49%)
- Important investments on food security and nutrition have been made during the last two decades



Nine-year-old children in Guatemala are significantly shorter than the World Health Organization's global average height for their age. Chronic malnourishment, which causes stunted growth, is an epidemic in Guatemala. In rural villages, more than 80 percent of the population is stunted. (ABCNews)

About the Project

- Focused on smallholders farmers (family farming)
- 4 different territories of Guatemala (10 locations)
- 8 prioritized by the biggest FSN national program

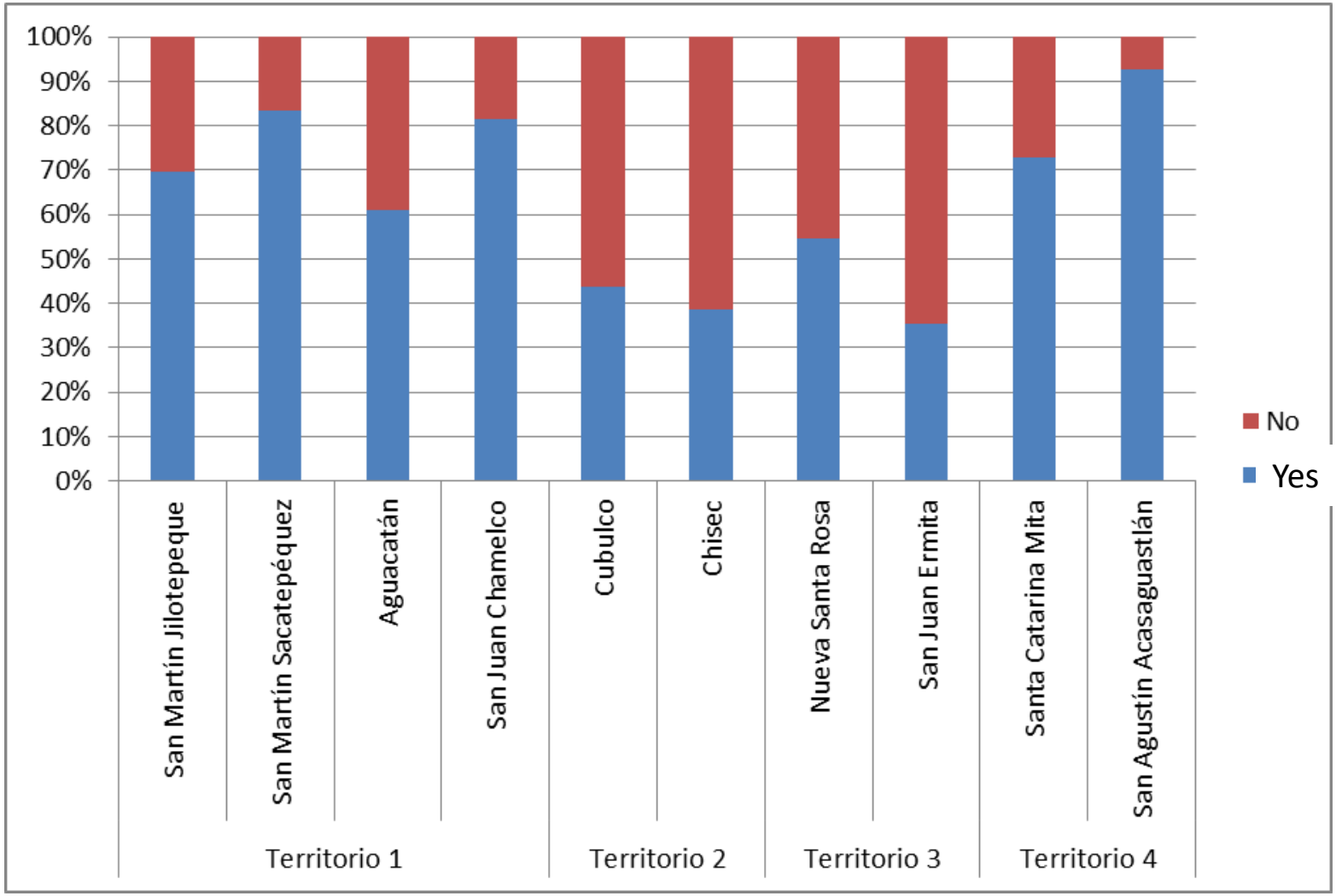
- The research component seeks to:
  a) Characterize smallholder farmers
  b) Model the food system dynamics of these families
  c) Evaluate FSN polices and practices

Results: farmers characterization

Survey (household level):

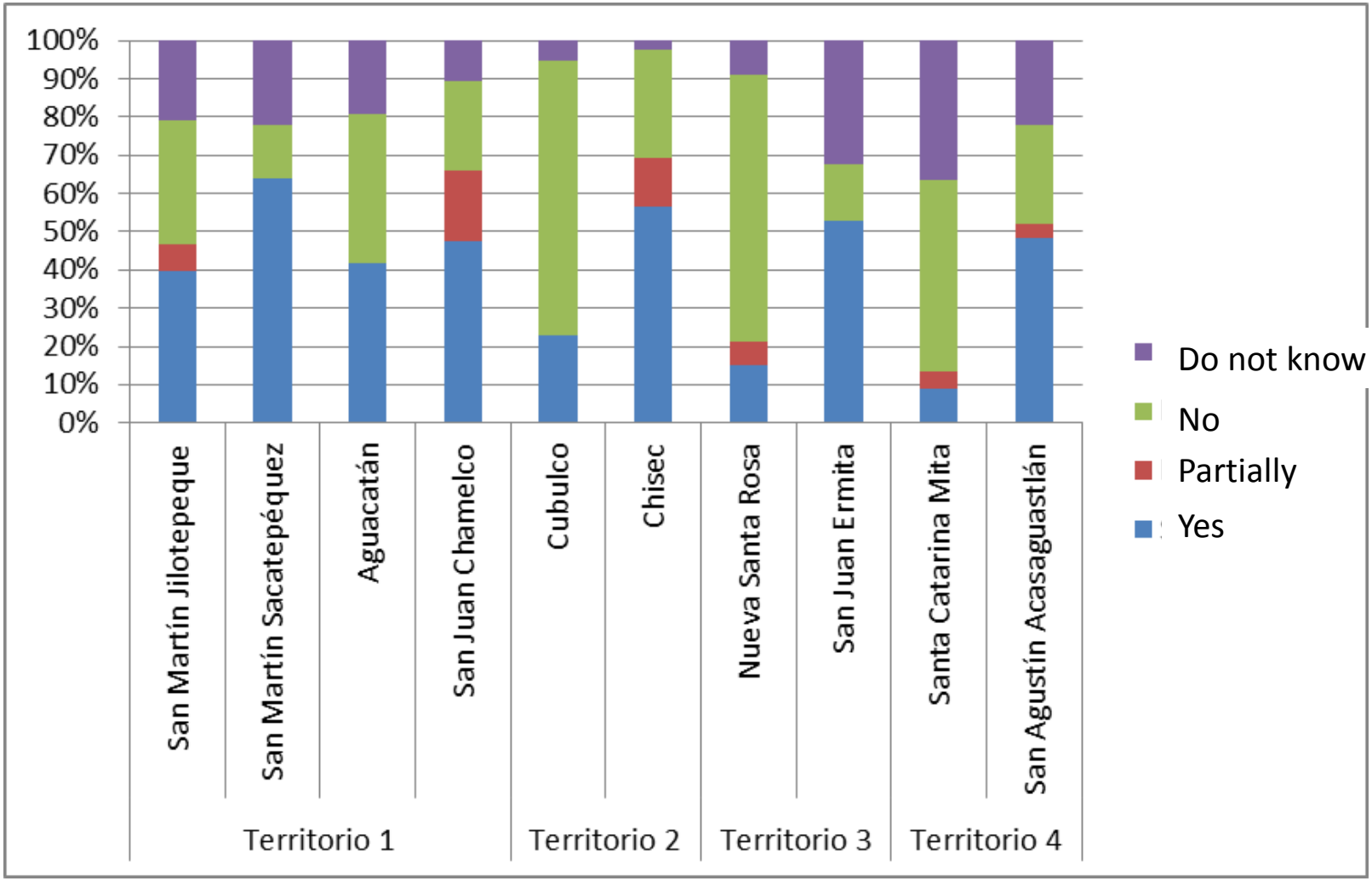
- Housing conditions
- Agricultural production
- Income
- Natural resources use
- Participation on capacity building programs
- Anthropometric data

Results: farmers characterization



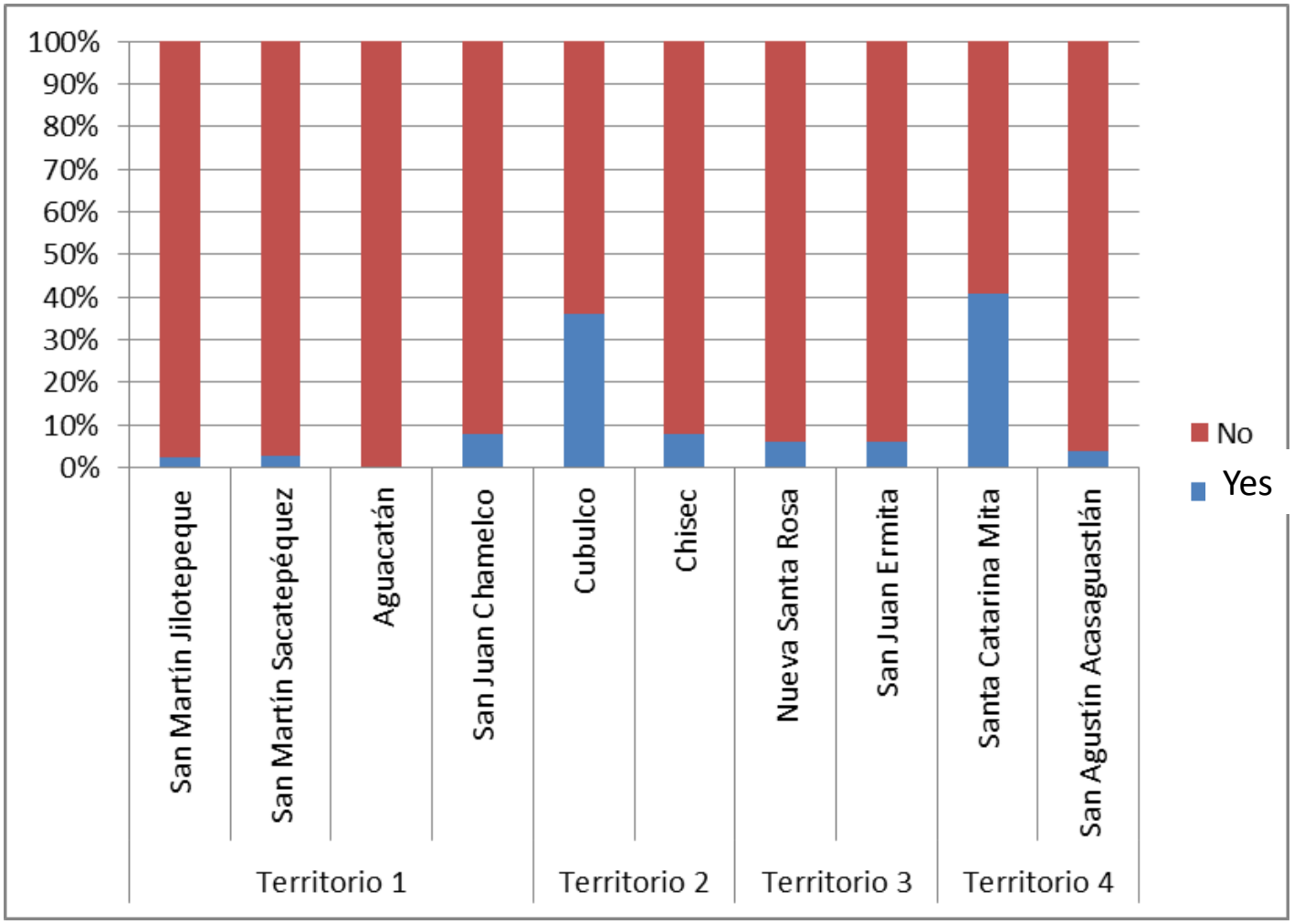
Percentage of families having tap water access

Results: farmers characterization



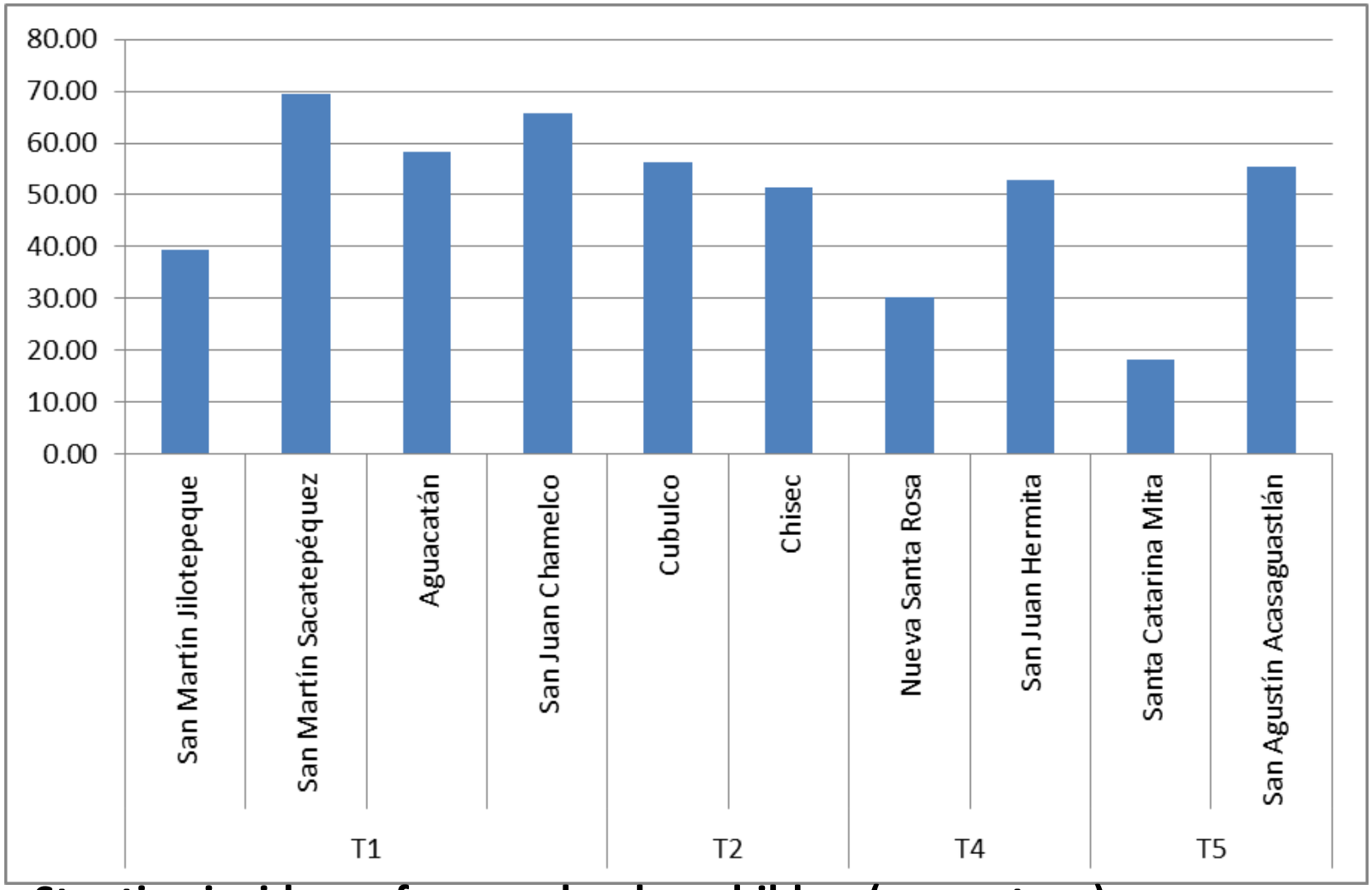
Household s willingness to shift from food production to market oriented producti

Results: farmers characterization



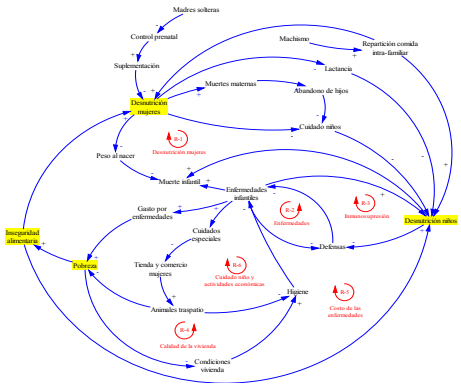
Participation on child care capacity building programs

Results: farmers characterization



Stunting incidence for preschoolers children(percentage)

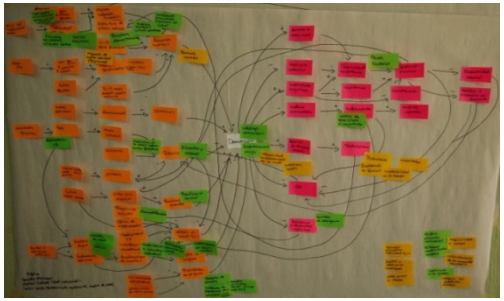
Results: Food system models



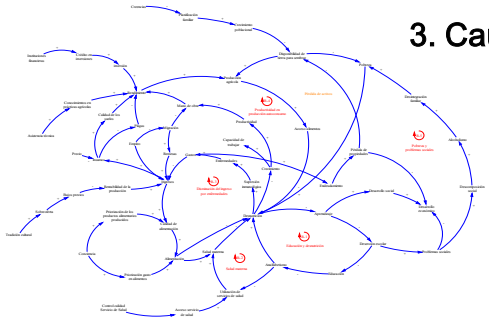
6. Sub models

1. Stakeholders identification and selection

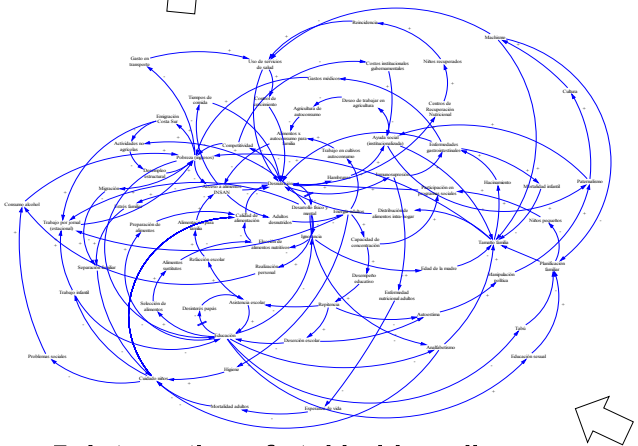
2. Interviews



3. Causal loop diagrams



4. Individual diagrams written on Vensim



5. Integration of stakholders diagrams

Results: Food system models

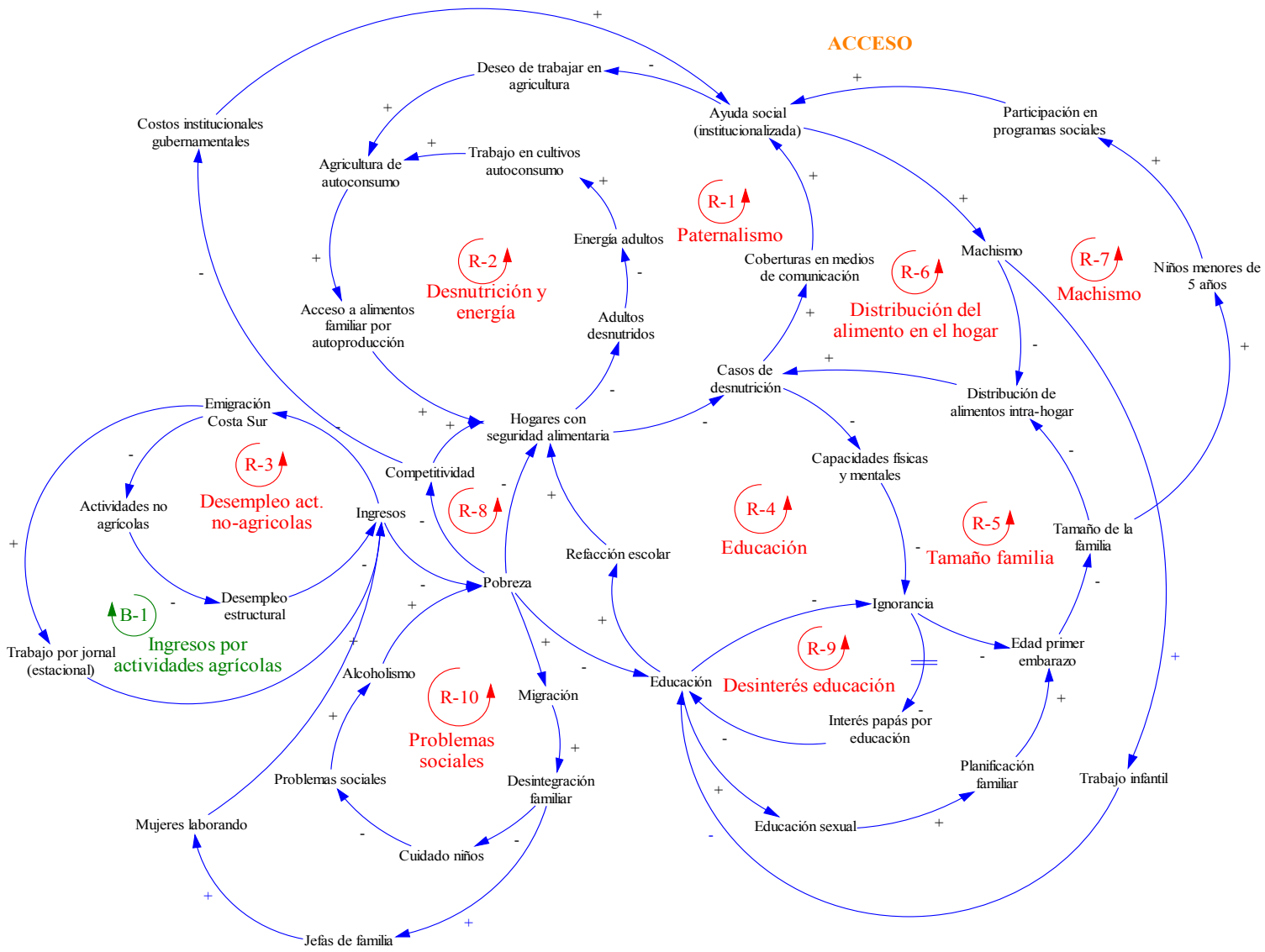
The models identify:

- Variables
- Relationships
- Feedbacks

The models help to:

- Identify and order potential effective policies
- Test these policies actions

Results: Food system models



Results: FSN policies evaluation

Policy	Territory 1	Territory 2	Territory 3	Territory 4
Agricultural productivity	+++	+	++	++
Education	+++	++	+++	+++
Employment	+++	++	+	+++
Family planning	++	++	++	++
Diet diversification	++	+++	+	++
Access to water	++	++	++	+
Women empowerment	+	++	++	++
Health	++	+	+	++

What for?

- Quantification and simulations

- In order to:
  - Identify effective policies for different territories
  - Identify the scalability of the policy interventions
  - Recommend policy interventions (advocacy component)

- Institutional inputs to do permanent policy advocacy and continue research

Thank you