

2021

OER Sustainable Diets Lecture

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Funder: National Forum for Enhancement of Teaching and Learning in Higher Education

A conceptual image where the Earth is presented as a dish on a white plate. The globe is centered on the Americas. Surrounding the plate are silverware items: a fork and a spoon on the left, and a fork and a knife on the right. The entire scene is set against a plain white background.

Sustainable Diets

Dr Aileen Kennedy RD

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TU Dublin

SDGs & Food and Health





Achieving the SDGs

01

Being poor limits the ability of individuals to access adequate food

02

Agriculture and food security are cornerstones of nutrition

03

Up to 45% of deaths in children under 5 are caused by undernutrition

04

Learning and focusing in school is difficult without a sufficient diet

05

When women control the family income, children's health and nutrition improve at a greater rate

06

Access to safe water and sanitation is an absolute prerequisite for nutrition

08

High levels of malnutrition in some countries may result in an 11% loss to GDP

17

Aid allocated to nutrition has high returns a \$1 investment in nutrition has demonstrated a \$16 return in economic growth

16

War and conflict are major underlying factors of nutrition insecurity

15

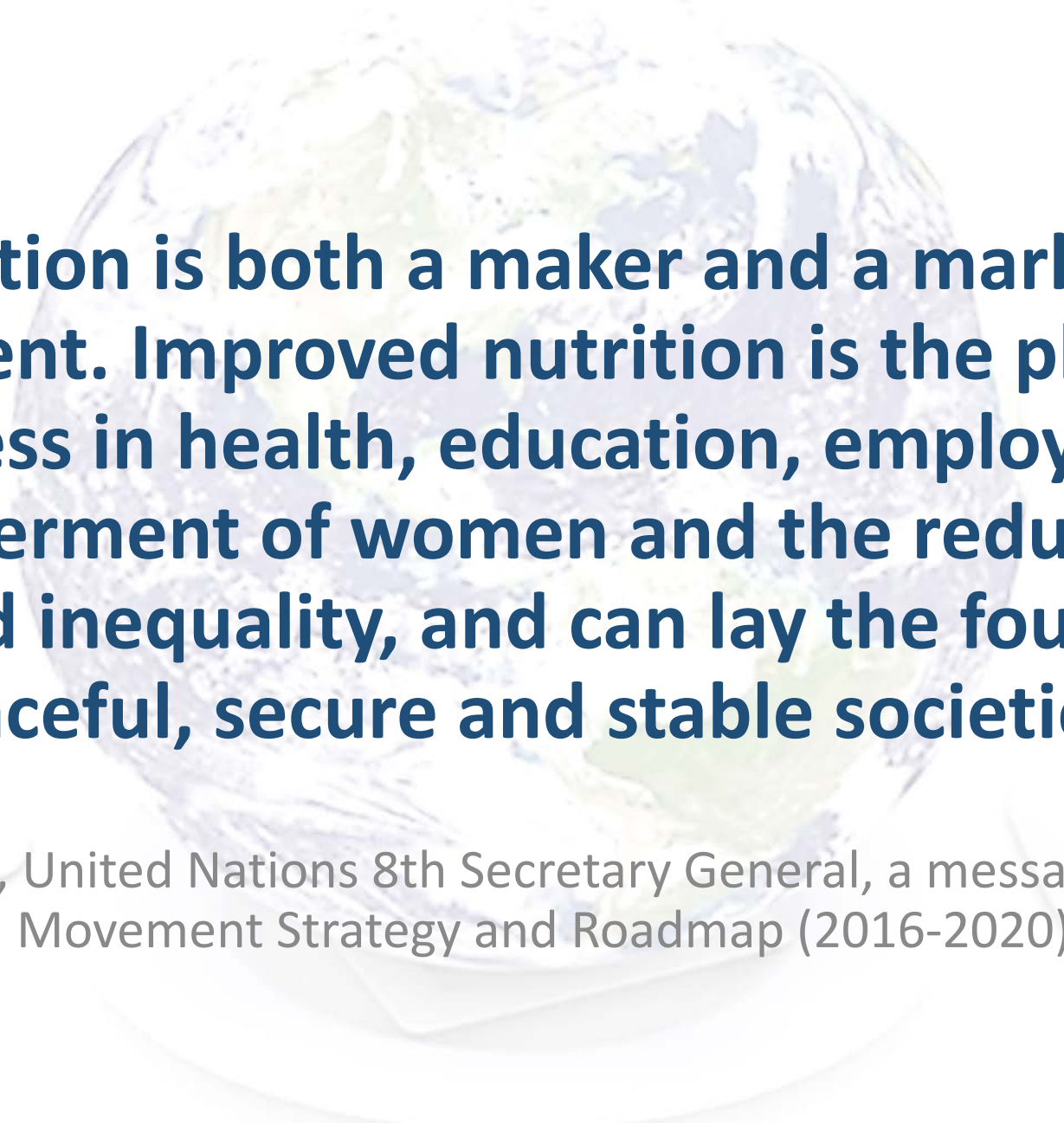
Soil degradation threaten our ability to grow food

13

Climate change may reduce food production and cause water scarcity

12

Tackling resource use and degradation is key for sharing resources and improving access to quality food

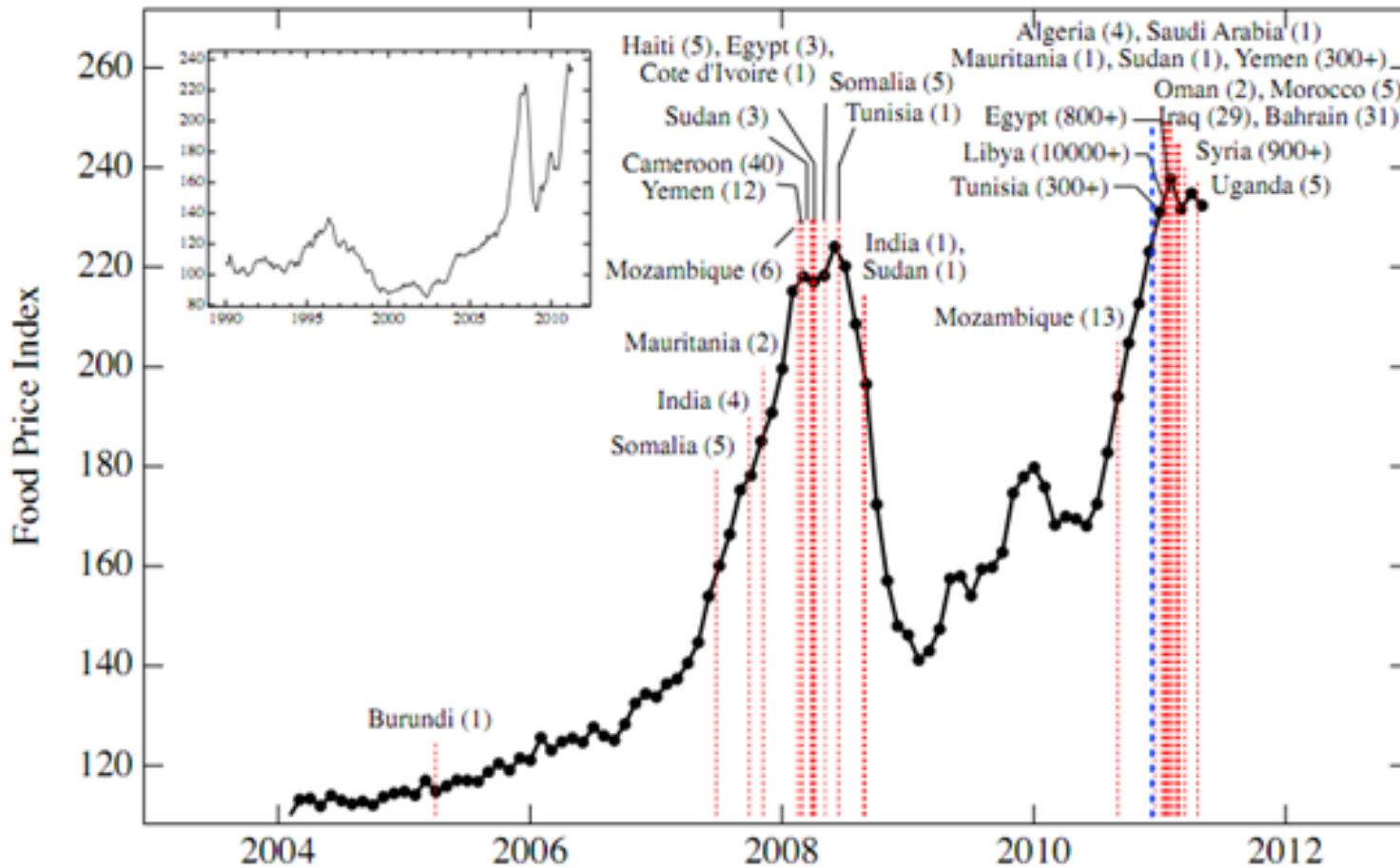


Nutrition is both a maker and a marker of development. Improved nutrition is the platform for progress in health, education, employment, empowerment of women and the reduction of poverty and inequality, and can lay the foundation for peaceful, secure and stable societies.”

Ban Ki-moon, United Nations 8th Secretary General, a message for the SUN Movement Strategy and Roadmap (2016-2020).



Food Prices and Conflict



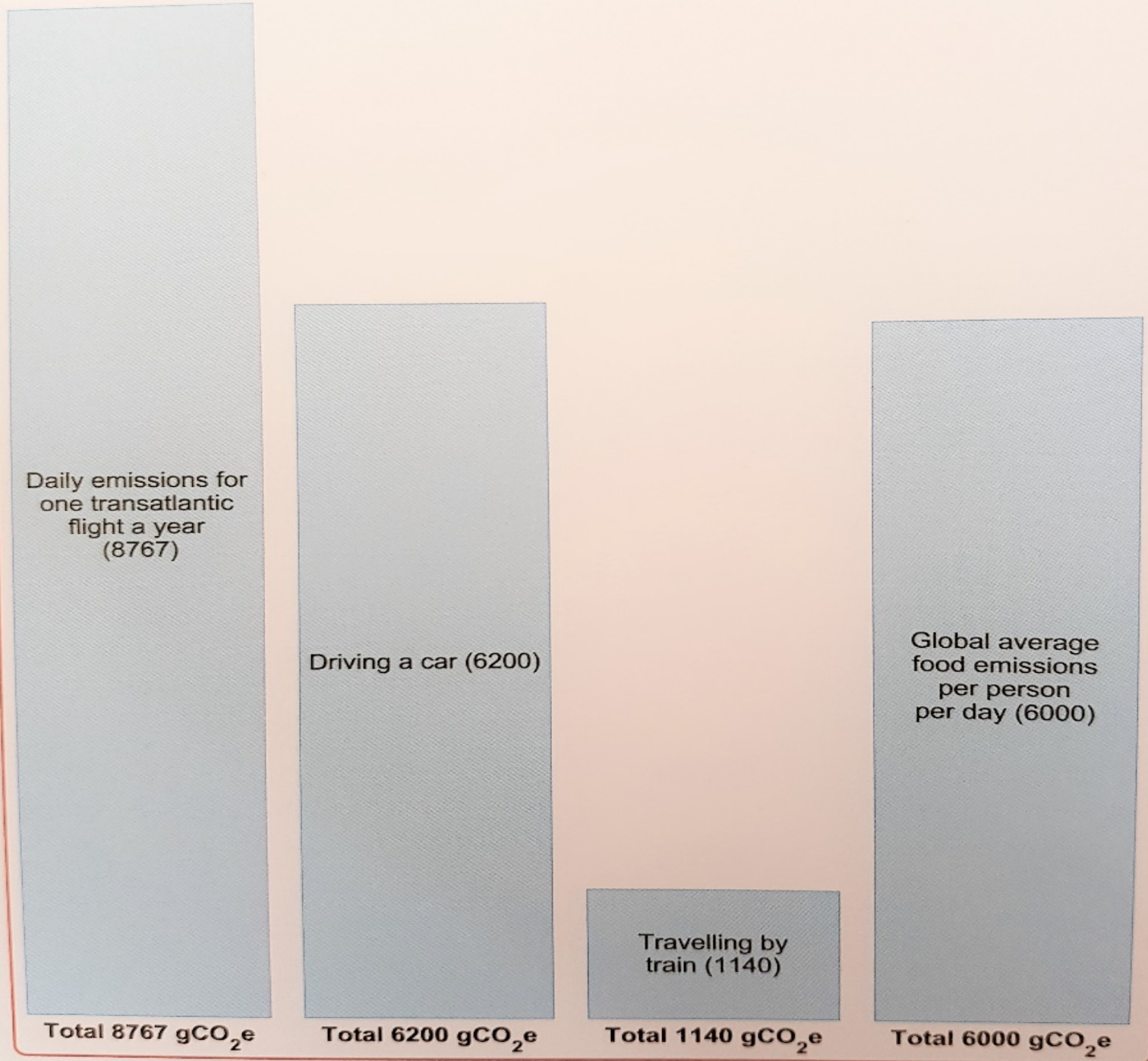
Of course speculation will always make a crisis worse if there is a weak point it will expose it

George Soros

What is a sustainable diet?

- Using your phone or on another tab
- Go to www.menti.com and use the code **6266 6937**





Daily emissions for one transatlantic flight a year (8767)

Driving a car (6200)

Travelling by train (1140)

Global average food emissions per person per day (6000)

Total 8767 gCO₂e

Total 6200 gCO₂e

Total 1140 gCO₂e

Total 6000 gCO₂e



Global average
food emissions
per person
per day (6000)

US average
food emissions
per person
per day (13300)

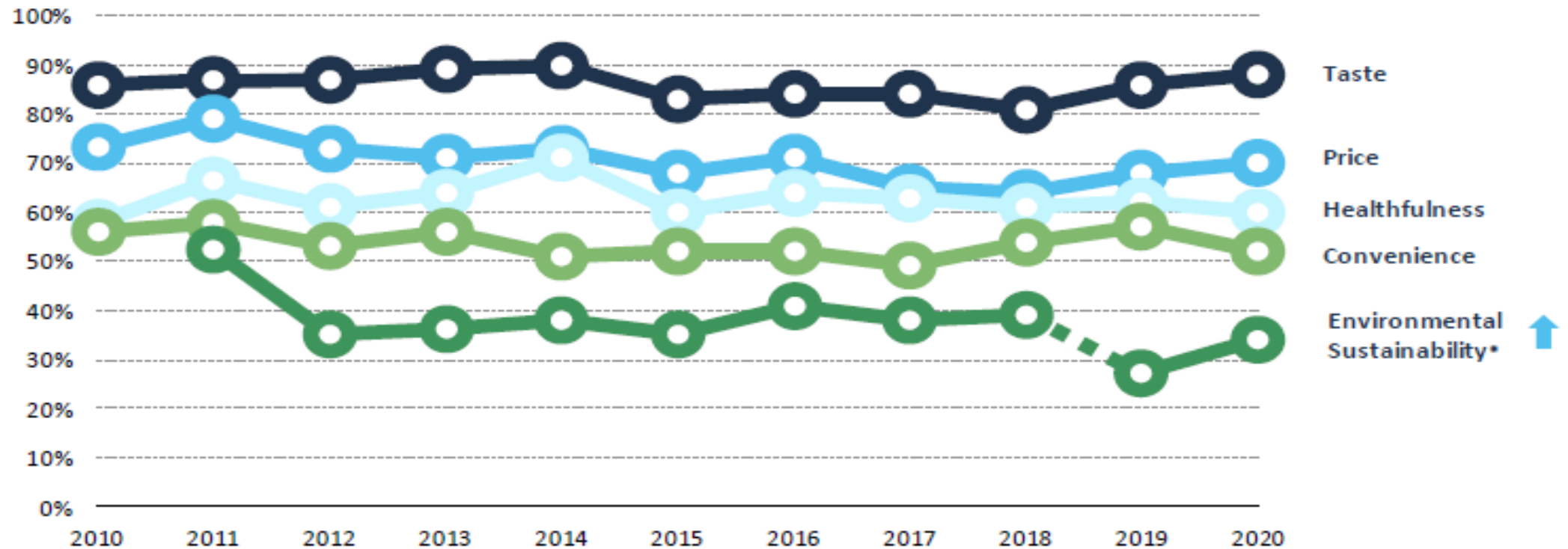
China average
food emissions
per person
per day (5750)

Total 6000 gCO₂e

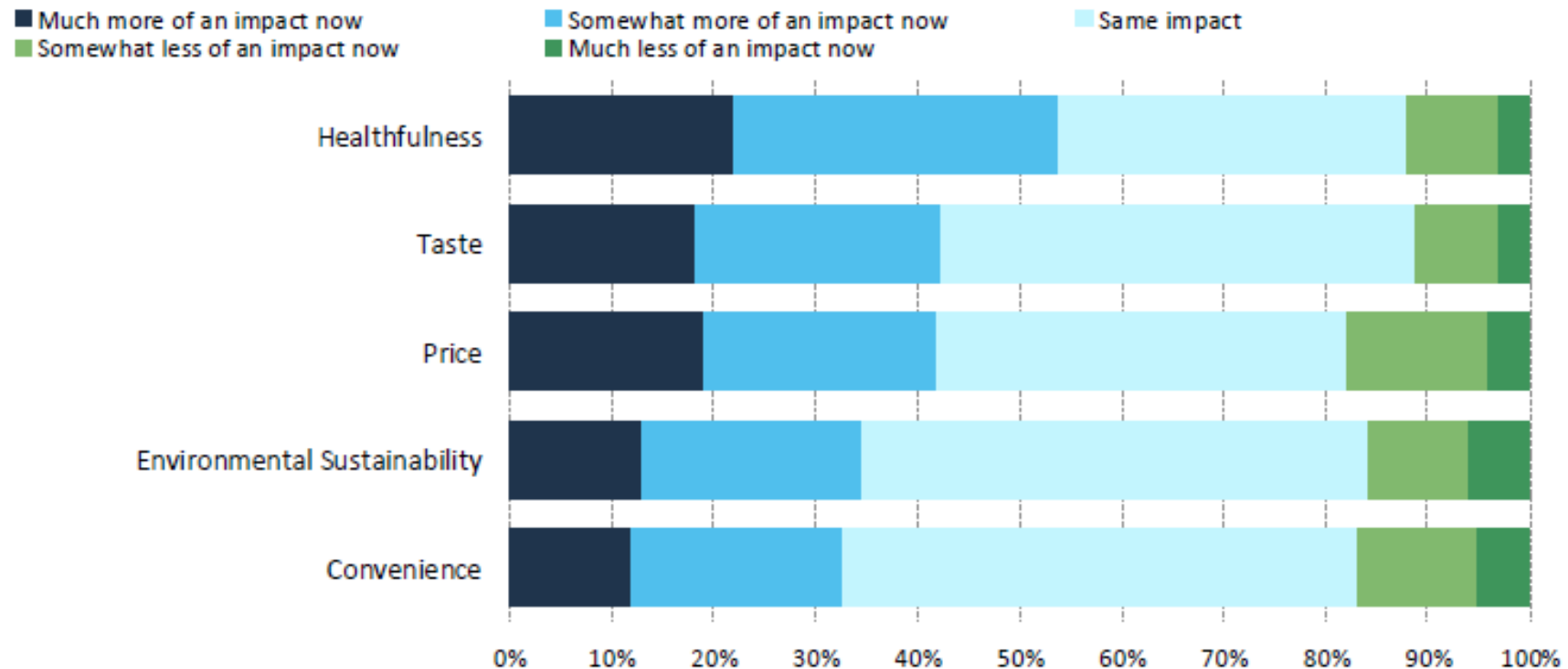
Total 13300 gCO₂e

Total 5750 gCO₂e

Taste – consistently no.1 factor in purchasing for last decade in US



Self reported Change in Purchase drivers Over the last 10 yrs



Q12: For each of the following, how has the impact on your decision to buy foods and beverages changed over the last 10 years? (n=1,011)

Intention

vs

Behaviour



50% of us are likely to consider dietary changes to reduce impact on climate change



more than 50% of us eat meat

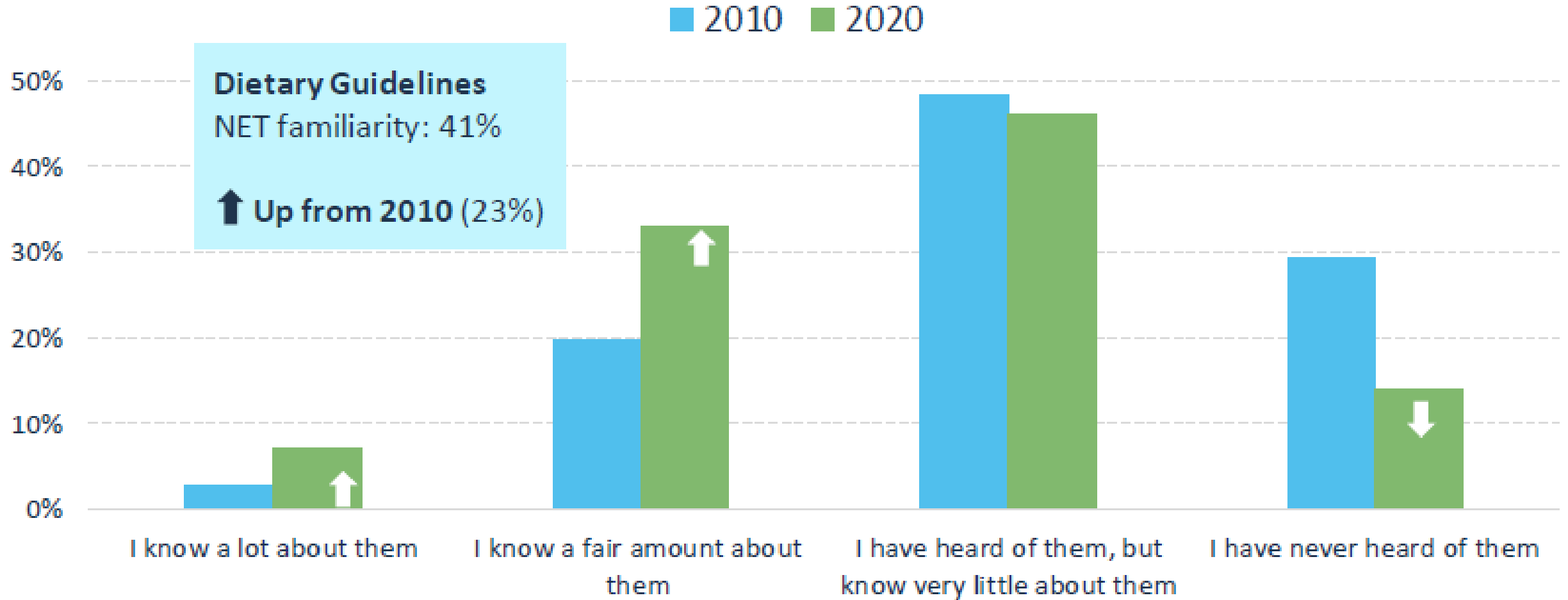


80% of us eat dairy

on a daily basis

Intention is there but significant barriers to behaviour change for the majority

Familiarity with Dietary Guidelines for Americans

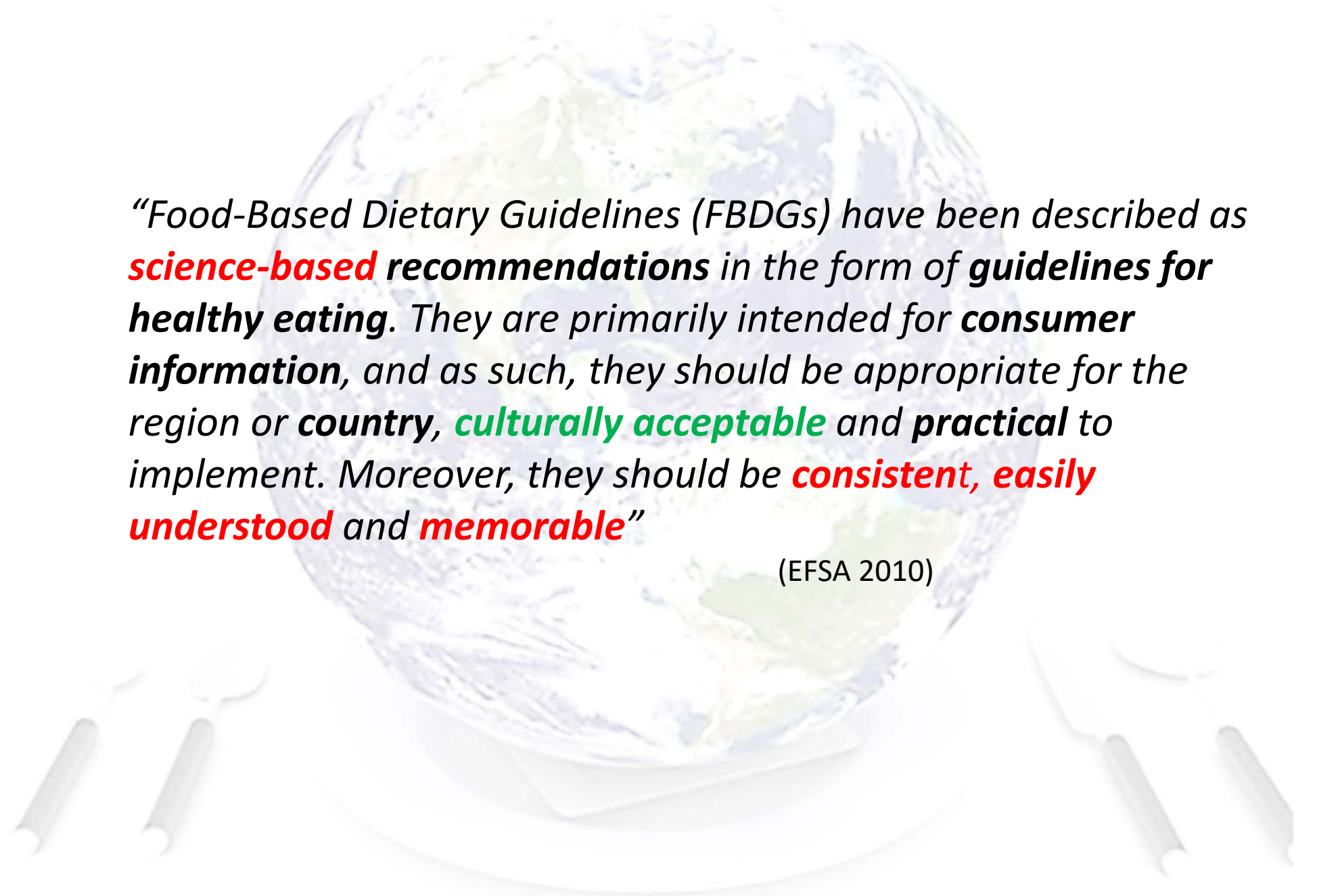


A conceptual image where the Earth is presented as a meal. The globe is centered on a white square plate, with a silver fork and knife placed on either side. The text is overlaid on the globe.

**So what advice do we give and
what should we give?**

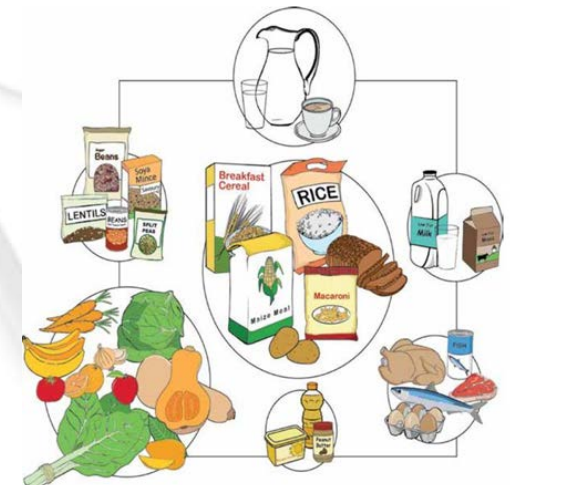
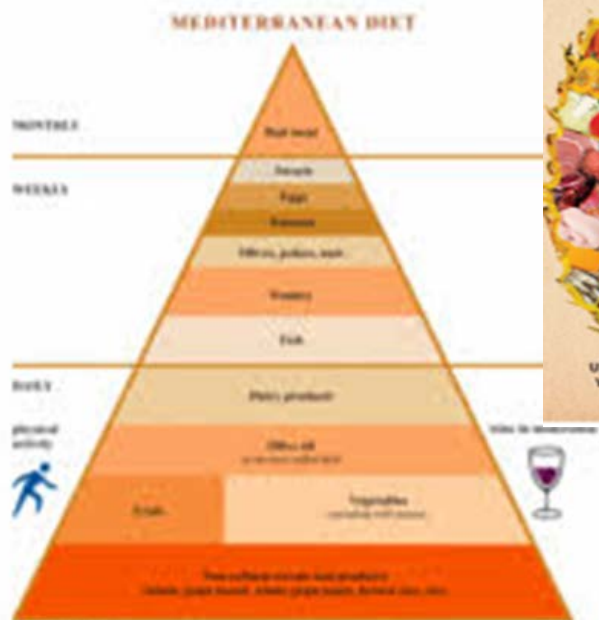
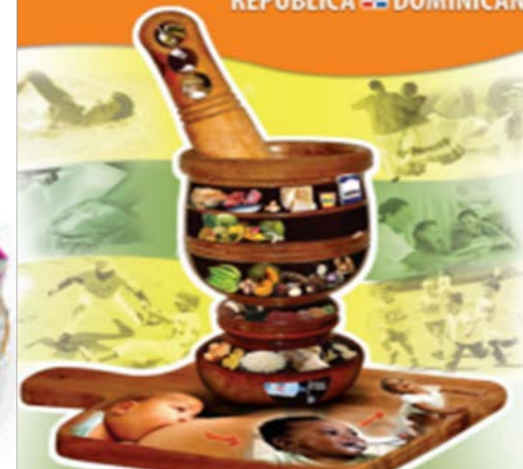
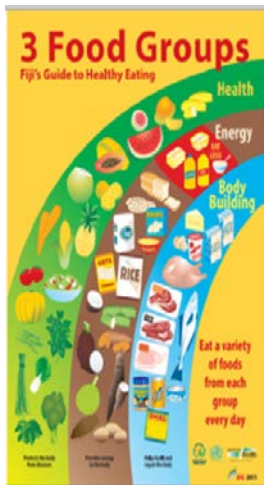


Food Based Dietary Guidelines



*“Food-Based Dietary Guidelines (FBDGs) have been described as **science-based recommendations** in the form of **guidelines for healthy eating**. They are primarily intended for **consumer information**, and as such, they should be appropriate for the region or **country**, **culturally acceptable** and **practical** to implement. Moreover, they should be **consistent, easily understood** and **memorable**”*

(EFSA 2010)

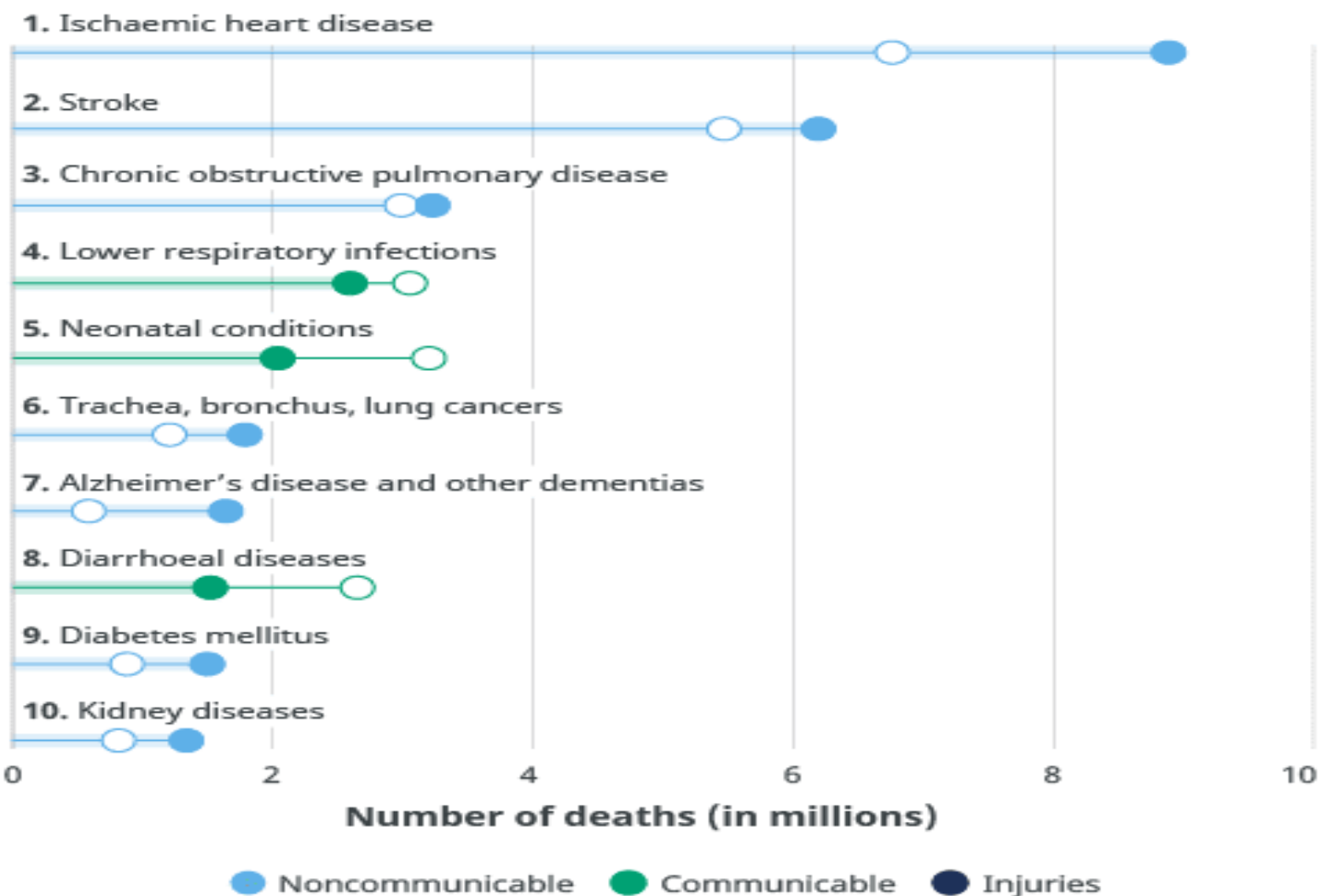


The Health Problem

- nearly 800 million people are chronically undernourished
- 159 million children under five years of age stunted.
- Micronutrient deficiencies affect about 2bn people globally.
- The incidence overweight and obesity, with about 1.9 bn adults are overweight, including 600m obese. **while 462 million are underweight.**
- Globally, one in nine people are hungry or undernourished.
- Around 2 billion people did not have access to enough safe and nutritious food in 2019.
- Gender inequality also plays a role in driving malnutrition, as women and girls often eat last and least in a household. A third of all women of reproductive age worldwide suffer from anaemia, caused by iron deficiency. Teenage mothers and their babies can also be particularly vulnerable to malnutrition.
- 2.3M children die from malnutrition every year.
- 75% of malnourished children under five don't get the treatment they need.
- An estimated 14 million children under the age of five worldwide suffer from severe acute malnutrition, also known as severe wasting, yet only 25 percent of severely malnourished children have access to lifesaving treatment.
- **47 million children under 5 years of age are wasted, 14.3 million are severely wasted and 144 million are stunted, while 38.3 million are overweight or obese.**
- **Around 45% of deaths among children under 5 years of age are linked to undernutrition.**

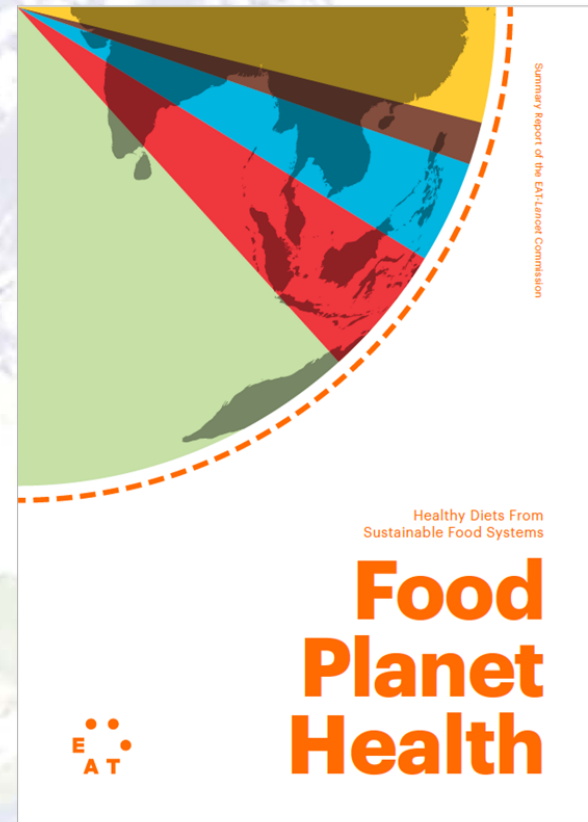
Leading causes of death globally

○ 2000 ● 2019

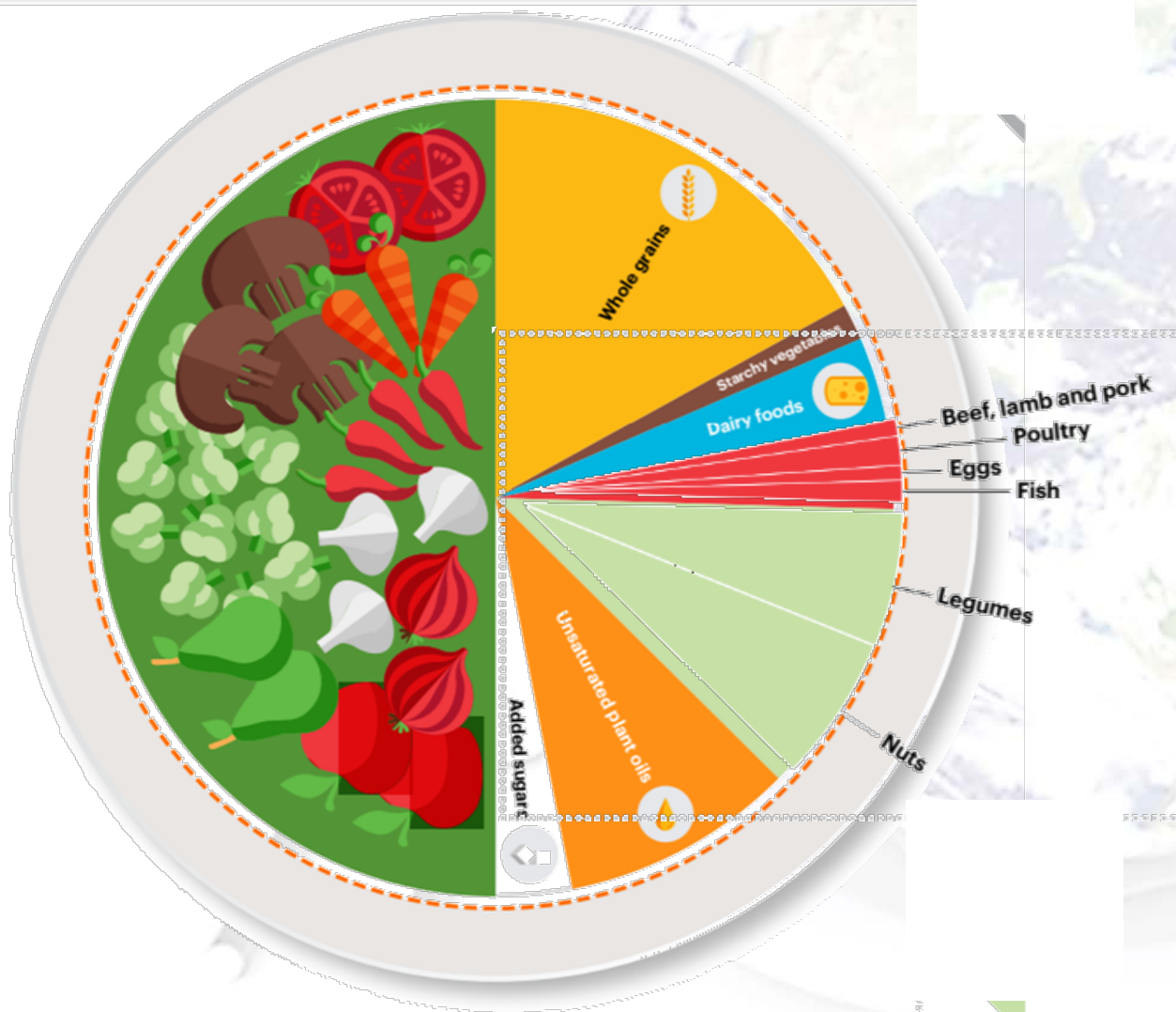


Source: WHO Global Health Estimates.

what dietary patterns that are both healthy and sustainable look like?



EAT-Lancet Planetary Health Diet



	Macronutrient intake grams per day (possible range)	Caloric intake kcal per day
Whole grains Rice, wheat, corn and other	232	811
Tubers or starchy vegetables Potatoes and cassava	50 (0-100)	39
Vegetables All vegetables	300 (200-600)	78
Fruits All fruits	200 (100-300)	126
Dairy foods Whole milk or equivalents	250 (0-500)	153
Protein sources		
Beef, lamb and pork	14 (0-28)	30
Chicken and other poultry	29 (0-58)	62
Eggs	13 (0-25)	19
Fish	28 (0-100)	40
Legumes	75 (0-100)	284
Nuts	50 (0-75)	291
Added fats		
Unsaturated oils	40 (20-80)	354
Saturated oils	11.8 (0-11.8)	96
Added sugars		
All sugars	31 (0-31)	120

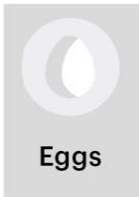


Food Intake vs Planetary Health Diet

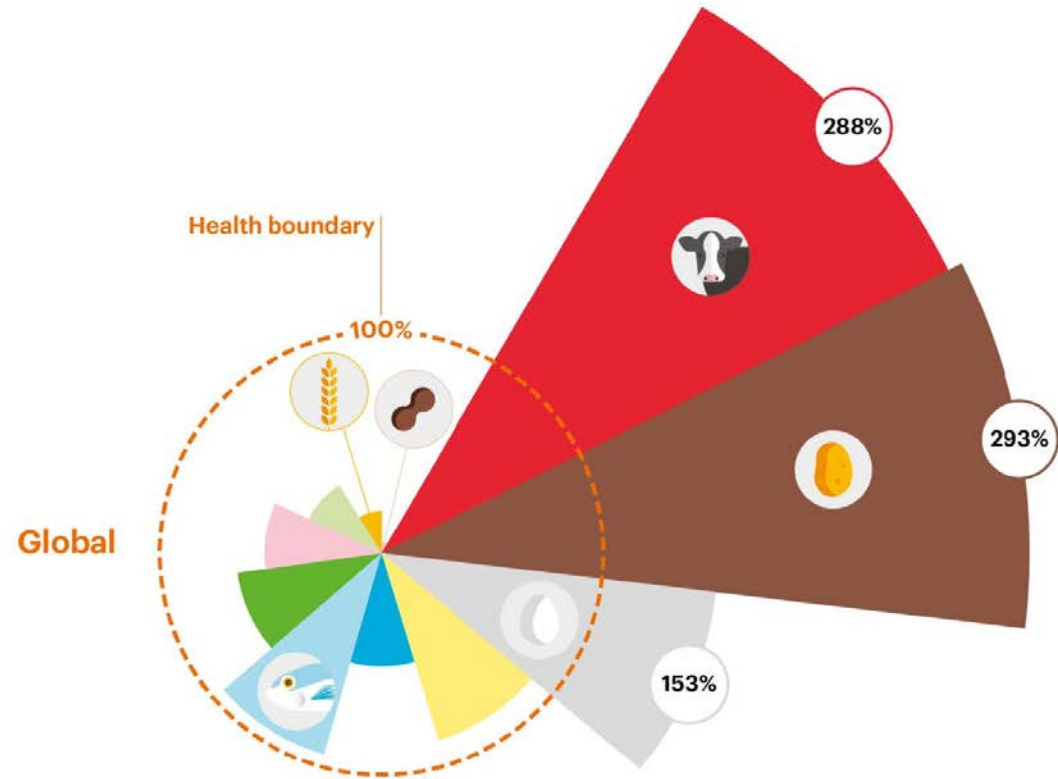
Limited intake



Optional foods



Emphasized foods

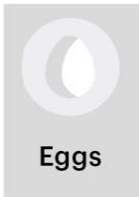


Food Intake vs Planetary Health Diet

Limited intake



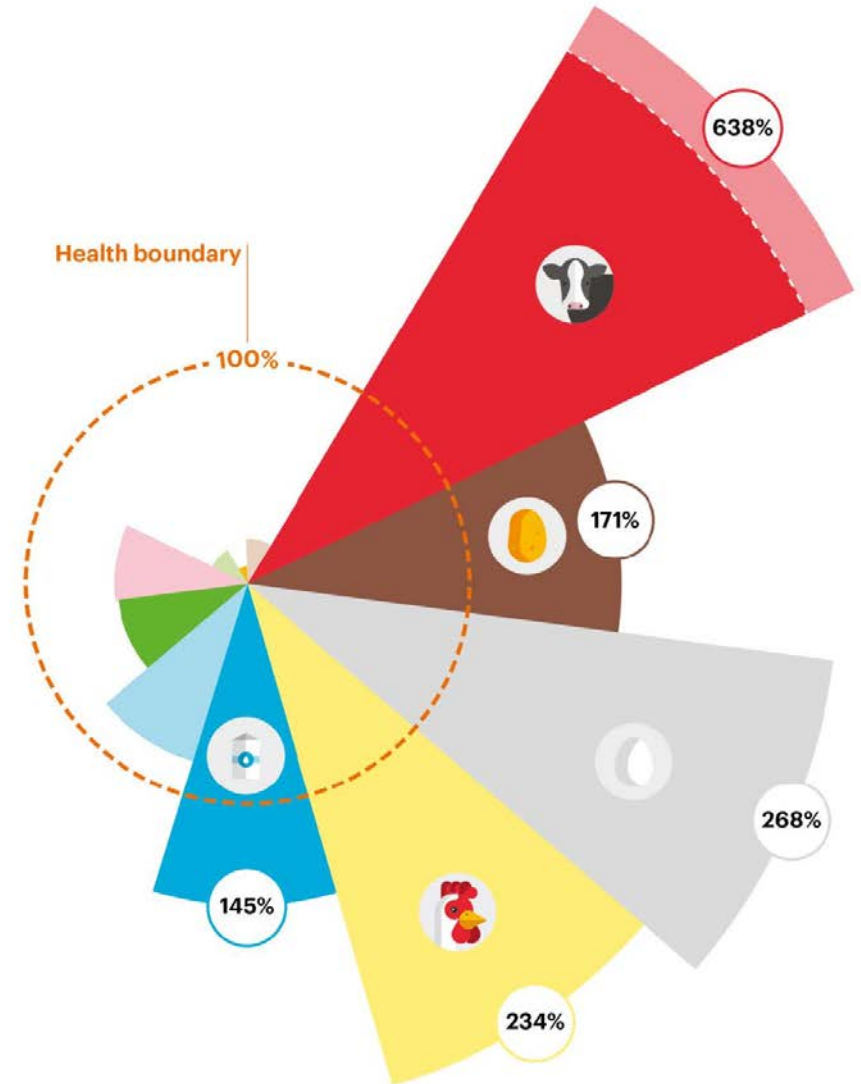
Optional foods



Emphasized foods



North America

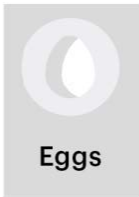


Food Intake vs Planetary Health Diet

Limited intake



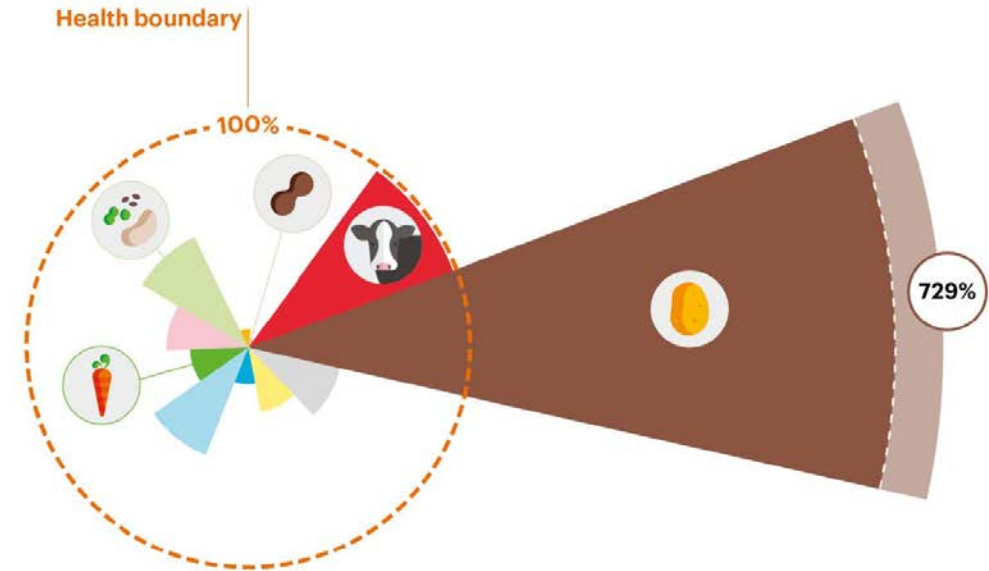
Optional foods



Emphasized foods



Sub-Saharan Africa

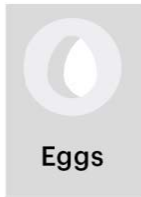


Food Intake vs Planetary Health Diet

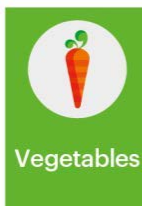
Limited intake



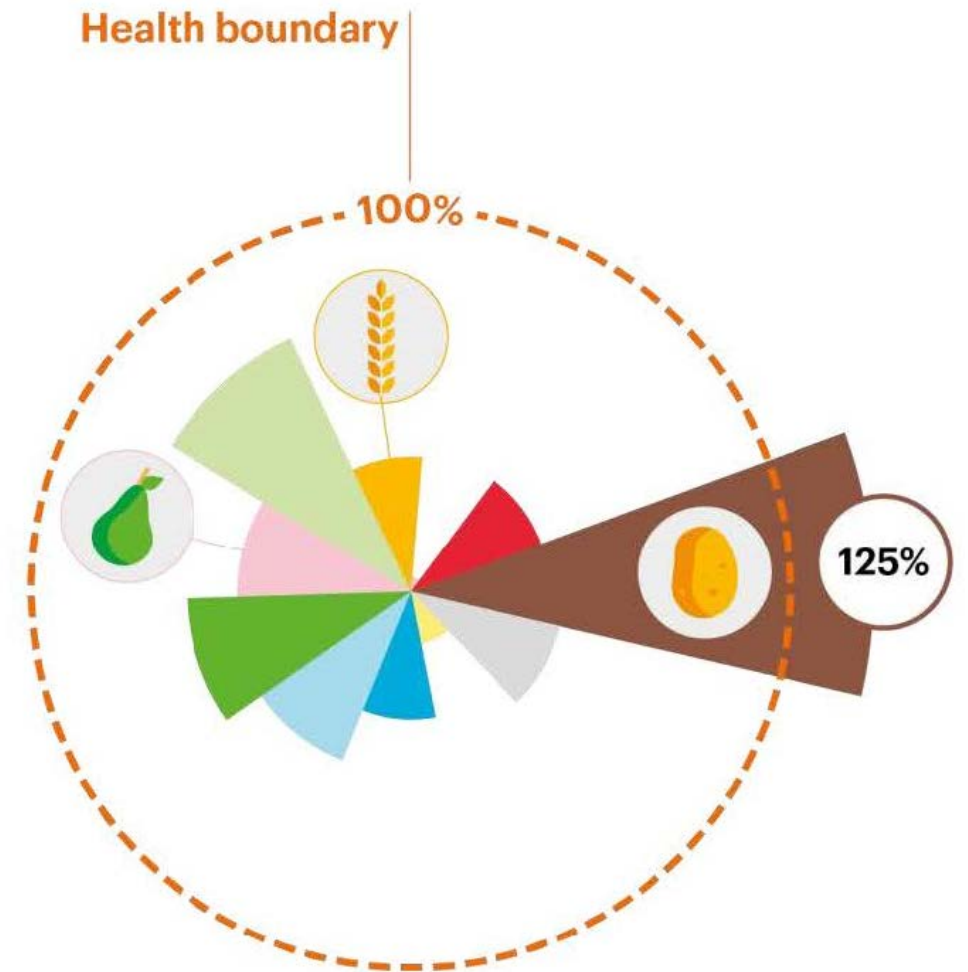
Optional foods



Emphasized foods



South Asia



More plant proteins

Plant proteins – lower protein quantity but more rounded nutritional profile:

- Complex carbohydrate, fibre and minerals

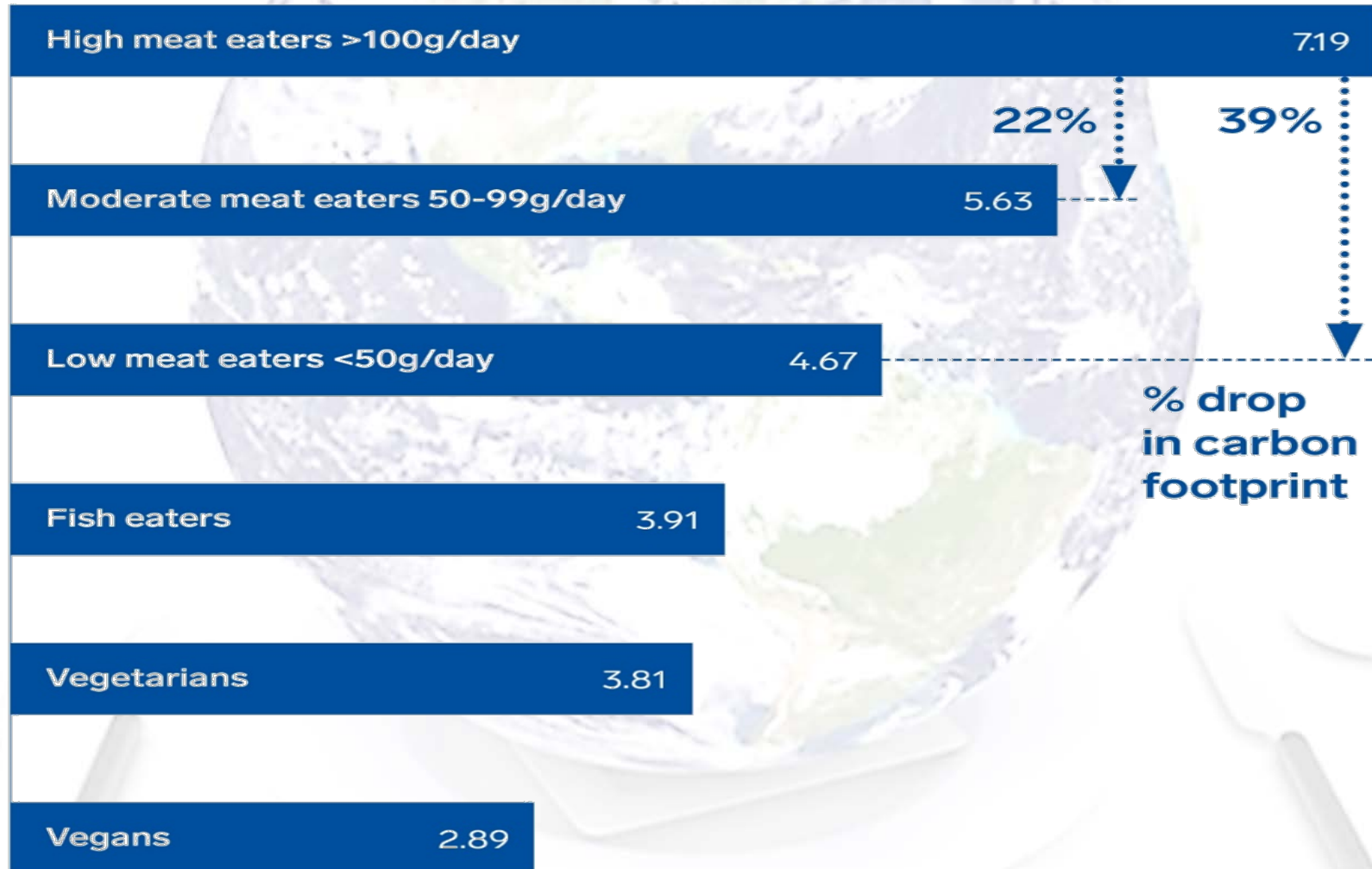
Current Irish/ European protein intakes far exceed recommendations for all age groups

- Even vegans

Essential Amino Acids (EAAs)

- Even a diet based purely on plants + meets energy requirements over the course of a day can meet all EAA needs
- Plant protein combinations at each meal time not needed
- Nitrogen balanced is achieved over a course of a whole day

Veganism & Vegetarianism



Protein

- Encourage non-animal protein foods daily
- Go meat free several days a week
- Starchy foods / wholegrain cereals: low in protein, but can support overall protein intake as eaten in high quantities

Canned chickpeas	Brown lentils	Mixed Nuts	Tofu	Mycoprotein
7g/100g	9g/100g	7g/30g	17g/75g	11g/100g

Iron

Animal
protein
70g beef
2-2.5mg

- **Iron from plant sources less bioavailable.**
- **Inhibited by phytates, polyphenols & tannins naturally found in plant foods.**
- **Optimising non-haem absorption in plant-based diets:**
 - Consume high tannin / polyphenol containing foods e.g. tea, coffee, spinach at least 2 hours away from non-haem iron foods.
 - Choose lower phytate options e.g. tubers, canned beans
 - Including some animal protein e.g. fish or chicken may help enhance absorption

Fortified Cereal

2.8-4.4mg/30g

Wholemeal Bread

2mg/2 slices

Tinned prunes

1.8mg/80g

Lentils

3.3mg/100g

Mixed Nuts

0.6-1.9mg/30g

Calcium

Animal source
200ml semi-skimmed milk
248mg

- Low intakes in teenagers and young women.
- Calcium ubiquitous in the diet with significant quantities coming from white flour-based products
- Switching to fortified plant-based alternatives will not compromise calcium intakes – bioavailability from alternatives same as dairy.
- Low oxalate calcium rich dark green veg e.g. broccoli and pak choi – double bioavailability compared to dairy.

Fortified plant drink 240mg/200ml	Broccoli 35mg/80g	Silken Tofu 105mg/75g	Dried Figs 60-70mg/30g	Tahini paste 129mg/15g
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Zinc

Animal source
70g beef
5.3-6.7mg

- Meat currently major dietary source.
- Teenage boys and girls have significantly low intakes:
 - 20% of boys and >25% girls below LRNI.
- Plant sources, with the exception of mycoprotein, are lower in zinc.
- Optimise by adding sprinkles of seeds and nuts onto cereals, soups and yoghurts + choosing wholemeal / wheatgerm breads

Mycoprotein	Tofu (Firm)	Wheatgerm Bread	Peanut Butter
7mg/100g	1.5mg/75g	1.8mg/2 slices	1.2mg/40g

Vitamin B12

Animal source
70g beef – 1.4-2.1mcg
200ml milk – 1.8mcg

- A healthy sustainable diet does not have to exclude meat and dairy which will provide adequate vitamin B12.
- Those wishing to follow a dairy and meat free diet → high risk of vitamin B12 deficiency:
 - Especially if fortified plant-based options are not consumed daily
- Fortified plant food sources include plant-based drinks, yeast extract and most fortified breakfast cereals.

Fortified cereal (30g) with fortified plant drink (150ml)	150g of fortified soya yoghurt	Yeast Extract (Marmite) Two toast slices
1.1mg	0.6mg	0.6mg

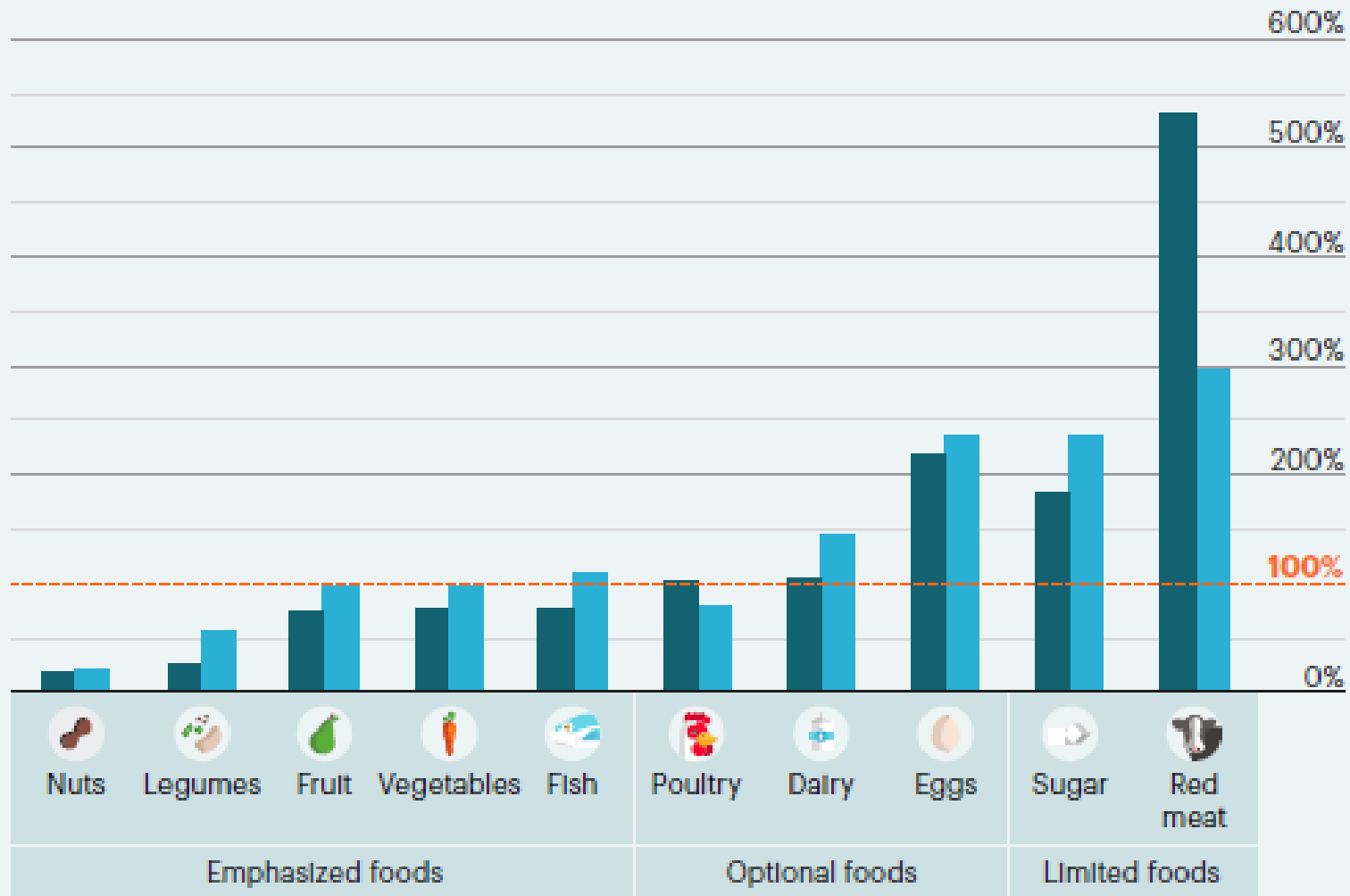
A conceptual image where the Earth is presented as a meal. The globe is centered on a white plate, with a silver fork and knife on either side. The text is overlaid on the globe.

G20 Countries NDG vs Planetary Guidelines

Current consumption and NDGs for G20 countries compared to optimal intake

- Current Consumption
- National Dietary Guidelines
- Planetary Health Diet

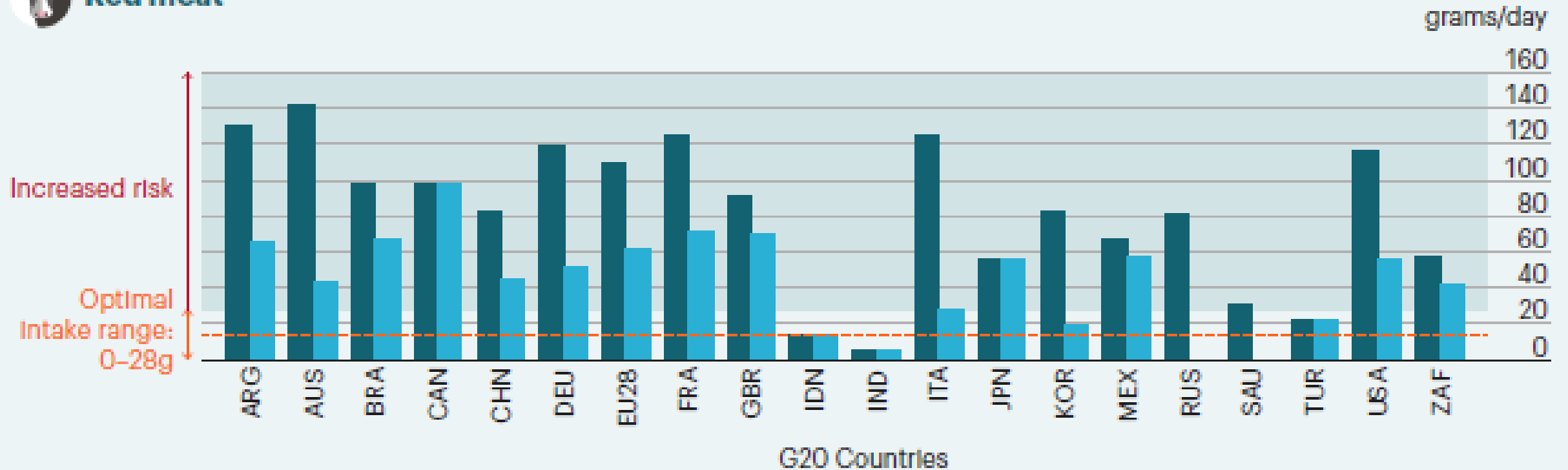
% above or below the optimal intake level



Meat

- Current Consumption
- National Dietary Guidelines
- Planetary Health Diet

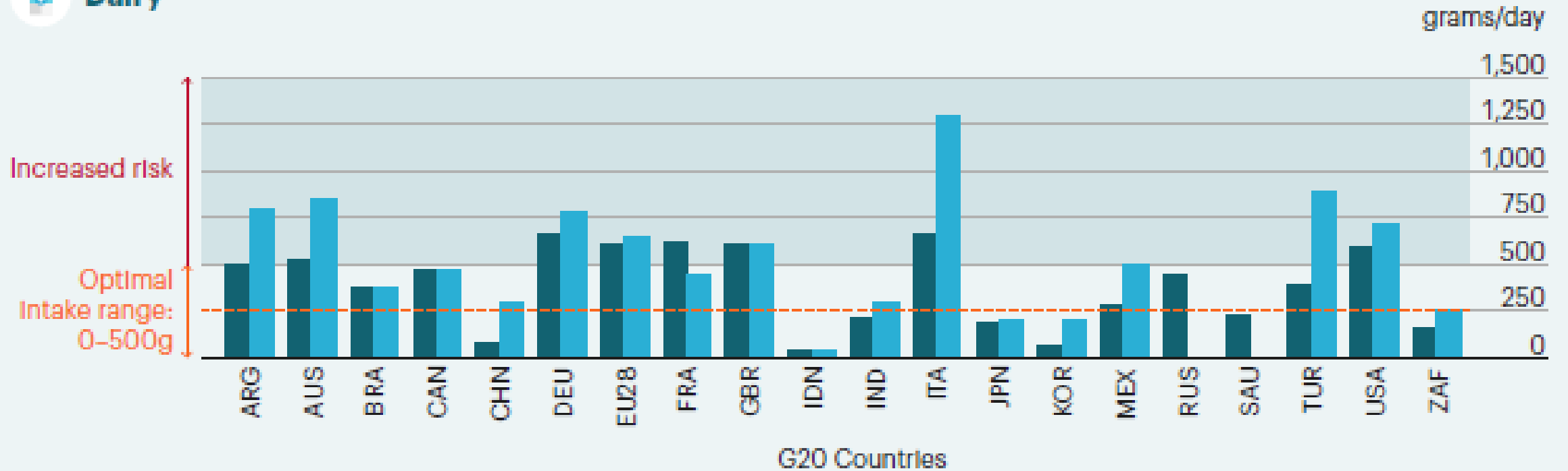
Red meat



Dairy

- Current Consumption
- National Dietary Guidelines
- Planetary Health Diet

Dairy

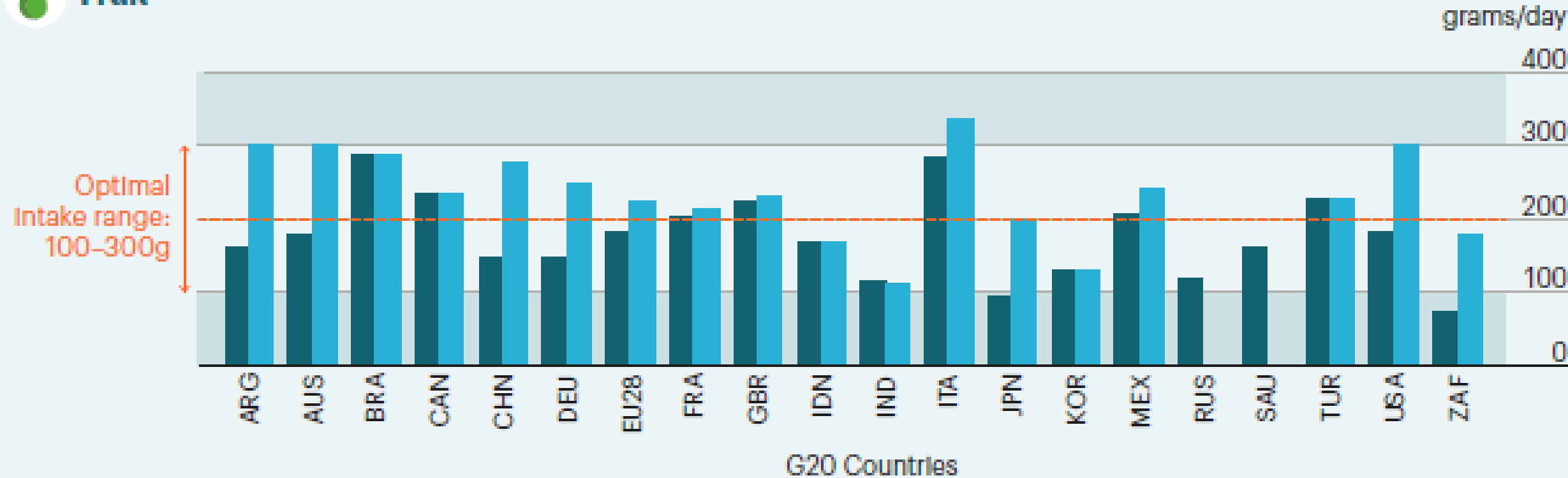


Fruit

- Current Consumption
- National Dietary Guidelines
- - - Planetary Health Diet



Fruit

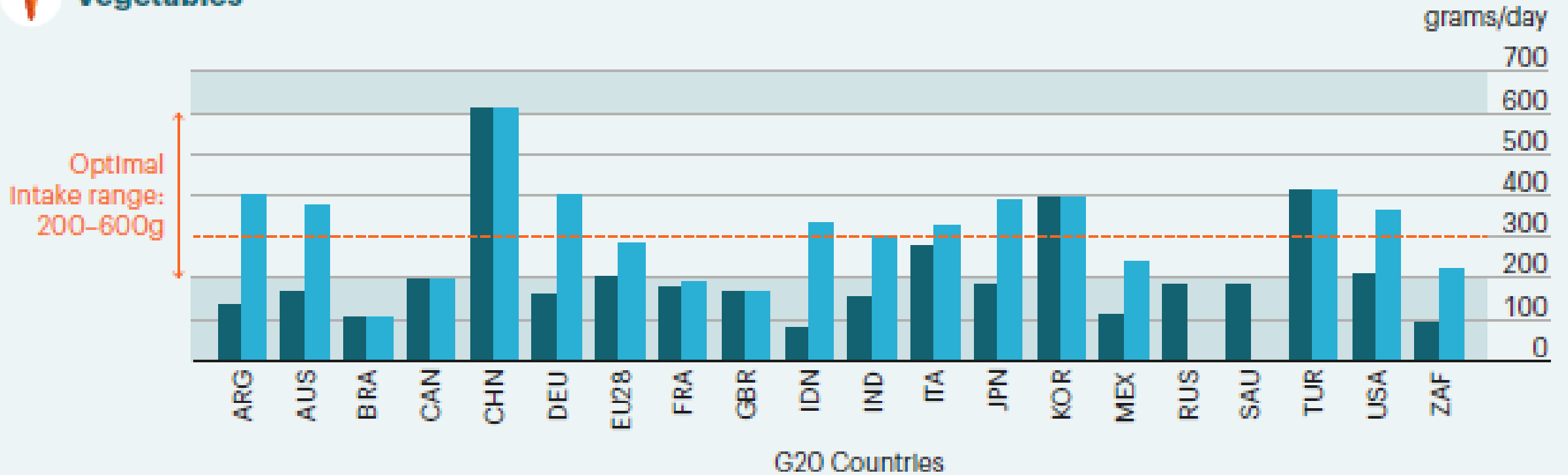


Vegetables

- Current Consumption
- National Dietary Guidelines
- Planetary Health Diet



Vegetables

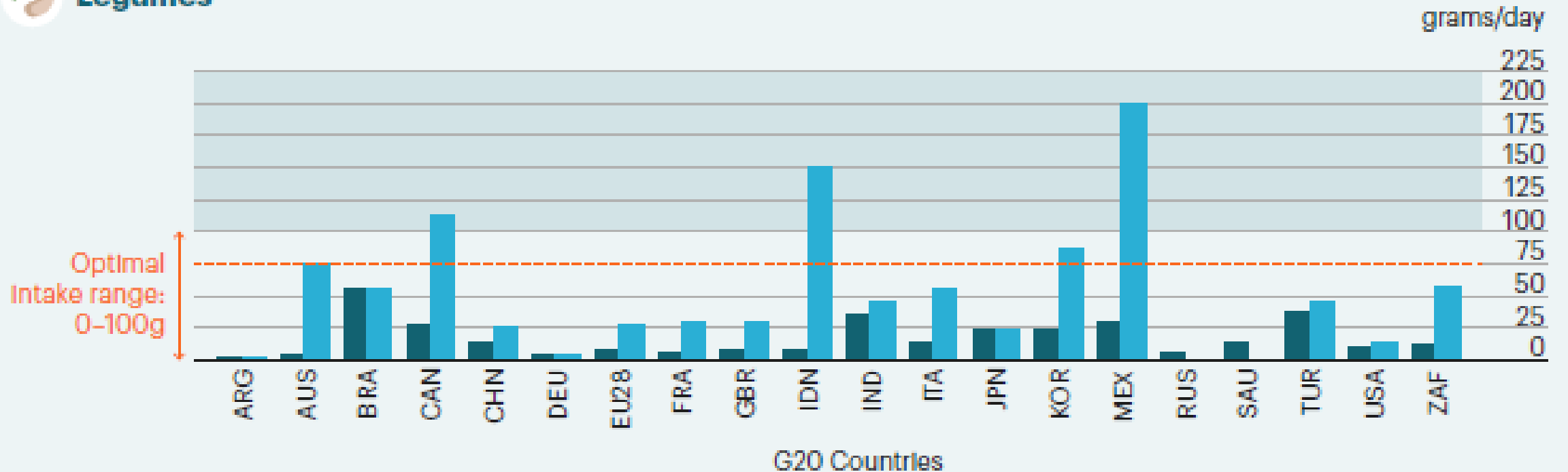


Legumes

- Current Consumption
- National Dietary Guidelines
- Planetary Health Diet



Legumes



Nuts

- Current Consumption
- National Dietary Guidelines
- Planetary Health Diet



Nuts

grams/day

100

80

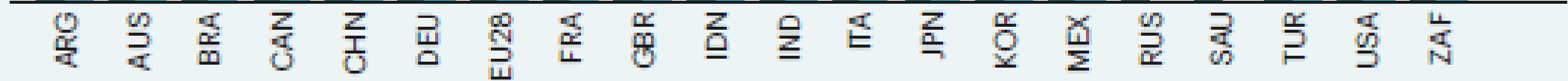
60

40

20

0

Optimal
Intake range:
0-75g



G20 Countries

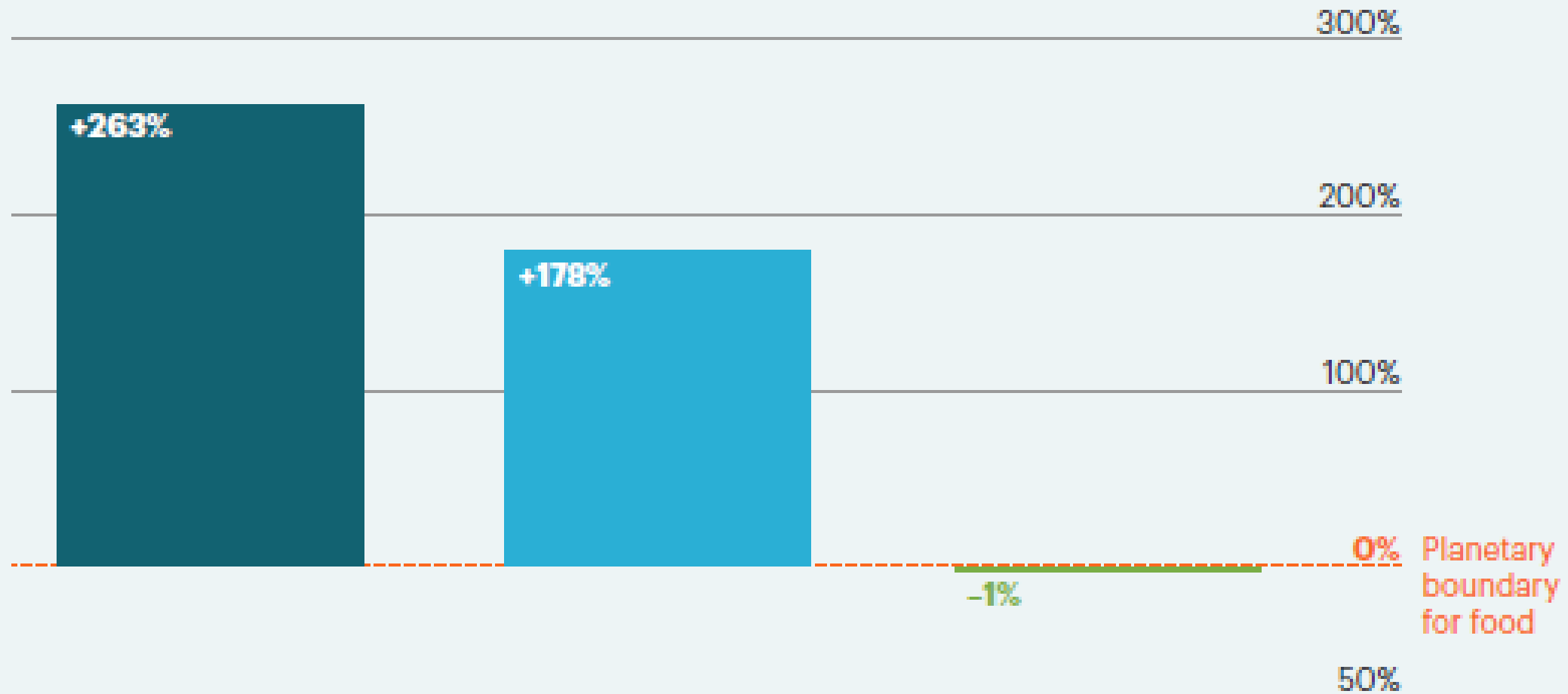
Projected food-related GHG emissions if G20 consumption patterns are adopted globally

↓ Current consumption

↓ If NDGs were followed

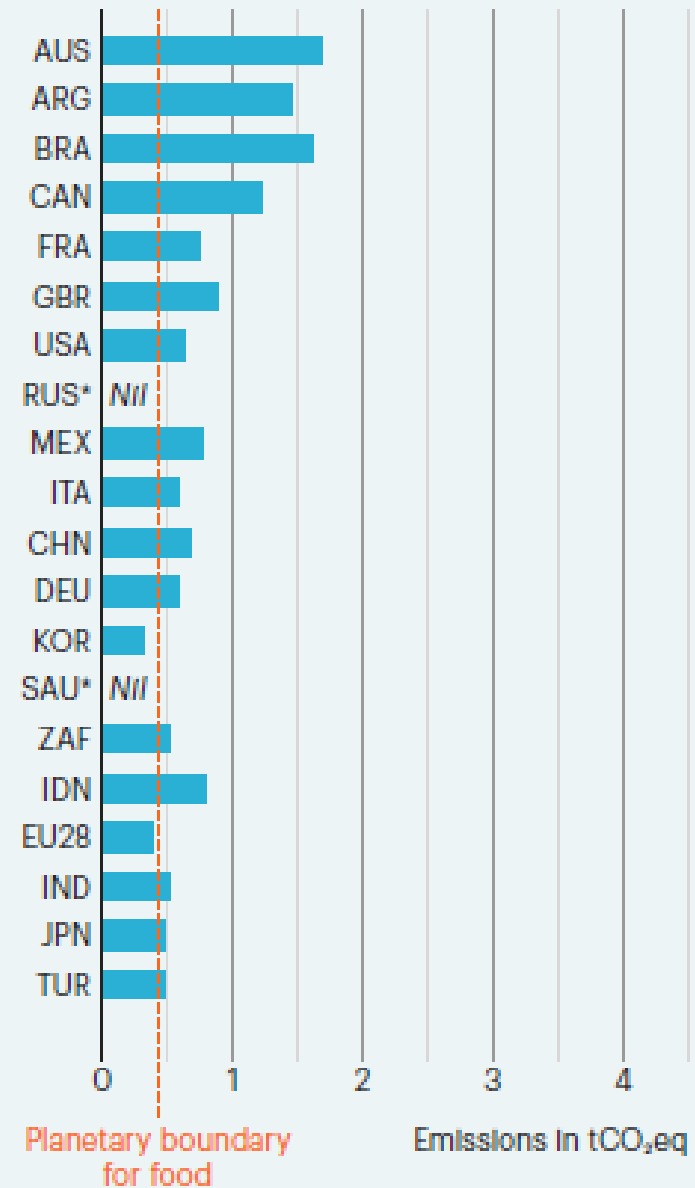
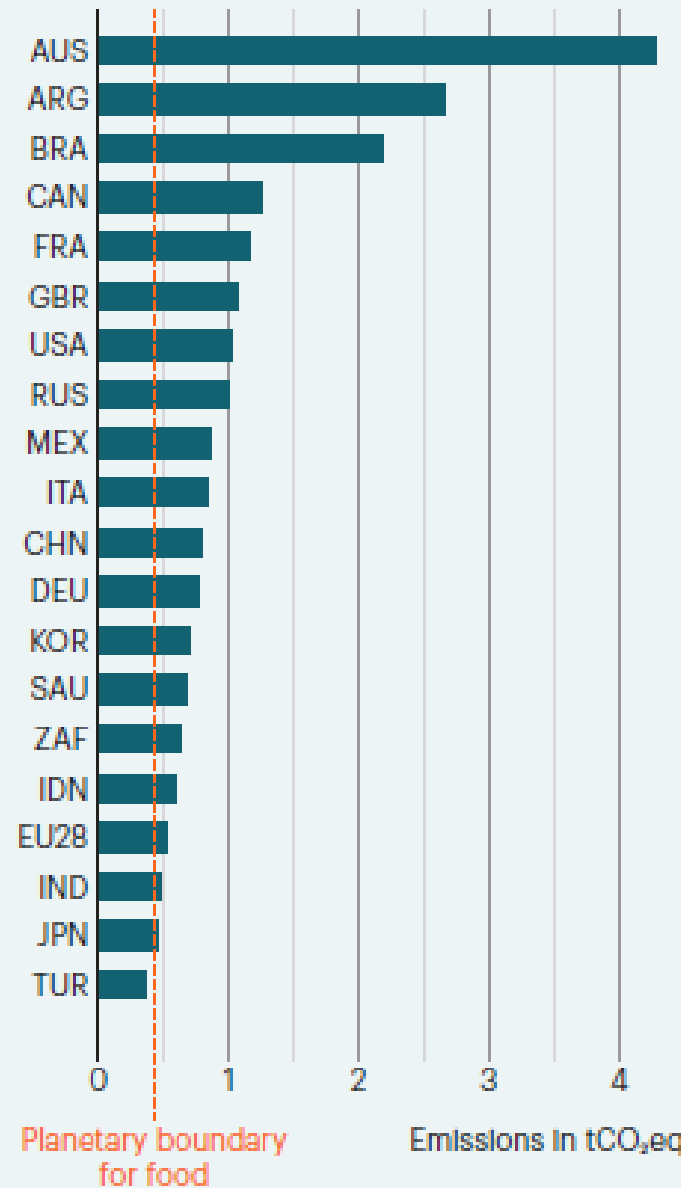
↓ If the Planetary Health Diet was followed

% above or below the planetary boundary for food



Per capita GHG emissions from food consumption patterns in G20 countries

- Current Consumption
- National Dietary Guidelines



The ecological footprint if G20 food consumption patterns are adopted globally



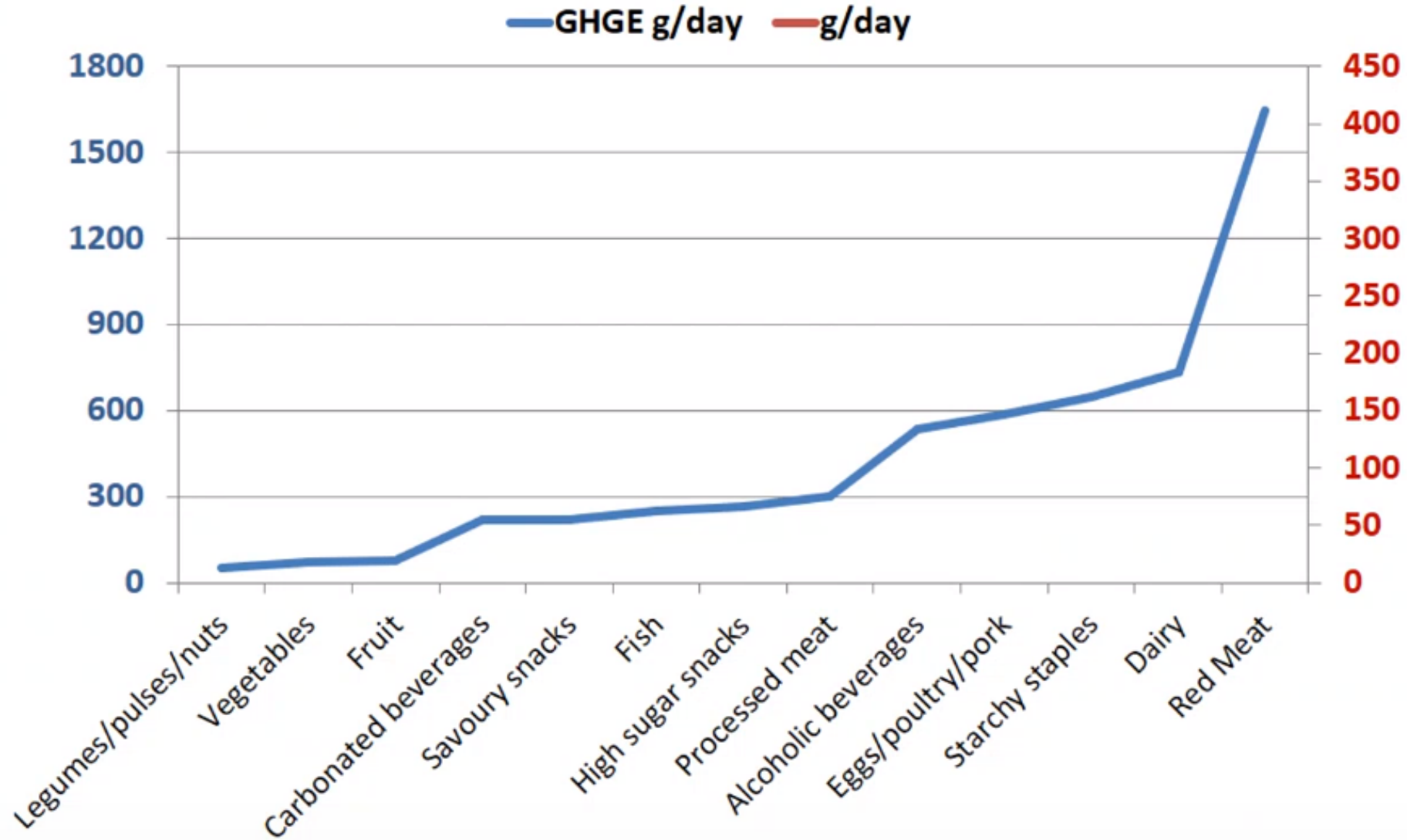
The ecological footprint if NDGs are adopted globally



A conceptual image where the Earth is presented as a dish on a white plate. The globe is centered on the Americas, with North and South America visible in shades of green and yellow. The oceans are a deep blue. The globe sits on a white square napkin atop a white circular plate. Four silver forks are arranged around the plate, two on the left and two on the right, suggesting a formal dining setting. The background is a plain, light color.

What about Ireland?

Daily food group consumption & emissions



Excessive Food Consumption in Irish Adults: Implications for Climatic Sustainability and Public Health 2018

- Currently in the Irish diet, animal products contributed 48.1% to total dietary GHGE,
- red meat 22.4%,
- dairy 12.0%
- eggs, poultry and pork 9.2%.
- While foods of animal origin were found to have high GHGE, they only constituted approximately a 25% of EI
- Hence, recommendations to reduce consumption of meat would have little or no impact on energy intake.

Red Meat



DoH WCR recommendations

- Eating smaller portions (about the size of a deck of cards) means that you can have red meat more often and still have no more than 350–500g a week.
- 50-75g per day

EAT Lancet report

- Aim to **consume** no more than 98 grams of **red meat** (pork, **beef** or lamb), 203 grams of poultry and 196 grams of fish per week. Approach food in moderation. Consuming too much food can lead to weight gain and other health problems and it is also a challenge for the environment.
- **14g per day- meatball**

Meat Consumption & dietary characteristics of Irish Meat consumers

	Processed pork indulgers	All things meat	Chicken eaters	Fish eaters	Beef focused	Diverse moderates
Cluster size (%)	13	4	20	21	21	21
Age (years)	45	56	38	50	43	45
Body mass index	28	28	27	27	27	26
Energy from meat (%)	28	26	22	19	19	14
Energy from fat (%)	37	36	34	35	34	34
Fat from meat (%)	37	38	28	26	25	19
Beef (g/day)	88	41	43	33	124	30
Chicken (g/day)	49	38	138	35	39	46
Fish (g/day)	8	36	15	79	20	11
Pork (g/day)	108	24	28	37	30	39
Lamb (g/day)	6	66	2	4	1	17
Turkey (g/day)	3	9	1	2	1	4
Game, offal (g/day)	1	22	0	1	0	2

202g/d

131g/d

73 g/d

74 g/d

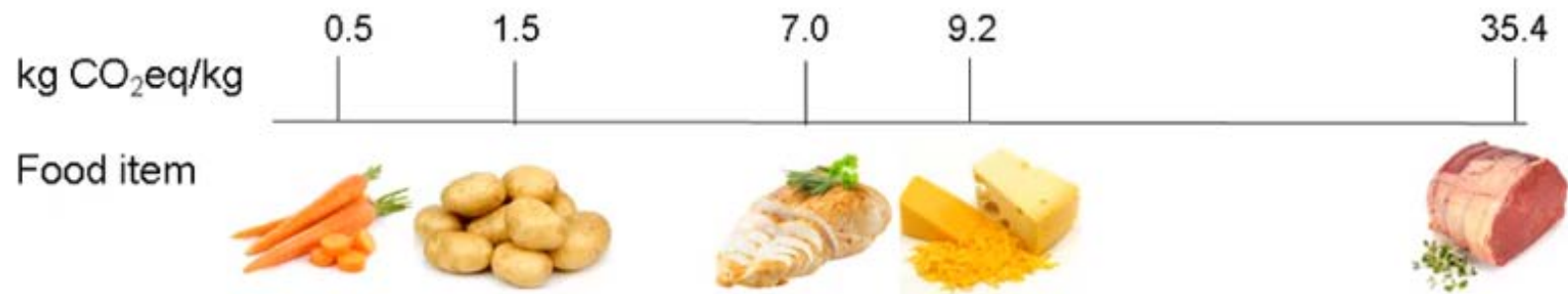
155g/d

86 g/d

GHG emissions Calculations

GHG emissions calculations of Irish Diet

- Life cycle analysis (LCA)
 - Considered production - consumer waste
- #Emissions factor assigned to each of the 67 food groups



Three distinct patterns observed in NANS

- Defining food groups:
 - Processed meat
 - Savoury snacks
 - Alcoholic beverages

- **Total GHGE**
- Men: 9.0 kg CO₂-eq
- Women: 5.8 kg CO₂-eq

Unsustainable
25%



- Defining food groups:
 - Fruit & vegetables
 - Fish
 - Dairy

- **Total GHGE**
- Men: 7.7 kg CO₂-eq
- Women: 5.1 kg CO₂-eq

Nutritionally
Sustainable
26%



- Defining food groups:
 - Red meat
 - Dairy
 - Starchy staples

- **Total GHGE**
- Men: 7.4 kg CO₂-eq
- Women: 5.1 kg CO₂-eq

Culturally
Sustainable
48%



Mean GHGEs from food groups across clusters

Male
Food Groups
Red Meat
Dairy
Starchy Staples
Eggs, poultry, pork
Alcoholic drinks
Processed meat
High sugar snacks
Fish
Savoury Snacks
Carbonated beverages
Vegetables
Fruit
Legumes, pulses, nuts
Daily Total (kg Co ₂ eq)

Unsustainable	
χ	%
2131	21
607	7
657	8
707	8
1749	18
685	8
168	2
96	1
606	7
489	6
36	0.4
28	0.3
40	0.5
9.0	

Nutritionally Sustainable	
χ	%
1603	19
925	12
817	11
735	10
328	4
248	3
385	5
486	7
188	3
180	2
111	2
155	2
82	1
7.7	

Culturally Sustainable	
χ	%
2263	28
877	12
764	11
680	10
605	8
327	5
306	5
212	3
142	2
165	2
56	0.8
54	0.8
40	0.6
7.4	

Food Waste

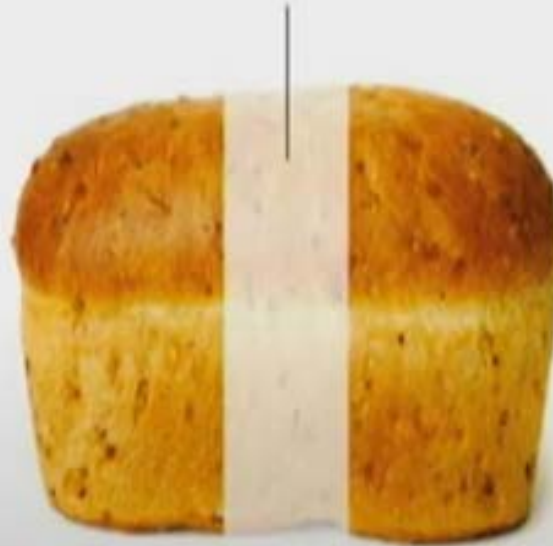
How about the UK – What type of foods do we waste most?

In the UK, 15m tonnes of food is lost or wasted each year and consumers throw away 4.2m tonnes of edible food each year. The foods most commonly found in British bins are bread, vegetables, fruit and milk.

25.5%
of every melon
is thrown away



22.4%
of all bread
is thrown away



38.7%
of all lettuce
is thrown away



What does this mean for the average family?

The average family throws away £700 worth of perfectly good food a year, or almost



FOOD and CLIMATE CHANGE

WITHOUT THE HOT AIR™

*Change your diet:
the easiest way
to help save
the planet.*

S L BRIDLE

What causes more climate change- Poll time!



Cereal with milk



Large Latte



Two boiled eggs

What causes more climate change- Poll time!



Cereal with milk

519 gCO₂e



Large Latte

1275 gCO₂e



Two boiled eggs

659 gCO₂e

Latte with Sugar in Cardboard Cup

Instant Coffee

$0.04 \times 100 \text{ grams} \Rightarrow 66 \text{ gCO}_2\text{e}$

Source: FACCWTHA

Electricity, 2 kW

$0.0412 \times 60 \text{ minutes} \Rightarrow 39 \text{ gCO}_2\text{e}$

Source: FACCWTHA

Tap Water

$2.5 \times 100 \text{ grams} \Rightarrow 0 \text{ gCO}_2\text{e}$

Source: FACCWTHA

Milk

$500 \times 1 \text{ gram} \Rightarrow 1100 \text{ gCO}_2\text{e}$

Source: FACCWTHA

Plastic Milk Carton

$0.4 \times 1 \text{ carton} \Rightarrow 40 \text{ gCO}_2\text{e}$

Source: FACCWTHA

Sugar

$4 \times 1 \text{ gram} \Rightarrow 10 \text{ gCO}_2\text{e}$

Source: FACCWTHA

Cardboard, composted

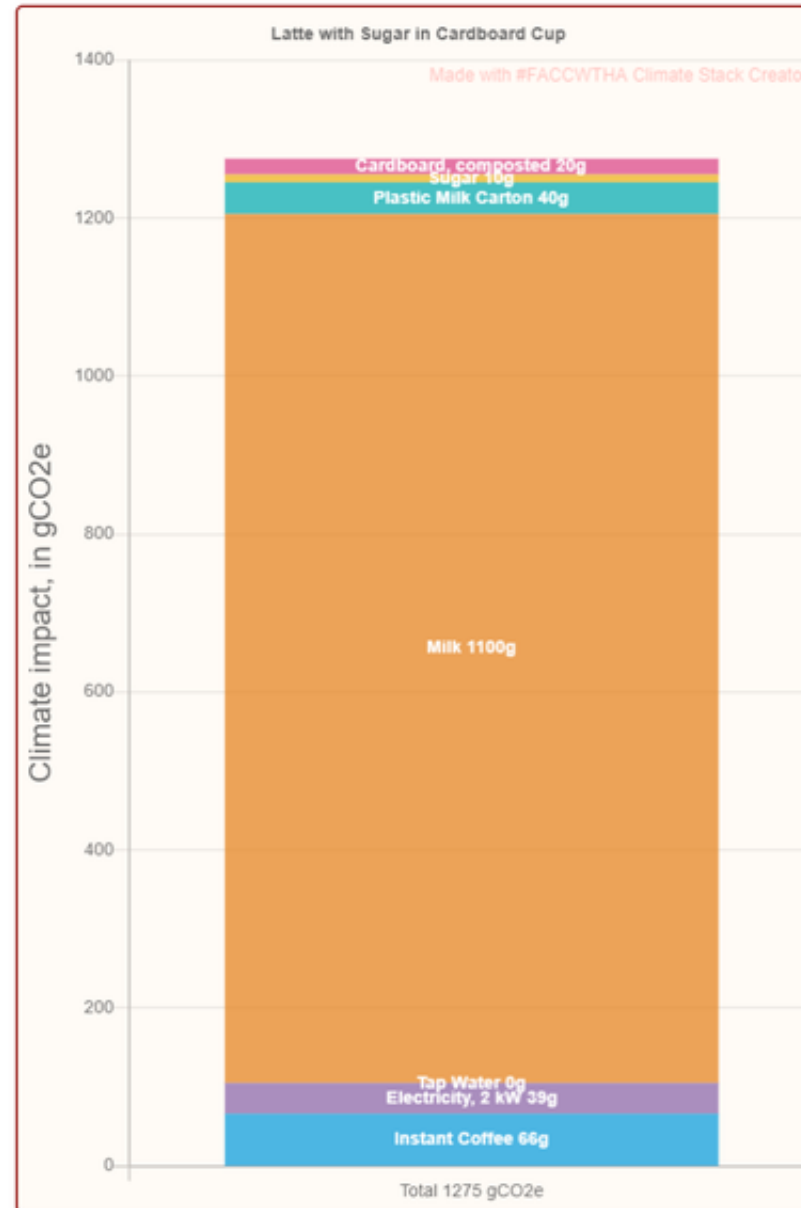
$20 \times 1 \text{ gram} \Rightarrow 20 \text{ gCO}_2\text{e}$

Source: FACCWTHA

Latte with Sugar in Cardboard Cup

Total 1275 gCO₂e

43% of a target daily budget of 3 kg emissions.



What causes more climate change- Poll time!



Chicken sandwich



Cheese sandwich



Peanut Butter & Jam sandwich

What causes more climate change- Poll time!



Chicken sandwich

509 gCO₂e



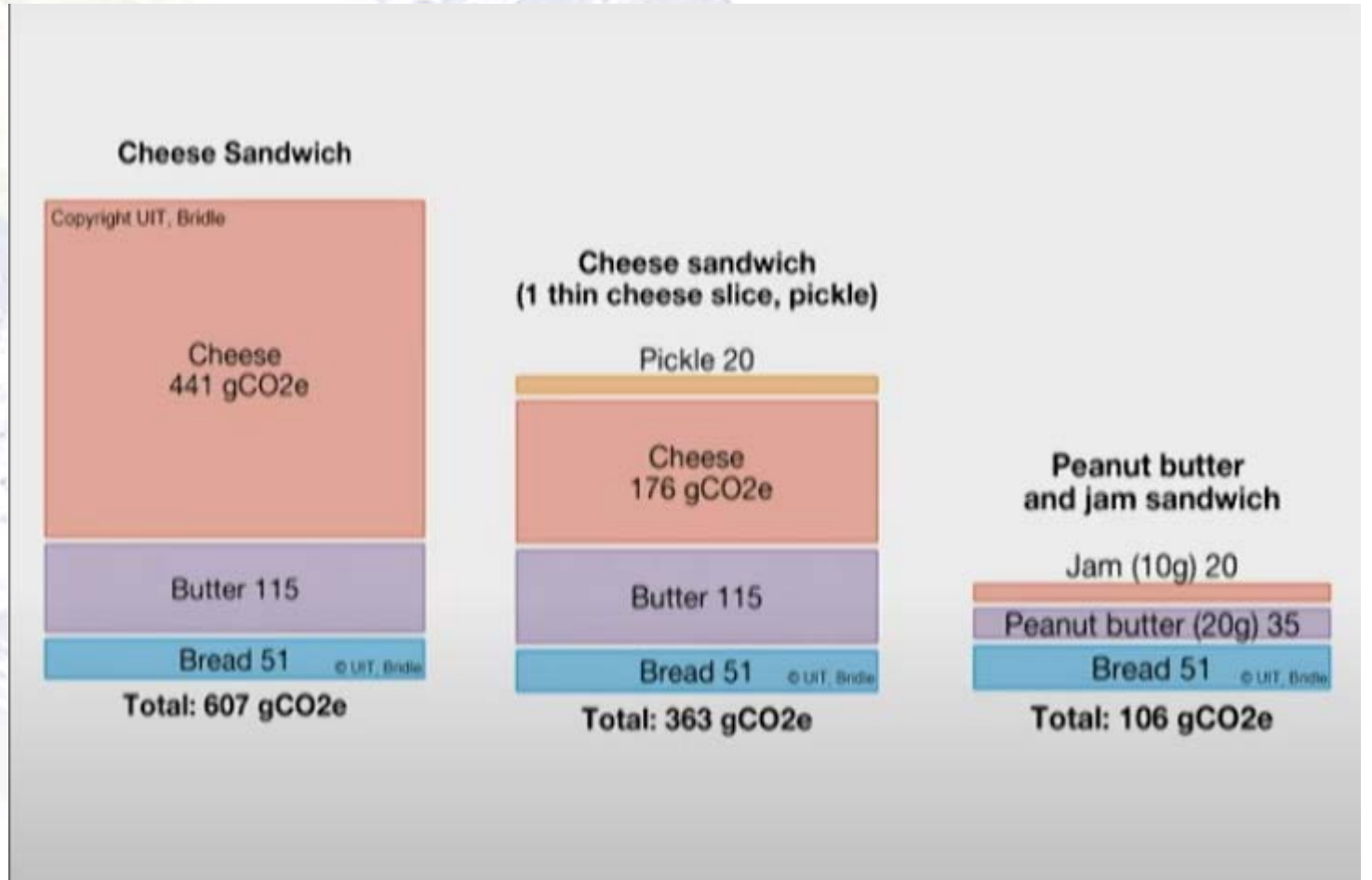
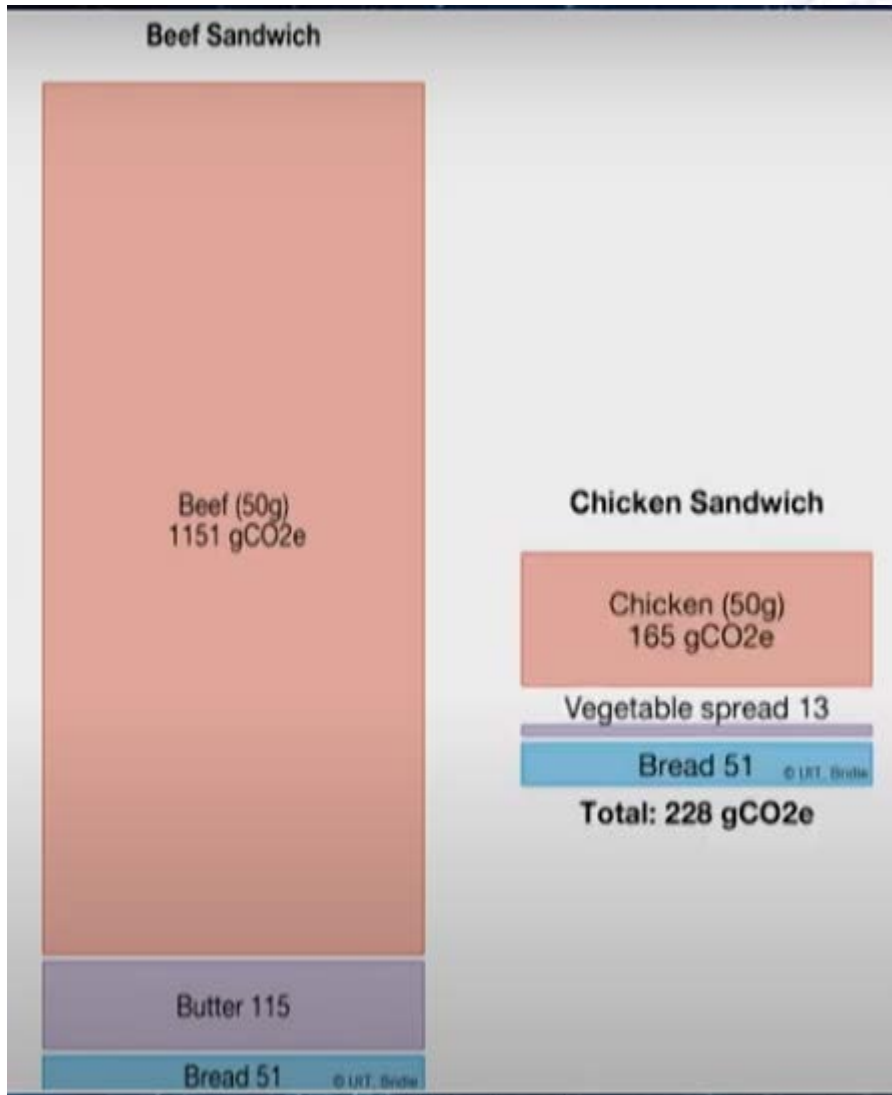
Cheese sandwich

938 gCO₂e



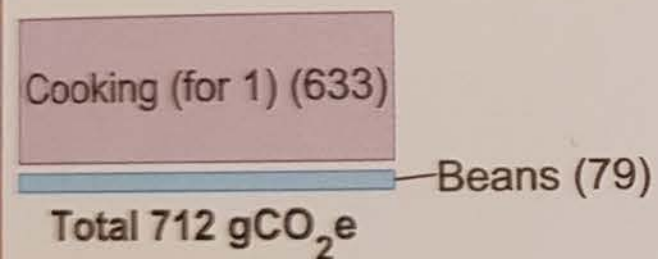
Peanut Butter & Jam sandwich

176 gCO₂e

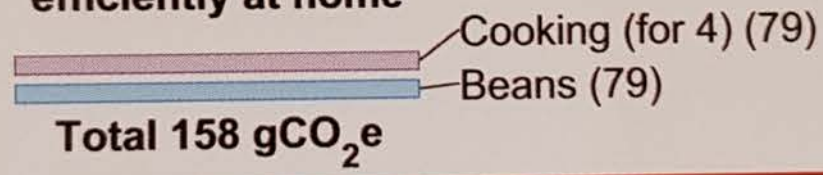


1317 gCO₂e

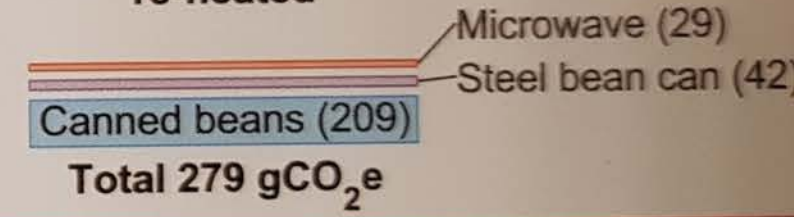
Beans, cooked inefficiently at home



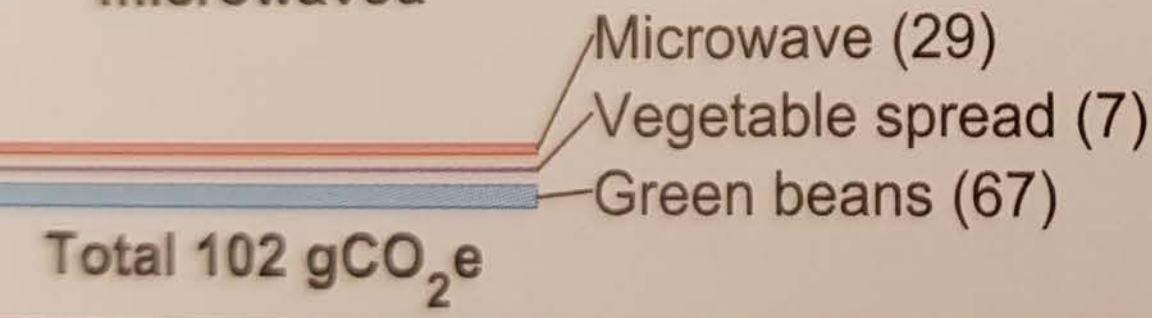
Beans, cooked efficiently at home



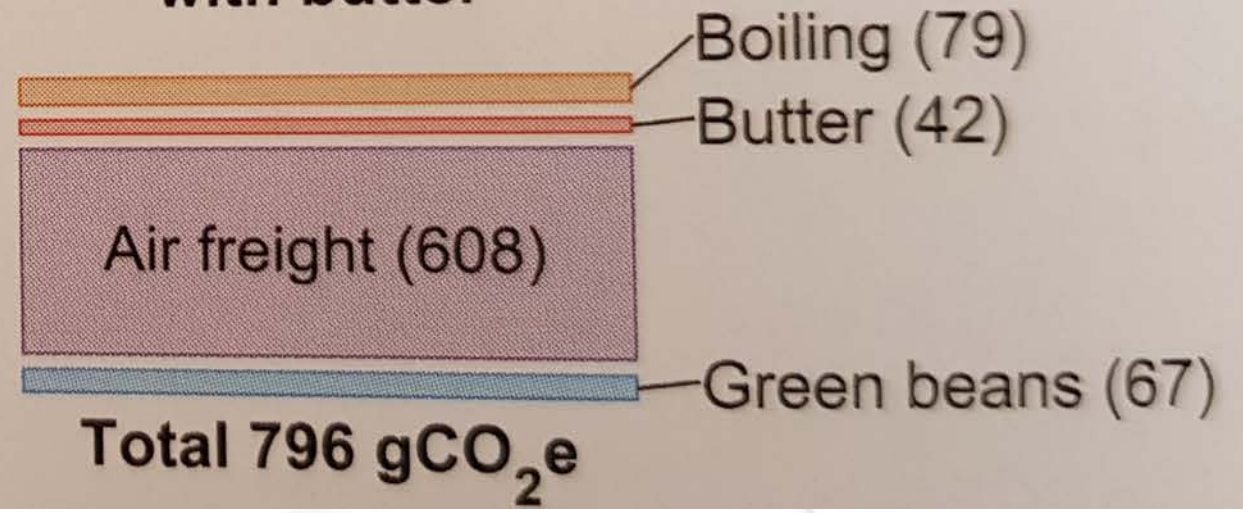
Canned beans re-heated



Seasonal green beans, microwaved

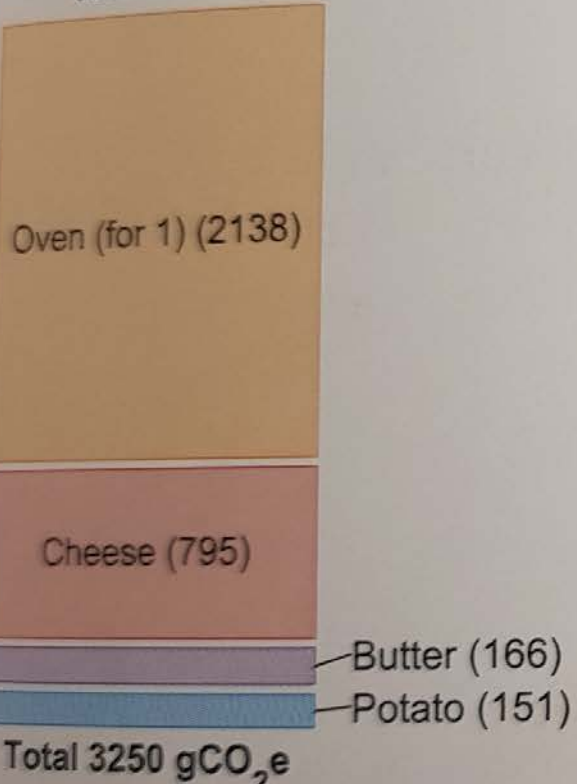


Green beans (by air) with butter

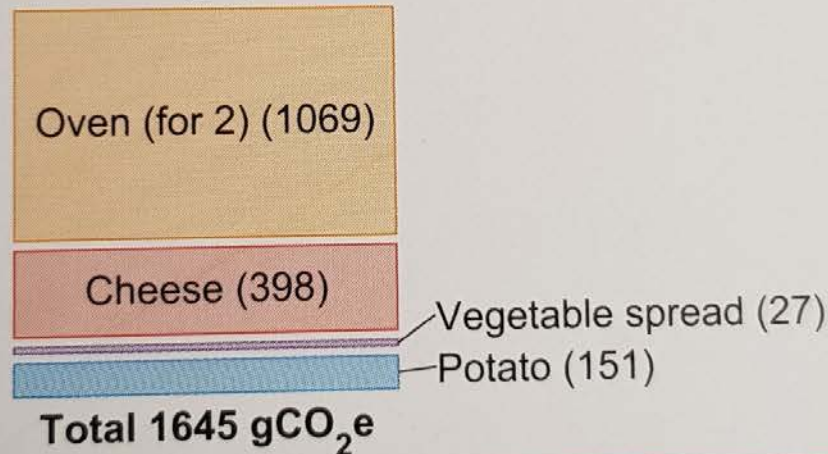


Cooking methods matter!

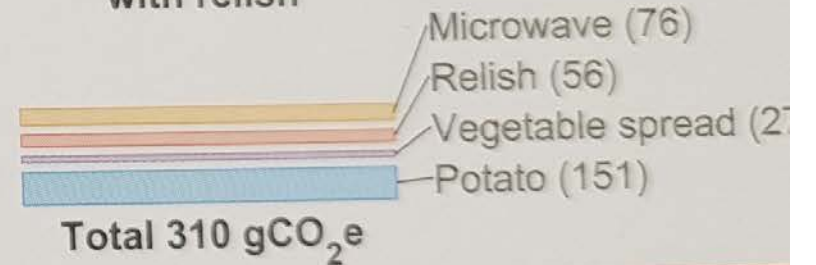
Oven-baked potato with lots of cheese and butter



Oven-baked potato with modest cheese and veg spread

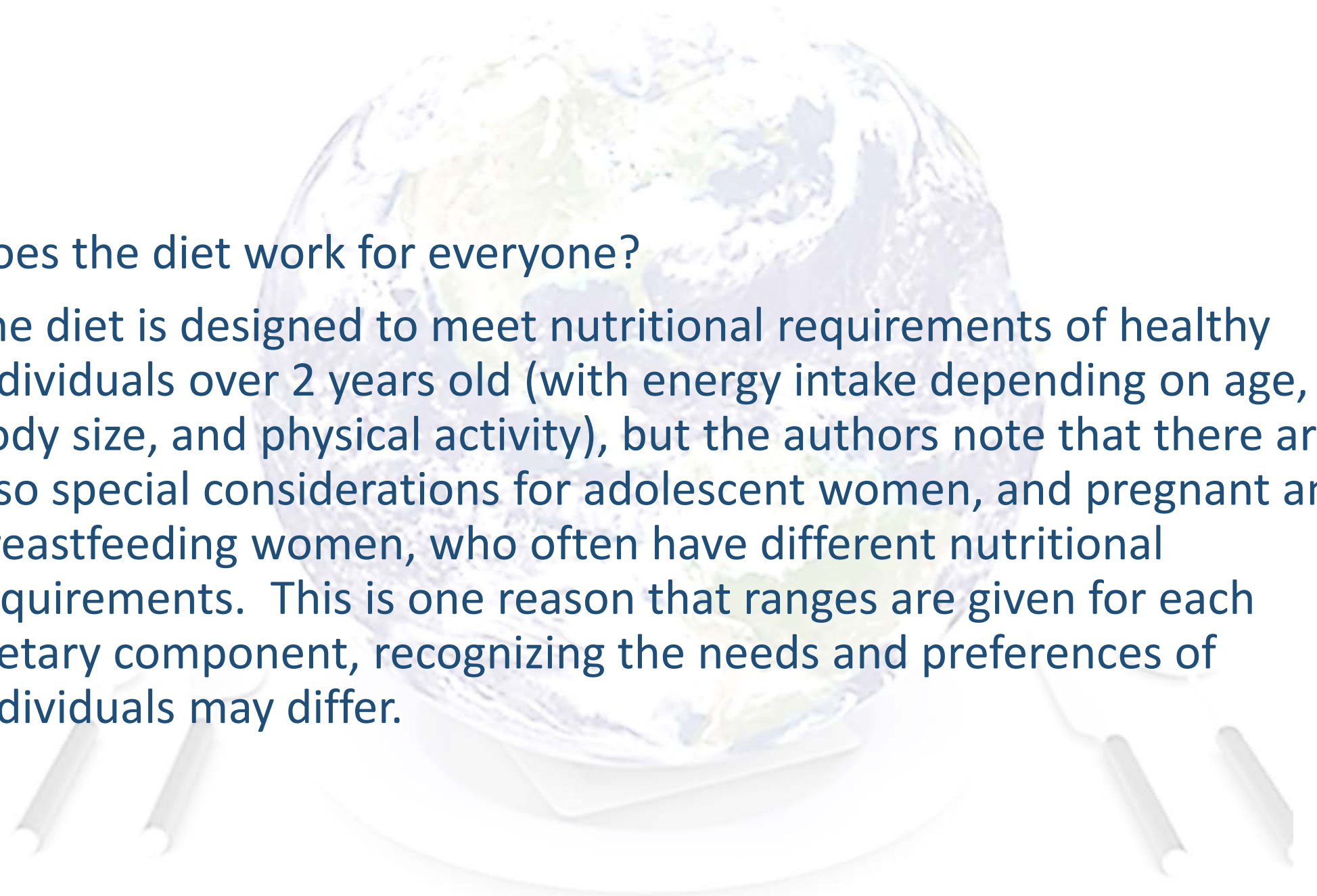


Microwaved potato with relish



Is the planetary health diet nutritionally sufficient?

- It would:
- Improve intakes of healthy mono and polyunsaturated fatty acids
- Reduce consumption of saturated fats.
- increase essential micronutrient intake (eg iron, zinc, folate, vit A)
- Increase calcium in low-income countries
- Low in vitamin B12 intakes may be inadequate and supplements or fortified foods may be needed

- 
- Does the diet work for everyone?
 - The diet is designed to meet nutritional requirements of healthy individuals over 2 years old (with energy intake depending on age, body size, and physical activity), but the authors note that there are also special considerations for adolescent women, and pregnant and breastfeeding women, who often have different nutritional requirements. This is one reason that ranges are given for each dietary component, recognizing the needs and preferences of individuals may differ.

Does Planetary diet work for everyone

- The Commission does not address children <2 yrs because breast feeding is the highest priority and these children have different requirements to support rapid growth.
- Some premenopausal women may have extra iron requirements because of menstrual losses and taking a supplement is less expensive and without adverse consequences of high red meat intake.
- The special needs of pregnant and lactating women are recognized and can be met within the ranges of the suggested diet.
- Other medical conditions



A final thought!


The Paradox



The Paradox



IMPROVING BREASTFEEDING PRACTICES
COULD SAVE MORE THAN
820,000
LIVES A YEAR



SOURCE: THE LANCET
BREASTFEEDING SERIES

1kg powdered infant
milk requires roughly
4,000L water.

The Paradox



**The
baby
killer**



<https://www.youtube.com/watch?v=bljaILLKHNM>

Breastmilk substitutes (BMS)

- FAO (2013) “GHG emissions from cattle represent about 65% (4.6 gigatonnes CO₂-eq), of total sector emissions”.
- In BMS also requires a lot of resources for production and packaging including: paper, aluminium, plastic, cardboard, tin, plastic and steel.
- In addition to the input resources, Irish infant formula also has a lot of food miles, considering the industry’s target markets are in Asia & Africa
- **Global BMS Market** was estimated at \$57.12 Billion in 2019 and is expected to reach \$110.26 Billion by 2026.
- The **global BMS Market** is expected to grow at a compound **annual** growth rate of 9.8% from 2019 to 2027

Resources- Take a bite out of Climate Change



Resources- <https://eatforum.org/eats-podcast-lets-rethink-food/>



Podcast —

E0: The Big Picture

EAT's founder & executive chair Dr.

Gunhild Stordalen reflects on the

[forum.org/learn-and-discover/e1-the-planetary-health-diet/](https://eatforum.org/learn-and-discover/e1-the-planetary-health-diet/)



Podcast —

E1: The Planetary Health Diet

Prof. Walter Willett and Prof. Johan



Podcast —

E2: Why Choose Plants

Chefs and culinary entrepreneurs Claus

Meyer and Alice Zaslavsky give their best

advice on how to make plants the new