



Food and Agriculture
Organization of the
United Nations



World Health
Organization



WORLD TRADE
ORGANIZATION



THE FUTURE OF FOOD SAFETY

Transforming knowledge into
action for people, economies
and the environment

by

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World Bank

Thematic Session 1

The Burden of Foodborne Diseases and the Benefits of Investing in Safe Food

Economic Case for Investments in Food Safety

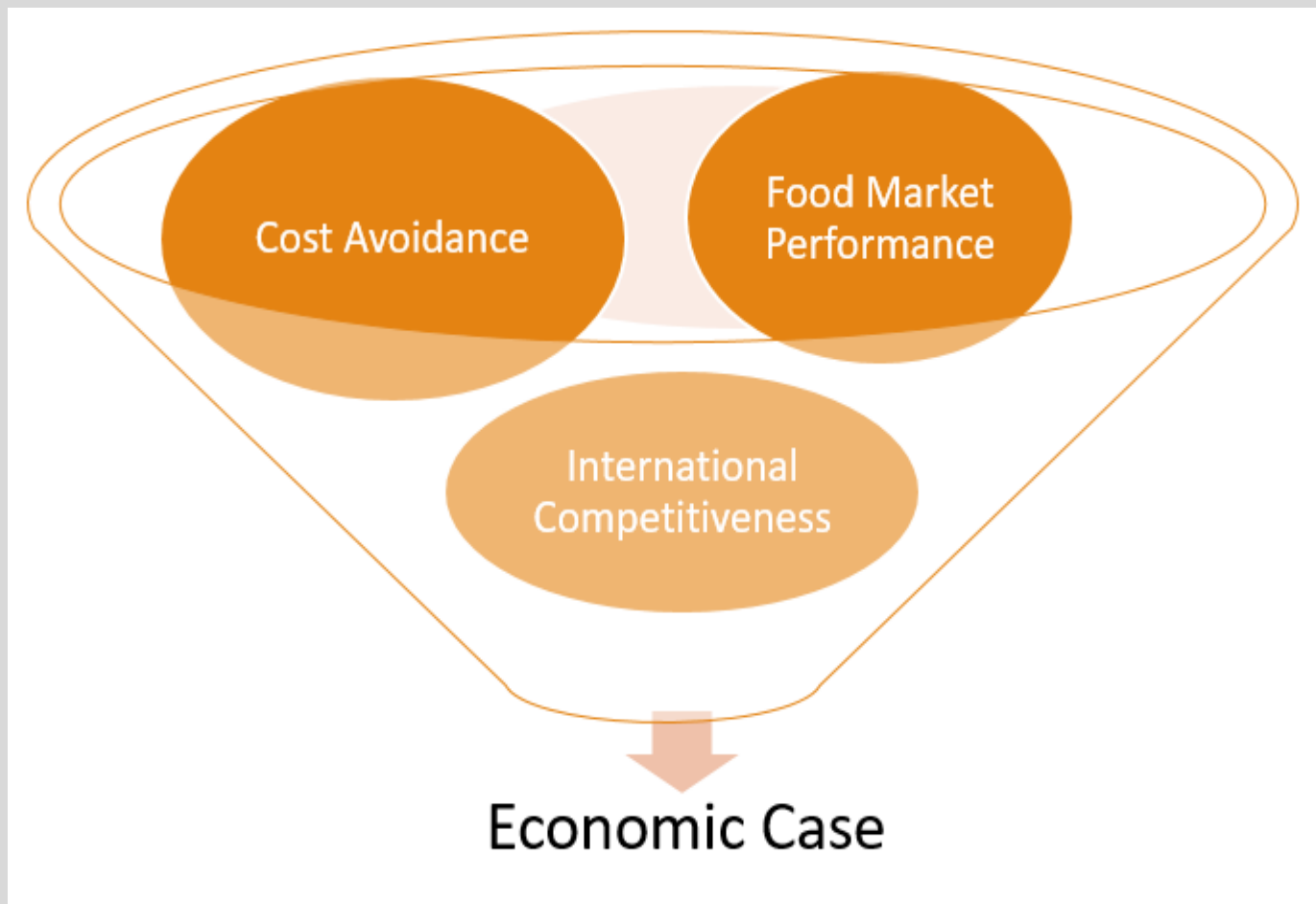
ADDIS ABABA

12-13 February 2019



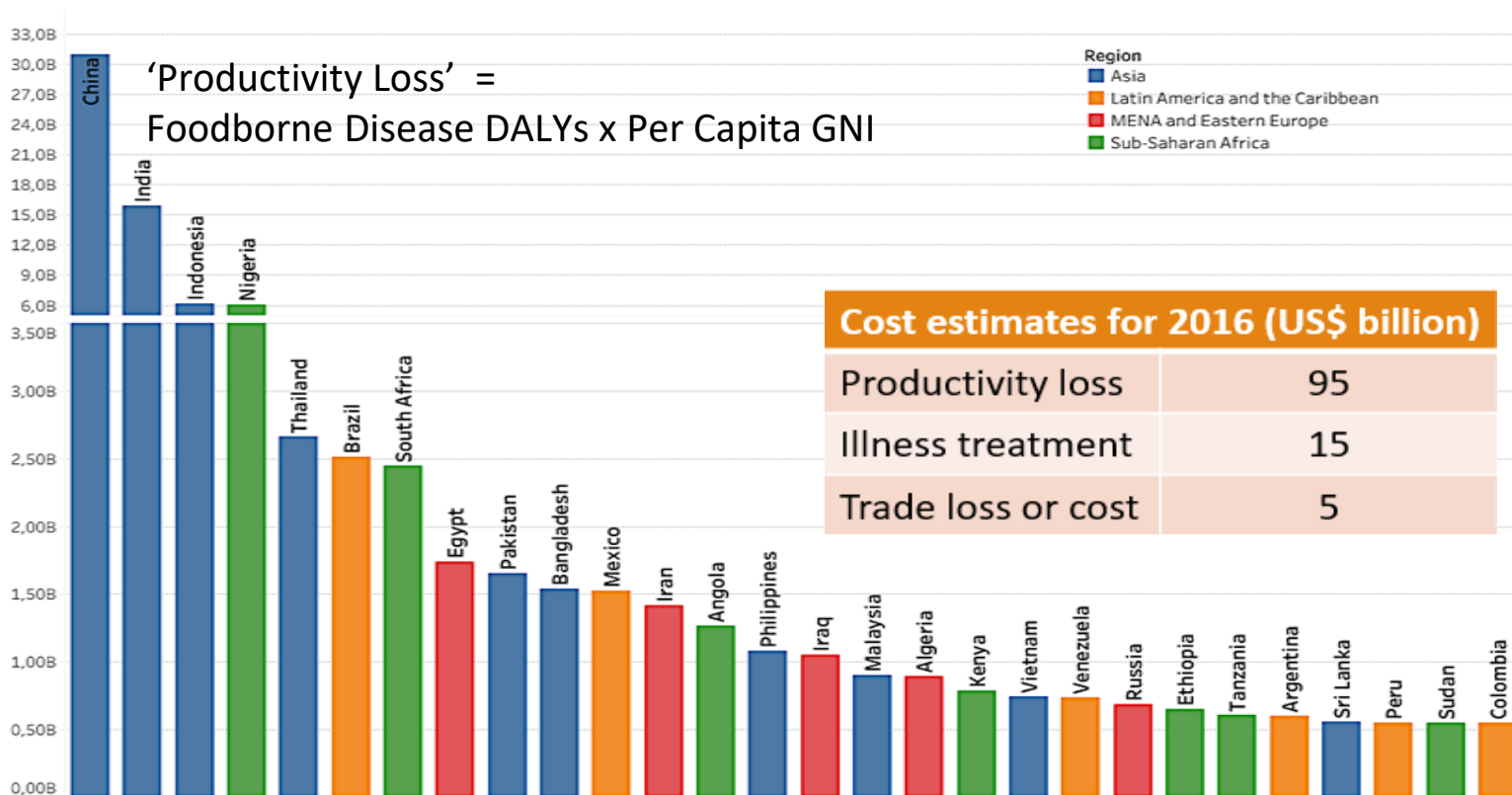


The economic case for investment has 3 dimensions



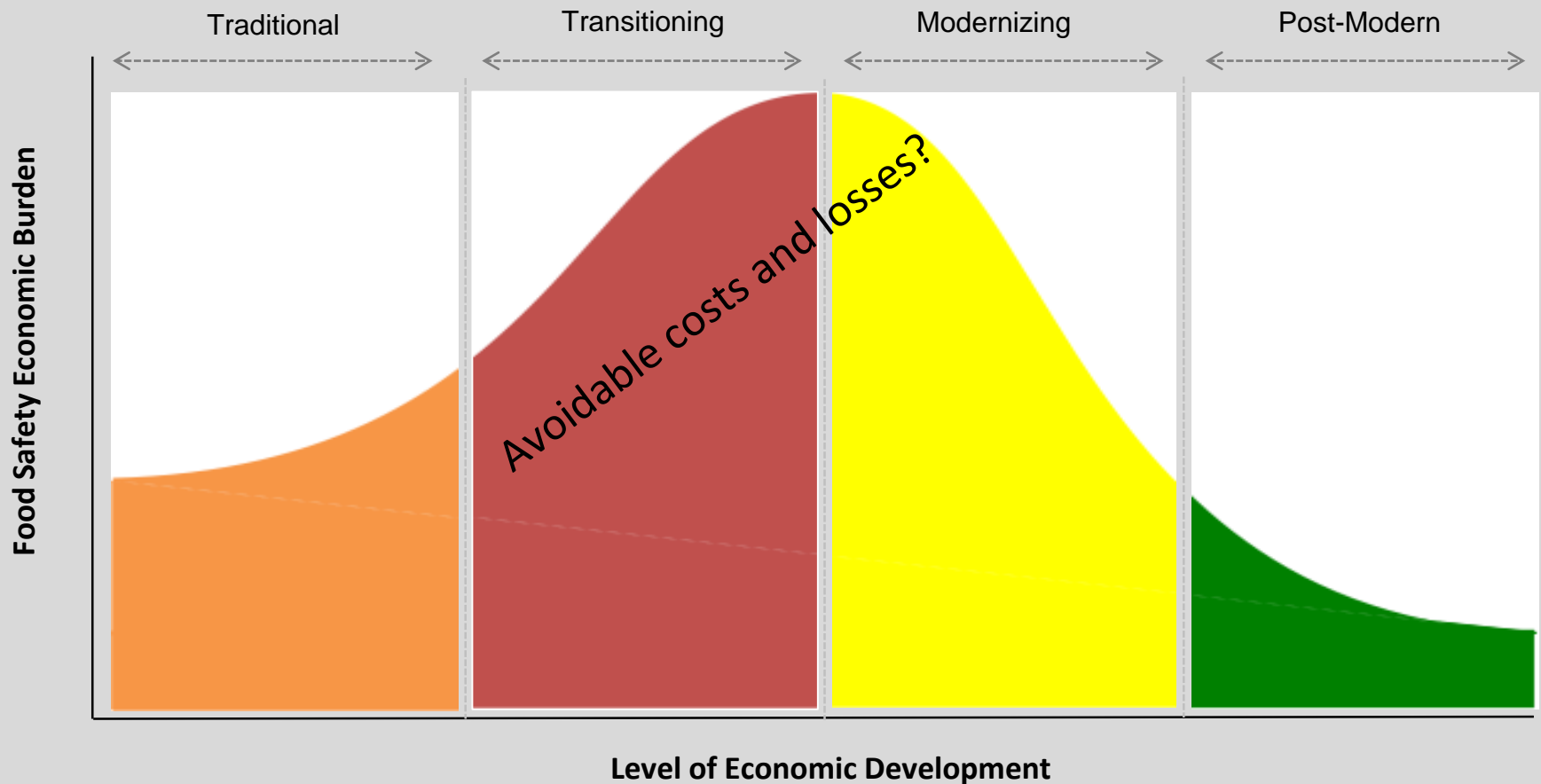


Unsafe food results in an estimated \$110 billion in productivity losses or costs of treating illness in low and middle income countries, each year





For many countries, these costs will rise in the coming years in a 'business as usual' scenario:
the FOOD SAFETY LIFECYCLE

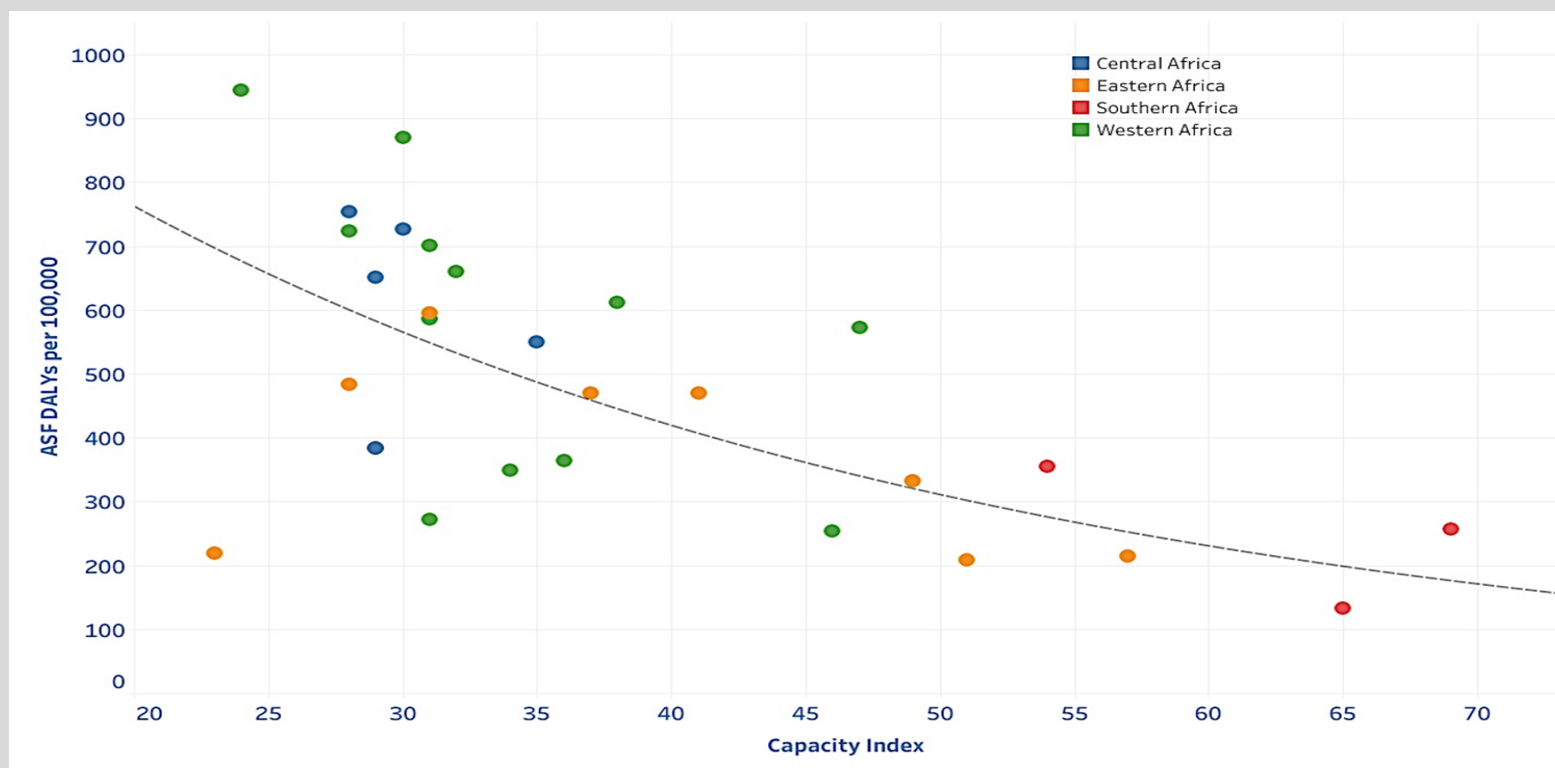


Reflects gap between capacity needed and prevailing capacity and incentives



Evidence that Capacity Matters & Pays Dividends (1)

The burden of foodborne disease from animal-source foods is closely connected with related veterinary service capacities and public spending in sub-Saharan Africa

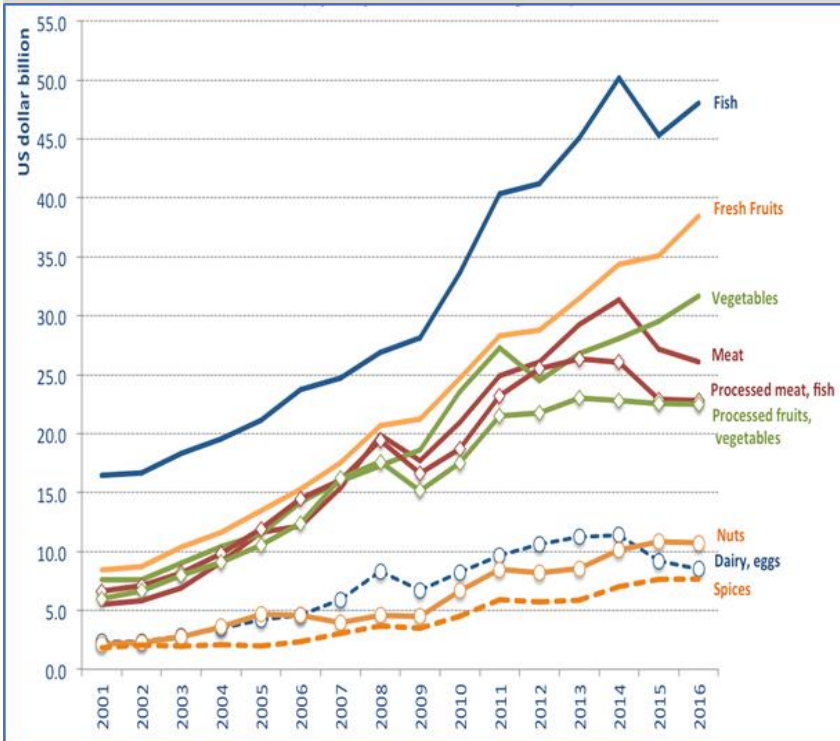


Sources: Li et al (forthcoming); Jaffee et al (2019)



Evidence that capacity matters and pays dividends (2): Exporters of high value foods

STEADY EXPANSION IN DEVELOPING COUNTRY HIGH VALUE FOOD EXPORTS



FOOD SAFETY COMPLIANCE CHALLENGES HAVE CATALYZED INVESTMENTS & UPGRADES

- ❖ Leading exporters have:
 - ✓ invested significantly in trade-linked food safety capacity expansion
 - ✓ experienced declining rejection rates
- ❖ Other successful exporters:
 - ✓ high benefit/cost ratios for investments
 - ✓ (sustained) new market access



Bottom Line

Governments in low and middle income countries:

- Invest more and more smartly, especially in domestic food safety
- Exploit synergies among goals and interventions
- Better motivate and leverage private investment and initiative

Trade, development & research partners:

- Strengthen incentives for preventive, forward-looking actions
- Invest in addressing knowledge gaps to inform priorities, strategies and investments
- Better coordinate and evaluate assistance; and promote active experience sharing