

Cultivating Resilience: **Singapore's Innovative Solutions** **for Urban Food Security**



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Cultivating Resilience:

Singapore's Innovative Solutions for Urban Food Security

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1.

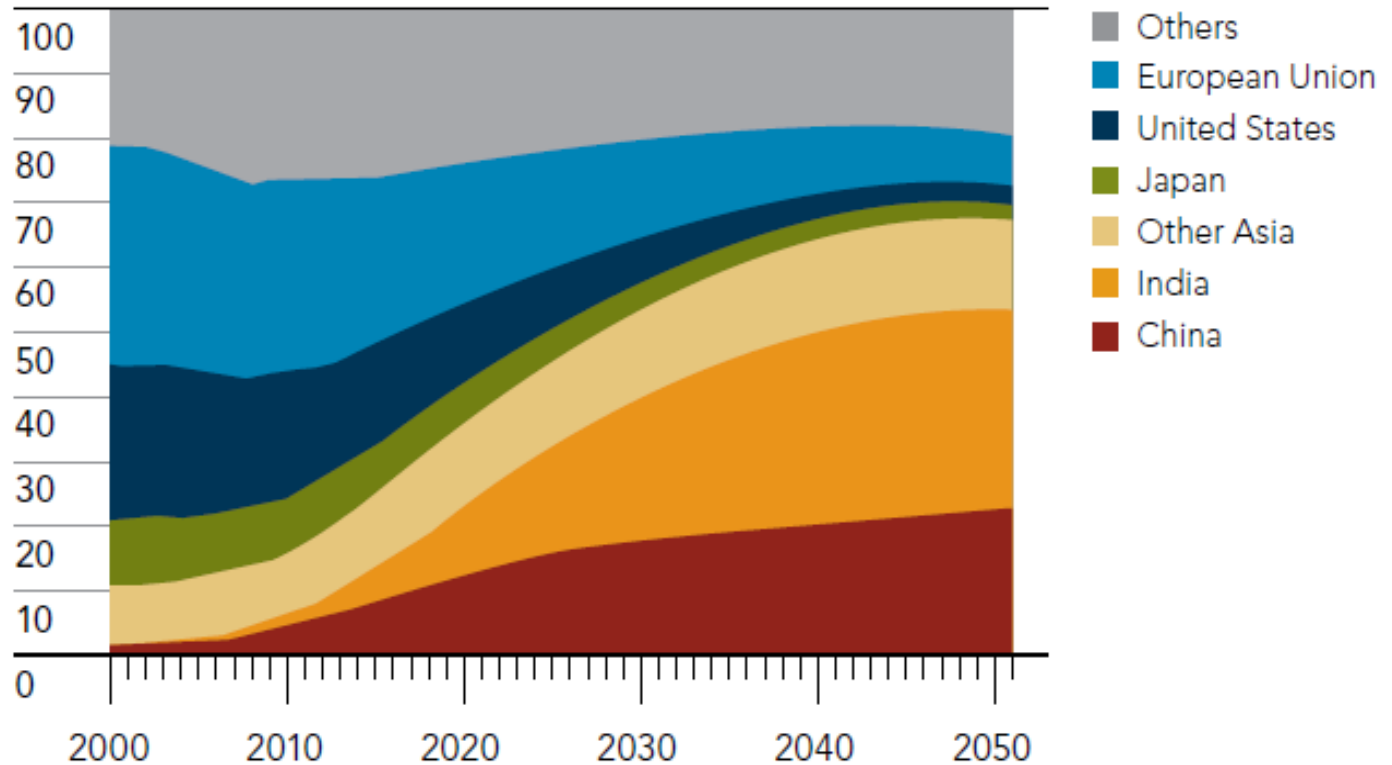
Some Global Trends:
marker of vulnerabilities

Some global trends

(a) Middle-class consumption

SHARES OF GLOBAL MIDDLE CLASS CONSUMPTION, 2000-2050

Percent



Source: OECD

(b) Shifting dietary patterns



Driven by the Green Revolution, American Public Law 480 etc.

Driven by middle class-consumption, class differentiation etc.

Driven by biotechnology, retail power, supermarket revolution etc.

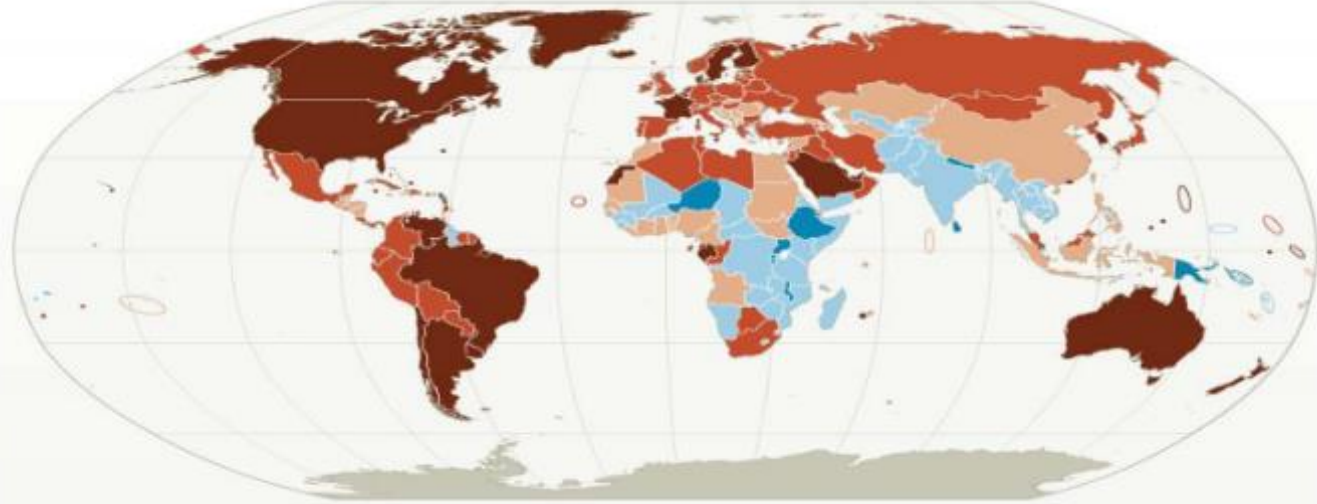
Impacts?

(c) Massive Urbanization

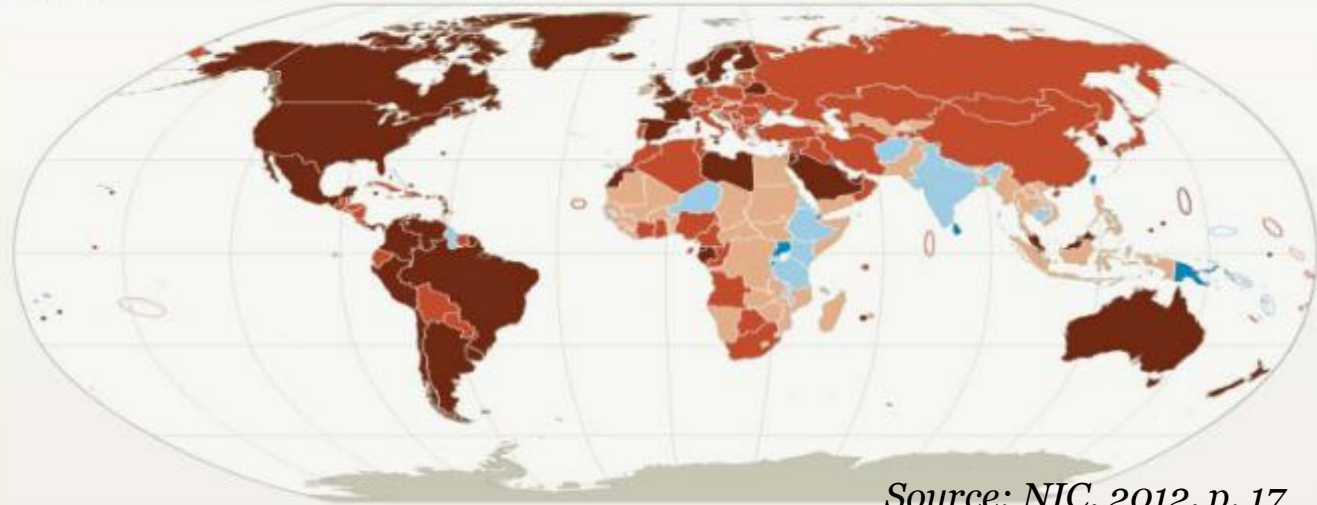


The proportion of the population living in urban areas, 2010 estimates and 2030 projections. Data are drawn from the United Nations Population Division (2010). The criteria that define an urban area were selected by individual states.

2010



2030

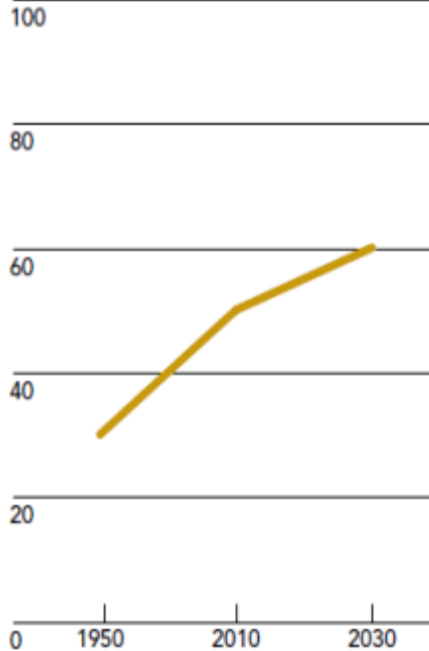


Source: NIC, 2012, p. 17

(d) Urban population

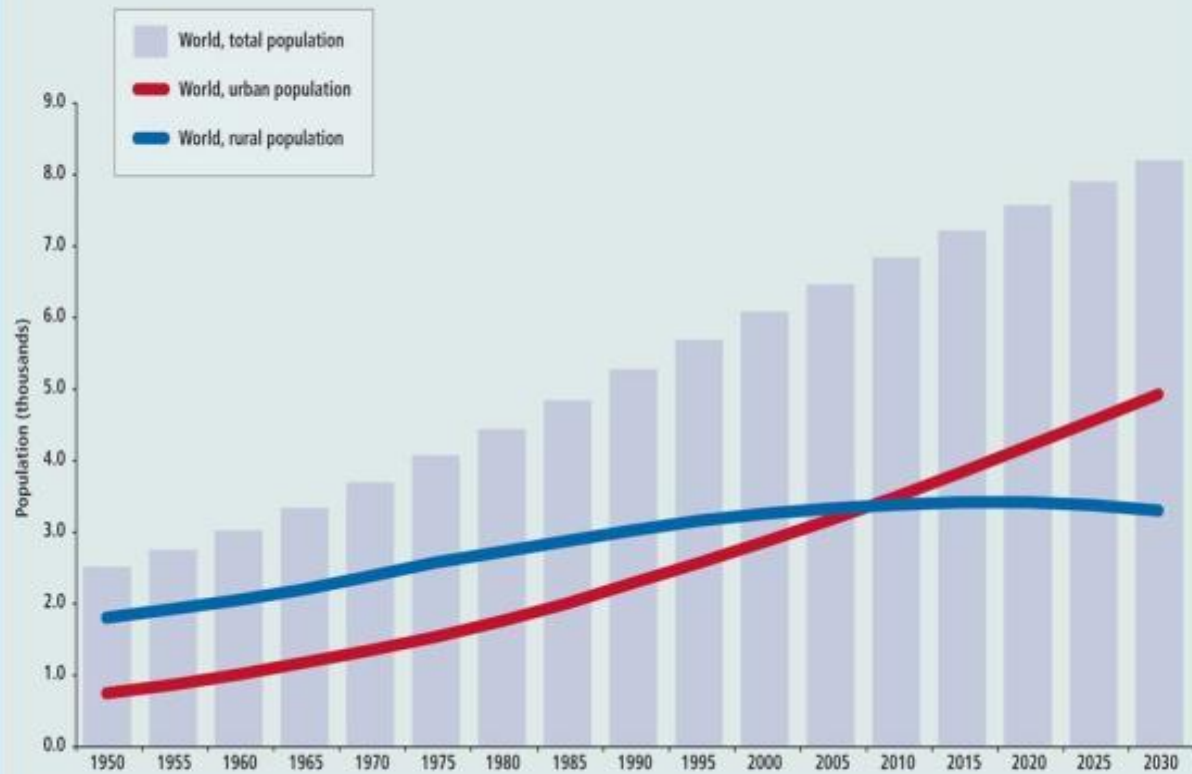
GLOBAL POPULATION IN URBAN AREAS

Percent urban



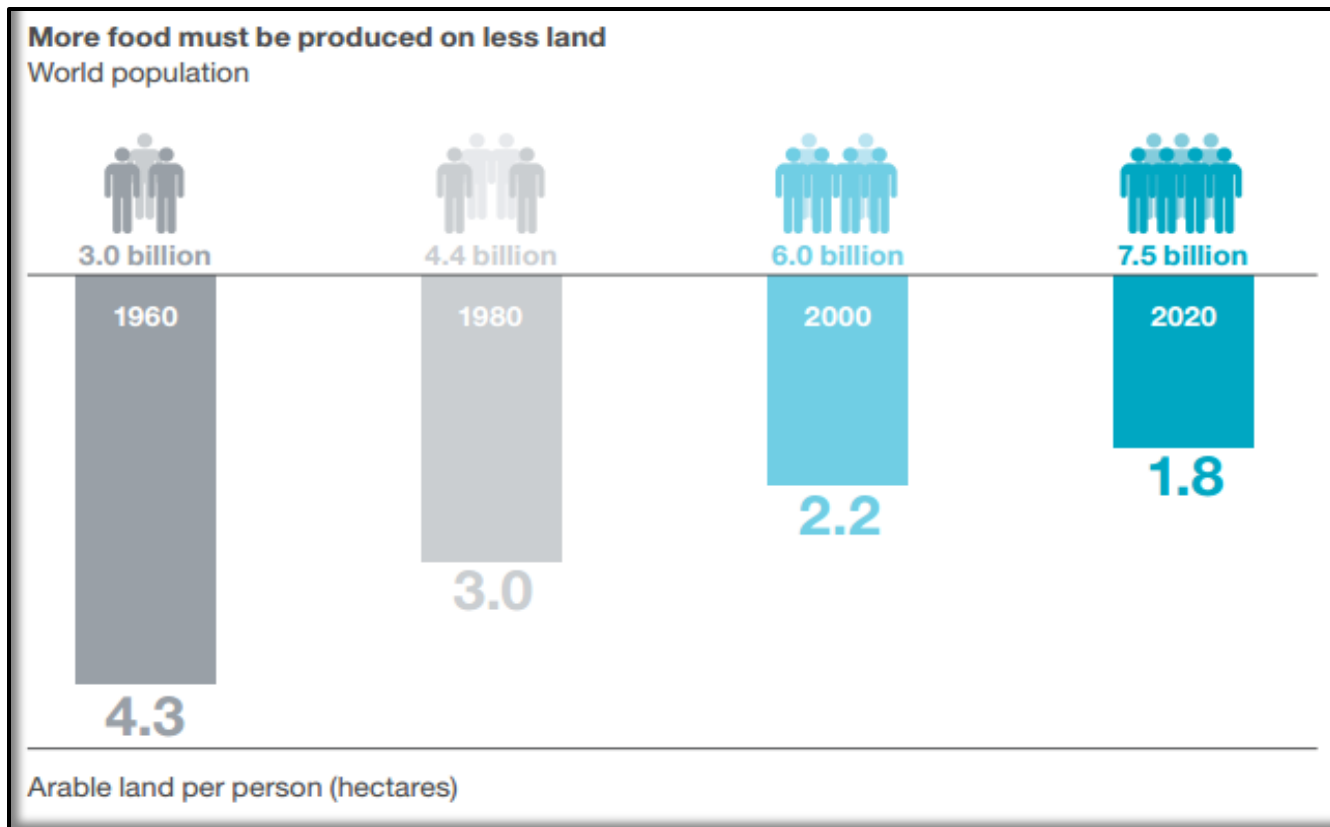
Source: McKinsey Global Institute

The urban and rural population of the world, 1950-2030

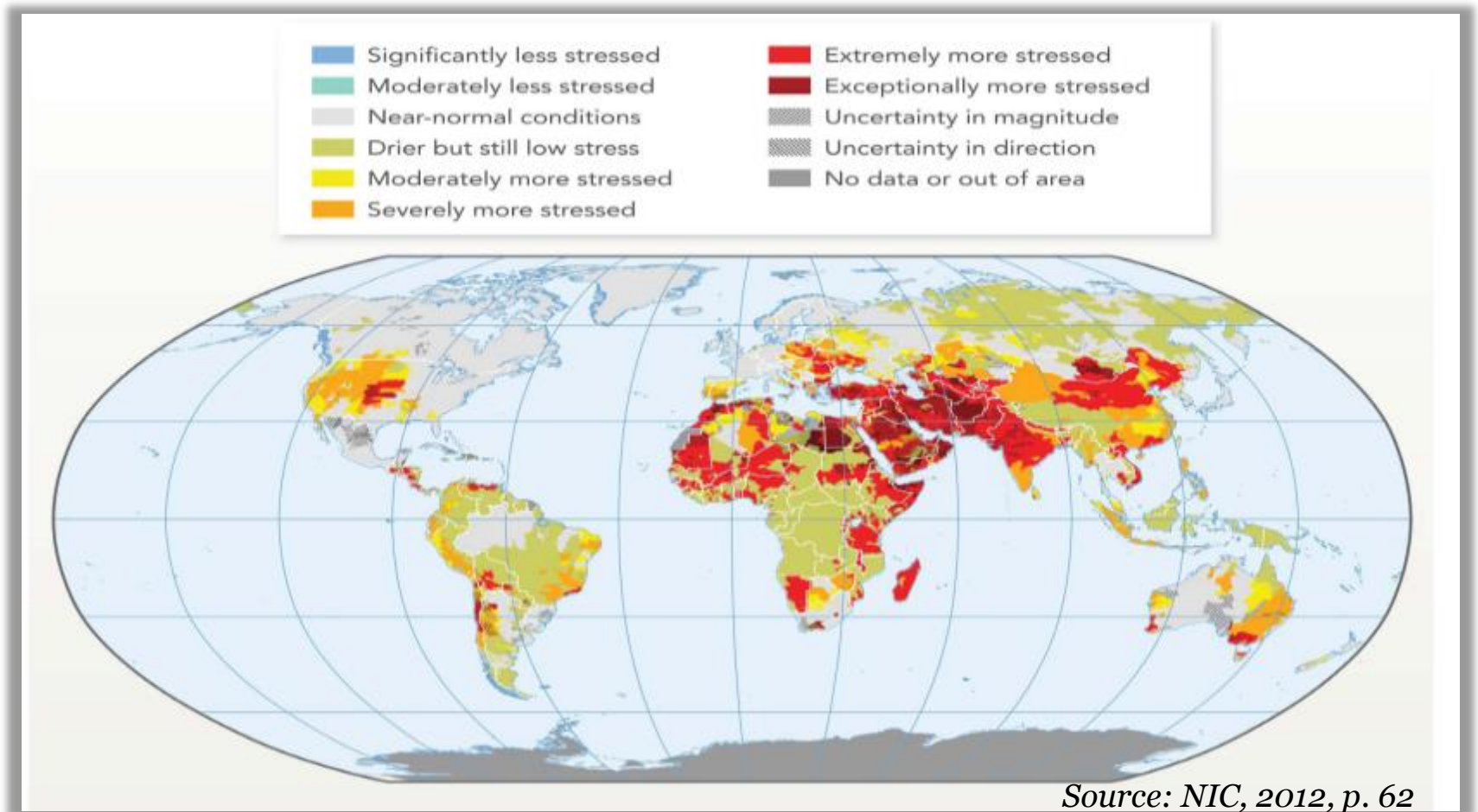


Source: McKinsey Global Institute

Critical Dilemma:



(e) Environmental water scarcity index by basin: high-stress belt by 2030



(f) Increase in environmental problems



- acid rain
- air pollution
- Smog and haze
- deforestation
- global warming
- greenhouse effect
- indoor air pollution
- landfill over-crowding
- low level nuclear wastes
- ozone depletion
- radiation from power lines
- species extinction
- toxic waste dump
- desertification

g) Pandemic and supply chain disruption



Questions



- How can we **tackle the challenges** of urban food security amid global trends like climate change?
- What insights does **Singapore's experience** offer about its resilience and innovative approaches to urban food security?



2.

Importance:

Why Singapore Story?

Importance: Why Singapore Story?

- **Singapore provides an excellent story** to understand urban food security
- Diverse food **supply networks** across the world
- Over **40% food shipments** of agro-food commodities across Asia pacific goes through Singapore ports
- **Great transformation** from a fishing village to food secured metropolitan





Agricultural Hub (1960s)

- produced 60% of its own vegetable demand
- 80 per cent of poultry
- 100 per cent of eggs
- exported pork to neighboring regions



THE STRAITS TIMES

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Singapore tops global index for food security



ST VIDEOS

Mother of US shooting

1. **Singapore: 85.9**
2. Ireland: 85.5
3. UK: 85.0
3. United States: 85.0
5. Netherlands: 84.7
6. Australia: 83.7
7. Switzerland: 83.5
8. Finland: 83.3
9. Canada: 83.2
10. France: 82.9

Source: *The Economist Intelligence Unit 2018.*



3.
Foodscape:
Singapore's Current
Food Situation

(a) A general overview:

- **Population:** 6.05 million
- **Land area:** 750 square km
- **Land for food production:** 1%
- **Priority:** building a modern and urbanized city



Farms and Farming Area

Year	2002	2003	2004	2005	2006	2007	2008	2009	2010	2011
Licensed Farms (No.)	263	268	267	266	256	264	248	248	250	250
Farming Area (ha)	807	815	806	769	746	764	738	734	739	729

- The total farming area has **declined by more than 9.5%** since 2002

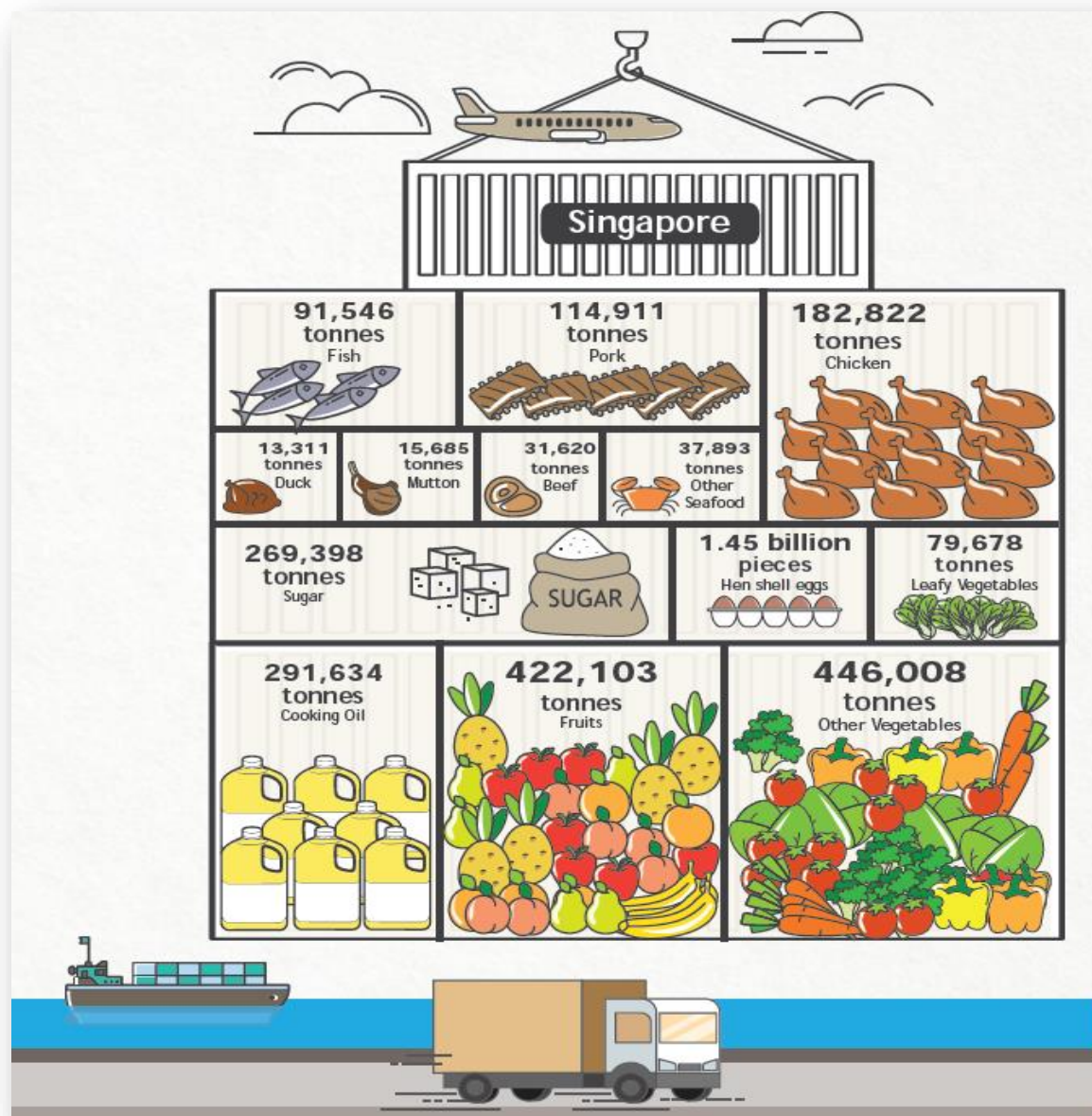
(b) Singapore's Food Needs:

Per Capita Consumption		
Item	2002	2011
Chicken (kg)	28	33
Pork (kg)	18	19
Beef (kg)	4	5
Mutton (kg)	2	2
Fish(kg)	25	21
Vegetables (kg)	89	95
Fruits (kg)	87	66
Hen eggs (pcs)	282	308



Source: Agri-food and veterinary authority of Singapore (AVA)

**Major Food Items
Imported by
Singapore in 2017-
18 (AVA 2018)**



(c) Singapore's Global Food Supply Network

[Major sources, list not exhaustive]



Brazil (46%), Malaysia (37%),
USA (13%), Argentina,
Denmark, China, Australia



Indonesia (21%), Vietnam (19%),
Malaysia (15%), Norway,
Thailand, China, Singapore



Brazil (31%), Indonesia (20%),
Australia (10%), Netherlands,
China, Canada, Mexico, USA



Malaysia (72%), Singapore
(26%), Ukraine, Thailand, New
Zealand, United States



Brazil (54%), Australia (27%),
New Zealand (8%), USA, Japan



Malaysia (41%), China (27%),
India (7%), Australia, Singapore,
USA, Thailand, Indonesia



Australia (90%), New Zealand
(9%), USA, UK, Ireland,
Argentina



Thailand (35%), India (32%),
Indonesia, Vietnam, United
States

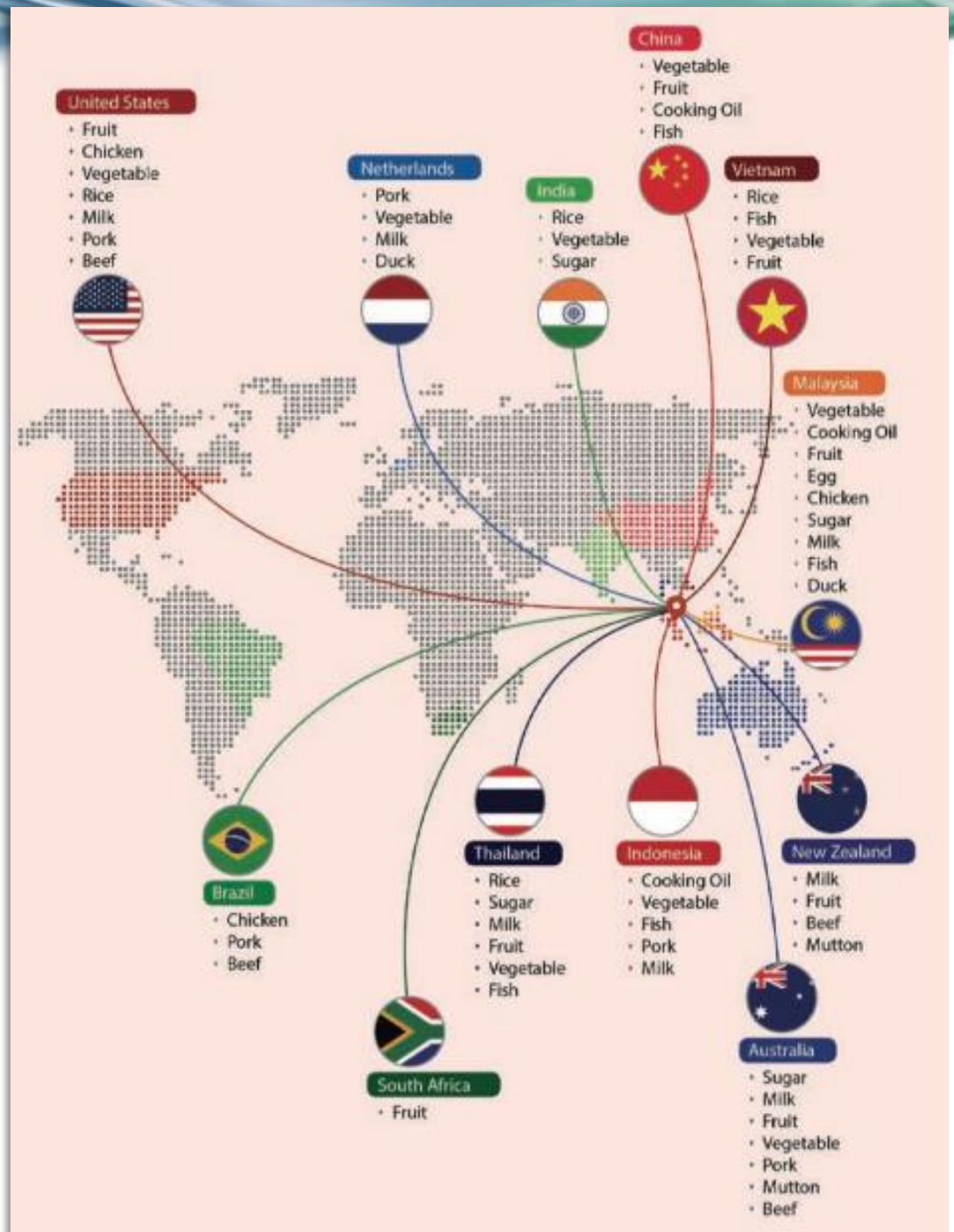


Malaysia (94%), Ireland (4%),
Thailand, France, Hungary



Malaysia (39%), China (11%),
South Africa (8%), Philippines,
Australia, United States

Singapore's food supply network (by country)





4.
**Singapore's Innovative
Solutions**

Singapore's innovative solutions for food security



Safe Food For All



1. Singapore Food fund & 30 by 30
2. R&D hub
3. Vertical fish farming
4. Jilin Food Zone
5. Urban & Peri-Urban Agriculture
6. R&D of local fisheries
7. Reducing Food Wastage
8. Lowest tariffs on agriculture imports
9. Diversification
10. The Singapore Food Agency
11. Cultured meat and new food

Summary:

Singapore's Food Security Roadmap

Core strategies		Supporting strategies
Diversify sources of imports		R&D
Invest abroad	Industry development	Food wastage reduction
Strategies offsetting limitations in diversification		Strengthen infrastructure
Local production	Stockpiling	Financial instruments
		Welfare
Enabling strategies		
Cross-government coordination		
Emergency planning		
Communication		
Market and KPI monitoring		
Fiscal, legal and regulatory framework		

Future of farming in Singapore

Sky Greens



*At **Sky Greens**, leafy vegetables are grown vertically in 9-metre-tall towers (5 times more productivity)*



*At **Panasonic Factory Solutions**, indoor vertical farming makes climate control possible. Output is multiplied as the space and essential conditions for plant growth can be optimized*



Dr Koh Poh Koon, Minister of State for National Development and Trade & Industry (7 March 2017), said:

- *“Our modern farmers should be more appropriately called ‘agri-technologists’ or ‘agri-specialists’. We will need a generation of ‘agri-specialists’ with multi-disciplinary expertise...*
- *(Farming) will no longer just be about toiling in the sun doing manual labour but also about engineering, info-communications technology, entrepreneurship, and R&D.”*
- *We envision farms will make use of integrated vertical and indoor systems, automation and robots.”*

Sustainable water

Four Strategies for a hydrated nation:

- Importation
- Desalinization plants
- Efficient catchment of rainwater
- Recycling of sewage: [NEWater](#)





5. Critical Areas



Critical Areas (for improvements)

- **State-led ecological modernization** needs more room for civic engagement
- **Diversification** leads too much carbon food prints
- **Food waste** costs about \$1 billion a year
- **Food security of the producers** can be incorporated into its food policy framework



Thank You