

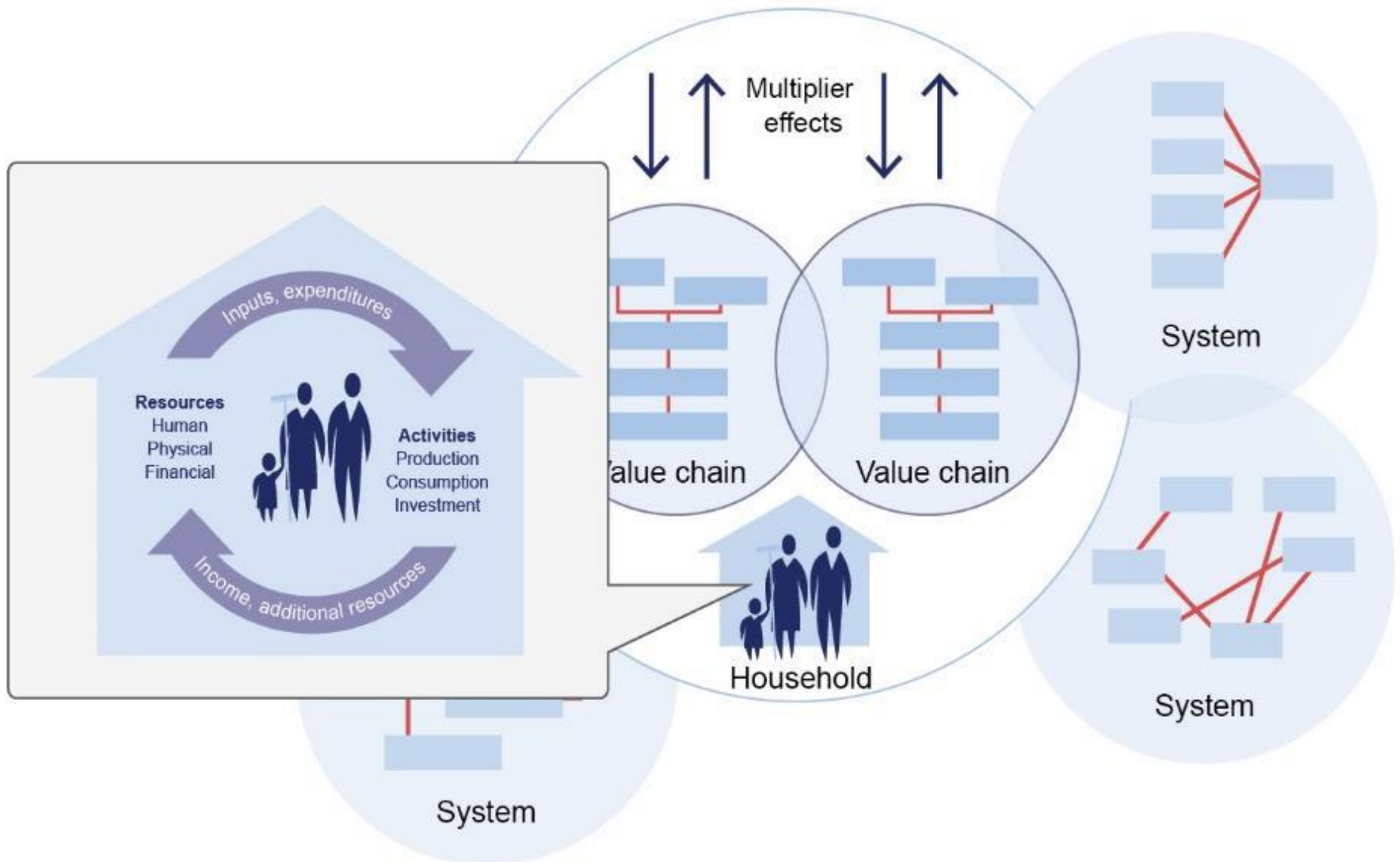
# **Agricultural Market Systems Programming with Young Parents To Reduce Stunting**

Dan Norell  
World Vision

# Nutrition & Livelihoods Programming in DFAPs

- The highest level indicator for DFAPs is reducing stunting (low height-for-age)
- **Percentage** of stunted children aged 0-59 months
- Whatever agriculture & livelihoods project activities we design there needs to be a contribution to reducing stunting

# Market Systems Development Framework



# Nutrition, Market Systems & Young Parents

- The parents of many 0-2 year olds are youth (15-24 year olds).
- Any agricultural market systems development programming we do in DFAPs needs to contribute to reducing stunting and malnutrition in 0-2 year olds

# Young Moms

- Constraints
  - Time poverty
  - Power differential with older spouses
  - More likely to be malnourished if she gives birth before 18
- Opportunities
  - Healthy timing and spacing of pregnancies (2 years breast feeding and then pregnancy)
  - Gender dialogue → improved intra-household financial decision making
  - Savings Groups → empower young moms & dads
  - Care groups + Savings Groups → nutrition & wealth status increases

# Young Dads

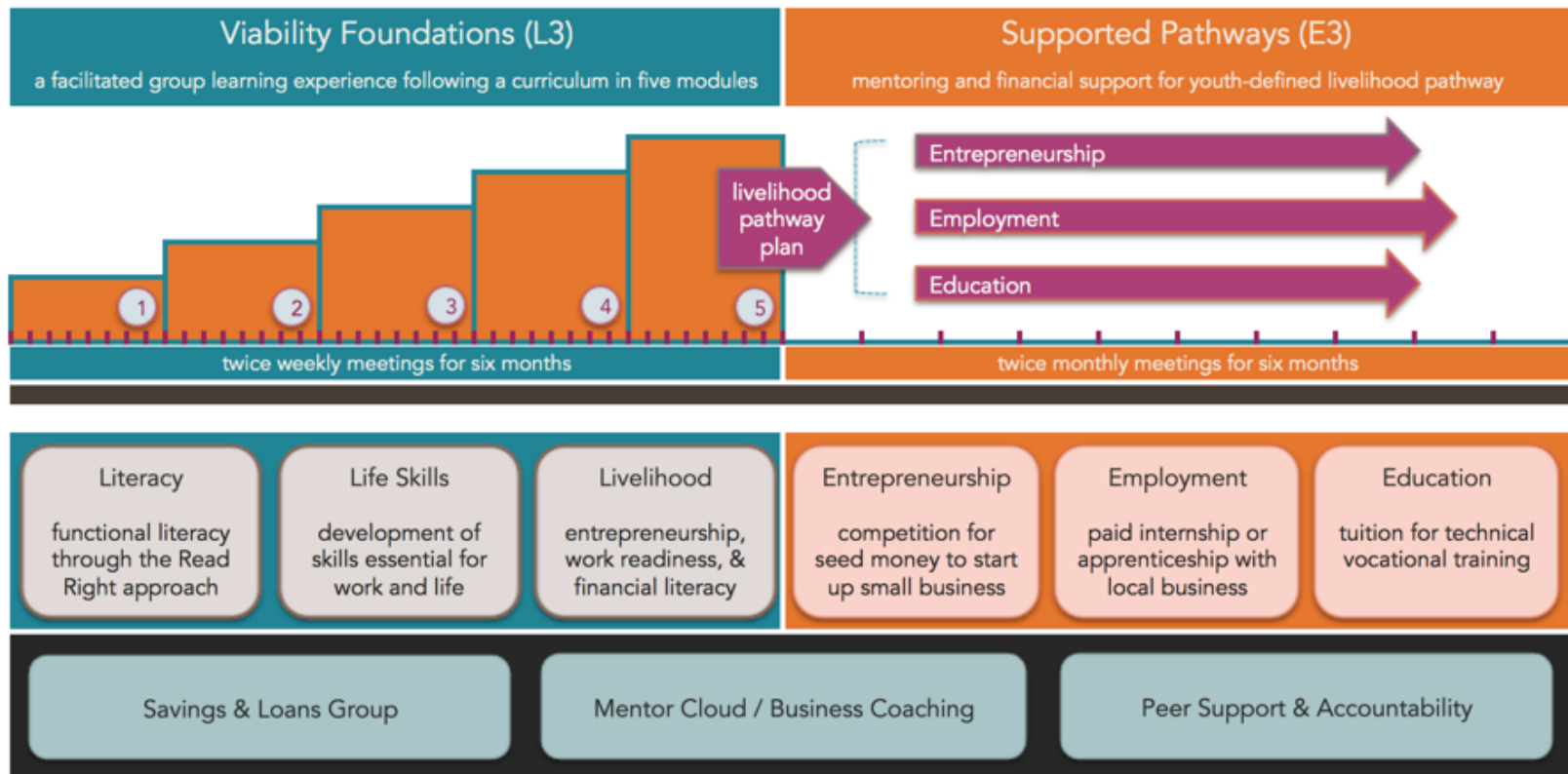
- Constraints
  - Low earning power because of the lack of education
  - Lack of access to land and technology
  - Aversion to risk taking
- Opportunities
  - Alternative livelihoods in services such as spraying
  - Village agents in markets

# Youth Livelihood Models





## One Year Viability Journey



# The Skills and Knowledge for Youth Economic Empowerment (SKYE) Clubs

- **SKYE Club Meetings**
  - SKYE Club Facilitator
  - Use experiential training methodologies
- **Community Service-Learning Projects**
  - Identify community problems and market opportunities
  - Implement social entrepreneurship-learning projects
  - Social change + applying skills

# Examples of Youth Sensitive Food Security Projects





# Youth in Market Systems in DFAPs – ENSURE in Zimbabwe

- 20.4 years is project area average age of mother's first birth
- 47 years for women's' average age of participants in agriculture and livelihood activities
- Farming as a Business
- Farmer Field School + Care group approach
- Training agro-dealers
- Market linkages for young farmers

# LAHIA DFAP in Niger

- Increased women's role in livelihoods diversification and protection
- Linking young moms in savings groups to nutrition groups
- 17.9 years is the average age of mothers' at first birth
- Average age of agricultural beneficiaries of project is 39 years
- 70% women in Farmer Field Schools
- Recruit youth to be village agents – selling seed and providing technical advice to local farmers

# Bangladesh DFAP – Nobo Jatra

- Purpose: Increased equitable access to income and nutritious food for both males and females
- 18.1 year is the national average age of mothers at first birth
- 15.1 years is the median age of females' marriage
- Graduation programming

# How Can Youth Be Engaged in Agricultural Market Systems to Improve Food Security?

- Gender dialogue training → better financial decision making
- Savings Groups for young moms & dads
- Alternative livelihoods such as spraying or village agents in markets – fees from bulking input purchases and production sales



# Thank You!