

Program Quality and Policy Impediments: Using Food Aid to Address Malnutrition

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Feinstein
International Center

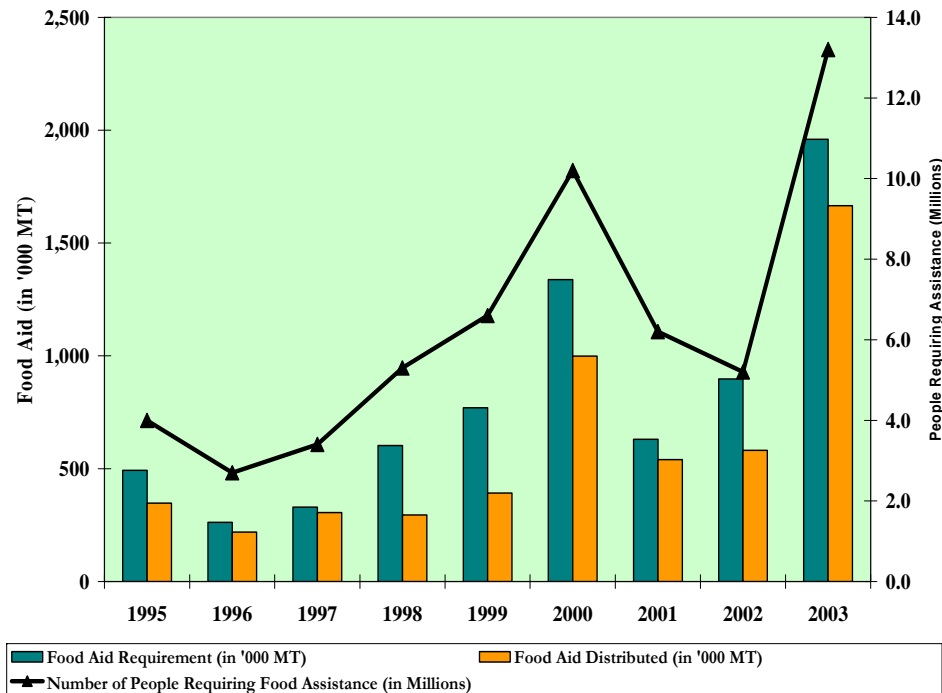
Program Effectiveness*

1. Targeting
2. Timing
3. Analysis Capacity
4. Using the appropriate mix of inputs to address malnutrition
5. Linking short-term & long-term response

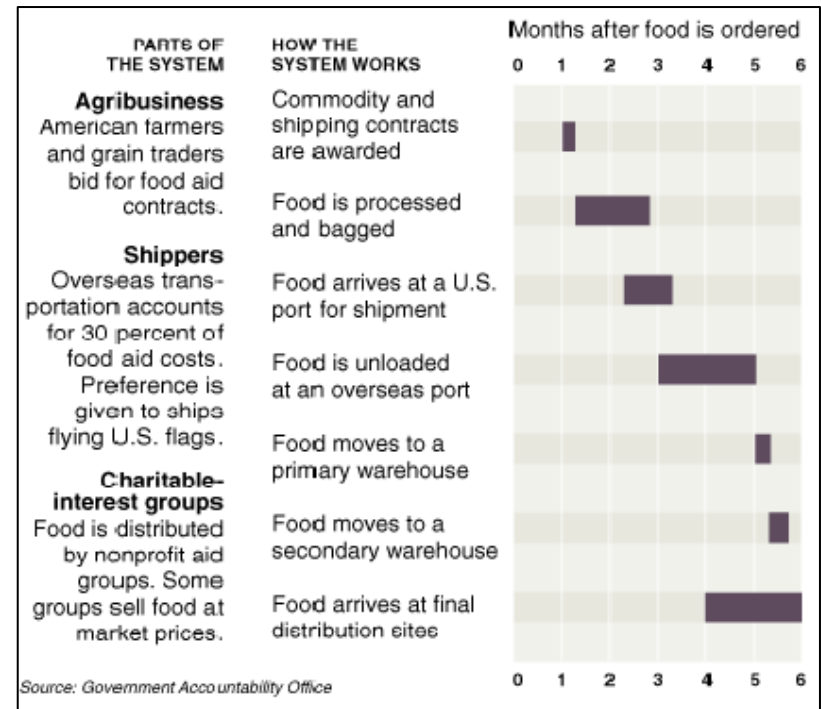


*leaving out ration quality and food basket questions
– addressed by others

Coverage and Timeliness Concerns

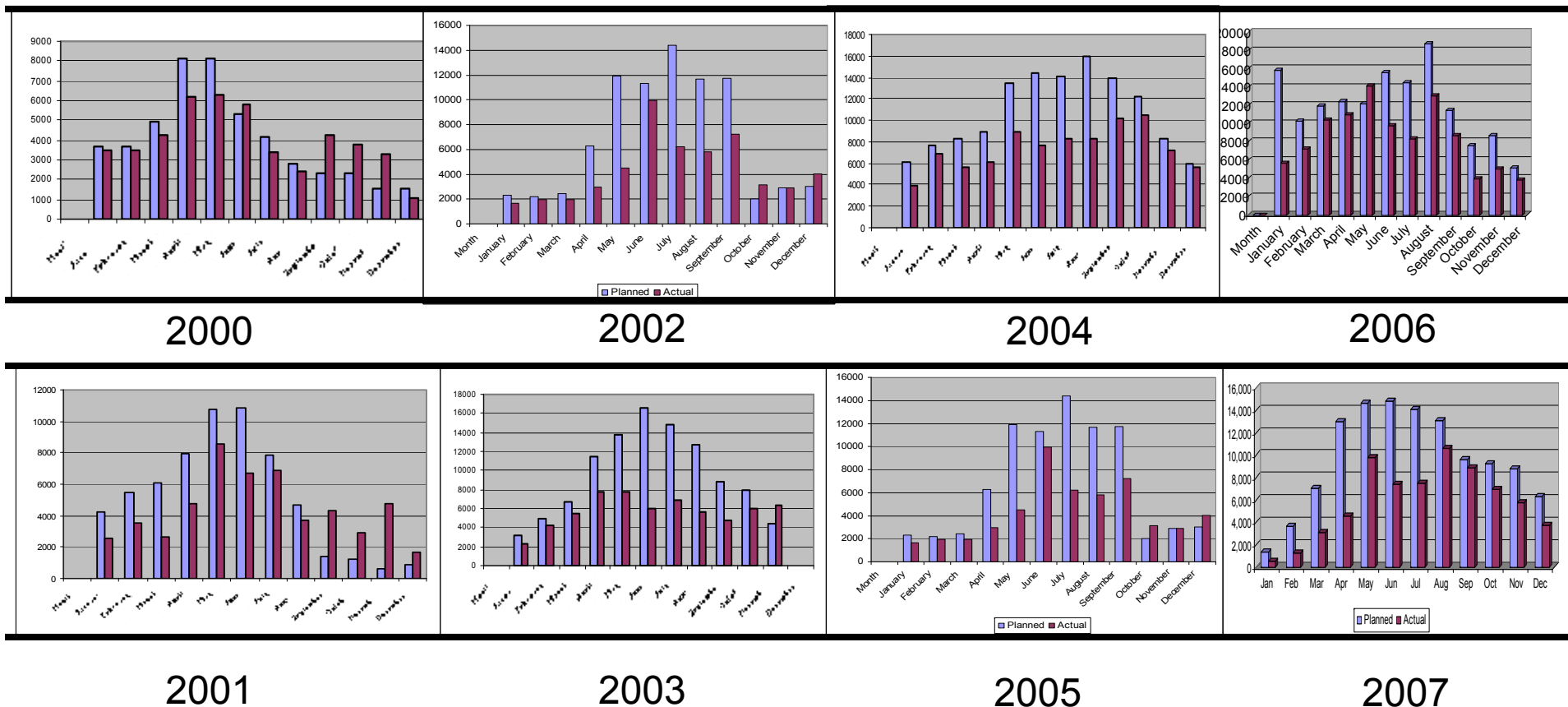


Under-coverage:
Shortfalls over time in Ethiopia



Timeliness Of US Food Aid:
Delays constitute an “exclusion error”

Timing Concerns



Source: WFP (Southern Sudan)



Analysis and Response

1. Analysis Capacity

- Assessment
- M&E

2. Appropriate mix of inputs

- Food? Or something else?
- If food, how best to provide?

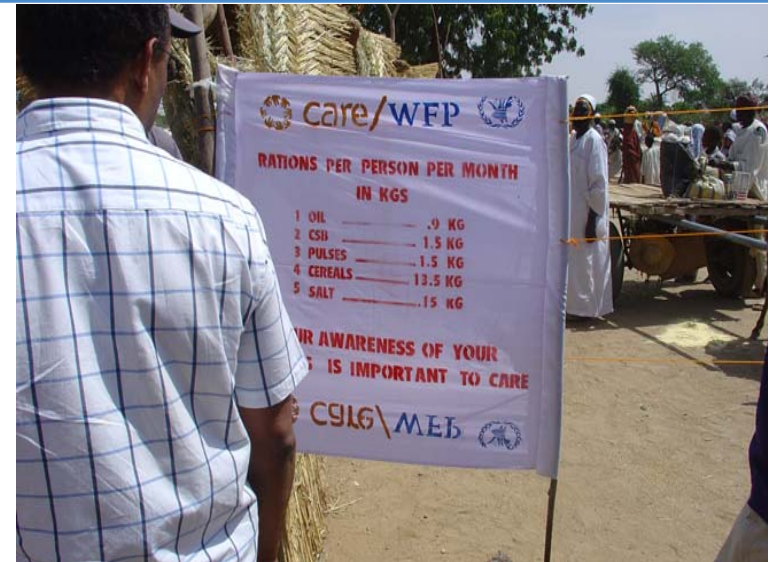
3. Linking short-term & long-term response



Policy Impediments

1. Food aid is an increasingly scarce and valuable resource

- But used for lots of things ...
- Current system very inefficient



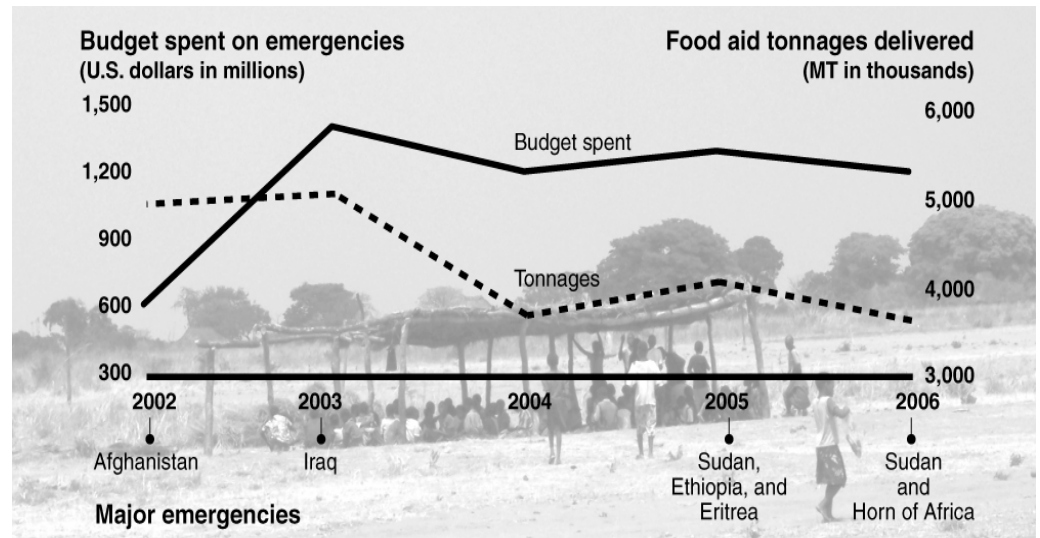
2. Limited flexibility for the use of food aid

Inefficiency Issues

GAO Report:

\$0.35 of food delivered for every \$1.00 of US taxpayer money

Budgets up, deliveries down by 43% 2002-2006



Source: GAO analysis of USAID and USDA budget data.
Note: Emergency funding reflects USAID only.

Source: GAO. 2007. Foreign Assistance. Various Challenges Impede the Efficiency and Effectiveness of U.S. Food Aid. Washington, GAO.

Flexibility

US Food Aid:

1. Inflexible resources

- Cash or in-kind assistance
- Local/regional purchase or trans-oceanic shipment

2. Poor flexibility in adapting to short-term conditions

- Rapid onset emergencies



Thank you

