
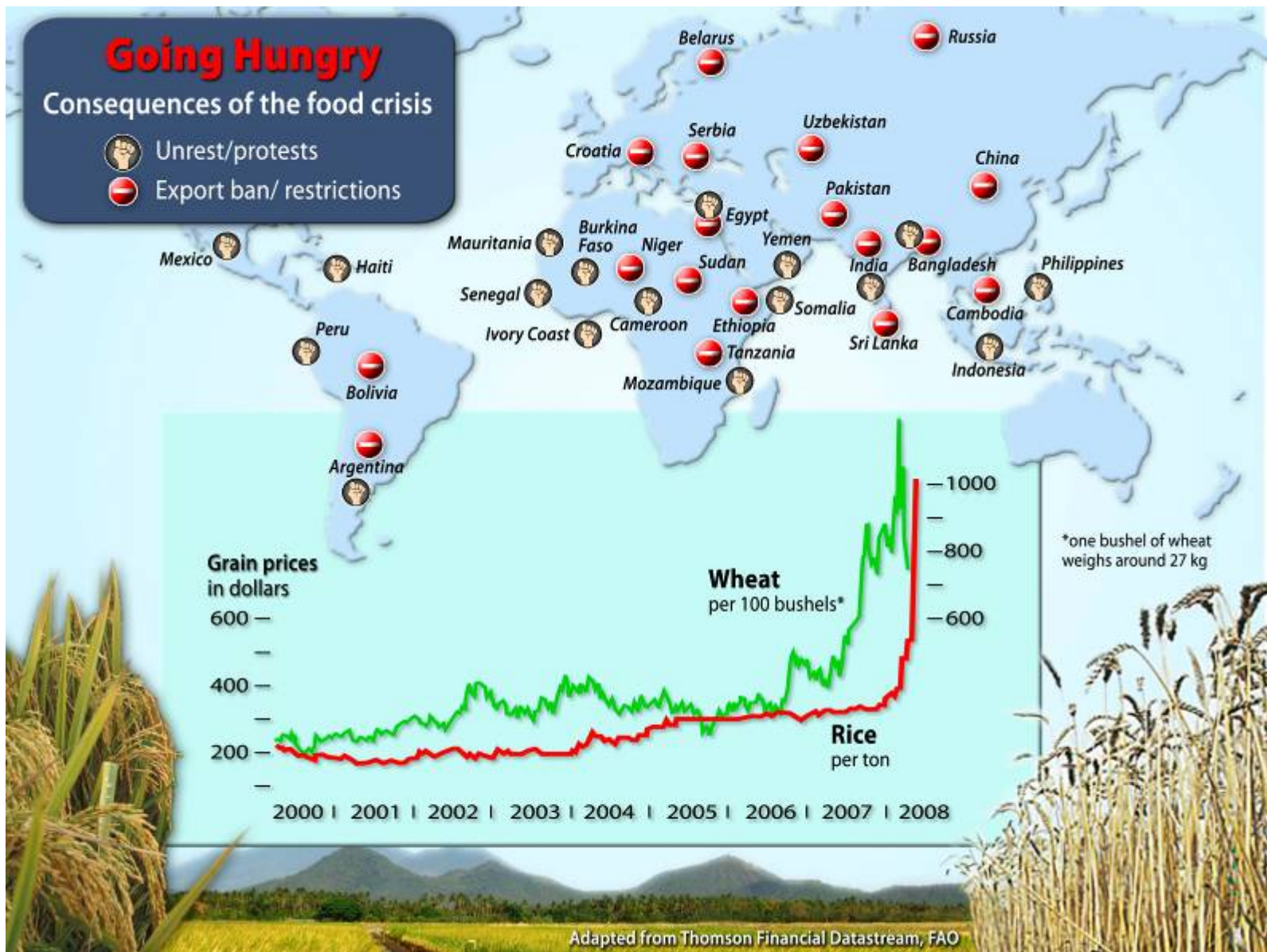


# Going Hungry

## Consequences of the food crisis

-  Unrest/protests
-  Export ban/restrictions



Adapted from Thomson Financial Datastream, FAO

Monday, July 02, 1973

\$3.50

# TIME

IN PARTNERSHIP WITH



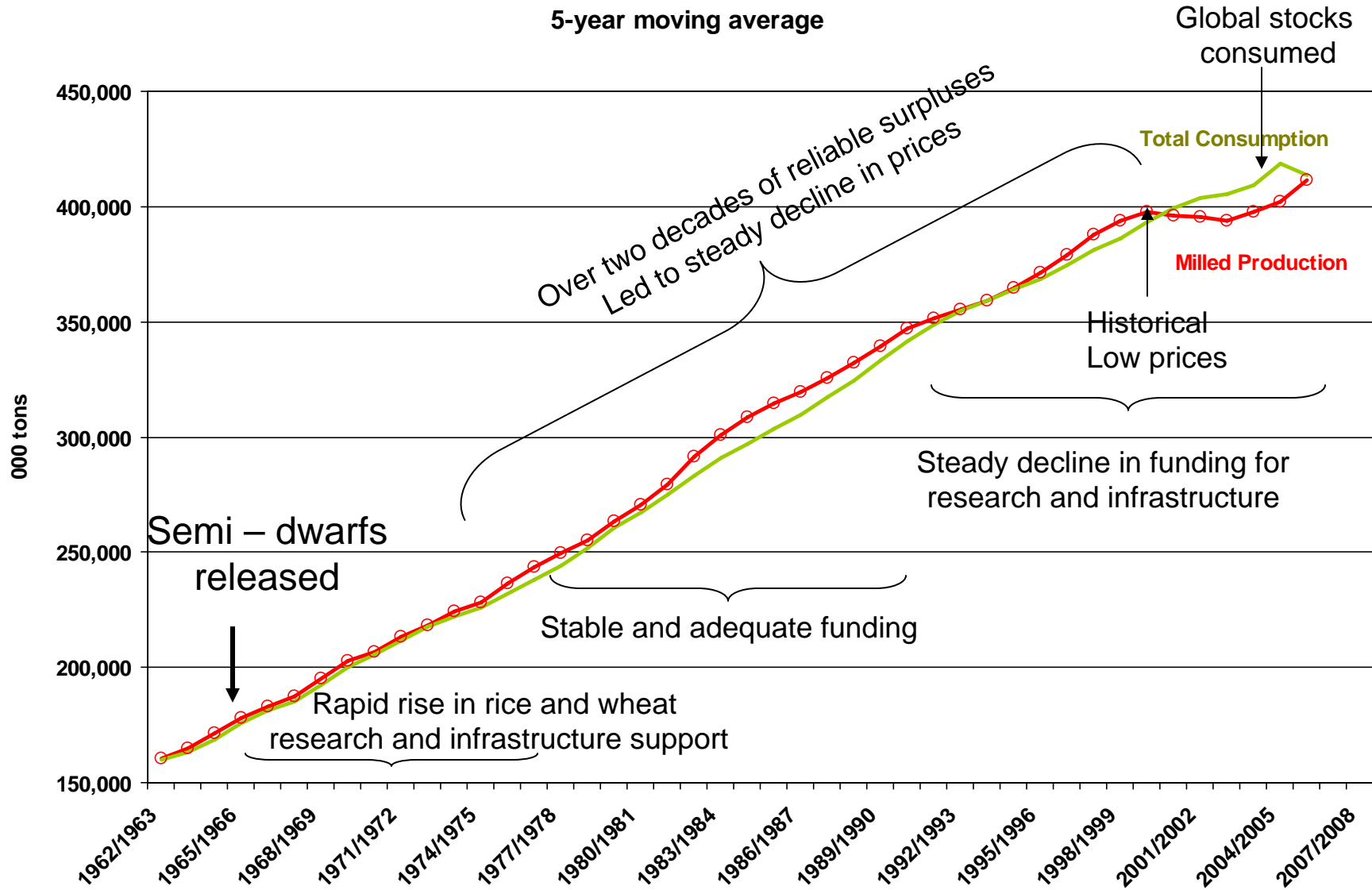
**A Rice Crisis Is Boiling**

## **Rice is life**

itself in Southeast Asia, and this year, there is not enough to go around. Last year's bad weather has turned the region's usual bare sufficiency into severe shortage.

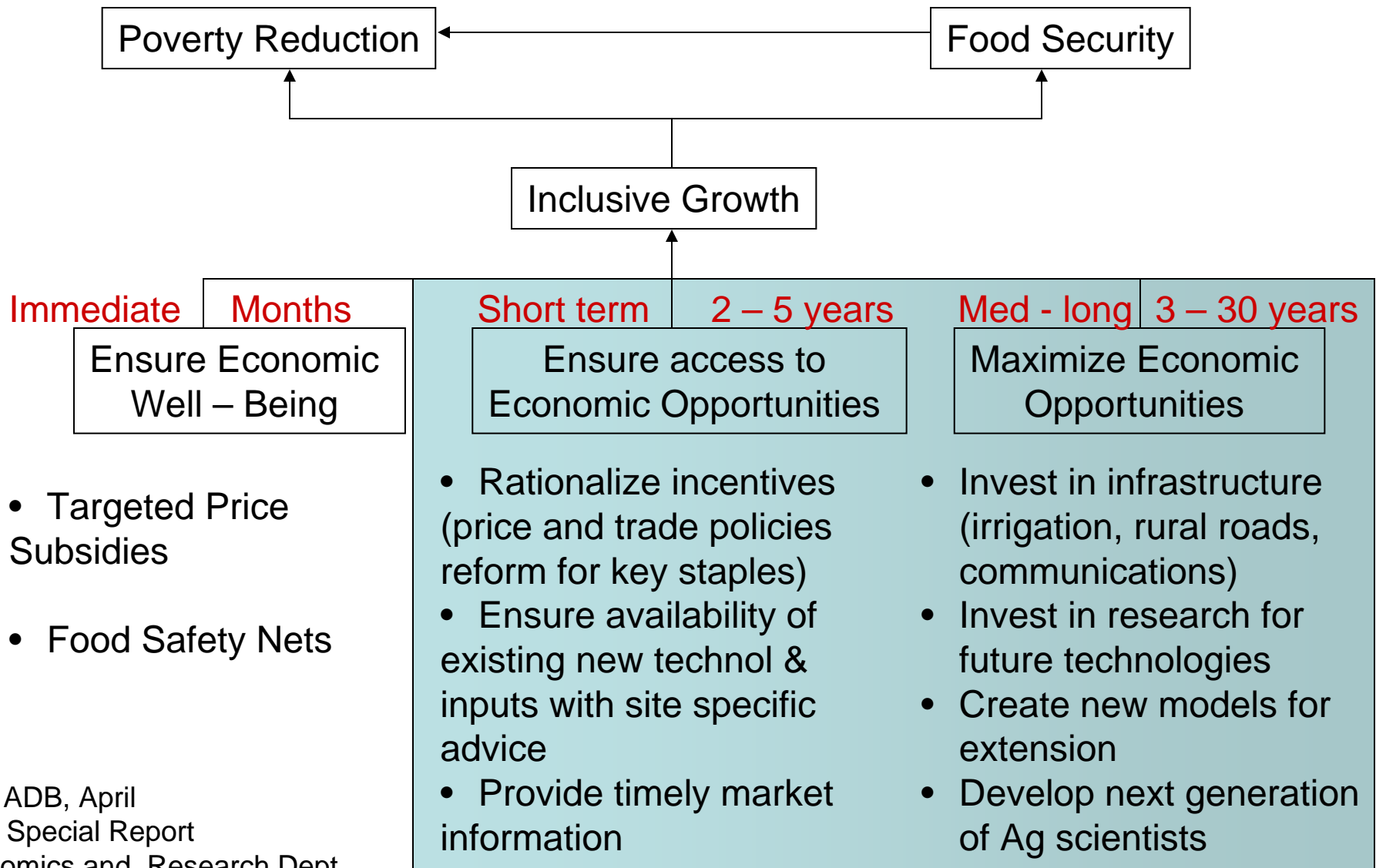
**The result: smuggling, hoarding, soaring prices and hungry people.**

# Race between production and consumption, funding and prices: IRRI's budget as a proxy for global investments in R&D and infrastructure



Source of rawdata: USDA, 16 April 2008

# Dealing with the current food crisis and preventing the next: Inclusive growth through improvements in agriculture



After ADB, April  
2008 Special Report  
Economics and Research Dept.

# The Big Picture?

- Regain Focus on Productivity
  - Poverty Reduction/Food Security
- Preserve the Resource Base for Present and Future Generations
- Understand the Social/Gender and Political Dimensions of the First Two

Very long – range goals that are subject to the application of the latest In science and technology and require long – term investments

# Translating Into Action: e.g. CGIAR & Partners

## Fully exploit past investments

- Close existing yield gaps
  - Better seed, pest and fertility management
- Reduce post harvest losses
- Improve varietal distribution and adoption

Cost for IRRI alone:  
Additional \$17 M per year

## Fully engage cutting edge science

- Develop new technologies to raise yield potential
  - Improved yield, pest resistance, and NR management
- Tap into genetic diversity (10% done!)
- New generation of Ag scientists
- Conducive policy/social environment

# What will it cost globally?

2005 IFPRI estimate: Investments for rapid agriculture production growth to meet MDG 1 requires a boost of 50% in agricultural productivity growth

Incremental investments:

\$16 billion per year, 2005-15 for agricultural research, rural roads, irrigation infrastructure [assumes continued policy reform and enhanced economic growth]

~ \$8 billion for SSA

\$5 billion for South Asia,

\$3 billion for others

2008 updated estimate would need to take account of

- of changed US\$ value, changed economic and poverty circumstances
- might be up to twice the above quoted values, \$30 billion/yr

# The World Will Be Supportive

The Green Revolution is generally believed to have saved over one billion lives over five decades, making it arguably the single – most effective philanthropic initiative in human history.

The New York Times

March 9, 2008

Since the way to feed the world is not to bring more land under cultivation, but to increase yields, Science is crucial.

The Economist “The Silent Tsunami” April 19, 2008

Thank You

# IRRI budget, 1960-2007, US\$ 2007

