

Adaptation of the BIA-Obesity framework to assess the role of the food industry in addressing the double burden of malnutrition

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Purpose

- The **Business Impact Assessment on Obesity and population level nutrition (BIA-Obesity)** is a framework developed by the International Network for Food and Obesity/Non-communicable Diseases Research, Monitoring and Action Support (INFORMAS).
- The aim of BIA-Obesity is to systematically **assess and benchmark formal food industry policies and action** and to **develop** evidence-informed **recommendations** for food industry actors.
- The term '**double burden of malnutrition**' (DBM) describes the co-existence of various forms of malnutrition within an individual over the life course, at the household level or in communities or entire populations.
- As BIA-Obesity focuses on obesity and unhealthy diets, it is the **objective** of this research to **adapt this framework for countries facing a DBM**.

Expected results

- Compared to similar frameworks, the adapted BIA-Obesity framework will:
 - Be **less resource intensive** and more easily implementable in countries affected by a DBM (staged approach).
 - Assess the **entire range of the formal food industry** (food wholesalers, food and beverage manufacturers, food retailers, caterers, and quick-service-restaurants) – producing a comprehensive picture of its role in addressing the DBM.

Methods

- A **scoping review to identify and map recommendations for and best practices by the formal food industry to address undernutrition and food insecurity** (in isolation or as part of broader strategies to address the DBM).
- Inclusion criteria:**
 - Study designs:** any form of academic and grey literature
 - Population:** individuals of any age with undernutrition, with or without other co-existing forms of malnutrition
 - Concept:** recommendations and/or best practices and/or lived experiences of the formal food industry
 - Context:** any context (e.g. country, community) where formal food industry actors operate and where a relevant burden of undernutrition/DBM exists
- We will use the results of the scoping review to adapt the BIA-Obesity framework to the DBM by adding, revising, and potentially removing existing indicators to the currently six domains (see Figure 1) based on a **Delphi survey with relevant experts**.

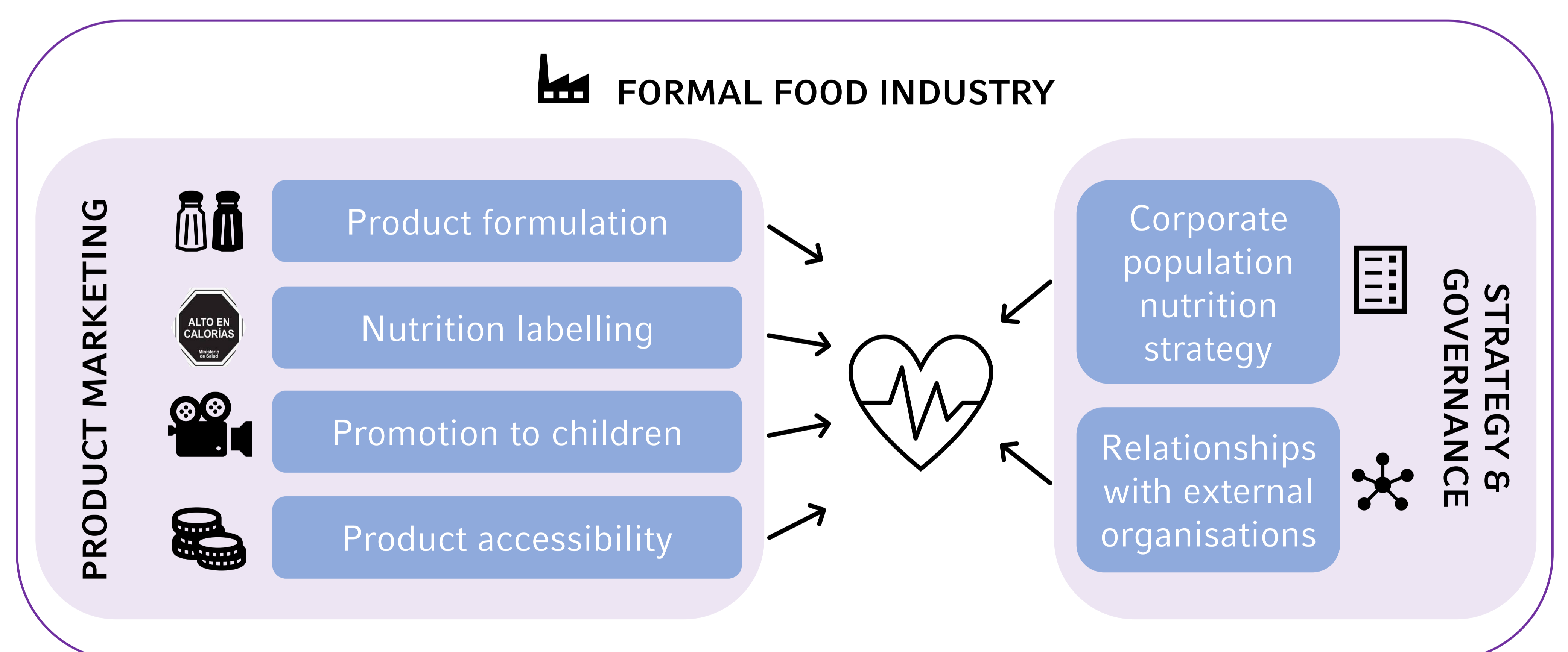


Figure 1: Commercial determinants of population nutrition – current domains of the INFORMAS BIA-Obesity framework (own illustration, based on Sacks G, et al. 2019)

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