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The U.S. Government's Global Hunger & Food Security Initiative

Can urbanization be the a grand opportunity for rural economic growth?

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USAID Bureau for Food Security

Southeast Asia Vegetable Symposium
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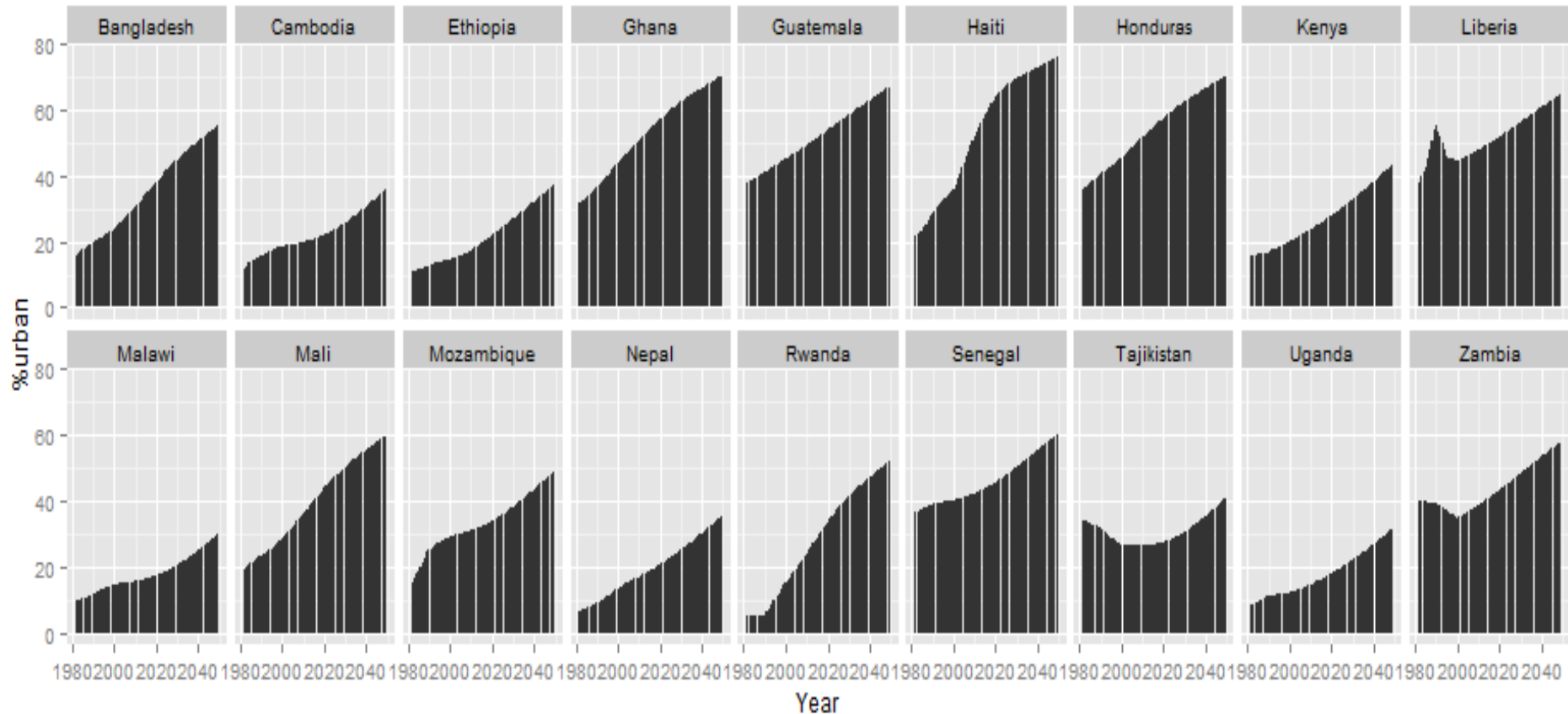
The Opportunity



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Every Feed the Future country will continue to urbanize over the coming decades.

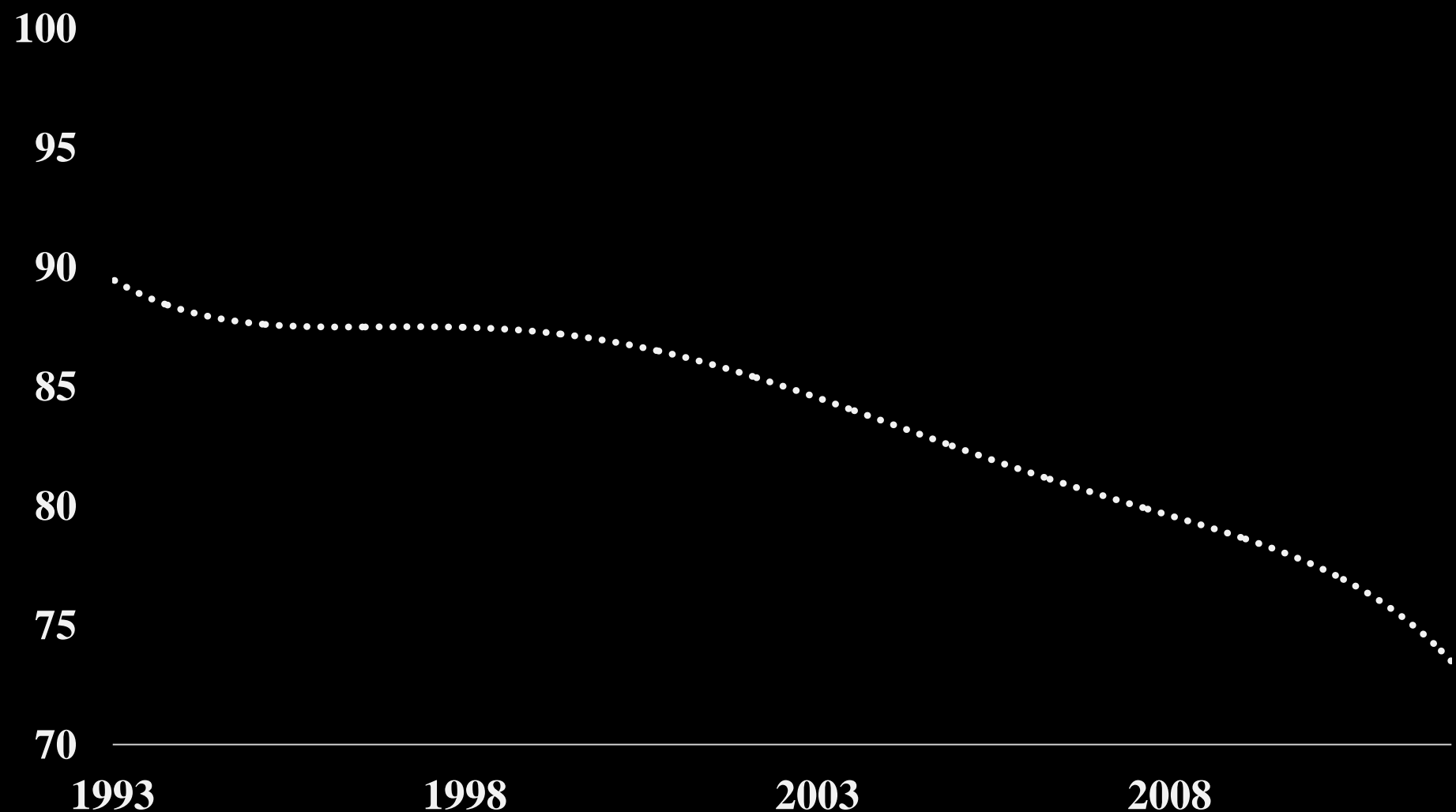




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The percent of population in poverty in LICs is rapidly declining

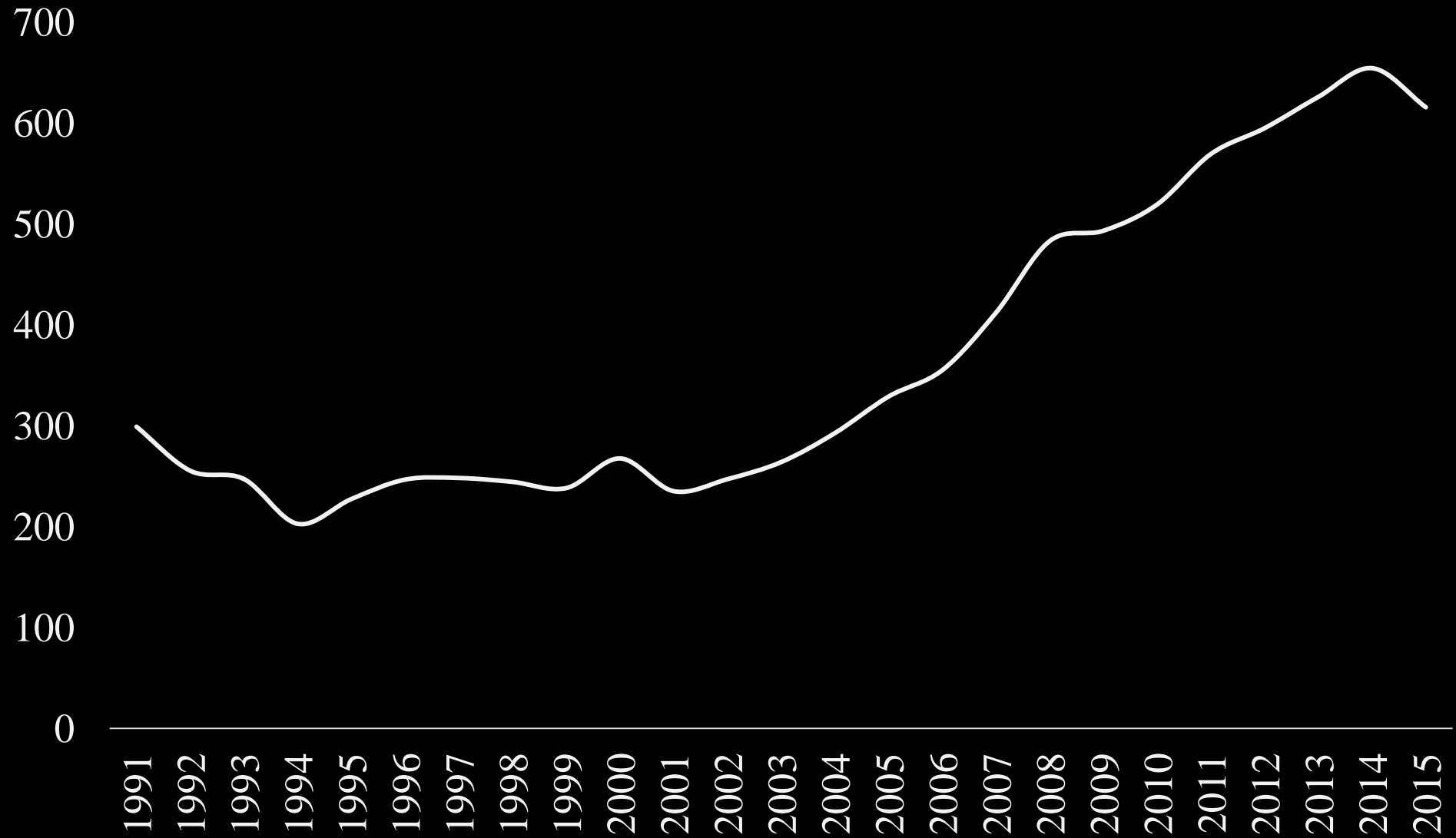




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GDP per capita (current US\$) increased after 2000 in LICs

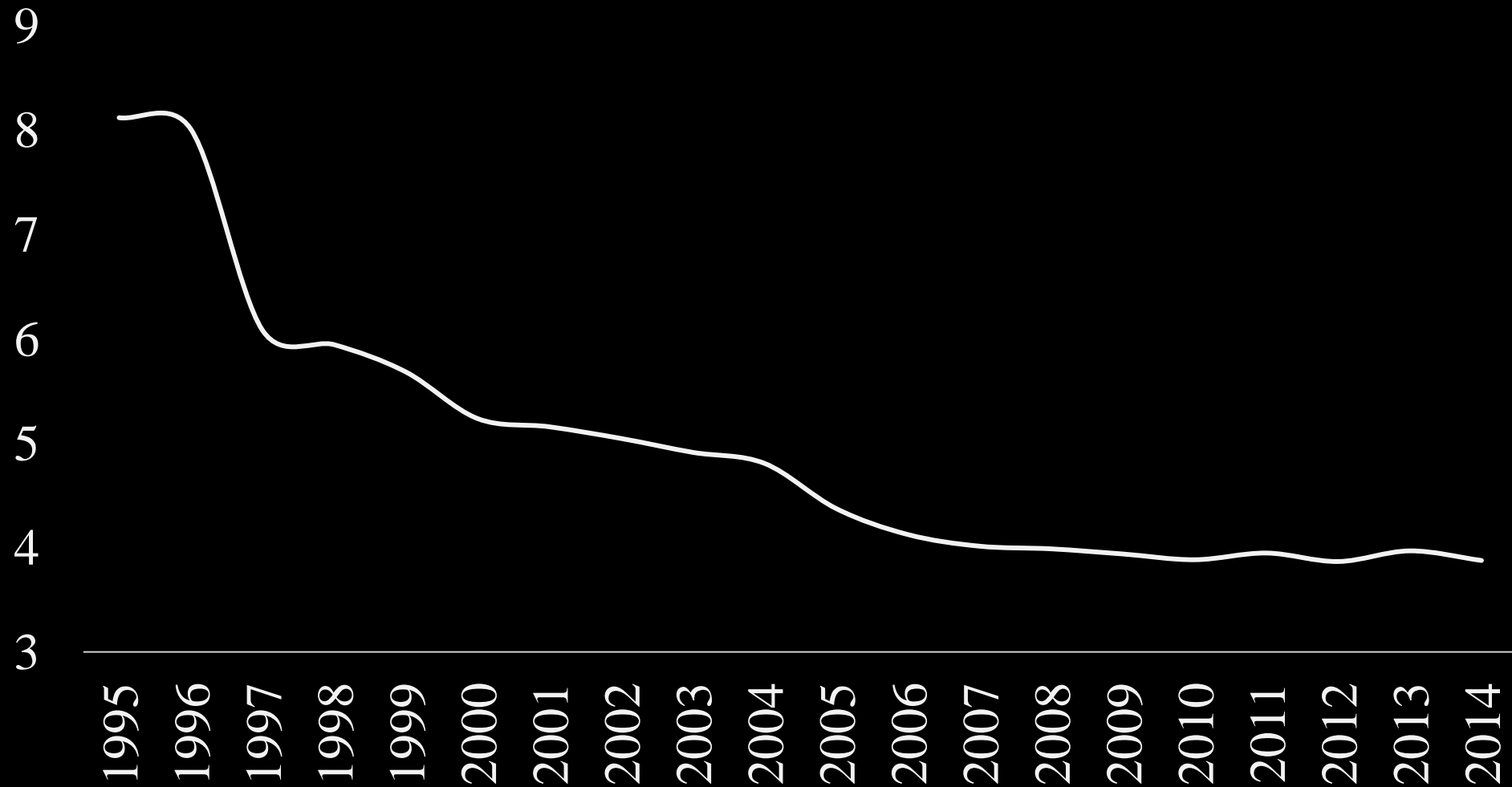




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Globally, the proportion of wealth generated through agriculture declined in the late 1990s

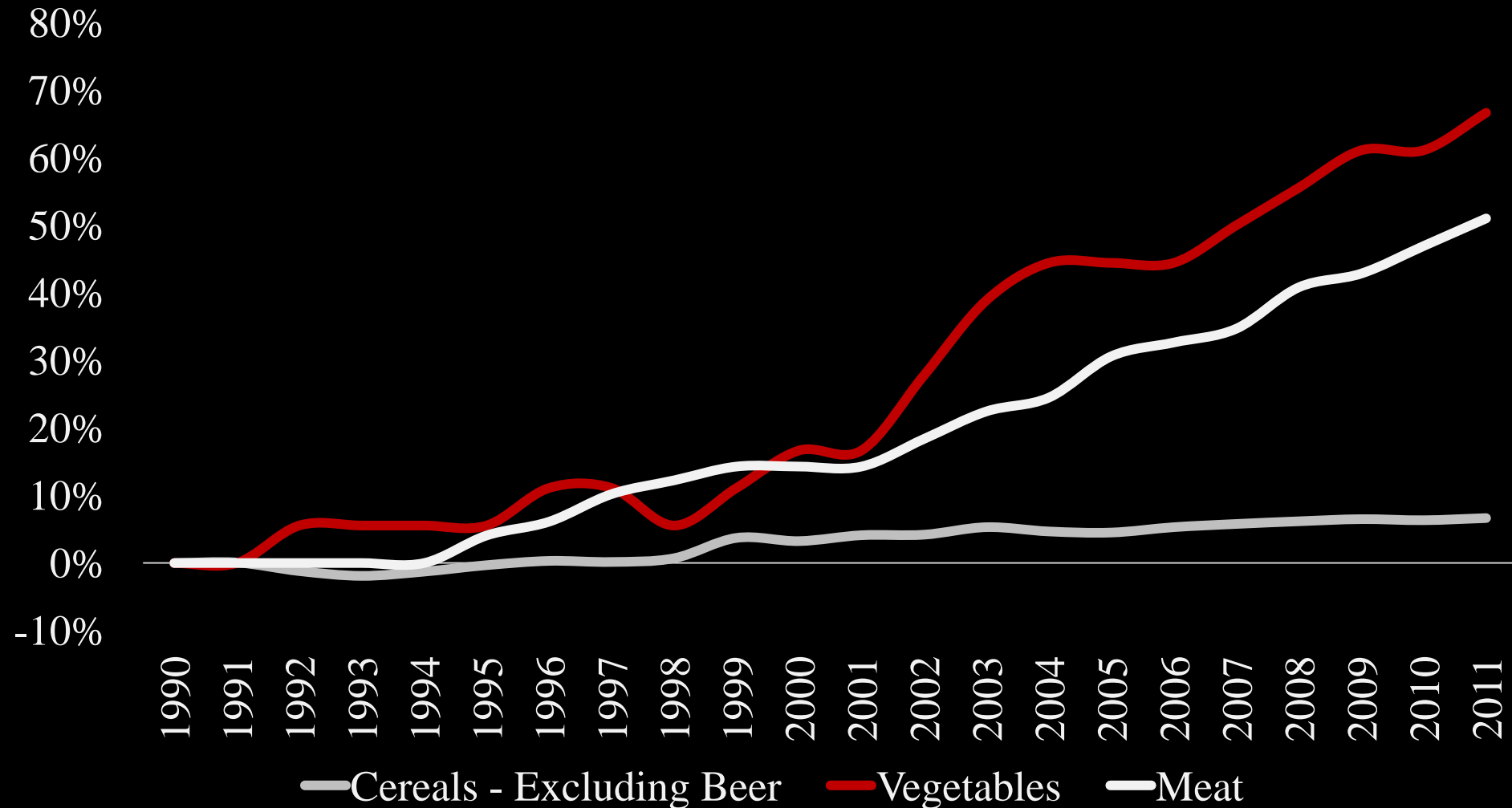




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Growth in vegetable consumption (kcal/day/person) has outpaced growth in meats in cereals since 1990.

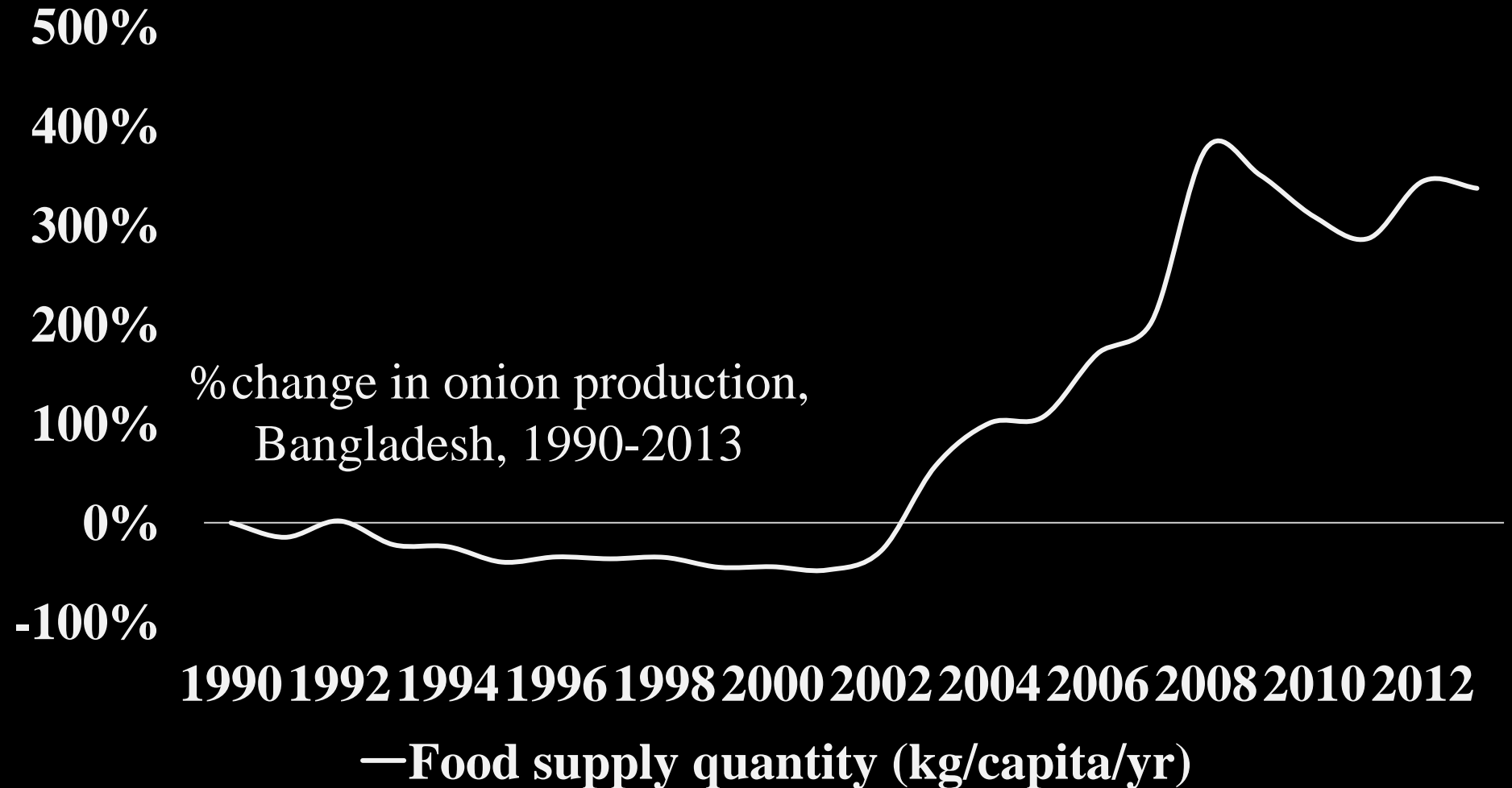




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Onion production increased dramatically in Bangladesh after 2000

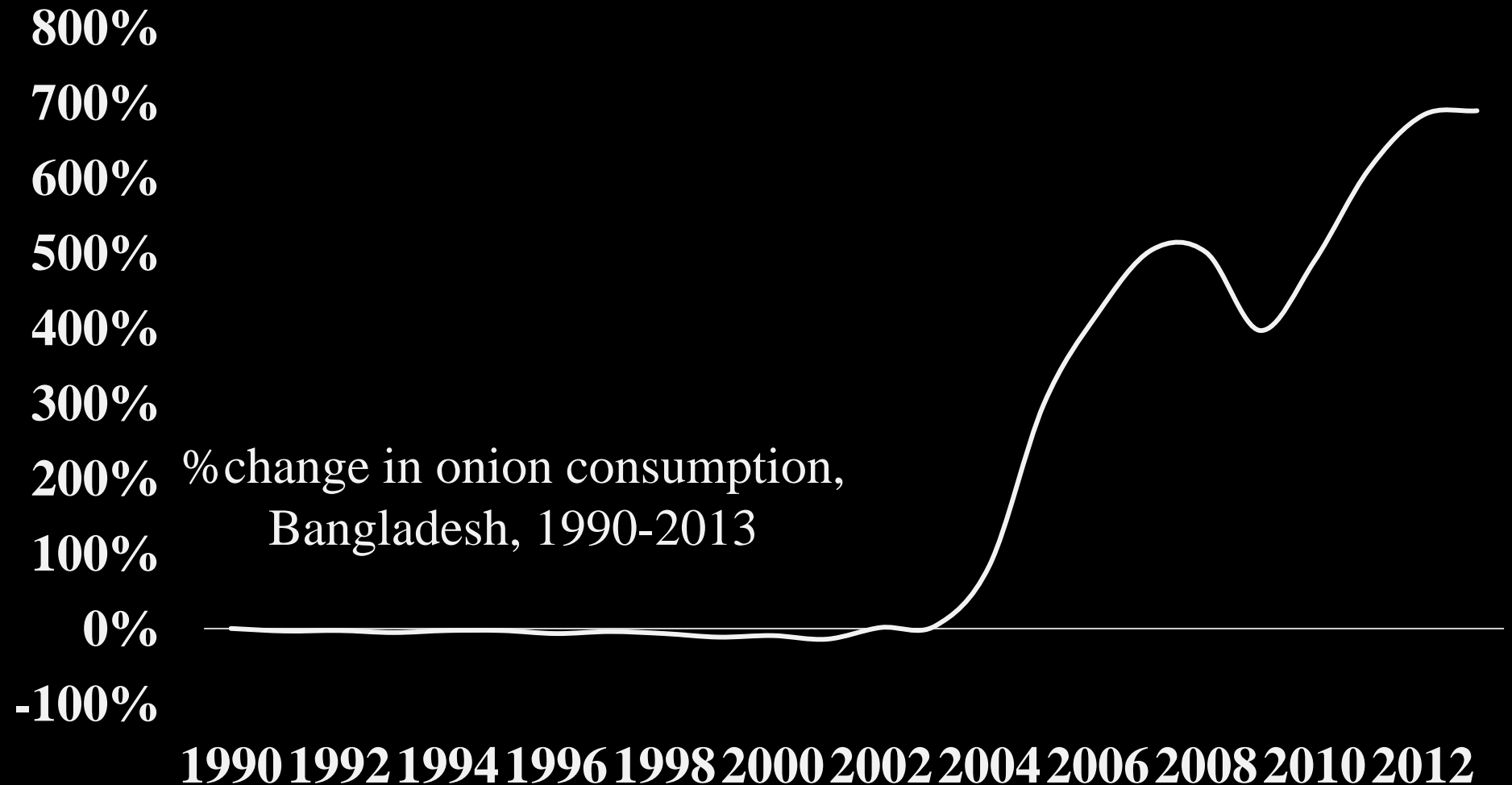




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Bangladeshis are consuming significantly more onions.





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The Rationale



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Value generated per hectare (\$US), Onion and Rice, Bangladesh, 1991-2013





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Horticulture products have tremendous potential for driving indirect economic growth.

Employment across the food sector

Greater demand for local services and infrastructure

Increased local income and expenditures



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The Challenges



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- 1. Financial and technical hurdles**
- 2. Product consistency, quality, supply, and standards**
- 3. Minimal documentary and regulatory controls**



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- 1. Building regional level infrastructure and markets.**
- 2. Connecting market signals to farm incentives.**
- 3. Initial thresholds of scale.**



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Feed the Future (in the Future)



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- 1. Income**
- 2. Nutrition and Nourishment**
- 3. Resilience**



- **Rural-Urban Linkages**
- **Focus on agriculture as a means for income generation and labor market development.**



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Thank you