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# Building a common foundation for fighting seasonal hunger

- Community-based management of acute malnutrition programs
  - Child growth promotion programs (maternal and child nutrition, especially from pregnancy to age 3)
  - Seasonal employment programs
  - Social pensions for those unable to work
- > A “minimum essential package” for fighting seasonal hunger
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# How much would universalizing a minimum essential package cost annually?

- Indicative, order-of-magnitude estimates...
- CMAM programs: £0.96 to £1.87 billion to treat world's 19 million severely acutely malnourished children
- Child growth promotion: £3.82 to £7.44 billion for approximately 600 million preschool children living in poor countries
- Seasonal employment programs: £15 to £27 billion at 100 days/year and £1/day wage transfer for an estimated 200 million extremely poor households, plus administrative etc. costs
- Social pensions: £6.03 to £12.21 billion at 50p/day to 30 million elderly living in the poorest countries

**Total cost of package: £25.81 – £48.52 billion**

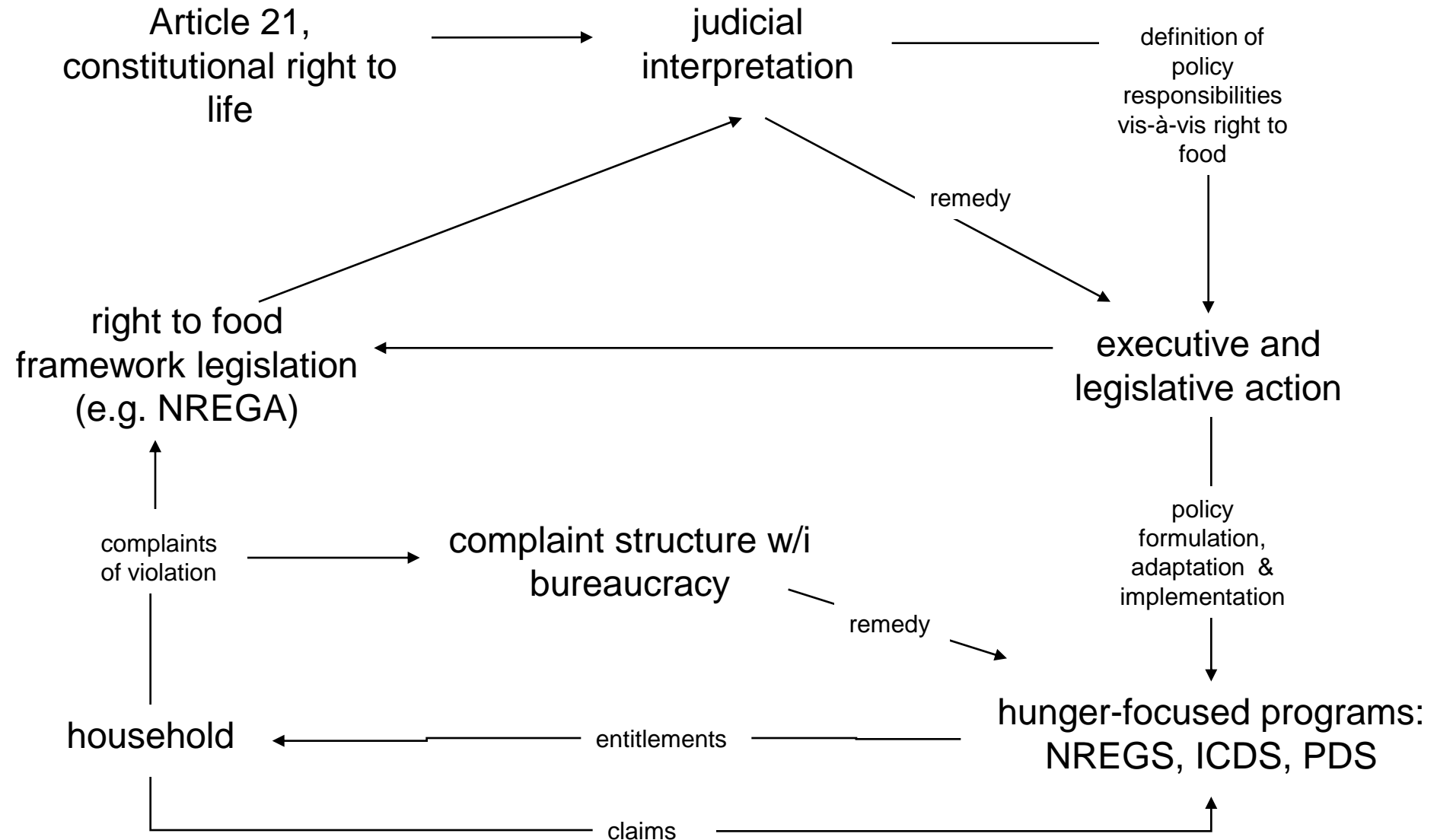
- **less than 0.1% of global GDP**
- **0.1% of UK GDP equals about 4p/day per person**
- **less than 7% of annual military spending worldwide**

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# From Policy to Rights

- The right to food
    - Included in international covenants: International Covenant on Economic, Social and Cultural Rights and Convention on the Rights of the Child
    - Primary objective of covenants is to guide the incorporation of rights into national law
    - Enforcement of the right to food has the effect of converting discretionary policy into legal entitlements
    - India example of how legal protection of the right to food can have practical impact...
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# The right to food in India



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# An international right to food...?

“We live in a world where it is more serious to break trade rules than it is to violate human rights.”

- Warren Allemand

“If [members of the international community] are serious about sharply reducing levels of hunger and malnutrition in the world, they should be willing to create a body that would hold them to account for keeping those commitments. They may not be serious. It would be good to challenge them in order to find out if they are.”

- George Kent

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# Conceptualizing an intervention framework for fighting seasonal hunger

- Emergency assistance
  - Social protection safety net
  - Rural livelihoods development
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