



GOAL 2: End Hunger, Achieve Food Security and Improved Nutrition and Promote Sustainable Agriculture

Description

It is time to rethink how we grow, share and consume our food. If done right, agriculture, forestry and fisheries can provide nutritious food for all and generate decent incomes, while supporting people-centred rural development and protecting the environment.

Right now, our soils, freshwater, oceans, forests and biodiversity are being rapidly degraded. Climate change is putting even more pressure on the resources we depend on, increasing risks associated with disasters such as droughts and floods. Many rural women and men can no longer make ends meet on their land, forcing them to migrate to cities in search of opportunities.

A profound change of the global food and agriculture system is needed if we are to nourish today's 795 million hungry and the additional 2 billion people expected by 2050.

The food and agriculture sector offers key solutions for development, and is central for hunger and poverty eradication.

Facts and Figures

- Globally, 1 in 9 people in the world today (795 million)

are undernourished

- The vast majority of the world's hungry people live in developing countries, where 12.9 per cent of the population is undernourished
- Asia is the continent with the most hungry people – two thirds of the total
- Southern Asia faces the greatest hunger burden, with about 281 million undernourished people. In sub-Saharan Africa, projections for the 2014-2016 period indicate a rate of undernourishment of almost 23 per cent
- Poor nutrition causes nearly half (45 per cent) of deaths in children under five – 3.1 million children each year
- 1 in 4 of the world's children suffer stunted growth. In developing countries the proportion can rise to 1 in 3
- 66 million primary school-age children attend classes hungry across the developing world, with 23 million in Africa alone
- Agriculture is the single largest employer in the world, providing livelihoods for 40 per cent of today's global population. It is the largest source of income and jobs for poor rural households
- 500 million small farms worldwide provide up to 80 per cent of food consumed in a large part of the developing world
- Since the 1900s, some 75 per cent of crop diversity




has been lost from farmers' fields

- If women farmers had the same access to resources as men, the number of hungry in the world could be reduced by up to 150 million
- 1.4 billion people have no access to electricity worldwide – most of whom live in rural areas of the developing world

For more information, visit:

www.un.org/sustainabledevelopment/hunger/

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