



Food and Agriculture
Organization of the
United Nations

SUSTAINABLE
DEVELOPMENT
GOALS

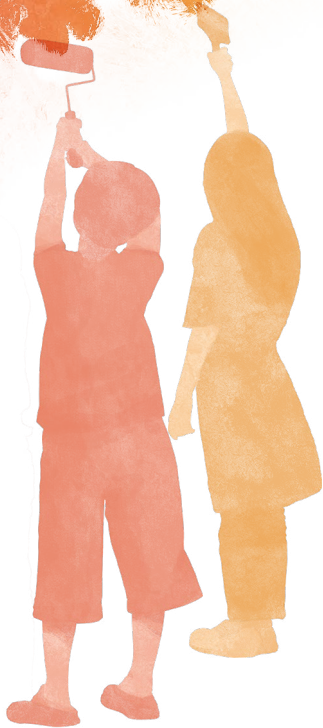


16 October 2018

World Food Day

Our Actions
are our Future.

A **#ZeroHunger** world
by 2030 **is possible.**



Working for **#ZeroHunger**



A VISION WORTH FIGHTING FOR

The fight against hunger is feeling new pressure. After a period of decline, chronic hunger and malnutrition are on the rise again globally, threatening to turn back decades of gains.

Conflict, climate, the economy, inequality. These are just some of the reasons why the goal of a Zero Hunger world may seem more difficult to achieve than before. And tackling malnutrition, in all its forms, is increasingly complicated by overweight and obesity. But experience has shown that food security and nutrition can make great strides when countries, institutions and people work together.

This is the moment to redouble efforts to achieve the globally-agreed goal of Zero Hunger, as spelled out in Agenda 2030 and the Sustainable Development Goals (SDGs). Taking action is not an option. It is a necessary step to a truly sustainable future for all.

Partners for a sustainable future

In September 2015, 193 countries at the UN Sustainable Development Summit in New York adopted Agenda 2030 and the 17 Sustainable Development Goals. Participants pledged to end poverty and hunger, protect the planet and ensure prosperity for all. Many goals, such as good health and quality education for all, cannot be achieved without first addressing

hunger. The Zero Hunger goal, or SDG2 (end hunger, achieve food security and improved nutrition and promote sustainable agriculture), is at the heart of FAO's mission.

Gains at risk

In a world which produces enough food for everyone, one person in nine suffers from chronic hunger. A 2017 FAO report found more than 815 million people suffered from chronic undernourishment in 2016, up 38 million from 2015. Well over half of them live in countries affected by conflict. Some 155 million children under five are stunted. At the same time, 1.9 billion people are overweight, 600 million of which are obese, increasing their risk of disease and death.

What has happened?

Violent conflicts around the world have increased, particularly in countries already facing food insecurity, contributing to forced migration. Drought and other extreme weather phenomena have adversely affected food supplies and income and led to increased displacement. These factors, combined with economic slowdowns and rapidly-increasing overweight and obesity levels, have chipped away at more than a decade of progress in the fight against hunger and malnutrition.

In the past year alone, the world has faced one of the largest humanitarian crises ever, with 20 million people at risk of famine in four countries - Nigeria, Somalia, South Sudan and Yemen. One child dies every twelve seconds from hunger.

Transformation is crucial

Despite these dramatic conditions, a recent global economic upturn has opened a new window of opportunity for nations, continents, sectors and professions to put Zero Hunger efforts back on track. This requires a fundamental, ongoing transformation in the way in which we grow our food, manage natural resources and support vulnerable communities.

The rural connection

The global goal to achieve Zero Hunger in 2030 cannot be reached without addressing the connections between food security and rural development. Eighty percent of the world's poor live in rural areas where people depend on agriculture, fisheries or forestry for a living. Protecting and promoting

their well-being is fundamental to reducing malnutrition in all its forms, improving food production systems for everyone, and preserving the long-term health of the earth's natural resources.

What can be done?

The good news is, there is more information than ever on what works in the fight against hunger and malnutrition, even amid extreme challenges. But achieving Zero Hunger worldwide will require people to work more closely together, globally and locally, to improve everyone's opportunities to live healthy, productive lives.

FAO and Zero Hunger

FAO works directly with farmers, fishers and others in agriculture to build their knowledge and resilience. It also supports global efforts to achieve Zero Hunger at international, regional and national levels, providing decision-makers with solid and relevant evidence:

- statistics and monitoring data;
- advice on the formulation, implementation and promotion of international treaties and legal frameworks;
- support for national agriculture and food policies, strategies and legislation;
- advocacy for support from other sectors;
- assistance/guidance in monitoring progress against SDG indicators/targets.





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SPOTLIGHT: Helping refugees and host communities

Forced and distress migration have led to increases in food insecurity. Since 2017, FAO has provided agricultural vocational training to **Syrian** refugees in **Turkey** and to vulnerable members of the local communities that host refugees.

Trainees across five provinces are learning about cultivating apples, olives, and grapes, processing citrus fruits and chilli peppers, greenhouse vegetable production, livestock husbandry, irrigation management and more. Many have already found jobs in a region which is facing a shortage of agricultural workers.



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WORKING WITH COUNTRIES

FAO uses its many areas of technical expertise to support countries in their commitment to achieve Zero Hunger.

In **South Sudan**, FAO is helping farmers to control Fall Armyworm (FAW), which feeds primarily on maize. FAO has launched a mobile application to help farmers in sub-Saharan Africa identify FAW, report the levels of infestation and share information on natural enemies that could help to curb its spread.

In **Pakistan**, profitable women-owned enterprises are being developed and strengthened, helping women to earn more money, reduce their daily workloads, and invest their earnings in businesses or households.

In **Kyrgyzstan**, FAO is helping to restore the fisheries sector after its collapse due to a variety of factors, including overfishing, non-native fish species, the need for improved management, climate conditions and poverty.

Indonesia was one of the original signatories of the FAO Port State Measures Agreement (PSMA), designed to deter illegal and underreported fishing (IUU). Under the agreement, countries prevent vessels engaged in IUU fishing from using ports and landing their catches, keeping fishery products derived from IUU fishing from reaching national and international markets.

In **Egypt**, FAO partnered with university experts to train grape and tomato farmers in ways to reduce post-harvest food losses by improving harvesting, sorting, grading, packaging, storage, food safety, quality control and marketing practices.

In **Cabo Verde**, the **Gambia** and **Senegal**, FAO's "One million cisterns for the Sahel" program uses rainwater harvesting and storage systems to help vulnerable communities, and especially women, to access and save safe drinking water, enhance family agricultural production and nutrition, and strengthen resilience.



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SPOTLIGHT: Tackling the double burden of undernourishment and overweight

In **Guatemala**, improving food security means tackling the double burden of chronic undernutrition and a rapid increase in overweight and obesity. Guatemala has the highest rate of malnutrition among young children in Latin America and the Caribbean, and one of the highest in the world. Indigenous families are especially hard hit. FAO has helped the government to develop its new school-feeding law to increase children's access to healthy school menus based on locally-sourced and fresh ingredients from family farming. This form of social protection meshes with related plans to improve the quality of schooling and develop new markets for local agriculture and fisheries. FAO has helped to develop other strategies and laws related to food and nutrition security through its regional Hunger-free Latin America and the Caribbean Initiative. It supported development of the Parliamentary Front against Hunger (PFH), which includes national and sub-national fronts committed to Zero Hunger. Representatives of these partnerships are among those expected at the **First World Parliamentary Summit Against Hunger and Malnutrition**, scheduled to take place in Madrid on 28 October 2018.

WHAT CAN COUNTRIES DO?

Eliminating hunger and malnutrition makes good business sense for countries and their governments. Here are some of the actions public entities can take.

Leave no one behind

Boost social protection schemes to lift the most vulnerable out of poverty. Prioritize inclusive development and equitable economic growth.

Use policies to connect solutions

Increase focus on national Zero Hunger strategies. Promote connections between social protection, sustainable agriculture, nutrition, health and education policies.

Work together

Ensure effective citizen involvement, enhance coordination mechanisms, facilitate dialogue. Create incentives for different sectors and stakeholders to work together.

Empower local authorities

Work with and engage key actors to provide the tools and support needed by individuals, communities and businesses.

Curb the costs of malnutrition

Improve access to nutrition and nutrition education, safeguard children, and ensure that adults have what they need to live healthy, productive lives.

Partner with academia

Build strategic partnerships with academic and research institutions, generating information to face food security and nutrition challenges.

Create an investment-friendly environment

Provide clear regulatory frameworks and stable institutions. Reward entrepreneurship, mitigate risks, prevent and solve disputes, create market opportunities, and address uncertainties and failures.

Provide equal opportunities

Use policies and investments to reduce inequality, address gender gaps and provide opportunities.

Adopt international agreements and instruments

Consider treaties and instruments on the fair and effective conservation, management and development of resources while safeguarding the environment.

Reach out to FAO

Make use of the knowledge and expertise of FAO and its UN partners. FAO has specialists in the fields of agriculture, nutrition, climate change, statistical and monitoring data, agriculture and food policy formulation and implementation, national strategies and legislation.



SPOTLIGHT: Heritage, Sustainability and GIAHS

FAO's Globally Important Agricultural Heritage Systems (GIAHS) are ancestral sites around the world which are known for their agricultural biodiversity, resilient ecosystems and cultural heritage. Their activities include terraced rice cultivation; the production of saffron, salt and Wasabi; unique water-catchment and irrigation techniques; pastoral and fish-farm systems, and others. These fifty systems are at risk due to such factors as climate change, increased competition for natural resources, migration and trade challenges. Inclusion in the GIAHS program allows others to learn from their time-honored techniques. It also helps farmers to modernize their approaches to trade and markets. Innovation has led to broader or new markets and increased business through eco-labelling, agritourism, e-business, youth empowerment and other approaches.



FAST FACTS ABOUT HUNGER

The world produces enough food to feed everyone, yet one person in nine suffers from chronic hunger.

An estimated 815 million people suffered from chronic hunger in 2016, according to FAO figures.

Roughly 60 percent of the world's hungry are women.

About 80 percent of the world's extreme poor live in rural areas. Most of them depend on agriculture.

Hunger kills more people every year than malaria, tuberculosis and AIDS combined.

Around 45 percent of infant deaths are related to malnutrition. Stunting still affects 155 million children under the age of five years.

1.9 billion people – more than a quarter of the world's population – are overweight. 600 million of these are obese and 3.4 million people die each year due to overweight.

In many countries more people die from obesity than from homicides.

Malnutrition costs the global economy the equivalent of USD 3.5 trillion a year.

FAO estimates that agricultural production must rise by about 60 percent by 2050 in order to feed a larger and generally richer population.

SPOTLIGHT: Dimitra Clubs and gender roles

FAO's Dimitra Clubs aim to improve the visibility of rural people, especially women, with an emphasis on knowledge sharing and discussion. In the Democratic Republic of the Congo, men and women in the province of Tshopo held Dimitra Club discussions about fishing, which was traditionally carried out by men. They decided to include women as fishers and saw increases in household fish catches and incomes, which benefited entire communities.



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WHAT CAN FARMERS DO?

Men and women in agriculture, fisheries and forestry can make daily changes that contribute to a hunger-free world. Here are some key ideas:

Promote equality

Promote gender equality and the empowerment of women and youth. Provide fair and equal access to opportunities to improve food security for all.

Use resource efficiency

Manage natural resources sustainably and efficiently and diversify crops.

Adapt to climate change

Grow more food with the same amount of land and water. Use seeds that are more resistant to drought and disease. Breed livestock suited to local temperatures. Create storm-proof ponds and cages for fish, and plant trees that are heat-and drought-tolerant.

Cut post-harvest losses

Use adequate storage facilities, be aware of the latest technology and undergo relevant training.

Educate future farmers

Invest in young people's education and opportunities. Use FAO's Junior

Farmer Field and Life Schools to teach youngsters about agriculture, nutrition, business and other skills.

Make your voice heard

Get involved in policy, programme, and monitoring processes at all levels. Share experiences and knowledge through local cooperatives.

Seek out farmer-friendly technology

Use mobile device apps and other digital technology and software to access and share weather-and market-related information quickly and discover innovative farming solutions.

Use sustainable livestock practices

Improve animals' diets to reduce enteric fermentation and methane emission. Use biogas-plant initiatives to recycle manure.

Engage in responsible fishing

Conserve, manage and develop living aquatic resources with respect for the ecosystem and biodiversity. Prevent illegal unreported and unregulated fishing (IUU) and support adherence to the Port State Measures Agreement, which targets IUU.



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SPOTLIGHT: Crop diversity and land management

Variety is one of the keys to sustainable farming. Growing pressure to use land for biofuel production and bio-fortified foods also increases the need to maintain agro-biodiversity. Planting a diverse selection of crops can help to maintain healthy soils, regulate pests and diseases, improve pollination and reduce the impact of climate change by decreasing carbon dioxide in the atmosphere.



WHAT CAN PRIVATE BUSINESSES DO?

Companies and private enterprises can make an enormous difference in efforts to achieve Zero Hunger, regardless of their size.

Eliminate food waste

Develop better storage, processing, transport and retailing processes. Look at the SAVE FOOD global partnership between FAO and Messe Düsseldorf GmbH for more ideas (www.fao.org/save-food).

Source locally

Contribute to the local economy in developing countries and cut costs by sourcing materials and services locally.

Share your knowledge

Companies with effective solutions or practices to reduce waste, protect the environment or fight hunger and malnutrition can share knowledge with other public and private entities. Tech giants like Google have developed mobile apps and other digital tools to mitigate damage caused by extreme weather conditions and crop pests.

Promote financial inclusion

Financial-sector companies can explore ways to provide credit or money to households for purchases of basic needs and farming inputs on local markets. MasterCard is doing this in Kenya and elsewhere.

Empower women

Ensuring women enjoy the same employment opportunities as men is a crucial, poverty-reduction step.

Partner with academia

Strategic partnerships with academia and research institutions can generate significant and relevant information.

Be resource-efficient & responsible

Curb company water and energy consumption. Reduce heating temperatures. Source products and services from partners who follow humane, environmentally-friendly practices. Use sustainable practices. Seafood businesses, for example, can follow the Code of Conduct for Responsible Fisheries (www.fao.org/fishery/code).

Champion food safety

Food businesses and manufacturers must strive to achieve better food safety and quality along the food chains, especially in developing countries. Global food companies like Mars are promoting international standards to ensure safer, healthier foods.

Magnify the #ZeroHunger message

Media companies, or any business with a communication network, can educate the public about #ZeroHunger, following the example of Thomson Reuters and others.

Establish #ZeroHunger partnerships

Businesses can reach out to each other or to civil and public partners to share knowledge and resources, develop innovative strategies and discover new opportunities.

Reach out to FAO

Leading global businesses have partnered with FAO to develop technologies, share their expertise, and provide help and assistance.



Did you know?

- Most of the world's hungry and 75 percent of stunted children under age five, live in countries affected by conflict.
- In developing countries, up to 83 percent of the overall economic impact of drought, which climate change is expected to intensify, falls on agriculture.
- One third of the food produced worldwide is lost or wasted. The global costs of food wastage are approximately USD 2.6 trillion per year, including environmental and social costs.



WHAT CAN YOU DO?

Zero Hunger is everyone's mission and everyone stands to benefit.

Governments, organizations, farmers and private-sector interests can have an enormous impact in the quest for Zero Hunger, but they cannot do it alone. Everyone must play a role, every day, by using the Earth's resources more wisely, following nutritious diets, reducing waste, taking on more sustainable lifestyles, and sharing ideas and opinions on how to accomplish these things.

To find the latest news on #ZeroHunger visit the FAO website, or follow us on Facebook, Instagram and Twitter.

World Food Day

Each year, the Food and Agriculture Organization of the United Nations (FAO) celebrates World Food Day on 16 October to commemorate the founding of the Organization in 1945. Events are organized in over 150 countries across the world, making it one of the most celebrated days of the UN calendar. These events promote worldwide awareness and action for those who suffer from hunger and for the need to ensure food security and nutritious diets for all. World Food Day is also an important opportunity to send a strong message to the public: we can end hunger in this lifetime and become the Zero Hunger Generation, but everyone needs to work together to achieve this goal.

FOOD AND AGRICULTURE ORGANIZATION OF THE UNITED NATIONS

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