



Food and Agriculture Organization
of the United Nations

Building Resilient Food and Agriculture Systems in the Context of Climate Change, Conflicts and Economic Downturns

Addressing the Humanitarian - Development - Peace Nexus in Africa

26 October 2020

FAO Regional Office for Africa

Outline

Key issues for the agriculture and food sectors in Africa



Building resilience as an opportunity to address the issues



Enhancing the Humanitarian-Development-Peace (HDP) Nexus



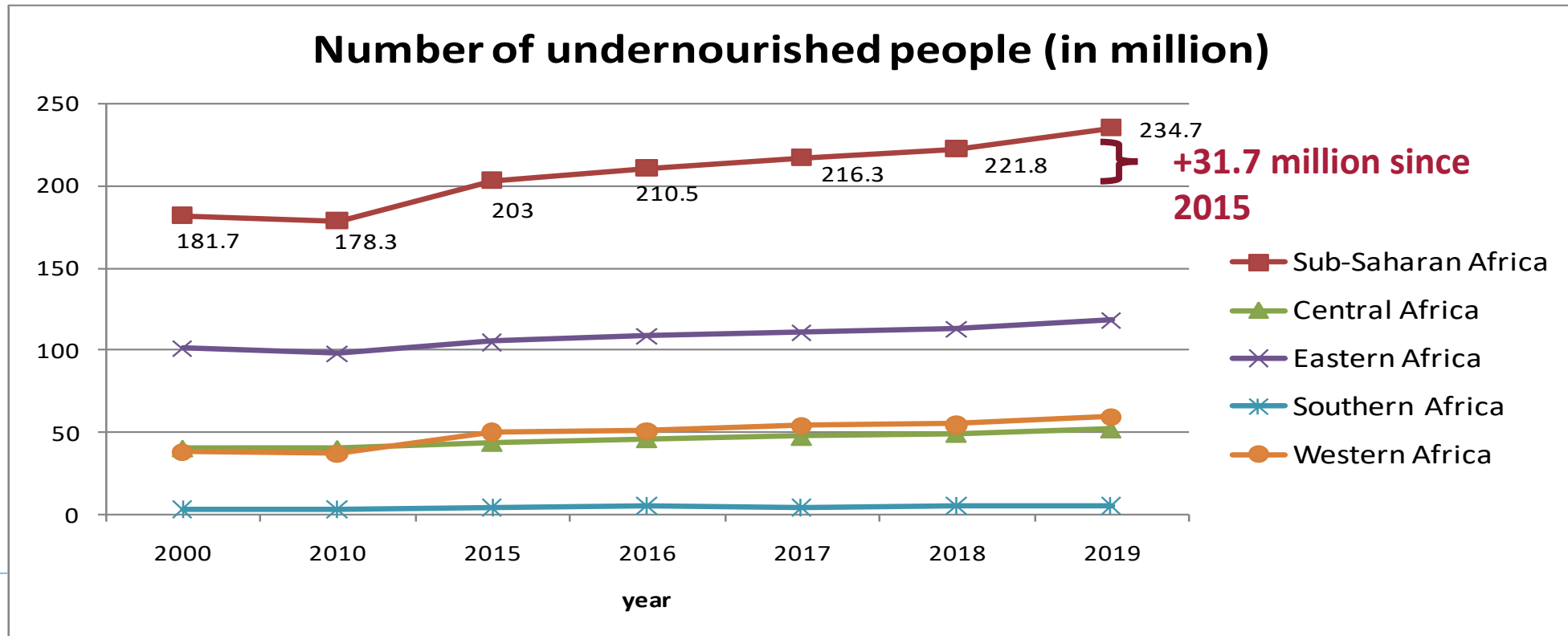
Key messages



Matters for attention of the Regional Conference

Undernourishment in Africa

- After initial prolonged declines, undernourishment is on the rise again
- The Africa region is not on track to achieving SDG 2 and Malabo commitments

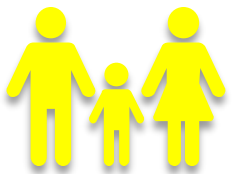


Acutely food-insecure people in crisis *or worse* by key driver



73 million

people across 36 countries
in IPC/CH 3+ in 2019



129 million

people in 32 countries
in IPC/CH 2 in 2019

Economic shocks

10M

in 4 countries



Weather extremes

26M

in 20 countries



Conflict/insecurity

37M

in 12 countries



Key issues in Africa

Four main drivers, sometimes overlapping

1. Climate variability and extremes

2. Conflicts

3. Economic slowdowns and downturns

4. (in 2020) COVID-19, Desert Locust, Red and Migratory Locusts

1. Climate variability and extremes

- Main impacts: Death, displacements, hungry and destitute people
- In Africa, over the last 10 years, climate extremes
 - affected an average of 16 million people annually
 - caused USD 670 million in damage annually
- In 2019 alone, 26 million people were in need of urgent food assistance due to climate shocks in Africa

2. Conflicts

- Declining trend of conflicts since the early 2000s, but then an uptick: In 2018, 90 conflicts in Africa, a quarter of worldwide conflicts
- In 2019: nearly 37 million in need of urgent food assistance, due to conflicts
- Almost 122 million (75 percent) of stunted children under 5 years of age live in conflict-affected countries
- There are numerous cases where conflict, coupled with other weather or health shocks, caused food security crises

3. Economic slowdowns and downturns

- A contributing factor to the rise in hunger in 2015-2019 in many countries, in particular commodity-exporting countries
- Cause decline in revenue and foreign exchange, currency depreciation, job losses, price inflation especially in countries that rely on international markets for food imports
- The impact of economic crises likely to be worse for women and youth

4. (in 2020) COVID-19, Desert Locust, Red and Migratory Locusts

- The outbreak of desert locust in late 2019 in East Africa and the effects of the COVID-19 pandemic compound the existing issues
- FAO and WFP joint analysis identified 15 African countries that are on the frontline of impending COVID-19 driven food crises

Building resilience to address the issues

- Household Food Security and Nutrition are affected through the same channels with similar results, regardless of the drivers (conflict, climate variability and extremes, or economic downturns)
- Important to sustain a multi-hazard and cross-sectoral approach to govern crisis and disaster risks
- monitor crisis and disaster risks, coupled with early warning
- reduce community vulnerabilities to crises and disasters
- prepare for and respond to crisis and disasters.

Key messages

- The collaboration between humanitarian, development and peace actors encouraged by HDP nexus approaches
- Structural shifts in overseas development assistance (ODA) need to occur to build effective resilience along the HDP nexus.
- Humanitarian assistance must be better integrated with development support through multi-year planning processes that in turn require longer-term donor commitments.
- Over the longer term, governments must invest strategically to strengthen the country's and the population's resilience to shocks.
- International and regional partnerships are vital to manage and to reduce risks

Matters for attention of the Conference

The Regional Conference may wish to:

- Recognize that the rise of both chronic and acute food insecurity and persistent malnutrition in Africa in recent years is largely driven by the combined impact of climate variability and extremes, conflict, and economic slowdowns and downturns;
- Recognize that the deteriorating food security situation has been exacerbated by the severe desert locust outbreak in East Africa and the effects of the COVID-19 pandemic.
- Provide advice on how structural changes in assistance (from all sources) can build resilience across the HDP nexus

شكرا

Gracias

Merci

Obrigado

Thank you