

# Increasing Food Security in The Global South

GA 3



Empowering Future Generations: Cultivating Global Literacy and Enlightenment



Forum: Social, Humanitarian and Cultural
Issue: Increasing Food Security in The Global South
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### Introduction

Food security is the ability for all individuals to always have access to sufficient, safe and nutritious food so they can have a healthy and active life. It encourages food availability, access, utilization, and stability. However, achieving full food security in the Global south remains a challenge. Factors like poverty, climate change and underdeveloped agricultural systems worsen the issues of the population's malnutrition. It is important to achieve food security for bettering health outcomes, helping economic development, and to reduce inequalities. It ought to address multiple factors; availability of food, enhancing access, stabilizing food supplies and promoting proper utilization through improved nutrition and education.

This issue is significant as it affects health, well-being and economic growth and social stability. Addressing this issue calls for targeted interventions that consider local contexts while leveraging global strategies for ensuring sustainable and equitable solutions.

## **Definition of Key Terms**

#### Food security

Food security refers to the state where all individuals consistently have physical, social, and economic access to sufficient, safe, and nutritious food to maintain a healthy and active life. It encompasses four essential dimensions: availability (sufficient supply), access (ability to obtain food), utilization (effective use of food for nutrition), and stability (consistent access over time).

#### **Global South**

The term "Global South" generally refers to regions in Africa, Latin America, and Asia, where many countries face economic and developmental challenges. In the context of food security, these regions often experience issues like poverty, climate change impacts, and underdeveloped agricultural systems, which exacerbate hunger and malnutrition.

#### Malnutrition

Malnutrition refers to a condition resulting from an imbalance in a person's intake of nutrients, either through undernutrition (insufficient food or nutrient consumption) or overnutrition (excessive food or unhealthy dietary patterns). It is a key challenge in achieving food security, particularly in impoverished and vulnerable regions.



#### Sustainable Solutions

Sustainable solutions in the context of food security involve strategies that ensure long-term access to nutritious food without depleting natural resources or harming the environment. These solutions often include leveraging global strategies and tailoring interventions to local contexts, focusing on equitable and environmentally friendly agricultural practices.

#### Agriculture

Agriculture is the science, art, or practice of cultivating the soil, producing crops, and raising livestock and in varying degrees the preparation and marketing of the resulting products.<sup>1</sup>

#### Cash crop

A cash crop is a crop that is grown mainly to be sold, rather than used by the people who grew it or those living in the area it is grown in.<sup>2</sup>

#### Biotechnology

Biotechnology is the manipulation (as through genetic engineering) of living organisms or their components to produce useful usually commercial products (such as pest resistant crops, new bacterial strains, or novel pharmaceuticals)<sup>3</sup>

## **General Overview**

#### The Scope of Food security

Food security, as defined, the consistent availability, accessibility, and affordability of sufficient, nutritious food for all people, which still stands a critical challenge to those in the Global South. This region, which includes parts of Africa, Latin America, Asia, and the Caribbean, is home to a big part of the world's population but faces consistent hunger and malnutrition. Food security in these areas is the result of historical, environmental, economic and political factors that have created complex and multifaceted challenges. Ensuring of food security is not just increasing agricultural output but also addressing systemic issues that limit access to food and sustainable agricultural practices.

#### The legacy of Colonialism

Historically, food systems in the Global South have been shaped by colonial legacies. During the colonial era, traditional farming systems were replaced by cash crop production which was aimed at serving the interests of colonial powers. Crops like sugar, coffee, cotton, and rubber took precedence over local food staples, leading to a dependence on food imports and weakening local food income. After gaining independence, many nations continued to struggle with food insecurity due to weak agricultural systems, limited access to modern farming technologies and insufficient government support. Additionally, rapid population

<sup>&</sup>lt;sup>1</sup> <u>https://www.merriam-webster.com/dictionary/agriculture</u>

<sup>&</sup>lt;sup>2</sup> <u>https://dictionary.cambridge.org/dictionary/english/cash-crop</u>

<sup>&</sup>lt;sup>3</sup> <u>https://www.merriam-webster.com/dictionary/biotechnology</u>



growth in the post-colonial period placed further strain on agricultural systems, outpacing food production and worsening hunger.<sup>4</sup>

#### **Challenges to Food Security**

Recently, food insecurity in the Global South is aggravated by various challenges. Climate change is, for example, the most significant, with rising temperatures, unpredictable rainfall, and increased frequency of extreme weather changes, as well as drought and floods having a severe impact on crop production. These environmental changes lead to soil degradation, reduced agricultural productivity and the loss of land.

Economic inequality worsens the problem by a lot, as smallholder farmers, who produce most of the region's foods, often lack access to essential resources like credit, fertilizers, quality seeds, and modern farming equipment. Furthermore, rising global food prices and market instability make it difficult for communities in poverty to afford basic food staples, increasing their vulnerability to hunger and malnutrition.

Along with that, political instability and conflict also partake in perpetuating food insecurity. Wars and armed conflict disrupt agricultural production and supply chains, leading to food shortages in conflict zones and displacement crises that strain host communities. Countries like Yemen, South Sudan, and Syria exemplify how prolonged conflict worsen hunger, with millions of people relying on humanitarian aid for survival. Additionally outdated farming practices and poor infrastructure contribute to low agricultural productivity across the region. Unavailable transportation networks, poor storage facilities, and limited access to markets result in significant post- harvest losses, wasting substantial amounts of food and limiting farmers incomes.

#### **Historical context**

The history of food insecurity in the Global South is deeply connected with the colonial history of their countries.<sup>5</sup> Before colonization, traditional agricultural systems were different, sustainable and well adapted to local conditions. Indigenous communities practiced mixed farming, agroforestry, and other techniques that made sure of food self sufficiency. However, the European colonial powers in the 15 and 16th century led to the displacement of these systems. Colonial administrations rebuilt agricultural economies to prioritize cash crops for export such as cotton, sugar, coffee, and rubber, over food crops needed for local consumption. This changed worsened local food systems, lessened biodiversity, and made many countries dependent on imports.<sup>6</sup>

<sup>&</sup>lt;sup>4</sup> <u>https://www.frontiersin.org/journals/human-dynamics/articles/10.3389/fhumd.2023.1121662/full</u>

<sup>&</sup>lt;sup>5</sup> <u>https://cafod.org.uk/news/international-news/three-ways-colonialism-contributed-breakdown-food-system</u>

<sup>&</sup>lt;sup>6</sup> <u>https://academic.oup.com/book/3156/chapter-abstract/144029491?redirectedFrom=fulltext</u>



As came the independence in the mid 20th century, many newly formed nations in the Global South faced the challenge of remaking their agricultural sections while grappling with less developed infrastructure, limited technological sources and weakened governance. Although efforts were made to increase food production, population growth outpaced these advancements, leaving many regions vulnerable to food shortages.<sup>7</sup>

#### **Green Revolution**

The Green Revolution<sup>8</sup> was introduced in the 1960s and 1970s which brought modern agricultural techniques, high yield crop variations, chemical fertilizers, and irrigation systems to countries like India, Mexico, and the Philippines. These innovations significantly helped food production and helped change famines in some areas. But the Green Revolution's advantages were unevenly distributed and often passed the poorest farmers who lacked access to capital, land, and infrastructure. Moreover, the heavy reliance on chemical inputs led to environmental pollution, soil depletion and water pollution, which in a way raised concerns about the sustainability of these methods in the long term.

#### **Nutrition and Health Challenges**

This topic is not limited to hunger, it also affects malnutrition and poor dietary diversity. Millions suffer from undernutrition, mostly children and pregnant women, leading to stunting, wasting, and micronutrient deficiencies. In sub- Saharan Africa<sup>9</sup> and South Asia, stunting affects nearly one-third of children under five, weakening immune systems, impairing cognitive development, and reducing future earning potential.<sup>10</sup>

At the same time, many countries are experiencing a "double burden" of malnutrition<sup>11</sup>, where undernutrition coexists with rising rates of obesity and non-communicable diseases (NCDs) such as diabetes and heart disease. This paradox is driven by the increasing availability of cheap, processed foods with high sugar, salt and unhealthy fats, often replacing traditional nutrient-rich diets. Addressing food insecurity requires, not only, increasing food availability but as well as promoting access to diverse, healthy and culturally appropriate diets.<sup>12</sup>

#### Water Scarcity and agricultural Productivity

Water scarcity is a critical issue affecting agriculture and food security in the Global South. Agriculture accounts for approximately 70% of global freshwater use<sup>13</sup>, and this dependency

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https://www.cambridge.org/core/services/aop-cambridge-

<sup>12</sup> <u>https://www.unnutrition.org/events/double-burden-malnutrition-new-data-and-policy-responses</u>

<sup>&</sup>lt;sup>7</sup> https://www.mdpi.com/2071-1050/15/3/2591

<sup>&</sup>lt;sup>8</sup> <u>https://www.britannica.com/event/green-revolution</u>

<sup>&</sup>lt;sup>9</sup> <u>https://www.mdpi.com/1660-4601/14/8/863</u>

<sup>&</sup>lt;sup>10</sup> <u>https://journals.plos.org/plosone/article?id=10.1371/journal.pone.0177338</u>

core/content/view/770D4B8312A3F709FA7F14CA68684F7A/S0029665118002616a.pdf/addressingmalnutrition-in-low-and-middle-income-countries-with-double-duty-actions.pdf

<sup>&</sup>lt;sup>13</sup> <u>https://www.fao.org/wasag/initiatives/global/awsameinitiative/en/</u>



is particularly high in water-stressed regions such as the Sahel, the Middle East, and parts of South Asia. Climate change exacerbates water shortages by reducing rainfall and increasing evaporation rates, leading to reduced water availability for irrigation and livestock.<sup>14</sup>

In addition, inefficient irrigation practices and poor water management often result in significant water losses. For example, traditional flood irrigation methods waste large amounts of water compared to more efficient systems like drip or sprinkler irrigation. Promoting water-saving technologies and sustainable water management practices is essential to improving agricultural productivity and ensuring long-term food security in water-scarce regions.

#### **Trade and Market Dependencies**

Many Countries are mostly depending on international trading for their food supplies, making them vulnerable to global market fluctuations. Countries that rely heavily on food imports are under the threat of rising global food prices, currency differences and supply chain disruptions. For example, the 2007-2008 global food price crisis has led to widespread protests and food riots in countries such as Egypt, Haiti, and Bangladesh, highlighting the fragility of food systems relying on imports.<sup>15</sup>

Many smallholder farmers in the Global South depend on exporting cash crops to global markets, putting them under the risk of price volatility. If export revenues decline, farmers can struggle to afford essential food items, contributing to local food insecurity. Strengthening local and regional food markets and reducing dependency on global trade can help mitigate these risks and enhance food system resilience.

#### **Gender inequality in Agriculture**

In the Global South, gender inequality remains as an enormous barrier to achieving food security. In the context of smallholder farming, where they often manage food production, processing, and household nutrition, women are necessary. Systemic challenges, such as restricted access to land, credit, education, and agricultural training, are often encountered by women.

Women's ability to invest in long-term growth in agriculture is limited in many countries by traditional land inheritance laws and cultural norms that prohibit them from owning or inheriting property. In addition, women farmers frequently do not have access to current technologies and agricultural extension services, which limits their output in comparison to their male colleagues. Food security and agricultural productivity can be greatly increased by empowering women through specialized training programs, equal access to resources, and gender-sensitive legislation.

<sup>&</sup>lt;sup>14</sup> <u>https://www.csis.org/analysis/water-and-food-how-when-and-why-water-imperils-global-food-security</u>

<sup>&</sup>lt;sup>15</sup> <u>https://en.wikipedia.org/wiki/2007–2008\_world\_food\_price\_crisis</u>



#### **Technological Innovations and Digital Solutions**

The Global South's food insecurity may be alleviated by technological developments. By giving farmers access to real-time data on weather patterns, soil conditions, and market pricing, digital tools like data analytics, satellite imagery, and smartphone apps are revolutionizing agriculture. For instance, mobile systems such as e-Choupal<sup>16</sup> in India and iCow<sup>17</sup> in Kenya link farmers to market opportunities and agricultural specialists, increasing income and productivity.

Furthermore, biotechnology advancements like crops resistant to pests and drought can help farmers boost yields and adjust to changing environmental conditions. Through the use of sensors, drones, and GPS technology, precision agriculture makes it possible to use resources more effectively, lowering waste and promoting sustainability. Enhancing food security worldwide can be achieved in large part by increasing access to these technologies, especially for smallholder farmers.

#### Local Food Systems and Indigenous Knowledge

Improving food security in the Global South requires incorporating indigenous knowledge and fortifying regional food systems. For millennia, traditional farming methods like crop rotation, agroforestry, and intercropping have been employed to preserve soil fertility, save water, and lessen pest outbreaks. Compared to industrial farming methods, these practices are frequently more sustainable and more suited to the local natural conditions.

Additionally, local food systems encourage shorter supply chains, which lowers food waste and expands access to wholesome, fresh food in both urban and rural areas. Supporting community-supported agriculture (CSA) programs, farmers' markets, and cooperatives can boost local economies, increase access to food, and build resilience to shocks to the world market.

#### **Global Efforts**

Food insecurity in the Global South has been addressed by several countries, nongovernmental organizations (NGOs), and international organizations over the years. By 2030, initiatives like the Sustainable Development Goals (SDGs) of the UN, especially Goal 2: Zero Hunger<sup>18</sup>, seek to end hunger and provide food security. The goals of regional programs like the Comprehensive Africa Agriculture Development Programme (CAADP)<sup>19</sup> of the African Union are to improve market access, rural infrastructure, and agricultural productivity. Even if

<sup>&</sup>lt;sup>16</sup> <u>https://oasis.col.org/server/api/core/bitstreams/888cf0f9-c2db-4050-b785-acc4d8d1f9b5/content</u>

<sup>&</sup>lt;sup>17</sup> <u>https://allianceforscience.org/blog/2023/04/information-technology-transforms-the-way-kenyan-farmers-manage-crops-and-market-their-produce/</u>

<sup>&</sup>lt;sup>18</sup> <u>https://www.undp.org/sustainable-development-goals</u>

<sup>&</sup>lt;sup>19</sup> <u>https://www.fao.org/policy-support/mechanisms/mechanisms-details/en/c/417079/</u>



there has been progress, issues still exist, necessitating ongoing funding for technical advancements, regulatory changes, and sustainable farming methods.

#### Conclusion

Food security in the Global South is a complex issue influenced by historical wrongs, economic inequalities, climate change, and social disparities. Although numerous nations have progressed in lowering hunger and malnutrition rates, millions continue to experience chronic food insecurity due to elements such as political unrest, water shortages, and poor agricultural infrastructure. Climate change persistently intensifies these challenges, resulting in more frequent droughts, floods, and erratic weather patterns that disturb food production. Despite these obstacles, creative solutions, including sustainable farming methods, digital technologies, and gender-inclusive approaches, provide optimism for combating food insecurity. Global efforts like the UN's Sustainable Development Goals (SDGs) and regional initiatives play a vital role in promoting resilience and securing fair access to food. A comprehensive strategy that reinforces local food systems, empowers disadvantaged communities, and tackles systemic inequalities is vital for achieving lasting food security throughout the Global South.

## **Major Parties Involved**

#### Party involved

For parties involved, you can choose for example countries, governmental organisations, NGO's, committees, or councils, etc. Write a short text about the party in general and in the case of an organisation or committee, what it does and why it has been established. You should also state clearly in what way the party is involved in this issue.

#### India

India is a leading agricultural nation with a large portion of its population dependent on farming for livelihood. To address hunger and poverty, India has implemented the National Food Security Act (NFSA), which provides subsidized food to two-thirds of its population. Initiatives like e-Choupal connect farmers to markets, enabling them to access real-time information on prices, best practices, and weather forecasts, which improves productivity and income. Additionally, India's Green Revolution helped boost agricultural output through the adoption of high-yielding varieties and modern farming techniques. Through these efforts, India not only tackles its own food security challenges but also shares its expertise in agricultural innovation, including irrigation methods, crop management, and mobile-based solutions, to enhance food security across the globe .

#### Ethiopia

Ethiopia faces significant food security challenges, largely due to frequent droughts and its reliance on rain-fed agriculture. To address these issues, the Ethiopian government



collaborates with international organizations on initiatives like the Productive Safety Net Programme (PSNP), which combines food assistance with community development efforts. This program also emphasizes climate-resilient farming practices and the improvement of irrigation systems to ensure long-term food security. Ethiopia plays a key role in regional efforts to improve agricultural productivity through partnerships with NGOs and development banks, working to enhance resilience and ensure sustainable food production.

#### World Food Programme (WFP)

The World Food Programme (WFP), established in 1961 as a United Nations agency, works to combat global hunger and provide food assistance. It delivers emergency food aid, runs school meal programs, and supports smallholder farmers to improve local food security. Through initiatives like food-for-assets, the WFP helps build long-term resilience by promoting sustainable agricultural practices and infrastructure projects in the Global South. The WFP actively collaborates with countries like Ethiopia and Kenya, offering food assistance during emergencies while working with these nations to enhance food security and strengthen agricultural systems for the future.

#### Action Against Hunger (AHH)

Action Against Hunger (AAH), established in 1979, is an international non-governmental organization focused on combating hunger and malnutrition worldwide. AAH operates in over 50 countries, providing essential nutrition programs, emergency food distributions, and agricultural development projects. Its work is especially focused on regions like sub-Saharan Africa, where it collaborates with governments and local communities to address malnutrition and promote sustainable food production. By improving agricultural practices and increasing access to food, AAH works towards building long-term food security and resilience in vulnerable areas.

#### Comprehensive Africa Agriculture Development Programme (CAADP)

The Comprehensive Africa Agriculture Development Programme (CAADP), launched in 2003 as part of the African Union's New Partnership for Africa's Development (NEPAD), aims to reduce poverty and hunger across Africa by boosting agricultural productivity. Its focus includes improving rural infrastructure, increasing market access, and enhancing resilience to climate change. CAADP encourages African governments to increase investments in agriculture and to support smallholder farmers, fostering sustainable agricultural practices. By providing a continental strategy for food security and economic growth, CAADP plays a vital role in transforming agriculture across Africa.

#### Committee on World Food Security (CFS)

The Committee on World Food Security (CFS), hosted by the FAO, is an intergovernmental body that brings together governments, NGOs, and other stakeholders to address global food



security challenges. It provides a platform for discussing policy recommendations and coordinating action on food security and nutrition. The CFS works to ensure that food security is prioritized in national policies and aims to make global food systems more equitable, sustainable, and resilient. By facilitating dialogue among governments, international organizations, and civil society groups, the CFS aligns global and local efforts to combat food insecurity.

## **Timeline of Events**

The Green Revolution: The Green Revolution was a period marked by significant advances in agricultural technologies, including the introduction of high-yield varieties of crops (like wheat and rice), chemical fertilizers, and irrigation techniques. Initiatives, especially in India, Mexico, and parts of Southeast Asia, led to an increase in food production, often boosting yields to levels that were previously unattainable. However, these benefits were uneven across regions. In Sub-Saharan Africa, the lack of infrastructure and financial support hindered the adoption of these practices. Moreover, the dependency on chemical inputs created challenges in long-term sustainability, as soil fertility declined, and environmental concerns rose.
Global Food Price Crisis: The food price crisis of 2008 was caused by multiple factors, including rising oil prices, biofuel production diverting crops from food markets, adverse weather events, and increasing demand for food in emerging economies like China and India. The crisis reached its peak in April 2008 when food prices rose dramatically, leading to food riots and protests in countries like Haiti, Egypt, and Bangladesh. The crisis highlighted the vulnerability of food systems in the Global South, where populations rely heavily on imports and where social unrest can be triggered by sharp price fluctuations.
G20 Financial Recommendations: In 2012, the G20 issued recommendations aimed at stabilizing global food prices and addressing the volatility in commodity markets. The group identified the impact of financial speculation on food prices as a major issue and called for reforms to reduce speculative activities in commodity futures markets. The recommendations also pointed to the need for better regulation of biofuels and measures to reduce food export restrictions, which had contributed to the crisis. These



	proposals were intended to improve food security, particularly in the Global South, by providing a more predictable and stable market environment.
September 25, 2015	Adoption of the UN Sustainable Development Goals (SDGs): At the UN General Assembly, world leaders formally adopted the SDGs, which included Goal 2—"Zero Hunger"—focused on eradicating hunger, achieving food security, improving nutrition, and promoting sustainable agriculture. The SDGs emphasized the importance of addressing global inequalities and ensuring that agricultural practices were sustainable. A specific focus was placed on smallholder farmers in the Global South, recognizing that they play a critical role in global food production but face significant challenges due to climate change, lack of access to resources, and economic instability.
February 22, 2018	End of South Sudan's Civil War: South Sudan's civil war, which began in 2013, ended in 2018 after a peace agreement was signed between the government and rebel groups. The war had devastated the country's agricultural sector, with millions of people displaced and food systems completely disrupted. Although the peace agreement allowed for some recovery, food insecurity remained high due to ongoing localized violence, climate shocks, and the lack of infrastructure. The World Bank and other organizations stepped in with aid and development programs aimed at rebuilding the agricultural sector and ensuring access to food. Nonetheless, the challenge of achieving long-term food security remained complex.
March 11, 2020	WHO Declares COVID-19 Pandemic: The COVID-19 pandemic disrupted economies and food systems worldwide. While the Global North also faced challenges, the Global South was hit hardest due to pre-existing vulnerabilities. In many countries, lockdowns severely disrupted supply chains, leading to shortages of food in urban areas that rely on informal markets. The pandemic exacerbated existing inequalities, pushing millions of people into food insecurity. The food sector also faced worker shortages, which further delayed production and



	distribution, particularly in agriculture-heavy economies in Africa, Asia, and Latin America.
February 24, 2022	Russia Invades Ukraine: The conflict between Russia and Ukraine in February 2022 had immediate global repercussions, particularly on food security. Ukraine and Russia are major exporters of wheat, sunflower oil, and fertilizers, all crucial to the food systems of the Global South. The war caused massive disruptions to these exports, leading to soaring food prices and a threat to food security in countries that rely heavily on imports, particularly in Africa and the Middle East. Countries such as Egypt, which imports a significant portion of its wheat from Ukraine, faced skyrocketing food costs and greater hunger risks
June 16, 2023	New Food Security Strategy in South Sudan: As part of its efforts to address the ongoing food crisis exacerbated by civil conflict, South Sudan implemented a new strategy aimed at improving food and nutrition security. This initiative included measures to promote agroecology and resilience-building among smallholder farmers. The World Bank and the FAO worked closely with South Sudan's government to promote sustainable farming practices that could restore agricultural productivity while mitigating climate risks. The strategy also included plans for improving market access and strengthening food distribution systems to ensure that vulnerable populations could access nutritious food.

### Previous attempts to solve the issue

#### The Green Revolution

The Green Revolution (1960s–1980s) was a major effort to increase food security in developing countries by introducing high-yield crops, chemical fertilizers, and modern farming techniques. It achieved notable successes in countries like India and Mexico, where it significantly boosted agricultural output, reducing famine risks and promoting food self-sufficiency. However, its benefits were uneven, especially in Sub-Saharan Africa, due to challenges such as poor infrastructure, limited access to technology, and environmental issues related to overuse of chemicals. While the Green Revolution contributed to a rise in food production, it also exacerbated social inequalities, as wealthier farmers were more able to adopt these technologies, leaving smallholder farmers behind

World Bank's Agricultural and Rural Development Programs



The World Bank's Agricultural and Rural Development Programs (1990s–2000s) sought to improve food security through initiatives aimed at increasing agricultural productivity and integrating smallholder farmers into global markets. Programs in countries like Bangladesh helped enhance agricultural output and improved rural infrastructure, such as irrigation and microcredit systems. Despite these efforts, the programs faced criticism for prioritizing market-driven approaches that often overlooked the most vulnerable populations. Many small-scale farmers struggled to benefit from market liberalization, highlighting the need for policies that balance economic growth with social protection.

#### Comprehensive Africa Agriculture Development Programme (CAADP)

The Comprehensive Africa Agriculture Development Programme (CAADP), launched in 2003 by the African Union, aimed to improve food security and reduce poverty across the continent. CAADP focused on increasing agricultural productivity, promoting sustainable land management, and improving food systems. While countries like Ghana and Ethiopia achieved success in reducing hunger and increasing yields, the program's implementation faced challenges such as political instability, inconsistent funding, and difficulties in scaling up sustainable practices across all member states. The program's successes demonstrate the importance of regional cooperation and consistent support, while its challenges highlight the need for stable governance and adequate resources

These efforts, while impactful, show that addressing food security in the Global South requires a multifaceted approach, combining technological innovations with sustainable practices, equitable economic policies, and strong governance. Despite their successes, the sustainability and reach of these programs have been hindered by political, economic, and environmental challenges.

## Possible solutions

#### Enhancing Agricultural Productivity

Promote the use of innovative farming techniques, such as precision agriculture, climatesmart practices, and the introduction of drought-resistant and high-yield crop varieties. Encourage governments and international organizations to support smallholder farmers with access to modern technology, quality seeds, and efficient irrigation systems.

#### Strengthening Food Distribution Networks

Improve infrastructure and logistics to reduce food waste and ensure that food reaches vulnerable communities in remote or underserved areas. This can be achieved by developing efficient transportation networks, establishing cold storage facilities, and strengthening supply chains to enhance food availability and accessibility.

#### Promoting Local Food Systems



Support the development of local food systems that prioritize sustainable, regionally sourced foods. Governments should incentivize urban and rural agriculture, promote farmer cooperatives, and invest in community-based food production models to strengthen resilience to global market fluctuations and improve food sovereignty.

## Useful documents

The state of Food Security and Nutrition in the World (SOFI) Report 2024

This annual report highlights global trends in food security and nutrition, providing crucial insights into strategies for tackling hunger and malnutrition, with a focus on the Global South. It outlines innovative financing tools and reforms needed to address food insecurity and malnutrition effectively: <u>https://www.fao.org/publications/home/fao-flagship-publications/the-state-of-food-security-and-nutrition-in-the-world/en</u>

#### World Bank's Food Security and Nutrition Programs

This document outlines the World Bank's efforts to combat food insecurity, especially in developing countries. It covers initiatives like improving agricultural resilience, enhancing nutrition, and providing emergency food assistance. It also discusses long-term strategies for building more resilient food systems:

https://documents1.worldbank.org/curated/en/775981606955884100/pdf/Responding-tothe-Emerging-Food-Security-Crisis.pdf

## World Food Programme's (WFP) Regional Overview of Food Security in Latin America and the Caribbean

This regional report provides a deep dive into the specific challenges and opportunities in Latin America and the Caribbean concerning food security, offering data on food insecurity trends and proposed solutions: <u>https://www.wfp.org/publications/state-food-security-and-nutrition-world-sofi-report</u>

#### Food and Agriculture Organization (FAO)- Addressing the Drivers of Hunger

The FAO's SOFI report provides a comprehensive look at the global drivers of food insecurity, with a particular focus on climate resilience, food systems transformation, and sustainable development in vulnerable regions: <u>https://www.fao.org/publications/home/fao-flagship-publications/the-state-of-food-security-and-nutrition-in-the-world/en</u>

## Food and Agriculture Organization's (FAO) 2024 Report on Urbanization, Agrifood Systems, and Healthy Diets

This report explores the impact of urbanization on food systems in the Global South, providing strategies for improving food security and nutrition in rapidly urbanizing regions. It discusses policy interventions for sustainable agriculture and food systems:

https://www.fao.org/publications/home/fao-flagship-publications/the-state-of-food-securityand-nutrition-in-the-world/en



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