

SAVING
LIVES
CHANGING
LIVES



Zero Hunger: overcoming the odds

As conflicts rage, mass hunger is staging a harrowing comeback. Through escalating emergencies and tight finances, we hold fast to the dream of a hunger-free future.

A deep field organization, we continue to save lives and change lives. We lead the world in frontline food assistance; fight for better nutrition; and strengthen communities to brave shock and disaster.

In 2017, we remained true to our role: a robust humanitarian arm of the United Nations and the main agency combating hunger around the globe. Our reach, expertise and the trust of our donors allowed us to:

- provide food assistance to **91.4 million people in 83 nations**
- have a daily **5,000 trucks, 92 planes and 20 ships** on the move to keep hunger at bay
- battle emergencies in **15 countries and regions**
- help avert famine across vast swathes of **sub-Saharan Africa**
- offer school meals and take-home food to **18.3 million children**
- distribute cash assistance to **19.2 million people** – including refugees, the displaced and the furthest behind
- train **60,000 government officials** to meet their citizens' food and nutrition needs
- bring in **US\$6 billion** in funding – a record amount, but still **nearly US\$4 billion short** of requirements

World Food Programme

A race against time

The fight against hunger is coming to a head. There are 12 short years left to achieve the Sustainable Development Goals (SDGs), an ambitious agenda that seeks to leave no woman, girl, man or boy behind. The emphasis is on reaching those furthest behind first.

Sustainable Development Goal 2 seeks to “end hunger, achieve food security and improved nutrition and promote sustainable agriculture”. This involves ensuring access to nutritious food for the most

vulnerable; increasing agricultural production through sustainable and resilient food systems; and tackling the multiple causes of malnutrition.

We are devoted to fulfilling these aims. But success will slip from our grasp unless the international community creates the premises for durable peace – and commits critical levels of funding to match its resolve.

HUNGER IN NUMBERS

821 million people are chronically undernourished.

This means that **roughly one-ninth of humanity** has insufficient food to lead a healthy life – with many **on the brink of starvation**.

Zero Hunger by 2030 remains achievable – but we must not waste a second.



- **Six out of 10** hungry people live in countries **affected by conflict**
- **Four-fifths** of all hungry people live in countries prone to **degradation and disaster**
- Nearly **two-thirds** of all hungry people live in **Asia**
- **One in four** people in **sub-Saharan Africa** is undernourished
- Nearly **half of all deaths** of children under five are linked to **undernutrition**
- **151 million** under-fives are thought to be **stunted** – too small for their age
- **Two billion** people lack **micronutrients** such as iron, zinc, vitamin A and iodine – a lifelong, debilitating “hidden hunger”
- Nearly **2 billion** people are **overweight** or **obese**
- **57** nations face the **double burden** of obesity and hunger
- The annual **cost of malnutrition** is estimated at **US\$3.5 trillion** – US\$500 for each person alive