Global Agriculture and Food Facts and Figures

About the FAO Policy Learning Programme
This programme aims at equipping high level officials from developing countries with cutting-edge knowledge and strengthening their capacity to base their decisions on sound consideration and analysis of policies and strategies both at home and in the context of strategic international developments.

Related resources

- See all material prepared for the FAO Policy Learning Programme
Global Agriculture and Food Facts and Figures

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FOOD AND AGRICULTURE ORGANIZATION OF THE UNITED NATIONS

About EASYPol

The EASYPol home page is available at: www.fao.org/easypol

This presentation belongs to a set of modules which are part of the EASYPol Resource package: FAO Policy Learning Programme : Policy Framework: The Global Policy Environment

EASYPol is a multilingual repository of freely downloadable resources for policy making in agriculture, rural development and food security. The resources are the results of research and field work by policy experts at FAO. The site is maintained by FAO’s Policy Assistance Support Service, Policy and Programme Development Support Division, FAO.

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By the end of the session, participants will:

- Have an overall idea of the global situation and trends in food security and agricultural development.

- Have a clear view of significant differences in performance and trends among countries and regions and how agricultural policies can make a difference;

- Be able to put the issues covered into a clearer perspective.
Module 1, Session 1: Contents

- Trends in undernourishment at global and regional level
- Trends in food consumption and diets
- Driving factors and the role of agriculture
- Production and trade
- Questions for the working group discussion
Trends in undernourishment at global and regional level

852 million people are chronically undernourished

Source: FAO’s State of World Insecurity (SOFI) 2006 report
Prevalence of undernourished varies among regions

**Percentage of undernourished population, 2000-2002**

- **Developing Countries**
- **Asia and the Pacific**
- **Latin America and the Caribbean**
- **Near East and North Africa**
- **Sub-Saharan Africa**
- **Countries in Transition**

Source: SOFI 2006
Trends in undernourishment at global and regional level

The undernourished and the WFS and MDG targets

Two international targets for hunger reduction are the priority: WFS and MDG

Source: SOFI 2006
Progress has been made towards reducing hunger over the past 30 years. However, an acceleration of progress is required.
Trends in undernourishment at global and regional level

Prevalence of undernourishment in developing countries

Source: AT2030/2050, Table 2.3
Trends in undernourishment at global and regional level

Per capita food production (progressive increment)

Index (1970 = 100), *Per caput food production*

Underlying long-term progress in hunger reduction have been sustained gains in per caput food production

Source: FAOSTAT
Almost all the developing country regions (except sub-Saharan Africa) have shared (to different degrees) in this long-term progress in per capita food production.
Trends in food consumption and diets

Dietary energy supply (DES)

**World**

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<thead>
<tr>
<th>Year</th>
<th>Vegetable Oil</th>
<th>Sugar</th>
<th>Meat</th>
<th>Cereals</th>
<th>Other kcal</th>
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**Developing Countries**

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Source: AT2015/2030
This graph illustrates the slower growth in overall demand which translates into a slowdown in what needs to be supplied.
Trends in food consumption and diets

Cereal consumption per person (all uses)

Source: AT2030/2050, Table 3.6
Trends in food consumption and diets

Changes in diet composition in developing countries

Source: AT2030/2050
Driving factors and the role of agriculture

Overall economy and poverty (changes in income)

Source: World Bank and FAO as presented in AT2030/2050, Table 2.5
Agricultural growth is critical for hunger reduction

Source: SOFI 2006
Driving factors and the role of agriculture

Dependence on agriculture of livelihoods in the poorest countries

Even in countries where agriculture is responsible for a small share of GDP, the sector is the main employer.

Source: SOFI 2006
Driving factors and the role of agriculture

Slow-down in world population growth

World population to reach maximum in about 75 years

Source: AT2015/2030
As of 2015, more people will be living in urban areas than in rural areas

Source: AT2015/2030

Driving factors and the role of agriculture

Future acceleration of urbanisation

Population (billions)

- rural
- urban

Source: AT2015/2030
Production and trade

Production and increments developing and developed

Cereals  Meat  Sugar  Vegetable Oils

Source: AT2030/2050

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Production and trade

Cereals: Net trade positions by major regions

Source: AT2030/2050
There is still potential agricultural land that is as yet unused, but while there is enough land globally, there is (and will be) local and regional land scarcity.
Production and trade

Crop production sources of growth for the future

Source: AT2015/2030
Production and trade

Wheat: actual versus potential yields: (high input, suitable land, rain-fed)

Source: AT2015/2030
Questions for the working group discussion

In the context of your country, in your view:

- Which are the most important constraints to reducing undernourishment?

- What is the role of agriculture and rural development in achieving food security?

- Which are the policy options that could contribute to achieving food security?
Further readings


