

2019

# THE STATE OF FOOD SECURITY AND NUTRITION IN THE WORLD

SAFEGUARDING AGAINST ECONOMIC SLOWDOWNS AND DOWNTURNS

CFS Rome | 14 October 2019

# WORLD HUNGER IS STILL NOT GOING DOWN AFTER THREE YEARS

over 820 million people are still hungry today

# LOOKING BEYOND HUNGER

over 2 billion people do not have regular access to safe, nutritious and sufficient food

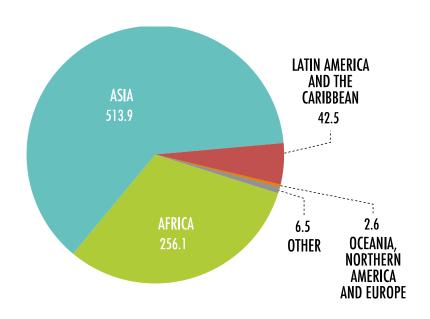
### CHILD STUNTING IS DECREASING

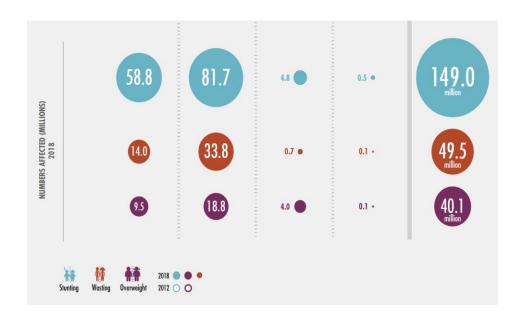
but too slowly to meet 2030 target – nearly 150 million children are stunted

# GROWING GLOBAL EPIDEMIC OF OVERWEIGHT AND OBESITY

### WIDE REGIONAL DIFFERENCES IN TRENDS

Africa and Asia share the greatest burden of hunger and child malnutrition (stunting, wasting and overweight)





Overweight and obesity is highest in North America, Europe, Oceania and Latin America and the Caribbean, however, it is increasing in all regions in the world

### WHAT ARE THE DRIVERS?

Progress has slowed and many countries are experiencing rises in hunger

#### **CONFLICT**











PARTICULARLY IN MIDDLE-INCOME COUNTRIES

FOR COUNTRIES THAT RELY HEAVILY ON INTERNATIONAL TRADE OF PRIMARY COMMODITIES

WHERE INEQUALITIES ARE GREATER ECONOMIC SLOWDOWNS AND DOWNTURNS UNDERMINE FOOD SECURITY AND NUTRITION

### WHAT NEEDS TO BE DONE?

Economic resilience must be strengthened to safeguard food security and nutrition against economic adversity

Multifaceted, multisectoral approach to address the burden of overweight and obesity globally

Transforming agriculture and food systems to deliver sustainable healthy diets

Double-duty actions that address both problems of undernutrition and obesity simultaneously

# Economic resilience must be strengthened to safeguard food security and nutrition against economic adversity

#### **SHORT-TERM ACTIONS**

# COUNTRIES NEED TO PROTECT INCOMES AND PURCHASING POWER WITH:

- Social protection programmes
- Public works programmes
- Health sector policies
- Policies to reduce excessive volatility of food prices

#### **LONG-TERM ACTIONS**

# COUNTRIES NEED TO REDUCE ECONOMIC VULNERABILITIES AND INEQUALITIES:

- Build capacity to withstand shocks
- Create healthier food environments
- Inclusive structural transformation to get away from commodity dependence
- Fostering poverty reduction

# THESE MEASURES AND INVESTMENTS REQUIRE SAVINGS!

when the economy is growing, investing wisely







# HOW TO SAFEGUARD FOOD SECURITY AND NUTRITION?



### TACKLING EXISTING INEQUALITIES WITH:

- PRO-POOR AND INCLUSIVE TRANSFORMATION
- MULTISECTORAL POLICIES

The total number of **obese people** in

the world **surpassed** the total number

of undernourished in 2016.





Preschool children (< 5 years)
Total population = 678 million, of whom

40 million (or 5.9%) are overweight

School-age children (5–9 years)
Total population = 638 million, of whom

131 million (or 20.6%) are overweight



Adolescents (10–19 years)
Total population = 1.2 billion, of whom

207 million (or 17.3%) are overweight

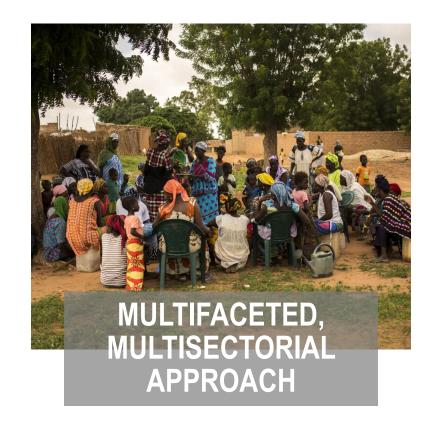


Adults (18+ years)
Total population = 5.1 billion, of whom 2 billion

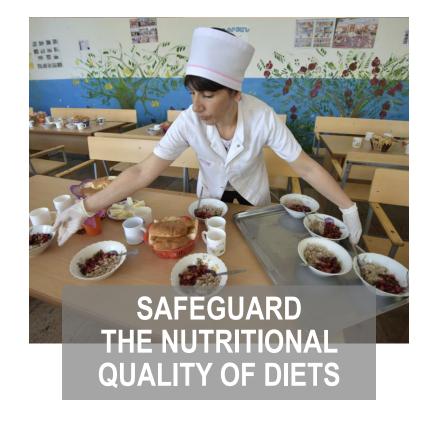
(or 38.9%) are overweight



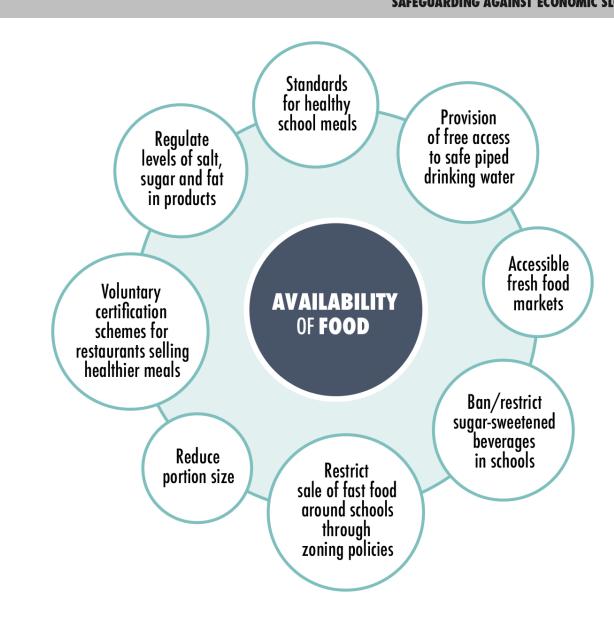
# HOW DO WE TACKLE OVERWEIGHT AND OBESITY?



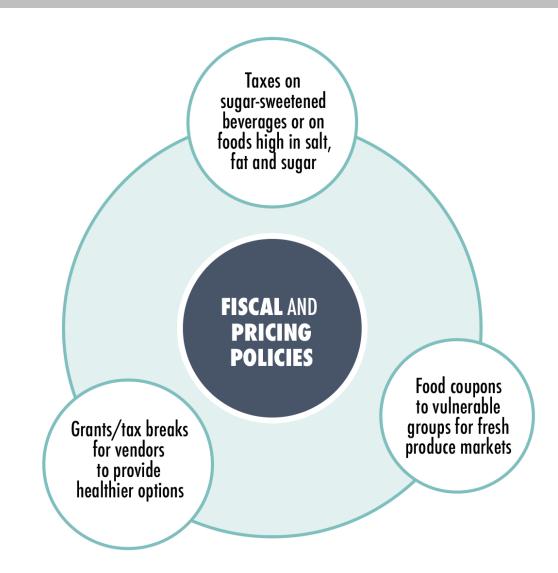




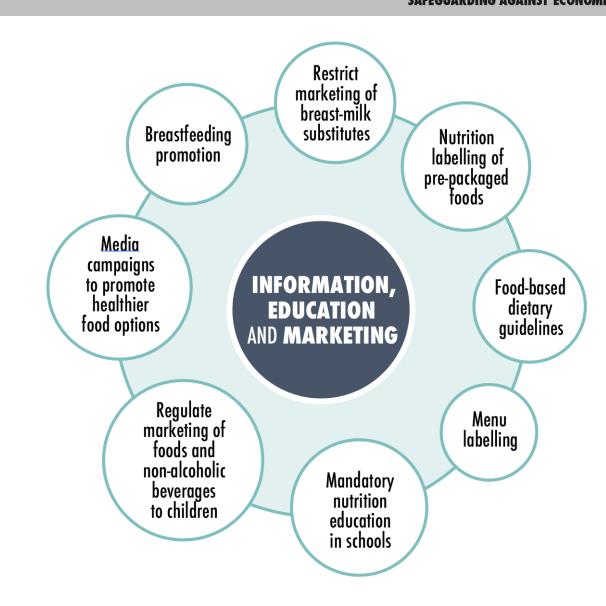
There are a number of policies and programmes aimed at preventing or reducing overweight and obesity



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# **DOUBLE-DUTY ACTIONS**



... ALSO ADDRESS UNDERNUTRITION

#### FOR EXAMPLE



#### **SCHOOL FOOD AND NUTRITION PROGRAMMES:**

- PROVIDE MEALS TO FOOD-INSECURE CHILDREN AND ADOLESCENTS
- ENSURE HEALTHY DIETS

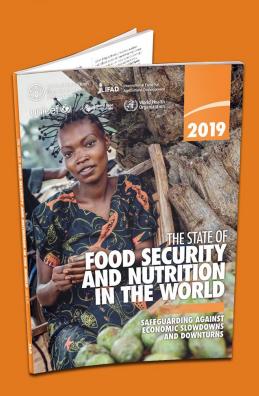


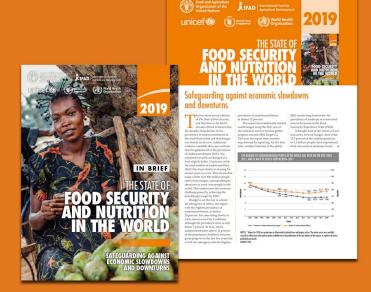














www.fao.org/state-of-food-security-nutrition

# Thank you