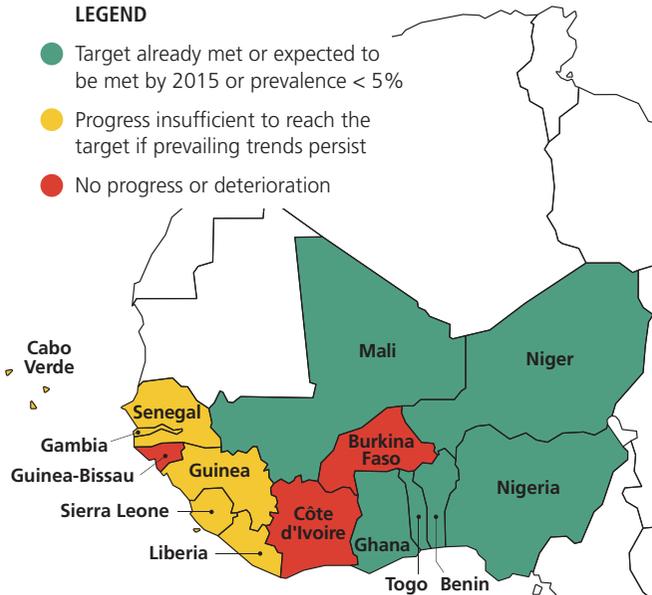


## LEGEND

- Target already met or expected to be met by 2015 or prevalence < 5%
- Progress insufficient to reach the target if prevailing trends persist
- No progress or deterioration



Map based on the **FAO Hunger Map 2013**  
Progress towards the first Millennium Development Goal (MDG) of halving the proportion of hungry people by 2015.

## Why do we need a Zero Hunger Initiative?

While the 15 member countries of ECOWAS have reduced the prevalence of undernourishment from 24% in 1991 to 11% in 2012, this means that there are still close to 35 million people suffering from hunger in the region. Many people in the region lack resources and assets to cope with such shocks. Hunger and poverty is the result.

We need to break this causality with a bold move: Only ZERO is an acceptable number when it comes to hunger!

## Be part of it! Contact us!



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# Zero Hunger Initiative for West Africa

## Eradicating Hunger by 2025



An ECOWAS Initiative supported by the Food and Agriculture Organization of the United Nations (FAO)

## A West African adaptation of a Global Goal

The UN Secretary General, Ban Ki Mon, has launched the Zero Hunger Challenge that proclaims that “hunger can be eliminated in our lifetimes”. This requires comprehensive efforts to ensure that:

- every man, woman and child enjoy their Right to Adequate Food;
- women are empowered;
- priority is given to family farming; and
- food systems everywhere are sustainable.

To reach these goals in West Africa means, building resilience of the vulnerable population.

The Regional Agriculture Investment Plan, the Global Alliance for the Resilience Initiative in the Sahel (AGIR) and all other regional and global efforts of relevance to West African should jointly focus on one paramount goal: Eradicating hunger in the region.

## What exactly is the Zero Hunger Initiative?

It is not a programme but an invitation to action. It **unites** all who are working for food security and an end to hunger, **encourages** them to identify how they can contribute effectively from their own perspective, and **stimulates** a dramatic scale-up of collective efforts. There are many pathways to achieving Zero Hunger.

## Who is involved in this initiative?

In short: **Everyone!**

Eradicating hunger cannot be done by governments and regional bodies on their own. A broad commitment by all actors is needed: Mayors, NGOs, civil society, farmer and consumer organizations, businesses and parliamentarians, the media, faith based organizations, academia – all can contribute to making hunger history.

There is ample scope for committed individuals to champion the Zero Hunger vision.

## Areas of work for the next three years

### Building the Zero Hunger Framework

How can state and non-state actors work together to implement the regional and national agriculture investment plans? The Zero Hunger Initiative provides actors with a common framework for allocating resources, monitoring progress and ensuring accountability.

### Social protection and agriculture programmes

Social protection, such as cash transfer programmes, should be designed with a productive dimension in mind. Beneficiaries of social protection programmes are expected to graduate into the productive workforce.

### Nutrition sensitive agriculture

Malnutrition is an individual tragedy and undermines the region’s human resource potential. An agriculture investment plan may strengthen production for a business – but it should also ensure that nutritious and healthy food is produced for consumption.

