



The State of Food Insecurity in the World 2014

**Strengthening the enabling environment
to improve food security and nutrition**

Pietro Gennari

Director, FAO Statistics Division and Chief Statistician

<http://www.fao.org/publications/sofi>



Organized in three sections:

1. Undernourishment trends around the world.
2. Beyond undernourishment: monitoring the different dimensions of food security through the suite of indicators.
3. The enabling environment to improve food security and nutrition: lessons from analysis of 7 country experiences.

The undernourishment indicator



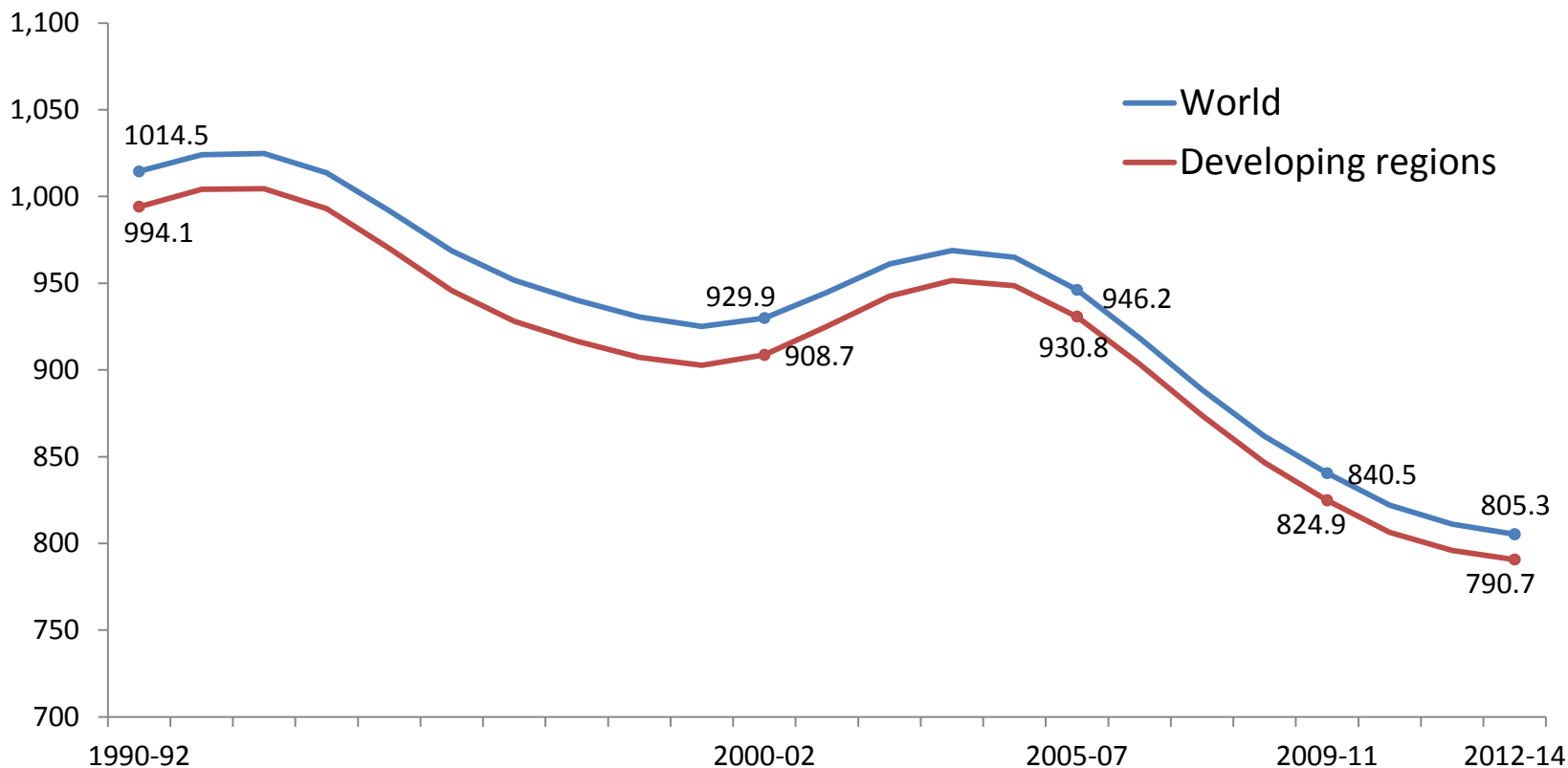
- **Prevalence of Undernourishment (PoU)**: probability that an average person in the population is consuming an amount of dietary energy which is insufficient to cover his/her requirement for an active and healthy life.
- **Number of Undernourished (NoU)** obtained by multiplying the PoU by the population size.
- Continuous effort to improve the methodology (major revision in 2012).
- Refinements introduced in 2014:
 - Use of household surveys for 18 additional countries
 - New methodology for estimating inequalities in food consumption
 - Minimal impact on the time series at the global level

Details in Annex 2 of the report and in the FAO-ESS working papers

Undernourishment around the world



- **805 million people** suffering from chronic hunger in 2012–14, down 100 million in the last decade, 209 million lower than in 1990–92.
- The vast majority, **791 million**, live in **developing countries**.



Progress towards international hunger targets

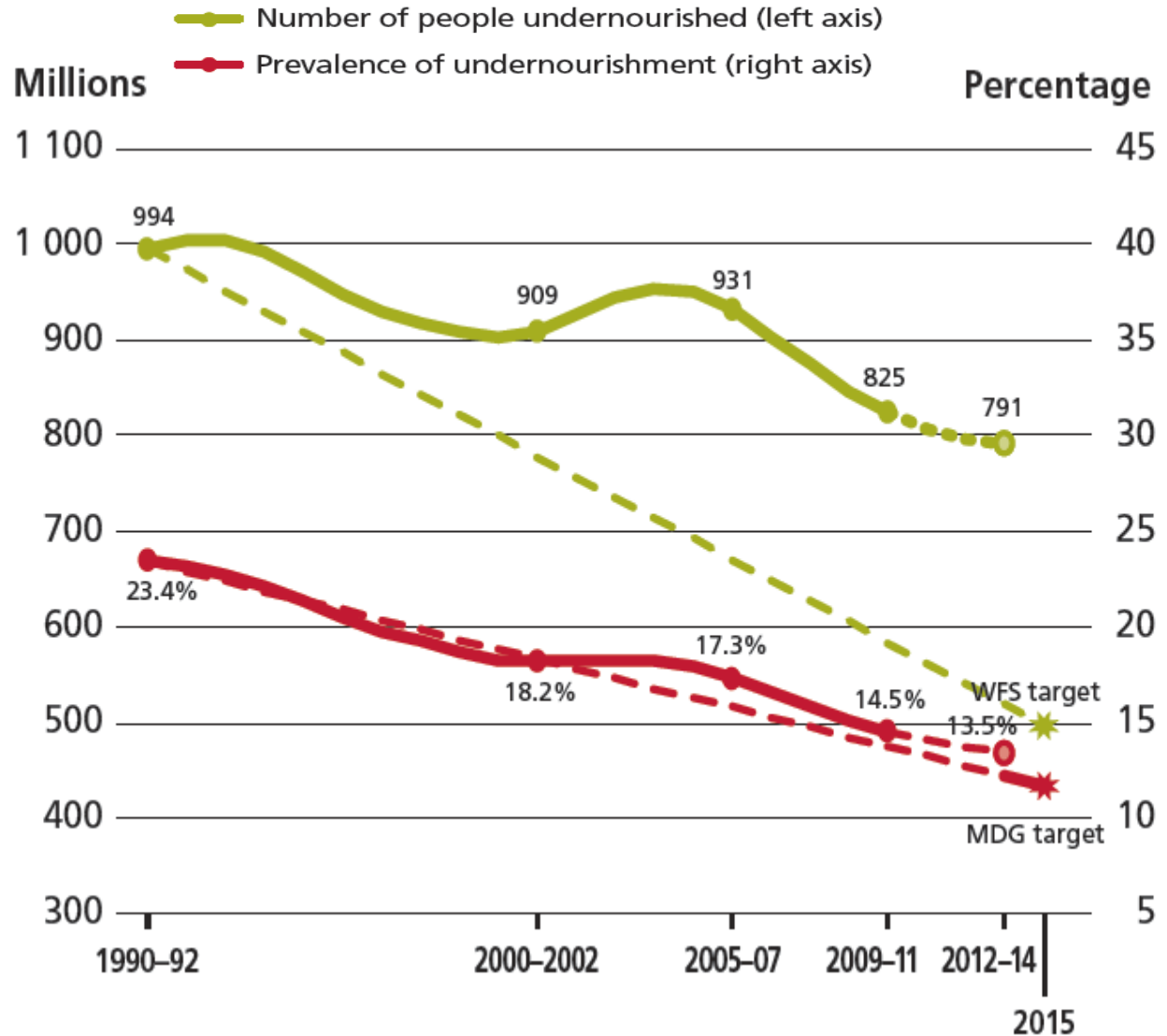


The **MDG 1c** hunger target is **within reach** with additional efforts.

The **WFS** goal will not be achieved.

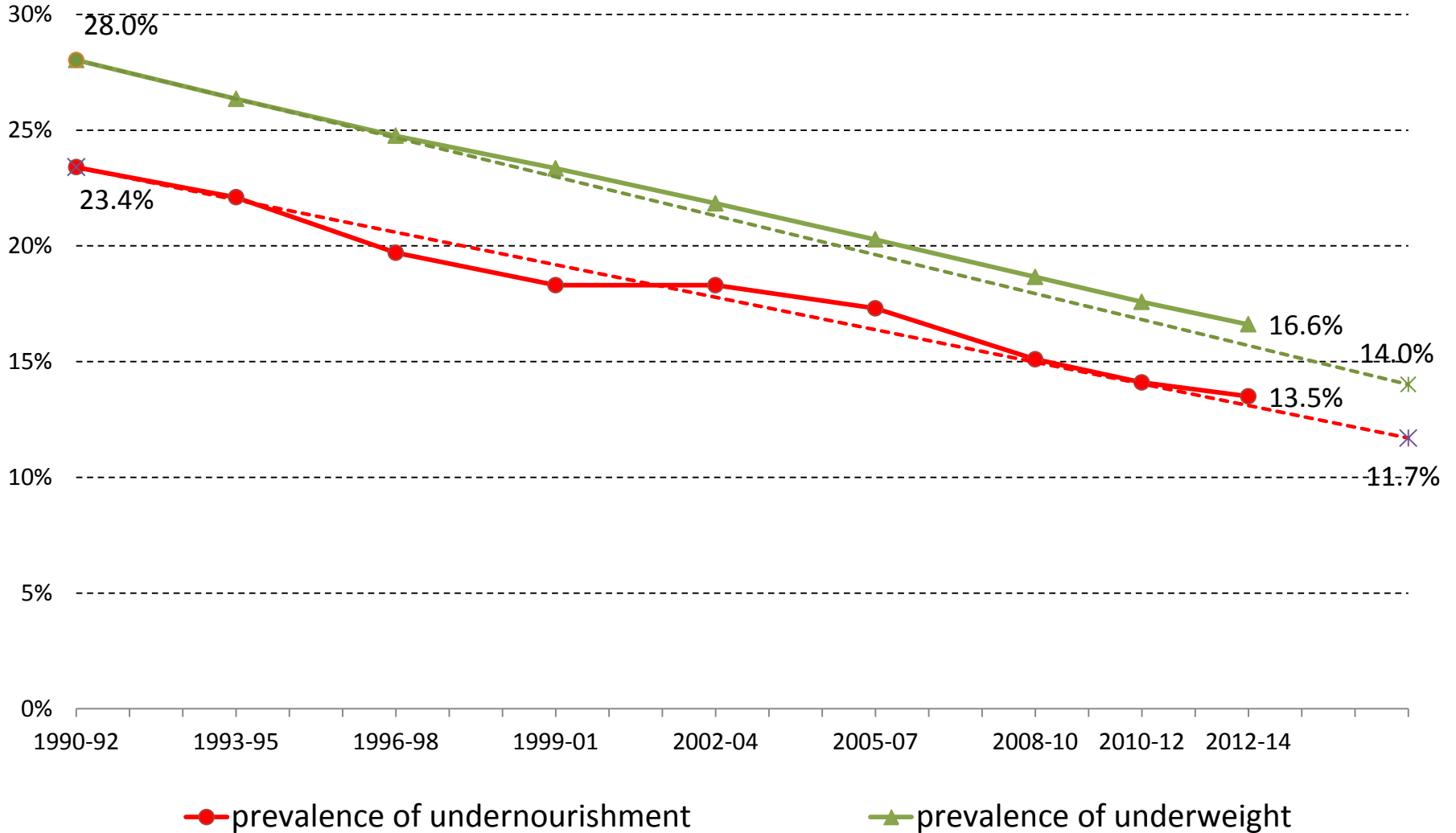
63 countries have already reached MDG 1c

25 countries have achieved the more stringent **WFS** goal.

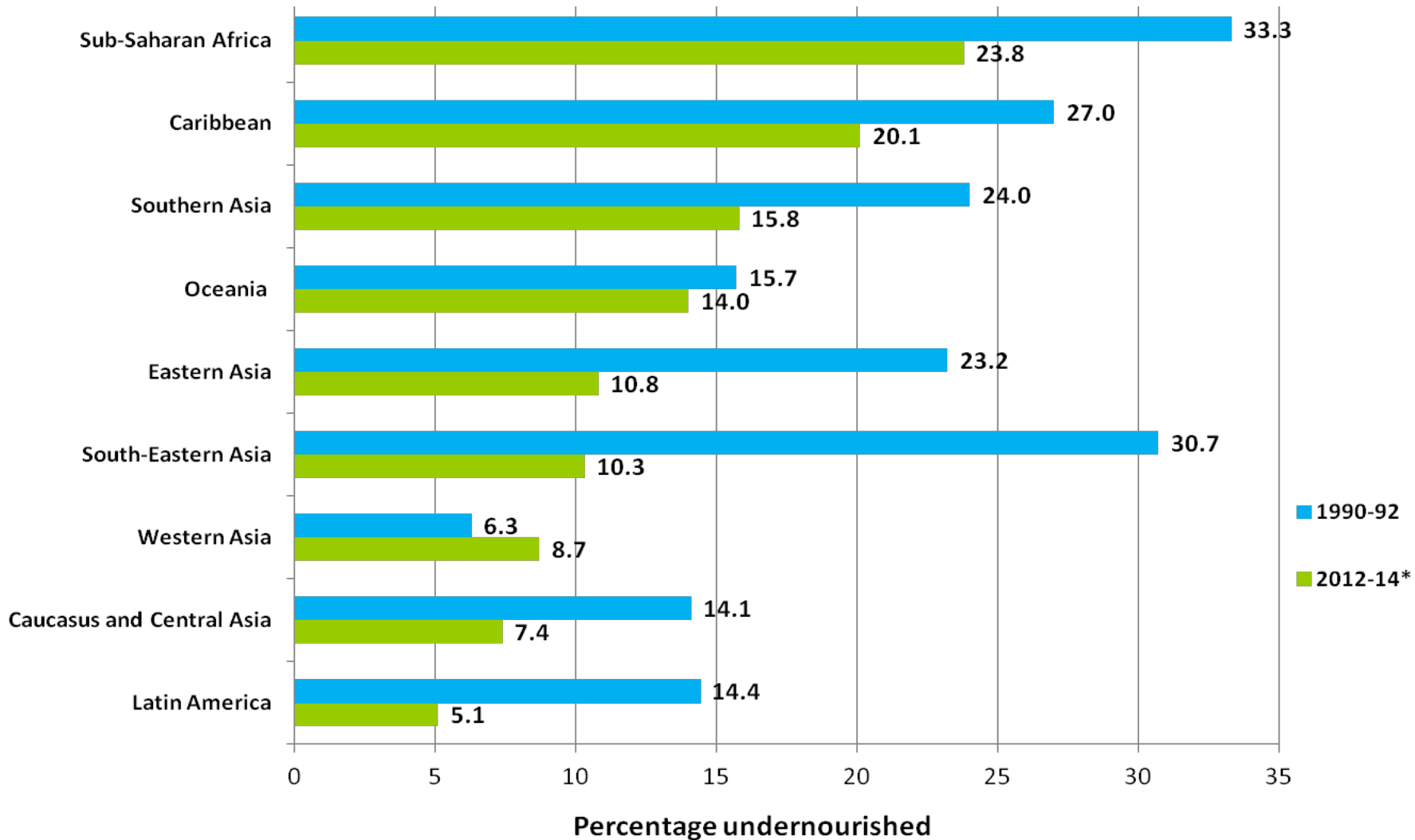




Developing regions



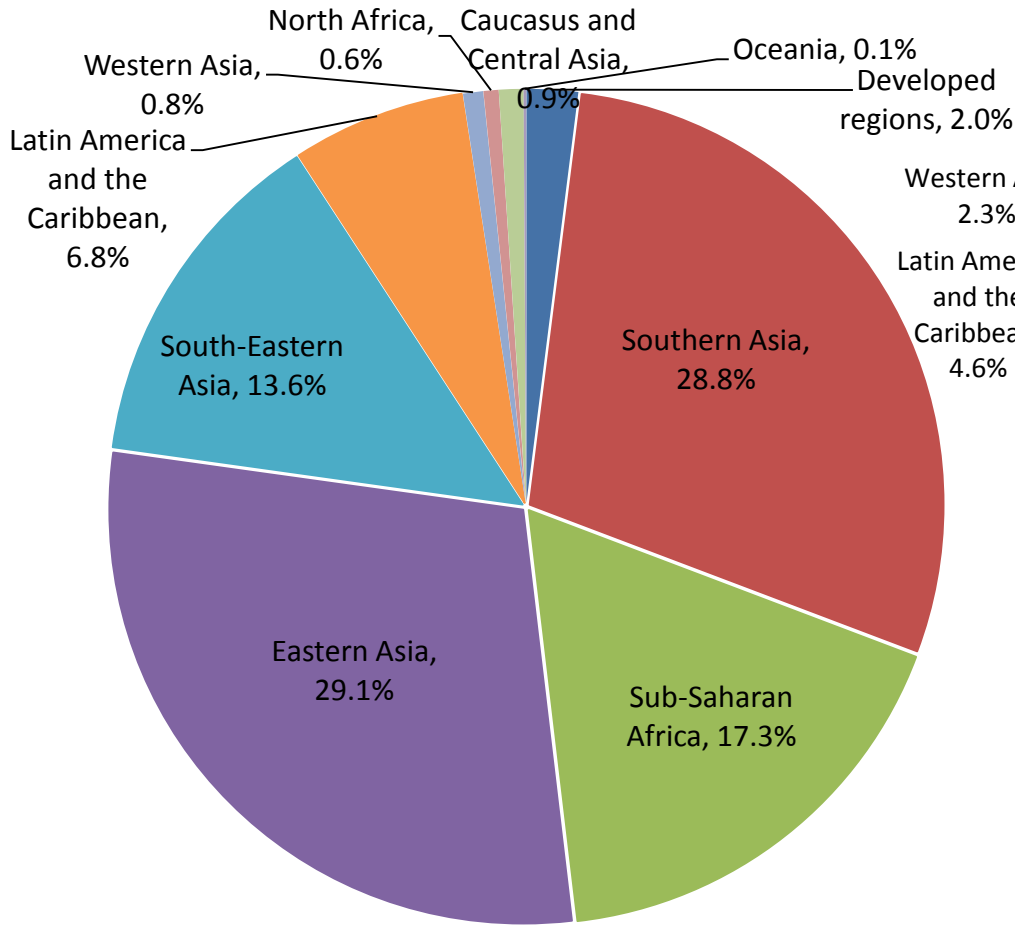
Progress in most regions, but uneven



Changing distribution of world hunger

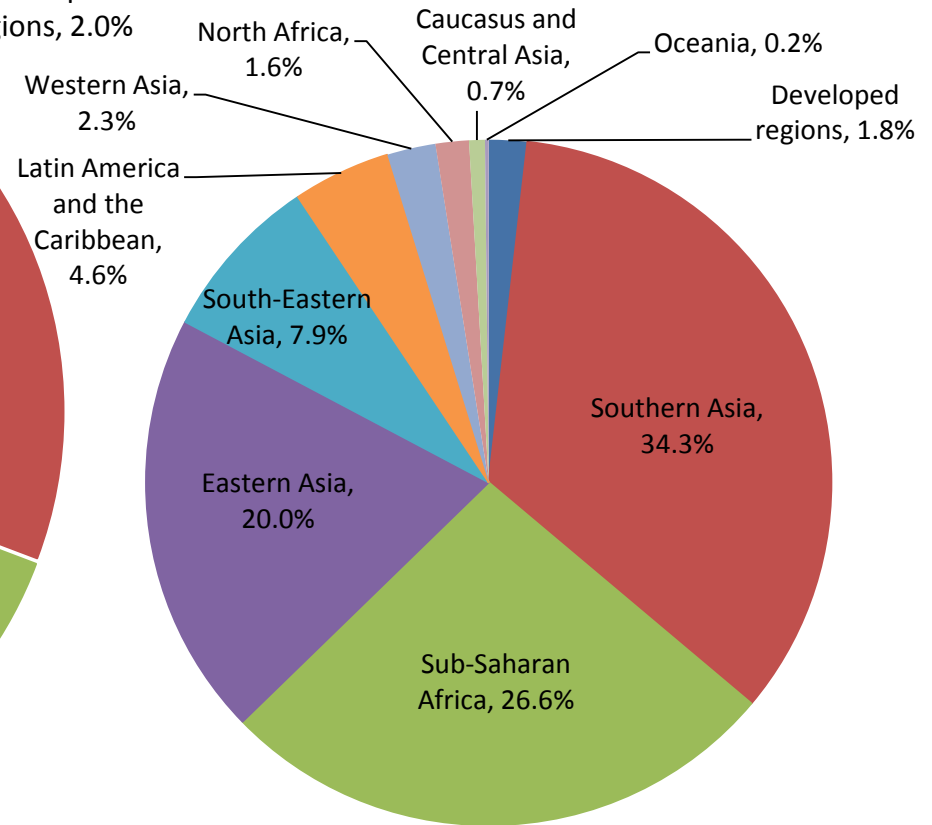


1990–92



Total = 1015 million

2012–14



Total = 805 million



- About **805 million** people chronically undernourished in 2012–14. **Decline of 209 million since 1990–92**, and of 100 million since 2000.
- **Majority** of hungry (791 million) **live in developing countries**.
- Between 1990–92 and 2012–14, **the PoU has fallen from 23.4% to 13.5%** in developing countries.
- The **MDG 1c hunger target is within reach**, but large differences across developing regions remain.
 - East Asia, South-East Asia, Latin America & the Caribbean have already achieved the MDG hunger target.
 - LA and South-East Asia have also reached the WFS goal.
 - Insufficient progress in sub-Saharan Africa, South Asia and Oceania
 - West Asia is moving away from the target.
- In total, **63 countries have already reached MDG 1c, 25 the WFS goal**.

Suite of food security indicators



FOOD SECURITY INDICATORS	DIMENSION
Average dietary energy supply adequacy Average value of food production	AVAILABILITY
Share of dietary energy supply derived from cereals, roots and tubers Average protein supply Average supply of protein of animal origin	
Percentage of paved roads over total roads Road density Rail lines density	
Gross domestic product per capita (in purchasing power equivalents)	ACCESS
Domestic food price index	
Prevalence of undernourishment Share of food expenditure of the poor* Depth of the food deficit* Prevalence of food inadequacy*	
Cereal import dependency ratio Percent of arable land equipped for irrigation Value of food imports over total merchandise exports	STABILITY
Political stability and absence of violence/terrorism Domestic food price volatility Per capita food production variability* Per capita food supply variability	
Access to improved water sources Access to improved sanitation facilities	
Percentage of children under 5 years of age affected by wasting Percentage of children under 5 years of age who are stunted Percentage of children under 5 years of age who are underweight Percentage of adults who are underweight* Prevalence of anaemia among pregnant women* Prevalence of anaemia among children under 5 years of age* Prevalence of vitamin A deficiency in the population* Prevalence of iodine deficiency in the population*	UTILIZATION

Suite of food security indicators



Availability: Indicators of **quantity** (adequacy of dietary energy supply & average value of food production), but also **quality and diversity of food** (share of calories derived from cereals, roots and tubers; average protein supply; average supply of animal-source proteins).

Access: indicators of **physical access** (railway and road density); **economic access** (food price index, GDP per capita, PoU and share of food expenditure of the poor).

Stability: indicators of **exposure to food security risks** (cereal dependency ratio, area under irrigation, and value of staple food imports as % of total merchandise exports); **incidence of shocks** (food price volatility, fluctuations in domestic food supply, & political instability).

Utilization: **ability to utilize food** (access to water & sanitation); **outcomes of poor food utilization** (wasting, stunting and underweight of children); **micronutrient deficiencies** (prevalence of anaemia & vitamin A deficiency among children; prevalence of iodine deficiency & anaemia in pregnant women).



- **Availability** has improved considerably over the past two decades, BUT insufficient availability in poorer regions, notably sub-Saharan Africa and parts of South Asia.
- **Access** to food has improved quickly in countries showing **rapid economic progress and poverty reduction**, notably East & South-East Asia. Access has also improved in parts of South Asia & Latin America, **where adequate safety nets and social protection were provided**.
- **Utilization**, despite progress over past two decades, remains the **greatest challenge**, with stunting and micronutrient deficiencies remaining stubbornly high.
- **Stability** has shown **little progress** due to growing **political instability** and **price instability**, esp. in regions heavily reliant on international food markets, such as Near East, North Africa and Caribbean.

Section Two: key findings by region



- **Sub-Saharan Africa:** low availability, despite improved supplies of energy and protein; poor access to food with sluggish income growth, high poverty rates and insufficient infrastructure; poor food utilization.
- **South Asia:** main challenge is poor food utilization as a result of poor hygienic conditions and inadequate sanitation facilities. Access also still a problem due to large income disparities.
- **East and South-East Asia:** rapid progress on all four food security dimensions over the past two decades.
- **North Africa:** high levels of access and availability, reflecting rises in income levels and extensive policy interventions; persistent, albeit contained, problems of food utilization; exposure to instability.
- **Latin America:** high food availability; improved food access, especially in countries with targeted social protection measures.

Section Three: strengthening the enabling environment



Seven country case studies:

- Bolivia, Brazil, Haiti, (FAO)
- Indonesia, Malawi (IFAD)
- Madagascar, Yemen (WFP)

Selection to cover different regions as well as **different institutional, political, cultural and structural country contexts:**

- some achieved the MDG, others have not yet
- some have experienced political instability or conflict
- different cultural identities
- different agricultural sectors and stages of development.

Country offices of the 3 RBAs have contributed to the preparation of the case studies.

Section Three: strengthening the enabling environment



- **Objective:**
 - emphasize strong intersectoral perspective of food security and nutrition
 - the need for enabling environment that creates incentives for all stakeholders and allows them to participate in policy formulation and implementation
- **Discussion based on the four dimensions of the enabling environment:**
 - policies, programmes and legal frameworks
 - human and financial resources
 - coordination mechanisms and partnerships
 - evidence-based decision-making

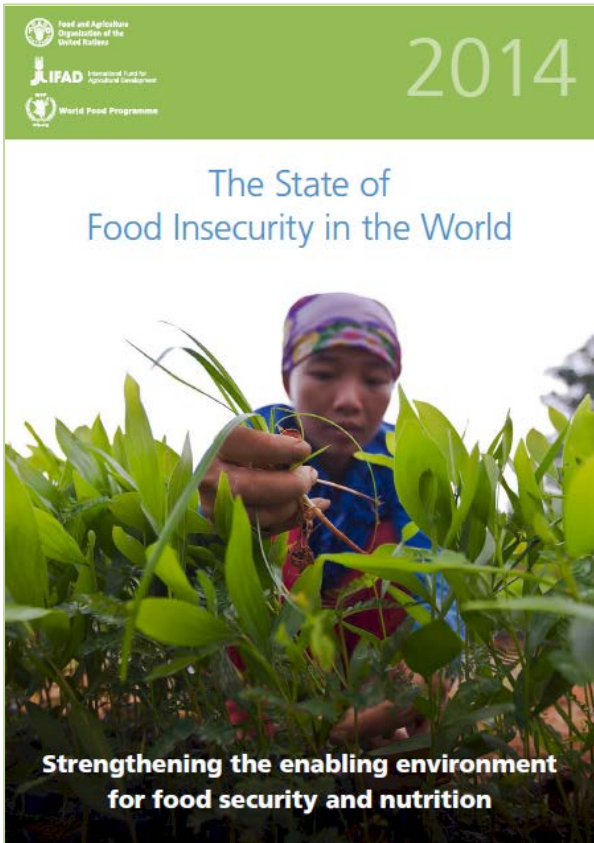


- **Sustained political commitment** at the highest level is crucial – legal frameworks can ensure that all actors work responsibly.
- **Institutional and governance mechanisms** that promote cooperation and coordination between ministries and facilitate coordination of actions and policy coherence.
- **Broad participation** in policy formulation and implementation is necessary to take into consideration the views of all and empower the poor and the vulnerable to voice their needs.
- Coherent approach and **integrated policy instruments** to ensure complementarities can maximize impacts and benefits.

Thank you



For more information ...



The State of
**Food Insecurity in
the World**

The international reference
on global hunger issues



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