



SDG 2: ZERO HUNGER



End hunger, achieve food security and improved nutrition and promote sustainable agriculture



FACTS AND FIGURES

- **Between 691 million and 783 million** people faced hunger in 2022. Considering the midrange (735 million), **122 million more** people faced hunger in 2022 than in 2019.
- Globally in 2022, an estimated **148 million (22.3%) children** were affected by stunting, **37 million (5.6%)** were overweight, while **45 million (6.8%)** experienced wasting.
- **Record-high food prices** in 2022 worsened **purchasing power and access to food**, negatively impacting food security and nutritional outcomes.
- Globally, the proportion of countries facing moderately to abnormally high food prices rose sharply in 2022, reaching a **new record high of 58.1%**. This represented a **nearly fourfold** increase from the 2015-2019 average level of 15.2%.
- In 95% of countries with available data, the average annual income of **small-scale producers is less than half** that of larger-scale producers. Small-scale food producers **headed by men** typically generate higher incomes than those headed by women.
- Between 2015 and 2022, global **government spending on agriculture** increased steadily, reaching a **record high of \$749 billion** in 2022. However, government expenditure on agriculture **relative to the sector's GDP contribution declined** from 0.5 in 2015 to 0.43 in 2021 **before rebounding** to 0.48 in 2022.
- From 2015 to 2022, the **volume of aid** for agriculture provided to developing countries increased **by 47.2%**, from \$12.3 billion to **\$18.1 billion** (in constant 2022 prices).
- Data from 2021 showed that the world was **at a moderate distance** from achieving productive and sustainable agriculture (**with a score of 3.4 out of 5**), with the highest score of 4.1 in Europe and Northern American compared to the lowest score of 2.6 in the LDCs.

2 ZERO HUNGER



To learn more about global progress on the 17 SDGs, [click here](#) to read the latest Sustainable Development Goals Report 2024.



WHERE WE STAND

- Nearly **1 in 10 people** globally face hunger. In 2022, **2.4 billion** people experienced **moderate to severe food insecurity**.
- Despite progress, **148 million children under age 5** suffered from stunting in 2022. If current trends persist, **1 in 5 children under age 5** will be affected by stunting in 2030.
- In 2022, almost **60% of countries** worldwide faced **moderately to abnormally high food prices** due to the spillover effects of conflicts.
- Achieving zero hunger requires intensified efforts to **transform food systems** so they are sustainable, resilient and equitable. Moreover, accelerating improvements in **diets, nutrition, health and hygiene** is crucial to meeting the SDG target of halving the number of children suffering from chronic undernutrition.

SPOTLIGHT



UN SYSTEM IN ACTION

FOOD SYSTEMS TRANSFORMATION

The **High Impact Initiative on Food Systems Transformation** aims mobilize commitments from Member States to prioritize their journey of food systems transformation to ensure food security and healthy diets for all. The initiative calls on UN Agencies, international financial institutions (IFIs), the private sector, civil society partners and all relevant stakeholders to assist countries in this journey. Further, academia will help assure state of the art science and innovation is part of this process. Building on the outcomes of the Food Systems Summit 2021 and the UNFSS+2 Stocktaking Moment, and ongoing means of implementation that will help to accelerate national processes (such as [Hand-in-Hand Initiative](#), [School Meals Coalition](#), [Food is Never Waste Coalition](#), [Coalition of Action on Healthy Diets](#), [Zero Hunger Coalition](#), among others). The initiative will achieve its objectives through three key pillars:

- The development and provision of **tools, methods, models, and analyses** that leverage the best results obtained from the implementation of the FSS recommendations, including the advantages of applying a territorial approach and data resources of the Hand-in-Hand Geospatial Platform.
- A **flexible and innovative approach to partnership** based on identifying technical and programmatic challenges and supporting the design and implementation of innovative solutions.
- The pooling of existing investments and, where appropriate, the deployment of **new financial instruments** as well as **risk-reducing or risk-sharing financial structures**, as investment is an indispensable driver of transformative change.

For more information about the high impact initiative, please visit [here](#).

- Led by an Oversight Steering Group comprising the Principals of **FAO, WFP, IFAD, UN-DCO** and the UN "Food Systems Task Force" Leads (**WHO and UNDP**), the **United Nations Food Systems Coordination Hub** serves countries through systemic, country-driven, customized support in translating their commitments into effective actions to reach sustainable food systems by 2030, leveraging the wider UN system's capacities. (see its [2024-2026 work plan](#))
- **The State of Food Security and Nutrition in the World** report, co-published by **FAO, IFAD, UNICEF, WFP and WHO**, provides an annual update on global progress towards the targets of ending hunger (SDG Target 2.1) and all forms of malnutrition (SDG Target 2.2).
- With **UNIDO and FAO** leading at the global level, **ILO and UNFPA** at the country-level, the **Agrifood Systems Transformation Accelerator (ASTA)** assists countries in transforming their agrifood systems by facilitating innovative partnership and SDG-compliant investments in selected value chains. It designs and implements catalytic systems-based projects that create new opportunities and partnership at the interface between the public, private and civil society sectors.
- The **Humanitarian-Development-Peace (HDP) Nexus Coalition**, co-led by the Stockholm International Peace Research Institute (SIPRI), Group of 7+, **FAO and WFP**, funded by the EU and hosted by the Global Network Against Food Crises, aims to contribute to ending hunger through pursuing peace and unleashing the potential of sustainable food systems to enhance the prospects for peace.
- The **Sustainable Rice Landscapes Initiative**, a collaborative initiative of WBCSD, SRP, **FAO, UNEP, IRRI, GIZ**, brings together diverse stakeholder to promote more sustainable rice production practices and products to deliver a range of local and global environmental benefits.
- Working with relevant government ministries and local stakeholders, **FAO's Global Network of Digital Agriculture Innovation Hubs** initiative aims to establish a global network of interconnected national Digital Agriculture Innovation Hubs to share knowledge, experience and expertise.
- The Thirteen Replenishment of **IFAD Resources (IFAD13)** aims to deliver a programme of work of USD10 billion and generate a significant impact for over 100 million rural people, including the endorsement of the **Additional Climate Contribution (ACC)** as a new instrument to attract new climate finance to small-scale agriculture.
- **UNICEF** continue to implement nutrition programmes in **140 countries** including in development and humanitarian settings, and in fragile contexts to reach **over 430 million children and caregivers** with policies, programmes and services for the prevention of malnutrition in early childhood.

* This is not an exhaustive list of UN system actions to implement the Sustainable Development Goals. For more information, please visit

Expert
Group
Meeting
on **SDG 2**



UN DESA, FAO, with the support of interested UN entities, organized an **Expert Group Meeting on SDG 2 and its interlinkages with other SDGs** in Rome, Italy on 26-27 March 2024 to inform the thematic review at 2024 HLPF. >>> [LEARN MORE](#)



**UN SYSTEM SDG
IMPLEMENTATION
DATABASE**