

UN Water - Factsheets on Water

- There are 276 transboundary river basins in the world and 200 transboundary aquifers have also been identified (most in Europe, least in South America)
- Almost 450 agreements on international waters were signed between 1820 and 2007.
- 7 billion people to feed today, 9 billion in 2050 = 60% more food needed and 19% increase of agricultural water consumption by 2050.
- Global water withdrawals; 70 % agriculture, 10% domestic, 20% industry
- 1 in 9 people worldwide doesn't have access to improved sources of drinking water and one in three lacks improved sanitation.
- The major sources of water pollution are from human settlements and industrial and agricultural activities.
- 80% of sewage in developing countries is discharged untreated directly into water bodies.
- Nitrate from agriculture is the most common chemical contaminant in the world's groundwater aquifers.
- Industry dumps an estimated 300-400 MT of polluted waste in waters every year.
- Approx. 3.5 million people die each year due to inadequate water supply, sanitation, and hygiene.
- 1.8 billion people gained access to improved sanitation facilities between 1990 and 2010.
- 2.5 billion people still lack improved sanitation. 1.1 billion people still practice open defecation, that's 15% of the world population.
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- Access to sanitation, the practice of good hygiene, and a safe water supply could save 1.5 million children a year.
- In 2010, 63% of the world population had access to sanitation.

- Every 20 seconds, a child dies as a result of poor sanitation.
- By 2025, 1800 million people will be living in countries or regions with absolute water scarcity, and two-thirds of the world population could be under stress conditions.
- 50% of the developing world and 18% of the developed world will show increased in water withdrawals by 2025.
- Water use has been growing at more than twice the rate of population increase in the last century.
- Adaptation to climate change is mainly about better water management.
- Every second, the urban population grows by 2 people.
- More than half of the world population — over 3.5 billion people — lives in cities.
- There is better access to water and sanitation services in urban areas.
- 827.6 million people live in slums.
- The world slum population should reach 888 million by 2020.
- Water-related disasters from 2000 to 2006 inflicted more than \$422 billion of damage
- More than 83% disasters occurred in Asia.
- Floods, droughts, and windstorms have been the most frequently occurring disasters events since 1990 (88.5%).
- Since 1900 more than 11 million people have died as a consequence of drought and more than 2 billion have been affected by drought, more than any other physical hazard
- In Africa, 90% of the work of gathering water and wood is done by women.
- Women and girls often spend up to 6 hours every day fetching water.
- With the same access to productive resources as men, including water, women could increase yields on their farms by 20–30% and lift 150 million people out of hunger
- Involving women can increase the effectiveness water projects 6 to 7 times.
- Freshwater holds over 10% of all life on the planet and 35% of all vertebrates.
- Between 1970 and 2000, populations of freshwater species declined by 55% as compared with a decline of about 32% for both marine and terrestrial species.

*US Geological Survey - "The World's Water"*

Only 2.5% of all Earth's water is freshwater.

Only 1.2% of freshwater is surface water.

Only 0.49% of surface water is from rivers.

Only 20.9% of surface water is from lakes.

*World Food Programme - "Learn more about Hunger"*

- 805 million undernourished people in the world today (1 in 9).
- On average, the body needs more than 2,100 calories per day per person; extra-energy is needed during pregnancy and while breast-feeding.
- Hunger kills more people every year than AIDS, malaria, and TB combined.
- The vast majority of the world's hungry people live in developing countries, where 13.5 percent of the population is undernourished.
- Asia is the continent with the most hungry people — two-thirds of the total. The percentage in southern Asia has fallen in recent years but in western Asia it has increased slightly.
- Sub-Saharan Africa is the region with the highest prevalence (percentage of population) of hunger. (1 in 4 is undernourished)
- Poor nutrition causes nearly half (45%) of deaths in children under five. (3.1 million per year)
- One out of six children (100 million) in developing countries is underweight.
- One in four of the world's children are stunted. In developing countries the proportion can rise to one in three.
- If women farmers had the same access to resources as men, the number of hungry in the world could be reduced by up to 150 million.
- 66 million primary school-age children attend classes hungry across the developing world, with 23 million in Africa alone.
- WFP calculates that \$3.2 billion is needed per year to reach all 66 million hungry school-age children.
- Famine: (1) at least 20% of households face extreme food shortages with limited ability to cope (2) the prevalence of global acute malnutrition must exceed 30% (3) death rates must exceed 2 deaths per 10,000 people per day.
- Emergencies account for less than 8% of hunger's victims.
- The percentage of hungry people is highest in east, central, and southern Africa.
- Of the total number of the 870 million chronically hungry people, over half are in Asia and the Pacific and about a quarter in Sub-Saharan Africa.

*Water.org - "Water facts"*

- More than 840,000 people die each year from a water related disease - diarrhea - 2,300 people per day
- 750 million people lack access to clean water (2.5x the US population) - (~1 in 9)
- 82% of those who lack access to improved water live in rural areas while just 18% live in urban areas

*Global Water Partnership - Water Statistics*

- Volume of freshwater is only 2.5% of that total volume (35 million km<sup>3</sup>).
- Of all the freshwater on Earth, only about 0.3 percent is contained in rivers and lakes
- 1/3 of the world's population lacks sufficient access to safe drinking water and sanitation to meet their basic needs.
- 900 million people rely on unimproved drinking-water supplies.
- In forty years - global water use has doubled.
- Natural disasters - 90% were water-related events, 97% of victims in developing countries.
- Only 4% of all official development aid is allocated to the water sector, declining
- In absolute terms, total aid of all aspects for water is increased (OECD) but fell from 8% to 5% of total ODA.
- Currently 87% of the world uses drinking water from improved sources, as compared to 77% in 1990.
- GDP of many african counties is strongly correlated with rainfall patterns.
- Number of people living in water-stressed countries will increase from about 700 million today to more than 3 billion in 2025.
- 3 million people yearly dies prematurely from water-related diseases; the majority and women and children in rural poor areas who lack access to safe water and sanitation
- 884 million people do not get their drinking water from improved sources.
- Unclean water and poor sanitation are the second largest cause of death in children.
- Half of all people in developing countries suffer at any given time from a health problem caused by water and sanitation deficits.
- Among the 2.6 billion people in the world who do not use improved sanitation facilities, by far the greatest number are in Southeastern Asia.
- Even if the world reaches the MDG target on safe drinking water, 672 million people will still lack access to improved drinking water sources in 2015.

- The number of hungry people increased between 1995-97 and 2004-06 in all regions except Latin America and the Caribbean.
  - An estimated 146 million children in developing countries are underweight.
  - Micronutrient deficiencies afflict nearly 2 billion people worldwide
  - Iron - productivity, cognitive development
  - Vitamin A - child blindness, increased risk of dying from diarrhea, measles, and malaria
  - Iodine - mentally impaired
  - Zinc - growth failure, weakened immunity
  - Wasting is acute malnutrition.
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98% of hungry people are in developing countries

- 526 million in Asia and the Pacific
  - 227 million in Africa
  - 37 million in Latin America / Caribbean
  - 15 million in developed countries
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- Three-quarters of all hungry people live in rural areas.
- Around half of the world's hungry people are from smallholder farming communities.
- Up to 17 million children are born underweight annually.
- Around 50 percent of pregnant women in developing countries are iron deficient.
- Investment in agriculture is five times more effective in reducing poverty and hunger than investment in any other sector.
- Ongoing conflict in Somalia and the Democratic Republic of Congo has contributed significantly to the level of hunger in the two countries. By comparison, hunger is on the retreat in more peaceful parts of Africa such as Ghana and Rwanda.
- One third of all food produced (1.3 billion tons) is never consumed.
- Causes of hunger: (1) poverty trap (2) lack of investment in agriculture (3) climate and weather (4) war and displacement (5) unstable markets (6) food wastage.
- Two sides to eliminating malnutrition: (1) sustaining the quality and quantity of food a person eats (2) ensuring adequate health care and a healthy environment.
- "Window of opportunity" - first two years

**Feed the Future - The US Government's Global Hunger and Food Security - "Feed the Future Progress Report"**

- The report shows that Feed the Future is demonstrating country-level results that affect millions of households. In 2013 alone, the initiative reached more than 12.5 million children with nutrition interventions that can help ensure a stronger and more successful future. Feed the Future helped nearly 7 million farmers and food producers use new technologies and management practices on more than 4 million hectares of land.
- Obama pledged at the 2009 G-8 Summit in L'Aquila, Italy, to mobilize at least \$3.5 billion toward global food security.
- **UNDER FEED THE FUTURE, THE UNITED STATES HAS OBLIGATED MORE THAN \$4.2 BILLION TOWARD GLOBAL FOOD SECURITY**
- The New Alliance for Food Security and Nutrition has enabled reforms from 10 AFRICAN GOVERNMENTS \$7 billion in commitments from more than 160 global and local companies.
- Undernutrition costs low- and middle-income countries up to 8 percent of their potential economic growth.
- **USADF'S FOOD SECURITY PROGRAMS HELPED CREATE MORE THAN \$21 MILLION IN NEW ECONOMIC ACTIVITIES.**

United Nations - "Eradicate Extreme Poverty and Hunger"

GOAL 1: Eradicate extreme poverty and hunger

*TARGETS*

- 1) Halve, between 1990 and 2015, the proportion of people whose income is less than \$1 a day.
- 2) Achieve full and productive employment and decent work for all, including women and young people.
- 3) Halve, between 1990 and 2015, the proportion of people who suffer from hunger.

*FAST FACTS*

- The proportion of people living in extreme poverty declined by half at the global level.
- In developing regions, the proportion of people living on less than \$1.25 a day fell from 47 per cent in 1990 to 22 per cent in 2010, five years ahead of schedule.
- While the proportion of undernourished people globally decreased from 23.2 per cent in 1990-1992 to 14.9 per cent in 2010-2012, this still leaves 870 million people—one in eight worldwide—going hungry.

*WHERE WE ARE*

**Extreme poverty rates have fallen in every developing region. 1.2 billion people are still living in extreme poverty.**

**The target of halving the percentage of people suffering from hunger is within reach. People going hungry: one in eight worldwide—and globally an estimated one in six children under five is underweight.**

**South-eastern Asia is the first developing region to reach the hunger reduction target ahead of 2015. The proportion of undernourished people in the total population of the region has decreased from 29.6 per cent in 1990-1992 to 10.9 per cent in 2010-2012.**

**The slowing of economic growth spells continued job losses, with young people bearing the brunt of the crisis. A gap of 67 million people without jobs. Though the number of workers living with their families in extreme poverty—on less than \$1.25 a day—has declined dramatically over the past decade, by 294 million, new estimates show that 60.9 per cent of workers in the developing world still live on less than \$4 a day.**

*Foreign Policy Association - "Food and Climate" in Great Decisions*

- According to U.S. Forest Chief Tom Tidwell, on average wildfires burn twice as many acres each year as compared to forty years ago.
- In 2012, Arctic sea ice extent declined to the smallest ever observed in the satellite era, and studies have indicated that it was very likely the smallest extent on record, based on observations taken by Cold War-era submarine cruises under the Arctic ice pack.
- These ice sheets of Antarctica and Greenland contain 99 percent of the freshwater ice on our planet.
- The ozone hole above Antarctica is one of the largest ozone holes in the world, which has resulted in warmer temperatures in the region.
- Sea levels would rise 20 feet if the Greenland Ice Sheet melted and 200 feet if the Antarctic Ice Sheet melted. This would result in coastal flooding of the most powerful economic cities on the face of the Earth, including New York City.
- More extreme temperature and precipitation can harm and prevent crops from growing and may also reduce yields. For example, in 2008, the Mississippi River flooded just before the harvest period for many crops, causing an estimated loss of \$8 billion for farmers.
- Two-thirds of the world's cities have populations of five million or more living in at-risk areas that are less than 10 meter above sea level.
- Thirteen of the world's fifteen largest cities are on coastal plains, facing a severe risk of inundation with a 39-inch (1m) rise in sea level.
- In 2012, the U.S. broke high temperature records at a ratio of 10-to-1 over cold temperature records. By comparison, in the 1950s, '60s, and '70s, the typical ratio was 1-to-1.
- According to the U.S. National Academy of Sciences, climate change has likely contributed to a significant increase in big forest fires in the West.
- According to Lester R. Brown of the Earth Policy Institute, the amount of stockpiled food still available when the next harvest begins has shrunk from a supply lasting 100 days a generation ago to a supply lasting only 68 days today. Brown believes that number ought to be 110.