







HOW CAN WE IMPROVE FOOD SECURITY?

-  The implementation of the Voluntary Guidelines of the Food and Agriculture Organisation on a national level for the progressive realisation of the right to food.
-  Empower people, especially rural women, with policies that promote access and control over productive resources.
-  Promotion of local markets.
-  Stronger social protection.
-  Strengthen civil society dialogue with governments with a view to improving policies, laws and systems to ensure food safety and to strengthen co-operation.



**one human family,
food for all**

Caritas Internationalis

CRS
CATHOLIC RELIEF SERVICES

A FACT FILE ON FOOD SECURITY

The Universal Declaration of Human Rights recognises food as a universal human right (Article 25). Food security exists when all people, at all times, have physical and economic access to sufficient, safe and nutritious food to meet their dietary needs and food preferences for food to lead an active and healthy life (World Food Summit 1996).

The study on food security of Caritas Internationalis is one of the outcomes of the “One Human Family, Food for All” campaign. It is the result of a survey carried out across the global confederation. This study shows that the best way to end hunger is to support smallholder farmers as they try to adapt to climate change.

CAUSES AND CONSEQUENCES OF HUNGER AND FOOD INSECURITY

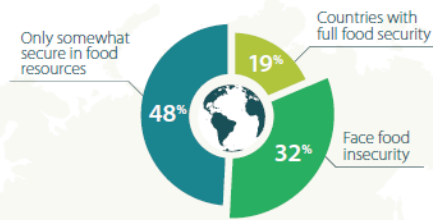
Top 3 Causes



Reasons Vary by Region

- Sub-Saharan Africa:** low agricultural productivity and climate change
- Asia:** lack of smallholder farmer access to resources, plus the lack of governance
- Latin America and the Caribbean:** food price speculation and lack of infrastructure
- Middle East and North Africa:** conflict and lack of clean water

Level of Food Security



Major Areas of Impact

HUNGER AND MALNUTRITION	MIGRATION	INCOME DISPARITY	CRIME
HEALTH AND MORTALITY	EDUCATION	CORRUPTION	DEPENDENCE ON HANDOUTS

REASONS FOR HUNGER AND FOOD INSECURITY

- Small farmers can't access resources
- Low agricultural productivity
- Climate change
- Insufficient social protection
- Lack of governance
- Food price speculation
- Policies favouring industrial production
- War/ conflict
- Lack of infrastructure
- Markets/ agricultural knowledge
- Water/ sanitation
- Trade agreements
- Post-harvest loans
- Lack of basic education



Alexander Buehler for Caritas Iraq

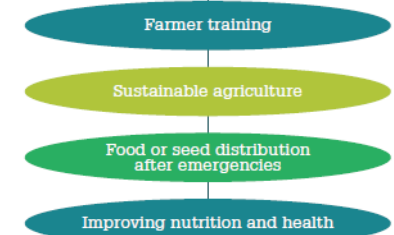
CARITAS' ACTION

Improving Agriculture*

The single most important action that would reduce hunger, malnutrition, and food insecurity.

*access to markets, seed, tools, adequate land and credit

106.42 Million
people benefitted from Caritas programmes** in 2013 including programmes focused on:



**in-country Caritas programmes only

Caritas organisations providing food security programmes within their own countries estimate that an average of 1.36 million people benefitted from those programmes in 2013.

In total, \$141 million was spent domestically on programmes addressing hunger and food insecurity, namely in:

- Farmer training
- Sustainable agriculture
- Food or seed distribution after emergencies
- Improving nutrition and health

EVIDENCE OF THE IMPACT OF CARITAS ON PEOPLE'S LIVES

Empowerment of women, dissemination of key health practices.

Easier and more reliable access to clean water, women in particular have more time for everything else that needs to be done in the community.

People were able to sell the surplus of their crops and use the money to take their children to school. They could afford to go to hospital and pay for transport.

Reduced use of chemicals. Climate adaptability. Institutionalised farmer clubs.

For the people involved in our programmes, the food security has increased at least 20-50 percent.



Sean Sprague for CRS