**WEEK 8 DATABASE ASSINGMENT:**

**Introduction**

The Sustainable Development Goals (SDGs) are a set of 17 global goals established by the United Nations in 2015 to address pressing social, economic, and environmental challenges. These goals aim to create a more equitable, sustainable, and prosperous world by 2030. SDG 2, known as "Zero Hunger," focuses on ending hunger, achieving food security, improving nutrition, and promoting sustainable agriculture. Despite significant progress, hunger remains a persistent issue that affects millions of people worldwide, making SDG 2 crucial for global development.

### SDG 2 Definition

SDG 2 is defined as the global commitment to end hunger and ensure access to sufficient, safe, and nutritious food for all people, particularly those in vulnerable situations, such as infants, pregnant women, and the elderly. It also emphasizes the need to double agricultural productivity and incomes of small-scale food producers, while ensuring sustainable food production systems and resilient agricultural practices that can withstand climate change and other shocks.

### Mission and Vision

The mission of SDG 2 is to eradicate hunger and malnutrition by ensuring that all people, regardless of their circumstances, have access to adequate food. The vision is a world where no one suffers from hunger, and everyone enjoys a healthy diet that supports well-being and sustainable development. This goal envisions an agricultural system that is productive, sustainable, and resilient, ensuring food security for current and future generations.

### Challenges of SDG 2

Achieving SDG 2 faces numerous challenges:

* **Poverty and Inequality:** Many people living in poverty cannot afford sufficient food, leading to chronic hunger and malnutrition.
* **Climate Change:** Extreme weather events, changing precipitation patterns, and rising temperatures disrupt food production and contribute to food insecurity.
* **Conflict and Instability:** Wars and conflicts displace populations, disrupt food supplies, and destroy agricultural infrastructure.
* **Over-reliance on Unsustainable Practices:** Some agricultural practices contribute to environmental degradation, which can reduce long-term food productivity.
* **Market Inefficiencies:** Poor access to markets, lack of infrastructure, and price volatility can prevent small-scale farmers from earning a stable income and accessing food.

**Core Objectives of SDG 2**

SDG 2 has several core objectives:

* **End Hunger:** Ensure that everyone, especially vulnerable populations, has access to sufficient and nutritious food.
* **Improve Nutrition:** Address all forms of malnutrition, including under nutrition, micronutrient deficiencies, and obesity.
* **Promote Sustainable Agriculture:** Increase agricultural productivity and income for small-scale farmers, particularly women, Indigenous peoples, and family farmers.
* **Resilient Food Systems:** Develop sustainable food production systems that are resilient to climate change and other shocks.
* **Ensure Access to Resources:** Guarantee that small-scale food producers have access to land, inputs, knowledge, financial services, and markets.

### How many people are hungry?

It is projected that more than 600 million people worldwide will be facing hunger in 2030, highlighting the immense challenge of achieving the zero hunger target.

People experiencing moderate food insecurity are typically unable to eat a healthy, balanced diet on a regular basis because of income or other resource constraints.

### Why are there so many hungry people?

Shockingly, the world is back at hunger levels not seen since 2005, and food prices remain higher in more countries than in the period 2015–2019. Along with conflict, climate shocks, and rising cost of living, civil insecurity and declining food production have all contributed to food scarcity and high food prices.

Investment in the agriculture sector is critical for reducing hunger and poverty, improving food security, creating employment and building resilience to disasters and shocks.

### How can we achieve Zero Hunger?

Food security requires a multi-dimensional approach – from social protection to safeguard safe and nutritious food especially for children to transforming food systems to achieve a more inclusive and sustainable world. There will need to be investments in rural and urban areas and in social protection so poor people have access to food and can improve their livelihoods.

### What can we do to help?

You can make changes in your own life—at home, at work and in the community—by supporting local farmers or markets and making sustainable food choices, supporting good nutrition for all, and fighting food waste.

You can also use your power as a consumer and voter, demanding businesses and governments make the choices and changes that will make Zero Hunger a reality. Join the conversation, whether on social media platforms or in your local communities.

### Conclusion

SDG 2, "Zero Hunger," is a vital component of the global effort to create a more sustainable and equitable world. By addressing hunger, improving nutrition, and promoting sustainable agriculture, this goal aims to lift millions out of poverty and ensure food security for all. However, achieving SDG 2 requires concerted efforts to overcome significant challenges such as poverty, climate change, and conflict. The successful realization of SDG 2 will contribute not only to better health and well-being but also to the overall sustainability of our planet.