Are the people eating enough?

Are they eating right?

Are they eating right food enough?

FOOD SECURITY



What is food security?

Food security, as defined by the United Nations' Committee on World Food Security, means that all people, at all times, have physical, social, and economic access to sufficient, safe, and nutritious food that meets their food preferences and dietary needs for an active and healthy life.

(https://www.ifpri.org)

The Pillars of Food Security

- Availability
 - Access
 - Stability
 - Utilization

Ensured when there is a reliable supply of food of sufficient quantity and quality.

Dependant on:

- Domestic production
- Food stocks
- Imports
- Food aid

Ensured when individuals & households have adequate resources to obtain appropriate food.

Dependant on:

- Political, economic, social factors
 - Equitable distribution •
 - Markets / infrastructure
 - Affordability •
 - Purchasing power •

Availability

Stability

.....

"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 an active and healthy life".

Food security

(FAO, 1996)

Dependant on:

- Maintenance of all three pillars over time
- No risk of loss of supply due to economic, political or environmental factors

Ensured when there is *permanent* and durable access to food.

Utilisation

Access

Dependant on:

- Food safety .
- Food quality •
- Nutritional knowledge
 - Proper preparation •
- Clean water / sanitation / healthcare •

Ensured when food is nutritious and can be adequately metabolised and *used* by the body.

FOOD SECURITY CHALLENGES

The main threats to food security are:

- (I) world population growth
- (2) the increase demand for food
- (3) food price
- (4) the disappearance of the variety of agricultural plant species
- (5) the increase in the area of scarcity water and the limitation of the availability of land
- (6) food losses and food waste.

(www.ageconresearch.umn.edu)