



The United Nations Secretary-General gives top priority to the elimination of hunger.

This requires comprehensive efforts to ensure that every man, woman and child enjoy their Right to Adequate Food; women are empowered; priority is given to family farming; and food systems everywhere are sustainable and resilient.

The challenge of Zero Hunger means:

- *Zero stunted children less than 2 years*
- *100% access to adequate food all year round*
- *All food systems are sustainable*
- *100% increase in smallholder productivity and income*
- *Zero loss or waste of food*

"Our world has enough food to feed every man, woman and child. Yet 870 million people – one of every eight members of the human family – go hungry. People across the world share my outrage and are taking up the challenge to end hunger in our lifetime."

- United Nations Secretary-General
Ban Ki-moon

Eliminating hunger involves investments in agriculture, rural development, decent work, social protection and equality of opportunity. It will make a major contribution to peace and stability and to the reduction of poverty. It will contribute to better nutrition for all – especially women from the beginning of pregnancy and children under the age of two.

The UN Secretary-General encourages all partners to scale up their efforts and turn the vision of an end to hunger into a reality.

He appreciates the bold leadership by many from government, civil society, business, labour

870 million (1 in 8)

people hungry

165 million

malnourished children

At least 20 countries

talking about Zero Hunger

23 High-Level Task Force Agencies

aligned with the Zero Hunger Challenge

unions, consumer groups and the scientific community. They succeed through working together. They encourage participation by a range of organizations, social movements and people around a common vision. They promote effective strategies, more investments and increased development cooperation, in line with existing national and international agreements. They strive for results and are accountable for their efforts – particularly to those who are hungry.

Hunger can be eliminated in our lifetimes.

We are already seeing progress taken in that direction. Since the Zero Hunger Challenge was launched by the Secretary-General at the Rio+20 Sustainable Development Conference in June 2012, governments, NGOs, private sector companies, religious leaders, and citizens around the world have taken up the call.

“When it comes to hunger, the only acceptable number is zero.”

- FAO Director-General
José Graziano da Silva

Underlining the fact that strong political leadership and the right policies can produce dramatic reductions in levels of hunger and malnutrition, the Food and Agriculture Organization (FAO) announced in June that 38 countries have already halved either number or percentage of their population who is hungry

before the deadline for the Millennium Development Goals in 2015. Achieving MDG1 is the first step towards zero hunger.

Programmes in line with the Zero Hunger Challenge are taking shape or being discussed in some 20 countries around the world, as governments set their own goals and work out plans with UN agencies and other partners. Regional multi-stakeholder programmes, including the Hunger-Free Initiative for West Africa, La Iniciativa América Latina y Caribe sin Hambre, and the Zero Hunger Challenge for Asia & the Pacific, bring global actors together to create operational programming. From monetary commitments from governments, civil society and the private sector, including over US \$25 billion at the “Nutrition for Growth” event in London, to political commitments by parliamentarians, the African Union, London and Mexico City, the world is coming together to form effective partnerships for the eradication of hunger.

NOW is the time to take up the Challenge

Political and societal to eliminating hunger is higher than ever. The moment for leaders from government, business, and civil society to come together is now. Successful partnering involves working together in support of national authorities – examples include the Movement for Scaling Up Nutrition, with 41 countries and hundreds of organizations and agencies working to end child malnutrition, and the “Think. Eat. Save” initiative which aims to reduce food waste and loss. Countries are driving the response, with bold commitments from their political leaders, and continuous sharing of experiences. Political and thought leaders are exchanging proposals for accelerating the achievement, in 2015, of the MDG hunger reduction target. Together we can build the world the future we want – a future with Zero Hunger.

