

W1847954 “Syrine Bachouche” Articles

Article one:

Exploring the UN and the 17 Sustainable Development Goals

In a world brimming with diverse challenges, the United Nations stands as a beacon of hope, striving to foster global cooperation and sustainable development.

At the heart of this mission lies the 17 Sustainable Development Goals (SDGs), a blueprint to achieve a better and more sustainable future for all by 2030. These goals address a range of pressing issues, from poverty and inequality to climate change and environmental degradation.

In this exploration, we delve into the essence of the United Nations, elucidating its role in promoting global well-being, and dissect the 17 SDGs, with a particular focus on Sustainable Goal 2: "**Zero Hunger**".

1. Understanding the United Nations:

The United Nations, founded in 1945 after World War II, is an international organisation committed to maintaining peace and security, promoting social progress, and advancing human rights. With 193 member states, the UN serves as a platform for dialogue and collaboration on many global issues. Its core principles include the maintenance of international peace and security, the promotion of human rights, the fostering of social and economic development, and the provision of humanitarian aid.

2. The 17 Sustainable Development Goals (SDGs):

Adopted by all United Nations Member States in 2015, the SDGs represent a universal call to action to end poverty, protect the planet, and ensure prosperity for all. They encompass a holistic approach to development, addressing interconnected challenges that transcend national borders. The goals are as follows:

1. No Poverty
2. Zero Hunger
3. Good Health and Well-being
4. Quality Education
5. Gender Equality
6. Clean Water and Sanitation

7. Affordable and Clean Energy
8. Decent Work and Economic Growth
9. Industry, Innovation, and Infrastructure
10. Reduced Inequality
11. Sustainable Cities and Communities
12. Responsible Consumption and Production
13. Climate Action
14. Life Below Water
15. Life on Land
16. Peace, Justice, and Strong Institutions
17. Partnerships for the Goals

3. Sustainable Goal 2: Zero Hunger

Zero Hunger stands as a pivotal goal in the pursuit of global sustainability. At its core lies the ambition to eradicate hunger, achieve food security, improve nutrition, and promote sustainable agriculture. Despite significant progress in recent years, millions around the world still suffer from malnutrition and food insecurity. Factors such as conflict, climate change, and economic inequality exacerbate these challenges, underscoring the urgency of action.

Achieving Zero Hunger requires a multifaceted approach, encompassing local, national, and global interventions. This involves investing in agricultural infrastructure, promoting sustainable farming practices, supporting small-scale farmers, enhancing food distribution networks, and addressing the root causes of poverty and inequality. Additionally, efforts to mitigate the impacts of climate change and build resilience in vulnerable communities are essential to safeguarding food security for future generations.

As we navigate the complexities of the 21st century, the United Nations and the Sustainable Development Goals offer a roadmap towards a more just, equitable, and sustainable world. Through collective action and unwavering commitment, we can strive towards the realisation of Zero Hunger and the broader aspirations of the 17 SDGs, leaving a legacy of hope and prosperity for generations to come.

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Article two:

It Will Not Be Easy for the UN to achieve SDG2.

United Nations faces a complex environment with formidable obstacles in pursuing Sustainable Development Goal (SDG) Two, which aims to end hunger. We focus on poverty, inequality, climate change and environmental degradation. Conflict and instability make food security harder to achieve. Progress is hampered by food waste and loss and insufficient agriculture and nutrition investment. This investigation focuses on major SDG Two obstacles. Poverty, climate change, conflict, food waste, and inadequate investment perpetuate global hunger and malnutrition (United Nations, 2020).

1. Poverty and Inequality:

Hunger and malnutrition can be attributed to various factors, with poverty being one of the most prominent contributors. A considerable proportion of individuals experiencing hunger reside in impoverished circumstances, characterised by limited

access to essential healthcare services, uncontaminated water, and nourishing sustenance.

After several decades of advancement, the global poverty reduction rate began decelerating by 2015, coinciding with a deceleration in economic growth.

The attainment of the Sustainable Development Goal to eradicate extreme poverty by 2030 is highly improbable. By 2030, it is projected that 600 million individuals will be residing on a daily income of less than \$2.15. However, the COVID-19 pandemic and a sequence of notable disruptions that transpired between 2020 and 2022 substantially influenced the mitigation of worldwide poverty. Consequently, a loss of three years of advancement occurred, and the United Nations still needs help to progress effortlessly (De Schutter, 2019).

2. Climate Change and Environmental Degradation:

The Sustainable Development Goal Zero Hunger faces substantial obstacles due to climate change and environmental degradation, impeding global efforts to eliminate hunger and attain food security.

The FAO states that climate change-induced phenomena, such as severe weather events, droughts, floods, and changing rainfall patterns, are progressively causing adverse effects on agricultural productivity. Consequently, there is a notable occurrence of crop failures, livestock losses, and diminished yields.

Based on estimates presented by the Food and Agriculture Organisation (FAO), climate change is projected to result in an additional 130 million individuals being pushed into extreme poverty by the year 2030. The anticipated impact of this phenomenon is projected to be disproportionately borne by small-scale farmers and rural communities (IPCC, 2018).

Environmental degradation, encompassing deforestation, soil erosion, and biodiversity loss, intensifies food insecurity by exhausting vital natural resources involved in agriculture and disrupting the ecological systems that sustain food production.

These challenges underscore the pressing necessity for synchronised efforts to tackle climate change, safeguard ecological systems, and enhance resilience in food systems, with the ultimate aim of advancing towards the Sustainable Development Goal of eradicating hunger.

3. Conflict and Instability:

The United Nations faces substantial challenges in achieving Sustainable Development Goal (SDG) 2: Zero Hunger. Some of the challenges that arise are conflict and instability. Around 60% of the global population suffering from Hunger is concentrated in regions currently undergoing conflict. Regions affected by conflict exhibit distinct features such as the disruption of food production and distribution systems, the devastating impact on agricultural livelihoods, and the significant limitation of food accessibility.

According to estimates from the United Nations, conflicts have led to tens of millions of individuals experiencing Hunger and food insecurity. Furthermore, endeavours aimed at tackling the underlying factors contributing to Hunger, such as socioeconomic deprivation, disparities in wealth distribution, and limited availability of resources, are compromised in the presence of conflict.

The limited advancements observed in conflict-ridden areas like Yemen, South Sudan, and Syria serve as empirical support for the notion that attaining Sustainable Development Goal 2 (SDG 2) becomes progressively challenging without peace and stability.

Ensuring access to food and livelihoods for affected communities necessitates prioritising conflict prevention and resolution, alongside implementing targeted interventions, as crucial measures in addressing Hunger.

4. Food Waste and Loss

The presence of food waste and loss presents a substantial barrier to the advancement of SDG2, as it intensifies global food insecurity and inefficiencies in food distribution systems. The Food and Agriculture Organisation stated around 33% of the total food produced is lost or wasted each year worldwide (FAO, 2019). This amount is roughly equivalent to 1.3 billion metric tonnes of food.

Waste in the food supply chain manifests at various stages, commencing from production and post-harvest handling and persisting throughout processing, distribution, and consumption. This issue has significant environmental implications due to the depletion of water, land, and energy resources.

Additionally, it exacerbates the problem of hunger and malnutrition by diverting valuable food away from individuals in dire need of it. The redirection of even a tiny portion of the food that is currently being lost or wasted has the potential to yield substantial advancements in addressing global hunger (De Schutter, 2019).

Consequently, it is imperative to exert efforts towards mitigating food waste and loss to attain the Sustainable Development Goal of eradicating hunger by 2030.

5. Inadequate Investment in Agriculture and Nutrition

Inadequate investment in agriculture and nutrition poses a significant obstacle that must be addressed to achieve the Sustainable Development Goal (SDG) set forth by the United Nations, which aims to eradicate hunger by 2030. More financial resources allocated to agricultural development undermine endeavours to enhance food security and foster sustainable farming practices, particularly in low-income nations where agriculture remains a predominant means of sustenance (Sachs et al., 2019).

In 2020, the FAO approximated that around 2.37 billion individuals lacked adequate access to food. The COVID-19 pandemic has worsened the food insecurity worldwide. Moreover, as per the estimates presented by FAO, attaining zero hunger would require an annual allocation of approximately \$33 billion towards agricultural and rural development in developing nations. If there is no increase in investments in agriculture, the progress towards achieving the Sustainable Development Goal of eradicating hunger will remain hindered.

The implementation of these investments should encompass provisions for smallholder farmers, infrastructure development, and research and development. This phenomenon will result in a significant number of individuals worldwide being trapped in a perpetual cycle of poverty and malnutrition.

Addressing these challenges requires collaborative efforts and sustained commitment from governments, international organisations, civil society, and the private sector. By prioritising investments in sustainable agriculture, poverty reduction, climate resilience, and conflict prevention, the international community can make significant strides towards achieving the goal of Zero Hunger and building a more food-secure and equitable world (United Nations, 2019).

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Article Three:

Podcast Post (research and sources):

Diving into the Unseen: Shedding Light on Venezuela and Nigeria's Hunger Crisis

In the shadows of global headlines dominated by conflict zones, the silent struggles of Venezuela and Nigeria often remain overlooked. Yet, these nations face a humanitarian crisis of profound proportions: hunger. Despite being two of the most affected regions by this crisis, their stories are frequently eclipsed by other pressing issues.

Join us on our latest podcast episode as we journey into the heart of these lesser-known narratives. We unravel the complexities of hunger in Venezuela and Nigeria, exploring the root causes, the daily realities faced by millions, and the ripple effects on their societies. From food scarcity to socio-political dynamics, we delve into the layers that perpetuate these crises.

Guest Speakers: Malik Obinna and Maria Gonzales.

Tune in to gain a deeper understanding of these nations' challenges and discover why their stories demand our attention now more than ever. Let's amplify their voices and

illuminate the path towards solutions. Listen now and join the conversation. Together, we can make a difference.

Link to the Podcast: https://soundcloud.com/user-31479137-830002709/indepth-podcast?si=453dde842d6a43f1b2b0842eb5384e84&utm_source=clipboard&utm_medium=text&utm_campaign=social_sharing

Link to the Website: <https://indepthmagazine.wordpress.com>

Link to the Food Waste Video: <https://youtu.be/9322joCgJh0?feature=shared>

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