

WISDOM CRUX

[ISSN: 2456-6233]

www.wisdomcrux.lawtimesjournal.in

HUNGER & MALNUTRITION

[Volume 2, Issue 8] – August, 2017

Author – *Harshika Kapoor, B.Com LL.B.(Hons.), University of Petroleum and Energy Studies, Dehradun.*

Co-Author – *Charchit Khandelwal, University of Petroleum and Energy Studies, Dehradun.*

Hunger is “A condition, in which people lack the basic food intake to provide them with the energy and nutrients for fully productive lives” Hunger and food security are related but are not synonymous. Hunger can lead to Malnutrition, famine, starvation, appetite which can lead to many deficiencies. Hunger has become a pivotal concern for the world in the last 30 years & should be eradicated.

Malnutrition is a general term for a condition caused by inadequate dietary intake and/or disease; it can occur in conjunction with both under and over consumption of calories and/or micro-nutrients. Famine is a widespread scarcity of food, caused by several factors including Crop Failure, Population imbalance or government policies. Malnutrition is one of the most devastating problems worldwide and is inextricably linked with poverty. Malnutrition has a significant economic impact. The economic loss to a nation where malnutrition is prevalent can be easily estimated in terms of lost productivity per individual worker. Starvation is a severe deficiency in caloric nutrient intake needed to maintain an organism's life. It is the most extreme form of malnutrition. Appetite is the desire to eat food, sometimes due to hunger. Dysregulation of appetite contributes to anorexia nervosa, bulimia nervosa, overeating, and binge eating disorder.

Food security exists when all people, at all times, have physical, social and economic access to sufficient, safe and nutritious food which meets their dietary needs and food preferences for an active and healthy life. Household food security is the application of this concept to the family level, with individuals within households as the focus of concern. ... Food insecurity exists when people do not have adequate physical, social or economic access to food.

Deprivation in a world of plenty is an intrinsic rationale for investments that reduce hunger and

WISDOM CRUX

[ISSN: 2456-6233]

www.wisdomcrux.lawtimesjournal.in

HUNGER & MALNUTRITION

[Volume 2, Issue 8] – August, 2017

Author – Harshika Kapoor, B.Com LL.B.(Hons.), University of Petroleum and Energy Studies, Dehradun.

Co-Author – Charchit Khandelwal, University of Petroleum and Energy Studies, Dehradun.

malnutrition.

Poverty and Hunger and Malnutrition have been some of the most pressing global challenges of the twentieth century. The world has been facing and will continue to be facing in the twenty- first century. Many development programs & Campaigns in several countries have been targeted toward alleviating poverty, hunger, and malnutrition and are being continued. Hunger & Malnutrition are main segments which defines the Development of a Nation Economically.

Poverty is both a cause and a consequence of hunger & lack of proper nutrition leads to Malnutrition. Malnutrition is a cause of death for more than 3.1 million children under 5 every year. UNICEF estimates 300 million children go to bed hungry each night; and that 8000 children under the age of 5 are estimated to die of malnutrition every day. In World Bank Report, it was Stated that Every Third Person in India is Poor which is the reason despite being the largest democracy, the Nation still ranks in Lower Developing Country. Sub-Saharan African and South Asian regions including India are home to most number of poor people. Still about 805 million people are suffering from chronic hunger. Current estimates suggest that there are approximately 925 million hungry people in the world & nearly two billion people are suffering from chronic micronutrient deficiency. Among children, about 162 million (one fourth) under five years of age are chronically malnourished (stunted), about 99 million are underweight. About one third of preschool children in developing countries suffer from malnutrition— causing the death of 5–10 million of these children every year. The World Bank Paper on Poverty and Hunger defined food security as “food security must assure access by all people at all times to enough food for an active and healthy life” During the 1996 World Food Summit, it was targeted to halve the number of chronically undernourished people by 2015. This goal was at the heart of the Rome Declaration on World Food Security and formed the basis of the first Millennium Development Goal (MDG). To eradicate extreme poverty and hunger, the aim was set to halve, between 1990 and 2015, the

WISDOM CRUX

[ISSN: 2456-6233]

www.wisdomcrux.lawtimesjournal.in

HUNGER & MALNUTRITION

[Volume 2, Issue 8] – August, 2017

Author – Harshika Kapoor, B.Com LL.B.(Hons.), University of Petroleum and Energy Studies, Dehradun.

Co-Author – Charchit Khandelwal, University of Petroleum and Energy Studies, Dehradun.

proportion of people whose income is less than \$1.25 a day. Inequality is also posing a serious problem as Relative Global Income Distribution is getting worse as the richest one percent of the world's population earns as much as 57 % than the rest. It is evident that poverty and inequality contributes to national instability and armed conflict. The gap between the rich and poor is widening in some of the developing countries. The Problem is that poor people do not have enough money to buy or produce enough and nutritious food for themselves and their families and, in turn, tend to be weaker and cannot produce/earn enough to buy more food.

The UN Secretary-General, António Manuel de Oliveira Guterres, recently announced meeting the challenge of “zero hunger” to be achieved by 2025. To ensure adequate and nutritious food for everyone, the capacity and resources in the world are sufficient enough.

UN Development Agenda 2015 Report stated that , A bold goal that comprehensively addresses the multidimensional nature of food and nutrition security – from sustainably raising agricultural production and improving access to sufficient nutritious food to stabilizing food supplies and cutting post-harvest losses – can drive action that enables all people, particularly the most vulnerable, to contribute fully to economic growth, while strengthening resilience to shocks, addressing inequality, promoting peace and stability and empowering women and smallholder farmers. Food and nutrition security are leading global, regional and national priorities that are well incorporated and reflected in inter-governmental processes.

At their 2009 Summit, G8 and other Leaders committed \$22 billion to the L'Aquila Food Security Initiative, with the objective of reversing longstanding under-investment in agricultural development and food security. Hunger and malnutrition tops the agenda for a wide array of other

WISDOM CRUX

[ISSN: 2456-6233]

www.wisdomcrux.lawtimesjournal.in

HUNGER & MALNUTRITION

[Volume 2, Issue 8] – August, 2017

Author – Harshika Kapoor, B.Com LL.B.(Hons.), University of Petroleum and Energy Studies, Dehradun.

Co-Author – Charchit Khandelwal, University of Petroleum and Energy Studies, Dehradun.

forums and institutions around the world -- from the African Union and NEPAD to the G20, APEC and ASEAN. According to UNICEF Report, nearly half of all deaths in children under 5 are attributable to malnutrition. This translates into the unnecessary loss of about 3 million young lives a year. Mal nutrition puts children at greater risk of dying from common infections, increases the frequency and severity of such infections, and contributes to delayed recovery. In addition, the interaction between Malnutrition and infection can create a potentially lethal cycle of worsening illness and deteriorating nutritional status. Poor nutrition in the first 1,000 days of a child's life can also lead to stunted growth, which is irreversible and associated with impaired cognitive ability and reduced school and work performance.

In the Post-2015 development era, estimates of child malnutrition will help determine whether the world is on track to achieve the Sustainable Development Goals – particularly, Goal 2 to “end hunger, achieve food security and improved nutrition, and promote sustainable agriculture”. Worldwide, in 2016, 41 million children under age 5 were overweight, up from 30 million in 2000. Trends suggest that this number will continue to rise & this is a positive sign. In 2016 globally, 52 million children under 5 were wasted and 17 million were severely wasted. This translates into a prevalence 7.7 per cent and 2.5 per cent, respectively. In 2016, more than half of all wasted children lived in South Asia and about one quarter in sub-Saharan Africa, with similar proportions for severely wasted children. At 16.0 per cent, South Asia's wasting prevalence represents a ‘critical’ public health problem; that of the Middle East and North Africa is approaching a ‘serious’ need for intervention with appropriate treatment program. Under 5 wasting and severe wasting are highly sensitive to change.

Thus, estimates for these indicators are only reported for current levels (2016). The 2030 Agenda

WISDOM CRUX

[ISSN: 2456-6233]

www.wisdomcrux.lawtimesjournal.in

HUNGER & MALNUTRITION

[Volume 2, Issue 8] – August, 2017

Author – Harshika Kapoor, B.Com LL.B.(Hons.), University of Petroleum and Energy Studies, Dehradun.

Co-Author – Charchit Khandelwal, University of Petroleum and Energy Studies, Dehradun.

for Sustainable Development proposes a global rethink of how we produce food and manage our dwindling natural resources. It recognizes that the world can no longer manage food production and natural resources separately and that everyone must work together, especially if we are to attain a world without hunger and all forms of malnutrition by 2030 (SDG 2).

Many countries are now including non-governmental organizations (NGOs), companies and academia in the conversation, and their combined efforts are paving the way for more effective regional and national action.

As a specialized UN agency with a mandate to help countries eliminate hunger, food insecurity and malnutrition, FAO is uniquely placed to guide countries to strengthen their policy and institutional environments so that their political commitment can be translated into concrete action.

As per stated by the International Assessment of Agricultural Knowledge, Science and Technology for Development (IAASTD), The world is to address the double challenge of (1) assuring access to adequate food for the more than one billion people who suffer from hunger and malnutrition today and of (2) increasing food supplies on a sustainable basis so as to meet the growing needs of the world's population over the next half-century. Solutions must be sought through full involvement of local people, effective use of local knowledge as well as modern science, and empowerment of local producers, traders and processors within an increasingly integrated global economy.

Policies to achieve food and nutrition security must include effective recognition of the right to food and ensure access to basic social services for every human being. They must give higher priority to increased public investments in agriculture and rural areas of developing countries, including the conservation of lands, water and biodiversity, so as to provide the poor and hungry, women and men alike, with better opportunities to find site-specific and sustainable solutions to the

WISDOM CRUX

[ISSN: 2456-6233]

www.wisdomcrux.lawtimesjournal.in

HUNGER & MALNUTRITION

[Volume 2, Issue 8] – August, 2017

Author – Harshika Kapoor, B.Com LL.B.(Hons.), University of Petroleum and Energy Studies, Dehradun.

Co-Author – Charchit Khandelwal, University of Petroleum and Energy Studies, Dehradun.

problems confronting them. Solutions must include fair and efficient market conditions, secure and affordable access to productive resources, land, water, seeds, knowledge and a broad range of technologies. Environmental services generated by the rural people should be adequately compensated. Higher productivity and resilience of production systems are essential for raising rural incomes, improving access to food for the poor, enabling local agriculture to compete better and mitigating the impact of climate change.

According to Annual Health Survey Report, the three standard anthropometric measures used to assess the nutritional status of children are stunting (low height-for-age), wasting (low weight-for-height) and underweight (low weight-for-age). Stunting is an indicator of chronic malnutrition or prolonged food deprivation and/or disease or illness; wasting is an indicator of acute malnutrition, the result of more recent food deprivation or illness; underweight is used as a composite indicator to reflect both acute and chronic malnutrition, although it cannot distinguish between them. A child is considered stunted, wasted or underweight if it falls two standard deviations below the median score for children of the same age and gender in the reference population, which is based on an internationally accepted World Health Organization Child Growth Standards. Percentage of underweights among 18-59 age-groups is highest in Uttar Pradesh (30 per cent).

China and India, the most populous countries in the world, have played a great role in the global reduction of extreme poverty. The two countries together lifted about 876.6 million people out of poverty from 1981 to 2011, about 92 % of the total people lifted from extreme poverty in the world during the period. The large reduction in poverty rates at the global level is mainly due to growth in China

WISDOM CRUX

[ISSN: 2456-6233]

www.wisdomcrux.lawtimesjournal.in

HUNGER & MALNUTRITION

[Volume 2, Issue 8] – August, 2017

Author – Harshika Kapoor, B.Com LL.B.(Hons.), University of Petroleum and Energy Studies, Dehradun.

Co-Author – Charchit Khandelwal, University of Petroleum and Energy Studies, Dehradun.

ACTIONS THAT CAN BE TAKEN TO HELP ERADICATE HUNGER & MALNUTRITION

[a] Domestic Policies and Investment - In order to bring about food security, governments should put in place policies and institutions that foster growth and reduce poverty. This requires a clear strategy to ensure that economic growth is pro-poor and that the poor have access to productive assets, markets, institutions, and services. Those policies and those investments are best which promote agriculture and food market development and rural infrastructure and stimulate private investment in agriculture and in agro processing, while providing safety nets for the poor.

[b] Removing Internal and Regional Barriers to Agricultural Trade - Regional integration can help achieve food security by expanding marketing opportunities, integrating food markets, and facilitating food transfer from areas of surplus to areas of shortage. In addition to the benefits of free trade areas and customs unions, regional cooperation is vital to solving common problems related to food insecurity.

[c] Strengthening Agricultural and Nutritional Research - International agricultural research can support the fight against malnutrition and hunger in numerous ways:

- Crop breeding is perhaps the most direct approach toward improving nutrition through increased agricultural production. This was shown by the Green Revolution, which succeeded in increasing farm productivity and output in South Asia, leading to price declines and increased human food energy intake.

- More recent work has focused on plant breeding to improve micronutrient status by bio-fortifying staple crops (Stein and others, 2005).

WISDOM CRUX

[ISSN: 2456-6233]

www.wisdomcrux.lawtimesjournal.in

HUNGER & MALNUTRITION

[Volume 2, Issue 8] – August, 2017

Author – *Harshika Kapoor, B.Com LL.B.(Hons.), University of Petroleum and Energy Studies, Dehradun.*

Co-Author – *Charchit Khandelwal, University of Petroleum and Energy Studies, Dehradun.*

- Livestock farming can improve nutrition both by raising producer incomes and by increasing consumption of high-protein animal-source foods.

- Fish provides proteins and a wide range of vitamins and minerals. However, increasing fish production to improve nutrition has proved to be quite a complex undertaking, and success at integrating fish production and nutrition appears to be largely context- and project-specific.

There have, however, been some notable successes, particularly in China.

-Postharvest activities can affect nutrient availability in many ways, for example by increasing the nutrient density of foods consumed by infants and increasing consumption of nutrient-rich foods.

[d]Actions by the International Community - The international community has committed itself on several occasions to fighting global malnutrition and hunger. The right of all people to adequate food and nutrition has been recognized in various international human rights instruments, both legally binding conventions and nonbinding declarations.

Adequate nutrition is a key factor to live an active and healthy life. In spite of its importance as a determinant of health and development, malnutrition is still a neglected area and too little has been done to address its causes and serious social and economic implications. However, recently there has been growing interest in nutrition with stronger political involvement at national and international level leading to significant financial pledges and policy commitments. It is now crucial to turn this momentum into results by ensuring the delivery of pledges and accelerating progression addressing the challenge of undernutrition. Malnutrition is defined as not having enough energy or nutrients to live a physically active life that allows for optimal health. It encompasses both overnutrition and undernutrition and has direct negative consequences in terms

WISDOM CRUX

[ISSN: 2456-6233]

www.wisdomcrux.lawtimesjournal.in

HUNGER & MALNUTRITION

[Volume 2, Issue 8] – August, 2017

Author – Harshika Kapoor, B.Com LL.B.(Hons.), University of Petroleum and Energy Studies, Dehradun.

Co-Author – Charchit Khandelwal, University of Petroleum and Energy Studies, Dehradun.

of disease and disability, brain development, educational attainment and income potential for individuals and communities. The World Health Organization considers that poor nutrition is the single most important threat to the world's health.¹ The immediate causes of malnutrition are due to inadequate food intake (in terms of quantity or quality) and diseases. However, malnutrition is influenced by a host of underlying factors related to poverty, including food insecurity, poor water, sanitation and health services, which find their roots in factors that can vary from conflict to climate change; from scarce natural resources to high and volatile food prices; from poor governance to demographic growth.² Overall undernutrition represents the single largest killer of under-five children, being responsible for 3.1 million child deaths each year (45% of total under 5 years' deaths).³ In 2013, 52 million children under age 5 (10% of the global population) were wasted, meaning that, due to acute malnourishment, they had low weight for their height. Other 165 million children in the world, a quarter of the world's under-5 population, were too short for their age, or stunted, which can impact the child's physical and mental development.

This section reports the Agriculture-Nutrition Advantage project's results. The results are grouped into four categories that define a framework for change: (1) creating effective leadership networks; (2) advocating for policy change; (3) operationalizing an agriculture- nutrition linked, gender-informed approach; and (4) mainstreaming the approach to promote sustainable change. Because the project viewed gender as a means to improve links between agriculture and nutrition, gender-related results are reported in each of the four categories.

The results illustrate the range of accomplishments and the potential to make significant inroads toward reducing hunger, improving nutritional well-being, and contributing to poverty reduction.

WISDOM CRUX

[ISSN: 2456-6233]

www.wisdomcrux.lawtimesjournal.in

HUNGER & MALNUTRITION

[Volume 2, Issue 8] – August, 2017

Author – Harshika Kapoor, B.Com LL.B.(Hons.), University of Petroleum and Energy Studies, Dehradun.

Co-Author – Charchit Khandelwal, University of Petroleum and Energy Studies, Dehradun.

The main results are supplemented with lessons learned (see boxes) as reported by teammembers upon reflection of their experiences at the conclusion of the project.

Creating Effective Leadership Networks Policy and program changes stem from a dynamic, iterative process fueled by advocacy that helps to define the problem, suggests solutions, and builds consensus around issues that have political relevance. Most often, “policy champions” or opinion leaders are needed to promote change, frequently through networks of change agents.

Such agents must have access to key audiences, be trusted and viewed as objective sources of information, and have experience working with policy structures and programs. They also must have credible evidence that is grounded in local realities; demonstrate that their recommendations are feasible and relevant; and show how their audiences will benefit from the proposed change (Rogers 1962; Porter and Hicks 1994; Michelsen 2003).

After three years, the Agriculture-Nutrition Advantage project had active, informed and skilled networks of more than 30 leaders in Ghana, Kenya, Mozambique, Nigeria, Uganda, and the United States who were promoting greater use of a gender-informed approach that links agriculture and nutrition as a means to reduce hunger and undernutrition in a timely and sustainable fashion.

Country-specific results: Having learned from the evidence, their participation in skill-building sessions, and exchanges with colleagues and communities, the Agriculture-Nutrition Advantage teams applied their knowledge and skills to achieve these results: All teams either developed expanded leadership networks beyond their initial core members, or strengthened existing forums. Examples of the former include Ghana’s National Coordinating Committee, the national steering committee

WISDOM CRUX

[ISSN: 2456-6233]

www.wisdomcrux.lawtimesjournal.in

HUNGER & MALNUTRITION

[Volume 2, Issue 8] – August, 2017

Author – Harshika Kapoor, B.Com LL.B.(Hons.), University of Petroleum and Energy Studies, Dehradun.

Co-Author – Charchit Khandelwal, University of Petroleum and Energy Studies, Dehradun.

RESULTS

What Was Learned About Gender Capacity Building? Gender methodologies can be the bridge that links agriculture and nutrition, but only if they are well understood and used by all. All the participants in the gender analysis workshop had attended gender awareness-raising workshops but had little to no training in using gender analysis as a research and planning methodology. In the workshop, they learned about the elements of gender analysis and applied them in a series of hands-on exercises. The practical use of this research and planning methodology prompted some to have an “ah-ha” moment – as one participant declared, “Now, I understand what I can do in my work to identify and address gender-related issues.”

In Uganda, and the ICRW/IFPRI Technical Advisory Committee; examples of the latter include the Food and Nutrition Committees in Nigeria and SETSAN in Mozambique. In Uganda, 30 persons from policy institutions, line ministries, university and research organizations, NGOs, and donor agencies actively advocated for integrating nutrition into the Poverty Eradication Action Plan based on the knowledge they gained from the Agriculture-Nutrition Advantage leadership network.

Members of the Ghana team are using what they learned about gender in a new project to reduce incidence of low birth weight infants by strengthening development programs that aim to improve women’s nutrition and economic and social status throughout their lifecycle. Community members in the Kabarole District, Uganda, learned more about health and nutrition from weekly radio programs that drew on the Agriculture-Nutrition Advantage team’s expertise and commitment.

WISDOM CRUX

[ISSN: 2456-6233]

www.wisdomcrux.lawtimesjournal.in

HUNGER & MALNUTRITION

[Volume 2, Issue 8] – August, 2017

Author – Harshika Kapoor, B.Com LL.B.(Hons.), University of Petroleum and Energy Studies, Dehradun.

Co-Author – Charchit Khandelwal, University of Petroleum and Energy Studies, Dehradun.

CONCLUSION

Eradication of poverty, hunger, and malnutrition requires sustained political commitment at the highest level. It necessitates creating an enabling environment for improving food and nutrition security through policies, adequate investments, legal frameworks, and stakeholder participation.

Institutional reforms are also inevitable for promotion and sustainable progress in this direction (FAO, IFAD, and WFP 2014). An integrated approach is required to reduce the prevalence of hunger, including public and private investments to raise agricultural productivity; better access to inputs, services, technologies, and markets; measures to promote rural development; social protection for the most vulnerable, including strengthening their resilience to conflicts and natural disasters; and specific nutrition programs, especially to address micronutrient deficiencies in mothers and children under five years of age (FAO 2014). Sub-Saharan Africa poses the utmost food security challenges, where the progress in improving access to food is slow, along with sluggish income growth, high poverty rates, and poor infrastructure. All these hamper physical and distributional access. In South Asia, the home of the largest number of hungry people, food management remains the greatest challenge and calls for reducing the wastages along with efforts to improve productivity of crops and access to food through research support and institutional reforms. Structural economic transformation, social transformation to a low level of inequality, and political transformation are essential elements of long-term poverty reduction (Sumner 2010). A development of a single sector can't solve the complex problems of poverty, hunger, and malnutrition; a broad-based approach has to be followed to deal with the issues. Renewed interest and actions are required in enhancing productivity of agriculture and allied sectors like fisheries, forestry, rural development, social protection, public works, trade and markets, resilience to shocks, education and health, and other areas. There are newer and high-impact technologies available now (like biotechnology, biofortification, and nanotechnology), which offer

WISDOM CRUX

[ISSN: 2456-6233]

www.wisdomcrux.lawtimesjournal.in

HUNGER & MALNUTRITION

[Volume 2, Issue 8] – August, 2017

Author – *Harshika Kapoor, B.Com LL.B.(Hons.), University of Petroleum and Energy Studies, Dehradun.*

Co-Author – *Charchit Khandelwal, University of Petroleum and Energy Studies, Dehradun.*

further opportunities for boosting agricultural productivity and enhancing food quality and nutritional value. The use of these technologies along with appropriate related policies and institutions can usher in the speed of progress in this direction.