

## *Food security is a permanent challenge*

### الأمن الغذائي يشكل تحديًّا دائمًّا

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#### **Abstract (English):**

Food security has become one of the biggest scourges of modern society and a key weapon among countries worldwide, providing citizens with a comfortable life thanks to the guaranteed abundance of food at all times. The absence or deterioration of this phenomenon leads to unbearable economic crises. Here, the question arises: Can we maintain this comfortable standard of living? One of the objectives of our article is to analyze the meaning of this concept, as we find different interpretations, each of which attributes the meaning to fears such as the inability to do something contrary to what others see. Our work will clarify the meaning of the concept of food security and how we can maintain it in the long run. The answer to this challenge requires adopting an analytical approach throughout most of the article, concluding with a critical approach that highlights the flaws in the arguments presented. Ultimately, we arrive at the core of the food security problem across the world, especially in the developing world for example Algeria.

**Key words:** food security, human, crises, economic, sufficiency, long time.

#### **ملخص (باللغة العربية):**

أصبح الأمن الغذائي من أكبر آفات المجتمع الحديث، وسلاًحاً أساسياً بين دول العالم، إذ يوفر للمواطنين حياةً رغيدةً بفضل وفرة الغذاء المضمونة في جميع الأوقات. إن انعدام هذه الظاهرة أو تدهورها يقودنا إلى أزمات اقتصادية لا تُطاق، وهنا يبرز السؤال: هل يمكننا الحفاظ على هذا المستوى المعيشي المريح؟ ومن أهداف مقالتنا تحليل معنى هذا المفهوم، إذ نجد تفسيرات مختلفة، كل منها يُحيل المعنى إلى مخاوف كعدم القدرة على شيء مخالف لما يراه غيره. سيوضح عملنا معنى مفهوم الأمن الغذائي وكيف يمكننا الحفاظ عليه طويلاً؟ والجواب على هذا الإشكال يقتضي العمل بمنهج التحليل في معظم محتوى المقال ونبهه بالمنهج النقدي الذي نيرز من خلاله هفوات الأطروحات الواردة في المقال، لنصل في الأخير إلى بؤرة مشكلة الأمن الغذائي عبر العالم وخاصة العالم السائر في طريق النمو مثل الجزائر.

**الكلمات المفتاحية:** الأمن الغذائي، البشر، الأزمات، الاقتصاد، الاكتفاء الذاتي، أمد طويل.

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## 1-Introduction

Everyone talks about food security, which is a socio-economic phenomenon directly related to health and acts to combat hunger. It evokes a comfortable situation in society. Based on the concept of food security and the work of the CFS, we see that this security is based on essential rules and dimensions. Hère, we see that the nutritional dimension is an integral part du concept de sécurité alimentaire et du travail du CFS (document sur la réforme du Comité sur la sécurité alimentaire en 2009). Recently, we have witnessed numerous discussions on this concept at the regional, continental, and international levels, given the state of disintegration, conflicts, and wars in which humanity has found itself, not to mention environmental conditions such as global warming, which contribute most to the emergence of this scourge. In our work, we will analyze the various points listed above on the causes and harmful consequences, such as disease and death, and then how to achieve this food security.

## 2-Development

To maintain or enjoy food security, we will need an indispensable resource in our present and future, and we must devote all our efforts to it. For now, we will discuss the various pillars of this food security.

The 1996 World Food Summit outlined a definition of this phenomenon called "food security": *"Food security exists when all human beings, at all times, have physical and economic access to sufficient, safe, and nutritious food that meets their dietary needs and food preferences for an active and healthy life".* (Bank, 2024.) This means that food security can only be defined after the presence of a number of conditions: the total satisfaction of humanity's energy needs for an indefinite period, which achieves satisfaction in terms of energy and food preferences. Everything only stands well and for a long time when it rests on appropriate dimensions and solid pillars. We cite these pillars, which are four in number, their conditions, and their dimensions.

The four main dimensions (pillars) of food security are availability, access, utilization, and stability. The nutritional dimension is an integral part of the concept of food security and the work of the CFS (document on the reform of the Food Security Committee "CFS", 2009). The availability, in quantity and quality, of food:

The first, this availability concerns the "supply" side, which will only be established according to three conditions: the level of food production, their stocks and the net external balance. The second, Economic and physical access to food: the level of storage, even if it is good, does not in itself guarantee household food security because of the problems that concern us, such as the problems that generate access to food in sufficient quantity and policies aimed at food security objectives that place more emphasis on income, expenditure, markets and prices. (Bank, 2024) .

The third: Food utilization: Generally, the term utilization is used to indicate how the body adequately optimizes the various nutrients present in food. These factors depend on good care and feeding practices, dietary diversity, and the distribution of food among household members.

The factors listed above, when combined with proper biological utilization of the food consumed, will determine an individual's nutritional status. The fourth: Stability of the above dimensions over time: While an individual's food intake is sufficient at one point in time, and at another, they are at risk of suffering from food insecurity; if they do not have regular access to sufficient food, they are therefore exposed to deterioration in their nutritional status. Many conditions can affect the stability dimension, including climatic problems such as drought and flooding; social unrest such as political instability; and economic factors such as unemployment and rising food prices.

#### Global Food Security Index: What criteria?

#### Indice de sécurité alimentaire mondiale : quels critères ?



#### Safety Culture

<https://safetyculture.com/fr/themes/securite-alimentaire/> (, Accessed 1<sup>st</sup> september, 2025)

According to this table, we discover a global food security index. Food security is defined by a "safety culture", including accessibility, availability, quality and safety, natural resources,

- Ensuring vulnerable families have access to food, especially water and resilience: The characteristics mentioned above regarding food security are particularly focused on:
  - The need for rapid emergency support in the event of a crisis.
  - Working with countries and development partners to address food security challenges.
  - Collaborating with countries and development partners to address food security challenges.

### 3-Factors Affecting Food Security (Causes of Food Insecurity)

We cite the various factors that affect food security and lead to a decline in support.

- Food insecurity is a problem that affects many countries. It is due to different causes, from one country to another and from one time to another.

-Conflicts: Conflicts pose a direct threat to food insecurity. For example, Palestine is living in the unknown, without food, water, or medicine. Worst of all, it faces death threats everywhere in the Gaza Strip.

- Energy security: Energy security means guaranteeing constant and sufficient access to energy. This ensures the availability of sufficient resources, affordability, and reliability. It is achieved through the diversification of energy sources, including shale and renewable, and by reducing dependence on imports.

- Climate fluctuations: is among the serious problems threatening food security by disrupting production through droughts and floods, reducing nutritional quality for populations, and driving up prices and destabilizing supply chains, for example, for vulnerable populations in sub-Saharan Africa and South Asia. Other sectors will also be affected, including livestock farming, fisheries, and food security (Đorđević et al., 2022)

Population growth: population growth threatens food security increasing demand and intensifying pressure on resources such as land and water. This leads to soil degradation, less productive agriculture, and increased food insecurity, particularly in developing regions where production growth is struggling to keep pace. The challenges increased demand, because a larger population needs much more food; production must increase by more than 50% by 2030 and almost double by 2050 to meet these needs.

### 4-The reasons behind food instability and strategies for preventing it

Environmental problems: Climate change is one of the most significant issues affecting life as a whole. It disproportionately impacts vulnerable populations in sub-Saharan Africa and South Asia, while also affecting livestock farming, fishing, and food security, necessitating urgent adaptation and mitigation measures in agriculture. Humans, animals, and plants are threatened with extinction or disease, hunger, and thirst. All flora and fauna are at risk. Environmentalists aim to protect agricultural land, preserve local production, and drive a global ecological and agricultural transformation. The Greens therefore want to eliminate short supply chains, develop local agriculture, and limit distributors' profit margins. The environmental objective is to achieve 30% organic agriculture and 70% sustainable agriculture, meaning agriculture that is GMO-free (genetically modified organisms), local, and subject to pesticide use quotas.

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## 5-Community Involvement and Services

- Food safety: a public health priority. Who Action: the (World Health Organization) aims to facilitate global prevention, detection, and response to public health threats related to unsafe food. Who works to strengthen consumer confidence in governments and the safety of the food supply?

To this end, who supports its Member States in strengthening their capacities to prevent, detect, and manage food borne risks? Everyone must be involved in the project to develop tools that will address poverty and destitution in countries affected by this problem. These solutions include:

- Cross-contamination: is the physical movement or transfer of harmful bacteria from one person, object, or place to another. The preventing cross-contamination is essential to prevent food borne illness.

- Refrigeration and cooking: are two essential aspects of food safety and preservation. Refrigeration slows bacterial growth and preventing food spoilage and it is a tool to reducing the risk of food borne illness.

To achieve food security, it will be useful and essential to respect the following criteria:- Sufficient food production.

- Improving household food security requires maintaining a steady flow of food, ensuring access to those supplies for those in need, and ensuring the safety of the food consumed. In short, there is no food security without the ability to produce and distribute sufficient food, while ensuring that this food is safe and accessible to all who need it.

## 6-Food Insecure Countries

We cite a number of countries experiencing food insecurity:

- Afghanistan: Food insecurity results mainly from the country's economic situation, high unemployment, and reduced livelihoods. The country is also suffering the effects of the climate crisis (floods, drought). Durant les XX<sup>e</sup> et XXI<sup>e</sup> siècles, de nombreuses guerres civiles ont lieu. Numerous civil wars took place during the 20th and 21st centuries. From 2001 to 2021, Afghanistan experienced an armed conflict between the United States and its allies and the Taliban regime.

- The Democratic Republic of Congo has experienced armed conflict and intercommunal violence, leading to the displacement of residents in search of security and stability. These conditions contribute to food insecurity, and food prices have become unbearable.

- In Nigeria, Many factors have contributed to food insecurity. First and foremost, the population (26 million Nigerians) makes it more difficult for millions of Nigerians to feed themselves adequately.

Conflicts, economic instability, climate change, and the lack of coordination between the various stakeholders in the food system, along with global inflation, which currently stands at a very

high 34.2%, make it more difficult for them to feed themselves adequately. - In Ethiopia, the country is affected by multiple disasters. Conflicts, prolonged droughts, and floods have increased population displacement and poverty. Therefore, today, along with the availability and stability of food supplies, access to food is one of the essential links in food security. (Miladinov G (2023)

The impacts of population growth and economic development have a direct influence on food security in low and middle-income countries. Food production occupies 50 per cent of the Earth's habitable land, accounts for 70 per cent of freshwater consumption and produces around a quarter of global greenhouse gas (GHG) emissions. Food production is a major driver of biodiversity loss and of air and water pollution, deforestation, soil degradation, antibiotic-resistant bacteria and water scarcity.

## 7-Food Security Strategy

Food security remains a constant challenge due to the complexity of the problems it raises and the absence of a comprehensive economic or sociopolitical theory capable of overcoming its difficulties and consequences. As long as societies strive to meet this challenge, we can continue to explore different ways of addressing it.

- Understand the importance and methods of coordinating joint planning and strategy development within the food security cluster.
- Identify and understand the common concepts and principles behind short- and long-term food security strategies. (<https://slideplayer.fr/slide/1141893/>, 2024)





#### **Tips for preserving water**

[https://www.google.com/search?scas\\_evs=acba28](https://www.google.com/search?scas_evs=acba28)

#### **8-Conclusion**

To achieve food security and resolve the food crisis, immediate action and long-term measures will be essential. Our study provided an overview of the World Bank Group's activities to help countries affected by this issue strengthen their food and nutrition security. However, food security continues to face numerous obstacles, as has been the case for years. These obstacles stem from the various challenges faced by communities across the global community, such as droughts and floods that devastate vast agricultural holdings, as well as disparities between rich, developed countries and poor countries, particularly those experiencing political and/or social crises.

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