

LINEAR INCREASE BETWEEN POVERTY AND FOOD WASTE IN THE WORLD

İzem SÜZGÜN, Esmanur YİĞİT, Gülay BAYSAL*

Istanbul Aydın University, Faculty of Engineering, Food Engineering Department, Istanbul 34295, Turkey

**Corresponding Author: gulaybaysal@aydin.edu.tr ; +90 4441428-22409*

ABSTRACT

The problem of hunger has been the primary concern of human beings for centuries. With calamity, poverty, and death, starvation chaos is one of the biggest fears of human beings. There are main reasons for this. People have to eat their fills to survive and continue their generation. The competence of people to participate, produce and create economic, political, cultural, and artistic activities that will make their lives meaningful depends on being healthy, and for to be healthy, they must be well fed. If food is consumed without wasting, the resources of the earth are sufficient to feed more people than the world population today.

Keywords: Poverty, Starvation Chaos, Food Waste, Waste Policies

INTRODUCTION

According to the results of the studies, there have been serious increases in the hunger rates, which is taking into account the increasing world population. In 2000, 900 million people were living below the hunger limit, while in 2016 this rate was around 815 million. A rapid acceleration in food waste is observed in proportion to these statistics. In 2018, our country, which has a population of 82 million, is wasting 214 billion of food waste annually. According to the Consumer Rights Association report in 2018, there are over 16 million people in Turkey can not be adequately nourished. Some activities determined to achieve the dream of zero starvation in the world by targeting 2030 are listed below [1,5].

Universal access to safe and nutritious food

Terminating all forms of malnutrition

Doubling the efficiency and revenues of small-scale food producers

Sustainable food production and durable agriculture practices

Protection of genetic diversity in food production

Investing in rural infrastructure, agricultural research, technology, and gene banks

Avoiding agricultural trade restrictions, market disturbances and export subsidies

Stable food markets and timely access to information [2].

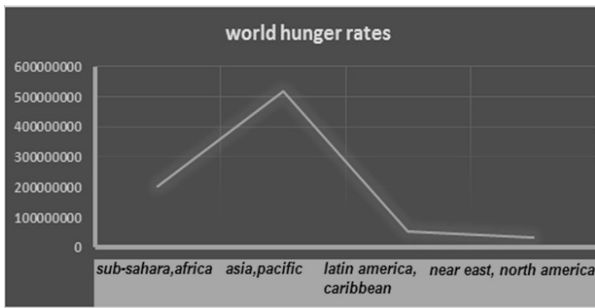


Figure 1: World Hunger Rates [3]

In the brochure of the United Nations Food and Agriculture Organization (FAO), various numbers were given by drawing attention to the hunger situation in the world. Accordingly, the world produces enough food to feed everyone, but still, 1 out of 9 people in the world have struggled with chronic hunger. In recent times, it is thought that the number of chronically hungry people, calculated to be 815 million in 2016, has increased more. The fact that the living of the hunger fact 60% are women adds another dimension to the magnitude of the problem. According to the data, hunger causes more people to die from epidemic diseases such as malaria, tuberculosis, and AIDS in the world. It is stated that 45% of child deaths are caused by malnutrition, while 155 million children under the age of 5 are reported to have developmental retardation [1, 4, 5, 6].

Hunger and Obesity Compete

In other respects, it is stated that more than a quarter of the world's population, 1.9 billion people are overweight, and 600 million of them are obese. According to the literature, about 3.5 million people die every year due to excess weight. It is also among the data that the costs of malnutrition or overfeeding have reached the world economy of 3.5 trillion US dollars [7].



Figure 2: Hunger Map of 2017 [8]

Blue zones <5%, Yellow zones 5-14.9%, Orange zones 15-24.9%, Red zones 25-34.9%, Burgundy zones 35%, Values of gray zones are unknown.

Five Innovative Solution Suggestions for Waste Foods

According to the United Nations Report, if waste foods were a country, this country would be third in the world greenhouse gas emissions ranking, after the United States and China. According to the United Nations Report, innovative solution titles for waste foods are listed below.

Food Shift: It is based on the establishment of a more sustainable system that all produced foods can be processed and preserved.

Food Cowboy: The surplus production is based on the principle of networking between food owners (farmers) and charities providing free food for people in need.

Spoiler Alert: Large farms and wholesalers are based on sharing real-time information about surplus food and providing access to potential buyers.

Imperfect Produce: It is based on the principle of replacing the traditional food system and providing a more positive perspective to the rejected products.

For Solutions: It is based on the principle of saving food waste with a type of fertilizing system.

CONCLUSION

Even though food waste prevention becomes a global priority, government policies alone will not be enough and individual waste prevention policies can be implemented only by everyone, which can create permanent solutions. It is necessary to increase personal awareness to increase health levels with equal opportunities in all countries of the world, where healthier opportunities can be used as an equality principle.

REFERENCES

- [1] Blesh, J., Hoey, L., Jones A.D., Friedmann, H. & Perfecto, I. (2019). Development pathways toward “zero hunger”. *World Development*, 118, 1–14.
- [2] Şefik, O. (2015). *World Hunger*, Journal of Gezin.
- [3] Eksi, A. & Isci, A. (2012). The phenomenon of hunger in the world and search for solutions. *Food*, 37 (1): 39-45.
- [4] Kim, Y., Sohn, H.S. & Park, B. (2019). Make the village better: An evaluation of the Saemaul Zero Hunger Communities Project in Tanzania and Bangladesh. *World Development*, 124, 104652.
- [5] Djekic, I., Miloradovic, Z., Djekic, S. & Tomasevic, I. (2019). Household food waste in Serbia e Attitudes, quantities, and global warming potential. *Journal of Cleaner Production*, 229, 44-52.
- [6] Ribeiro, A.P. Rok, J., Harmsen, R., Rosales Carreon, J. & Worrell, E. (2019). Food waste in an alternative food network -A case-study. *Resources, Conservation & Recycling* 149, 210–219.
- [7] Adıyaman, F. (2016). Dünya Sağlık Örgütü Avrupa Obezite ile Mücadele Bakanlar Konferansının Öncesi Ve Sonrasında Obezitenin Gazetelerde Sunumu. *Selçuk Üniversitesi İletişim Fakültesi Akademik Dergisi*, 9(3).
- [8] Anonymous (2018). *Hunger Map of 2018*. World Food Programme. <https://www.wfp.org/publications/2018-hunger-map> (Erişim tarihi: 11.07.2020)