THE STATE OF FOOD SECURITY AND NUTRITION IN THE WORLD

SAFEGUARDING AGAINST ECONOMIC SLOWDOWNS AND DOWNTURNS

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Multiple pathways from food insecurity to malnutrition
The prevalence of hunger is unchanged at the global level, while the number of hungry people is slowly rising – now at more than 820 million people.
Food Insecurity is more than hunger – about 2 billion people in the world experience moderate or severe food insecurity.

- **1.3 billion**
  - Moderate Food Insecurity: People experiencing moderate food insecurity face uncertainties about their ability to obtain food, and have been forced to compromise on the quality and/or quantity of the food they consume.

- **704 million**
  - Severe Food Insecurity: People experiencing severe food insecurity have typically run out of food and, at worst, gone a day (or days) without eating.
Total levels of food insecurity have been on the rise at the global level, mainly due to increases in Africa and Latin America.
The pace of progress in reducing child stunting and low-birthweight is too slow to meet global nutrition targets, and overweight and obesity are increasing in all regions.
Global economic prospects warn of further slowing

Creating sustained escapes from food insecurity and malnutrition will require policies and a transformation that tackle inequalities
Most countries where hunger increased also experienced economic slowdown or downturn; mostly middle-income countries.
Economic shocks are contributing to prolonging and worsening the severity of food crises.
High levels of commodity-export and -import dependence negatively affect food security.

Increases in the degree of commodity dependence lead to increases in undernourishment (1995 – 2017)
Economic slowdowns and downturns disproportionally undermine food security and nutrition where inequalities are greater.

Inequality in the distribution of agricultural land is high in many countries in Africa.
Income inequality is rising in nearly half the countries of the world, including in several low-income countries and some middle-income countries.
Ending hunger and all forms of malnutrition by 2030 requires scaled-up and bolder action.

Economic resilience must be strengthened to safeguard food security and nutrition against economic adversity.
Thank you