



Feed the Future Country Fact Sheet

Online Version: <https://feedthefuture.gov/article/numbers-1-billion>

By the Numbers: 1 Billion

Approximately [1 billion people worldwide](#) suffer from chronic hunger-- a prolonged, life-threatening lack of food.

Hunger threatens the health and well-being of a nation's citizens, and increases a country's risk of democratic failure, rioting, violence, and civil conflict. It costs developing countries approximately \$450 billion per year in lost GDP.

Poverty is a principal cause of hunger—it prevents people from having access to food and the tools they need to grow it. Natural disasters, conflict, lack of infrastructure, and poor farming practices also contribute to the growing problem of hunger as the world population increases.

But as [President Obama explained today](#) at the Symposium on Global Agriculture and Food Security, history teaches us that one of the most effective ways to pull people and entire nations out of poverty is to invest in their agriculture.

[Continue reading the blog post on the White House Blog](#)