

Focus On Food For People

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Submitted: 18 December 2025

Accepted: 27 May 2026

Published: 18 June 2026

Citation: Nyagaka, N.(2026). Focus On Food For People. J of Research and Reviews in Economics and Management, 2(3), 01-09.

Abstract

This study examines the role of sustainable agriculture in addressing global food security challenges. Food insecurity remains a pressing issue, driven by poverty, climate change, population growth, resource degradation, and unequal access to food. The paper explores sustainable agricultural approaches, including agroecology, hydroponics, permaculture, climate-smart agriculture, and indigenous farming practices, as viable strategies for enhancing food availability, accessibility, utilization, and stability. Using a descriptive and qualitative research design based on secondary data from academic literature, international reports, and policy documents, the study analyzes major food security challenges and evaluates policy and institutional frameworks that support resilient food systems. Comparative case studies from Kenya, India, Brazil, and the Netherlands demonstrate the effectiveness of innovative agricultural practices and supportive policies in improving food security outcomes. The findings indicate that sustainable agriculture not only increases productivity but also strengthens environmental resilience, promotes social equity, and supports long-term food system sustainability. The study recommends increased investment in agricultural innovation, climate-resilient farming, inclusive policies, and support for smallholder farmers, women, and youth. Achieving global food security requires coordinated efforts among governments, institutions, communities, and development partners to build resilient and sustainable food systems.

Keywords: Food Security, Sustainable Agriculture, Agroecology, Climate Change, Climate-Smart Agriculture, Food Systems, Hydroponics, Permaculture, Smallholder Farmers, Agricultural Innovation, Food Sustainability, Resilience.

Introduction

Background of the Study

Agriculture has always been the backbone of human civilization, providing food, fiber, and raw materials necessary for survival and economic growth. It is the foundation of food systems and the primary means of ensuring that populations, both rural and urban, have access to adequate and nutritious diets. In the 21st century, agriculture continues to play a central role in addressing food security challenges, which are increasingly complex due to rapid population growth, urbanization, environmental degradation, and climate change.

Food security, as defined by the Food and Agriculture Organization (FAO), exists “when all people, at all times, have physical, social, and economic access to sufficient, safe, and nutritious food that meets their dietary needs and food preferences for an active and healthy life.” This definition emphasizes not only the quantity of food but also its quality, safety, and stability over time. Despite significant progress in global agricultural productivity, millions of people worldwide still face hunger and malnutrition. According to the FAO’s 2023 State of Food Security and Nutrition in the World Report, approximately 735 million people globally experienced hunger in 2022, representing a worrying

trend that requires urgent and sustainable solutions.

Problem Statement

Food insecurity remains one of the greatest global challenges of our time. Sub-Saharan Africa and parts of Asia are disproportionately affected, with the majority of smallholder farmers struggling to meet their own food needs, let alone produce surplus for markets. Vulnerable populations, particularly children, women, and the elderly, are often the most affected, leading to cycles of poverty, disease, and poor development outcomes.

The traditional approaches to food production, which rely heavily on monocultures, chemical inputs, and resource-intensive methods, are proving unsustainable. Soil fertility decline, water scarcity, post-harvest losses, and the effects of climate change exacerbate the situation. There is an urgent need to explore strategies that not only increase agricultural productivity but also conserve natural resources, ensure resilience, and promote equity in food distribution systems.

Objectives of the Study

The overall objective of this paper is to examine strategies for ensuring food security through sustainable agricultural practices.

es, with a focus on innovations and climate-resilient methods. The specific objectives are to:

1. Analyze the current challenges facing food security globally and locally.
2. Explore the role of sustainable agriculture in achieving long-term food availability and accessibility.
3. Assess innovative agricultural practices such as agroecology, hydroponics, and permaculture.
4. Highlight policies and institutional frameworks that can support smallholder farmers and strengthen food systems.
5. Provide recommendations for enhancing food security in line with global sustainability goals.

Research Questions

To guide this study, the following research questions are posed: What are the major challenges facing food security in the contemporary world?

How can sustainable agricultural practices contribute to food security?

What innovations and technologies hold the most promise for improving resilience and productivity?

How do policies and institutional frameworks support or hinder food security efforts?

What recommendations can be made to strengthen food systems for the future?

Significance of the Study

This study contributes to the ongoing global discourse on hunger, malnutrition, and sustainable food systems. By focusing on sustainable agriculture, it highlights pathways that balance productivity with environmental conservation and social equity. The research is particularly significant for policymakers, researchers, and practitioners who are seeking integrated solutions to food insecurity. It also emphasizes the need for inclusive approaches that empower smallholder farmers, women, and youth groups that are often marginalized yet central to agricultural production.

Furthermore, the study aligns with the United Nations Sustainable Development Goals (SDGs), particularly Goal 2: Zero Hunger, which seeks to end hunger, achieve food security, improve nutrition, and promote sustainable agriculture by 2030. The findings can inform strategies at local, national, and international levels, helping to bridge the gap between agricultural potential and actual food security outcomes.

Scope of the Study

The study covers both global and local perspectives on food security. While it references worldwide data, special emphasis is placed on developing regions such as sub-Saharan Africa, where food insecurity is most acute. The research focuses on sustainable agricultural practices and innovations that can be scaled across diverse contexts, with practical implications for smallholder farmers, urban populations, and policymakers.

Organization of the Paper

The manuscript is structured into eleven chapters. Chapter One introduces the background, problem statement, objectives, and

significance of the study. Chapter Two reviews existing literature on food security and sustainable agriculture. Chapter Three outlines the methodology adopted. Chapters Four through Eight present discussions on challenges, sustainable practices, climate resilience, policies, and case studies. Chapter Nine explores emerging innovations, while Chapter Ten gives recommendations and future outlook. Chapter Eleven concludes the study, followed by references and appendices.

Literature Review

Introduction

The literature on food security and sustainable agriculture is vast and multidimensional. It reflects the interconnectedness of food systems with economic, environmental, social, and political domains. This chapter reviews scholarly work, international reports, and policy frameworks relevant to the study. The review is structured around four thematic areas: (i) theoretical foundations of food security, (ii) historical perspectives on agriculture and food systems, (iii) the role of sustainable agriculture in food security, and (iv) climate change and food production.

Theoretical Framework of Food Security

Food security is widely conceptualized through the four pillars framework established by the FAO:

1. Availability – ensuring sufficient quantities of food through domestic production or imports.
2. Access – guaranteeing individuals have resources to obtain nutritious diets.
3. Utilization – ensuring food is safe, diverse, and biologically usable by the body.
4. Stability – maintaining consistent food supply and access over time.

Entitlement Theory further informs the discourse by emphasizing that food insecurity often arises not from the absence of food but from unequal access. People may lack the “entitlements” (income, land, or social protection) necessary to acquire food. This theory explains why famine and hunger persist even in food-surplus regions, making it relevant to policy interventions [1].

Other models, such as the Sustainable Livelihoods Framework (DFID, 1999), link food security to assets (human, natural, social, financial, and physical), vulnerability contexts, and institutional processes. These frameworks show that food security is not just a technical problem but a socio-economic and political challenge requiring systemic solutions.

Historical Perspectives on Agriculture and Food Systems

Historically, agricultural practices have undergone significant transformation. The Neolithic Revolution marked the shift from hunting and gathering to settled farming, enabling population growth and the development of civilizations. Centuries later, the Green Revolution of the 1960s introduced high-yielding crop varieties, chemical fertilizers, irrigation, and mechanization. While it increased productivity in Asia and Latin America, critics argue that it neglected Africa, deepened inequalities, and caused environmental harm. In recent decades, debates on food systems have moved beyond production to include nutri-

tion, sustainability, and justice. The food sovereignty movement, led by organizations such as La Vía Campesina, emphasizes the right of communities to control their food systems, favoring local, culturally appropriate, and ecologically sound methods. This historical evolution demonstrates how food security discourse has shifted from mere availability to broader concerns of equity, environment, and governance.

Food Security: Global and Regional Trends

Global hunger remains a persistent problem. The reports that approximately 735 million people experienced hunger in 2022, with Sub-Saharan Africa accounting for the highest prevalence (one in five people) [2].

Malnutrition Takes Various Forms

- Undernutrition (stunting, wasting, underweight).
- Micronutrient deficiencies (hidden hunger).
- Overnutrition (obesity, diet-related non-communicable diseases).

Regional Disparities are Pronounced. For Example

- In South Asia, child malnutrition remains high despite rapid economic growth.
- In Latin America, obesity and food waste are major concerns.
- In Africa, chronic food shortages are compounded by conflicts, climate shocks, and weak infrastructure.

This global overview underscores the need for diversified approaches tailored to local contexts.

Sustainable Agriculture and Food Security

Sustainable agriculture is defined by the FAO as the “management and conservation of the natural resource base, and the orientation of technological and institutional change in such a manner as to ensure the attainment and continued satisfaction of human needs for present and future generations.”

Key Principles Include

- Environmental integrity – protecting soil, water, and biodiversity.
- Economic viability – ensuring farmers can sustain livelihoods.
- Social equity – promoting fairness across gender, class, and generations.

Agroecology integrates ecological principles into farming, emphasizing crop diversity, natural pest management, and local knowledge. Studies show that agroecological practices increase yields while reducing dependence on costly external inputs [3].

Hydroponics and aquaponics represent soil-less farming systems that maximize resource efficiency, particularly in urban areas with limited arable land. They are increasingly adopted in cities like Nairobi, Singapore, and Amsterdam.

Permaculture designs agricultural landscapes that mimic natural ecosystems, focusing on resilience and minimal external in-

puts. Empirical evidence indicates that sustainable agriculture not only enhances food availability but also improves resilience, food safety, and long-term productivity.

Climate Change and Food Production

Climate change is one of the most significant threats to food security. Rising temperatures, erratic rainfall, and increased frequency of extreme weather events disrupt agricultural cycles. According to the, agricultural yields could decline by up to 30% in some regions of Africa by 2050 if current trends continue [4].

Key Impacts Include

- Heat stress reducing crop yields and livestock productivity.
- Water scarcity affecting irrigation-dependent systems.
- Soil degradation through erosion and salinization.
- Pest and disease outbreaks exacerbated by changing ecosystems.
- Resilience strategies include climate-smart agriculture (CSA), drought-resistant crop varieties, efficient irrigation, and weather-based insurance systems. Integrating indigenous knowledge with scientific innovations has also proven effective in building adaptive capacity.

Policy and Institutional Perspectives

Literature highlights the crucial role of policies and institutions in shaping food systems. Governments influence food security through subsidies, infrastructure development, extension services, and trade policies. International frameworks, such as the UN Sustainable Development Goals (SDG 2: Zero Hunger), provide a global agenda, while regional bodies (e.g., the African Union’s Comprehensive Africa Agriculture Development Programme – CAADP) offer continental strategies.

However, policy gaps remain. For example, smallholder farmers often lack access to credit, markets, and extension support. Weak governance and corruption undermine distribution systems, while global trade imbalances disadvantage producers in developing countries.

Critiques and Gaps in Literature

- Despite rich scholarship, several gaps persist:
- Overemphasis on production rather than equitable distribution.
- Limited integration of gender and youth perspectives.
- Insufficient focus on post-harvest management and food waste reduction.
- Underrepresentation of indigenous knowledge systems in academic discourse.
- This study addresses these gaps by adopting a holistic perspective that integrates sustainable agriculture, climate resilience, and policy interventions.

Summary of Literature Review

The reviewed literature confirms that food security is a multidimensional challenge requiring systemic approaches. Theoretical models emphasize availability, access, utilization, and stability, while historical experiences reveal both successes and failures

of past interventions. Sustainable agriculture emerges as a promising pathway, though it requires strong institutional support and adaptation to climate change. The next chapter outlines the methodology employed in this study.

Methodology

Introduction

This chapter presents the methodology employed in conducting the study. Methodology is critical in determining the credibility, validity, and reliability of research findings. Since this paper is primarily exploratory and based on secondary data, it utilizes a descriptive and qualitative research design complemented with comparative analysis of case studies. The methodology outlines the research design, data sources, methods of data collection and analysis, as well as limitations of the study.

Research Design

The study adopts a descriptive research design. Descriptive designs are suitable for research that seeks to provide a detailed account of existing conditions, practices, and trends. The choice of this design was informed by the study's objective of exploring strategies for achieving food security through sustainable agriculture. Unlike experimental research, which manipulates variables, descriptive research focuses on capturing and analyzing current realities.

The study also incorporates elements of comparative analysis, where practices, policies, and outcomes from different regions and contexts are examined. By comparing case studies from Africa, Asia, Europe, and Latin America, the research highlights best practices, innovations, and policy approaches that contribute to sustainable food security.

Data Sources

- This Study Relies Entirely on Secondary Data Sources, Including
- Academic journals and books: Peer-reviewed articles in fields of agriculture, food security, climate change, and development studies. Reports and statistics: Publications from FAO, World Food Programme (WFP), World Bank, International Fund for Agricultural Development (IFAD), IPCC, and other reputable institutions.

Government policies and regional frameworks: National agricultural policies, CAADP documents, and United Nations Sustainable Development Goals (SDGs).

Case study documentation: Reports from NGOs, development projects, and agricultural research institutes showcasing practical interventions. Using secondary data allows the study to cover a broad scope, drawing insights from global trends and localized experiences without the time and financial constraints of primary data collection.

Data Collection Methods

Given the reliance on secondary data, the primary method of data collection was documentary analysis. Relevant literature

was systematically identified, reviewed, and synthesized. The process involved:

1. Database searches – Google Scholar, JSTOR, ScienceDirect, and institutional repositories.
2. Selection criteria – Preference for sources published within the last 10–15 years, except for seminal works (e.g., Amartya Sen's entitlement theory).
3. Thematic organization – Data was categorized under themes such as food availability, access, utilization, sustainability, climate resilience, and policy.
4. Critical evaluation – Assessment of the credibility, relevance, and applicability of each source to the study objectives.

Data Analysis

The study employed thematic analysis, which involves identifying, analyzing, and reporting patterns (themes) within data. Through this approach, insights from multiple sources were synthesized to draw meaningful conclusions about the relationship between agriculture, sustainability, and food security.

In addition, comparative case study analysis was applied to assess how different countries or regions have implemented sustainable agricultural practices. For instance, hydroponics in India, agroecology in Kenya, and food sovereignty movements in Latin America were compared to highlight transferable lessons.

Ethical Considerations

Although this study did not involve direct interaction with human subjects, ethical considerations were observed by:

Ensuring all sources were properly acknowledged through in-text citations and referencing.

Avoiding plagiarism by paraphrasing and critically synthesizing information.

Using data from credible and authoritative institutions to ensure reliability.

Limitations of the Study

Several Limitations were Encountered in the Methodology

1. Dependence on secondary data – The study is limited by the accuracy and reliability of existing literature. Primary data from farmers, policymakers, or consumers would have enriched the analysis.
2. Contextual differences – Lessons from one region may not be directly transferable to another due to differences in culture, policies, and resources.
3. Dynamic nature of food security – Food systems are rapidly evolving, influenced by new technologies, policies, and environmental changes. This means some findings may quickly become outdated.

Despite these limitations, the methodology provides a solid foundation for analyzing food security strategies and contributes valuable insights to the academic and policy discourse.

Chapter Summary

This chapter has presented the methodology adopted in the study, highlighting the descriptive and comparative research de-

sign, reliance on secondary data, and thematic analysis. The next chapter presents the major challenges to food security, setting the stage for discussions on sustainable agricultural strategies.

Food Security Challenges

Introduction

Food insecurity remains a persistent challenge worldwide. Despite advances in agricultural production and global economic growth, millions of people still lack access to sufficient, safe, and nutritious food. The complexity of food insecurity stems from multiple interrelated challenges, including socio-economic, environmental, and political factors. This chapter highlights the major barriers to food security.

Poverty and Inequality

Poverty is the most significant driver of food insecurity. Poor households often lack the financial resources to purchase food or invest in productive farming. Inequality—both within and between nations—worsens the situation. Rural populations, women, and marginalized communities are disproportionately affected. For instance, women in many African and Asian societies produce the majority of food yet often lack land rights, access to credit, or extension services.

Climate Change Impacts

Climate change has intensified the vulnerability of food systems. Erratic rainfall, prolonged droughts, floods, and rising temperatures reduce agricultural productivity. The Intergovernmental Panel on Climate Change (IPCC) estimates that crop yields in Africa may decline by up to 30% by 2050. Livestock are also at risk due to heat stress, disease outbreaks, and limited grazing pastures.

Post-Harvest Losses and Food Waste

Globally, about one-third of all food produced—equivalent to 1.3 billion tons—is lost or wasted annually[5]. In developing countries, losses occur mainly during harvesting, storage, and transportation due to inadequate infrastructure. In developed countries, waste happens largely at the consumer level. Post-harvest losses undermine farmer incomes and contribute to food shortages.

Poor Infrastructure and Distribution Systems

Even when food is available, poor infrastructure hinders access. Rural roads, storage facilities, and market systems are often underdeveloped, making it difficult for farmers to transport produce or for consumers to access affordable food. Inefficient distribution also causes regional imbalances, where some areas experience surpluses while others face scarcity.

Conflict and Political Instability

Armed conflicts and political instability are major causes of food insecurity, particularly in fragile states. Wars destroy agricultural infrastructure, displace farmers, and disrupt markets. Countries such as South Sudan, Yemen, and Syria illustrate how conflict-induced hunger threatens millions.

Health and Nutrition Challenges

Food insecurity also manifests in poor nutrition outcomes. Malnutrition includes undernutrition, micronutrient deficiencies, and obesity. Undernourished populations are more prone to disease, reducing productivity and perpetuating poverty cycles [6].

Chapter Summary

The challenges to food security are multifaceted, involving poverty, climate change, waste, poor infrastructure, and conflict. Addressing these requires integrated solutions that combine sustainable farming practices, infrastructure development, and policy support.

Sustainable Agriculture And Food Security

Introduction

Sustainable agriculture has emerged as a critical approach to ensuring long-term food security while conserving natural resources. Unlike industrial agriculture, which prioritizes short-term yields through heavy use of chemicals and monocultures, sustainable agriculture focuses on ecological balance, social equity, and economic viability.

Principles of Sustainable Agriculture

Resource efficiency – maximizing outputs with minimal inputs.
Biodiversity – promoting crop and livestock diversity to increase resilience.

Soil and water conservation – protecting ecosystems.

Social inclusion – empowering marginalized groups, especially women and youth.

Economic viability – ensuring farming is profitable and sustainable.

Agroecology

Agroecology applies ecological principles to farming systems. It promotes crop diversification, intercropping, organic fertilization, and natural pest control. Studies in Latin America and Africa show that agroecological systems enhance yields, resilience, and food security while reducing reliance on external inputs.

Hydroponics

Hydroponics is a soil-less farming method where crops are grown in nutrient-rich water solutions. It saves water, reduces pesticide use, and allows farming in urban areas with limited land. Kenya and South Africa are adopting hydroponics to boost urban food production.

Permaculture

Permaculture designs agricultural systems modeled on natural ecosystems. It integrates trees, crops, and livestock in mutually beneficial ways. This practice improves soil fertility, conserves water, and creates resilient food systems.

Indigenous Crops and Knowledge

Traditional crops such as sorghum, millet, and cassava are resilient to harsh climates and provide essential nutrition. Indigenous knowledge, often ignored in modern agriculture, plays a vital role in promoting biodiversity and resilience.

Gender and Youth Inclusion

Women and youth are critical actors in agriculture. Empowering them with land rights, credit, and training increases food security. Youth involvement through agri-tech and innovation is essential for future food systems.

Chapter Summary

Sustainable agriculture, through agroecology, hydroponics, permaculture, and indigenous systems, provides viable solutions to food insecurity. Inclusive policies are needed to support these practices.

Climate Resilience In Agriculture

Introduction

Climate resilience refers to the ability of agricultural systems to absorb shocks, adapt, and transform in response to climate change. Building resilience is essential for food security.

Climate-Smart Agriculture (CSA)

CSA Integrates Three Objectives

1. Increasing productivity.
2. Enhancing resilience.
3. Reducing greenhouse gas emissions.

Examples include conservation agriculture, precision farming, and integrated pest management.

Early Warning Systems

Climate information services and weather forecasting enable farmers to plan appropriately. Mobile phone applications in Kenya and India provide timely weather updates.

Resilient Seed Systems

Drought-tolerant and pest-resistant seed varieties enhance resilience. Organizations like CGIAR and KALRO (Kenya) promote seed innovation.

Indigenous Knowledge

Communities use traditional weather indicators and diversified cropping to adapt. Blending indigenous and scientific knowledge enhances resilience.

Chapter Summary

Climate resilience strategies ensure food systems withstand environmental shocks and secure food for the future.

Policy And Institutional Support

Introduction

Policies and institutions shape the agricultural environment. Effective support ensures sustainable farming and food security.

Role of Government Policies

Governments provide subsidies, infrastructure, and extension services. However, poor implementation and corruption often undermine these efforts.

International Frameworks

The UN's Sustainable Development Goals (SDGs) and AU's

Comprehensive Africa Agriculture Development Programme (CAADP) provide policy guidance.

Agricultural Extension

Extension services bridge knowledge gaps by training farmers on modern techniques. ICT-based extension is increasingly vital.

Financing Smallholder Farmers

Credit and insurance schemes empower farmers to invest and reduce risks. Microfinance institutions and cooperatives play a crucial role.

Public-Private Partnerships (PPPs)

PPPs foster collaboration in research, input supply, and market development. For example, contract farming links smallholders with large buyers.

Chapter Summary

Supportive policies, institutions, and financing mechanisms are indispensable for sustainable agriculture and food security.

Case Studies And Best Practices

Kenya - Agroecology Adoption

Kenyan farmers adopting agroecology have improved yields, reduced pesticide use, and increased resilience.

India —Hydroponics and Urban Farming

Indian cities like Bangalore and Delhi have integrated hydroponics for urban food supply.

Brazil - Zero Hunger Program

Launched in 2003, Brazil's program reduced hunger by combining cash transfers, school feeding, and support for family farming.

Netherlands - Advanced Greenhouse Farming

The Netherlands, despite limited land, is a global leader in food exports through greenhouse and high-tech farming.

Lessons Learned

Agroecology is cost-effective.

Urban farming addresses land scarcity.

Social protection complements agricultural support.

Technology and innovation drive efficiency.

Emerging Innovations In Food Systems

Digital Agriculture

Mobile apps, drones, and satellite data help farmers optimize planting, irrigation, and harvesting.

Biotechnology and GMOs

Genetic engineering provides drought-resistant and pest-tolerant crops, though it raises ethical concerns.

Blockchain Technology

Blockchain ensures traceability in food supply chains, enhancing transparency and consumer trust.

Vertical Farming

Vertical farms in cities use controlled environments to produce high yields with minimal space.

Recommendations And Future Outlook

Strengthen agricultural research and innovation.

Integrate sustainable agriculture into national policies.

Scale up climate-smart agriculture.

Empower women and youth in agri-food systems.

Enhance regional and global cooperation.

Conclusion

Food security is central to human survival and development. Sustainable agriculture—through agroecology, hydroponics, permaculture, and innovation—offers viable solutions. Achieving global food security requires coordinated action from governments, institutions, and communities. With resilience, inclusivity, and innovation, the vision of “Food for People” can

become a reality.

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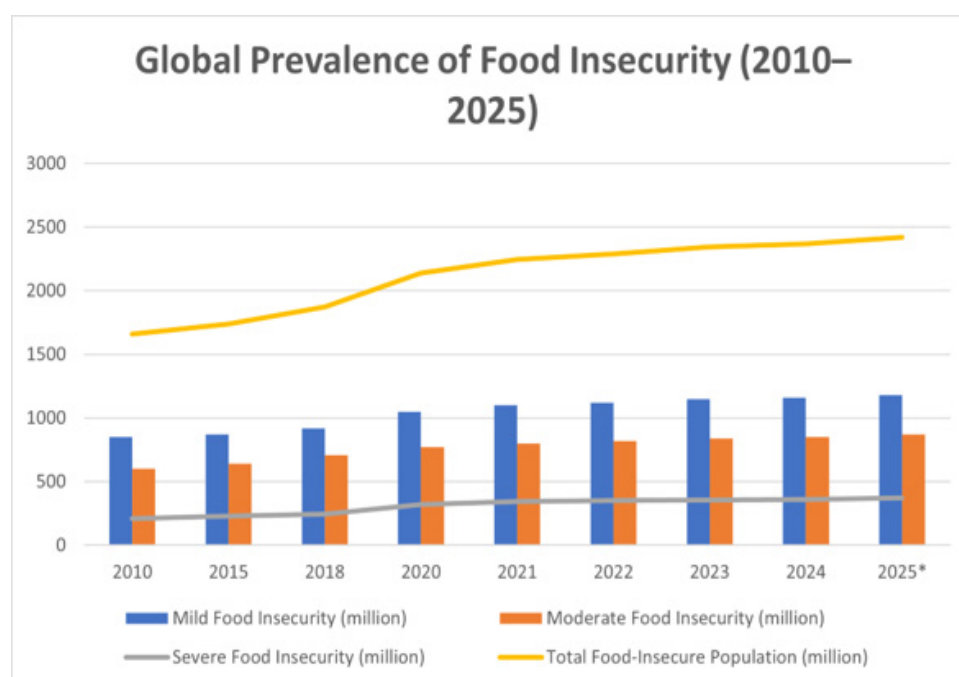
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Appendices

Table A1: Global Prevalence of Food Insecurity (2010–2025)

Data adapted from FAO SOFI reports (illustrative for academic use)

Year	Mild Food Insecurity (million)	Moderate Food Insecurity (million)	Severe Food Insecurity (million)	Total Food-Insecure Population (million)
2010	850	600	210	1,660
2015	870	640	230	1,740
2018	920	710	245	1,875
2020	1,050	770	320	2,140
2021	1,100	800	345	2,245
2022	1,120	820	350	2,290
2023	1,150	840	355	2,345
2024	1,160	850	360	2,370
2025*	1,180	870	370	2,420



2025 values are projections.

Table A2: Regional Distribution of Food Insecurity (2024)

Region	Moderate or Severe Food Insecurity (% of population)	Key Drivers
Sub-Saharan Africa	55%	Climate shocks, conflict, low agricultural productivity
South Asia	38%	High population growth, poverty, limited land access
North Africa & Middle East	35%	Water scarcity, political instability
Latin America & Caribbean	0	Economic downturns, supply chain disruptions
East & Southeast Asia	0	Rapid urbanization, inequality
Europe & North America	0	Economic constraints among marginalized groups

Table A3: Malnutrition Indicators (2024)

Indicator	Global Estimate	Most Affected Regions
Stunted children (<5 years)	148 million	Africa, South Asia
Wasted children (<5 years)	45 million	Africa, South Asia
Overweight children (<5 years)	37 million	East Asia, Americas
Adult obesity prevalence	13% globally	North America, Middle East
Undernourished population	735 million	Africa, Asia

Table A4: Global Food Production vs Population Growth (2010–2025)

Year	Global Population (billion)	Food Production Index (2010=100)	Comments
2010	690%	100	Baseline
2015	730%	109	Good growth
2020	780%	112	COVID-19 disruptions
2022	8	110	Climate-related setbacks
2024	8	113	Recovery efforts
2025	8	114	Projections show slow recovery

Table A5: Primary Causes of Global Food Insecurity

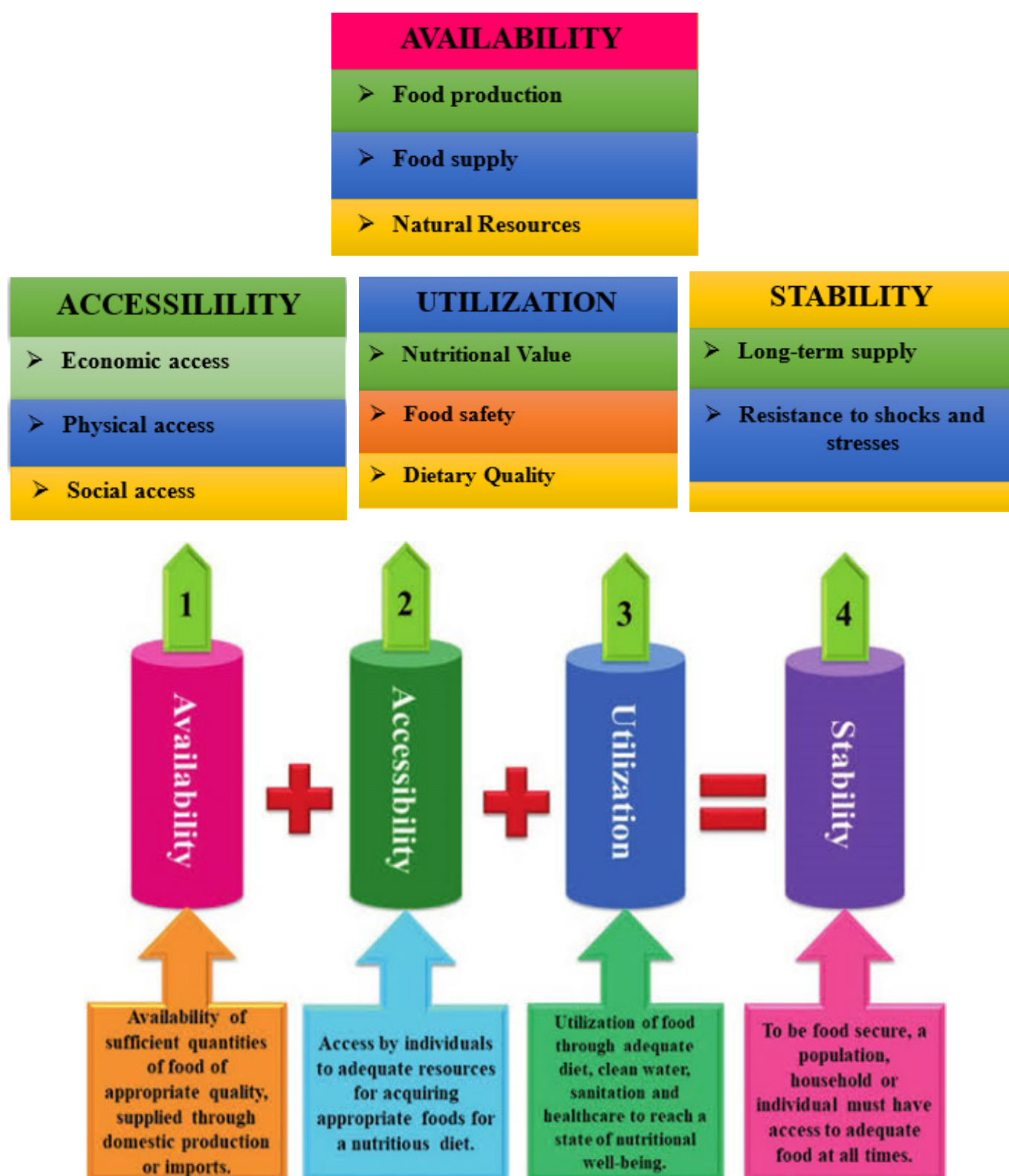
Cause	Estimated Global Impact (%)	Examples
Conflict & Political Instability	35%	Sudan, Yemen, DRC
Climate Change	30%	Droughts, floods, heatwaves
Economic Crisis	20%	Inflation, unemployment
Inefficient Food Systems	0	Post-harvest losses
Other Factors	0	Pests, diseases, supply chain issues

Appendix B: FAO's Four Pillars of Food Security

(Diagram – text-based representation + explanation)

Below is an academically acceptable representation of the FAO four-pillar framework for use in manuscripts.

Diagram B1: Four Pillars of Food Security (FAO Framework)



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