

The fight Against Hunger

Mapping the way forward



What is hunger?

A cross cutting issue, no international agreement on the definition

It is more than having an empty stomach

It is not having enough food to meet daily nutritional requirements

Most part of the world hungry populations is chronically hungry

Women and Children are the most exposed

What causes Hunger?

- **Natural disasters** (1 on 10 humans faced a food deficiency due to disasters in 2006)
 - **War** (almost 20 million people displaced in 2006)
 - **Misuse of natural resources**
 - **Bad policies** (70% population lives in rural areas whilst only 10% budget spent in rural development)
 - **Unequal distribution of power and resources**
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The fight against hunger

Chronic hunger causes diseases and reduces capacity of people to live, to work, to learn, to contribute to social, political, personal, professional life. Hunger and poverty are two coins of the same medal.

Fighting hunger is about

Granting food availability when for any reason people are not properly fed (war, natural disasters, ...)

Enabling people to produce food enough and to grant not only the quantity but the quality of food

Enabling the equal access to resources to make food available for people

Mobilizing the necessary political will to address hunger

Facts

854 million

people suffer from
chronic hunger

820 million (96%)

live in developing
countries

60 million

more hungry in the last
10 years



70%

live in rural areas

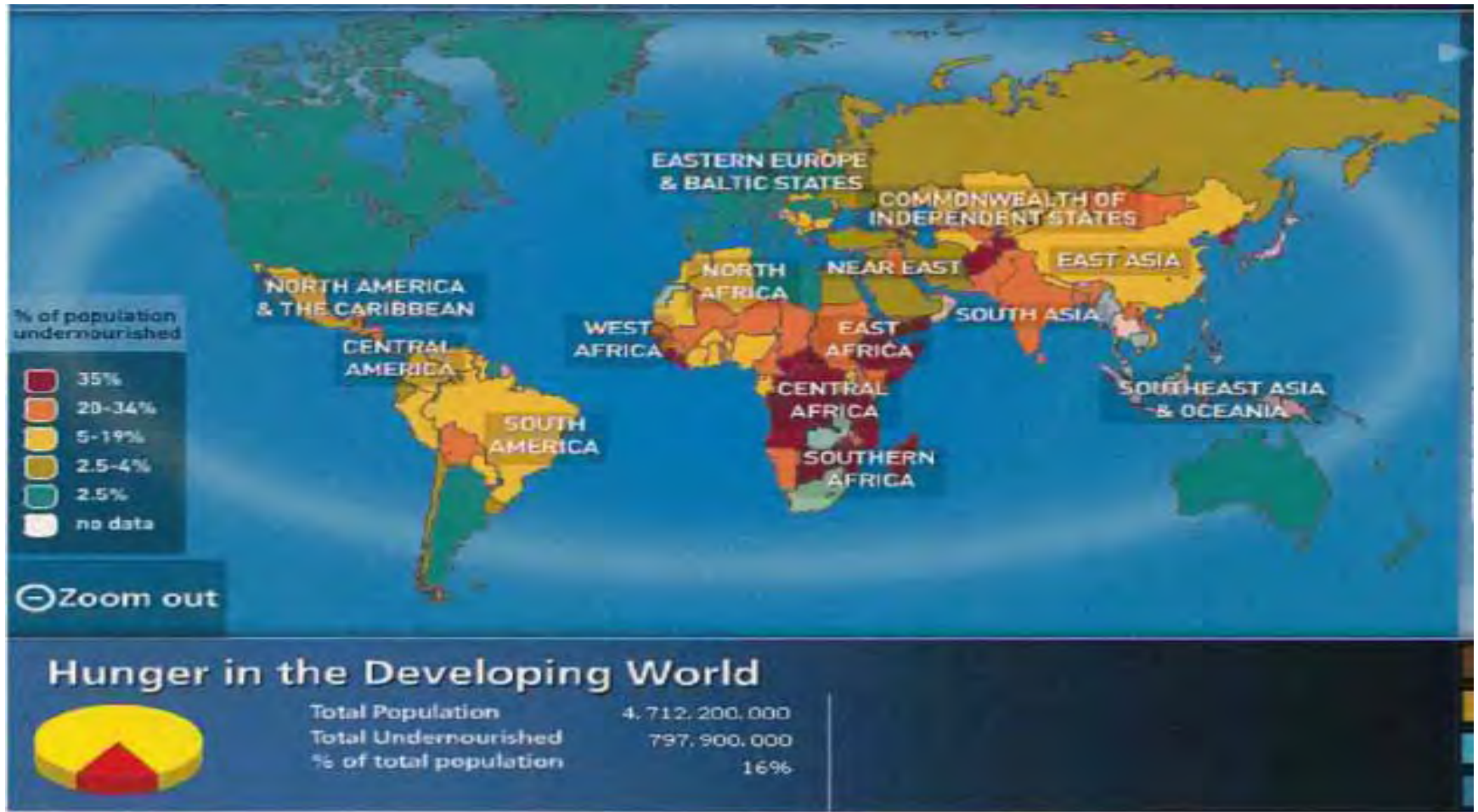
60%

are women

25%

live in sub-
Saharan Africa

Hunger Map



Facts

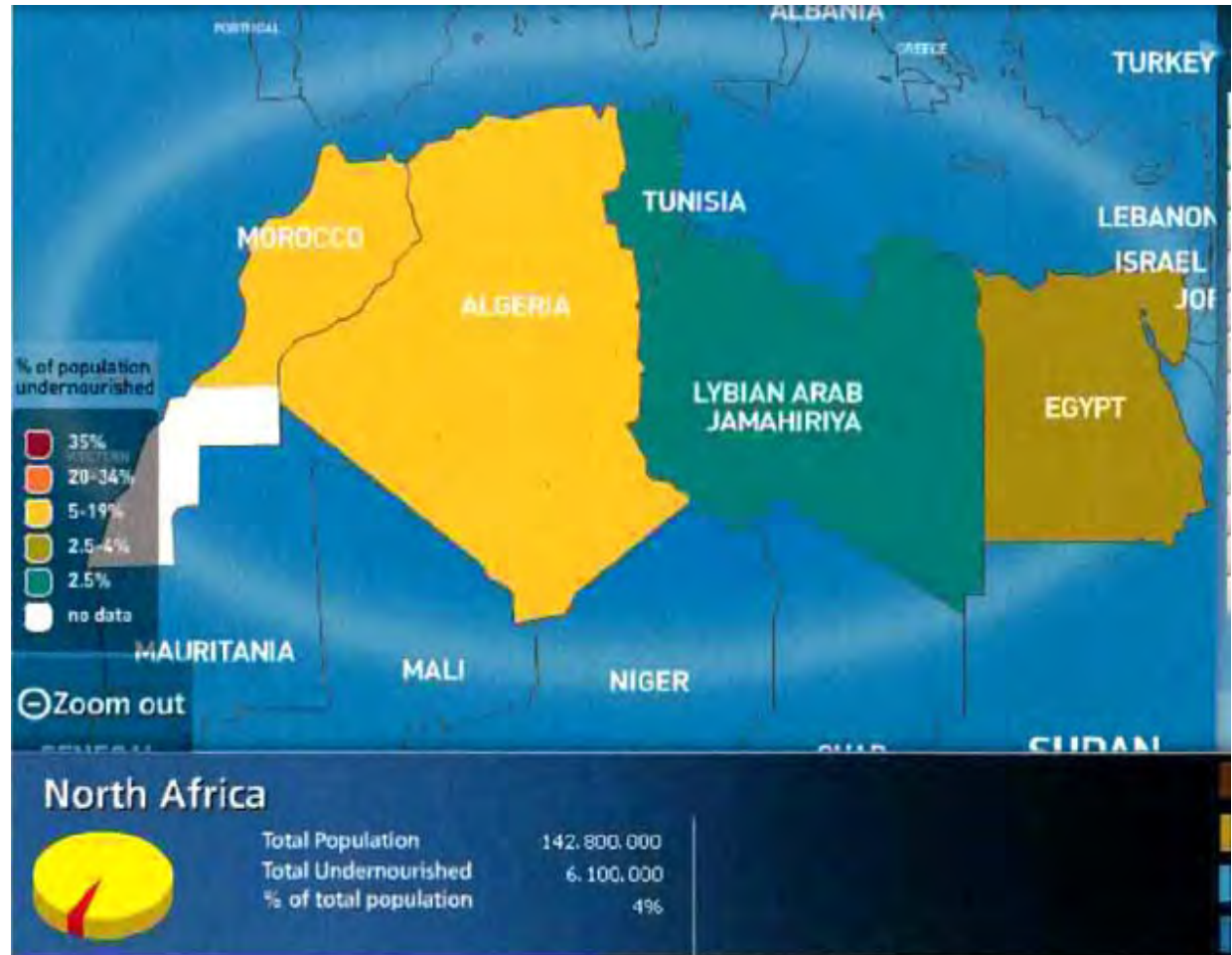
- 130 million children are malnourished
- 10 million adults die for hunger and related causes, more than AIDS, Malaria and Tuberculosis combined



- 11 million children die for hunger or related diseases, 60% because they have been underweight their whole life;
- for both adults and kids makes one every 5 seconds

North Africa

5% of the
population
almost
2 million
people

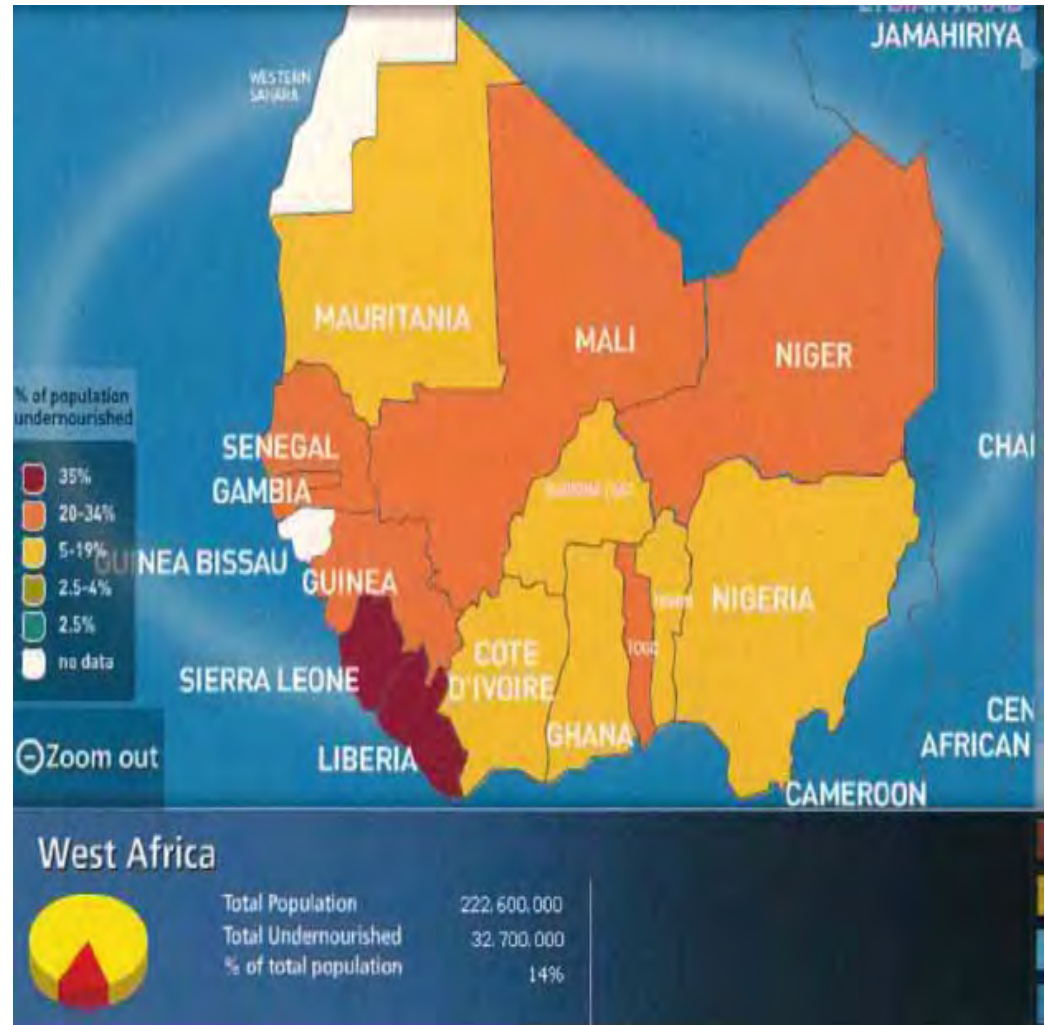


Western Africa

16% of the population

(with peaks of 50%)

almost 33 million people



Central Africa

58% of the
population
(with peaks of
70%)

almost 48
millions
people



Eastern Africa

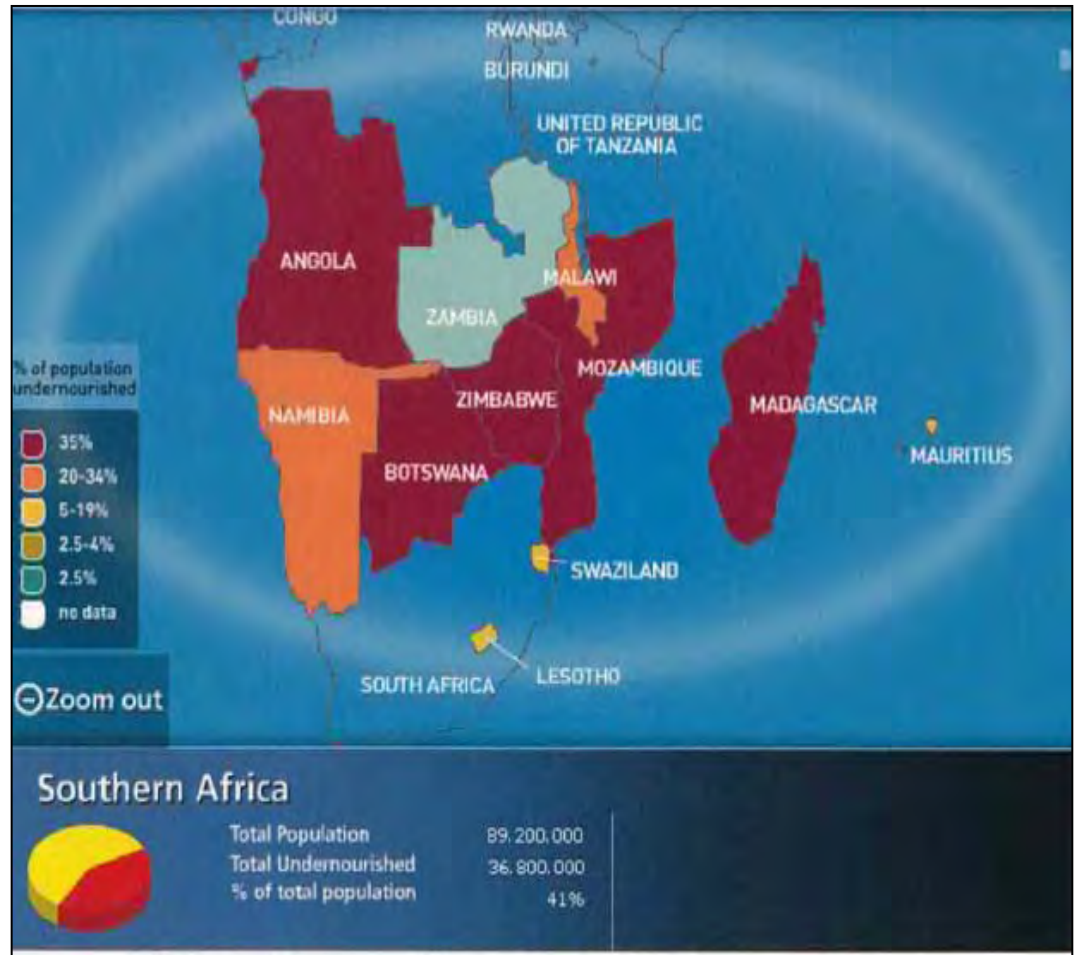
38% of the
population
(with peaks of
70%)

around 81
million
people



Southern Africa

41% of the
population
almost 37
million
people



Approaches to address hunger

- Food Aid useful in emergency not adequate for long term strategies
 - Food security sets comprehensive frameworks but not necessarily including traditional knowledge on food production
 - Right based approach switches the perspective and places people at the center
 - Food Sovereignty complements a right based approach
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Characteristics of the Right to Food

- Food is a basic human right, everyone is a right holder not mere beneficiary
 - Applies human rights principles:
 - Non-discrimination and Equity
 - Transparency and Participation
 - Accountability and Rule of law
 - Right to Food implies the obligation for governments to fulfill it: the progressive realization is a duty, not a matter of choice
 - Enable citizens to claim for their rights
 - Three key words for its achievement:
 - Respect: avoiding the risk of creating barriers to its achievement
 - Protect: ensure that nobody interferes with anyone's right to food
 - Fulfill: the state should create environment, eliminate discrimination, facilitate participation
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The right to food

The voluntary guidelines set the legal framework and the methodology.

Key elements from a civil society point of view

Governments should allocate adequate resources

Access to natural resources and land is part of the right to food

Civil society should be involved in decision making

The legal framework gives the people the means to oblige the states to be accountable

The way forward

- How to map the situation?
 - What are the main priorities?
 - Which are the concrete actions that can affect hunger reduction?
 - How to make sure that people are involved
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