

PRESS RELEASE

G20 Summit in Hamburg Welthungerhilfe: States must fulfil their responsibilities and do more to fight hunger

Bonn, 2017-06-29 In view of today's preparatory meeting between European heads of state and government for the G20 summit in early July, Welthungerhilfe would like to encourage the participants to fulfil their responsibility for sustainable development. "The G20 are an informal but important club. Their share of the world economy amounts to 85% overall, and they account for 80% of all international agricultural trade. At the same time, they are responsible for 80% of all CO2 emissions. Due to their political, economic and military power, they have a great responsibility for all of humanity. They must fulfil this responsibility at the summit," stresses Baerbel Dieckmann, president of Welthungerhilfe.

Welthungerhilfe promotes the concrete support of small farmers rather than of industrial agriculture. Small farmers produce the majority of food, and yet three out of every four starving people live in rural areas. Necessary measures include coherent agricultural and trade policies which do not destroy the successes of development cooperation. At the same time, it is urgently necessary to establish a new financing fund to provide funds to affected countries before disaster strikes. Good early warning systems can predict many such disasters but can do little to mitigate the consequences. This holds true for the acute famine in Africa and Yemen.

In addition, a partnership with Africa should acknowledge the priorities set by African states, including education, health and rural development. "Africa needs private investors, but they will not be able to solve the problems in Africa on their own. It is good that the partnership with Africa is on the agenda for the summit, but the fight against hunger should not be overlooked," says Dieckmann. The new partnership should not be reduced to quickly removing the causes of refugee and migrant displacements, since the states with the most refugees in Africa are also some of the most fragile countries.

Welthungerhilfe is represented in the press tent at the G20 summit in Hamburg. Tel: 0178 / 3700129

For more information, see: <http://www.welthungerhilfe.de/en/press/pr-g20-summit/> and www.welthungerhilfe.de

Welthungerhilfe is one of the largest private aid organisations in Germany and enjoys both political and religious independence. It is fighting for "Zero Hunger by 2030." Since being founded in 1962, it has provided funding of EUR 3.27 billion for more than 8,500 overseas programmes in 70 countries. Welthungerhilfe bases its efforts on the principle of help for self-help, which it implements with measures ranging from rapid disaster relief to rehabilitation to long-term development cooperation projects with national and international partner organisations.

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