

PRESS RELEASE



Welthungerhilfe on the New UN Hunger Figures Fighting Hunger is Important to the People of Germany

Bonn / Berlin, 11/09/2018 The global figures on hunger released by the UN today show a further rise. According to the UN, 821 million people around the world were suffering from hunger in 2017. Conflicts, climate change, and slow economic growth were the main causes.

A current survey carried out by Infratest Dimap for Welthungerhilfe shows that fighting hunger is an issue close to the German public's heart: Nine out of ten Germans say that fighting hunger around the world is important, and 53% even say it is "very important". Almost two thirds of those surveyed (64%) believe that Germany should increase its commitment to fighting hunger, indicating stronger support than for any other area of development policy.

"Our survey shows that the German federal government has a clear task of doing more for the global fight against hunger", says Bärbel Dieckmann, President of Welthungerhilfe. "Above all this means supporting peasants and other people in rural areas - not just with technical projects but also by strengthening their rights. These people are being deprived of productive resources like land, water and seeds. Human rights defenders are increasingly threatened or even murdered."

On 19th/20th September 2018 the "UN Declaration on the Rights of Peasants and Other People Working in Rural Areas" will be finalised in the UN Human Rights Council. On 27th/28th September the member states will make a decision. "Protecting human rights and developing the institutional framework is a central task for German foreign policy", continues Dieckmann. "That is why we call on the federal government to support the declaration."

On 11th October Welthungerhilfe will publish the current Global Hunger Index, which examines the global causes of hunger and shows which countries are winners and losers in the fight against hunger.

For further information see www.welthungerhilfe.org/media/

Welthungerhilfe is one of the largest private aid organisations in Germany; politically independent and non-denominational. It is fighting for "Zero Hunger by 2030". Since it was founded in 1962, more than 8,900 overseas projects in 70 countries have been supported with 3.53 billion euros. Welthungerhilfe works on the principle of help for self-help: from fast disaster relief to reconstruction and long-term development cooperation projects with national and international partner organisations.

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