

HUNGER AND CLIMATE CHANGE

Adopted from https://www.worldhunger.org/hunger-quiz/climate-change/

Nearly one in nine people suffer from hunger worldwide, and global hunger has been rising since 2016. There are a number of factors that contribute to hunger, including poverty, food and agriculture practices and policies, and conflict. The increasing number of extreme climate related disasters, due to climate change, have contributed to changes in agricultural productivity, food availability, food pricing, and food access. Events like flooding, drought, storms, and extreme temperatures caused by climate change can result in increased poverty, loss of assets, and in turn, increased hunger.

1. **Select the statement below that most accurately describes global hunger:**
   - Nearly one in five people suffer from hunger worldwide.
   - Due to the efforts to address food security, hunger has decreased in recent years.
   - Nearly one in nine people suffer from hunger worldwide.
   - Poverty is the only factor that contributes to hunger.

2. **What factors contribute to hunger?**
   - Climate change
   - Agriculture and food policies
   - Poverty
   - All of the above

The majority of the worlds hungry population lives in environments prone to climate hazards such as Africa, Asia, the Middle East, and Latin America. Extreme climate events have the potential to disrupt resources and services such as trade routes and food assistance programs that much of the world depends on. These disruptions can have a strong effect on vulnerable populations, as poverty affects someone's ability to recover from climate events. This creates a cyclical effect where climate-related

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events create and sustain poverty, increasing food insecurity and malnutrition, and therefore a person's vulnerability to climate events in the future.

3. **What best describes the relationship between poverty, hunger and climate change?**

- ○ Climate related events will disrupt livelihoods and impact available income
- ○ Poverty will impact someone's ability to recover from a climate related event, which will sustain poverty and increase food security
- ○ Climate change will cause longer growing seasons in low-income countries which will increase crop production, and family incomes

Agriculture both effects and is affected by climate change. Agriculture is a major contributor to global greenhouse gas emissions, deforestation, and soil ruin. Alternatively, drought and rising temperatures caused by climate change also affect food security and crop yields. The impacts of climate change differ based on income and environment. Low- and middle-income countries with tropical areas are more susceptible to the negative effects of climate change, such as decreases in water availability and increased heat spells that damage crop productivity. By contrast, in higher income countries with temperate zones, climate change may increase crop productivity by causing longer growing seasons and available acreage for crop production.

4. **How can agriculture contribute to sustainable climate?**

_____

5. **Weather related events, such as increased temperatures and floods, will cause decreases in crop productivity in all countries.**

- ○ True
- ○ False

Many areas that are affected by climate change are also affected by conflict, though the relationship between climate change and conflict is not yet well understood. Often, conflict results in loss of food access and income, which can be worsened by climate change. For example, in 2012, a region-wide drought killed cows, resulting in income loss for farmers, leading to an increase in theft and rebel groups.

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6. **What could be a potential effect of climate change and conflict on the local town?**

- Increase in hunger
- Increase in conflict
- Increase in helpless populations
- All of the above

Multiple methods can be implemented to reduce climate change's impact on hunger. Efforts to empower women and helpless groups, such as nutrition programs and farming education for women, can decrease vulnerability to climate events, increase income stability, and increase food security. Agricultural methods such as crop diversity, which involves growing crops in rotation with other crops, leads to greater crop resilience to drought, pest and disease outbreaks. Finally, governments can adopt resilience policies, such as risk monitoring for extreme weather, and emergency response practices to mitigate the risks of conflict.

7. **Complete the chart by answering the questions**

How can empowering women and helpless groups reduce the effects of climate change?	How can the government reduce the effects of climate change?

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