

VIII Hunger and the Food Supply

A. Undernutrition and Famine

1. Defined as not getting enough calories or nutrients

2. Famine is mass starvation resulting from prolonged undernutrition in a region during a certain period.

B. Solving World Hunger

1. Causes of World Hunger exists largely in the distribution of food supplies not in the production of food.

2. Social and Economic Structure.

3. Solution to ending world hunger is in distribution and empowering people with the ability to obtain their needed food.

C Ester Boserup's Theory

1. Believed subsistence farmers want the most leisure time they can have, so they farm in ways that will allow them to feed their families and maximize free time.

2. Believes farmers will change their approach to farming if the population inc and more food is needed.

3. Considered the food supply to be dependent on human approaches.

4. True in a subsistence economy but not in a tech advanced industrialized society.

D. Soil Erosion

1. Due to population pressures, farmers in many regions are trying to grow food at faster rates and often do not allow their soils enough time to recuperate from the last harvest before starting another.

2. Soil Erosion is the loss of the nutrient-rich top layer in soil.
a) 7% of topsoil destroyed each decade.

E Desertification and Deforestation

1. Desertification, another negative consequence related to human overuse of Earth's land, is the loss of habitable land to the expansion of the deserts.

a) Humans contributing to spread of Sahara.

2. Deforestation. loss of forested areas, caused by humans chopping down forest areas at rates so fast the forest can't regrow.

F. Debt For-Nature Swaps

1. Governments forgoing debt in exchange for protecting forests.