

Rising Higher



**The
Hunger
Project.**

Strategic Plan 2023 – 2027

AUSTRALIA



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Rise with us to end hunger

We have faced immense challenges over the past few years: global conflicts, the climate crisis, COVID-19 and increasing systems of inequalities – the perfect storm that has resulted in the global Human Development Index value declining two years in a row.

This has never happened before.

But we are not daunted – we will rise higher. Because we must; and we are asking you to rise with us.

There must be a major shift globally in how we think about hunger. We know that top-down, aid-driven charity models often fail to reach the people who need the most help.

The Hunger Project has a significant advantage in that our successful model has been in place for decades now. These elements – empowering people in-country to make rapid progress in overcoming hunger and poverty: starting with women, mobilising everyone and engaging government – are critical to achieving our mission.

We see this period as a critical moment to embrace a transformational change in how we scale our impact. This is why this strategy is so important, and why the initiatives under each Enabler are crucial to ensure we deliver on our goal.

We invite you to rise with us and be part of this challenging, yet rewarding, journey.

Yours sincerely,



Mary Reemst
Chair
The Hunger Project



Philippe Magid
CEO
The Hunger Project

Our 5-Year Goal

To break the cycle of hunger and extreme poverty now faced by 783 million people.

By 2027, we will:

Transform the lives of more than 11.9 million people.



A world without hunger starts with her.

Hunger is unacceptable.

We are building a future where everyone has enough to eat, no matter where they were born or their gender. We champion women and girls as future leaders and changemakers. A new story is being written.

Be on the right side of hunger's history.



Our Global Network

We are a global leader in ending hunger and poverty, working together with 22 countries around the world.



Key

-  Partner Countries
-  Program Countries

Our Global Context

The UN estimates that in 2022, there are 783 million people living in hunger.

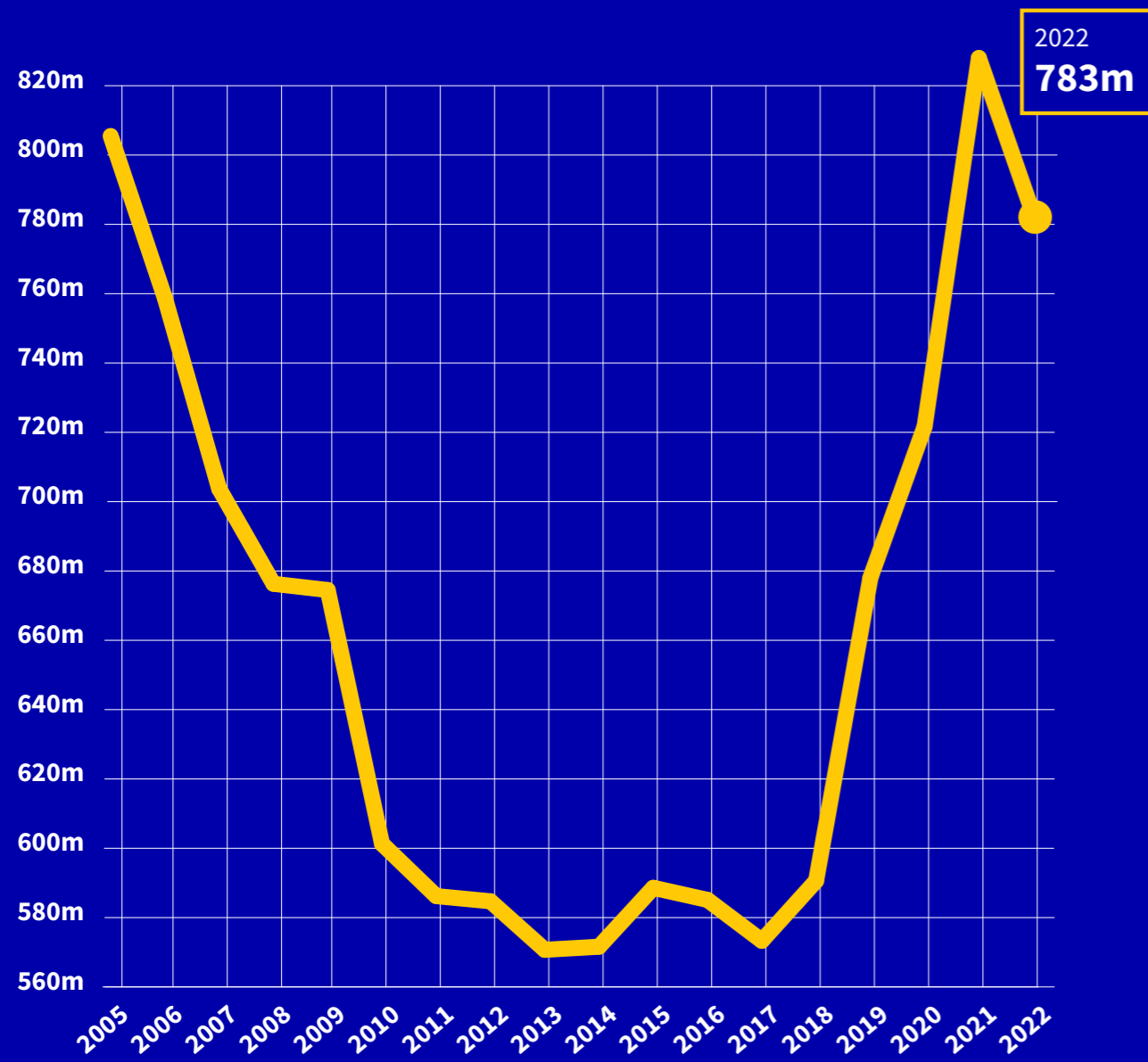
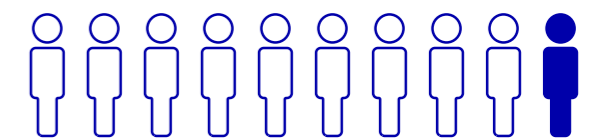


Chart: AJLabs Source: fao.org



That equates to 1 in 10 people globally.



What's affecting hunger right now?



Food and Nutrition

Around 2.3 billion people in the world were moderately or severely food insecure in 2021 - nearly 30% of the global population. As we seek to address this and make sure that people have physical, social, and economic access to sufficient, safe, and nutritious food, we navigate a widening dichotomy. Millions of people cannot access sufficiently nutritious food due to financial strain or scarcity of food; while for millions of others, they have access to food, but the nutritional value of this food is poor. Neither is acceptable.

Gender

Research shows the more gender inequality there is in a country, the hungrier people are, and that women are more likely to go without food in scarce times than men. In many countries, including those where we work, women are still not legally allowed to own land or property, and young girls are effectively sold for marriage, creating generational poverty and co-dependence for women.

Climate

Severe climate events across the world are becoming more frequent. Floods, fires and drought diminish global food security and mostly impact those already living in hunger and poverty. They are destroying or preventing crop yields in many of the countries where we work, resulting in the loss of livelihood and social stability, and ultimately creating more hunger.

Technology

The digital divide between the wealthy and poor, young and old, or regional and urban, is not adequately narrowing. This impacts a range of issues – from access to information and learning, to government services access and business operations and development – that result in substantial barriers to people rising from hunger.

Conflict

Conflict is one of the leading drivers of hunger globally. It disrupts the capacity of communities to farm, work or feed themselves, drives inflation and drastically changes economies in unpredictable ways, ultimately impacting women and children the most. With new conflicts emerging and many continuing to be waged without resolution in sight, many of the hurdles we face will be exasperated by a world at war.

Health inequality

The Covid-19 pandemic illustrated that disparate government recovery and social protection measures during have caused widening inequalities, resulting in increased hunger and poverty; we know future pandemics will only compound this.

Meanwhile, diseases such as cholera, malaria, anaemia and tuberculosis thrive in conditions where clean water is scarce, sanitation is low and living conditions are cramped – with malaria alone responsible for the deaths of half a million children annually. Access to local, well-staffed healthcare is crucial in creating a world without hunger.

Our Work

We believe in building resilience, not reliance.

We partner with communities over the long-term. Food alone will not solve hunger. We address the overarching factors that cause hunger and poverty – including gender inequality, climate change and conflict – to ensure our success.

There's enough food for everyone on this planet; we just need to give everyone a chance to sit at the table.



Our locally-led approach

We know that a one size fits all approach is ineffective when it comes to tackling hunger and poverty.

Each region has its own geopolitical and socio-economical context, which is why our work is locally-led by our experienced teams on the ground. They speak the local language, understand the culture, comprehend the challenges they face and can respond to each region through its own unique lens.



Africa



-  **Population:** 1.4 billion
-  **Countries:** 54
-  **Countries in which we work:** 9
-  **Reach of our programs:** 1.48 million
-  **Number of children 15 and under supported:** 860,160

Program examples

- **BlueTown digital project, Ghana:** in partnership with ISP-provider BlueTown, Microsoft and USAID, three Epicentres now host a fully connected ICT centre with trained micro-operators to support women improve their digital skills
- **Nature First, Ethiopia:** a large-scale project to restore degraded land in order to boost local economy, promote sustainable food systems and build climate resilience
- **Youth Building Bridges, Uganda:** this pilot program seeks to reconnect Ugandan youth with agriculture, both to combat climate change and provide food security through increased farming activity

In Africa, our approach is driven by our Epicentre Strategy. It's where we connect large groups of villages to a central hub and the work is driven by the community. This means they set the agenda for the change they want to see happen. By building up the leadership capability and confidence of people, especially among women, we see whole communities rise up together to create lasting and meaningful change.

The Epicentre is an important gathering place, that encompasses health programs (including HIV/AIDS prevention and maternal and child health), education, water and sanitation, adult literacy, nutrition, improved farming and food security and microfinance.

South Asia

Across South Asia, women and girls are not given equal rights or standing – with appalling consequences. Practices such as dowries and forced marriage are deeply entrenched and mean that girls miss out on their education, the opportunity to work in meaningful jobs and are unable to shape their future and create the fulfilling lives they deserve. We are committed to, and have proven impact in, breaking this cycle of hunger and poverty through targeted advocacy and education programs that elevate the rights of women and girls.



Latin America



India

- Population:** 1.4 billion
- States:** 29
- States in which we work:** 6
- Reach of our programs:** 4.9 million
- No. of children 15 and under supported:** 1.69 million

Program examples

- **Adolescent Girls, India:** thousands of young girls have benefitted from this program, run in small community groups where personal, reproductive and sexual health rights are on the agenda, with the aim of reducing the rates of child marriage
- **Elected Women Representatives, India:** supporting women to be elected to local councils where they can specifically advocate for women’s rights and be a voice for generational change
- **Localising the UN Sustainable Development Goals, Bangladesh:** this grassroots movement is aimed at promoting the SDG goals at a local level, with a focus on developing climate resilience and elevating the voices of women and girls

Bangladesh

- Population:** 169 million
- Districts:** 64
- States in which we work:** 10
- Reach of our programs:** 4.79 million

Women in rural or Indigenous communities in Mexico are particularly vulnerable to hunger and poverty, having little access to education or the digital space. Working within six states, we are working with communities to improve leadership opportunities for women, create safe spaces for young girls to know their rights and make sure that local, nutritious food is grown and shared.

Program examples

- **Traditional “Eat Well” Plates:** combatting the over-use of processed foods, this program encourages communities to eat and grow local produce to improve health and nutrition
- **The Digital Basket:** this pilot program is designed to provide equitable access to the internet and create digital inclusion for Indigenous communities
- **Ellas Deciden – a safe space for girls and adolescents:** the translation means “they decide”, promoting girls autonomy over their bodies and rights, in partnership with schools, families and communities

Mexico

- Population:** 126 million
- States:** 32
- States in which we work:** 6
- Reach of our programs:** 82,413

We can create a world without hunger – together



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