

SMALL AND MEDIUM FOOD PRODUCERS AND PROCESSORS

**Potential in National Development,
International Trade, and
Role in Solving Nutrition Problems**

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Small and Medium Size Food Producers and Processors

- **Farmers and Fishing**
- **Food Storage Personnel**
- **Food Marketing Facilities**
- **Restaurants and Street Food Stalls**
- **Food Shops and Supermarkets**
- **Retail Processors (Bakeries, Etc.)**
- **Canneries, Freezers and Other Food Preservation Facilities**
- **Others**

World population growth

1950 - 2.5 billion

1975 - 4.1

2000 - 6.0

2025 - 7.8

2050 - 8.9



97% of world population increase is in the less developed regions

Annual increases:

Asia + 50 million people

Africa + 17 million

Latin America

& Caribbean + 8 million



Poverty

- **1.3 billion people live on less than one dollar a day**
- **2 billion more are only marginally better off**

Current world situation

- 800 million** → **without adequate access to food**
- 158 million** → **malnourished children under 5**
- 800 million** → **without adequate access to health services**
- 1.2 billion** → **without access to safe water**
- 2 billion** → **without sanitation facilities**
- 1 billion** → **without adequate shelter**
- 842 million** → **illiterate adults**
- 1.3 billion** → **below the poverty line**



Improvements in food supply/agricultural production

- global per caput food supplies increased by 18%
- global food supplies kept pace with population growth
- average global per caput food supplies rose to 2 761 kcal / day

Farming Practices Changing

- **Mechanization, fewer people used to produce food**
- **Yield improvement, sustainability, biotechnology**
- **Food harvests must be preserved or marketed quickly over longer distances**

Farming Practices Changing (continued)

- **New marketing needs and food products**
- **Agriculture infrastructure: supply of inputs, equipment manufacture and maintenance**

Urbanization

- **People moving from rural to urban areas**
- **Cities of more than 1 million common in all continents**
- **Efficient wholesale and retail market structure crucial for fresh and processed foods**
- **Street foods and restaurants**

Changing Food Habits

- **Increase in income creates demand for more animal products, more animal feed**
- **More varied diets, reduced cereal consumption**
- **Reduced preparation of food at home, more eating out or bringing prepared food home**

Agriculture: Motor of Development

Agriculture provides:

- Food for humans and animal feed
- Non-food Items; wood, fiber, flowers, leather/hides and skins, paper, etc.
- On-farm and off-farm employment
- New food products and new processes
- Possibilities for improved domestic and international trade

Food Quality and Safety

- **Consumers demand good quality and safe foods**
- **National science-based rules a necessity, using the FAO/WHO Codex standards**
- **Government, academia and industry infrastructure needed**
- **Role of consumers**

World Trade Organization

- **Removing non-tariff and other barriers to trade**
- **Agreement on agriculture**
- **Agreement on sanitary and phytosanitary measures**
- **Agreement on non-tariff barriers to trade**
- **Subsidies or taxes for food production?**

Investment in Food Production and Processing

- **Clear rules needed**
- **Farmer and processor credit facilities**
- **Extension advice to industry**
- **Successful countries: China, Kenya, Tunisia, Chile, Thailand**

Nutrition Problems and Food Security

- **Assuring access to adequate amounts of good quality and safe foods at affordable prices**
- **Promoting efficient marketing systems**
- **Nutrition education**
- **Government-academia- industry cooperation**

Where do we go from here?

- **Small and medium size food firms essential to national food supply**
- **Maintain national food traditions, but adapt to new realities**
- **Assure quality and safety of all foods**

Where do we go from here?

- **Develop regional and international markets for surpluses and specialty foods**
- **Effectively participate in international food trade and regulatory systems**

Thank you