

Population and Food Security

Pre Module Discussion

1. In a group of three or four students, consider the following statement.
What does it mean? Do we have global food security today?

Food security implies that an individual has access at all times to enough food for an active and healthy life.

2. Food security is generally considered to have two aspects.
 - Availability of food
 - Access to food

In your group, brainstorm a list of things that may affect access to food and availability of food, i.e. food security.

3. What effect does population increase have on food security?

4. Read the two boxes below. How do you reconcile these two apparently conflicting sets of data?

- The global per capita food production is much higher than the daily recommended calorie intake by between 30 and 40%.
- Food prices have decreased (if we adjust for inflation) since 1974.
- The world reserves of food are high.

- The number of people who are hungry or malnourished has risen to approximately 1 billion people (of a global population of some 6 billion).
- 18-24 million people die each year from hunger-related causes.

5. How do you think we can achieve global food security in today's society?