# The Human Right to Adequate Food

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#### The 1996 World Food Summit in Rome

Promised to halve the number of chronically undernourished people between 1996 and 2015. This implies an annual decline by 3.58% (50% over 19 years).

"We pledge our political will and our common and national commitment to achieving food security for all and to an on-going effort to eradicate hunger in all countries, with an immediate [!] view to reducing the number of undernourished people to half their present level no later than 2015."

World Food Security	Undernourished in Millions	Undernutrition
1996	788	
2010		
2015 target		

Rome Declaration on World Food Security	•	Progress against Chronic Undernutrition
1996	788	
2010		

**-50%** 

2015 target

World Food Security	Undernourished in Millions	Undernutrition
1996	788	
2010		
2015 target	394	-50%

**Number of Chronically** 

**Progress against Chronic** 

Rome Declaration on

World Food Security	<b>Undernourished in Millions</b>	Undernutrition
1996	788	
2010	925	
2015 target	394	-50%

**Number of Chronically** 

**Progress against Chronic** 

**Rome Declaration on** 

World Food Security	<b>Undernourished in Millions</b>	Undernutrition
1996	788	
2010	925	+17%
2015 target	394	-50%

**Number of Chronically** 

**Progress against Chronic** 

**Rome Declaration on** 

#### UNGA's Millennium Declaration, 2000

Pledges to halve the proportion of hungry people between 2000 and 2015. This implies an annual decline by 3.35% (40% over 15 years). "to halve, by the year 2015, the proportion of the world's people whose income is less than one dollar a day and the proportion of people who suffer from hunger."

Rome Declaration on World Food Security		Number of Chronically Undernourished in Millions			Progress against Chronic Undernutrition	
1996		788				
2010		925			+17%	
2015 ta	rget	394		-50%		
Millennium  Declaration	Number Undernot in Mill	ırished	World Population in Millions	Propo Chron Underno	ically	Progress against Chronic Undernutrition
2000	83	3				
2010						
2015 target						

Rome Declaration on World Food Security		Number of Chronically Undernourished in Millions			Progress against Chronic Undernutrition	
1990	1996		788			
2010	)	925			+17%	
2015 ta	rget	394		-50%		
Millennium  Declaration	Number Undernot in Mill	ırished	World Population in Millions	Propo Chron Underno	ically	Progress against Chronic Undernutrition
2000	83	3	6321			
2010						
2015 target						

Rome Declaration on World Food Security		Number of Chronically Undernourished in Millions			Progress against Chronic Undernutrition	
1996			788			
2010		925			+17%	
2015 ta	rget	394		-50%		
Millennium  Declaration	Numbernor Undernor in Mill	urished	World Population in Millions	Propo Chron Underno	ically	Progress against Chronic Undernutrition
2000	833		6321	0.1318		
2010						
2015 target						

Rome Declar World Food			Number of Chronically dernourished in Millions			Progress against Chronic Undernutrition	
1996	6		788				
2010	010		925		+17%		
2015 ta	rget		394		-50%		
Millennium  Declaration	Numbernor Undernor in Mill	ırished	World Population in Millions	Propo Chron Underno	ically	Progress against Chronic Undernutrition	
2000	83	3	6321	0.1318			
2010							
2015 target						-50%	

Rome Declar World Food			umber of Chronically ernourished in Millions		Progress against Chronic Undernutrition	
1996	6		788			
2010	)		925		+17%	
2015 ta	rget		394			-50%
Millennium  Declaration	Numbernor Undernor in Mill	ırished	World Population in Millions	Propo Chron Underno	ically	Progress against Chronic Undernutrition
2000	83	3	6321	0.1318		
2010						
2015 target				0.0	659	-50%

Rome Declar World Food			nber of Chron	•	Progress against Chronic Undernutrition		
1996	6		788				
2010	010		925			+17%	
2015 ta	rget		394			-50%	
Millennium  Declaration	Numbo Undernot in Mill	ırished	World Population in Millions	Propo Chron Underno	ically	Progress against Chronic Undernutrition	
2000	83.	3	6321	0.1318			
2010							
2015 target			7284	0.0	659	-50%	

Rome Declaration on World Food Security			Number of Chronically Undernourished in Millions			Progress against Chronic Undernutrition	
1996	6		788				
2010	2010		925			+17%	
2015 ta	rget		394			-50%	
Millennium Declaration	Numbernor Undernor in Mill	ırished	World Population in Millions	Propo Chron Underno	ically	Progress against Chronic Undernutrition	
2000	833		6321	0.1318			
2010							
2015 target	48	0	7284	0.0	659	-50%	

Rome Declaration on World Food Security		Number of Chronically Undernourished in Millions			Progress against Chronic Undernutrition		
1990	6		788				
2010	0		925			+17%	
2015 target			394			-50%	
Millennium Declaration	Numbernor Undernor in Mill	urished	World Population in Millions	Propo Chron Underno	ically	Progress against Chronic Undernutrition	
2000	833		6321	0.1318			
2010	92	5					
2015 target	48	0	7284	0.0	659	-50%	

Rome Declaration on World Food Security		Number of Chronically Undernourished in Millions			Progress against Chronic Undernutrition		
1990	6		788				
2010	0		925		+17%		
2015 ta	2015 target		394			-50%	
Millennium  Declaration	Numbernor Undernor in Mill	urished	World Population in Millions	Propo Chron Underno	ically	Progress against Chronic Undernutrition	
2000	83	3	6321	<b>0.1</b> 3	318		
2010	92	5	6896				
2015 target	48	0	7284	0.0	659	-50%	

Rome Declaration on World Food Security		Number of Chronically Undernourished in Millions			Progress against Chronic Undernutrition	
1990	6		788			
2010	0		925		+17%	
2015 ta	2015 target		394			-50%
Millennium  Declaration	Numbernor Undernor	urished	World Population in Millions	Propo Chron Underno	ically	Progress against Chronic Undernutrition
2000	83	3	6321	<b>0.1</b> 3	318	
2010	92	5	6896	0.13	341	
2015 target	48	0	7284	0.0	659	-50%

Rome Declaration on World Food Security		Number of Chronically Undernourished in Millions			Progress against Chronic Undernutrition	
1990	6		788			
2010	0		925		+17%	
2015 ta	2015 target		394			-50%
Millennium Declaration	Numbernor Undernor	urished	World Population in Millions	Propo Chron Underno	ically	Progress against Chronic Undernutrition
2000	83	3	6321	<b>0.1</b> 3	318	
2010	92	5	6896	0.13	341	+2%
2015 target	48	0	7284	0.0	659	-50%

#### The First Millennium Development Goal

Pledges to halve the proportion of chronically undernourished people in the population of the developing countries between 1990 and 2015. This implies an annual decline in their number by 1.37% (29% over 25 years).

MDG-1: "Target. Halve, between 1990 and 2015, the proportion of people [in the developing regions] who suffer from hunger."

UN: The Millennium Development Goals Report 2012, p. 11; www.un.org/millenniumgoals

Rome Declaration on World Food Security		Number of Chronically Undernourished in Millions			Progress against Chronic Undernutrition	
1996			788			
2010	)		925			+17%
2015 ta	015 target		394		-50%	
MDG1	Number Undernot in Mill	ırished	DC Population in Millions	Propo Chron Underno	ically	Progress against  DC Chronic  Undernutrition
1990	84	3				
2010						
2015 target						

Rome Declaration on World Food Security			nber of Chron nourished in	•	Progress against Chronic Undernutrition			
1996			788					
2010	)		925			+17%		
2015 ta	015 target		394			-50%		
MDG1	Number Undernot in Mill	urished	DC Population in Millions	Propo Chron Underno	ically	Progress against  DC Chronic  Undernutrition		
1990	84	3	4162					
2010								
2015 target								

Rome Declaration on World Food Security		Number of Chronically Undernourished in Millions			Progress against Chronic Undernutrition			
1996	6		788					
2010	)		925			+17%		
2015 ta	target		394			-50%		
MDG1	Number Undernot in Mill	ırished	DC Population in Millions	Propo Chron Underno	ically	Progress against  DC Chronic  Undernutrition		
1990	84	3	4162	0.2026				
2010								
2015 target								

Rome Declaration on World Food Security		Number of Chronically Undernourished in Millions			Progress against Chronic Undernutrition	
1990	6		788			
2010	)		925			+17%
2015 ta	rget		394		-50%	
MDG1	Number Undernot in Mill	ırished	DC Population in Millions	Propo Chron Underno	ically	Progress against  DC Chronic  Undernutrition
1990	84	3	4162	0.2026		
2010						
2015 target						-50%

Rome Declaration on World Food Security		Number of Chronically Undernourished in Millions			Progress against Chronic Undernutrition		
1990	6		788				
2010	)		925			+17%	
2015 ta	arget		394			-50%	
MDG1	Number Undernot in Mill	ırished	DC Population in Millions	Propo Chron Underno	ically	Progress against  DC Chronic  Undernutrition	
1990	84	3	4162	0.2026			
2010							
2015 target				0.10	013	-50%	

Rome Declaration on World Food Security		Number of Chronically Undernourished in Millions			Progress against Chronic Undernutrition		
1990	6		788				
2010	)		925			+17%	
2015 ta	arget		394			-50%	
MDG1	Number Undernot in Mill	ırished	DC Population in Millions	Propo Chron Underno	ically	Progress against  DC Chronic  Undernutrition	
1990	84	3	4162	0.2026			
2010							
2015 target			6028	0.10	013	-50%	

Rome Declaration on World Food Security		Number of Chronically Undernourished in Millions			Progress against Chronic Undernutrition		
1990	6		788				
2010	)		925			+17%	
2015 ta	arget		394			-50%	
MDG1	Number Undernot in Mill	ırished	DC Population in Millions	Propo Chron Underno	ically	Progress against  DC Chronic  Undernutrition	
1990	84	843		0.2026			
2010							
2015 target	61	1	6028	0.10	013	-50%	

Rome Declaration on World Food Security		Number of Chronically Undernourished in Millions			Progress against Chronic Undernutrition	
1996	6		788			
2010	2010		925		+17%	
2015 ta	rget		394		-50%	
MDG1	Number Undernot in Mill	ırished	DC Population in Millions	Propo Chron Underno	ically	Progress against DC Chronic Undernutrition
1990	843		4162	0.2026		
2010	91	0				
2015 target	61	1	6028	0.10	013	-50%

Rome Declaration on World Food Security		Number of Chronically Undernourished in Millions		Progress against Chronic Undernutrition		
1996			788			
2010		925		+17%		
2015 target		394		-50%		
MDG1	Number Undernot in Mill	ırished	DC Population in Millions	Propo Chron Underno	ically	Progress against DC Chronic Undernutrition
1990	84	3	4162	0.20	026	
2010	910	0	5660			
2015 target	61	1	6028	0.10	013	-50%

Rome Declaration on World Food Security		Number of Chronically Undernourished in Millions		Progress against Chronic Undernutrition		
1996			788			
2010		925		+17%		
2015 target		394		-50%		
MDG1	Number Undernot in Mill	ırished	DC Population in Millions	Propo Chron Underno	ically	Progress against DC Chronic Undernutrition
1990	84	3	4162	0.20	026	
2010	910	0	5660	0.16	608	
2015 target	61	1	6028	0.10	013	-50%

Rome Declaration on World Food Security		Number of Chronically Undernourished in Millions		Progress against Chronic Undernutrition		
1996			788			
2010		925		+17%		
2015 target		394		-50%		
MDG1	Number Undernot in Mill	ırished	DC Population in Millions	Propo Chron Underno	ically	Progress against DC Chronic Undernutrition
1990	84	3	4162	0.20	026	
2010	910	0	5660	0.16	608	<b>-21%</b>
2015 target	61	1	6028	0.10	013	-50%

	Undernourished	with "improved"
Year	in Millions (2011)	methodology (2012)
1969–1971	878	
1979–1981	853	
1990–1992	843	
1995–1997	<b>7</b> 88	
2000–2002	833	
2005–2007	848	
2008	963	
2009	1023	

UN Food and Agriculture Organization (www.fao.org)

	Undernourished	with "improved"
Year	in Millions (2011)	methodology (2012)
1969–1971	878	
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2000–2002	833	
2005–2007	848	
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1979–1981	853	
1990–1992	843	1000
1995–1997	<b>7</b> 88	
2000–2002	833	
2005–2007	848	
2008	963	
2000	1022	0.7

#### 

UN Food and Agriculture Organization (www.fao.org)

	Undernourished	with "improved"
Year	in Millions (2011)	methodology (2012)
1969–1971	878	
1979–1981	853	
1990–1992	843	1000
1995–1997	<b>7</b> 88	931
2000–2002	833	922
2005–2007	848	884
2008	963	867
2009	1023	867

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925

UN Food and Agriculture Organization (www.fao.org)

868

## FAO World Food Price Index 2000

2004

2006

2008

2010

2011

2013

2014

Real (deflated)

92.4

96.2

105.0

112.7

155.7

150.7

169.9

159.9

156.1

**Nominal** 

91.1

89.6

112.7

127.2

201.4

188.0

229.9

209.8

208.8

#### Allowable Millions of Undernourished 2015

Rome Declaration	394m	
IINGA Millennium		

480m

**Declaration** MDG 1 611m Old

Progress Achieved by 2010 (target: -50%) Methodology

+17% **Rome Declaration UNGA Millennium** 

+2%**Declaration** 

MDG 1 **-21%** 

### Allowable Number of Undernourished 2015

Rome Declaration	394m	
UNGA Millennium Declaration	480m	

611m

Old

Methodology

+17%

+2%

**-21%** 

MDG 1

**Progress Achieved by** 

2010 (target: -50%)

**Rome Declaration** 

**UNGA Millennium** 

**Declaration** 

MDG 1

**724m** 

"Improved"

Methodology

#### Allowable Number of Undernourished 2015

Rome Declaration	394m	
UNGA Millennium Declaration	480m	
MDG 1	611m	724m

# Old **Progress Achieved by**

**Rome Declaration** 

MDG 1

"Improved" Methodology Methodology

2010 (target: -50%)

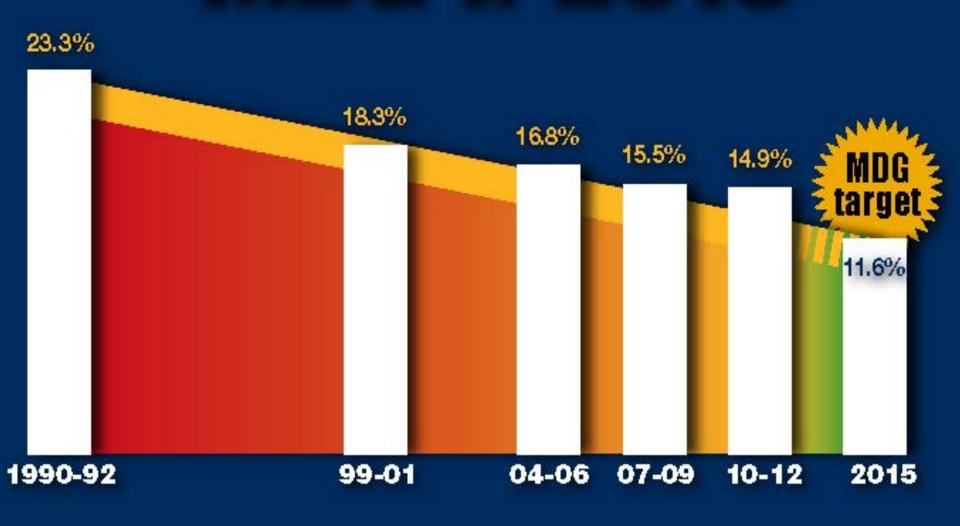
**UNGA Millennium** +2%**Declaration** 

**-21%** 

**-36**%

+17%

# 11 G = 2015



#### Conclusion (for SDGs)

The definitions and measurement methods involved in development targets must not be allowed to be revised midway; and the tracking of progress must not be entrusted to politically exposed agencies like the FAO and the World Bank, but should be left to an independent international group of top-level academic experts. Example: the MDG hunger target.

#### The FAO's "Improved Methodology" (2012)

- A person counts as undernourished/hungry only if her/his
- (a) "food energy availability [no other nutrient deficiencies count]
- (b) is inadequate to cover even minimum needs for a sedentary lifestyle"
- (c) for "over a year."

#### Die neue Definition der FAO (2012)

**UN Food and Agriculture Organization:** 

"the reference period should be long enough for the consequences of low food intake to be detrimental to health. Although there is no doubt that temporary food shortage may be stressful, the FAO indicator is based on a full year."

FAO: SOFI 2012, Annex 2, p. 50.

#### First Argument for New Methodology

At the moment, few surveys accurately capture habitual food consumption at the individual level and collect sufficient information on the anthropometric characteristics and activity levels of each surveyed individual; in other words, very few surveys would allow for an estimation of the relevant energy requirement threshold at the individual level.

#### Second Argument for New Methodology

Within the population, there is a range of values for energy requirements that are compatible with healthy status, given that body weight, metabolic efficiency and physical activity levels vary. It follows that only values below the minimum of such a range can be associated with undernourishment, in a probabilistic sense. Hence, for the PoU [prevalence of undernourishment] to indicate that a randomly selected individual in a population is undernourished, the appropriate threshold is the lower end of the range of energy requirements.