THE STATE OF GLOBAL FOOD BANKING 2018

Nourishing the World
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The State of Global Food Banking 2018: Nourishing the World

THE GLOBAL FOODBANKING NETWORK | OCTOBER 2018

The Global FoodBanking Network’s mission is to alleviate global hunger by developing food banks in communities where they are needed and by supporting food banks where they exist.
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Hunger is a complex, but solvable problem. The world produces more than enough food for every human being on the planet. Still, 821 million people are chronically undernourished and facing food deprivation (FAO, 2018). At the same time, more than 1.3 billion tons of food is lost or wasted (FAO, 2011).

Food banks play a vital role in redirecting surplus, wholesome food to the hungry. In light of the international community’s commitment to end hunger by 2030, as articulated in the UN Sustainable Development Goals (SDGs), it is important to better understand the unique and valuable service food banks provide to feed the hungry and reduce food insecurity in nations and communities around the world.

The State of Global Food Banking 2018: Nourishing the World is the first study to survey the landscape and impact of food banks globally. With a focus on The Global FoodBanking Network (GFN) members and partner organizations, this report is intended to serve as an almanac of food banking, providing insights and demonstrating the effectiveness of the food banking model as a grassroots, community-led hunger intervention. The theme of World Food Day 2018 is “Our Actions are our Future. A #ZeroHunger world by 2030 is possible.” This report captures how food banks around the world—which serve approximately 60 million hungry people (CSP, 2013)—can work collaboratively across all sectors to help achieve the zero-hunger target.

Data for this report is provided by GFN member food banks, through GFN’s annual network survey. Data from partner food banking organizations in the United States and Europe are also included. This report offers insights into the operations, programs, reach of service, and number of meals distributed. It also lays out country-by-country profiles, giving context to the data and the environment in which the food banks operate.

I would like to thank the food banking organizations served by GFN for providing the information presented in this report. Each has customized the food banking approach to best engage its community and works tirelessly to advance hunger relief and food waste reduction in the face of challenging circumstances. I am grateful to the European Federation of Food Banks (FEBA) and to Feeding America for their involvement with this study. I also deeply appreciate the generous support of the Bank of America Charitable Foundation, Cargill, and the Kellogg Company Fund for making this report possible and to the PIMCO Foundation for their strategic engagement with GFN.

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Most importantly, GFN is grateful to the ongoing support of the food banks, partners, donors, and volunteers whose energy and commitment makes the food bank movement successful. This report highlights the important social contributions they make every day. This is the story of food banks working to help nourish the world.

LISA MOON
PRESIDENT & CEO
THE GLOBAL FOODBANKING NETWORK
The problem of global hunger

Enough food is produced in the world to feed everyone, yet one in nine people globally go hungry.

According to the most recent reports of the Food and Agriculture Organization of the United Nations (FAO), nearly 821 million people go to bed hungry every day, 2 billion people are micronutrient deficient, and an undefined number of people globally are food insecure, meaning they are at risk of going hungry. After years of decline, global hunger is again on the rise. Violent conflicts, economic downturns, and natural disasters have all played a role in the most recent increase in hunger.

Children are particularly at risk. The effects of malnutrition on them can be devastating, including impaired cognition, decreased concentration, and poor academic performance. Malnutrition can also cause long-term health concerns like vitamin deficiencies, weakness, and growth delays (Black et. al., 2008). Nearly 22.5 percent of the world’s children under age five suffer from stunting, or reduced growth rate, and 7.5 percent of them suffer from wasting, or underweight, caused by acute malnutrition (FAO, 2018).

The problem of hunger, especially child hunger, has a profound impact on those who suffer undernourishment, but has broader societal impacts as well. Research indicates, the economic cost of malnutrition is estimated to range from two to three percent of Gross Domestic Product (World Bank, 2006). Reducing hunger and undernourishment is essential to eradicating poverty and improving economic growth, especially in emerging market economies.
Global hunger amidst global food loss and waste

About one-third of food produced for human consumption worldwide is wasted or lost. This means that at all stages of growth and production—including in fields, in factories, during transportation, in stores, and at home—food goes uneaten. Global estimates on food losses and waste per year are roughly 30 percent for cereal crops; 40 to 50 percent for root crops, fruits, and vegetables; 20 percent for oilseeds, meat, and dairy; and 35 percent for fish (FAO, 2011).

If even one-fourth of this wasted food were redirected, 870 million hungry people could be fed—enough for every hungry person on earth (FAO, 2016). Not only is food waste a loss to the people it could feed, but it is also wasting land, water, energy, and labor resources. Food waste amounts to roughly $990 billion worldwide and produces the equivalent of 3.3 billion tons of greenhouse gases (FAO, 2013).

The recovery and redistribution of surplus, wholesome food for hunger relief helps reduce environmental degradation associated with the food supply chain. From a food system perspective, food banks reduce the amount of food waste sent to landfills and help avoid the need for additional food production to supply various consumers.
What is a food bank?

A food bank is an organization formed to procure surplus, wholesome, and safe food from the commercial food system that might otherwise go to waste or to landfills and repurpose it for distribution to those facing hunger, typically through community service organizations.

First established 50 years ago, the food bank model has emerged as an important and effective hunger relief intervention in countries across the globe. Food manufacturers, farmers, and retailers view food banks as a valuable business-to-business solution in managing waste and costs associated with the dumping of otherwise wholesome food. Food banks create a win-win situation by redirecting this surplus, safe food from food producers, reducing negative environmental impacts and supplying the excess food to the hungry. Food banks divert food from landfills, thereby eliminating environmental and economic costs at the production, processing, and retail levels and reducing land occupation and carbon emissions.

Food banks are grassroots organizations formed by the people in the countries and communities where they exist to mobilize resources to address hunger and food insecurity. An effective local solution to a local need, food banks are a unique model of community-led development. They extend and build civil society by providing direct support to vulnerable people. The act of food banking strengthens community service through cost-effective and holistic approaches to hunger relief and development. Food banks work with both public- and private-sector institutions at the local level—closest to where the need is.

Food banks provide their services through a dynamic system of logistical and warehousing infrastructure that operates similarly to commercial wholesale food operations. Generally, food banks serve as a central hub for a specific geographic region, securing donations from food companies, grocery stores, wholesale companies, packers, farmers, and government agencies. The donated food is sorted, inventoried, and distributed to local community organizations like orphanages, senior centers and schools; and emergency food programs like food pantries, soup kitchens, and shelters.

The food bank model is a sustainable, long-serving hunger relief intervention operating in various forms and adaptations in more than 60 nations around the world. Food banks are particularly effective in transitioning-income countries with nascent civil society institutions. They aid in the development and support of local charities that work to reduce hunger and food insecurity for vulnerable populations by filling the gap when there is a lack of public-sector or social service food assistance programs. Food banks support hundreds and thousands of local beneficiary agencies, helping those local organizations serve the nutritional needs of vulnerable populations in the community.

In developing or transitioning market countries, food banks can be especially crucial to support the ongoing development of civil society and provide food aid to vulnerable populations. Through their partnerships with government and industry, food banks offer a model for preventing and reacting to localized increases in hunger. They serve as a catalyst for longer-term development and food security.
PART 2: A PROVEN SOLUTION: THE FOOD BANKING MODEL

Figure 2: How food banking works

Food Bank
Collect and Distribute Food

Community Service Orgs
Deliver to Hungry People

Surplus Food
Farms
Government Commodities
Restaurants & Hospitality
Produce Markets
Food Manufacturers & Distributors
Grocery Retailers
Fisheries
Nourish Hungry People
John van Hengel developed the concept of food banking in the late 1960s. Van Hengel, a retired businessman, had been volunteering at a soup kitchen that was trying to find food to serve the hungry. One day he met a desperate mother who regularly rummaged through grocery store garbage bins to find food for her children. She suggested that there should be a place where, instead of being thrown out, discarded food could be stored for people to pick up—similar to the way “banks” store money for future use. With that, the food banking model was born.

Van Hengel established St. Mary’s Food Bank in Phoenix, Arizona, as the nation’s first food bank. In the food bank’s first year, he and his team of volunteers distributed 275,000 pounds of food to people in need. Word of the food bank’s success quickly spread, and other states began to take note. By 1977 food banks had been established across the United States. In 1979 van Hengel established Second Harvest, which was later called America’s Second Harvest. In 2008 the network changed its name to Feeding America to better reflect the mission of the organization. Today, Feeding America is the largest domestic hunger relief organization in the United States—an efficient network of 200 food banks serving more than 40 million low-income people.

In 2006, The Global FoodBanking Network was founded by four of the world’s leading national food bank networks—Red Bancos de Alimentos Argentina, Food Banks Canada, Bancos de Alimentos de México, and Feeding America—guided by the visionary leadership of Robert Forney and William Rudnick, with the support of Christopher Rebstock—to promote food banking expansion around the world.
Box 2: Sustainable Development Goals and food banking

In 2015, the United Nations created a series of global goals to promote a more equitable, just, and healthy world. The 17 Sustainable Development Goals, which were built upon the success of the Millennium Development Goals, serve as a “universal call to action to end poverty, protect the planet and ensure that all people enjoy peace and prosperity” by the year 2030. Goals 2.1 and 12.3 are of particular interest to GFN.

**SUSTAINABLE DEVELOPMENT GOAL 2.1**

**END HUNGER**—Achieve food security and improved nutrition and promote sustainable agriculture. By 2030 end hunger and ensure access by all people, in particular the poor and people in vulnerable situations, including infants, to safe, nutritious, and sufficient food all year round.

Globally, more than 60 million people in need receive food assistance through food banks (CSP, 2013). GFN food banks serve nearly 8 million hungry people in 31 countries, including more than 4 million children (GFN, 2018).

**SUSTAINABLE DEVELOPMENT GOAL 12.3**

**RESPONSIBLE CONSUMPTION AND PRODUCTION**—Ensure sustainable consumption and production patterns. By 2030 halve per-capita global food waste at the retail and consumer levels and reduce food losses along production and supply chains, including postharvest losses.

Globally, more than 472,021,686 kilos of surplus, safe food is directed away from landfills and repurposed to feed hungry people by GFN food banks. (GFN, 2018).
The Global FoodBanking Network: Extending the food bank model across the globe

The Global FoodBanking Network (GFN) is an international, humanitarian development organization based in Chicago, Illinois, USA, that focuses on combatting hunger and preventing food waste by uniting, establishing, and advancing food banks throughout the world. GFN connects and supports those in its network by providing expertise, directing resources, sharing knowledge, and developing connections that increase efficiency, ensure food safety, and reach more hungry people with nutritious food.

GFN provides food banking organizations:

- Access to a peer network of food bank leaders in more than 30 countries to test approaches and promulgate best practices
- Customized training and expert technical assistance
- Capacity-building grants to drive efficiency, scale, nutrition, and resilience
- Partnerships with global companies such as those in the grocery, food manufacturing, agriculture, and service industries to support sustainability and growth
- A certification process that verifies to donors, governments, and social service agencies that the food bank operates safely, with traceability and legal and ethical compliance

Figure 3: GFN's global reach
The Global FoodBanking Network in brief

GFN operates in more than 30 countries. There are 811 food banks in the network that distribute food and grocery products to hungry people through 55,013 local beneficiary organizations. The number of beneficiary institutions served today increased by nearly 26 percent over the last year (GFN, 2018).

Last year, GFN food banks distributed 472,021,686 kilos of food and grocery product. This is a 10.7 percent increase from the previous year. The total product distributed is on an upward trend, with a 7.6 percent compound annual growth rate since 2012 (GFN, 2018).

Food banks reported an unduplicated 7,779,613 people served across the network in 2017, a 9 percent increase over the previous year of 7.11 million. On average, food banks report that 52 percent of the people served—4.04 million—are children (GFN, 2018).
PART 3: A SNAPSHOT OF FOOD BANKING ORGANIZATIONS ACROSS THE WORLD

Country-by-country survey of food banks

All food banks include a component of providing hunger relief through the recovery of surplus food, but the model has been implemented and adapted to respond to local or regional circumstances. The following pages lay out how the food bank approach has been applied—and found impactful—in varied socio-economic, cultural, political, and geographic contexts. The following country-by-country reports provide information on specific food bank programs and examples of some of the hunger-relief interventions these organizations are undertaking in their local communities every day. Although each food bank has customized the model to meet community-specific needs, what unites these organizations is their fundamental approach and commitment to empowering their communities to address the problem of hunger by addressing food loss and waste.

Methodology:
The report includes profiles of GFN food banks and formal partner organizations. Profiles are presented by region in alphabetical order. Each food bank or food bank network is featured with socio-economic information on the nation in which it operates, including poverty rates, urbanization, agricultural resources, and community need. Country data on population, malnourishment, and food insecurity provide further background on specific hunger needs the food banks work to address. A full list of country-level data can be found in Box 3. The information specific to food banking operations was drawn from the GFN annual network survey, which was conducted using census survey methodology. Data reflect the food banks’ distribution, programs, and general operations in 2017, although some reporting periods on specific data may vary. GFN members report kilograms distributed rather than meals, as there is a lot of variability across food banks in calculating meals. Beneficiary organizations are defined as a local, charitable agency directly serving individuals and families. All data is self-reported by the food banking organizations, with validation by GFN field staff and supporting documentation. In addition, data on the scope of food banks from GFN’s formal partner organizations, Feeding America and the European Federation of Food Banks (FEBA), is included to provide a more comprehensive picture of food banking around the world.

Organization of country data:
The information in this category is organized into three regional sets: the Americas; Africa, Europe, and the Near East; and Asia and the Pacific. Countries with a GFN presence, including member national networks (food bank organizations with country-wide or regional distribution), member food banks, emerging food bank projects, and formal partner organizations, are all included for a true global perspective.
Box 3: Sources and Definitions

The following data are provided for each country to provide the socioeconomic and food security context in which the food bank operates. All source data are from 2017 or the most recent calendar year available.

POPULATION CHARACTERISTICS

**Population:** United Nations (UN) Dept. of Economic and Social Affairs (DESA), Statistics Div. International Data Base
UN DESA estimations and projections of population for all countries of the world, from 1950-2100. The data base incorporates findings of the most recent national population censuses and of numerous specialized population surveys carried out around the world.

**Median age:** UN DESA, Statistics Div. International Data Base
UN DESA estimates the median age by using the cohort component method of national population. The median divides the age distribution into two equal parts: one-half of the cases falls below the median age and one-half above the median.

**Urban population:** UN DESA, Statistics Div. International Data Base
Urbanization is the proportion of the total national population living in areas classed as urban or municipal. Countries differ in the way they classify population as “urban” versus “rural.” The population of a city or metropolitan area depends on the boundaries chosen by national administrative entities. Therefore there is no urban or rural definition that applies to all countries. UN DESA provides quadrennial estimates of the total and urban populations for all countries or areas in the world.

**Urban population growth:** World Bank
Urban population growth refers to people living in urban areas as defined by national statistical offices. It is calculated using World Bank population estimates and urban ratios from the UN World Urbanization Prospects.

**Better life index:** Organisation for Economic and Co-operative Development (OECD)
The Better Life Index is an independent measure of well-being developed for the 36 countries that are members of OECD. The measure considers 11 essential categories, including housing, income, jobs, and health.

**Main agricultural products:** United States Department of Agriculture, Foreign Agricultural Service

DEVELOPMENT INDICATORS

**Poverty:** World Bank
The national poverty headcount ratio, developed using population-weighted subgroup estimates from household surveys, is the percentage of the population living below a country’s national poverty lines.

**Prevalence of severe food insecurity:** FAO 2018
Food security is defined as existing “when all people, at all times, have physical, social and economic access to sufficient, safe and nutritious food which meets their dietary needs and food preferences for an active and healthy life.”

**Prevalence of undernourishment:** FAO 2018
The prevalence of undernourishment calculates the number of people worldwide “whose habitual food consumption is insufficient to provide the dietary energy levels that are required to maintain a normal active and healthy life.”

**Progress toward SDG2:** SDG Index and Dashboards Report 2017
This measures a country’s progress toward meeting all 17 of the objectives outlined in the UN Sustainable Development Goals. A score close to 100 would signify 100% progress to the best possible outcome.

**Stunting:** FAO 2018
Stunting measures the rate of children under 5 for their height due to inadequate nutrition (chronic malnutrition).

**Wasting:** FAO 2018
Wasting measures the rate of children under five who are thin for their height due to inadequate nutrition (acute malnutrition).

ECONOMIC INDICATORS

**GDP (US$):** World Bank
An estimate of Gross Domestic Product provides a glimpse into a country’s economic performance or prosperity.

**Agriculture, forestry, and fishing, value added:** World Bank
The percentage of a country’s GDP from food and fiber industries is one useful measure of the size of a nation’s commercial food system from which food banks may draw resources.

**Gini Index:** World Bank
The Gini index measures the extent to which the distribution of income (or consumption expenditure) among individuals or households within an economy deviates from a perfectly equal distribution. A Gini index of zero (0) represents perfect equality and one hundred (100) represents perfect inequality.

**Labor force:** UN DESA, Statistics Div. International Data Base
The labor force is the sum of persons in a country of working age, who are employed, plus persons unemployed. These two groups represent the current supply of labor.

**Unemployment:** UN DESA, Statistics Div. International Data Base
The unemployment rate is the percentage of persons in the labor force who are unemployed.
PART 3: A SNAPSHOT OF FOOD BANKING ORGANIZATIONS ACROSS THE WORLD
PART 3: A SNAPSHOT OF FOOD BANKING ORGANIZATIONS ACROSS THE WORLD

The Americas

- Argentina
- Brazil
- Canada
- Chile
- Colombia
- Costa Rica
- Emerging Food Bank Project: El Salvador
- Dominican Republic
- Ecuador
- Guatemala
- Honduras
- Mexico
- Panama
- Paraguay
- Peru
- Regional Partner: Feeding America
ARGENTINA

Population Characteristics

- Population: 44,293,293
- Median Age: 31.7 years
- Urban Population: 92%
- Urban Population Growth (Annual): 1.1%
- Better Life Index: N/A
- Main Agricultural Products: sunflower seeds, lemons, soybeans, grapes, corn, tobacco, peanuts, tea, wheat; livestock

Development Indicators

- Poverty Rate: 30.3%
- Prevalence of Severe Food Insecurity: 8.7%
- Prevalence of Undernourishment: 3.8%
- Progress Toward SDG2: 65.3
- Stunting Rate (Children Under 5): N/A
- Wasting Rate (Children Under 5): N/A

Economic Indicators

- GDP (US$ in Billions): 554.86
- Agriculture, Forestry, and Fishing, Value Added (% of GDP): 6
- GINI Index: 42.4
- Labor Force: 18 million
- Unemployment Rate: 8.10%

National Food Bank Network

PART 3: A SNAPSHOT OF FOOD BANKING ORGANIZATIONS ACROSS THE WORLD
The Pequeña Unidad Productiva de Alimentos (PUPA) project was designed after a request from Banco Alimentario La Plata’s beneficiary organizations to extend the life of fruits and vegetables once they are removed from food banks storage facilities. The project consists of processing, freezing, and packaging four specific products: mixed fruit and vegetables, tomato pulp, and frozen fruit. This recovery process adds to the food’s shelf life and helps it reach more people. In one year PUPA has manufactured 5,300 kilos of mixed vegetables and fruits, tomato pulp, and frozen fruits.

“In addition to elongating the shelf life, the idea is the beneficiary can open the packaging and can cook without any hassle or mess in their kitchens, saving time and work, while promoting proper nutrition for their children,” explained Dolores Puig, logistics coordinator at Banco Alimentario La Plata.
BRAZIL
SOUTH AMERICA

Population Characteristics
- Population: 207,353,391
- Median Age: 32 years
- Urban Population: 86.2%
- Urban Population Growth (Annual): 1.1%
- Better Life Index: 4.5
- Main Agricultural Products: coffee, soybeans, wheat, rice, corn, sugarcane, cocoa, citrus; beef

Development Indicators
- Poverty Rate: 8.7%
- Prevalence of Severe Food Insecurity: N/A
- Prevalence of Undernourishment: <2.5%
- Progress Toward SDG2: 65.6
- Stunting Rate (Children Under 5): N/A
- Wasting Rate (Children Under 5): N/A

Economic Indicators
- GDP (US$ in Billions): 1,793.99
- Agriculture, Forestry, and Fishing Value Added (% of GDP): 5
- GINI Index: 51.3
- Labor Force: 104.2 million
- Unemployment Rate: 11.8%
Brazil trains managers for future food bank growth

The Mesa Brasil Sesc Program, a solidarity food bank network, was established more than a decade ago to fight hunger and food waste. Faced with the picture of social inequality in Brazil, Mesa Brasil Sesc broadened the range of coverage beyond commercial clientele to reach individuals and groups who are vulnerable to food and nutritional insecurity. Currently, the network comprises food banks in 500 municipalities throughout Brazil.

Knowledge and learning have been key components of growth at Mesa Brasil Sesc over the last 10 years. Last year, the organization developed a course to train managers of their beneficiary organizations to promote institutional strengthening and sustainability through managerial effectiveness and strategic vision. The course trained 150 participants in external communication for fundraising, project preparation, management, and structural organization.
CANADA

Population Characteristics
- **Population**: 35,623,680
- **Median Age**: 42.2 years
- **Urban Population**: 82.20%
- **Urban Population Growth (Annual)**: 1.40%
- **Better Life Index**: 7.8
- **Main Agricultural Products**: wheat, barley, oilseed, tobacco, fruits, vegetables; dairy products; fish; forest products

Development Indicators
- **Poverty Rate**: N/A
- **Prevalence of Severe Food Insecurity**: N/A
- **Prevalence of Undernourishment**: <2.5%
- **Progress Toward SDG2**: 63.9
- **Stunting Rate (Children Under 5)**: N/A
- **Wasting Rate (Children Under 5)**: N/A

Economic Indicators
- **GDP (US$ in Billions)**: 1,535.77
- **Agriculture, Forestry, and Fishing, Value Added (% of GDP)**: 1
- **GINI Index**: 34
- **Labor Force**: 19.52 million
- **Unemployment Rate**: 6.5%
Feeding Canada with the first aquaponic food bank

AquaGrow Farms is a 500 square foot urban farm, nestled in the warehouse of the Mississauga Food Bank. Aquaponics is a form of agriculture that combines aquaculture (fish farming) and hydroponics (soilless agriculture). This method of farming gives the opportunity to raise fish and greens year-round for Canada’s most hungry.

The farm has three grow beds and two fish tanks that produce approximately 645 servings of fish and 10,800 servings of greens each year. All of the healthy greens and protein-rich fish grown are distributed to beneficiary organizations across Mississauga. From there they are given to hungry members of the community who otherwise would have limited access to fresh, healthy food.
CHILE
SOUTH AMERICA

Population Characteristics
Population: 17,789,267
Median Age: 34.4 years
Urban Population: 89.9%
Urban Population Growth (Annual): 1%
Better Life Index: 4.8
Main Agricultural Products: grapes, apples, pears, onions, wheat, corn, oats, peaches, garlic, asparagus, beans; beef, poultry, wool; fish; timber

Development Indicators
Poverty Rate: 11.7%
Prevalence of Severe Food Insecurity: 4.4%
Prevalence of Undernourishment: 3.3%
Progress Toward SDG2: 62.3
Stunting Rate (Children Under 5): 1.8%
Wasting Rate (Children Under 5): 0.3%

Economic Indicators
GDP (US$ in Billions): 250.04
Agriculture, Forestry, and Fishing, Value Added (% of GDP): 4
GINI Index: 47.7
Labor Force: 8.881 million
Unemployment Rate: 7%
FOOD BANK PROFILE

Name of Food Bank: Red de Alimentos
GFN Member Since: 2012

Chile explores virtual food banking

With the aim of rescuing more and feeding more people, Red de Alimentos Chile started the virtual food bank project. In 2017, over 2,300 projects from five Latin American countries entered the Google Social Innovation Contest. Out of 2,300 entrees, the Virtual Food Network became one of five winners.

The Virtual Food Network is a web and mobile platform which rescues products from locations where large volumes of food were previously going to waste and connected to food bank distribution centers or regions where food banks do not exist. The online platform ensures that data is stored efficiently and effectively, and the products then reach those who need it most.
### Population Characteristics

- **Population:** 47,698,524
- **Median Age:** 30 years
- **Urban Population:** 77%
- **Urban Population Growth (Annual):** 1.2%
- **Better Life Index:** N/A
- **Main Agricultural Products:** coffee, cut flowers, bananas, rice, tobacco, corn, sugarcane, cocoa beans, oilseed, vegetables; shrimp; forest products

### Development Indicators

- **Poverty Rate:** 28%
- **Prevalence of Severe Food Insecurity:** N/A
- **Prevalence of Undernourishment:** 6.5%
- **Progress Toward SDG2:** 52.7
- **Stunting Rate (Children Under 5):** N/A
- **Wasting Rate (Children Under 5):** N/A

### Economic Indicators

- **GDP (US$ in Billions):** 280.09
- **Value Added (% of GDP):** 7
- **GINI Index:** 50.8
- **Labor Force:** 25.76 million
- **Unemployment Rate:** 10.50%
Farmers and food bankers working hand in hand

In 2012, The SACIAR Foundation, a food bank based in Medellín, Colombia, saw that many crops on local farms were being discarded after farmers were unable to sell the product commercially. SACIAR solved this problem by collecting the leftover crops and distributing them to the undernourished of Medellín. This program became known as REAGRO.

By 2017 REAGRO was implemented in six food banks across Colombia and recovered more than 14,000 tons of fresh and nutritious products. REAGRO is set for even more growth over the next five years through the REAGRO training project. The training is designed for ABACO food bank directors and coordinators and follows a multitrack course through online and in-person platforms. The course takes participants through the REAGRO process step by step and provides a chance for collaboration and knowledge sharing.

The REAGRO program is now implemented in 16 food banks and serves 41,000 people.
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Part 3: A Snapshot of Food Banking Organizations Across the World

Costa Rica

Central America

Name of Food Bank: Asociación ABACOR - Banco de Alimentos de Costa Rica

- Kilograms Distributed: 2,237,486
- Number of People Served: 40,598
- Estimated Number of Children Served: 15,833
- Number of Beneficiary Organizations: 247

Population Characteristics
- Population: 4,930,258
- Median Age: 31.3 years
- Urban Population: 78.5%
- Urban Population Growth (Annual): 2.1%
- Better Life Index: N/A
- Main Agricultural Products: bananas, pineapples, coffee, melons, ornamental plants, sugar, corn, rice, beans, potatoes; beef, poultry, dairy, timber

Development Indicators
- Poverty Rate: 20.5%
- Prevalence of Severe Food Insecurity: 4.8%
- Prevalence of Undernourishment: 4.4%
- Progress Toward SDG2: 54.8
- Stunting Rate (Children Under 5): N/A
- Wasting Rate (Children Under 5): N/A

Economic Indicators
- GDP (US$ in Billions): 56.99
- Agriculture, Forestry, and Fishing, Value Added (% of GDP): 5
- GINI Index: 48.7
- Labor Force: 2.229 million
- Unemployment Rate: 8.1%
EL SALVADOR

CENTRAL AMERICA

Emerging Food Bank Project

**Name of Food Bank:** Asociación Civil Alimentos Solidarios - Banco de Alimentos El Salvador

**Key Program:** School feeding program

**Population Characteristics**
- **Population:** 6,172,011
- **Median Age:** 27.1 years
- **Urban Population:** 67.6%
- **Urban Population Growth (Annual):** 1.2%
- **Better Life Index:** N/A
- **Main Agricultural Products:** coffee, sugar, corn, rice, beans, oilseed, cotton, sorghum; beef, dairy products

**Development Indicators**
- **GDP (US$ in Billions):** 23.91
- **Agriculture, Forestry, and Fishing, Value Added (% of GDP):** 6
- **GINI Index:** 40
- **Labor Force:** 2.774 million
- **Unemployment Rate:** 7%

**Economic Indicators**
- **Poverty Rate:** 38.2%
- **Prevalence of Severe Food Insecurity:** 11.7%
- **Prevalence of Undernourishment:** 10.3%
- **Progress Toward SDG2:** 48.8
- **Stunting Rate (Children Under 5):** 13.6%
- **Wasting Rate (Children Under 5):** 2.1%

**KILOGRAMS DISTRIBUTED**
- 383,454

**NUMBER OF PEOPLE SERVED**
- 29,500

**ESTIMATED NUMBER OF CHILDREN SERVED**
- 14,820

**NUMBER OF BENEFICIARY ORGANIZATIONS**
- 25
## Dominican Republic

### Population Characteristics
- **Population**: 10,734,247
- **Median Age**: 28.1 years
- **Urban Population**: 80.6%
- **Urban Population Growth (Annual)**: 2.2%
- **Better Life Index**: N/A
- **Main Agricultural Products**: cocoa, tobacco, sugarcane, coffee, cotton, rice, beans, potatoes, corn, bananas; cattle, pigs, dairy products, beef, eggs

### Development Indicators
- **Poverty Rate**: 30.5%
- **Prevalence of Severe Food Insecurity**: N/A
- **Prevalence of Undernourishment**: 10.4%
- **Progress Toward SDG2**: 51
- **Stunting Rate (Children Under 5)**: 7.1%
- **Wasting Rate (Children Under 5)**: 2.4%

### Economic Indicators
- **GDP (US$ in Billions)**: 72.34
- **Agriculture, Forestry, and Fishing, Value Added (% of GDP)**: 6
- **GINI Index**: 45.3
- **Labor Force**: 4.732 million
- **Unemployment Rate**: 5.5%
Building food pantries in Santo Domingo

Since 2010, Banco de Alimentos República Dominicana has been serving the community of Santo Domingo. The food bank currently serves 40 beneficiary organizations, ultimately serving more than 2500 individuals annually.

Beneficiary organizations in Santo Domingo have noted the immense physical and cognitive changes in the children they serve through the Banco de Alimentos República Dominicana. They have even been able to develop food pantries, where no food was present before. One beneficiary organization noted, after withdrawing donations from the food bank, they were finally able to serve the children something different than plain spaghetti, which is what they had been eating for the last five days.
ECUADOR

SOUTH AMERICA

**Population Characteristics**
- **Population:** 16,290,913
- **Median Age:** 27.7 years
- **Urban Population:** 64.2%
- **Urban Population Growth (Annual):** 1.8%
- **Better Life Index:** N/A
- **Main Agricultural Products:** bananas, coffee, cocoa, rice, potatoes, cassava (manioc, tapioca), plantains, sugarcane; cattle, sheep, pigs, beef, pork, dairy products; fish, shrimp; balsa wood

**Economic Indicators**
- **GDP (US$ in Billions):** 98.61
- **Agriculture, Forestry, and Fishing, Value Added (% of GDP):** 10
- **GINI Index:** 45
- **Labor Force:** 8.086 million
- **Unemployment Rate:** 4.6%

**Development Indicators**
- **Poverty Rate:** 22.9%
- **Prevalence of Severe Food Insecurity:** 7.1%
- **Prevalence of Undernourishment:** 7.8%
- **Progress Toward SDG2:** 48.5
- **Stunting Rate (Children Under 5):** 23.9%
- **Wasting Rate (Children Under 5):** 1.6%

**GDP (US$ in Billions):** 98.61
- **Agriculture, Forestry, and Fishing, Value Added (% of GDP):** 10
- **GINI Index:** 45
- **Labor Force:** 8.086 million
- **Unemployment Rate:** 4.6%
## FOOD BANK PROFILES

### Banco de Alimentos Quito

**Name of Food Bank:** Fundación de Ayuda Social Banco de Alimentos  
**Key Programs:** Food education courses; Employment training and education; Waste for pet food initiative

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>Number of Beneficiary Organizations</th>
<th>Number of People Served</th>
<th>Estimated Number of Children Served</th>
<th>Kilograms Distributed</th>
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</thead>
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<tr>
<td>45</td>
<td>9,637</td>
<td>6,457</td>
<td>101,174</td>
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</tbody>
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### Banco de Alimentos Diakonía

**Name of Food Bank:** Banco de Alimentos Diakonía  
**GFN Member Since:** 2015  
**Key Programs:** Fruit and Vegetable rescue program; Medicine bank; Canstruction: Annual food drive

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>Number of Beneficiary Organizations</th>
<th>Number of People Served</th>
<th>Estimated Number of Children Served</th>
<th>Kilograms Distributed</th>
</tr>
</thead>
<tbody>
<tr>
<td>49</td>
<td>17,703</td>
<td>13,808</td>
<td>388,748</td>
</tr>
</tbody>
</table>
**GUATEMALA**

**CENTRAL AMERICA**

*National Food Bank Network*

### Population Characteristics
- **Population:** 15,460,732
- **Median Age:** 22.1 years
- **Urban Population:** 52.5%
- **Urban Population Growth (Annual):** 2.9%
- **Better Life Index:** N/A
- **Main Agricultural Products:** sugarcane, corn, bananas, coffee, beans, cardamom; cattle, sheep, pigs, chickens

### Economic Indicators
- **GDP (US$ in Billions):** 68.66
- **Agriculture, Forestry, and Fishing, Value Added (% of GDP):** 10
- **GINI Index:** 48.3
- **Labor Force:** 6.664 million
- **Unemployment Rate:** 2.3%

### Development Indicators
- **Poverty Rate:** 59.3%
- **Prevalence of Severe Food Insecurity:** N/A
- **Prevalence of Undernourishment:** 15.8%
- **Progress Toward SDG2:** 39.6
- **Stunting Rate (Children Under 5):** 46.5%
- **Wasting Rate (Children Under 5):** 0.7%
Empowering Guatemalan mothers in the face of violence

The Tierra Nueva community in Guatemala City is a high-risk area due to increasing rates of violence and crime. Many families in Tierra Nueva are living in extreme poverty without proper access to food.

Cynthia Trujillo of Guatemala City observed that the Tierra Nueva community had an alarmingly high rate of single mothers—many of whom don’t have access to daily food or basic necessities for their families. In early 2017 Trujillo founded “Mother of Fatima” to enhance the well-being of mothers and children in the community.

Trujillo sought assistance from the Banco de Alimentos Guatemala later that year to help empower the women in Tierra Nueva to seek better lives for their families. With the assistance of the food bank, “Mother of Fatima” was able to develop a food pantry and provide meals to more than 400 families in the community. In addition to providing food to the families, “Mother of Fatima” provides education courses and job placement to single mothers.
### Population Characteristics
- **Population**: 9,038,741
- **Median Age**: 23 years
- **Urban Population**: 55.9%
- **Urban Population Growth (Annual)**: 2.7%
- **Better Life Index**: N/A
- **Main Agricultural Products**: bananas, coffee, corn, African palm, beef, timber, shrimp, tilapia, lobster, sugar

### Development Indicators
- **Poverty Rate**: 64.3%
- **Prevalence of Severe Food Insecurity**: N/A
- **Prevalence of Undernourishment**: 15.3%
- **Progress Toward SDG2**: 47.2
- **Stunting Rate (Children Under 5)**: N/A
- **Wasting Rate (Children Under 5)**: N/A

### Economic Indicators
- **GDP (US$ in Billions)**: 21.64
- **Agriculture, Forestry, and Fishing, Value Added (% of GDP)**: 12
- **GINI Index**: 50
- **Labor Force**: 3.735 million
- **Unemployment Rate**: 5.9%
Feeding countries affected by natural disasters

In October 1997, Hurricane Mitch made landfall in Honduras, wreaking havoc throughout the country and leaving 1.5 million people homeless. The Ayuda Social Movimiento Juan XXIII was created in the aftermath of the hurricane to reach these displaced people.

Since then, the Ayuda Social Movimiento Juan XXIII has grown and now partners with Banco de Alimentos Honduras to reach more hungry children in the community. Today, the association runs 11 kitchens in remote areas throughout Honduras, feeding nearly 600 children. Since partnering with the food bank in 2016, the association has increased the amount of nutritious foods served to the children who did not previously have access to it. By partnering with Banco de Alimentos Honduras, the association can serve these communities by improving diet and the quality of daily life.
**MEXICO**

**NORTH AMERICA**

**Population Characteristics**
- **Population**: 124,574,795
- **Median Age**: 28.3 years
- **Urban Population**: 79.8%
- **Urban Population Growth (Annual)**: 1.6%
- **Better Life Index**: 3.7
- **Main Agricultural Products**: corn, wheat, soybeans, rice, beans, cotton, coffee, fruit, tomatoes, beef, poultry, dairy products; wood products

**Development Indicators**
- **Poverty Rate**: 43.6%
- **Prevalence of Severe Food Insecurity**: 8.9%
- **Prevalence of Undernourishment**: 3.9%
- **Progress Toward SDG2**: 53.6
- **Stunting Rate (Children Under 5)**: 12.4%
- **Wasting Rate (Children Under 5)**: 1%

**Economic Indicators**
- **GDP (US$ in Billions)**: 1,076.91
- **Agriculture, Forestry, and Fishing, Value Added (% of GDP)**: 3
- **GINI Index**: 43.4
- **Labor Force**: 54.51 million
- **Unemployment Rate**: 3.6%
Encouraging families to share meals together in Mexico

“Comer en Familia” is an initiative throughout Mexico to encourage families to share meals and the experience of food preparation together. The educational program brings local chefs and nutritionists to teach families living below the poverty line on proper selection of local and nutritious foods to enjoy eating together. The purpose of the program is to achieve positive change in the dietary practices of 9,000 families through 14 food banks in Mexico. The goal is to have a long-term impact on the nutritional status and health of the family.

“I am so thankful for everything I learned in the Comer en Familia cooking classes. The class taught me how to prepare healthy and inexpensive meals for my family, introducing fruits, vegetables, and cereals into our diets,” said Raquel Gallegos Trijo, a mother who participated in the program’s cooking classes. “Through this program I not only gained the valuable skills to prepare nutritious meals for my family, but, as a benefit of eating healthier, I have lost over 18 kilos.”
PANAMA

CENTRAL AMERICA

Population Characteristics

Population: 3,753,142
Median Age: 29.2 years
Urban Population: 67.2%
Urban Population Growth (Annual): 2.1%
Better Life Index: N/A
Main Agricultural Products: bananas, rice, corn, coffee, sugarcane, vegetables; livestock; shrimp

Development Indicators

Poverty Rate: 22.1%
Prevalence of Severe Food Insecurity: N/A
Prevalence of Undernourishment: 9.2%
Progress Toward SDG2: 46.9
Stunting Rate (Children Under 5): N/A
Wasting Rate (Children Under 5): N/A

Economic Indicators

GDP (US$ in Billions): 57.82
Agriculture, Forestry, and Fishing, Value Added (% of GDP): 2
GINI Index: 50.4
Labor Force: 1.633 million
Unemployment Rate: 5.5%
Ensuring school breakfasts since 2013

Since 2013, Fundación Banco de Alimentos Panamá (BAP) has ensured that children worldwide start their day with breakfast at school. In 2015, the school breakfast program was introduced in Panama to feed more than 1,600 children from high food insecurity communities in Panama City and indigenous areas. For many of the children participating in the program, it was the first time they had ever eaten milk and cereal.

BAP officially launched Desayunos Felices, or Happy Breakfasts. in 2018 The Happy Breakfasts program now benefits an additional 900 children and receives donations of breakfast items from local Panamanian companies.
PARAGUAY

SOUTH AMERICA

Population Characteristics
Population: 6,943,739
Median Age: 28.2 years
Urban Population: 60.2%
Urban Population Growth (Annual): 1.7%
Better Life Index: N/A
Main Agricultural Products: cotton, sugarcane, soybeans, corn, wheat, tobacco, cassava (manioc, tapioca), fruits, vegetables; beef, pork, eggs, milk; timber

Development Indicators
Poverty Rate: 28.9%
Prevalence of Severe Food Insecurity: N/A
Prevalence of Undernourishment: 11.2%
Progress Toward SDG2: 64.2
Stunting Rate (Children Under 5): 5.6%
Wasting Rate (Children Under 5): 1.0%

Economic Indicators
GDP (US$ in Billions): 27.42
Agriculture, Forestry, and Fishing, Value Added (% of GDP): 18
GINI Index: 47.9
Labor Force: 3.428 million
Unemployment Rate: 6.5%
FOOD BANK PROFILE

**Name of Food Bank:** Fundación Banco de Alimentos  
**GFN Member Since:** 2012  
**Key Programs:** Fruit and vegetable recovery program; Yearly national food drive; “Mes de la Sopa Solidaria” (winter campaign); Non-perishable food recovery

**Number of Beneficiary Organizations:** 156  
**Number of People Served:** 15,000  
**Estimated Number of Children Served:** 8,320  
**Kilograms Distributed:** 101,050

**Happy holidays from Fundación Banco de Alimentos Paraguay**

In Paraguay, Christmas Eve and Christmas are a family affair, built around many years of traditions. Every family has its own tradition, but many gather on Christmas Eve to decorate and prepare meals together in preparation for Christmas day.

For the last four years, Fundación Banco de Alimentos Paraguay has had its own tradition. This year-end tradition, Entrega de Kits de Navidad, or Christmas Kit Delivery, is a campaign that delivers specialty Christmas kits to families in neighborhoods in need. Many of the families receiving the Christmas kits have never had a traditional Christmas Eve. In addition to specialty foods, presents and games are included to ensure that children are receiving gifts during the holidays. Hundreds of volunteers join the food bank to provide every family in these vulnerable communities with the Christmas they deserve.
PART 3: A SNAPSHOT OF FOOD BANKING ORGANIZATIONS ACROSS THE WORLD

PERU
SOUTH AMERICA

Population Characteristics

Population: 31,036,656
Median Age: 28 years
Urban Population: 79.2%
Urban Population Growth (Annual): 1.7%
Better Life Index: N/A
Main Agricultural Products: artichokes, asparagus, avocados, blueberries, coffee, cocoa, cotton, sugarcane, rice, potatoes, corn, plantains, grapes, oranges, pineapples, guavas, bananas, apples, lemons, pears, coca, tomatoes, mangoes, barley, medicinal plants, quinoa, palm oil

Development Indicators

Poverty Rate: 20.7%
Prevalence of Severe Food Insecurity: N/A
Prevalence of Undernourishment: 8.8%
Progress Toward SDG2: 56.8
Stunting Rate (Children Under 5): 13.1%
Wasting Rate (Children Under 5): 1%

Economic Indicators

GDP (US$ in Billions): 191.64
Agriculture, Forestry, and Fishing, Value Added (% of GDP): 7
GiNI Index: 43.8
Labor Force: 17.03 million
Unemployment Rate: 6.7%
FOOD BANK PROFILE

**NAME OF FOOD BANK:** Banco de Alimentos Perú  
**GFN Member Since:** 2018  
**Key Program:** Nutrition education program

**NUMBER OF BENEFICIARY ORGANIZATIONS**  
128

**NUMBER OF PEOPLE SERVED**  
100,000

**ESTIMATED NUMBER OF CHILDREN SERVED**  
65,000

**KILOGRAMS DISTRIBUTED**  
3,000,000

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**Banco de Alimentos Perú’s plan to rescue 60 tons of food waste**

The largest market in Lima, Peru, generates 60 tons of waste per day, 80 percent of which is fresh food. At the end of the day, this waste is transported to the Huaycoloro landfill to be discarded. Banco de Alimentos Perú discovered that much of the food ending up in the landfill was suitable for consumption and saw this as an opportunity to rescue the food.

Banco de Alimentos Perú collects this wasted food and redistributes it to those in need. Additionally, the food bank has set up a plan to extend the shelf life of the vegetables by using the rescued food to make soups to feed more than 3,000 children every day.
Feeding America is the largest domestic hunger-relief organization in the U.S. Comprised of a powerful and efficient network of 200 food banks across the country, Feeding America helped provide 4.3 billion meals to people in need. As food insecurity rates hold steady at the highest levels ever, the Feeding America network of food banks has risen to meet the need. The network feeds 46 million people at risk of hunger, including 12 million children and 7 million seniors. The Feeding America network has prevented 3.5 billion pounds of food from going to waste.
KEY PROGRAMS:

Mobile Pantry Program—The Mobile Pantry Program directly serves clients in areas of high need in an effort to supplement other hunger-relief agencies in that area. Through a Mobile Pantry, a truckload of food is distributed to clients in pre-packed boxes or through a farmers’ market-style distribution where clients choose to take what they need.

Disaster Food Assistance—When disaster strikes, the Feeding America network of food banks kicks into high gear, providing emergency food and disaster-relief supplies to families and households virtually anywhere in America.

Summer Child Nutrition Programs—The Feeding America nationwide network of food banks operates several summer food service programs during the summer to help meet the needs of low-income children and their families who face hunger in the summer by providing them with nutritious meals and snacks when school is not in session. Summer interventions include summer meal programs like Kids Cafe®, BackPack programs and School Pantry programs. Food banks often employ other innovative meal distribution models, such as Picnic in the Park programs, which are designed to most effectively utilize the resources available to fill the gap in services for children during the summer months.

BackPack Program—For more than 15 years, the Feeding America BackPack Program has been helping children get the nutritious and easy-to-prepare food they need to get enough to eat on the weekends. Today, bags of food are assembled at more than 160 local food banks and then distributed to more than 450,000 children at the end of the week.

School Pantry Program—The School Pantry program alleviates child hunger by providing food to low-income children and families right at school. It provides convenient, consistent access to healthy foods and to date has helped serve more than 21 million meals to nearly 1100,000 children across the U.S.

Kids Cafe®—Kids Cafe programs provide free snacks and meals to low-income kids at community locations during afterschool hours — like Boys and Girls Clubs and YMCAs — to reach and feed more children facing hunger.

Senior Grocery Program®—The Senior Grocery program meets the specific needs of seniors by providing balanced, nutritious meals they can easily make at home.

SNAP Outreach—Feeding America partners with state and local agencies, family advocates, employers and community and faith-based organizations to help eligible families understand and apply for SNAP – the Supplemental Assistance Nutrition Program.

Service Area Map: http://map.feedingamerica.org/
Box 4: Gleaning and agricultural food recovery

Food loss and waste occurs at every step of the food supply chain. The first level of food loss and waste is on the farm. Fifty percent of land is used for agriculture, yet an enormous amount of food is wasted due to harvesting methods, inadequate storage, less-than-market-desirable crop imperfections, and reduced or uncertain market demand and prices.

Around the globe an estimated 30 to 40 percent of postharvest production is lost. Fruits and vegetables, plus root crops and tubers, have the highest wastage rates of any food. Food losses during harvest and in storage on the way to market mean lost income for small farmers and higher prices for low-income consumers, limiting food access for those most in need.

Food banks secure otherwise wholesome, surplus farm crops through field and orchard gleaning programs and through wholesale and green market food rescue programs. They also establish direct relationships with farmers to procure harvested but unmarketable fresh fruits and vegetables for hunger relief distribution.

GFN member Leket Israel operates almost entirely on an agricultural gleaning model, with 86 percent of its distributed food rescued from more than 500 farms. Last year Leket Israel harvested and distributed more than 15 million kilos to 175,000 needy people through 195 beneficiary institutions.

In Latin America last year ABACO Colombia secured more than 4 million kilos of fresh produce, much of it directly from farms. Overall, agriculturally gleaned products represent 19 percent of the food distributed to needy Colombians. The Medellín food bank (Medellín SACIAR) leads most of ABACO’s farm gleaning efforts and represents more than half of ABACO’s food distributions. Medellín SACIAR alone has harvested 3.2 million kilos of food.

Two of GFN’s founding food bank networks—Red Bancos de Alimentos Argentina and Banco de Alimentos México—have utilized farm gleaning and agricultural food rescue as a long-established means to provide nutritionally high-quality and varied food options for needy recipients. Red Bancos de Alimentos de Argentina has rescued nearly a million kilos (926,238 kilos), representing 14 percent of total food rescued, from farms and produce markets. In produce-rich Mexico, Banco de Alimentos Mexico rescued more than 8.6 million kilos of fresh produce last year.
Africa, Europe, and the Near East

- Bulgaria
- Israel
- Russia
- South Africa
- Turkey
- UK
- Regional Partner: European Food Banks Federation (FEBA)
- Emerging Food Bank Project: Botswana
**Population Characteristics**

- **Population:** 7,101,510
- **Median Age:** 42.7 years
- **Urban Population:** 74.6%
- **Urban Population Growth (Annual):** -0.3%
- **Better Life Index:** N/A
- **Main Agricultural Products:** vegetables, fruits, tobacco, wine, wheat, barley, sunflowers, sugar beets; livestock

**Development Indicators**

- **Poverty Rate:** 22.9%
- **Prevalence of Severe Food Insecurity:** N/A
- **Prevalence of Undernourishment:** 3%
- **Progress Toward SDG2:** 53.3
- **Stunting Rate (Children Under 5):** N/A
- **Wasting Rate (Children Under 5):** N/A

**Economic Indicators**

- **GDP (US$ in Billions):** 53.24
- **Agriculture, Forestry, and Fishing, Value Added (% of GDP):** 4
- **GINI Index:** 37.4
- **Labor Force:** 3.357 million
- **Unemployment Rate:** 6.2%
Volunteers, the most valuable asset at the Bulgarian Food Bank

The Bulgarian Food Bank started operation six years ago with a single warehouse of 150 square meters in Sofia. Today, it operates a 450-square-meter warehouse with a freezer facility, cold room, three-layer-racking system, and a warehouse management system. This warehouse processes 4,500 kilos of food daily.

The food bank’s success could not have been possible without a network of trusted volunteers. Volunteers aided during the 2014 flooding, displacing more than 3,800 people in the town of Mizia. They also ensure that children in Bulgaria are receiving school lunches through the Bulgarian Food Bank backpack program. Currently, the Bulgarian Food Bank hosts more than 700 volunteer visits annually.
Israel
Near East

Population Characteristics
- Population: 8,299,706
- Median Age: 29.9 years
- Urban Population: 92.3%
- Urban Population Growth (Annual): 2%
- Better Life Index: 5.7
- Main Agricultural Products: citrus, vegetables, cotton; beef, poultry, dairy products

Development Indicators
- Poverty Rate: N/A
- Prevalence of Severe Food Insecurity: N/A
- Prevalence of Undernourishment: <2.5%
- Progress Toward SDG2: 61
- Stunting Rate (Children Under 5): N/A
- Wasting Rate (Children Under 5): N/A

Economic Indicators
- GDP (US$ in Billions): 317.75
- Agriculture, Forestry, and Fishing, Value Added (% of GDP): 1
- GINI Index: 41.4
- Labor Force: 4.021 million
- Unemployment Rate: 4.3%
Feeding Israel’s youth through hot meal programs

Noam Lozon, a 12th grader at Ort Bet Haarava in Jerusalem, receives a freshly cooked lunch every day through Leket Israel’s hot meal program. Noam, who lives with his family in Noqdim, travels to Jerusalem for a chance at a better education. With a full day of classes, extra study sessions for his final exams, and his vocational training, Noam needs sustenance to help him through the long school day.

“Before we started receiving the hot meals through Leket Israel, I didn’t have anything for lunch. I went all day without eating, which made it very difficult for me to concentrate on my studies,” said Noam. “The food I get at school is a full meal and keeps me going the whole day.”

Name of Food Bank: Leket Israel
GFN Member Since: 2011
Key Programs: Sustainable Agriculture Program; Childhood and family development program; Nutrition education program; School feeding program

17,463,000 » KILOGRAMS DISTRIBUTED
179,435 » NUMBER OF PEOPLE SERVED
86,129 » ESTIMATED NUMBER OF CHILDREN SERVED
200 » NUMBER OF BENEFICIARY ORGANIZATIONS
RUSSIA

Population Characteristics
- Population: 142,257,519
- Median Age: 39.6 years
- Urban Population: 74.2%
- Urban Population Growth (Annual): 0.3%
- Better Life Index: 4.5
- Main Agricultural Products: grain, sugar beets, sunflower seeds, vegetables, fruits; beef, milk

Economic Indicators
- GDP (US$ in Billions): 1,284.73
- Agriculture, Forestry, and Fishing, Value Added (% of GDP): 4
- GINI Index: 37.7
- Labor Force: 76.53 million
- Unemployment Rate: 5.5%

Development Indicators
- Poverty Rate: 13.4%
- Prevalence of Severe Food Insecurity: N/A
- Prevalence of Undernourishment: <2.5%
- Progress Toward SDG2: 28.9
- Stunting Rate (Children Under 5): N/A
- Wasting Rate (Children Under 5): N/A

Part 3: A Snapshot of Food Banking Organizations Across the World
Foodbank Rus aims to serve children and families

Foodbank Rus runs a variety of programs to reach children and families in need. These programs include partnerships with corporate organizations, encouraging in-store donation programs such as Basket of Kindness and Yellow Bag Kids at supermarkets, BIILA, Pyaterochka, Perekrestok, and Karusel. Foodbank Rus additionally partners with KFC for its Add Hope project at KFC locations across the nation.

Foodbank Rus also runs school breakfast programs with the support of Kellogg’s, Food to Help Mum, and Not by Bread Alone. All of these programs aim to nourish children with both food and nonfood essential items.
SOUTH AFRICA

Population Characteristics
- Population: 54,841,552
- Median Age: 27.1 years
- Urban Population: 65.8%
- Urban Population Growth (Annual): 2.1%
- Better Life Index: 2.5
- Main Agricultural Products: corn, wheat, sugarcane, fruits, vegetables; beef, poultry, mutton, wool, dairy products

Development Indicators
- Poverty Rate: 55.5%
- Prevalence of Severe Food Insecurity: N/A
- Prevalence of Undernourishment: 6.1%
- Progress Toward SDG2: 50.6
- Stunting Rate (Children Under 5): 27.4%
- Wasting Rate (Children Under 5): 2.5%

Economic Indicators
- GDP (US$ in Billions): 295.76
- Agriculture, Forestry, and Fishing, Value Added (% of GDP): 2
- GINI Index: 63
- Labor Force: 22.19 million
- Unemployment Rate: 27.6%
Partnering with Living Hope to reach those suffering from chronic illnesses

Living Hope is a ministry that offers preventative care, treatment, and support to people living with HIV/AIDS and other chronic illnesses. The ministry also assists youth and adults who are struggling with substance abuse and related problems by promoting social, educational, and health awareness programs. Their Economic Empowerment program equips people to become successful entrepreneurs as farmers.

Living Hope began partnering with FoodForward SA to increase the nutritional value of the meals they provide to their beneficiaries. Since all the food from FoodForward SA is donated, the savings on their grocery bill can now be diverted to increase their capacity, purchase medical equipment, or increase their reach. At least 75 percent of the beneficiary organizations partnering with FoodForward SA focus on education, skills development, women’s empowerment, and health care.
TURKEY
NEAR EAST

National Food Bank Network

Population Characteristics
Population: 80,845,215
Median Age: 30.9 years
Urban Population: 74.40%
Urban Population Growth (Annual): 2.2%
Better Life Index: 3.9
Main Agricultural Products: tobacco, cotton, grain, olives, sugar beets, hazelnuts, pulses, citrus; livestock

Development Indicators
Poverty Rate: 1.6%
Prevalence of Severe Food Insecurity: N/A
Prevalence of Undernourishment: <2.5%
Progress Toward SDG2: 54.1
Stunting Rate (Children Under 5): 9.5%
Wasting Rate (Children Under 5): 1.7%

Economic Indicators
GDP (US$ in Billions): 863.72
Agriculture, Forestry, and Fishing, Value Added (% of GDP): 6
Gini Index: 41.9
Labor Force: 31.3 million
Unemployment Rate: 11.2%
Tider’s Support HR is more than just a food bank

Emine Uçar of Istanbul is a mother to three young girls. She began receiving items for her family’s basic needs, like food, hygiene products, and clothes, from Tider’s Support Market. She realized this was not a sustainable way to raise a family and began interacting with Tider’s employment program, Support HR.

“Getting basic needs was very important, but having a job was more important for myself and my family. It increased our hope for the future. Tider’s support was both financial and nonfinancial for us. Having a job and earning my own money is something I haven’t experienced before. It feels great,” said Uçar.
UNITED KINGDOM

EUROPE

National Food Bank Network

Population Characteristics
- Population: 65,648,100
- Median Age: 40.5 years
- Urban Population: 83.1%
- Urban Population Growth (Annual): 1%
- Better Life Index: 6.9
- Main Agricultural Products: cereals, oilseed, potatoes, vegetables; cattle, sheep, poultry; fish; milk, eggs

Development Indicators
- Poverty Rate: N/A
- Prevalence of Severe Food Insecurity: 3.4%
- Prevalence of Undernourishment: <2.5%
- Progress Toward SDG2: 70.1
- Stunting Rate (Children Under 5): N/A
- Wasting Rate (Children Under 5): N/A

Economic Indicators
- GDP (US$ in Billions): 2,650.85
- Agriculture, Forestry, and Fishing, Value Added (% of GDP): 1
- GINI Index: 33.2
- Labor Force: 33.5 million
- Unemployment Rate: 4.4%
FareShare battles holiday hunger in the summer of 2018

Summer should be a time of fun and excitement for children, but for many this is not the case. For families with children who are eligible for free school meals, this safety net is removed once school is out. Additional costs for activities and child care can be a strain on families who are already working hard to provide the meals their kids would normally get at school. The effects on the children go beyond the holidays, with kids returning to school in September malnourished, tired, and unable to learn.

FareShare launched the ActiveAte program in the summer of 2018. This program helps combat the issue of holiday hunger. ActiveAte supplied food to more than 200 holiday projects in the summer of 2018, providing nutritious meals and snacks for approximately 20,000 children across the United Kingdom.
EUROPEAN FOOD BANKS FEDERATION (FEBA)

Mission: To contribute to reducing hunger and malnutrition in Europe, through the fight against food waste and the call for solidarity, by supporting and developing food banks in countries where they are most needed.

Vision: For each person in Europe to have access to sufficient and nutritious food while no surplus food is wasted.

- Number of deprived people assisted: 8,100,000
- Food banks/branches: 388
- Partner charities: 44,700
- Kilograms distributed: 756,000,000
FEBA MEMBERSHIP INCLUDES THE FOLLOWING 24 COUNTRIES:

Austria: Wiener Tafel
Belgium: Fédération Belge des Banques Alimentaires
Bulgaria: Bulgarian Food Bank*
Czech Republic: Ceska Federace Potravinovych Bank
Denmark: Foedevarebanken
Estonia: Toidupank
France: Fédération Francaise des Banques Alimentaires
Germany: Tafel Deutschland e.V.
Greece: Food Bank Greece
Hungary: Magyar Elelmiszerbank Egyesület
Ireland: FoodCloud Hubs
Italy: Banco Alimentare ONLUS
Lithuania: Maistobankas
Luxembourg: Banque Alimentaire de Luxembourg
Netherlands: Voedselbanken
Norway: Matsentralen Norge
Poland: Federacja Polskich Bankow Zywosci
Portugal: Federação Portuguesa dos Bancos Alimentares
Serbia: Banka Hrane
Slovakia: Potravinova Banka Slovenska
Spain: Federación Española de Bancos de Alimentos
Switzerland: Partage
Ukraine: Food Bank Ukraine
United Kingdom: FareShare*

* Also a GFN Certified Member  
FEBA currently supports food bank projects in four other countries: Albania (Food Bank Albania), FYROM-Macedonia, Malta and Slovenia.

GFN’s strategic partner: The European Food Banks Federation

The European Food Banks Federation (FEBA) is a thriving network of food banks and GFN’s partner in Europe. Founded in 1986, FEBA strives to reduce hunger and malnutrition through the fight against food waste and the support and development of food banks in countries where they are most needed.

In 2016, there were 118.0 million people in the EU-28 who lived in households at risk of poverty or social exclusion, equivalent to 23.5 percent of the entire population. Among them, 7.5 percent were severely materially deprived, or were not able to afford a quality meal involving meat, chicken, or fish every second day.
PART 3: A SNAPSHOT OF FOOD BANKING ORGANIZATIONS ACROSS THE WORLD

BOTSWANA

AFRICA

Emerging Food Bank Project

Name of Food Bank: Food Bank Botswana
Key Programs: Childhood development program; Nutrition education program; School feeding program

12,045 ★ KILOGRAMS DISTRIBUTED
950 ★ NUMBER OF PEOPLE SERVED
950 ★ ESTIMATED NUMBER OF CHILDREN SERVED
3 ★ NUMBER OF BENEFICIARY ORGANIZATIONS

Population Characteristics
Population: 2,214,858
Median Age: 24.5 years
Urban Population: 58%
Urban Population Growth (Annual): 2.3%
Better Life Index: N/A
Main Agricultural Products: livestock, sorghum, maize, millet, beans, sunflowers, groundnuts

Economic Indicators
GDP (US$ in Billions): 15.65
Agriculture, Forestry, and Fishing, Value Added (% of GDP): 2
Gini Index: 60.5
Labor Force: 1.177 million
Unemployment Rate: 20%

Development Indicators
Poverty Rate: 19.3%
Prevalence of Severe Food Insecurity: 39.8%
Prevalence of Undernourishment: 28.5%
Progress Toward SDG2: 35.1
Stunting Rate (Children Under 5): N/A
Wasting Rate (Children Under 5): N/A

Population Characteristics
Poverty Rate: 19.3%
Prevalence of Severe Food Insecurity: 39.8%
Prevalence of Undernourishment: 28.5%
Progress Toward SDG2: 35.1
Stunting Rate (Children Under 5): N/A
Wasting Rate (Children Under 5): N/A

Population Characteristics
Poverty Rate: 19.3%
Prevalence of Severe Food Insecurity: 39.8%
Prevalence of Undernourishment: 28.5%
Progress Toward SDG2: 35.1
Stunting Rate (Children Under 5): N/A
Wasting Rate (Children Under 5): N/A

Population Characteristics
Poverty Rate: 19.3%
Prevalence of Severe Food Insecurity: 39.8%
Prevalence of Undernourishment: 28.5%
Progress Toward SDG2: 35.1
Stunting Rate (Children Under 5): N/A
Wasting Rate (Children Under 5): N/A
PART 3: A SNAPSHOT OF FOOD BANKING ORGANIZATIONS ACROSS THE WORLD

Box 5: Food bank scalability: The challenge of sustainable growth to meet community needs

Food banks are grassroots responses to local hunger needs. As such, many food banks, especially those in emerging market economies and lower-income countries, struggle to attain the resources necessary to meet hunger relief needs in the communities where they operate.

A review of the most effective and largest food bank networks around the globe shows two ways that have historically helped food banks expand and effectively scale: 1) crucial and timely private-sector investment to build capacity and 2) public-sector or government support to help secure gains.

Private-sector support includes in-country businesses and similar commercial enterprise, which can provide meaningful, timely investment of resources and “know-how” at critical stages of food bank development. To assist food banks in their strategic growth, GFN links private-sector partners operating in each country to emerging food banks to provide technical and capacity-building assistance. In addition, GFN directs resources from cross-border regional and global partners that provide food sources, financial support, and other assistance to extend the work of food banks.

The second characteristic, which has proven to be an effective way for food banks to mature and grow, is public-sector or government support. In the United States, for example, the federal government played an essential role in the early years of the food bank movement by helping expand it nationally, providing the resources for Second Harvest to establish relationships with national food companies, and providing credibility to the model. Forty years later, commodities purchased from the U.S. Department of Agriculture make up approximately 30 percent of food bank distributions to needy Americans. Government support to food bank networks in Argentina, Australia, Brazil, and South Korea has helped sustain and grow the food bank model as an effective public-private enterprise for social impact. In Brazil, for example, the food banks (MESA Brasil) operate in each state and are strategic partners in the government’s Fome Zero (or Zero Hunger) policy initiative.

Government support of food banks takes various forms: direct subsidy, in-kind support, or public policies. This enables food banks to operate more effectively. In Mexico, for example, the federal government has funded the construction of food bank warehouses in dozens of communities around the country, including the national offices and main warehouses of Banco de Alimentos México in Mexico City. In Panama, the government enacted “Good Samaritan” legislation to remove a significant barrier to food donations and reduce perceptions of risk by food companies. The government acted in a remarkable 90-day period during the food bank’s first year, which led to significant growth in product donations.
Asia and the Pacific

- Emerging Food Bank Project: India
- Australia
- China
- Hong Kong
- Singapore
- South Korea
- Taiwan
India

**Population Characteristics**
- **Population:** 1,281,935,911
- **Median Age:** 27.9 years
- **Urban Population:** 33.5%
- **Urban Population Growth (Annual):** 2.3%
- **Better Life Index:** N/A
- **Main Agricultural Products:** rice, wheat, oilseed, cotton, jute, tea, sugarcane, lentils, onions, potatoes; dairy products, sheep, goats, poultry; fish

**Economic Indicators**
- **GDP (US$ in Billions):** 2,274.23
- **Agriculture, Forestry, and Fishing, Value Added (% of GDP):** 16
- **GINI Index:** 35.1
- **Labor Force:** 521.9 million
- **Unemployment Rate:** 8.8%

**Development Indicators**
- **Poverty Rate:** 21.9%
- **Prevalence of Severe Food Insecurity:** N/A
- **Prevalence of Undernourishment:** 14.8%
- **Progress Toward SDG2:** 36.9
- **Stunting Rate (Children Under 5):** 38.4%
- **Wasting Rate (Children Under 5):** 21%

**Name of Food Bank:** Bangalore Food Bank

**Key Programs:** Corporate volunteer program; Reducing Waste; School breakfast program; Caring for the community: Adopt a Bangalore Food Bank food pantry; Basic needs donation; Produce for hunger

**84,000 ➤ KILOGRAMS DISTRIBUTED**

**15,797 ➤ NUMBER OF PEOPLE SERVED**

**12,000 ➤ ESTIMATED NUMBER OF CHILDREN SERVED**
AUSTRALIA

Population Characteristics
- Population: 23,232,413
- Median Age: 38.7 years
- Urban Population: 89.7%
- Urban Population Growth (Annual): 1.6%
- Better Life Index: 7.9
- Main Agricultural Products: wheat, barley, sugarcane, fruits; cattle, sheep, poultry

Development Indicators
- Poverty Rate: N/A
- Prevalence of Severe Food Insecurity: 3.2%
- Prevalence of Undernourishment: <2.5%
- Progress Toward SDG2: 59.3
- Stunting Rate (Children Under 5): N/A
- Wasting Rate (Children Under 5): N/A

Economic Indicators
- GDP (US$ in Billions): 1,208.04
- Agriculture, Forestry, and Fishing, Value Added (% of GDP): 2
- GINI Index: 34.7
- Labor Force: 12.91 million
- Unemployment Rate: 5.6%
Local food pantries rebuild lives

After leaving an abusive marriage, Paula from southwest Sydney helped provide for her children with food from a local food pantry. Now she’s helping others do the same.

“Two years ago, I left a 20-year marriage that may have seemed perfect on the outside, but there was a lot of domestic violence that I told no one about. There was intimidation, psychological abuse, and even physical violence—at times I feared for my life. The thought of not being able to support my three children made it almost impossible for me to leave, but I found the courage. Since then all I care about is making sure my daughters have a normal life, free from violence and poverty,” said Paula.

Shortly after the marriage ended, Paula felt lost and unsure of how to provide for her children. “Just when I began to doubt my ability to rebuild my life, I received a gift that changed everything. It was a box of fruit, vegetables, and groceries from the local food pantry,” explained Paula. She now plans to establish her own community food bank through Foodbank Australia to give back to the community and to give others the ability to start rebuilding their lives.

**FOOD BANK PROFILE**

- **Name of Food Bank:** Foodbank Australia
- **GFN Member Since:** 2009
- **Key Programs:** Basic needs drive; School breakfast

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>KILOGRAMS DISTRIBUTED</th>
<th>NUMBER OF PEOPLE SERVED*</th>
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</thead>
<tbody>
<tr>
<td>35,231,067</td>
<td>652,000</td>
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<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>ESTIMATED NUMBER OF CHILDREN SERVED*</th>
<th>NUMBER OF BENEFICIARY ORGANIZATIONS</th>
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</thead>
<tbody>
<tr>
<td>176,040</td>
<td>2,400</td>
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</tbody>
</table>

* Per month
China

Population Characteristics

Population: 1,379,302,771
Median Age: 37.4 years
Urban Population: 58.5%
Urban Population Growth (Annual): 2.60%
Better Life Index: N/A
Main Agricultural Products: world leader in gross value of agricultural output; rice, wheat, potatoes, corn, tobacco, peanuts, tea, apples, cotton, pork, mutton, eggs; fish, shrimp

Development Indicators

Poverty Rate: 4.5%
Prevalence of Severe Food Insecurity: N/A
Prevalence of Undernourishment: 8.7%
Progress Toward SDG2: 66.8
Stunting Rate (Children Under 5): N/A
Wasting Rate (Children Under 5): N/A

Economic Indicators

GDP (US$ in Billions): 11,190.99
Agriculture, Forestry, and Fishing, Value Added (% of GDP): 9
GINI Index: 42.2
Labor Force: 806.7 million
Unemployment Rate: 3.9%
Shanghai’s high-tech refrigerators serve food to people in need

To reach more of the 230,000 families struggling to afford proper meals in Shanghai, Oasis Green Food Bank developed the “Sharing Fridge” project, which offers families in need easier access to food. Nearby community organizations and restaurants supply safe, excess food in the public refrigerator. Once registered for the “Sharing Fridge,” people in need can access the food at no charge.

Each refrigerator functions as a small food bank and works in areas without the infrastructure or staff to operate a fully functioning food bank. To date, more than 40,000 people have obtained food from the refrigerators, with more than 1,000 available throughout Shanghai.
HONG KONG

ASIA

Population Characteristics
Population: 7,191,503
Median Age: 44.4 years
Urban Population: 100%
Urban Population Growth (Annual): 0.6%
Better Life Index: N/A
Main Agricultural Products: fresh vegetables and fruit; poultry, pork; fish

Development Indicators
Poverty Rate: N/A
Prevalence of Severe Food Insecurity: N/A
Prevalence of Undernourishment: <2.5%
Progress Toward SDG2: N/A
Stunting Rate (Children Under 5): N/A
Wasting Rate (Children Under 5): N/A

Economic Indicators
GDP (US$ in Billions): 320.88
Agriculture, Forestry, and Fishing, Value Added (% of GDP): 0
GINI Index: N/A
Labor Force: 3.965 million
Unemployment Rate: 3.1%
The Bread Run: feeding thousands in Hong Kong since 2012

Every Tuesday and Thursday night, volunteers in Hong Kong rescue end-of-day surplus from bakeries and sandwich shops.

Established in 2012 by Feeding Hong Kong, a typical “Bread Run” can provide thousands of fresh bread loaves, buns, and sandwich rolls for those in need. The items are sorted, packed, and stored for the night at the Feeding Hong Kong warehouse and distributed to school clubs, crisis shelters, senior centers, and food programs for lunch the next day.
SINGAPORE

ASIA

Population Characteristics

Population: 5,888,926
Median Age: 34.6 years
Urban Population: 100%
Urban Population Growth (Annual): N/A
Better Life Index: N/A
Main Agricultural Products: vegetables; poultry, eggs; fish, ornamental fish, orchids

Development Indicators

Poverty Rate: 1.3%
Prevalence of Severe Food Insecurity: 0.6%
Prevalence of Undernourishment: N/A
Progress Toward SDG2: 71.1
Stunting Rate (Children Under 5): N/A
Wasting Rate (Children Under 5): N/A

Economic Indicators

GDP (US$ in Billions): 309.76
Agriculture, Forestry, and Fishing, Value Added (% of GDP): 0
GINI Index: N/A
Labor Force: 3.657 million
Unemployment Rate: 2.2%
### Food Bank Profile

**Name of Food Bank:** The Food Bank Singapore  
**GFN Member Since:** 2014  
**Key Programs:** Employment training and job placement; Childhood development; Nutrition education; School feeding

<table>
<thead>
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<th>Metric</th>
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<td>Number of Beneficiary Organizations</td>
<td>250</td>
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<tr>
<td>Number of People Served</td>
<td>120,000</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Estimated Number of Children Served</td>
<td>60,000</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Kilograms Distributed</td>
<td>300,000</td>
</tr>
</tbody>
</table>

**Educating the future food bankers of Singapore**

The Food Bank Singapore served 120,000 hungry people across the country in 2017. Half of those recipients were reported to be children. In addition to feeding 60,000 hungry children in Singapore, the Food Bank Singapore educates children about the importance of food banking and volunteering.

The junior food bank program was designed for children ages 5 to 12 and introduces them to various stages of a food bank. The main objective of the program is to start raising awareness at an early age about food waste, hunger, and food insecurity to create compassionate food bank ambassadors as they grow into adulthood.
SOUTH KOREA

Population Characteristics
Population: 51,181,299
Median Age: 41.8 years
Urban Population: 82.7%
Urban Population Growth (Annual): 0.6%
Better Life Index: 5
Main Agricultural Products: rice, root crops, barley, vegetables, fruit, cattle, pigs, chickens, milk, eggs, fish

Development Indicators
Poverty Rate: 14.4%
Prevalence of Severe Food Insecurity: <0.5%
Prevalence of Undernourishment: <2.5%
Progress Toward SDG2: 76.5
Stunting Rate (Children Under 5): N/A
Wasting Rate (Children Under 5): N/A

Economic Indicators
GDP (US$ in Billions): 1,414.80
Agriculture, Forestry, and Fishing, Value Added (% of GDP): 2
GINI Index: 31.6
Labor Force: 27.75 million
Unemployment Rate: 3.7%

PART 3: A SNAPSHOT OF FOOD BANKING ORGANIZATIONS ACROSS THE WORLD

National Food Bank Network
### FOOD BANK PROFILE

**Name of Food Bank:** Korea National Food Bank  
**GFN Member Since:** 2013  
**Key Programs:** Employment training and education; Sustainable agriculture; Childhood development; Nutrition education

<table>
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<th>Value</th>
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<tr>
<td><strong>Number of Beneficiary Organizations</strong></td>
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<td><strong>Number of People Served</strong></td>
<td>275,898</td>
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<td><strong>Estimated Number of Children Served</strong></td>
<td>15,920</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td><strong>Kilograms Distributed (Estimated)</strong></td>
<td>78,000,000</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td><strong>Value of Product in KRW</strong></td>
<td>202,800,000,000</td>
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</table>

### Reaching more with the Moving Food Market

The Moving Food Market, a program developed at the Korea National Food Bank, is a food truck that visits low-income communities and operates as a mobile market. The Moving Food Market runs like a convenience store and serves donated, nutritious food to the most underprivileged people living in South Korea. The Moving Food Market functions in regions of the country that are geographically isolated because of mountains and farms.
TAIWAN

Population Characteristics
Population: 23,508,428
Median Age: 40.7 years
Urban Population: 77.7%
Urban Population Growth (Annual): N/A
Better Life Index: N/A
Main Agricultural Products: rice, vegetables, fruit, tea, flowers; pigs, poultry; fish

Development Indicators
Poverty Rate: 1.5%
Prevalence of Severe Food Insecurity: N/A
Prevalence of Undernourishment: 3.4%
Progress Toward SDG2: N/A
Stunting Rate (Children Under 5): N/A
Wasting Rate (Children Under 5): N/A

Economic Indicators
GDP (US$ in Billions): 566.76
Agriculture, Forestry, and Fishing, Value Added (% of GDP): N/A
GINI Index: N/A
Labor Force: 11.78 million
Unemployment Rate: 3.8%
Education and nutrition among top priorities in Taiwan

The Nutrition Supplements for Children in Rural Areas of Taiwan (NSCRT) program focuses on providing nutrient-rich food supplements to elementary students in low-income families living in rural areas. The program also teaches the families about food and nutrition to avoid nutritional imbalance.

Taiwan’s remote areas have limited access to healthy food sources and a lack the correct dietary guidelines. Children often turn to junk food, causing obesity and malnutrition. Families in these regions suffer from economic disadvantages. The NSCRT program not only provides nourishment to children, but also promotes healthy eating habits by arranging nutritional classes and free summer/winter camps.

After a successful pilot, the NSCRT program was established in 2017. It serves eight elementary schools and supports 300 children.
Box 6: Urbanization and the challenge to food security

For the first time in human history, more than half of the global population resides in cities. While the migration of rural populations to cities for economic reasons in low-income countries spurs economic development, it also exacerbates already insufficient infrastructure, housing, and social safety net programs in quickly growing municipalities. The rapid growth of urban populations—and especially the phenomenon of “hyper-urbanization”—may result in increased poverty among new rural-urban migrants and complicates food security efforts. An estimated 40 percent of global urban expansion in middle- and low-income countries is happening in impoverished slums, exacerbating socioeconomic disparities and increasing rates of food insecurity. In wealthy global cities like Hong Kong and Singapore, high costs of living and the unaffordability of necessities such as housing can mask a hidden hunger among low-income workers and impoverished people struggling to make ends meet.

GFN member food banks operate in some of the largest and most densely populated cities on earth, including Bogotá, Bangalore, Hong Kong, Istanbul, Lima, London, Mexico City, Moscow, Seoul, Singapore, and Shanghai among others. Food banks in these cities face substantial operational challenges, including affordability of warehouse space and transportation for both receiving and distributing donated products.

Food banks have adapted to these challenges by developing a “virtual food bank” model. Virtual food banking utilizes technology to link a food bank’s beneficiary agencies directly to neighborhood stores, retail outlets, grocery stores, and markets with smaller food donations as well as to food service establishments with prepared meals. Agencies closest to the donor pick up food directly and move it rapidly to food-insecure recipients. In Moscow, for example, FoodBank Rus operates exclusively as a virtual food bank, distributing more than 5.7 million kilos of locally donated food through 250 local agencies and serving an estimated 150,000 low-income people directly.
The future of food banks

The food bank model has been an effective hunger relief intervention for 50 years in industrialized, high-income countries such as the United States, Canada, Australia, and most of Europe. As the food bank model has matured, food banks have become quantifiably important and necessary to address food insecurity in vulnerable populations.

In the past two decades, the efficacy of the food bank model has been widely recognized. Today, food banks operate on six continents. In an era of globalization, the expansion of the food bank model has increasingly been focused on middle- and low-income countries. The approach in these nations has been shown to be effective in partnering with businesses to reduce food waste, provide crucial hunger relief, and reduce environmental degradation due to inefficiencies in the food system. Indirectly, food banks also fill gaps in public-sector nutrition assistance and social support programs and aid in the development of institutions of civil society. GFN has been fortunate to be a catalyst in this growth, collaborating with the private sector, governments, and indigenous NGOs in developing countries.

GFN believes the development of global partnerships, rigorous benchmarking of progress, knowledge sharing, and practical strategies are essential to reduce hunger in the nations and communities where they are most needed. Today, new and emerging food bank projects are being established in countries with high rates of food insecurity and undernutrition, the majority of which are in Asia and increasingly in Africa.

South and Southeast Asia, a region that includes 490 million hungry people, has the largest number of food insecure people globally. Food bank development in India is in the early stages, but is especially important. India’s mature commercial food systems and substantial food surpluses coexist with grievous levels of hunger and chronic undernutrition. With more than 190 million undernourished people and nearly 40 percent of children under age five stunted due to nutritional deficiencies, India is a priority for the further development of the food bank model. GFN is also beginning to work with indigenous NGOs in Sub-Saharan Africa, where 236.5 million people are undernourished, accounting for about 28 percent of the 821 million undernourished people in the world (FAO et. al., 2018). Most of the chronically hungry people in Africa rely on agriculture for their livelihoods or reside in impoverished communities on the outskirts of major cities. This poses unique challenges to developing effective and efficient modes of food assistance delivery.

GFN, in alignment with the Sustainable Development Goals, envisions a world by 2030 where people facing hunger can reliably access nutritious meals through a thriving global network of food banks. With this strategic focus, food banking as a specialized and effective hunger relief intervention, serving as a nexus between public- and private-sector development efforts, will grow in making a marked contribution to the international community’s goal of zero hunger. GFN intends to release a State of Global Food Banking Survey every year on World Food Day to update and provide status checks toward this goal.
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Organization for Economic and Cooperative Development (OECD) Better Life Index available here: http://www.oecdbetterlifeindex.org/


PART 4: THE FUTURE OF FOOD BANKS