



Distinguished Speakers: COVID-19... a health crisis, an economic crisis, now a global hunger crisis?

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Key Takeaways*

- COVID-19 has created food insecurity as a result of supply chain disruptions for food producers. These supply chain disruptions have caused food prices to rise. Rising food prices combined with shocks to individual incomes, currency depreciation and reduced remittances further complicate the affordability of food.
- Food systems were already failing because of factors including gender inequality, conflict, and climate change.
- In existing hunger hotspots (in Yemen, Democratic Republic of Congo, Afghanistan, Venezuela, the West African Sahel, Ethiopia, Sudan, South Sudan, Syria and Haiti), COVID-19 has pushed millions more people into life-threatening hunger because there is even less money for increasingly expensive and scarce food.
- Globally, 12,000 people per day could die by the end of the year due to hunger caused by COVID-19.
- Immediate cash and food assistance is needed to save lives now, but longer term prioritization of food security is needed.
- The United States has an essential role to play in global leadership to end the pandemic as well as creating more just, resilient, and sustainable food systems for the future.

You can learn more and support Oxfam's work at <u>www.oxfamamerica.org</u> and the work of World Hope International at www.worldhope.org.

In recognition of the enormity of this issue, the UN World Food Program was just awarded the Nobel Peace Prize. You can read that article here: www.bbc.com/news/world-54476569

You can access a recording of the webinar here: <u>www.youtube.com</u>

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