"EXODUS" - BOB MARLEY`S WAR IN THE XXI CENTURY: WORD HUNGER AND THE UN 2030 AGENDA OF SUSTAINABLE DEVELOPMENT GOALS

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"That until the basic human rights

Are equally guaranteed to all without regard to race

Dis a war" by Bob Marley & the Wailers [2]

Abstract: Hunger is a problem that has plagued the world since time immemorial, with many people starving in first world countries, but the situation is much worse in the poorest countries, where 90% of the population is in need of food and drinking water. Some of these countries are of great concern to the UN, such as Somalia, Afghanistan, Ethiopia and South Sudan, where it is estimated that around 970 million people could die of hunger in the short term if nothing is done to help them. To combat this scourge, there are non-governmental organisations (NGOs) and United Nations (UN) programmes that advocate the use of the World

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[2] In War: song recorded in 1976 by Bob Marley and the Wailers from the album Rastaman Vibrations / Island Label , the lyrics of which are inspired by the speech made by Selassie I, Emperor of Ethiopia, in his appearance before the United Nations General Assembly on 4 October 1063.

Food Programme (WFP), which has many volunteers who take food to the remotest parts of the world in an attempt to somehow alleviate world hunger. However, despite the combined efforts of these institutions, it is not enough; unfortunately, profound malnutrition is a very common reality in several places around the world today. In an attempt to end hunger around the world, the UN has included SDG2 in its 2030 agenda, which aims to eradicate hunger and develop healthy agriculture for all.

Keywords: United Nations; Word Hunger; Sustainable Development Goals; Food programme; 2030 Agenda.

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World hunger is a pressing issue that continues to challenge the global community. From this perspective, author Francisco Turra describes the problem of world hunger as "a complex problem that can be broadly defined as a situation in which the food needs of an individual or group of individuals are not adequately met".[3]

The Vienna Declaration, adopted at the 1993 World Conference on Human Rights, recognised that everyone has the right to an adequate standard of living, including adequate food.[4]

In 1996, the issue was addressed at the World Food Summit in Rome, organised by the Food and Agriculture Organization of the United Nations (FAO). This declaration gave international recognition to the need for adequate, safe and nutritious food and the recognition of food as a human right.[5]

[3] Turra, F. (2012). Existe uma solução para o problema da fome no mundo?. Revista de Política Agrícola, 10(2), 53-54.
[4] International Law Portal. Vienna Declaration and Progamme of Action. Available at 1993 Declaração e Programa de Acção adoptado pela Conferência Mundial de Viena sobre Direitos Humanos em junho de 1993.pdf (oas.org). Accessed on 31 de julho de 2023
[5] de Queiroz, A. G. S. (2018). A Erradicação Da Fome No Brasil a Partir da Declaração de Roma De 1996: Estruturas De Combate, Avanços E Pontos Frágeis. Revista Da Agu, 17(1).

On the same occasion, the Plan of Action to 2015 was drawn up, in which UN member states committed themselves to implementing the principles of the UN Charter and recognising food as a universal human right.[6]

Despite progress in the fight against food insecurity, millions of people around the world still lack adequate and nutritious food for a healthy life. Various factors, including socio-economic, political, environmental and climate issues, influence this complex and multifaceted phenomenon.

The current panorama of world hunger reveals an alarming reality. Statistics from international organisations such as the UN Food and Agriculture Organisation (FAO) and the World Food Programme (WFP) show that, according to a UN report, around 735 million people will go hungry in 2022, and around 20 million of those who die of hunger every year are children.[7]

The underlying causes of hunger are multiple and interconnected. Extreme poverty remains a key factor, limiting the access of the most vulnerable populations to adequate and quality food. In addition, political instability and armed conflict in various regions have contributed to worsening food insecurity, affecting production, distribution and access to essential food.[8]

Another important issue when it comes to world hunger is agriculture. The way in which agricultural land is used is thought to affect whether or not people go hungry, as Flávia Bliska et al. point out: *"In some countries, one hectare of land is*

[6]PIOVESAN, Flávia. Direitos Humanos e Justiça Internacional: Um estudo comparativo dos sistemas regionais europeu, interamericano e africano. 9ª ed. São Paulo: Editora Saraiva, 2019, p. 13.
[7] Abramovay, R. (2017). O que é fome. Brasiliense.
[8] Alves, J. S. L. (2019). O papel da universidade na implementação dos objetivos de desenvolvimento sustentável das Nações Unidas: uma análise dos projetos de extensão da Universidade Federal da Paraíba.

cultivated per inhabitant and the population still goes hungry; in others, half that area is cultivated per inhabitant and most of the population does not go hungry".[9]

The price of food is a factor that increases hunger. Over the past two decades, food prices have skyrocketed, most recently due to the Covid-19 pandemic, the recent war in Ukraine, and the heat wave in South Asia, India and Pakistan, which has severely affected agricultural production and threatened food security not only in these regions, but throughout the world.[10]

In an effort o end world hunger and ensure food security for all, the UN has added SDG2 to its 2023 Agenda, which aims to eradicate hunger.

1. Sustainable Development Goals (SDGs)

In 2015, the United Nations created a global agenda – the Sustainable Development Goals (SDGs) – comprising 17 goals and 169 targets to be achieved by 2030.[11] Each goal represents a specific area for development. For the purposes of this study, we will focus on SDG 2, which aims to end hunger, achieve food security and improved nutrition, and promote sustainable agriculture.[12]

SDG 2 consists of eight targets, the first five of which relate to food security and agricultural sustainability, while the last three deal with market-related measures, focusing on increasing agricultural investment and reducing trade disruptions. The targets are categorised as follows:[13]

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[9] de Mello Bliska, F. M., Vegro, C. L. R., & Bliska, A. A. (2009). A propagação da fome no mundo: questão financeira, tecnológica ou política?. Revista Ceres, 56(4), 379-389.
[10] Arora, N. K., & Mishra, I. (2022). Current scenario and future directions for sustainable development goal 2: A roadmap to zero hunger. Environmental Sustainability, 5(2), 129-133.
[11] Barros, A. C. S. D. (2019). Aplicabilidade dos objetivos de desenvolvimento sustentável (ODS) em Fortaleza.
[12] United Nations Development Programme. The SDGs in Action. Available at Objetivos de Desenvolvimento Sustentável | United Nations Development Programme (undp.org). Accessed on 31 de julho de 2023
[13] United Nations. Goal 2: Zero Hunger. 2020. Available at https://www.un.org/sustainabledevelopment/hunger/. Accessed on: 31 de julho de 2023

Target 2.1: 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;
Target 2.2: by 2030, end all forms of malnutrition, (...) and address the nutritional needs of adolescent girls, pregnant and lactating women and older persons;
Target 2.3: By 2030, double the agricultural productivity and incomes of small-scale food producers, in particular women, indigenous peoples, family farmers, pastoralists and fishers, including through secure and equal access to land, other productive resources and inputs, knowledge, financial services, markets and opportunities for value addition and non-farm employment;
Target 2.4: By 2030, ensure sustainable food production systems and implement resilient agricultural practices that increase productivity and production, that help maintain ecosystems, that strengthen capacity for adaptation to climate change, extreme weather, drought, flooding and other disasters and that progressively improve land and soil quality.

SDG 2 aims to ensure that all people have access to sufficient and nutritious food, and to promote sustainable agricultural practices to ensure the planet's food security now and in the future. This goal is critical to ending hunger and poverty and ensuring the well-being and prosperity of the world's population. Achieving this goal will require coordinated and committed action by governments, international organisations, the private sector, civil society and citizens around the world.

However, a statistical look at the current state of hunger in the world shows that SDG 2 has faced significant challenges since it was established by the

UN. In terms of statistics, the UN reported in 2017 that some 1.6 billion people lived in a situation of vulnerability, with more than 90 million children under the age of 5 seriously underweight for their age.[14]

The SDG report found that food security reached moderate and severe levels between 2019 and 2020, with the equivalent of 2.4 billion people in a situation of hunger, representing 30 % of the world's population. This increase is largely related to the Covid-19 pandemic, which pushed many people into extreme poverty.[15]

More recently, in 2022, the UN published a new report in which the figures showed a slight decline. The number of people in a situation of hunger is estimated to be 2.3 million, or 29.3% of the world's population. [16]

Hunger has always plagued the world and there have been many international efforts to tackle the problem over the years. However, there has never been an effective solution to end hunger among adults and children. Although the UN created SDG 2 with the aim of eradicating hunger, in practice the number of people in situations of food insecurity has not fallen as much as it should, as can be seen from the reports published by the UN. It is estimated that the number of hungry people in 2030 will be equal or higher than it was in 2015, when the 2030 Agenda was launched.

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[14] BRASIL. UNITED NATIONS DEVELOPMENT PROGRAMME. O que são os ODS? 2022. Available at https://www.undp.org/pt/brazil/objetivos-de-desenvolvimento-sustentavel. Accessed on 01 de agosto de 2023

[15] BRASIL. UNITED NATIONS DEVELOPMENT PROGRAMME. O que são os ODS? 2022. Available at https://www.undp.org/pt/brazil/objetivos-de-desenvolvimento-sustentavel. Accessed on 01 August 2023

[16] UNITED NATIONS. Goal 2: Zero Hunger. 2020. Available at https://www.un.org/sustainabledevelopment/hunger/. Accessed on 01 August 2023

2. The UN's role in the fight against hunger

The UN works to fight hunger in a number of ways, through initiatives such as the SDGs, the World Food Programme (WFP), the Food and Agriculture Organization, the UN Alliance for Food Security and Nutrition, as well as local initiatives through support to NGOs.

The WFP is the world's largest humanitarian organisation, primarily providing food aid. To make the fight against hunger even more comprehensive, WFP helps people around the world, including in the remotest parts of the world, such as southern Sudan and northern Nicaragua, where the mobile rescue team travels by helicopter to identify and register people in need of food and food aid.

Using artificial intelligence, the WFP now works with a live hunger map that allows it to predict and track hunger in more than 90 countries in near real time.[17]

The Food and Agriculture Organization of the United Nations (FAO) aims to ensure food security and regular access to quality food for all people to lead active and healthy lives.[18]

In the context of agriculture and rural nutrition, the UN has two specific programmes that are part of the International Fund for Agricultural Development (IFAD), a specialised UN agency that works to reduce rural poverty and improve food security.

Another programme is UN Environment (UNEP), the United Nations system's environmental agency, which aims to promote and transform the

[17] Programa Mundial de Alimentos. Combate à fome. Available at Combate à fome | Programa Alimentar Mundial (wfp.org). Accessed on 01 August 2023
[18] Sobre FAO. Available at Sobre a FAO | Organização das Nações Unidas para a Alimentação e a Agricultura. Accessed on 03 August 2023

sustainable use of natural resources and plays a key role in promoting sustainable agriculture to ensure the production of healthy food.[19]

The conclusion is that the UN has a fundamental role to play in the global fight against hunger, with teams reaching out to remote areas with the big goal of safe and consistent food for all.

Conclusion

In conclusion, in order to address the issue of hunger and sustainable agriculture, the UN has set parameters in Agenda 2030 in the Sustainable Development Goal (SDG) 2.

In our view, they have succeeded in putting the issue of solving world hunger on the agenda. At the same time, they have achieved serious goals in terms of food security. As can be seen from the critical and reflective analysis of the official and programmatic texts of the UN's SDG 2 that we analysed, its first objective is to end hunger by guaranteeing access to nutritious food for all people, including poor children and adults in vulnerable situations.

Even if the goal seems bold, it is still achievable. The UN has set this goal together with the various countries that share the 2030 Agenda and its guidelines, where everyone will do everything in their power to ensure that by 2030 there is no more hunger on our planet, or at least that this reality is much less than it is today.

In conclusion, this critical reflection on the official texts of the UN's 2030 SDGs shows that malnutrition is a symptom of the planet's lack of commitment to ending world hunger, because malnutrition is currently killing the world, day by day, hour by hour and minute by minute, and these lives could be saved with therapeutic or other food that all countries should distribute fairly, especially by

[19] Investing in rural people. Available at Fundo Internacional de Desenvolvimento Agrícola (ifad.org). Accessed on 03 August 2023

sharing these solutions between the richest and poorest countries, as long as there is the political will to do so.

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