

World Food Day 2019 Video Message

by FAO Director-General Qu Dongyu

Ladies and Gentlemen, Dear Friends,

This year, World Food Day focusses on healthy diets.

Eradicating hunger is FAO's top priority, but we also need to address all forms of malnutrition.

The latest data shows that malnutrition is increasing across all regions and income groups.

World Food Day 2019 call for action to make healthy and sustainable diets accessible and affordable to everyone. For this, partnerships are fundamental. Farmers, governments, researchers, the private sector and consumers, all have a role to play.

Farmers need better incentives to increase and diversity the production of high quality food.

Governments need to adopt policies, food standards and regulations that prioritize the availability and affordability of safe and nutritious foods.

Research institutions need to provide the best scientific advice and push the boundaries and knowledge and technology.

The private sector and positively influence the food environment by adapting its products to modern nutritional recommendations.

Individuals also need to think about their food choices and eating patterns thorough awareness and learning.

FAO supports its member countries in their efforts to make sustainable healthy diets a reality for all.

As a knowledge organization, FAO strengthens the capacity of countries to evaluate and monitor the nutrition situation, supports knowledge transfer and provides food standards.

We also want to increase the production and consumption of high quality food through investors in agriculture, regulatory frameworks, technologies and innovations.

Food system transformation requires strong political commitment for collective synergy and a holistic design of agriculture and food chains.

This is among the main objectives of the Hand-in-Hand initiatives we are about to launch for match-making partnership among public and private sectors along with NGOs.

For FAO, nutrition indicates health, productivity and overall well-being of people and prosperity of societies.

Let us commit to a better nutrition for a happier, healthier and better life.

Dear Friends, This World Food Day also marks FAO's birthday. As this is the first time for me to celebrate this occasion as Director-General of FAO, I would like to stress my commitment to build a dynamic FAO for a better world.

Thank you very much