

C. EFFECTS OF COVID-19 ON FOOD SECURITY, NUTRITION, AND AGRICULTURE IN THE LDCs

An analysis of the food and agriculture sector in the LDCs shows the interconnectedness of health, poverty, and economic features of the economy of the LDCs make agriculture a sector the poorest and most vulnerable (Christiaensen et al., 2018). Agricultural growth can also positively impact other areas of human development, such as health and nutrition. Rising agricultural productivity can also reduce poverty by freeing up labor for non-farm agricultural activities or non-agricultural activities. In many LDCs, where food is primarily locally produced and consumed, increasing productivity growth in agriculture can facilitate the transfer of labor to non-farm activities without necessarily increasing food insecurity to poor or vulnerable populations.

The severe lockdown measures imposed by high income countries to contain the pandemic illustrates the importance of strong social safety nets that provide protection against

Diet quality and nutrition

The linkage between low diet quality and poor nutritional... The average dietary supply shows a higher weight of energy-rich foods in... countries based on social group and rural vs. urban population. LDCs also show lower protein intake, which is associated with poor nutrition outcomes. The average supply of protein (g/cap/day-3-year average) has increased from 31.9 for the period... i kXi jVdijVtoem[hj^Vd]j^i mehtZ W[HV] [e\\$/ \$^ehj^i [f[heZ^ (& +#& - \$J^ [V[HV] [i kffto^efrej[d^e\^Vd_c V5eh]_d^i] % cap/day-3-year average) was 10.1 for the period 2009-2011... i_d_YVdijtoem[hj^Vd]j^i mehtZ W[HV] [e\\$/ \$^ehj^i [f[heZ^ (& +#& - \$J^ [V[HV] [i kffto^efrej[d^e\^Vd_c V5eh]_d^i] %

it can lead to cognitive disabilities and obstacles in their de

2 NHWTSZYWNJSY IJ*HNJSHNJX UWJ[JSY UWTLWJXX NS human development

C_Yhedkj[h]dj^Z[Y_dY[i^V] HWVY[kdZ[hdekhi^c [dj^VdZ^ can have severe consequences in the long-term development of children. The prevalence of undernourishment illustrates ^em^ [Vp^ [Yedec_Y^VdZ^eeZ^i W[jo^VW^ [d[njhYVXto^da]Z^ t<7E^ (& Z^SYH [W [Z^c c kd_pV^ed VdZ^Yedj^etf^he] HV^ c [i^ for malaria and other diseases and improving nutritional status go hand in hand in reducing poverty and vulnerability of c Wj_dVd]Z^Yec c kd_j^i \$J^ [W^ehZVX_bjo^e\^Wc_Yhedkj^ent-rich diet is crucial for vulnerable groups in the LDCs. Ris-d] H^VdYec [i^i [njh^c [to^c f ehjVd]je^ [di kH^ WY[i^i je^W ^[Vp^oZ^j] \$M_j^ekj^i k\ Y_dj^dYec [ehi W[jo^d[ji^j^ [Feeh^ VV^ kdVX^j^e^c Vd^j^ [Y^e_Y[i^ehW^ [Vp^oZ^j] \$; ZkYV^ed^ infrastructure, storage, and retailing are also relevant factors. FkXbY^f ebY^i YVd^YedjhXkj^ [je^H^ ZkY_d] f hY^i ^eh^c eh^dk-trititious foods in the LDCs. Increasing the productivity of farms and addressing off-farm bottlenecks, such as infrastructure Z[Y_dY[i^ VV^ YrkY_VS^FkXbY^_dj^ [H [dj^edi^ Wc [Z^VY^ diversifying agricultural production can also contribute to improving access to a higher-quality diet.

J^ [c ei j^m_Z [to^ademd^c_Yhedkj[h]dj^Z[Y_dYo^hedZ[Y_d-cy, causes anemia affecting millions of people in the LDCs, particularly women and children. Iodine, Vitamin A, folic acid, eh^p_dY^Z[Y_dY[i^ VV^ Yj^ [VW] [f^VWj^i^e\^ [f^efk^bY^ed^hed^ Z[Y_dYo^m^Y^ VV^ Yj^i^) & f [H^ [dj^e\^] ^ [mehtZ^ f^efk^bY^ed^_dYk^Z_d] ^d^Z [l [to^f [Z^Yekdj[h]i^i^ [nVW [hXVY [Z^_d] ^ [B: 9i^ as a result of high levels of undernourishment, severe food insecurity, as well as the prevalence of infectious and other diseases such as malaria, hookworm infestation, schistosom-c_VV^i^ VdZ^jkX [hYk^e^i^ \$J^ [i^ [Z [Y_dY[i^i^ [i^ [H^ to^H^ ZkY^ [

^dj^ [B: 9i^ j^ [W [HV] [Z^j] Wto [d[h] o1 kffto^VZ [gkVto1] # [VWV [HV] [Z^W^ W^ [H^ [dj^W] [e\^] ^ [7i^ [HV] [Z^j] Wto; d[h] oH [gk^H^c [dji^ 17: ; HZ^mW^?^ f [H^ [dj^ ^ehj^ [f [heZ^ (& - #& / ^W^ b] ^j^_dYH^ W [^hec j^ ^ (7) f [H^ [dj^e\^ (& #& (& \$J^ [W [HV] [i^ ^W^ [e\^Z^j] Wto [d[h] o1 kffto^Z [h] [Z^ ^hec Y [H^ V6^ Teeji^ VdZ^jkX [h^ ^TaYVWV^%V6^) # [VWV [HV] [Z^mW^ +. f [H^ [dj^eh^ (& +#& - ^] ^ [h^ ^Vd]j^i^ mehtZ^ W [HV] [e\^ + f [H^ [dj^ehj^] ^ [mehtZ^ ehj^ [i^ Wc [f [heZ^

and increased funding is crucial to prevent starvation among large segments the population in LDCs. In Sudan, more than 9 million people are facing acute food insecurity and require

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ricultural production with support to improve productivity

