

ANALYSIS OF FOOD AND AGRICULTURE ORGANIZATION (FAO)'S ROLE IN REALIZING SDG'S "ZERO HUNGER" IN CONFLICT COUNTRIES CASE STUDY: YEMEN

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Abstract The writing of this article aims to analyze the role of Food and Agriculture Organization (FAO) in responding to the food crisis in Yemen as a Sustainable Development Goals (SDG)'s goal. This research uses a systematic review with qualitative research methods sourced from previous research such as journals, websites, and books to analyze more deeply the role of FAO on the issue of food security in Yemen. This is evidenced by the food crisis in Yemen in 2008 due to the increase in global food prices and 2011 Yemen was hit by a known issue of civil unrest as the Arab Spring which makes the security situation continue to deteriorate. As the FAO proves Yemen is facing the world's largest food security crisis. The agricultural sector is one of the sectors most affected by this crisis. The FAO has an action plan in response to the Yemeni crisis. The purpose of this study is to determine the role of FAO in realizing SDG's "zero hunger" in Yemen, which is a conflict country. The study found that FAO collaborates with International Organizations comprehensively focused on recovery and development. This shows that FAO has an important role in realizing SDG's "zero hunger" against the food crisis in Yemen.

Keywords: FAO, SDGs, food crisis, Yemen.

INTRODUCTION

Food as a basic need for man to make his life better. Food sufficiency is a human right that deserves to be fulfilled. With the high level of population in a country, the need for food is increasing. So, every country must be aware of sectors that provide food such as agriculture to maintain basic human needs so as not to be involved in the hunger crisis and food crisis. Food crisis is a condition related to food scarcity experienced by some residents in a country resulting from food distribution difficulties, the impact of environmental changes climate, natural and environmental disasters, and social conflicts are one of the impacts of war.

International organizations are a forum in the form of interactions between countries or non-countries that eventually form an agreement to achieve the agreed goals. In dealing with the food crisis described above, an international organization, namely the United Nations (UN), created an organization that handles food crisis cases called Food and Agriculture Organization (FAO). FAO is an organization under the auspices of the UN formed on October 16, 1945, in Canada, now based in Rome, Italy. The FAO had 189 members calculated as of November 26, 2005, with Europe as the majority country. The FAO organization basically aims to improve nutrition and living standards, increase agricultural productivity and improve people's lives in a country hit by a food crisis.

FAO is an organization that supports international economic growth. Currently FAO members number 194 countries, FAO has worked in more than 130 countries around the world. FAO's job is to help eliminate cases of hunger and malnutrition in a country. More than 821 people suffer from chronic hunger, and 155 million children under the age of five are malnourished and malnourished. Almost all over the world. From that, it is known that 52 million people worldwide are acutely malnourished. Therefore, FAO continues to strive in encouraging its members to ensure that everyone meets their needs by eating qualified quality food that is beneficial to the body. FAO has aided more than 130 countries related to the food sector, one of which is Yemen.

Yemen is a country located in the Middle East at the southern tip of the Arabian region between Oman and Saudi Arabia, precisely at the entrance to the Bab el Mandeb strait connecting the Red Sea to the Indian Ocean, Yemen became one of the most active and strategic shipping lanes in the world. The cause of the conflict in Yemen led to the country becoming a case of famine. As many as 2.2 million Yemeni children are acutely malnourished and around 70% of Yemen's population needs humanitarian assistance. The UN predicts 10,000 civilians will die because of indirect conflicts such as hard-to-prevent diseases.

In 2019, the Global Hunger Index (GHI) ranked Yemen 116th out of 117 countries affected by hunger. With a score of 45.9, Yemen is a worrying famine-stricken country. With a high index score, GHI covers four components experienced by Yemen, namely malnutrition, thin children, stunted children, and child mortality. With that, the UN issued a statement that Yemen is a country where the world is caught in a humanitarian crisis, with more than 14 million people suffering from hunger and deadly diseases such as cholera.

The Saudi leader placed restrictions on imports that could destabilize the humanitarian situation. The alliance suspended fuel tankers, closed critical Ports, and stopped incoming goods at Ports overseen by the Houthis. The fuel needed as a generator for the hospital and pumping water into the house has been decided. Houthi forces blockaded and took over food and medicine supplies and prevented access to the population for need. The Houthis have placed strict restrictions on aid and workers interfering with aid delivery, while thousands of civilians were displaced as fighting shifted to Yemen's west coast in 2017 and 2018, fighters backed by the Houthis and the UAE restricted flights to some families trying to escape the previous area. Aid workers were kidnapped, arbitrarily arrested and killed in humanitarian operations in Yemen.

Against the backdrop of Yemen experiencing a food crisis and causing hunger and malnutrition, researchers are working to analyze FAO's role in the food crisis in Yemen to realize the second Sustainable Development Goals "Zero Hunger" so that this second sustainable development goal can

create a hunger-free world by 2030. And as one of the SDG's points that have a target where no one is malnourished or starving.

LITERATURE REVIEW

Several references from previous research will be used by the authors in this study to support their own research and to reinforce the research of others. This relates to FAO's analysis of the food crisis in Yemen to realize the second Sustainable Development Goal "Zero Hunger", which can create a hunger-free world by 2030.

"The Role of FAO (Food and Agriculture Organization) in Efforts to Overcome the Food Crisis in the Central African Republic in 2015-2017", became the topic of research by **Ani Khoirunnisa**. The study conducted by Ani Khoirunnisa covers the role of FAO as an international organization that overcomes the problem of the food crisis that occurred in the Central African Republic in 2015 until the year 2017. The program run by FAO in overcoming the food crisis in the Central African Republic has encountered several obstacles, causing the failure of the program to be implemented by FAO, one of which is a problem internal in the form of corrupt practices carried out by the government can lead to poverty and civil war that causes agricultural land and plantations to be damaged. Despite having some obstacles, FAO is not fully said to have failed because FAO has done its job well to produce a positive impact, for example the FAO program that was implemented Cadre De Programmation Pays (CPP) and became a facilitator. FAO is an international organization whose goal is to eliminate the problem of the food crisis in the Central African Republic. FAO thinks that the problem of food crisis is a problem that must be minimized so that the country gets sufficient food needs and is met (Africa et al., 2021).

The second study conducted by **Windy Andini Ekaputri** with the title *"The Role of Food and Agriculture Organization (FAO) in Handling the Food Crisis in Ethiopia"*. According to Windy Andini's research, Ethiopia is one of the countries in Africa experiencing a food crisis. This is due to climate, environmental factors, and farmers' lack of access to

good seeds, low fertilizer uses and limited irrigation access. The above problems cause crisis impacts on food and agriculture, water sources and the environment as well as the impact of social and economic life. FAO has helped more than 130 countries related to the food sector including in Ethiopia. FAO focuses on three areas, namely: agricultural productivity and competitiveness, sustainable natural resource management, and improving food safety and nutrition. In the three areas above, FAO aids Ethiopia in the form of policies, natural resource management, defense administration, crop production and development and development of agribusiness. Ethiopia has implemented programs provided by the FAO related to food, agriculture and animal husbandry. FAO has donated funds and food directly to Ethiopia. The program proposed by FAO can have a positive impact on Ethiopia in order to overcome the food crisis (Crisis & In, n.d.).

“The Effect of Food and Agriculture Organization (FAO) Involvement in Efforts to Increase Agricultural Productivity After the Conflict of the Rohingya Ethnic Food Crisis in Myanmar”. It is the title of the author of **Dzikiara Pesona Sadewa**. According to Dzikiara Pesona’s analysis, the influence of the involvement of the Food and Agriculture Organization (FAO) in increasing agricultural productivity after the ethnic Rohingya food crisis conflict in Myanmar. The conflict that occurred between ethnic Rohingya and Rakhine in 2012. The conflict resulted in the impact of the food crisis, especially the Rakhine area occupied by ethnic Rohingya, but the place became a place that had good agricultural potential. On the other hand, the place is prone to disasters. With the involvement of FAO and collaborating with the Myanmar government to optimize the agricultural sector in Rakhine in an effort to increase the productivity of the role sector and reduce dependence on aid and increased food availability that can reduce the amount of hunger and food crisis felt by ethnic Rohingya in Myanmar. Therefore, FAO’s role as an international organization has an important role in helping the Myanmar government to reduce the risk of food crisis and hunger (Sadewa, 2020).

THEORY REVIEW

International Organizations

The theory used by the authors in this study is the role and function of international organizations. International organizations are a form of cross-border cooperation that is based on an organizational structure that has functions and institutions to achieve mutually agreed upon goals or non-state. The definition of an international organization is a formal and continuous structure formed by mutual agreement of either state or non-state to achieve common interests.

There are conditions for the formation of an organization consisting of: first, its objectives must be based on international goals. Second, it must have a member in which each member has the right to express his opinion. Third, it is established based on the articles of association and has a central headquarters where an organization takes place. Fourth, officials and employees have the task of carrying out the work of the organization must consist of various countries. Fifth, the organization must be financed by members who come from different countries. Organizations that have been inactive for five years are eligible to be disbanded (English, 2009). According to Clive Archer international organizations are grouped by membership, activity objectives, and structure. Based on members, international organizations are divided into two, namely the Intergovernmental Organization (IGO) which contains representatives of state governments with international organizations, Non-governmental Organizations (NGOs) international organizations whose members are not representatives of the government. International organizations have an important role in the form of instruments, arenas, and actors. These three roles have one perception, which is to help resolve conflicts experienced by a country. As an actor in an international organization under the auspices of the UN, FAO reserves the right to make strategic steps and decisions that can reduce or resolve a problem, unforgettable in making decisions, it prioritizes the principle of non-intervention and respects state sovereignty.

Based on the theory of international organizations, FAO is a non-state actor who plays a role and function in accordance with international organizations. FAO as one of the international organizations basically has the goal of improving nutrition and the standard of prosperity of life, as well as increasing agricultural productivity and improving life in the countryside. FAO is also an organization that supports international economic growth. As independent actors, international organizations can do anything in accordance with humanitarian rights without intervention by outside forces within the international sphere. Currently FAO has 194 members who have worked in more than 130 countries around the world. The organization believes it can play a role in the famine problem that often occurs throughout the country.

Concept Food Security

Food security has a large scope as well as a wide range of aspects. Reutlinger said food security is interpreted in many ways. According to Braun et al., food security raises a confusing issue because food security is a broad concept and is very important for many people around the world. Discussing food security basically explains the things that human food needs. Food security consists of food availability, employment, and income. These three things determine whether households have food security which means that they can meet food and nutrition for each family member.

Whether or not a food supply is sufficient is determined by the price of food. When the price of food rises for families who do not have a job or work but whose income does not meet the family's food needs, it affects the nutritional needs of the where food security in the family is threatened. When the availability of food is sufficient and food prices are stable, but many people do not have jobs and incomes, in the absence of purchasing power, the food supply is also unstable or effective.

In 1984 the FAO conference sparked the basis of food security which in essence suffices the availability of food for mankind and guarantees individuals to get enough food. At the time of the International Congress of Nutrition (ICN) held in Rome in 1992, defining household food security

was the ability of households to provide sufficient food for members from time to time to live a healthy life and be able to carry out daily activities. In the Rome Declaration, the definition of food is the realization that all people have physical or economic access to sufficient, safe, and nutritious food to meet appropriate needs with an active and healthy taste in life (*FOOD SECURITY Heri Suharyanto * Abstract, 2011*).

The concept of food security can be implemented based on the food situation at several levels, namely global, national, regional, and household and individual levels. Food security at the global, national, regional, and household and individual levels is a series of hierakis systems. Food security of households and individuals based on allocation and management of household food, household health status, and environmental hygiene conditions (Concept & Dan, 2002).

The concept of food security has a broad and diverse definition. However, the breadth and variety of the concept of food security is essentially by ensuring sufficient food availability for humans and guaranteeing individuals to obtain food from time to time according to the needs of a healthy life in activities. With the concept of guaranteeing and the fulfillment of food needs for every human being, it is also considered the quantity, quality, food safety, local culture, and environmental sustainability in the process of producing quality food.

METHODOLOGY

The methodology of this research is qualitative, with the aim of observing and explaining aspects of social influence that cannot be measured or explained by quantitative techniques that describe the subject of the study being investigated. The descriptive analysis used in the research model is carried out by collecting information from journals, books, online media, websites, and other online sources relevant to the research subject. Using a journaling approach, researchers can collect data to describe and explain their research in more detail.

DISCUSSION

International Organizations

International organizations are a way for various parties, including state and non-state, to engage and create relationships. ultimately creating an organization with values, goals, administrators, and members. The main function of international organizations is the provider of means of cooperation for several countries, where the cooperation can benefit members involved in achieving the objectives the same. International organizations are also instruments in preventing conflict to maintain peace and security, providing humanitarian assistance, and invitations through the environmental sustainability movement.

International organizations are independent institutions and have the authority to make their own regulations and decisions without intervention from any party. In this context, international organizations can also be seen as human service organizations that seek and fulfill a social mission by serving the environment in accordance with human ideals such as solidarity, generosity, and togetherness.

The food crisis has been an issue that has long been on the global level and has become the focus of worldwide attention. This problem is framed by several factors, including the lack of effective Food Diversity, unfavorable climatic conditions and geographical locations, weak regulations on Food Security Policy and Policy, and conflicts that impact a country's ability to access food.

As an organization under the auspices of the United Nations FAO (Food Agriculture Organization) which is engaged in agriculture and food which is a form of overcoming the food crisis and hunger around the world. The organization also runs in the field of capacity building and increasing production in agriculture, forestry, and fisheries to make it more productive and sustainable, and emphasizes numbers poverty in some areas and overcoming food crises and hunger by implementing efficient food systems. FAO is a specialized agency of the UN established on October 16, 1945,

in Canada and then moved to Rome, Italy in 1951. The purpose of the FAO organization is to improve nutrition and standards of prosperity, as well as increase agricultural productivity and improve the lives of rural communities. FAO is also an organization that supports international economic growth. Today FAO consists of 194 countries and works in more than 130 countries around the world. The FAO organization assures that everyone deserves to meet their needs by eating nutritious and quality food. This will certainly be done in any way to support policies and reforms related to food security that include the needs of good and quality nutrition.

Yemen Food Crisis

The issue of hunger has become a long-known issue in the global sphere and has become the focus of world attention. The problem of the food crisis is caused by several things such as, the country's failure to regulate various kinds of food, climatic conditions and geographical locations that are not conducive, state regulations on food security that are not strong, and conflicts that have an impact on obstacles to food availability in a nation. The Arab Spring took place on January 29, 2011, with demonstrations supporting Tunisian and Egyptian protests, let alone the dramatic events in Midan al-Tahrir in Cairo. The Arab Spring conflict in Yemen had a crisis impact on the economy and politics. In addition to the Arab Spring the humanitarian situation in Yemen has become very critical, with the instability of the political system causing food commodity prices to soar and increasing numbers unemployment in Yemen.

In September 2014 there was a critical Yemeni crisis, with the Shia Houthi taking Sana'a experts with the combined forces of Yemen's former president Ali Abdullah Saleh, who had the support of more than 70% of Yemen's armed forces. The Houthis fought Saleh a lot next to the northern region of Sa'ada on the Yemeni and Saudi borders. Saleh gained support from the Saudis because he was considered the president of Yemen, but Saleh allied himself with the Saudis which caused the Houthis to gain control of Yemen like the city of Aden which is The city of Strategies is located on the territory of the southern part (Auludya et al., 1992).

Looking at the condition of Yemen involved in the civil war and the impact of the Arab Spring, Yemen is experiencing a food crisis. This is exacerbated by the majority of Yemenis having poor families. There are several factors behind the consequences of poverty in Yemen which consists of: first, the water crisis throughout Yemen's territory and even the Yemeni capital named Sana'a that does not escape the lack of clean water. There are one-time Sana'a residents can experience clean water. Seeing the above conditions certainly has a bad effect on the need or availability of food in Yemen (Swadevi et al., 2016). More than 90% of the agricultural land owned by Yemenis lacks clean water. When clean water for agricultural land is difficult, the agricultural sector cannot be met, which in the end agricultural land dies and is not suitable for community consumption.

Second, famine. In 2012 some international organizations told nearly 44% of Yemen's population had difficulty obtaining food, as well as five million people in need of intense treatment. The above factor is related to the water crisis that has resulted in agricultural land dying. This has resulted in food that is increasingly difficult to find, with soaring prices, coupled with unstable political conditions resulting in Yemeni society the more difficult (Famine & World, n.d.).

Third, the unstable condition of politics is the impact of the Arab Spring condition which affects the political conditions in Yemen. The impact of the above conditions has worsened Yemen's economy, resulting in cases of unrest. In addition, there are internal cases in Yemen, namely a corrupt government and a conflict between two groups that is getting worse and worse political in Yemen.

In addition to the three conditions that caused Yemen's food crisis, the downturn in Yemen was in the form of the Russian-Ukrainian conflict which led to a lack of food distribution for Yemen. This led to an increase in food prices such as the price of a bag of flour at a price of US\$ 21-US\$ 25 to US\$ 50, this caused Yemen to have to import wheat raw materials to obtain flour yield, in addition to the conflict of Yemeni agricultural conditions that do not allow for the growth of wheat. Wheat imports with a percentage of 40% come from Ukraine and Russia, when

the conflict between the two countries occurs the impact is not only on food prices that increases, but rather hampered the process of distributing wheat to Yemen (Crisis & In, n.d.).

FAO's Role in the Food Crisis in Yemen

As a country that suffers from the worst humanitarian crisis in the whole world due to violent conflicts and economic collapse, FAO has a goal in form of cooperation with partners of the Food and Agriculture Security Cluster to provide emergency agricultural and livestock assistance in the establishment of livelihood recovery and protection. Providing livelihood support for coastal fishing communities, increasing the availability of food access for underprivileged populations, increasing resilience of rural communities through rehabilitation, creation of water infrastructure and irrigation systems for the improvement and utilization of agricultural and agricultural assets, strengthening food and livelihood security search (Agnesia et al., 2022).

The agricultural sector is the hardest hit sector because the agricultural sector is the sector that produces local food products needed by the Yemeni people. Agriculture must be an integral part of the human response to alleviate the poor food security situation in Yemen (Conserve, 2020). The FAO program in Yemen aims to save livelihoods through the availability of supplies and training that supports the Yemeni people in improving Yemeni food security and nutritional security in Yemen.

In order to realize long-term programs related to food security and nutrition and restore the livelihoods of families, the FAO has made two plans to respond to the problem of food crisis in Yemen, which consists of: First, the 2018-2020 Action Plan in the three years of which time FAO needs more than USD 228.5 million to improve food security and nutrition for 9.1 million people, and for the recovery of the agricultural sector in Yemen. Second, Emergency Livelihood Response Plan, FAO needs approximately USD 57.1 million to provide emergency agricultural interventions for 5.7 million people in improved food defense and nutrition of the Yemeni people.

The FAO is also working with the EU on funding that will be applied to several proposed programmes to improve food security and livelihoods in Yemen. The FAO component is focused on strengthening the agricultural value chain which will have a major impact on food needs in Yemen. It also meets the need for households in Yemen to make a living in the face of a food crisis caused by conflict. With sufficient, reliable and timely food availability is a FAO program that will be implemented in Yemen (Livelihoods & Plan, 2020).

Here are the FAO Joint EU programmes to improve food security and livelihoods in Yemen, which consist of: *First*, the improvement and restoration of agricultural production, Projects Recovery, and Improvement of Small-Scale Agricultural Production (SAPREP) is a three-year project funded by the Global Agriculture and Food Security Program (GAFSP) through the World Bank. The project is in the form of investment assistance in community infrastructure development. In the form of water irrigation in protecting agricultural land, providing support to households and farmers to improve the quality of production. The project also helps farmers to return in livelihood in order to meet their needs (To et al., 1867).

Second, integrated management of water resources to be managed by the community, with the form of the Sana'a Basin project has the aim of reducing the generalization of groundwater from sandstone, this can guarantee the community's water supply in the long term to meet drinking and agricultural needs. The project focuses on farmer organizations in the form of Water User Association (WUAs) related to better management of irrigation techniques and alternatives to crops (*Plan of Action*, 2020).

Third, solving water resource conflicts, factors from climate change and population growth resulted in an imbalance between the supply and demand of the water sector in Yemen. With this problem, FAO with its funding from the United Nation Peacebuilding Fund (PBF), strengthened the P3A concept to promote good management of water resources and reduce conflicts over water resources. The program proposed by FAO women participate in the management of water resources.

Fourth, increasing purchasing power, food production, and income equality, FAO supports poor and food-vulnerable households with cash and livelihood assistance emergency work. Assistance has an important role in increasing local demand, market function, and food availability. Assistance in the form of cash will meet the food needs of households.

CONCLUSION

Since the human conflict and the Arab Spring in Yemen caused Yemen to experience a food and nutrition crisis, not only that the conflict between Russia and Ukraine resulted in import barriers wheat in Yemen. And the clean water crisis that has resulted in almost all of Yemen's farmland dying and unfit for consumption. So, FAO is an international organization that is a specialized agency of the United Nations (UN). Ready to help and provide program proposals in improving food and agricultural productivity that is qualified to meet food needs and prevent malnutrition that has consumed millions the human soul in Yis safe especially children under the age of five. The agricultural sector is a priority sector in supplying food such as wheat for domestic and individual life and increasing the productivity of the population for livelihoods in the agricultural sector. With the program proposed by FAO with funding from the World Bank, it can minimize the food and nutrition crisis and create jobs for vulnerable households with a minimum income.

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