

Food production – case study

a. Lesotho gardens relieve food crisis

In Lesotho, decades of intensive agriculture have stripped off land of trees, and exposed soils to wind and rains. This erosion created countless miniature canyons that split the plains everywhere you like. The already thin mountain soils have lost virtually all their productive nutrients. According to the Deputy minister for agriculture and food security, Efraim Lehata, a typical farmer in Lesotho's maize belt would be lucky to squeeze half a tonne of grain from every acre of land. They should be able to produce more than 14 times that. Moreover, the risk from climate change and rise in fuel prices has worsened the food crisis. As a result, most of its populations are now dependent on the food programmes from UN or NGOs. In many respects, Lesotho is a microcosm of the problems facing so many parts of the developing world. In order to relieve itself from the food crisis, the government has introduced the keyhole gardens. Thi

b. Change in farming can feed world – report

According to the article, many researches show that although there has been significant increase in food production as a whole, 800 million people which include more than 33 countries are still suffering from malnutrition and hunger: *'food is cheaper and diets are better than 40 years ago, but malnutrition and food insecurity threaten millions.'*

In detail, the augmentation of the food production has been achieved by several reasons. First of all, nowadays the research of GM food production during 1980s and 1990 has been practiced into actual production. As a result, corns and others vegetable are now be able to be produced in colossal farms like Texas and China and it can distribute its production now can not only feed their domestic population but at the same time it can be distributed to countries that are suffering from food storage. Secondly, the researches that are being accumulated and developed are now used to maximize the yield. Fo

However, at the same time, it is true that the main issue about the food crisis is too much focused narrowly on food production. It is not considering its distribution and food security.

c. Rich countries launch great land grab to safeguard food supply

According to the examples in the article, we can find out that the equilibrium food productions is being achieved by MEDCs' financial investments towards colossal lands located in LEDCs. This forms is as it stated here – *'rich governments and corporations are triggering alarm for the poor as they buy up the rights to millions of hectares of agriculturall land in developing countries in an effort to secure their own long-term supplies'* - this unique way of investment is beneficial to both parties, in terms of providing huge lands which can be generated into a farm to the investors, and they can send back to their homeland. For the LEDC that is selling the land, the food can be cheaply allocated to the local people and also from the capitals they collected from the investors, they can build new infrastructure or industries.

Again, at the same time, there is a big concern that as the UN Food and Agriculture Organization outlines *'the controversial rise in land deals could create a form of "neo-colonialism", with poor states producing food for the rich at the expense of their own hungry people.'*

d. Assessment

From these articles, I have learned that in general, even though there are significant differences between regions and countries, the main trend as a whole is increasing. I was being able to find distinctive reasons from respective articles. First of all, the article 1 carried the information about how Lesotho solves its food shortage crisis. Although the solution, keyhole farming did not entirely contributed to the significant increase in food production, it allowed their citizens to crop their own vegetable. The result was successful; many have now been relieved from the food crisis in Lesotho. On the second article, the main focus was on unequal distribution; it mentioned that as a result of GM production and other useful research, and methods which can be use to produce high yields, the global yield of food is in form of augmentation. However, it accounts that the distribution are very unhealthy; only the riches are collecting most and 800 millions are still suffering from hunger and malnutrition.