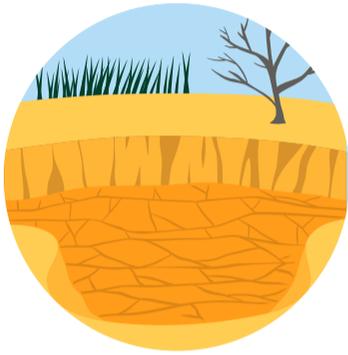


Causes of food insecurity: challenges and threats

According to the United Nations, nearly **700 million people** around the world are currently **malnourished**. It is expected that this figure could reach **two billion people** by **2050** if nothing is done.

But how have we come to be in this situation? There are many causes, but here are the main ones.



Soil depletion

This leads to **lower food production** and, therefore, shortages.



Water shortages

Lack of access to water, especially in **economically vulnerable** countries, causes serious health and **sanitation problems**.



Air pollution

The emission of **polluting gases and particles** has harmful effects on health.



Climate change

Climate change causes food crises, which are often irremediable.



Population explosion

Rapid **population growth** increases **demand for food**, putting pressure on agricultural systems and **reducing the availability of resources** for all.



Economic crisis and governance problems

Financial instability makes it difficult for people to **access basic foodstuffs** and weakens **food assistance programmes**.