



October 5-7, 2009

- **105 million hungry people in 2009**
- **Over 1 billion malnourished**



WORLD FOOD DAY

October 16, 2009

ACHIEVING FOOD SECURITY IN A TIME CRISIS







Is the era of cheap food over?



SOME KEY MESSAGES - 1

- The food crisis will not come to an end very soon and has been in the making for the last 30 years – long term structural problem
- Financial exacerbated the food crisis
- Need to reinvest and inject new capital into agriculture development as manifested in G8/G20
- Small landholder productivity



SOME KEY MESSAGES -2

- Implementation of risk management measures with institutional support with public-private partnerships to ensure steady flow of capital to the agricultural sector
- Some \$55 billion/yr needed to address the gap in food production in developing countries



SOME KEY MESSAGES -3

- Research and development and capacity building, agricultural extension and dissemination of information of information to producers are the backbone for sustainable agricultural development and food security
- Gap in crop yields – could be increased 7 fold with the application existing and new technologies



SOME KEY MESSAGES -4

- International agencies have reacted by mobilizing resources for food assistance, short term financing
- Agencies introduce a number of innovative mechanisms for quick response to the 2008 food crisis
- Agencies coming together to seek long term strategies



SOME KEY MESSAGES -5

- There is no viable substitute for the liberalization of trade in agriculture
- Reduce trade barriers; remove protectionism and subsidies
- If tariffs remain – 11% drop in developing country exports and a decline of \$350 billion in revenue



SOME KEY MESSAGES - 6

- Biofuels if produced wisely and with proper planning, and with judicious selection of feedstock and conversion methods, can be a viable source of additional rural income, without compromising food security (Brazil, Russia, China)



SOME KEY MESSAGES - 7

- Long term impacts of climate change largely unknown precisely
- Climate variability will continue to affect crop yields and food security, in the arid and semi arid and monsoon areas, where the poorest of the poor live.
- Risk management tools, such as weather index based insurance models, better water management and crop selection, drought resistant crops



SOME KEY MESSAGES - 8

- An indicator for measuring food security levels is the nutritional interventions particularly for women and children
- Aquaculture and fisheries can play a major role in filling the nutritional gaps for protein, using non land based resources and not competing for food crops.



Water and Food Security



SOME KEY MESSAGES - 9

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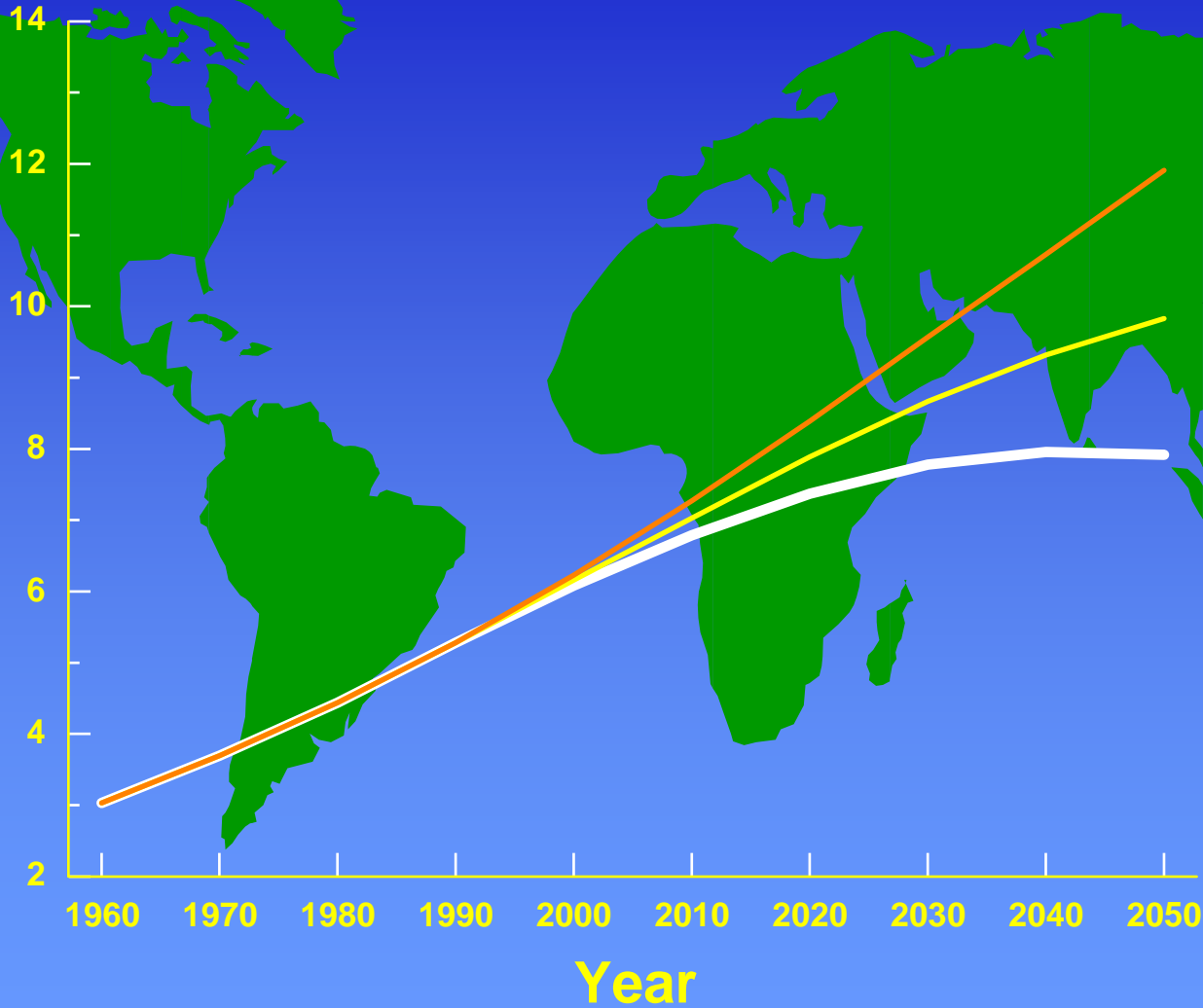
MERCI – Bon voyage



Global Population 1960 - 2050



billion



Reclamation – leaching, drainage, salt tolerant cropping systems

