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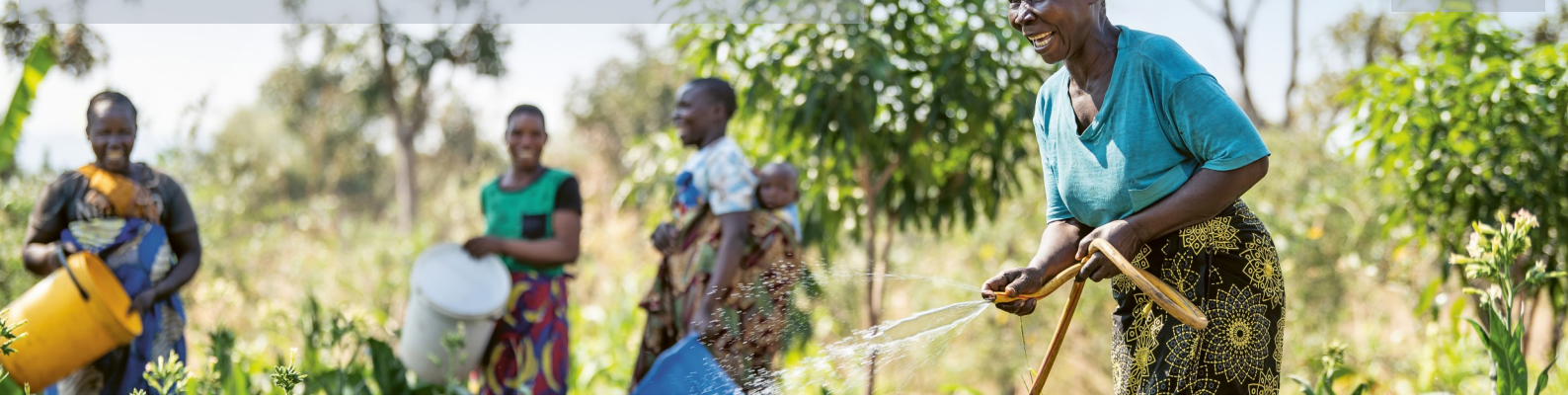
ENDING  
EXTREME POVERTY  
WHATEVER  
IT TAKES

IFHV

United for Resilience and Justice  
Institutional Collaborators: Welthungerhilfe, Concern Worldwide, and the Institute for International Law of Peace and Armed Conflict

www.globalhungerindex.org

#GHI2024



# SUMMARY 2024 GLOBAL HUNGER INDEX LAUNCH

On October 10, 2024, Welthungerhilfe (WHH), Concern Worldwide, and the Institute for International Law of Peace and Armed Conflict (IFHV) launched the *2024 Global Hunger Index: How Gender Justice Can Advance Climate Resilience and Zero Hunger*. With strong advocates in the respective sectors, the event highlighted the intersection between gender justice, climate resilience, and the global fight against hunger:

## Keynote:

- Marie Christina Kolo, climate activist, ecofeminist, and social entrepreneur, Madagascar

## Expert panel discussion:

- Nitya Rao, *Professor, Gender and Development, University of East Anglia (GHI essay author)*,
- Siera Vercillo, *Assistant Professor, Public Administration and Policy, Wageningen University (GHI essay author)*,
- Jemimah Njuki, *Chief Economic Empowerment, UN Women*,
- Liliane Bini, *Climate Resilience Advisor, Concern Worldwide Burundi*,
- Jennifer Madueke, *Coordinator Nutrition Smart Communities, Welthungerhilfe (WHH)*,

Moderated by Christine Mhundwa, *Deutsche Welle*.

## Key Messages:

### 1. Gendered Power Relations Drive Food Insecurity:

- Structural inequalities place women and gender minorities at heightened risk to hunger and malnutrition and climate change impacts.
- Empowering women and addressing gender-based barriers is crucial to achieving sustainable food and nutrition security.

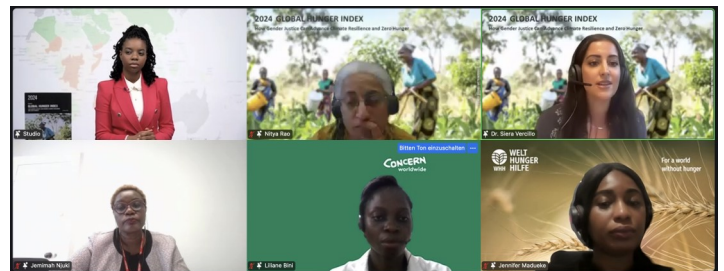
### 2. Climate Change Exacerbates Inequalities:

- Climate change continues to drive hunger, disproportionately affecting marginalized communities, particularly women.
- The event called for gender-transformative climate policies that prioritize women's participation and leadership in food systems.

### 3. Gender-Just Food Systems in Practice:

- Equitable access to land, resources, and decision-making is crucial—and best practices exist, as highlighted by the panelists.

## Keynote and Panel Insights:



The keynote and panel at the 2024 Global Hunger Index launch provided profound insights into the role of **gender justice** in achieving **climate resilience** and **food and nutrition security**:

In her Keynote **Marie Christina Kolo** highlighted Madagascar's vulnerability to climate change, sharing stories of resilience from women affected by droughts and cyclones. She called for **genuine consultation** with women in decision-making, emphasizing the need for **locally-led solutions** and **community-driven approaches** to infrastructure and climate challenges.

**Nitya Rao** stressed the unequal distribution of the burdens of hunger and climate change, particularly affecting women, children, and indigenous communities. Her message centered on **hope**, sharing success stories from Madagascar and Cambodia. She emphasized the need to address **multidimensional justice**, particularly recognizing women's labor and structural constraints. Nitya urged for increased participation of women in policymaking while recognizing cultural barriers, and noted the importance of **global platforms** like the HLPE and UN-FSS in advancing justice.

*"Issues of justice and inequality are being recognized in the global political discourse or narrative. There's still a long way to go to make this a reality, but I think this is definitely a first step if it enters the discourse, and we can keep pushing." - Nitya Rao*

**Siera Vercillo** argued that **gender justice** is integral to **climate resilience** and **food security**, calling for a structural change that recognizes women's agency. She introduced the **Triple Rs**—redistribution, recognition, and representation—as crucial steps toward justice. Siera stressed that **agroecology**, which builds on indigenous knowledge, is key to transforming food systems, and

highlighted the need for institutions to value **women’s knowledge and expertise** in decision-making and resource allocation.

**Jemimah Njuki** highlighted the role of women in food production, especially in rural areas, emphasizing that **hunger is an issue of dignity**. She called for resources to be directed toward women, not only for productivity but for **empowerment** and **justice**. Jemimah advocated for **gender-responsive budgeting**, the removal of discriminatory laws, and **collaborative efforts** involving feminist organizations to influence policies at all levels. She stressed that **resilience**, **resources**, and **rights** must come together in transforming food systems into **just and inclusive** systems.

*“There is indignity in hunger and this is not one of those topics that in 2024 we still need to be having a polite conversation about. It is unacceptable even for one person one woman one child to go hungry in a world where we are actually producing enough food to feed everybody” -*  
**Jemimah Njuki**

**Liliane Bini** shared practical examples from Burundi and Rwanda, focusing on the success of climate-smart agriculture and agroforestry in enhancing food production and resilience. She emphasized the need for **gender-transformative approaches** where men and women participate equally in decision-making, exemplified by initiatives like Husband Schools. Liliane also noted the challenges of limited resource access for women, which are being addressed through savings groups and other community-led solutions.

**Jennifer Madueke** highlighted the Nutrition Smart Communities (NSC) initiative, which focuses on community-led solutions to address deep-rooted social norms limiting women’s decision-making in nutrition. She shared success stories from Malawi, where women’s involvement in farming decisions led to improved income and household well-being. Jennifer discussed the challenge of **land ownership**, despite progressive policies, and emphasized the **power of collective action** through climate-smart agriculture initiatives led by women.

The discussion at the 2024 GHI launch emphasized the interconnectedness of **gender justice**, **climate resilience**, and **food and nutrition security**, highlighting the need for **structural changes** to recognize women’s agency and remove barriers to their participation. The panelists called for **locally-led solutions**, **redistribution of resources**, and **collaborative efforts** across sectors to create an inclusive, resilient food system that addresses gender, climate, and food justice together.

**Insights from the audience:**

The audience identified equal access and rights to land and resources as one of the top priorities to advance gender justice:



**Recommendations from the report:**

The 2024 Global Hunger Index calls for climate, nutrition, and food systems policies to be **guided by human rights obligations and international law**, emphasizing the principles of equity and justice as well as the need for greater urgency **and coherence across policies** to address hunger:

**Governments must...**

- 1 **Strengthen accountability to international law and the enforceability of the right to adequate food.**
- 2 **Promote gender-transformative approaches to food systems and climate policies and programs.**
- 3 **Make investments that integrate and promote gender, climate, and food justice.**

Download the report:



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