

Supplemental Information: Hunger Metrics

The blue and orange lines in the charts reflect the FAO (2014) estimates for moderate & severe food insecurity as a percentage of the country population according to their Food Insecurity and Experience Scale (FIES), which is derived from household surveys conducted as a part of the Gallup World Poll. The blue line represents moderate and severe and the orange represents severe food insecurity. More information on their methodology can be found [here](#). The grey line represents the FAO's Prevalence of Undernourishment (PoU) indicator for 2014-2016 (the estimates come in two year bands), which was also used to determine progress towards the MDGs. The yellow line reports the stunting rates for children under the age of five for 2010-2015 (data is not produced yearly for each country) provided jointly by UNICEF and the WHO. These are all established metrics for measuring food insecurity and they're all incorporated into SDG2, and of course, they all have their critics and weaknesses.

For instance, stunting rates may be affected by more than lack of proper access to necessary nutrients (for instance disease, lack of clean water, etc.), the PoU indicator has been criticized for entirely ignoring the question of nutrition (focusing only on estimating access to sufficient calories) and inaccurately estimating the unequal distribution of those calories within the population, among other serious concerns (see especially [Lappe et al \(2013\)](#) and [Svedberg \(1999\)](#)) and FIES estimates are arrived at via a multi-step model that has the downside of being opaque as compared to other approaches, making it harder to understand what the sources of uncertainty in the resulting estimates might be. Additionally, several of the other proposed SDG indicators currently lack an established methodology (called "Tier III" indicators, despite the fact that we're already into the first year of the SDGs).