

What a year

How global prices of food have soared over the past year

Commodity (for July delivery unless stated)	Rice
Percentage increase (from June 2007 to June 2008)	61.1%
June 2007 price	US\$11.83/cwt
Today's price	US\$19.06/cwt

Soya beans	Corn
Percentage increase	51.2%
June 2007 price	US\$4.06/bushel
Today's price	US\$6.14/bushel

Wheat	Milk (for Dec delivery)
Percentage increase	33.5%
June 2007 price	US\$14.95/cwt
Today's price	US\$19.96/cwt

Sources: BLOOMBERG, FAO, and WIRE AGENCIES



860 million

The estimated number of hungry people in the world at present

178 million

The number of children under the age of five in developing countries, suffering stunting due to chronic undernutrition and poor quality diets. 80 per cent of them live in 20 African and Asian countries

100 million

The number of people threatened with hunger and social and political turmoil worldwide because of the food price crisis

US\$30b a year

The amount the world needs to defuse the current world food crisis and avert a looming threat of conflicts over food

200-600 million

The estimated number of people who will experience hunger by 2080