



# NUTRITION AND CLIMATE CHANGE

## CLIMATE CHANGE IS A THREAT TO FOOD AND NUTRITION SECURITY, AND IS EXPECTED TO INCREASE LEVELS OF UNDERNUTRITION GLOBALLY.

Compared to a future without climate change, the World Health Organization has projected the following additional deaths in the year 2030<sup>2</sup>:

<b>38,000</b> due to heat exposure in elderly people	<b>95,000</b> due to childhood undernutrition
<b>60,000</b> due to malaria	<b>48,000</b> due to diarrhoea

We can sidestep this future by working together to:

### Build climate-resilient health systems

- Research shows that climate change will threaten the effectiveness of existing investments in water and sanitation services<sup>3</sup>

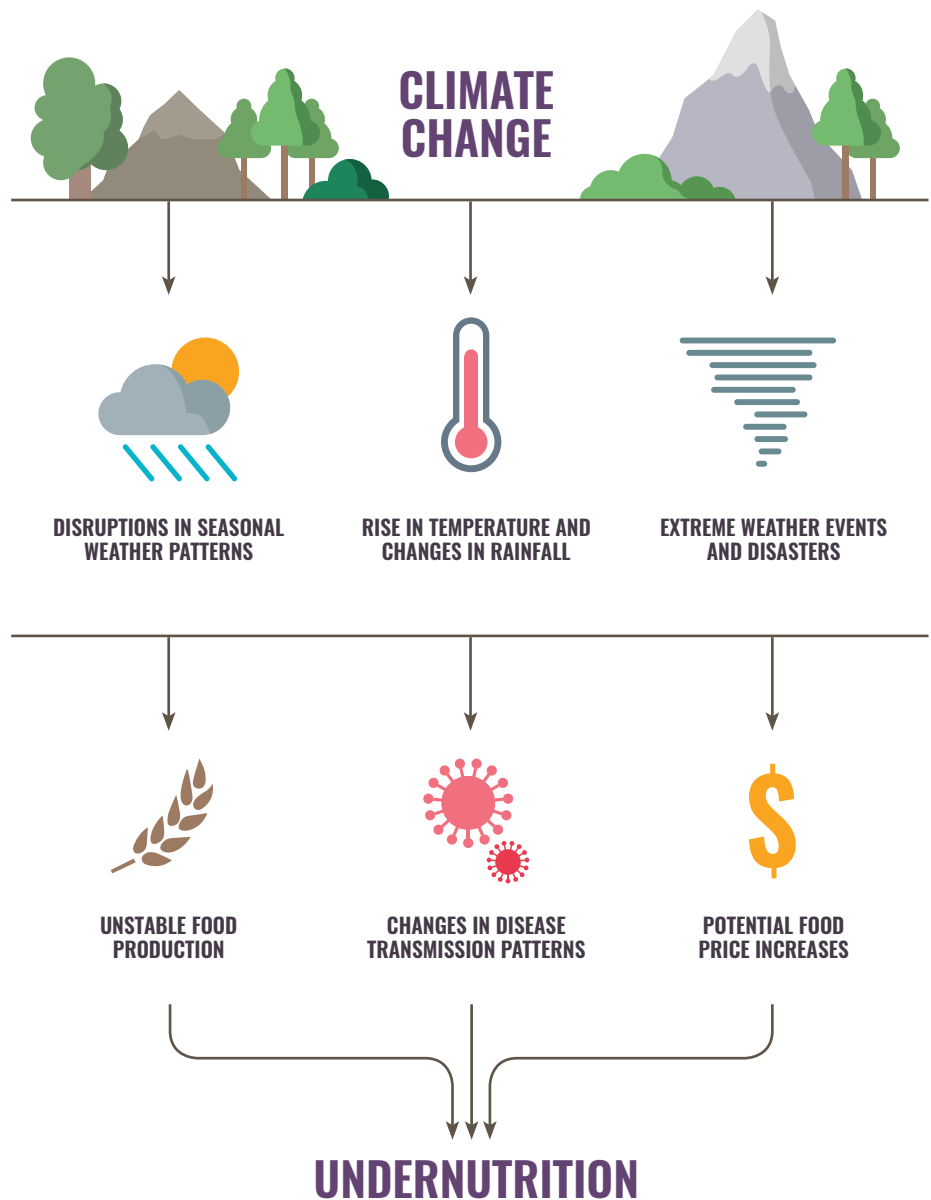
### Invest in agriculture

- In Bangladesh, floating gardens have been devised, on which crops can be cultivated to survive times of flooding and water-logging<sup>4</sup>

### Adopt gender-sensitive climate change policies

- A recent study conducted in Kisumu, Kenya, found that climate change programmes that do not incorporate gender-sensitive approaches can widen gender gaps, which could affect household food security<sup>5</sup>

## SOME OF THE POTENTIAL PATHWAYS LINKING CLIMATE CHANGE WITH INCREASED RISK OF UNDERNUTRITION<sup>1</sup>



13 CLIMATE ACTION



Investments in nutrition can reinforce those aimed at SDG 13 – “take urgent action to combat climate change and its impacts” – leading to stronger and healthier societies that will be more resilient to the effects of climate change.

The Nutrition in the Global Agenda Series, issued by The Power of Nutrition, aims to clarify why and how investments in nutrition can maximise other development objectives and be a major pathway towards the achievement of the world’s shared Sustainable Development Goals by 2030.



The Power of Nutrition is a charitable foundation whose primary focus is improving the nutritional welfare and care of young children and adolescent mothers in Africa and Asia. Visit [www.powerofnutrition.org](http://www.powerofnutrition.org) and follow @gofundnutrition to learn more about our work.

<sup>1</sup> Note: not an exhaustive list.

<sup>2</sup> World Health Organization, ‘Quantitative Risk Assessment of the Effects of Climate Change on Selected Causes of Death, 2030s and 2050s’, edited by Hales, Simon et al., Geneva, World Health Organization, 2014.

<sup>3</sup> World Health Organization, ‘Building Adaptation to Climate Change in Health in Least Developed Countries through Resilient Water, Sanitation and Hygiene (WASH)’, World Health Organization, 2016.

<sup>4</sup> United Nations Development Programme, ‘Gender, Climate Change and Community-Based Adaptation’, New York, July 2010.

<sup>5</sup> Nyukuri, Elvin, ‘Gender Approaches in Climate Compatible Development: Lessons from Kenya’, the Climate Development Knowledge Network, May 2016.