

Food Policy, Climate Change, and the Tenuous Future of Food Security

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As predictions of climate change's impacts grow increasingly dire, the world is still faced with a growing problem of food insecurity, especially in the Global South. The purpose of this capstone is answer the question of whether the global population can be properly feed in 2050 if climate change dynamically affects the environment while the modern food practices and policies remains static. The author has taken a comprehensive approach to this study which has included the social, economic, environmental, political, security, and ethical factors of this issue into consideration. The capstone is divided into three sections. The first section is a critique of the modern neoliberal trade regime and post Green Revolution agricultural practices. The author has evaluated the strengths and tradeoffs of the modern food regime to predict its future viability and ascertain major flaws. The second section evaluates climate change's impact on agricultural production and food security. Within this section the author has concluded that while alone the current food regime would be unable to sustain future populations, combined with the future impacts of climate change this confluence could be catastrophic for human welfare and civilization. The third section is a blueprint for food production reform and adaptation to climate change. This capstone has major implications for the fields of international trade, international development, global security, agriculture, agricultural economics, and environmental science as global food security may be jeopardized in coming decades.