

**ECONOMICS
AGRICULTURE**

**DOCUMENTARY
30 MIN.**

VERSIONS

Arabic, English, French,
Spanish

RIGHTS

Not available worldwide.
Please contact your regional
distribution partner.

ORDER NUMBER
56 4726 | 01-06



Food for Everyone – A Losing Battle?

Hunger is the scourge of the world. Neither food aid nor development aid has been able to conquer it. But hunger is not a force of nature: it's the result of a structural crisis involving food production and flawed distribution; it is a man-made condition. In industrialized nations, food is something manufactured to excess with the help of technology, and when prices threaten to fall, the surplus is often destroyed. At the same time, many African and Asian states can hardly feed their populations. It's rarely the governments themselves that are to blame, but regulations on world trade or agricultural industry, which are oriented less towards feeding the hungry than towards seeking profit. New creative solutions are called for.

01 No Bread for Oil

Biodiesel is very popular in some countries. And as efforts to protect the climate intensify, the idea of powering cars with plant oil does sound attractive. But this form of green fuel also requires huge areas of farm land. In Colombia, for example, biodiesel originates on vast palm oil plantations. But small landowners are being driven from their land in order for biodiesel processing plants to be set up. Jobs take precedence over self-sufficiency, it seems. But is it worth it? Does the cultivation of biodiesel crops really benefit the environment, or do the disadvantages outweigh the advantages?

02 GM Revolution

More than 900 million people worldwide suffer from malnutrition. Around a third of these are in India. That's why the Indian government has enlisted the help of multi-national companies to start the GM revolution. It's hoped that genetically-modified rice types will increase yield. But what about the many farmers who simply cannot afford the seeds and the necessary pesticides?

03 The Peanut Trap

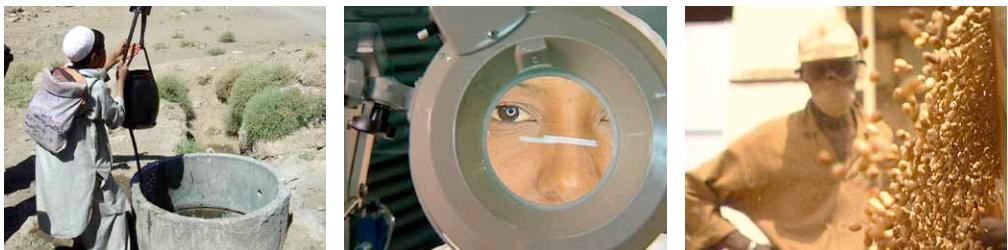
Despite being one of Africa's most fertile nations, Senegal in the west of the continent is still reliant on imports of wheat and rice. Senegal's agriculture is almost exclusively devoted to peanut farming, a legacy of its former colonial rulers, France. This makes Senegal dependent on world market prices, and when they fall, it leaves many Senegalese without the means of paying for seeds and food.

04 Anti-Starvation Technology

Ethiopia's government is investing heavily in technology in order to boost the country's development. It wants to improve land use, education and energy production so that in addition to being self-sufficient, the population can also earn money. By channelling development aid in new ways, starvation in one of Africa's poorest countries could be finally beaten.

**ECONOMICS
AGRICULTURE**

**DOCUMENTARY
30 MIN.**



VERSIONS

Arabic, English, French,
Spanish

RIGHTS

Not available worldwide.
Please contact your regional
distribution partner.

ORDER NUMBER
56 4726 | 01-06

05 The Blue Revolution

Fish are the last great wildlife stock that man uses for food. But fish stocks are declining rapidly in the world's oceans. A kilo of farmed fish requires two to four times that amount in fish meal. Fish-farm waste pollutes the waters, as do medicines used to excess. New methods of aquafarming must be found if fish is to remain on our menus in the future.

06 Deep Frozen Seed Vault

For centuries, selective breeding has increased the yield of food crops. More recently, genetic engineering has accelerated this development. But humans cannot invent genes, and environmental conditions are changing rapidly. Species which give a high yield today may be unsuited to tomorrow's conditions. The industrialization of farming has done much to diminish the diversity of plant species that may have some useful attributes. Now, a massive seedbank on the Norwegian island of Spitsbergen has been established to preserve a wide variety of plant seeds from around the world.