

# Legal Rights and Challenges to Execute ‘Zero Hunger’ Within the Vulnerable Children in The Era Of COVID-19

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**Abstract.** Zero hunger’ is a world’s pledge to end hunger, achieve food security and improve nutrition. However, the COVID-19 pandemic has hijacked the mission, whereby many economic activities ceased due to the virus’s outbreak. The situation has severely affected people’s living standards and enhanced extreme poverty, starvation, malnutrition and other health problems, especially among vulnerable children. The primary purpose of this paper is to explain ‘zero hunger’ as a fundamental legal right and identify challenges in executing this goal during the pandemic era. By using a traditional methodology of legal research, this paper finds that the epidemic has established few challenges that decelerated the progress to achieve the SDGs 2030, specifically ‘zero hunger’. This paper concludes that SDG 2 is an important goal to be fulfilled within vulnerable children to ensure their survival. Thus, the paper proposes that food assistance and humanitarian relief need to be provided by all means. Similarly, prompt measures to ensure food supply chains also need to be maintained as the pandemic has caused a massive impact on food and agricultural production. Ultimately, every government must adhere to the SDGs 2030, especially during this challenging time.

**Keywords:** Child Law; Human’s Rights; Sustainable Development Goals 2030; Vulnerable Children; Zero Hunger

## 1 Introduction

### The Sustainable Development Goals 2030: A Brief Introduction

The Sustainable Development Goals 2030 (SDGs 2030), otherwise known as the ‘World Agenda’, is a set of targets established by the United Nations (UN). The plan was adopted by 193 countries for 15 years, starting from 2015 (Morton et al., 2017). The objective of the SDGs 2030 is to eradicate poverty and take every measure to ensure all people get the same opportunity to maximize their full potential in life. The term ‘all people’ means everyone without looking at their physical features, life status, family background, religion or political belief and many others.

Therefore, the pledge to ‘leave no one behind’ is embedded at the center of the SDGs 2030, and all State Members concurred to make a concerted effort to identify and lift the most vulnerable groups first (Winkler & Satherthwaite, 2017). Vulnerability in a human rights

context refers to the state encountered by underprivileged populations, such as discriminatory treatment or exploitation. These situations lead to special attention, care, and protection to support their life survival. Groups considered as vulnerable can vary depending on the field of academic studies. Children, people with disabilities, ethnic minorities, elderly, homeless, poor, and illiterate are considered vulnerable people. Children are always considered vulnerable and occupy a special place within human rights protection as their development state is fragile compared to adults.

However, few other factors can contribute to their vulnerabilities like disability, mental health difficulty, maltreatment, homelessness, and many others (Brule & Eckstein, 2017). According to the Convention on the Rights of the Child 1989 (CRC), children need special safeguards and care and appropriate legal protection right starting from before birth because of their physical and mental maturity.

Hence, 'leave no one behind' is a very significant concept in the SDGs 2030 to emphasize the inclusivity of the vulnerable groups after the hard lessons learnt from the Millennium Development Goals 2015 (MDG), which turned futile due to uneven distribution of the development plan's benefits. Quoting Ban Ki-Moon, the former UN Secretary-General, said that the MDG had yielded several astounding outcomes though it had abandoned many people behind (United Nations, 2015).

In addition, the definition of 'sustainable development' is to meet the needs of present generations without compromising the rights of future generations to fulfil their needs (Kuhlman & Farrington, 2010). Hence, the underlying value of the concept is basically to thoughtfully use the available sources and safeguard every prospect in the world for future generations' growth and development.

Therefore, the purpose of the SDGs 2030 is way more than providing platforms for the entire human population to advance themselves, but also maintaining or improving the world's conditions for generations to come. Some authors even view children as the core for all dimensions of sustainable development (Chan, 2013). In a nutshell, the SDGs is a comprehensive plan equipped with 17 goals and 169 targets to strengthen the social, economic and environmental dimensions of sustainable development for all, including children.

### **'Zero Hunger', a Fundamental Legal Right**

SDG 2 aims explicitly to end hunger, achieve food security and improved nutrition and promote sustainable agriculture. It has five focused targets which one of the goals expected to be accomplished in the year 2020, while the other four in 2030. Target 2.1 aims to end hunger and ensure access to safe and sufficient food for all people, particularly the poor, people in vulnerable situations and infants.

Other than that, combating malnutrition issues within children, adolescent girls, older persons, pregnant and lactating women is mentioned in Target 2.2. Only two of these targets stated the terms 'infants' and 'children' explicitly, while the other three concentrate on succeeding agricultural activities to support food production. Sufficient measures are required to guarantee the continuance of one's life, particularly the poor, the vulnerable groups and those facing natural disasters (United Nations, 2015).

SDG 2 is one of the utmost importance goals as extreme hunger and malnutrition remain barriers to attaining sustainable development. These two serious predicaments will lead to various health problems, which later harmed life aspects such as economy, health, equality, and other elements of social development. "Zero hunger" is undoubtedly one of the key elements to attain sustainability as a whole, as drafted in the SDGs 2030.

From another perspective, 'zero hunger' equals to the right, as extreme hunger and malnutrition were among the highest contributing factors of death in children under five. The world has successfully reduced a significant number of people affected by hunger from 1011 million people in the year 1990 to 784 million after 20 years. Nevertheless, hunger statistics had increased again within five years period since 2015 (United Nations).

In 2020, 821 million people reported suffering from acute hunger, meaning these people urgently need food and nutrients. It is reported that within that number, 3.1 million children worldwide died due to hunger and malnutrition each year, while the other 155 million children suffer from chronic undernourishment (Hunger Notes).

Malnutrition, in general, refers to deficiencies, excesses, or imbalances in a person's intake of nutrients, which can cause three main conditions, namely undernutrition, micronutrient-related malnutrition and overweight related diseases. 'Zero hunger' goal is most associated with the first two situations, which both linked to insufficient intake of nutritious food that causes illness, for instance, wasting, stunting, underweight, and deficiencies in vitamins and minerals. Such syndromes will affect the quality of one's life, for example, in terms of mobility, physical and functional status, emotional balance, low self-esteem, psychological distress, including discrimination. These said circumstances would significantly undermine children's right to life as they cannot maximize their capabilities in various fields and enjoy life to their fullest (Somrongthong et al., 2016).

Right to life is the focal idea in the concept of human rights protection. Physical existence is a prerequisite before individuals can benefit from different rights and liberties secured under international documents and national legislation. It is the most fundamental of all rights, and no derogation is permitted even in times of public emergency. Henceforth, the right to life is the most basic which governs all other existing human rights. The primary international documents that recognized this right are the Universal Declaration of Human Rights 1948 (UDHR) and the International Convention on Personal and Political Rights 1966 (ICCPR).

Article 3 of UDHR mentioned that human is entitled to the right to life, liberty, and security (United Nation, 1948). Besides that, Article 6 of ICCPR promotes the same idea, stating that every human being has the inherent right to life and shall be protected by law. No person shall be arbitrarily deprived of this right to life (United Nations, 1966). Other than that, the European Convention for Human Rights also reaffirms the same idea under Article 2, which stated that human life shall be protected by law and shall not be deprived in any situations unless in executing a court's sentence after he is convicted for a crime. As for children, the CRC also recognize that every child has the inherent right to life under Article 6 (1) (United Nations, 1989).

Other international documents that laid down the right to life as one of the rights protected under the law are the Convention on the Rights of Persons with Disabilities, African Charter on Human and People's Rights, International Convention on the Protection of the Rights of All Migrant Workers and Members of Their Families and many more. These international legal documents have clarified the importance of the right to life to be preserved in the best possible way.

It is very significant to ensure that every human being, including children, not only able to survive life but also live with an abundance of opportunities to enhance their lifestyle. The duty to protect the right to life is under states obligations (United Nations Human Rights, 1986). Public institutions such as human rights agencies, welfare centers, community centers, ministries, courts and others are among the bodies that are responsible for guarding human life. Besides that, public authorities like security forces must at all-time defend the citizens against unlawful threats made by third parties (Article 2 (2) of ECHR).

The connotation of 'right to life' also has evolved with the change of time. It has an extensive interpretation as the right is said to be inexplicable in a restrictive manner. As a result, issues regarding homelessness, infant mortality and life expectancy fall under this scope. For example, the Human Rights Committee had suggested that every States Parties take all possible steps to eliminate malnutrition and epidemics to improve prenatal care for mothers and babies and reduce mortality among infants and children.

In addition, the right to life also comprises the element of dignity. According to Article 1 of the UDHR, all human beings are born free and equal in dignity and rights. 'Dignity' means getting recognition and respect from others. 'Dignity' is said to be inviolable, and all state authority is under a duty to respect and protect it (Steinmann, 2016). Living with dignity is to receive treatment from other human beings as a creature of intrinsic, incomparable and indelible worth without any reason attached.

Children's rights to life can be divided into two categories, namely protection during the prenatal period and the ability to survive and develop appropriately after birth. Many countries in the world had considered an unborn child as a legal person, thus initiates feticide as a crime. Therefore, an unborn child possessed the right to life and need protection since his existence in a womb (Vera et al.).

On the other hand, hunger and malnutrition are among conditions that can danger the fetus life. Maternal malnutrition can increase the risk of miscarriage, pre-term delivery, many other health problems and even maternal or fetal deaths. Moreover, a pregnant mother's deficiency in micronutrients can cause detrimental effects on fetal development. Poor nutrition can stunt children's physical and mental growth. Based on scientific evidence, the result of malnutrition is irreversible after the age of two years old (Castrogiovanni & Imbesi, 2017). The second type of children's right to life concerns their ability to survive and develop themselves. The obligation to guarantee the maximum extent possible for child survival and development is placed under the states (Article 6 (2) of CRC).

The CRC has detailed the four categories of children's rights: survival, development, protection, and participation. In brief, survival rights include the right to life and essential needs such as nutrition, shelter, health services and security. Development rights mean the right to education, information, thought, conscience and religion. At the same time, protection rights focus on safeguard against child abuse, neglect and exploitation—lastly, the participation rights address freedom of opinion, associations and assembly (Tostensen et al., 2011).

Hunger and malnutrition can cause children to be denied all of the rights mentioned. Famished and undernourished kids have to face various chronic health problems that might keep them out of school. In the long run, the youth will grow up illiterate, lacking skills and knowledge that will limit their ability to work and caused them to live in poverty. The situation will eventually lead to unhealthy pregnancies and undernourished children once they grow up and build a family. The chain of intergenerational poverty and malnutrition will form a vicious cycle or a lifetime trap if no proper and swift action taken urgently (Gillespie & Flores, 2021).

To sum up, 'zero hunger' certainly is one fundamental right to all human beings, including children, as SDG 2 is highly associated with the right to life, making it one of the primary goals in the World Agenda. Right to life is a prerequisite to ensure the success of other goals of the SDGs 2030. For example, it is only possible for purposes related to quality education, good health and well-being to be attained if every child is well-nourished, fit and strong. Additionally, the components drafted in SDG 2 address the need for infants and children. The targets are to end hunger, ensure sufficient access to safe and nutritious food for the young generations. The objective is to eradicate malnutrition issues in children under the age of five that caused stunting and wasting.

Clearly, 'zero hunger' is a fundamental legal right for every human, including children. Without accomplishing SDG 2, life survival would be very challenging and risky, especially among vulnerable children. Recognizing the importance of SDG 2, the world has made various efforts to solve the hunger issue. However, in 2019 the world hit by the COVID-19 epidemic, causing severe and widespread increases in global food insecurity, particularly among vulnerable groups.

### **The Arrival of COVID-19, an Era of Pandemic**

On the 31st of December 2019, the first human cases caused by the novel COVID-19 were reported to World Health Organization (WHO) at Wuhan City, Hubei Province, China. The retrospective investigations by the Chinese officials have identified a link between the virus, also known as SARS-CoV-2, with a wholesale food market in Wuhan. The marketplace in Wuhan City was said to be the source of this epidemic. It is instructed to be close on the 1st of January 2020.

On the 30th of January 2020, the COVID-19 was declared by the WHO as an outbreak of a global health emergency. The COVID-19 was confirmed as a global pandemic in March 2020, the first pandemic announced since H1N1 influenza after 11 years. Up until July 2021, there are more than 180 million positive cases reported, with four million death records worldwide. Even though few available vaccines are available starting from December 2020, the viral infection continues to rise to this date (Yen-Chin Liu, 2020).

Nearly two years after the world hit by this epidemic, there are many significant impacts in social, economic and environmental terms. For example, the virus had slowed down the world's financial activities, contributing to extreme poverty, malnutrition problems, numerous health issues, and thwarting the development plans at both international and national levels. If the trend continues, it is estimated that the number of people who will face famine is 970 million, which is an increase of 120 million from the initial expectation before the raging pandemic hit the world.

The COVID-19 is predicted to have radically increased the number of people facing acute food insecurity within 2020 to 2021. There are 272 million people already or at risk of becoming acutely food-insecure (Chatham House, 2020). At this point, all of these predictions lead to one big question, which is about the world's ability to achieve the SDGs 2030. In 2020, three billion people were reported unable to afford healthy diets, with Asia holding the highest number of undernourished, which is 381 million. Africa follows it with a record of 250 million and 48 million for Latin America and the Caribbean.

By 2030, Africa is expected to be a home for more than half of the world's chronically hungry as the problem is expanding fast in that area. The UN had warned that achieving 'zero hunger' by 2030 is hardly possible as more people go hungry, and malnutrition persists (World Health Organization, 2020). As progress in accomplishing SDG 2 stalls, the arrival of the COVID-19 pandemic intensifies the susceptibility and insufficiency of the world food system. There are few challenges in executing the 'zero hunger' goal during this pandemic epoch, especially among vulnerable children.

## 2 Methodology

The paper adopted is socio-legal research using a qualitative approach. Primary and secondary data were collected through library studies and using publicly available data, namely the internet. All pieces of information are analyzed critically using the content analysis method.

## 3 Result and Discussion

### Challenges to Execute the 'Zero Hunger' Goal

The rise of the world hunger case never shows any sign of abating, and the situation worsens as the COVID-19 pandemic has double the current hunger and malnourished global statistics. Therefore, accomplishing SDG 2 will be a huge challenge faced by the world before 2030. The biggest challenge to execute SDG 2 is the economic factor. Most of the world's economies were affected when this pandemic hit, causing the country's income to decline. The paralysis of the financial sector will cause poverty to escalate, and the number of hungry people also increases. It is reported that the most impacted industries are airlines, casinos and gaming, leisure facilities, automotive, and lastly, oil and gas. For example, many countries worldwide also start to ban travel activities between states, while some enforced high restrictions, causing the tourism and aviation industries to succumb and paralyse (Neeraj Kumar & Haydon, 2020).

Based on an analysis, the COVID-19 had removed more than 1 billion air passengers in 2020, and it is forecasted to remove additional 4.7 billion passengers at the end of 2021 (Airport Council International, 2021). According to United Nations Conference on Trade and Development, the number of inbound tourist arrival dropped by 74 per cent in 2020, and some developing countries recorded 80-90 per cent declination.

If the situation continues to deteriorate, there will be an average of 88 per cent global decline in 2021 (UNCTAD, 2021). There were many airlines' companies have to reduce their workers, faced mergers and acquisitions or bankruptcies. For instance, the airlines' companies that went bankrupt are Air Italy, Flybe (UK), Virgin Australia, German Airways, Thai Airways, South African Airways, Norwegian Air, etc. (Siamak et al., 2020).

Secondly, the economic condition is also crushed because of movement orders announced almost in every country worldwide. The first lockdown imposed was in Wuhan City, China, on the 23rd of January 2020. The decision made affects nearly 11 million people of the city was an effort made to quarantine the center of an outbreak of the COVID-19 (Tigerstorm, 2020). Subsequently, 15 other cities in Hubei Province, China, followed the travel restrictions causing 57 million confined homes.

On the 8th of April, Wuhan's lockdown was lifted after 76 days. Several Australian states, territories, and cities were also instructed to be put under lockdown in response to the pandemic. The first lockdown announced was on the 23rd of March 2020, and Victoria's lockdown lasts until the 17th of February 2021. During the series of lockdowns in Australia, schools, childcare centers, retail, and gyms were ordered to close; there was a travel distance limit, night-time curfew, social distancing, and restriction on gathering. Face covering is made compulsory, and failure to comply will be penalized with a fine.

The India Government also ordered a lockdown starting from March to May 2020 for the whole nationwide, limiting the movement of its entire 1.38 billion population. The lockdown imposed was lifted according to several phases which the last one was announced in December 2020. Due to the COVID-19 second wave infection in India, a few states declared partial

lockdowns in April 2021. The United Kingdom also announced lockdowns in England, Wales, Northern Ireland and Scotland as one way to reduce the spread of the COVID-19 virus and flatten the curve.

However, there are few regulations enacted to regulate the society's new norms, such as the Health Protection (Coronavirus, Restrictions) (England) Regulations 2020, the Health Protection (Coronavirus, restrictions) (Wales) Regulations 2020, Health Protection (Coronavirus, Restrictions) Regulations (Northern Ireland) 2021 and Coronavirus (Scotland) (No.2) Act 2020. These legal documents generally ordered all non-essential premises to close down.

In addition, powers were granted to the enforcement officers to issue fines, prohibit mass gatherings, ensure new norms are practiced, keep infected people in quarantine, ensure the curfew time is followed, and control individual's movement. Malaysia had introduced four categories of lockdowns, namely, the Movement Control Order (MCO), Extended Movement Control Order (EMCO), Conditional Movement Control Order (CMCO) and Recovery Movement Control Order (RMCO) (Prime Minister's Office of Malaysia Official Website, 2020).

These lockdowns meant to keep the balance between the importance of the citizens' health and trying to recover the country's economic state. There are differences in each type of lockdown, whereby some restrictions were lifted while some were getting stricter. Many more countries in the world took this step to slow down the spread of the COVID-19, such as Indonesia, Russia, Singapore, the United States, and others. In addition, there were various statutes passed by states to administer their citizens in this crucial time.

Those enacting laws have affected the world economy massively. The repercussions of the crisis are labor and capital remains unused, lack of demand for intermediate goods and services and adverse upstream effects into many other sectors. The most damaging impact is the economic devastation for employers and employees directly involved in the industry. The employers of the concerned private sectors had to downsize or shut down their business, while their employees had to face financial conflicts when their salaries were cut or terminated.

Besides that, industries like manufacturing, retailing, transportation and others are indirectly afflicted. Since the pandemic had prolonged for almost two years, every country's administration must face a tug-of-war between an individual's health and the economy's health. Even though human's health matters the most, many people are suffering financially, leading them to poverty and hunger. To some people, particularly the vulnerable ones, the impact of the economy is said to be even more devastating than the virus itself. Unemployment is estimated to remain high even after 2021, and highly affected groups are young people, women, low-paid workers, part-timers, temporary and self-employed (OECDiLibrary).

In such a situation, the world is far from reaching the pledge made under SDG 2. The COVID-19 had impacted the world economy severely, causing millions of people to lose of livelihood. There are not many households that able to continue their everyday life, let alone vulnerable children. Many people have lost their food supply due to the government's economic strike and quarantine orders (The World Bank).

Based on social aspects, there are several challenges to achieving the 'zero hunger' goal. First, the COVID-19 had created chaos in a few countries' internal or external affairs. Political agitations, riots, street demonstrations, and social-media pressures have caused the country's administration to become disrupted and lose focus in achieving SDG 2. Subsequently, the government seems to have other emerging issues that need to be resolved immediately instead of prioritizing the vulnerable whose welfare has neglected for a long time.

For example, the citizens of the Philippines have signed a few petitions calling for the resignation of President Rodrigo Duterte, demanding mass testing and disallowing him from gaining emergency power due to the COVID-19 crisis. The President has disregarded the citizens' rights because of his order to kill people, slow response to the COVID-19 crisis, tyranny and puppetry. Besides that, the conflict between the former President of the United States, Donald Trump, with the National Institute of Allergy and Infectious Diseases Director, Dr Anthony Stephen Fauci, confused the citizens as both often disagree on COVID-19 safety protocols. Trump's administration failed public health response as in his final year of presidency, more than 450,000 citizens died due to the virus.

In addition, life expectancy also hit the most significant decrease by 1.13 years since World War II. In addition, failure to respond to economic crises accordingly has also led the country to economic fallout (The Straits Times, 2021). Amid the pandemic, Joseph Robbinete Biden Jr. had replaced Trump after winning the presidential election in 2020 (European Parliament, 2020). Several leaders had stepped down from their administration position, such as Slovak Prime Minister Igor Matovic, after receiving heavy condemnation of his overall handling of the pandemic and decision to buy the Sputnik V Vaccine of Russia.

The Italian Prime Minister, Giuseppe Conte, also has left his position after the pandemic killed more than 85,000 citizens and causing economic worst downfalls in decades. Other than that, the Prime Minister of Mongolia, Khurelsukh Ukhnaa and his entire cabinet had resigned after citizens' protests against his government's COVID-19 control measures. In addition, many states' health ministers quite due to inadequate handling of the COVID-19 situation, namely Ecuador, Austria, Argentina, Peru, New Zealand, Brazil, Czech Republic and others.

Additionally, there were also episodes of blaming from several countries towards China. The pandemic was intensely politicized and even leading to the idea of dragging China to the International Court of Justice or International Criminal Court. China was alleged to have caused immense human and economic loss due to the COVID-10 outbreak (Abbas Poorhashemi, 2020). The allegations against China went further as several theories say that the virus is a form of biological weapon (Lyon et al., 2021).

It has led to conflicts between countries, feelings of insecurities, erratic tension and suspicion while the world is in a critical moment facing the rampant pandemic. The world is too desperate to find a solution to this problem and arguing about it, causing the objectives outlined in the 2030 sustainable development plan, including 'zero hunger', to be disregarded. The needs of the vulnerable groups are unable to be prioritized; nowadays, everyone becomes vulnerable due to the spread of this epidemic.

Furthermore, the pandemic had caused massive disruptions regarding humanitarian relief works, whether related or not to the COVID-19, as there were decreases in terms of economic and human capital. Firstly, humanitarian reliefs' works became harder to be carried out as the lockdown commands, travel restrictions and other new norms were announced (Weijun Yu & Keralis, 2020).

Many aid distributions centers have closed, leaving these vulnerable groups without a place to depend. The number of volunteers also had to be reduced in order to comply with the new procedures of COVID-19 regulations, which later affect the number of aid's distributions. It is especially after the spread of the virus is confirmed to be an airborne-transmitted virus (Trisha et al., 2021).

Airborne transmission means the spread of the contagious agent began with the dissemination of tiny respiratory droplets. People can get infected by cough, sneeze or talk. Because the virus will stay in the air for a long time, travel along air currents or inhaled by a



person. Therefore, quarantine is the most effective way to curb this epidemic's spread other than the wearing of face masks or social distancing.

The most disturbing impact is the budget-cutting and reallocation of funds from main humanitarian works to dealing with the pandemic. Also, the COVID-19 had overshadowed other crucial health needs as many humanitarian groups had to redirect the projects they conducted towards battling the COVID-19 (OXFAM, 2020).

For example, childhood vaccination programs and education-based projects were postponed to priorities COVID-19's relief works. It is estimated that since the pandemic era, there were 117 million children had missed their measles vaccinations (UNICEF, 2020). It is feared that excessive focus on the COVID-19 aid will cause the needs of other vulnerable groups to continue to be overlooked. The vulnerable people are the most fragile in their abilities to face any challenge, such as this pandemic.

Hence, help and support from the community are essential for their survival as most of them do not have incomplete or any basic needs such as food, shelter, clothes, medicine and many others. Therefore, society should give extra attention and care to vulnerable children as they are part of a generation that will determine the world's future.

#### **4 Conclusion**

'Zero Hunger' is a fundamental human right in human life at all times. Without proper implementation of this right, inevitably, other rights cannot be enjoyed as well. It is because; the goal is related to one's life and health. The right to life is guaranteed under several international legal documents such as the UDHR, the ICCPR, and as for children, it is put under the CRC. These documents even extend the survival right to good quality of life, opportunity to develop one's life and participate. The CRC had highlighted these rights which only practicable if the SDG 2 is fulfilled.

Therefore, the goal is featured as one of the objectives in the World Agenda that aim to be achieved by year 2030. The SDGs 2030 had specifically mentioned the vulnerable as the most important target group that need to focus on. Thus, the SDGs 2030 came up with the tagline, 'no one is left behind', to ensure their survival in real life. However, after the world is hit by the COVID-19 epidemic in December 2019 causing the progress in realizing the 'zero hunger' goal is decelerated.

There are few challenges in executing the goal from the economic, social and health aspects. From a financial standpoint, the challenges are the impact of the COVID-19 on the world's economy. Besides that, the travel bans, and lockdowns had caused many people to suffer from economic loss. Many people had lost their jobs or main income, causing the hunger and malnutrition statistics to upsurge extremely.

From a social viewpoint, the COVID 19 had caused various internal and external states conflicts' causing SDG 2's aim to stay out of focus. Instead of staying united in fighting the pandemic or fulfilling the pledge made by the world in 2015, many states were blaming each other. Furthermore, the challenge lies in cutting human capital and the budget of other humanitarian works, other than the COVID-19's relief act. As a result, many vulnerable children were abandoned worldwide and still in misery as the basic need of life such as food is insufficient.

Furthermore, from a health perspective, aids to the vulnerable children were also cut as the imposition of quarantine and lockdown orders announced by the state authority to control the

spread of the COVID-19. In conclusion, these challenges occurred due to the COVID-19 had affected the SDG 2030's achievement as a whole, including the SDG 2. Nevertheless, every state must hold tight to the SDG 2's objectives as it is crucial for vulnerable children's survivals. Food assistance and humanitarian relief must be provided to them by all means. Other than that, prompt measures to ensure food supply chains also need to be maintained as the pandemic has caused a massive impact on food and agricultural production.

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