

ID number: 510

Summary:

More and more these days, the synergy of food and energy crises is creating a massif between achieving the world's vital goals. Considering the fact that climatic conditions have been in their most erratic state in recent times, the lands have predictably gone less fertile, the governments less responsive, an escalating world population, the market duet of supply and demand not ringing in near close harmonization, a marked increase in prices has always been coming. Governments? New policies? Farmers? NGOs? Where is help coming from?

Essay:

When food and energy crises do undeniably become the bane of most blustering economies, the desire to tackle the obstacle would finally have been born. Necessity would not develop into invention, then need will. While developing countries are irrepressibly facing a population threatening facet of these crises and the world at large parading in a carousel, it is only a matter of time before we all cut the same chunk to plates.

Leaders especially in developing countries should be attuned to the suffering masses. Poverty-ravaged societies can only become more impoverished with rotten leadership and as such a mechanism has to be in place where trusted people would in fact be the ones running for positions, not people without track records. Governments at the local level should be more oriented towards agriculture and adopt a 'plant-more get more-seeds' policy to entice farmers bearing in mind that the majority of these farmers live in the rural areas. If we are to get anywhere near solving these problems, then the rural areas are where the attention largely needs to be directed. Flexibilities on loans taken by farmers should be more embraced by following a 'the higher the loan the lower the interest rate' approach. Peasants taking bigger loans should buy seeds and fertilizers at more subsidized rates than peasants taking smaller loans, though there should be a

uniform level provision of seeds, fertilizers and other infrastructural support for all farmers.

In a tangent off balancing the push and pull of demand and supply, some communities do either or both of two things during the 'flourishing' season, when supply is at its peak but demand is way down the ladder; an utter waste of the excess in supply and a drop in prices of the available products. While frolicking on the present supply, stock some supplies to equate with demand in the rainy days. Again, it is the obligation of the government to mop the market of the excess in supply and stash it for days ahead. If she fails, the smaller communities can request for assistance from the Non-Governmental Organizations who should be glad respond. After all, a onetime help of raising structures for stocking supply would be better off than continually sending supplies. The more underdeveloped of the developing countries do have farmers who just follow the most basic of planting laws. This is not unconnected with their level of literacy. Efforts should be geared to teaching farmers better and well ahead ways of farming. It should be done through means that are readily accessible and trustworthy to the farmers as they may be biased towards 'this so called better way of farming'. Another solution for small communities is to follow the collective farming model in Cuba in which farmers aggregate their small farms where everybody pitches in.

That brings up the role of Non-Governmental Organizations, which revolves round providing industrial, scientific and technological support and also making sure that the government does initiate and adopt strategies to help abate the problem. Poverty and hunger has long been heavily linked to the mounting figure of immigrants to the developed nations of the world, thus to direct more energy on the developing nations is not to de-emphasize the problem in other nations but to tackle the crunchier roots. It is paramount that these organizations show and keep a friendly figure to the peasants by being a medium between the people and the government. Communication between them should be like a fine thread without crests. Increased fiscal aid is needed now more than ever to combat the current challenges as opposed to the declining financial aids received in developing countries. To make this a working model, effort should be put into verifying that the correct quantity and quality gets into the right hands at the appropriate time. This is to underline that one of the evils that hunger and poverty has generated is heavy corruption.

While some countries are already turning into biofuels to support energy needs, it's quite pitiful that just what ought to be the solution to one of the siamese problem is suffocating the other. The demand for the grain products that produce biofuels in Europe has led to a hike in prices of the products and will soon affect other food products. Biofuels adds more to the depletion of the ozone layer as they shell out more greenhouse emissions. For developing countries that cannot still harness present energy sources efficiently, lunging into biofuels will further offset the successes made in agriculture in view of erosion and deforestation that would accompany poor land management. In utilizing the renewable energy sources of wind, tide and sun, deserts and dams should become the production centres for these renewable sources on a large scale. Wind mills constructed there will take off the demands and add to the supplies of the nation. Technological improvements should be made particularly in sub-saharan Africa where the sun is overhead for most of the year. Talk about turning roof sheets into a solar panel, store energy and use. There is a vast abundance of sun energy, land and water in which employing their aggregate resources would take a large chunk off the energy crisis.

If oil production remains constant, there is enough to last 42 years. That figure is 61 years for natural gas and 133 years for coal. Oil and gas wells produce less as they become depleted which is just one reason production will not stay constant. So it turns out that Thermal Depolymerization is a life saving option. TDP employs steam under pressure to crack organic chemical in the presence of oxygen. A closed process without any harmful wastes. In 2000 a small scale plant was built in Philadelphia and used to test the whole range of feedstock. In 2003 a full scale plant was started up in Carthage, Missouri and is now running at full capacity. Both lending credence to the fact that TDP will just be the way out.