

# INOMUN 2018

## RESEARCH REPORT



**COMMITTEE** : Food and Agriculture Organization of the United Nations

**CHAIRS**: Nour and Dami

### **ISSUE :**

**How to feed the growing population in megacities (due to South- South migration) and reduce poverty and inequalities?**

*The **Food and Agriculture Organization of the United Nations (FAO)**; French: Organisation des Nations unies pour l'alimentation et l'agriculture) is a specialised agency of the United Nations that leads international efforts to defeat hunger. Serving both developed and developing countries, FAO acts as a neutral forum where all nations meet as equals to negotiate agreements and debate policy.*

Achieving food security for all is at the heart of FAO's efforts - to make sure people have regular access to enough high-quality food to lead active healthy lives.

## **FAO's three main goal are:**

- ◆ **The eradication of hunger, food insecurity and malnutrition**
- ◆ **The elimination of poverty and the driving forward of economic and social progress for all**
- ◆ **The sustainable management and utilisation of natural resources including land, water, air, climate and genetic resources for the benefit of present and future generations.**

## **1. Globalisation and megacities + FAO and megacities .**

Globalisation is the increasing interaction of people, states, or countries through the growth of the international flow of money, ideas, culture, goods, services, and the economic resources of capital, technology, and data. Globalisation in recent times, has led to the rapid increase of the growth of cities and making them megacities which are cities with over 10 million habitants usually located in LEDCs. Our interest is to find out why globalisation has led to the rapid growth in megacities, what the food related consequences are and how the FAO can solve them. The share of the world living in urbanised areas increased from 40.9 percent in 1985 to more than 50 percent today. In the developing world, Urbanisation has often taken the form of exploding populations in megacities for example, Mumbai's population increased from 10.8 million in 1985 to 19 million in 2007. New technologies and the benefits of globalisation attract people to big cities, and increases the rate of development in these cities

## • **FACTS :**

In 2015, there were **244 million international migrants**, 40% more than in 2000.

People who move within national borders were estimated **at 763 million** in 2013, meaning that there are more internal migrants than international migrants.

A large share of migrants come from rural areas where **more than 75%** of the world's poor and food insecure depend on agriculture and natural resource-based livelihoods.

But this does not erase the fact that they stay undernourished which means that the dietary energy consumption is less than a predetermined threshold. This threshold is country specific and is measured in terms of the number of kilocalories required to conduct sedentary or light activities. The FAO has worked very hard to reduce this undernourishment caused by food insecurity

**65.3 million people** around the world were forcibly displaced by conflict and persecution, including over 21 million refugees, 3 million asylum-seekers and over 40 million IDPs.

**Globalisation** is a result of a tidal wave of many different evolutions carried by many social and economic dynamics that are now defined in terms of globalising tendencies: international migration is no exception to this. What exactly has globalisation done to migration? Well for starters, it has triggered greater mobility, and there are qualitative changes in migration dynamics brought forward by the diversity of regions and people now involved in the process of migration.

In the twenty first century, international migration affects the lives of more people than ever. With more than 160 million people estimated to be living outside their country of birth, almost no country is spared by international migration or is immune to its effects. With poverty, political repression, human rights abuses, and conflict pushing into more and more people out of their home countries while economic opportunities, political freedom, physical safety, and security pull both highly skilled and unskilled workers into new lands, it is believed that the pace of international migration is unlikely to slow in future. Migration of people to countries has occurred all through history and it is by no means a new phenomenon. What is new is the changing nature and forms of migration.

In this globalised world, SSM, also known as South-South migration, the migration between developing countries, is increasing drastically. Indeed, accounting for about 36% of the total number of migrants, South-South migration is an increasingly significant factor in the economic and social development of many developing countries. SSM is more irregular and undocumented, thus the estimations of flows are likely far lower than the reality.

The relatively free mobility of the Global South also means that SSM tends to be described as “irregular” migration, which makes migrants more difficult to track, quantify, and protect.

## 2.FAO and migration

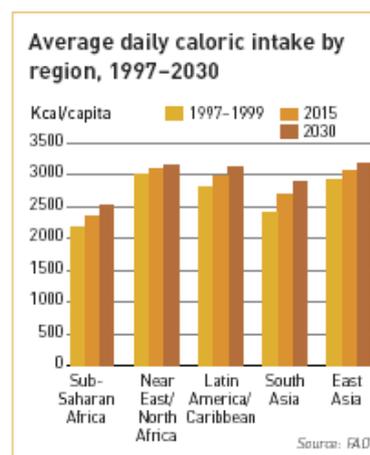
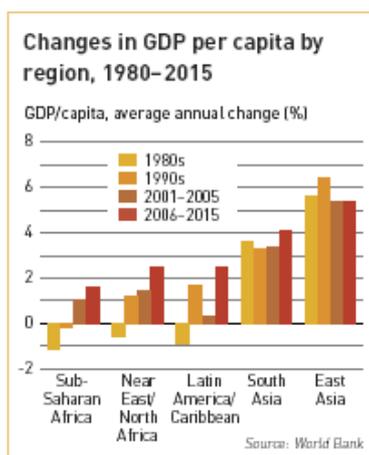
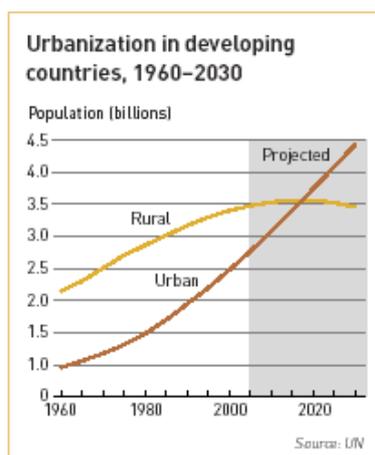
Safe, orderly and regular migration contributes to sustainable development, economic growth and food security. However, large movements of people represent complex challenges. Areas of origin, transit and neighbouring countries are disproportionately affected. The drivers and impacts of migration are intimately linked to FAO's global goals of fighting hunger and achieving food security, reducing rural poverty and promoting the sustainable use of natural resources. FAO has a unique role to play. Indeed, it has considerable experience in addressing migration in both developmental contexts and protracted crises. **FAO is contributing to international efforts to address the migration challenge and to the global call for action on migration in protracted crises.** Agricultural and rural development can contribute to address the root causes of migration and build the resilience of both displaced and host communities, laying the ground for long-term recovery. FAO is committed to working with its partners to:

- Generate evidence on international and internal migration (e.g conduct assessments in migration-prone areas to identify opportunities in agro-related activities) in order to facilitate policy dialogue directed to improve understanding of rural migration (e.g build innovative cooperation models with local communities and authorities, including migrants.) In addition to that, evidence of the benefits of migrants and refugees for their host communities and countries of origin.
- Support institutional capacities to deal with large movements of refugees and migrants from an agriculture and rural point of view. Ensure that the needs of rural populations, displaced people and host communities are specifically addressed. FAO can provide direct livelihood support, for instance cash transfers, technical assistance in agriculture and nutrition-sensitive interventions. The Organization may also facilitate non-discriminatory access to aid, food and water, through small essential infrastructure rehabilitation (including through cash-for-work programs).

For example, in Kazakhstan, the world's ninth largest country, between 2 and 2.5 million families earn a living from the dairy sector, livestock are an important part of people's livelihoods and food security. The dairy industry in Kazakhstan faces many challenges, the country does not have enough milk collection centres to serve the large number of milk producers or meet the demand of milk processors, and the route from farms to dairy processing plants can span hundreds of kilometres, leading to high transport costs and risk of spoilage. Applying the power of technology for creative solutions, FAO has designed and adapted to the dairy context a mobile app, Collect Mobile, which helps milk processors geo-locate current and potential raw milk suppliers, most of whom are smallholder or family farmers. This connection helps to improve their production and therefore their livelihoods. Inclusive and efficient food systems create better livelihoods and ultimately help to end hunger.

- Disseminate the lessons learned and the best practices found for scaling up innovative solutions. For that to be achieved, FAO promotes the utilization of available knowledge, technology and good practices in agriculture and rural development; offers decent rural employment opportunities and decent work conditions.

The phenomenon of globalisation is having a major impact on food systems around the world. Food systems are changing, resulting in greater availability and diversity of food, although access to this food is by no means universal. Many of these changes are closely associated with urbanisation. Competition for a market share of food purchases tends to intensify with entry into the system of powerful new players such as large multinational fast food and supermarket chains. These changes in food systems affect availability and access to food through changes to the food production, procurement and distribution systems and the food trade environment. In turn this is bringing about a gradual shift in food culture (towards a more universal one), with consequent changes in dietary consumption patterns and nutritional status that vary with the socio-economic strata. Indeed, the lower socio-economic population groups drift towards poor-quality, energy-dense but cheap and affordable foods.



This trend is explained by the unprecedented levels of urbanisation in developing countries, they are likely to struggle to adapt their food production systems to meet the demand and needs of people living in urban areas, while adverse climate conditions and natural disasters exacerbate the problems of the production and availability of food. Developing countries are also severely affected by the volatility in global food prices and this could eventually lead to food insecurity.

There is more than enough food produced in the world to feed everyone, yet 815 million people go hungry. As reflected in Sustainable Development Goal 2 (SDG 2), one of the greatest challenges the world faces is how to ensure that a growing global population - projected to rise to around 10 billion by 2050 – has enough food to meet their nutritional needs. To feed another two billion people in 2050, food production will need to increase by 50 percent globally. Food security is a complex condition requiring a holistic approach to all forms of malnutrition, the productivity and incomes of small-scale food producers, resilience of food production systems and the sustainable use of biodiversity and genetic resources. The FAO's definition of food security is “a situation that exists when all people, at all times, have physical, social and economic access to sufficient, safe and nutritious food that meets their dietary needs and food preferences for an active and healthy life.”. Urbanisation constitutes a challenge to food availability in terms of evolving consumption patterns and food production and supply processes. Rapid urban growth and an increasing number of megacities imply that more food will have to be available to people who live in an environment that has traditionally been perceived as inappropriate for agriculture. Almost all urban dwellers are net buyers of food, which is also, more surprisingly, the case for small-scale farmers; land-poor households are often the poorest of the poor because they do not produce enough to feed their families and are unable to sustain their livelihoods. The rural–urban migration trends, which are the key contributors to urbanisation, result in changing lifestyles including evolving nutritional habits and food supply strategies. However, continuing urban sprawl often makes it difficult to set clear boundaries between urban and rural areas. At the same time, land—including in urban peripheries and adjacent rural zones—is becoming more expensive and farmers often sell land for non-agricultural uses, which leads to further urban expansion. As cities continue to grow due to migration, water—a key resource for agricultural production—is becoming scarcer and often wasted because of excessive domestic and industrial use, thereby endangering food supplies.

## **Food access.**

When it comes to the physical access to food, better infrastructure means that urbanisation is likely to have a positive impact on food security. In highly developed countries, physical food access is generally not a concern. Individuals who are unable to access grocery shops may have the possibility of home delivery. This facilitates food access for the sick and disabled. In developing countries, on the other hand, access to food due to inadequate infrastructure can be a major problem. In many African countries, subsistence farming is predominantly for a wide range of reasons including the absence of tenure rights, inadequate infrastructure and lack of funds for commercial agriculture. Urbanisation is generally likely to contribute to overall economic development and improve physical access to a variety of foods. In addition to physical food access, financial access plays an important role in ensuring food security. In this respect, residents of urban and peri-urban areas tend to be more disadvantaged than their rural counterparts because most often they have to purchase their food, which makes them dependent on food markets and thus more vulnerable to potential price spikes. Research has shown that urban dwellers are likely to buy more than 90% of their food and therefore food prices are a major determinant of whether foodstuffs can be acquired. Although urban agriculture can supplement the diet of urban residents, in many cases such an option is not available to the poorest urban communities. Often, the urban poor engage in informal exchange of services and commodities in return for food, which is likely to be of low quality.

## **Food utilisation.**

Urban growth can have an important impact on food utilisation. Because urban residents as largely net buyers of food are particularly vulnerable to volatile food prices, they are often forced to reduce other expenditure in order to meet their basic food requirements. In the context of developing countries, poor urban dwellers are thus at risk of consuming insufficient and low-quality food, including street food, which may be unhygienic, exposing them to health risks. The informal food sector can contribute to food insecurity because of the low quality of the food sold and lack of hygiene during food preparation and sale, as a result, similar to amongst the rural poor, many city dwellers incur infections, and are at risk of life-threatening diseases. Recognising the importance of sanitation for food security outcomes, FAO included the percentage of population with access to sanitation facilities as an official indicator of food security.

A crucial aspect of food consumption in both developing and developed countries pertains to the quality of food, which is linked to the food supply system. Amongst the consequences of rapid urbanisation, there has been a shift in production patterns of food. It has been shown that urbanisation is highly correlated with access to processed foodstuffs, which have higher sugar levels. In addition to sugar and artificial sweeteners, processed food tends to contain artificial colouring agents, hydrogenated fats, preservatives and chemical pesticides. In the contemporary world, processed food is often the most accessible type of food, both in terms of physical proximity as well as price.

The urban poor also tend to consume high-energy processed food due to its affordability and accessibility. Although the obesity epidemic was traditionally considered to be a health concern of developed countries, today the overall burden of obesity and chronic diseases is greater in developing countries.

## **Food Stability.**

Finally, stability of food supplies can constitute a serious concern for urban residents. Whereas in developed countries cities are likely to be well organised and thus disaster preparedness is generally high, in the developing world the urban poor are at risk of food insecurity caused by extreme weather events, natural hazards and disasters.

Temporary difficulties with access to food can be the results of disastrous events including war, or may be linked to other unforeseen occurrences. The case of Burkina Faso is a pertinent example of the challenges related to food stability. Over the last decade, Burkina Faso has suffered from major food shortages, which have affected household food security and hampered the country's socio-economic development. Most recently, in 2012, the Sahel food and nutrition crisis contributed to the urbanisation of poverty in the region in at least two ways. First, large urban populations' access to food was reduced due to food shortages and high food prices. Second, the crisis triggered population movements because many households—mainly in rural areas—were unable to sustain their livelihoods and so migrated to cities in search of alternative income. Because of the economic and environmental vulnerability of the region, out-migration (south-south) has become an important adaptation strategy amongst farmer communities, thus further contributing to a largely uncontrolled urban sprawl.

## **3. Reasons for South south south migration; Famine and Oppression.**

### **Famine:**

A famine is a widespread scarcity of food, caused by several factors including war, inflation, crop failure, population imbalance, or government policies.

This phenomenon is usually accompanied or followed by regional malnutrition, starvation, epidemic, and increased mortality.

Every inhabited continent in the world has experienced a period of famine throughout history. In the 19th and 20th centuries, it was generally Eastern Europe and Asia that suffered the most from famine.

The numbers dying from famine began to fall sharply from the 1970s thanks to an intensification of the food production in many LEDCs (see Green Revolution).

Some countries, particularly in sub-Saharan Africa, continue to have extreme cases of famine. Since 2010, Africa has been the most affected continent in the world.

As of 2017, the United Nations has warned some 20 million are at risk in South Sudan, Somalia, Nigeria and Yemen. Agricultural conditions have been fluctuating more and more due to variations in weather, and the distribution of food has been affected by conflict.

Most programmes now direct their aid towards West and Central Africa.

The word famine is a term that is not used lightly by humanitarian organizations. **The United Nations describes a crisis as a famine only when the following conditions are met:**

- Malnutrition rates exceed 30 percent
- More than two people per 10,000 people are dying each day
- Severe lack of food access for large population

In addition to an increase in the proportion of the world's population that suffers from chronic hunger (prevalence of undernourishment), the number of undernourished people on the planet has also increased to 815 million, up from 777 million in 2015.

This sobering news comes in a year in which famine struck in parts of South Sudan for several months in 2017 and food insecurity situations at risk of turning into famines were identified in other conflict-affected countries, namely Nigeria, Somalia and Yemen

# Fighting Famine.

## SOUTH SUDAN



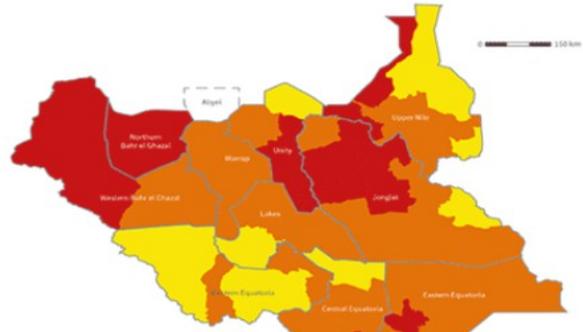
**USD 70 million**  
(USD 35.5 million received to-date)



**6.0 million** people in IPC Phases 3,4 and 5



**>80%** of people depend on agriculture



IPC phase classification

■ Famine      ■ Crisis      ■ Minimal  
■ Emergency      ■ Stressed      ■ Insufficient data

### FAO PRIORITIES



Emergency livelihood support



Increase seed production

## YEMEN



**USD 48.4 million**  
(22.6 million received to date)



**17 million** people in IPC Phases 3 and 4



**85%** of agricultural households require emergency inputs



## NIGERIA



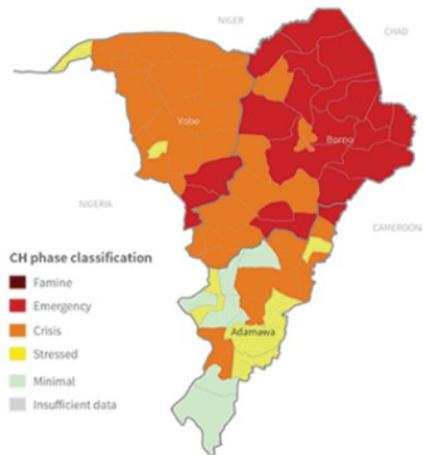
**USD 62 million**  
(USD 20.6 million received to-date)



**5.2 million** people in CH Phases 3, 4 and 5 in three states of Adamawa, Borno and Yobe



**>80%** of people depend on agriculture



CH phase classification

■ Famine      ■ Emergency      ■ Minimal  
■ Crisis      ■ Stressed      ■ Insufficient data

### FAO PRIORITIES



2017 main season



Alternative livelihoods support (year-round)

## SOMALIA



**USD 185 million**  
(USD 138 million received to-date)



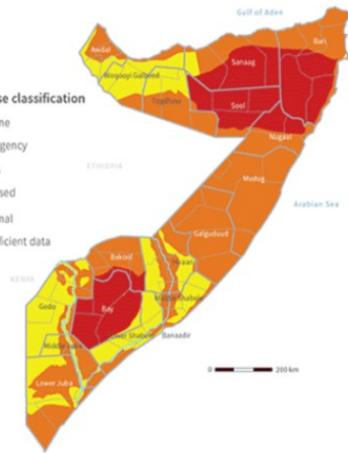
**3.1 million** people in IPC Phases 3 and 4



**>74%** of people in IPC Phase 4 are in rural areas

### IPC phase classification

- Famine
- Emergency
- Crisis
- Stressed
- Minimal
- Insufficient data



### FAO PRIORITIES



Cash

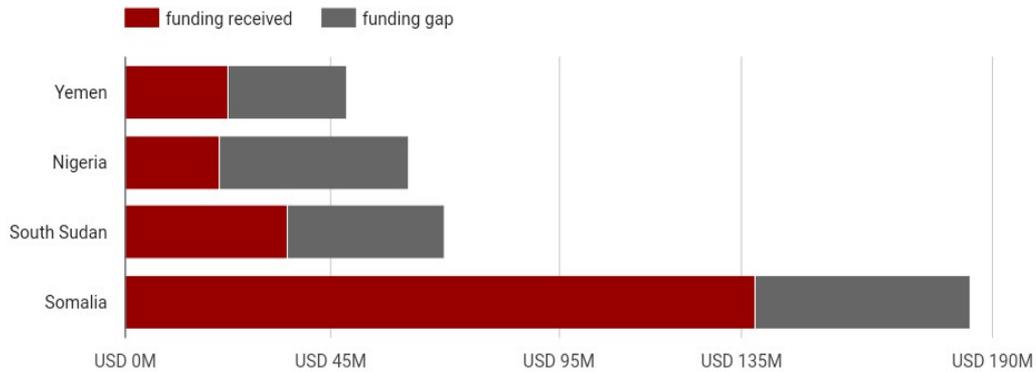


Livelihood support and cash



Emergency livestock support

## FUNDING



in million USD

## Case Study: Somalia

### UN: Militants Forcing Somali Migration Along With Famine

Drought and famine are forcing tens of thousands of Somalis to abandon their homes and seek assistance in the capital, Mogadishu, or neighboring countries. The U.N. World Food Program and other agencies say, however, the ongoing conflict in Somalia and actions by the militant group al-Shabab also are to blame for the growing migration. Aid workers at the Hagadera reception center in Kenya say the number of refugees has increased dramatically since June. Alex Sekai is an emergency response officer.

*"We used to receive like 300 to 400, but now it's beyond 1,200, 1,300. The number is shooting [up] every day and we are expecting more," he said.*

The lack of food and water in many parts of Somalia is certainly the main reason so many Somalis are fleeing their homes. But Vincent Cochetel, the regional director for the United Nations refugee agency, said fighting and oppression also are causing people to head for the camps.

## **Current Famine:**

Almost half of Somalia's population, 3.7 million people, are affected by the current crisis with malnutrition rates in southern Somalia the highest in the world, surpassing 50 per cent in some areas. The United Nations says it is likely that tens of thousands have already have died, the majority of those being children. The drought that has led to the current famine in parts of Somalia has also affected people in Kenya and Ethiopia.

## **Previous Famines in the Horn of Africa:**

- Somalia 1991-1992
- Ethiopia 1984-1985
- Ethiopia 1974

**By means of conclusion, we can say that FAO harnesses the positive contribution of migrants as well as strengthens their resilience. The Organization advises capacity development to provide for social protection and agricultural market interventions. This changes labor dynamics on migrant receiving areas.**

## KEY TERMS:

- **Megacities:**

A very large city, typically one with a population of over ten million people.

- **South-South migration:**

Migration between developing countries, also known as SSM. Ignoring SSM is ignoring nearly half of the big picture of global migration. Although statistics vary, out of the total stock of international migrants, those going from South to South tend to outnumber those going from North to South and North to North and to be fairly equal to South to North flows. SSM is more irregular and undocumented. The relatively free mobility of the Global South also means that SSM tends to be less documented, and is often described as “irregular” migration. Irregular migration flows make migrants more difficult to track, quantify, and protect. Lack of documentation means that estimations of SSM flows are likely far lower than the reality.

- **Population Growth:**

An increase in the amount of people that reside in a country state, county or city. To decide the population growth,  $(\text{death rate} + \text{emigration}) - (\text{birth rate} + \text{immigration})$

- **Famine:**

A **famine** is a widespread scarcity of food, caused by several factors including war, inflation, crop failure, population imbalance, or government policies.

## EXAMPLES OF INITIATIVES TAKEN BY THE FAO:

→ FAO has contributed to the Global Migration Group (GMG)’s ‘Handbook for improving the production and use of migration data for development, with a special focus on remittances and rural development and rural labour markets and migration.

→ In Tunisia and Ethiopia, FAO is working with governments and rural stakeholders to implement a two-year project on ‘Youth mobility, food security and rural poverty reduction’. The project aims to generate knowledge and increase awareness of the causes and consequences of rural youth migration for the areas of origin.

→ FAO is joining global efforts to support Member States in natural resource management, for example by contributing to the SAFE (Secure Access to Fuel and Energy) partnership.

→ In Algeria, Chad and Zambia in collaboration with the Ministry of Agriculture, FAO is developing a national mechanization strategy.

→ In Darfur(Sudan), FAO has provided 9 000 vulnerable resident households with direct agricultural support and has reactivated 64 Village Agricultural Committees. The project contributed to greater self-sufficiency in food production and provided the beneficiaries with the skills and knowledge to maximize the potential of their resources and explore alternative income-generating opportunities.

→ FAO is also partnering to enhance agricultural, life and entrepreneurial skills of young people. For example, the Junior Farmer Field and Life Schools (JFFLS) methodology to date has been used in over 20 countries in Africa, Asia and the Middle East, benefiting over 35 000 young women and men.

## **SOURCES:**

[https://www.allianz.com/en/about\\_us/open-knowledge/topics/demography/articles/150316-top-20-megacities-by-population.html/#!m4432cfoe-cb70-4ff1-bcoe-5e5c2797e856](https://www.allianz.com/en/about_us/open-knowledge/topics/demography/articles/150316-top-20-megacities-by-population.html/#!m4432cfoe-cb70-4ff1-bcoe-5e5c2797e856)

<http://www.fao.org/3/a-y5736e.pdf>

<http://www.fao.org/emergencies/crisis/fightingfamine/en/>

<https://ourworldindata.org/hunger-and-undernourishment>

<http://www.fao.org/in-action/modern-technology-improves-traditional-livelihoods-kazakhstan/en/>