

# ACTION AGAINST HUNGER'S CAMPAIGN CHEAT SHEET

## Why tackling the global hunger crisis must be top of the next UK government's to-do list

### HUNGER AT A GLANCE

- Around **735 million people** suffer from hunger globally
- 345 million of these suffer from acute food insecurity, meaning their lack of food directly threatens their lives and/or livelihood
- Malnutrition is responsible for more ill health than any other cause. In fact, undernutrition explains about **45 per cent of deaths among children under five**
- Conflict is the number one driver of hunger, impacting 158 million people worldwide. Violence in Gaza, Sudan and the Democratic Republic of the Congo (DRC) threaten to create even more into conflict-induced hunger in 2024
- Climate change is also driving increases in global hunger, as natural disasters and changing temperatures destroy crops, disrupt supply chains and displace people
- Hunger has **long-lasting impacts**, negatively affecting people's **health, wealth and wellbeing** for years to come.

### OUR ASKS FOR THE NEXT UK GOVERNMENT

#### 1. Respond to humanitarian crises and invest in nutrition

- Step up to the plate to boost the global response to humanitarian crises, as well as investment in crisis prevention. Less than 10% of the funding required to meet global humanitarian needs has been donated so far in 2024. Helping to address this means ending the use of UK ODA to pay for supporting refugees in the UK
- The UK must increase aid for nutrition. It should look to urgently invest the £1bn commitment made following the 2021 Nutrition for Growth Summit, including by providing an additional £70 million each year to prevent and treat child wasting.

#### 2. Take action to break the cycle between hunger and conflict

- Transpose into UK Law the Rome Statute amendment that makes it illegal to starve civilians in non-international armed conflict
- Ensure that the systems are in place so that decisions are coherent across government and that trade and arms policy are coherent with a foreign policy commitment to uphold humanitarian law.

#### 3. Show leadership on the climate crisis

- The UK should be a pioneer in driving action to curb global emissions now, not in twenty years, if we want to prevent temperatures rising to a level that could cause widespread catastrophe
- Support the "polluter pays" principle and back initiatives to impose a fee on fossil fuels extracted, contributing at least 75% of this to the UN Loss and Damage Fund, to help the poorest countries cope with the impact of rising temperatures.



## WHAT CAN I DO?

The UK General Election is happening. Now is the time to ask candidates in your area – or the party you support – what they are doing to show they share your commitment to tackling the global hunger crisis. There are many ways to do this, including:

- Attend a hustings meeting
- Speak to candidates and canvassers
- Write to your candidates and / or their teams

**Go to a hustings meeting:** Candidates will likely take part in public debates with other candidates in your area. These are called hustings. They usually take place in a local community building and are open for anyone to attend. Hustings are often advertised in local newspapers and in online community groups. They are a great opportunity for candidates of all parties to hear your views.

Humanitarian crises around the world rarely rate highly among issues that affect voters' decisions at elections. So, if you can ask a question to the candidates at a local hustings, this will demonstrate to the candidates that this matters to the people who will elect them.

**Speak to campaigners:** Candidates and their campaigners might knock on your door or be out and about in your local area. This is a good time to ask questions so you can demonstrate that this is an important issue informing your voting choices. It's why they're getting out there – they want to tell you their plans, and they want to hear what's important to you.

**Write to your candidates:** Political parties and candidates might have teams working for them who you can contact to ask questions. You can email, call, or send a message on social media. A quick online search should give you the details of how to get in touch with candidates and their teams. You can find the details of most at [www.whocanivotefor.co.uk](http://www.whocanivotefor.co.uk). Action Against Hunger has also shared a message template with our supporters that you can use to contact candidates in your area.

## WHAT SHOULD I SAY?

Some ideas on what you could say are on the other side of this campaign sheet. The sooner you prepare, the better. Think about what you'll say, do and write when you get the opportunity.

Some questions you could ask are:

- Is tackling the global hunger crisis a priority for your party? If not, why?
- If elected to government, how will your party contribute to eradicating global hunger?
- As my future MP, how would you advocate on global hunger in parliament?
- Do you support using UK Official Development Assistance (ODA) for domestic refugee costs?
- How will you show leadership on turning the tide on the rising conflict and hunger crisis, if elected into government?
- Do you think the fossil fuel companies that have contributed the most to climate change should pay their fair share when dealing with its effects?



Finally, tell us how you get on! Get in touch with us by emailing:  
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