



Dear Kerim Calvelo Demirkol,

It was a pleasure to read your paper for the 2023 Virtual Youth Institute. We appreciate your extensive research on nutrition in the Philippines. Your thoughtful analysis of these important global issues places your paper in line with the legacy of Nobel Peace Prize Laureate Dr. Norman Borlaug, who spent his life working alongside poor farmers around the world to boost yields and fight hunger.

You did a really great job connecting obesity to issues of education and infrastructure in the Philippines. Acknowledging the connection between poor food quality and obesity, in addition to the fact that food insecurity is not an issue of material lack in rural or urban areas, demonstrated a great deal of understanding about the reasons food insecurity persists.

Suggestions for Improvement:

What follows are a few suggestions for how to improve your paper and a few questions that are intended to help you as you continue to think critically about the complexities of international agricultural development and feeding the world.

You could improve the paper by narrowing down the scope of your solutions in order to provide more details. While addressing nutritional challenges through education and food pantries would be great solutions, your solutions lacked details. What costs are associated with scaling up pre existing solutions, and what costs are associated with starting new programs? What organizations and stakeholders would need to be included in the implementation and operation of these programs? What geographically specific challenges would your solutions face? What cultural considerations need to be made when implementing these solutions in different communities?

Additionally, you suggest the corporatization of food pantries. This seems illogical considering the first section about existing food pantries, you mention that food is donated by organizations, and this food is often low quality nutritiously and is often ultra-processed. Why would you want to further create partnerships with organizations providing poor quality food



when the issue of lack of access to nutritious food is the issue being addressed?

You could strengthen your argument by making formatting changes. While you put research materials at the beginning, the information in these sections was not adequately used in the paper; sections like about the family are important not solely because they are on the rubric, but because they provide information about cultural values and norms in a country; this information is often useful in answer questions like: why are children and women often the most at risk for food insecurity? Additionally, large chunks of your paper was copied and pasted without proper citation; without attributing the words you use to a specific source with an in-text citation and quotation marks, these sections hurt the credibility of your argument. Additionally, by using words other than your own, you lose valuable opportunities to elaborate on ideas and to contextualize, analyze, and critique sources.

Citing Other Sources of Information:

This paper could be improved by properly citing your sources in the main body of the text. This would help the reader know which references you rely on for each of your facts and arguments, which would help convince a skeptical reader of the strength of your arguments. Whenever words other than your own are used, it is important to include an in-text citation and quotation marks.

49% of your paper consists of quotations or written text from another source. This represents a good mix of original writing, secondary quotes and referenced information.

In a research paper it is important to reference facts, quotes, data, and information from reliable primary and secondary sources. These references lend credibility to your argument and provide examples, comparisons and details that enrich your paper and make it more interesting to read. Be careful to not rely too heavily on other people's work, and remember to always be careful if you share an idea or concept that is someone else's (even if you explain it in your own words), that you properly credit the original source.

For more information on citations and referencing, check out the following resource:



[Purdue OWL Research and Citation](#)

Questions for Further Thought:

You argue municipal governments in the Philippines should take a major role in expanding access to nutritious food by bettering nutritional education for people through the Philippines. What are some barriers that would make it difficult for these governments to do this, and how can they be overcome? What role can ordinary citizens play in encouraging their government to play an active role in expanding access to nutritious food?

In Closing:

Please take the time to review these suggestions and think about the questions we've raised. Food insecurity is one of the many critical challenges we face in the world today, and we commend you on recognizing the importance of this issue. Keep up the great research.

Don't let your curiosity end here. You are a part of Dr. Borlaug's legacy and have a tremendous contribution to make in the fight against hunger. Keep asking tough questions, searching for solutions, and working to raise awareness and make a difference in your community.

- The World Food Prize Board of Reviewers