1. Can you define and give examples of international food aid, domestic food assistance, and community food sharing?
   1. When governments voluntarily transfer resources to enhance food security of recipients across national borders, we call that international food aid – example: USAID food aid to Syrian refugees.
   2. Governments can also transfer resources to enhance food security of their own citizens (or residents); this is called domestic food assistance. Example: SNAP food stamps in the US.
   3. Food sharing through social networks (communities) happens all around the world and for many different reasons. In many cases, it may only serve to build relationships (e.g. sharing cake with your neighbours) or to diversify diets (e.g. exchanges of different food between farmers) and as such thus not constitute food aid. But in other cases, sharing is also aimed at enhancing food security. Although systematic research is scarce, sharing-as-food-aid occurs in high- and low-income countries and appears to be particularly common in situations where other forms of food aid are not available or accessible, for example because governments do not provide well-targeted food aid, or where donors cannot reach those in need (e.g. in civil wars).
2. What are the risks of food aid provision in terms of the incentives of recipient societies?
   1. Theft; local food market distortions; aid dependency; reducing long term food security (e.g. by prolonging wars).
3. How can social/geographical distance between donors and recipients compromise the efficacy of food aid?
   1. Through principal-agent problems.
4. Do you think the three types of food aid could be combined to enhance food aid efficacy? Why (not)?
   1. This should be a discussion question and should include a good description of some strengths and weaknesses of different aid strategies.
5. Knowledge of local political-economic conditions and information about the behaviour of middlemen and the impacts of food aid are crucial to prevent negative impacts on recipient incentives. Domestic and informal forms of food aid are therefore less likely to negatively impact recipients. Can you explain this connection?
   1. The distance between donor and recipient is generally shorter in domestic and informal forms of food aid compared to international food aid; thus the principal-agent problems are (on average) less severe.