TABLE 4.—*Dietary deficiencies of diet-deficit regions not satisfied by projected consumption for 1962 and 1966*

[In thousands of metric tons]

Area	Animal protein in terms of nonfat dry milk		Pulse protein in terms of beans and peas		Other protein and calories in terms of wheat		Fat in terms of vegetable oil	
	1962	1966	1962	1966	1962	1966	1962	1966
Latin America	0	0	0	0	2,714	2,665	49	38
Africa	89	64	69	75	2,365	2,361	20	20
West Asia	0	0	0	0	1,283	1,297	48	15
Far East	714	698	81	90	20,285	19,735	1,568	1,299
Communist Asia	715	790	0	0	2,710	3,250	1,660	1,860
Total	1,518	1,552	150	165	29,357	29,308	3,345	3,232

Source: Appendix tables 2 and 3.

The shortage in animal protein in terms of nonfat dry milk is chiefly in the Far East and in Communist Asia, with some in Africa. In the case of pulse protein, the deficiencies are almost entirely in Africa and the Far East. In the case of other protein and calories in terms of wheat, the deficit is predominantly in the Far East with some in each of the other four diet-deficit regions. The shortages of fat in terms of vegetable oil are chiefly in the Far East and Communist Asia.

Why are the prospects for closing these nutritional gaps in the near future so disappointing? Some of the reasons and problems are suggested in the U.S. Department of Agriculture comments on the four items of shortages. The following are excerpts from the report on "The World Food Budget." [1]

Animal protein.—The reference standard for animal protein is 7 grams per day per person, or about 12 percent of the total protein. This is a minimum. Where a deficiency occurs it may be critical for it affects lower income persons and, most adversely, preschool children and pregnant and lactating mothers—the most in need of this food nutrient.

The deficiency ranges from about 1 grain in Nigeria, India, and Communist Asia to 3 grams in Indonesia and 4 grams in Liberia. Because of inadequate purchasing power of lower income groups and faulty distribution of foodstuffs within countries, deficits may be more serious than indicated by the foregoing figures.

World production of nonfat dry milk only slightly exceeds consumption. Canada, the United States, Australia, and New Zealand account for all excess production by region over domestic consumption.

If larger shipments from surplus to diet-deficit regions are to occur, production in surplus regions will have to be increased proportionally. Such an increase would probably be used primarily in expanding school lunch programs. Such programs do not reach the persons most in need of animal protein.

Countries with animal protein shortages would be exceedingly reluctant to establish and operate countrywide free food distribution programs. If the required animal protein is to be consumed by those most in need, purchasing power of consumers must be increased. This can come about only through further economic development. As such development occurs every attempt should be made to increase the efficiency of milk production and to expand the fisheries industry.

[1] Op. cit., pp. 24–27.