



breadfortheworld
HAVE FAITH. END HUNGER.

Feed the Future

Background

In 2016, Congress passed the Global Food Security Act (GFSA), which authorized a U.S. whole-of-government global food security strategy for two years, with overwhelming bipartisan support. GFSA builds on the success of Feed the Future, the U.S. government's whole-of-government program to reduce global hunger and malnutrition.

Feed the Future, launched in 2010, grew out of the U.S. response, led by President George W. Bush, to the 2007-2008 global food price crisis. Prices of basic foods doubled or tripled in some countries and pushed an additional 150 million people into hunger and malnutrition.

What has happened since GFSA was enacted?

The U.S. government, led by USAID, has strengthened interagency collaboration by developing a shared strategy. In 2017, the 11 U.S. agencies involved in Feed the Future launched the U.S. Government Global Food Security Strategy (GFSS), which will guide implementation of Feed the Future until 2021. Based on provisions in the GFSA, GFSS revised Feed the Future's main objectives to include agriculture-led economic growth, strengthened resilience, and



Joseph Mollen/Bread for the World

FEED THE FUTURE RESULTS FROM 2011-2016¹ IN 19 FOCUS COUNTRIES²



Nearly
\$2.6 BILLION
earned by Feed the Future farmers in new agricultural sales



Nearly
\$2.7 BILLION
unlocked in agricultural and rural loans to help smallholder farms and businesses grow



↓19%
Drop in poverty

↓26%
Drop in child stunting

Based on annual rates of reduction we have measured so far, we project that poverty has dropped an average of 19% and child stunting by 26% across target regions in Feed the Future's focus countries since the initiative began.

12 TARGET COUNTRIES FOR FEED THE FUTURE'S SECOND PHASE



a well-nourished population. The strategy identifies 12 target countries for Feed the Future's second phase.

Since GFSA was approved in 2016, the 11 U.S. government agencies have developed new ways of working together. In the Bureau of Food Security at USAID, there is now a formal nutrition division to support Feed the Future's efforts to improve nutritional impact. Under the U.S. Government Global Nutrition Coordination Plan, there is a GFSS working group to better enable coordination across the federal government in implementing both agricultural development and global nutrition programs.

Feed the Future has also released, with input from U.S. universities, a U.S. Global Food Security Research Strategy. It is updating its Monitoring, Evaluation, and Learning Approach to ensure the continued effectiveness of Feed the Future's work.

Why should Feed the Future continue?

Feed the Future has enabled significant progress against hunger, malnutrition, and poverty in its focus countries. But the current global context, with prolonged conflicts, a changing climate, and deepening inequalities, has stalled or even reversed progress in vulnerable areas around the world. In 2016 (the last year for which there is data), the number of people living with hunger increased from the previous year to 815 million people.

Even in the absence of armed conflict, agriculture is unpredictable, particularly as countries confront natural disasters and pests that disrupt agricultural growth. Yet, because agricultural growth is a primary pathway out of poverty, communities must have strong food systems that can withstand such shocks. Feed the Future supports countries in developing food systems that, from production to consumption, ensure that nutritious foods are available, accessible, affordable, and utilized, and contribute to overall economic growth.

Investments in improving food security and nutrition, such as those through Feed the Future, can also contribute to peace and security in vulnerable countries. Hunger is a contributing factor to conflict and cycles of crisis; a fed and well-nourished world is a more secure world.

Helping countries improve their food systems both supports their own economic growth and security and expands the U.S. network of potential trading partners.

What's next?

Call your members of Congress and urge them to:

- Reauthorize the Global Food Security Act.
- Fully fund global food security programs: Feed the Future, Nutrition in Global Health Programs, and Food for Peace.

Endnotes

¹ Feed the Future Snapshot: Progress through 2017. <https://feedthefuture.gov/sites/default/files/resource/files/2017%20Feed%20the%20Future%20Progress%20Snapshot.pdf>

² Bangladesh, Cambodia, Ethiopia, Ghana, Guatemala, Haiti, Honduras, Kenya, Liberia, Malawi, Mali, Mozambique, Nepal, Rwanda, Senegal, Tajikistan, Tanzania, Uganda, Zambia