
UNITED STATES OF AMERICA

REVERSE THE DECLINE IN INVESTMENT IN AGRICULTURE TO IMPROVE FOOD SECURITY

Since July 2009 the United States Government (USG) has made significant progress in implementing the Rome Principles. Feed the Future (FtF), the U.S. global hunger and food security initiative, is the contribution of the United States to the global, common approach to agriculture development and food security agreed at L'Aquila and later universally endorsed at the World Food Summit in Rome. This \$3.5 bn financial commitment pursues two paths: (1) addressing the root causes of hunger that limit the potential of millions of people; and (2) establishing a lasting foundation for change by aligning our resources with country-owned processes and sustained, multi-stakeholder partnerships. Through our leadership in this initiative, we advance global stability and prosperity by improving the most basic of human conditions – the need that families and individuals have for a reliable source of quality food and sufficient resources to access and purchase it.

While investing in agriculture development is long-term venture, we must maintain a strong focus on measuring results, impact and learning over time. The USG has developed a comprehensive Results Framework that outlines our overall goals, objectives, and intermediary results to be achieved through our food security investments, and we are using performance indicators to measure success for each component of the Results Framework, and as a way to track the outputs, outcomes and impact (where feasible) of all L'Aquila Pledge funds.

The USG is a strong supporter of the Global Agriculture and Food Security Program. We also are continuing to provide financial support to a broad range of multilateral agencies- though we do not count these contributions in our L'Aquila Pledge.

SUPPORT REGIONAL AND COUNTRY LED PROCESSES AND PLAN IN SUPPORT OF RESPONSIBLE AGRICULTURAL DEVELOPMENT

At the core of our FtF Strategy, is the Rome Principle of investing in comprehensive country-led food security and agriculture development plans, also known as country investment plans (CIPs). As countries have developed evidence-based plans that reflect wide stakeholder consultation, the USG has responded with pledges of aligning existing and future programs with the CIP. In addition to participating in 14 Technical Reviews and Business meetings, including sending high-level delegations from Washington DC, the USG is an active participant in Agriculture Sector Working groups in over 20 countries. The following are examples of the USG activities, drawing on the expertise of several US agencies, in select countries that broadly represent our global approach in supporting country-led efforts to address the root causes of hunger and poverty. More details about our country specific support can be found at feedthefuture.gov.

Bangladesh: The USG will focus on rice production, diversifying to higher-value and more nutritious crops, and increasing awareness about nutrition and healthy diets. Additionally, we will assist Bangladesh on improving the enabling environment for private sector growth and helping farmers and SMEs overcome barriers to entering markets and strengthening research capacity and agricultural extension services.

Ghana: Aligned with Ghana's CIP, USG support will focus on value chain development in rice, maize, soya and fisheries. Current USG efforts include farmer and enterprise training in commercial agriculture; improving land tenure security; and agriculture infrastructure, including irrigation development, post harvest storage and rehabilitating secondary/feeder roads.

Moldova: The USG will help increase agricultural incomes of rural Moldovans by stimulating the production and improved marketing of high-value agricultural products, including fruit and vegetables. The project includes plans to provide reliable water for agriculture by repairing up to 11 large irrigation systems servicing 15,500 hectares. Improving access to credit for agricultural projects and a technical assistance package will support related investments by farmers and entrepreneurs in the shift to higher value agriculture production, post-harvest processing, storage, and marketing. Additionally, the USG will finance repairs of a major highway in the northeast of the country.

Rwanda: Under the auspices of the Rwanda's CIP, USG programs will focus on reducing post-harvest loss which will allow household income from farming to increase. USG programs will assist Rwanda in improving productivity of maize and beans as well as increasing market access for the sale of these crops. The USG will also invest in feeder roads and co-fund hillside terracing with the GAFSP.

Senegal: In line with Senegal's CIP, the USG will support road rehabilitation in the northern and southern regions of the country, value chain development for the staple crops of rice, maize and millet. The USG will rehabilitate drainage systems, increase the security of land tenure, and develop up to 10,500 hectares of additional irrigated land in the Senegal River Valley.

Tanzania: Though Tanzania's CIP is still being finalized- the USG will be supporting these country-led efforts with significant investments in irrigation and rural roads. USG will assist Tanzania in increasing growth in the value-chains of rice, maize and horticulture in Zanzibar, Dodoma, Manyara and Morogoro. Current USG efforts include targeted investments in transportation, energy, and water.

Uganda: Based on Uganda's CIP, and a "division of labor" with development partners, the USG will program interventions that will assist Uganda in improving the value-chains of maize (for regional food security), beans (for nutrition), and coffee (for economic growth). The USG also has a strong nutrition component that is explicitly linked to agriculture activities.

**SUPPORT STRATEGIC COORDINATION OF FOOD SECURITY ASSISTANCE, INCLUDING TROUGH REFORM OF
THE INTERNATIONAL AGRICULTURE, FOOD SECURITY AND NUTRITION ARCHITECTURE**

The USG Mission accredited to the Rome-based U.N. food agencies continues to work with the respective leadership teams and permanent representatives to ensure that these agencies are meaningful partners in the country-led process. The U.S. Mission also bolstered the critical role of women in agricultural development, built support for public/private partnership, built support for increased focus on nutrition and helped shape a reformed Committee on World Food Security (CFS) – a key forum for driving consensus on sustainable global food and nutrition security. Additionally, the U.S. - as a Bureau member of the CFS- is participating in seven working groups and is chairing the working group on Voluntary Guidelines related to land tenure issues. The USG is playing a leadership role in promoting the connections between agricultural development and improved nutrition through our support for 1,000 Days. Finally, FtF has a strong research strategy that advances the productivity frontier, transforms production systems, and enhances food security and nutrition. Related to these efforts, the USG has recently taken on the role of co-chair, with Canada, of the steering committee for the Agricultural Pull Mechanism Initiative.