



FEED THE FUTURE PUBLIC-PRIVATE PARTNERSHIP TECHNICAL FORUM

White House Conference Center

February 22, 2012

1:00 pm – 4:30 pm

Purpose: To identify specific activities for partnership between the U.S. Government and the private sector in support of the goals of Feed the Future, in light of the need to double productivity to meet projected demands for food in 2050.

1:00 – 2:00 pm

Plenary Discussion

Introduction and Feed the Future Overview

Mr. Jonathan Shrier, Deputy Coordinator for Diplomacy, Feed the Future
Purpose of the Forum

Dr. Tom Kalil, Deputy Director for Policy, White House Office of Science and
Technology Policy

Feed the Future Research Strategy and Overview of Breakout Sessions

Dr. Catherine Woteki, Under Secretary for Research, Education and
Economics, USDA

Dr. William G. Leshner, Executive Director, Global Harvest Initiative

Keynote from Dr. Rajiv Shah, Administrator, USAID

2:00 – 4:00 pm

Concurrent Breakout Sessions

Each session will seek to 1) further refine the challenge area; 2) identify organizations' complementary activities and potential partnership areas; and 3) identify specific next steps for public-private partnerships, with a view toward what can be realistically implemented in the next year.

Session 1: Genomics/Crop and Animal Improvement

Discussion led by Dr. Ann Bartuska, Deputy Under Secretary for Research, Education, and Economics, USDA and Dr. Max Rothschild, Senior Advisor for International Agricultural Research, USAID

Session Purpose: This session will focus on coordination of newly developed sequencing technologies, bioinformatics, and genomic tools to significantly accelerate progress on breeding and genetic engineering research in crop and animal improvement and nutrition in Feed the Future countries.

Session Deliverable: Identify specific partnership opportunities related to trait evaluation, cataloging genomic information, and/or the creation of platforms for data sharing in genomics or other areas of new technology research to address climate change, nutrition, and disease resistance.

Session 2: Seed Technology

Discussion led by Mr. William Craft, Deputy Assistant Secretary, Bureau of Economic and Business Affairs, Department of State and Dr. Michael Schechtman, Biotechnology Coordinator, USDA

Session 2: Seed Technology (con't)

Session Purpose: The U.S. Government views hybrid and genetically engineered seeds as important tools for addressing current and future global food security challenges, but also recognizes that countries have the option to choose which technologies to adopt. Science-based information about seeds and seed systems is in some cases lacking, undermining a country's ability to make evidence-based decisions. This session will focus on how to provide such information and support local evaluation capacity for decision-makers in Feed the Future countries, especially in Africa.

Session Deliverable: Identify appropriate mechanisms to support information sharing, local evaluation capacity, and distribution for new seed technologies.

Session 3: Extension

Discussion led by Dr. Julie Howard, Chief Scientist, Bureau of Food Security, USAID and Dr. Hiram Larew, Director, Center for International Programs, National Institute of Food and Agriculture, USDA

Session Purpose: A critical impediment to introducing new technologies (seed varieties, equipment, infrastructure, management practices, inputs) is the lack of extension services to guide the farmers and producers. This session will focus on extension in the digital information age to develop "win-win" partnership models for researchers, farmers, governments, and the private sector.

Session Deliverable: Identify partnership opportunities that expand traditional systems and/or employ the use of electronic information services, knowledge platforms, text messages, and/or an electronic information "highway" system to close the information and knowledge gap for the evaluation and use of new technologies.

Session 4: Agricultural Finance and Risk Management

Discussion led by Ms. Margaret Enis, Director, Office of Markets, Partnerships and Innovation; Mr. Jeffrey Levine, Private Enterprise Officer, Bureau for Food Security; and Ms. Dana Richey, Lead - Public-Private Partnerships, Office of Capacity Building and Development, Foreign Agricultural Service, USDA

Session Purpose: Improving access to agricultural technologies requires access to financial services along with tools to manage investment risks. This session will focus on how to bring existing efforts to scale and continue to pioneer innovations in Feed the Future countries.

Session Deliverable: Identify specific partnership opportunities in agricultural finance and risk management that are scalable, sustainable, and provide lessons learned in Feed the Future countries.

4:00 – 4:30 pm

Closing Plenary

Two-minute summaries of agreed next steps from each breakout session

Closing Remarks and Summary of Next Steps

Ms. Tjada McKenna, Deputy Coordinator for Development, Feed the Future
Dr. William G. Leshner, Executive Director, Global Harvest Initiative