

# U.S. GOVERNMENT GLOBAL FOOD SECURITY STRATEGY FY 2017-2021

## Executive Summary

The U.S. Government's Global Food Security Strategy presents an integrated whole-of-government strategy and agency-specific implementation plans as required by the Global Food Security Act of 2016 (GFSa). This strategy reflects the unique skills, resources, and lessons learned from U.S. federal departments and agencies that contribute to global food security, as well as input from partners throughout the private sector, academic institutions, and civil society. It charts a course for the U.S. Government to contribute to the achievement of global food security and the range of Sustainable Development Goals (SDGs), together with partners across the globe.

Right now, the world is closer than ever before to ending global hunger, undernutrition, and extreme poverty, but significant challenges and opportunities remain, including urbanization, gender inequality, instability and conflict, the effects of a changing climate, and environmental degradation. Despite our collective progress in global food security and nutrition over recent years, a projected 702 million people still live in extreme poverty, nearly 800 million people around the world are chronically undernourished, and 159 million children under five are stunted. Food security is not just an economic and humanitarian issue; it is also a matter of security, as growing concentrations of poverty and hunger leave countries and communities vulnerable to increased instability, conflict, and violence.



Download the full strategy at  
<https://feedthefuture.gov>

## Objectives

The U.S. Government, in partnership with other governments, civil society, multilateral development institutions, research institutions, universities, and the private sector, will build on experience to date to address these challenges, take advantage of opportunities, and advance food security and improved nutrition. Our overarching goal is to **sustainably reduce global hunger, malnutrition, and poverty** through three interrelated and interdependent objectives:

- **Inclusive and sustainable agricultural-led economic growth**, as growth in the agriculture sector has been shown in some areas to be more effective than growth in other sectors at helping men and women lift themselves out of extreme poverty and hunger. It does this by increasing availability of food, generating income from production, creating employment and entrepreneurship opportunities throughout value chains, and spurring growth in rural and urban economies.
- **Strengthened resilience among people and systems**, as increasingly frequent and intense shocks and stresses threaten the ability of men, women, and families to sustainably emerge from poverty.
- **A well-nourished population, especially among women and children**, as undernutrition, particularly during the 1,000 days from pregnancy to a child's second birthday, leads to lower levels of educational attainment, productivity, lifetime earnings, and economic growth rates.

Through this approach, we will strengthen the capacity of all participants throughout the food and agriculture system, paying special attention to women, the extreme poor, small-scale producers, youth, marginalized communities, and small and medium enterprises.

## Elements of Approach

Several key elements of our approach strengthen our ability to achieve these objectives. The first is **targeting our investments** in countries and geographic areas where we have the greatest potential to sustainably improve food security and nutrition and **strategically focusing our resources** on those approaches and interventions that evidence shows will reduce extreme poverty, hunger, and malnutrition at scale. The second is implementing a comprehensive, multi-faceted **whole-of-government approach** rooted in lessons learned and evidence to date that reflects emerging trends. The third is **country leadership**, recognizing that developing countries, above all others, must own and be empowered to lead and guide these efforts to drive progress.

The fourth is **partnerships** with a wide range of development actors and groups, which will improve the reach, effectiveness, efficiency, and sustainability of our efforts. This includes using foreign aid strategically to catalyze domestic resource mobilization and private sector-driven trade and economic development. The fifth is harnessing the power of **science, technology, and innovation** to dramatically improve food and agriculture system practices as well as increase local capacity to address these issues. Finally, we will focus on the **sustainability** of our programs as we work to create the conditions where our assistance is no longer needed, including reducing susceptibility to recurrent food crises and large international expenditures on humanitarian assistance and ensuring a sustainable food and agriculture system with adequate and appropriate finance available to key actors.

## Measuring Success

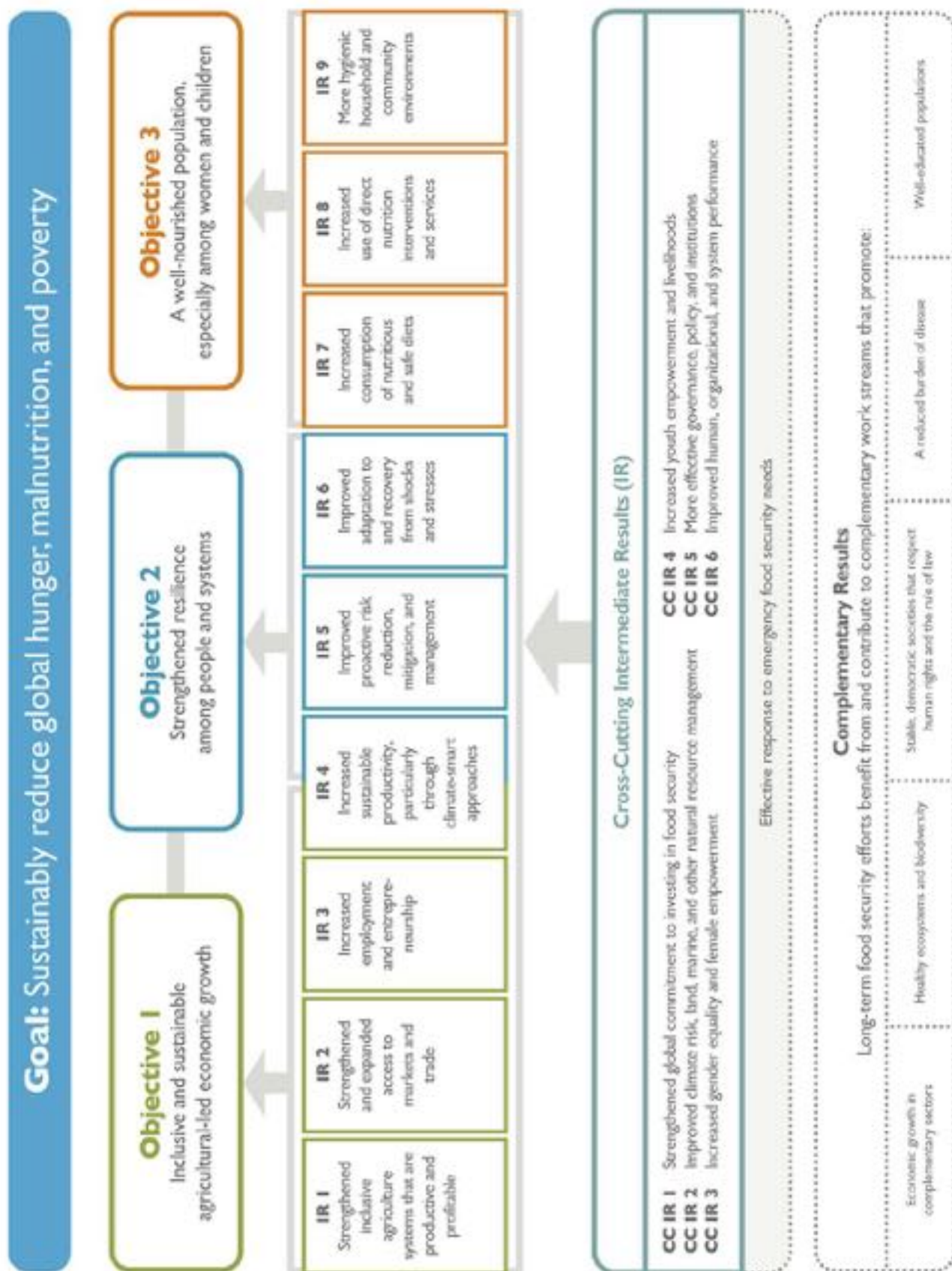
To measure progress and remain accountable to the public, U.S. Government partners commit to continuing and strengthening our rigorous **monitoring, evaluation, and learning (MEL)** approach, which includes: a common Results Framework, a performance monitoring process and standard performance indicators, an evaluation approach using impact and performance evaluations, a learning agenda that prioritizes key evidence gaps, and a focus on strengthening target country data systems.

### Inspired by the global agenda laid out in the SDGs and the objectives of the GFSA:

Our vision is a **world free from hunger, malnutrition, and extreme poverty**, where thriving local economies generate increased income for all people; where people consume balanced and nutritious diets, and children grow up healthy and reach their full potential; and where resilient households and communities face fewer and less severe shocks, have less vulnerability to the shocks they do face, and are helping to accelerate inclusive, sustainable economic growth.

This strategy builds on the U.S. Government's strong foundation of global food security and nutrition investments and aims to break silos, integrating programming across sectors and agencies for maximum impact and effective stewardship of United States taxpayer dollars. By implementing this whole-of-government strategy over the next five years, we believe that, together with our many partners across the globe, we can achieve this vision within our lifetimes.

# U.S. Government Global Food Security Strategy Results Framework



## Illustrative Activity Outcomes: Building Blocks to Achieve Our Goals

Objective 1	Objective 2	Objective 3
<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>Increased sustainable productivity of all types of small-scale producers (also Obj 2)</li> <li>Stronger inclusive market systems (also Obj 2)</li> <li>Increased access to business development and financial services (also Obj 2)</li> <li>Improved infrastructure, including digital and other ICT solutions (also Obj 2)</li> <li>More efficient land, water, and input use</li> <li>Technology and innovations developed through research and adapted to local conditions</li> <li>Increased access to and wide adoption of inputs, and other technology and innovation</li> <li>Expanded access to knowledge through agricultural extension</li> <li>Increased access to market infrastructure, such as improved storage systems and basic retail marketing structures</li> <li>Reduced time and cost of moving goods across borders</li> <li>Improved quality of produce that meets market standards</li> </ul>	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>Increased use of risk management services and practices</li> <li>Improved safety nets (also Obj 1,3)</li> <li>Improved social capital (also Obj 1, 3)</li> <li>Diversified livelihood risk (also Obj 1)</li> <li>Expanded livelihood opportunities (also Obj 1)</li> <li>Application of risk reduction tools such as improved water management and drought/flood tolerant seeds (also Obj 1)</li> <li>Increased household and community assets, including savings</li> <li>Improved access to communal natural resources</li> <li>Improved use of early warning information</li> <li>Increased access to hazard, index, and other insurance</li> <li>Increased adoption of climate-smart practices (also Obj 1)</li> </ul>	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>Improved access to diverse and nutritious foods</li> <li>Increased demand for diverse and nutritious foods</li> <li>Improved access to nutrition services</li> <li>Improved demand for health services</li> <li>Improved infant and young child feeding practices and women's diets</li> <li>Increased commercial production of safe and nutritious food products, including fortified food (also Obj 1)</li> <li>Increased availability of evidence-based food information for consumers (also Obj 1)</li> <li>Improved food safety systems (also Obj 1)</li> <li>Improved safe handling practices (also Obj 1)</li> <li>Improved access to clean water</li> <li>Improved access to sanitation</li> <li>Schoolchildren nourished through school feeding programs (also Obj 2)</li> <li>Improved access to handwashing facilities</li> </ul>
Cross-Cutting Intermediate Results		
<p><b>CC IR 1 Strengthened global commitment to investing in food security</b></p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>Increased public and private investment in food security</li> <li>Strengthened bilateral and regional investment platforms</li> </ul> <p><b>CC IR 2 Improved climate risk, land, marine, and other natural resource management</b></p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>Improved land and soil management</li> <li>Improved sustainable management of wild fisheries</li> <li>Improved and sustainable utilization of ecosystem services</li> </ul> <p><b>CC IR 3 Increased gender equality and female empowerment</b></p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>Increased women's leadership skills and opportunities</li> <li>Increased women's decision-making power</li> <li>Strengthened women's access to financial services</li> </ul>	<p><b>CC IR 4 Increased youth empowerment and livelihoods</b></p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>Improved youth entrepreneurial skills</li> <li>Improved access to nutrition services for adolescent girls</li> </ul> <p><b>CC IR 5 More effective governance, policy, and institutions</b></p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>Natural resource governance, including land and marine tenure</li> <li>Improved evidence-based policies</li> <li>Improved institutional architecture</li> <li>Improved mutual accountability systems</li> <li>Well functioning sanitary and phyto-sanitary systems</li> <li>Strengthened regional harmonization</li> </ul> <p><b>CC IR 6 Improved human, organizational, and system performance</b></p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>Improved research, policy, regulatory, education, finance, data, and extension systems</li> <li>Improved skills for producers, scientists, civil society, private sector, and government actors</li> <li>Promotion of science, technology, and innovation</li> </ul>	