



FEED THE FUTURE: IMPACT IN RWANDA

Over the next five years,

- Assist more than 700,000 vulnerable Rwandan women, children, and family members – mostly smallholder farmers – to escape hunger and poverty.
- Reach nearly 190,000 children, improving their nutrition to prevent stunting and child mortality.
- Significant numbers of additional rural populations will achieve improved income and nutritional status from strategic policy engagement and institutional investments.

CORE INVESTMENTS

U.S. efforts in selected value chains — beans, maize, and dairy — will be developed through the core investment areas of sustainable market linkages, infrastructure, and nutrition to maximize impact. Concentrating resources, fostering political engagement, linking agriculture to nutrition and supporting gender equality are critical investments to successfully improve food security throughout Rwanda. In addition, limited investments will be made in two traditional high-value exports: coffee and pyrethrum.

Sustainable Market Linkages

Feed the Future supports Rwanda's plan to gradually privatize its fertilizer market and complements efforts to ensure the timely provision of inputs to farmers. Our programs facilitate farmer adoption of improved post-harvest practices and technologies throughout the value chains of beans, maize, and dairy. Building on investments made to improve the quality of milk, USAID will support the competitiveness of Rwandan Dairy Sector. To improve access to financial services in the agriculture sector, we will co-finance programs to facilitate the expansion of financial services to the poor and microenterprises, which are complemented by USAID loan guarantees with local financial institutions to encourage lending. In addition, limited assistance for the development of high-value crops will cement the sustainability of U.S. investments in the coffee sector and support the diversification of Rwanda's exports through investments in pyrethrum.

Infrastructure

A variety of investments supports the development of priority value chains and ensures that food security benefits are maximized. As significant agricultural income is lost due to inadequate rural roads, Feed the Future will rehabilitate feeder roads in selected districts. Investments in small-scale irrigation and integrated water resources management will improve the sustainable management of water positively impacting human health, food security and resiliency to climate change. Furthermore, a \$50 million grant from the Global Agriculture Food Security Trust Fund, managed by the World Bank, will support collaborative efforts between USAID/Rwanda and various multilateral and bilateral organizations in the development of a land husbandry, water harvesting and hillside irrigation project to maximize the land area available for cultivation.

Nutrition

Feed the Future planned value chain investments will be designed to ensure their nutritional benefits are maximized. For

example, increasing post-harvest investments at the household level, targeting women with livelihoods programs and improving access to finance are expected to contribute to maintaining basic food security and nutrition. However, achieving the Feed the Future nutrition objective in Rwanda will require additional investments beyond those integrated in the priority value chains. Our assistance will strengthen and scale up community-based nutrition programs to prevent undernutrition in children under five, pregnant women and lactating mothers. We will also support food fortification efforts to eliminate micronutrient deficiencies. Lastly, we will build the capacity of the Rwandan Government to develop and implement multi-sectoral nutrition plans and to formulate behavior change nutrition messages, communication tools and training materials.

GENDER INTEGRATION

Gender is a cross-cutting issue for Feed the Future. Although Rwanda is justifiably recognized for the strong leadership role played by its women and its sound legal framework for protecting the principle of gender equality, significant gender disparities remain. To ensure that programs are sensitive to the underlying conditions that result in these disparities, Rwanda recently completed a gender strategy for the agriculture sector. While some investments will target women specifically, all will reflect the findings and recommendations of this gender strategy in their design.

WHOLE-OF-GOVERNMENT APPROACH

Feed the Future elevates coordination across the U.S. Government so that our investments, resources and programs are harmonized for greater collective impact. This interagency engagement, led by USAID, includes collaboration with U.S. Department of State, the U.S. Department of Agriculture (USDA), Treasury Department, Millennium Challenge Corporation, U.S. African Development Foundation, U.S. Trade Representative, Overseas Private Investment Corporation and Peace Corps. For example, USDA will focus on strengthening regional trading systems and agricultural research cooperation throughout East Africa.

USAID Agricultural and Nutrition Funding to Rwanda



*2012 is included in the President's budget request to Congress