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Feed the Future is the U.S. Government's global hunger and food security initiative. For more information, or **to subscribe to this publication**, please visit www.feedthefuture.gov.

GLOBAL FOOD SECURITY HIGHLIGHTS

Secretary Clinton Delivers Keynote Address at 2012 World Food Prize Laureate Announcement Ceremony



Secretary Clinton delivers remarks at 2012 World Food Prize Laureate Announcement Ceremony. Credit: State Department

On June 12, Secretary of State Hillary Rodham Clinton delivered the keynote address at the 2012 World Food Prize Laureate Announcement Ceremony at the U.S. Department of State. The [World Food Prize](#) is the foremost international award recognizing the achievements of individuals who have advanced human development by improving the quality, quantity, or availability of food in the world. Dr. Daniel Hillel, a renowned soil expert, was named 2012 World Food Prize Laureate in recognition of his 40 years of work in Israel and around the world developing microirrigation methods for arid regions, opening those regions to farming. His contributions to irrigation have had dramatic results in both plant production and water conservation.

[In her remarks](#), Secretary Clinton commended Hillel's achievements, noting that his water management techniques have enabled farmers to grow high-yield and nutritious crops in some of the least hospitable climates on earth. "We use more water for agriculture than for any other human pursuit – more than cooking, cleaning, or manufacturing," Secretary Clinton said. "But our water supply is finite. So if we're going to strengthen food security, we have to get more out of each drop." [Read more.](#)

[Learn more](#) about Dr. Hillel's life and work on microirrigation in arid climates.



Dr. Daniel Hillel

GAFSP Awards \$177 Million in Grants to Six Countries for Food Security Activities

The Steering Committee of the Global Agriculture and Food Security Program (GAFSP) met May 22-23 and awarded grants to six countries totaling \$177 million. The grants – to Burundi, the Gambia, Kyrgyz Republic, Malawi, Senegal, and Tanzania – will help each country increase food security, raise rural incomes, and reduce poverty. This is the fourth round of countries to receive funding to support country-driven investment in agriculture and food security through GAFSP. The countries awarded GAFSP funding in previous rounds are: Bangladesh, Cambodia, Ethiopia, Haiti, Liberia, Mongolia, Nepal, Niger, Rwanda, Sierra Leone, Tajikistan, and Togo. GAFSP has awarded close to \$660 million.

[Read the full press release.](#)

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2012 G-8 SUMMIT: FOOD SECURITY RECAP

On May 18, ahead of the 2012 G-8 Summit, President Barack Obama announced that G-8 and African leaders would commit to the [New Alliance for Food Security and Nutrition](#). What's all the buzz about? Here's a quick summary of what the New Alliance means for:

Smallholder Farmers in Africa

- African economies are some of the fastest growing in the world. Yet, most Africans still live on less than \$2 a day, and smallholder farmers (most of whom are women) suffer from barriers like poor infrastructure and lack of access to financial services, which leave them vulnerable to hunger and poverty. The New Alliance aims to achieve sustained and inclusive agricultural growth that will raise 50 million people in sub-Saharan Africa out of poverty in the next 10 years.
- The New Alliance is initially being launched in Ghana, Tanzania, and Ethiopia, and will expand rapidly to other African countries, including Mozambique, Cote D'Ivoire, and Burkina Faso.

African Governments

- Leaders of African countries participating in the New Alliance have committed to refining policies in order to improve private investment opportunities and drive their country-led plans on food security. This effort will involve creating favorable environments for private sector investment, by smallholder farmers themselves as well as by African and international companies.
- The New Alliance builds on the strong leadership evident in many African countries around agricultural growth and poverty reduction.

L'Aquila Commitments and Feed the Future

- Under the New Alliance, G-8 countries [commit to maintaining their L'Aquila pledges](#) and aligning priority activities within each African country partner's Comprehensive Africa Agriculture Development Program (CAADP) national investment plan. [As President Obama noted](#), G-8 countries will sustain the commitments made three years ago, and are going to "speed things up" by supporting increased private sector investment in agriculture.
- Through Feed the Future, the U.S. Government will support the New Alliance and will continue to advance global food security and agricultural growth that reduces poverty.

Partners

- The G-8 welcomes the support of the World Bank and African Development Bank, and of the UN World Food Program, International Fund for Agricultural Development, and Food and Agriculture Organization for the New Alliance. African civil society groups have also expressed strong support for the G-8's goal of achieving specific and demonstrable impact.
- The New Alliance is already leveraging the work of Grow Africa, a public-private partnership platform co-led by the African Union, NEPAD, and World Economic Forum.
- [More than 45 companies](#) (including both large and small American, African, and international companies) have made commitments to invest all across the agriculture sector in Africa, including in irrigation, processing, trading, financing, and infrastructure. These commitments already stand at over \$3 billion and have the potential to impact millions of smallholders.

Looking for more information? Visit [FeedtheFuture.gov](#) for a "[one-stop-shop](#)" on G-8 resources or to read [Five Questions about the New Alliance for Food Security and Nutrition](#).

[Read about the African cooperative leaders](#) who witnessed the historic launch of the New Alliance.

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New Public-Private Partnership between United States and Japan to Improve Child Nutrition in Ghana



USAID Assistant Administrator Dr. Ariel Pablos-Méndez; Jiro Inamura, Chief Representative, JICA Ghana Office; Tamotsu Iwamoto, Member of the Board and Corporate Senior Vice President, Ajinomoto Co. Inc. Credit: U.S. Embassy Ghana

On May 30, the U.S. Agency for International Development (USAID), the Japan International Cooperation Agency (JICA), and Ajinomoto Co., Inc. signed a Memorandum of Understanding in Accra, Ghana, officially forming a public-private partnership that will leverage the combined expertise of the three organizations to improve nutrition in Ghana. The partnership marks the first time that the U.S. Government and the Government of Japan will work

together with the private sector to improve the nutritional status of children. It is also the first time a Japanese company will work collaboratively with USAID as part of a [Global Development Alliance](#). [Read more.](#)

[Read the full press release](#) from the U.S. Embassy in Ghana.

1,000 Peace Corps Volunteers to Receive Enhanced Food Security Training

For more than 50 years, Peace Corps volunteers around the world have taken an active role in addressing critical food security issues, working with one farmer, one family, and one community at a time.

President Obama and other G-8 Leaders met last month to address food security and nutrition in Africa. The President also announced [a new alliance](#) with the G-8, African leaders and private sector partners to drive investment in sustainable African agricultural development and lift 50 million people out of poverty. This landmark meeting underscored the importance of the President's Feed the Future initiative, and last summer, the Peace Corps and the U.S. Agency for International Development (USAID) pledged to provide enhanced food security training to more than 1,000 Peace Corps volunteers. [Continue reading](#) Peace Corps Director Aaron Williams' blog on [WhiteHouse.gov](#).

U.S. Strengthens Relationships with Sub-Saharan Africa through AGOA Forum, New Presidential Policy Directive

On June 14-15, the United States hosted the 11th annual U.S.-Sub-Saharan Africa Trade and Economic Cooperation Forum. The event is mandated by the [African Growth and Opportunity Act](#) (AGOA) and is the U.S. Government's premier high-level, bilateral event with sub-Saharan Africa. This year's theme was "Enhancing Africa's Infrastructure for Trade."

President Obama took another step in deepening U.S. partnerships with the nations and peoples of sub-Saharan Africa when he signed a new Presidential Policy Directive on the region that sets forth four strategic objectives for U.S. engagement in Africa: strengthen democratic institutions; spur economic growth, trade, and investment; advance peace and security; and promote opportunity and development. [Read more.](#)



President Barack Obama delivers remarks to Parliament at the International Conference Centre in Accra, Ghana. Credit: Chuck Kennedy/White House

Impact of Resource Pressures, Energy, and Technology on Food Security Highlighted at USAID's Frontiers in Development Conference

USAID held its inaugural [Frontiers in Development Forum](#) on the campus of Georgetown University in Washington, DC from June 11-13. The three-day event featured a series of panel discussions with development policymakers, academics, and practitioners, as well as shorter "DevTalks" that highlighted innovations in a wide range of development projects. Numerous current and former heads of state were in attendance, including Ellen Johnson Sirleaf, President of Liberia; Mary Robinson, former President of Ireland; and John Kufuor, Former President of Ghana.



Current and former heads of state discuss development, democracy, and global security in the 21st century with PBS's Judy Woodruff (moderator) at Frontiers in Development Forum. From left to right: Mary Robinson, former President of Ireland and President of the Mary Robinson Foundation – Climate Justice; President Joyce Banda of Malawi; President Ellen Johnson Sirleaf of Liberia; Judy Woodruff of PBS (moderator); President Atifete Jahjaga of Kosovo; and Helen Clark, former Prime Minister of New Zealand and Administrator of the UNDP. Credit: USAID

On the second day of the conference, two panels focused on food security and the natural resource pressures that will increasingly shape the development landscape. USAID Assistant to the Administrator Paul Weisenfeld joined the Honorable Mary Robinson and Oxford University's Paul Collier for a discussion on how to sustainably increase agricultural production to meet the food needs of a growing global population while dealing with the effects of climate change and increasing demand for land, water, and other natural resources. [Read more.](#)

SCIENCE & TECHNOLOGY IN AGRICULTURE

Successful Containment of Invasive Crop Pest in India Demonstrates Strong Model for International Cooperation on Pest Management

Through quick action on the part of USDA, USAID, and the U.S. Government's research and corporate partners around the world, an infestation of an invasive crop pest that appeared in Tamil Nadu, India was successfully controlled in just five months, yielding a successful model for political and technical food security stakeholders to follow for future threats to smallholder farmers due to crop pests.

Despite advances in pest control, 20-30 percent of crops in India are still lost to pests and diseases every year. From 2008-2010, the Papaya Mealybug (an invasive species of insect native to Mexico) ravaged crops in the state of Tamil Nadu, wiping out an estimated \$93 million worth of papaya, mulberry, and tapioca crops, and eventually spreading to other Indian states and crops. [Read more.](#)



Papaya Mealybug infestation on mulberry leaf. Credit: USAID

FIELD STORIES

USADF-Funded Coffee Cooperative Improves Ugandan Farmers' Livelihoods

The [Bukonzo Joint Cooperative Society](#), a farmer-owned co-op of 3,400 smallholder farmers from over 96 coffee-growing groups in the Kasese district of western Uganda, is thriving thanks to an expansion grant from the [United States African Development Foundation](#) (USADF). Coffee, a priority sector for Feed the Future in Uganda, is the main source of income for many marginalized, smallholder farmers such as those belonging to the Bukonzo co-op. The organization is known for its high-quality, hand-picked, organic coffee in an area of the country still recovering from civil war and other conflicts. This year, Bukonzo was ranked as one of Uganda's top five producers of Arabica coffee. [Read more.](#)



This Bukonzo member proudly shows her savings book. Pictures record how much of the proceeds from her harvest she will allocate for group savings and for her children's school fees. Credit: USADF

Maize Farmers in Senegal Build Financial Skills, Gain Access to Farming Equipment



Financial coaching is enabling maize farmers in Senegal to lease tractors that they will use to improve their agricultural productivity.

At a ceremony in Kaolack, Senegal on May 22, the keys to six tractors valued at \$220,000 were presented to heads of agricultural producers' groups who received financial training under Feed the Future to build skills in high-value leasing. By investing in agricultural equipment, these maize farmers will be able to boost the productivity of their crops.

Through the USAID program, farmers received assistance in business plan development, legalization and formalization of investors, registration under the investment code, and obtaining special tax exonerations. Each recipient will continue to receive financial coaching for at least 12 months to ensure their ability to successfully manage their new investments. [Read more.](#)

World's Largest Fertilizer Manufacturing Company Visits Feed the Future Rice Farm in Tanzania

Mr. Jorgen Ole Haslestad, President and Chief Executive Officer of major fertilizer manufacturer Yara International, traveled to Tanzania in early June to visit a Feed the Future rice model farm in Dakawa. Joined by Yara's Chairman of the Board, Mr. Bernt Reitan, as well as 17 other Board Members, Mr. Haslestad observed the impact that Yara's fertilizer donations have had on the productivity of the rice paddy, which was established by USAID together with the Uwawakuda Water User Cooperative of Dakawa to educate farmers on effective fertilizer application. [Read more.](#)



Jorgen Ole Haslestad, CEO of Yara International, makes remarks at a Feed the Future rice farm in Tanzania.

From Food Relief to Sustainable Agricultural Production: Simple, Low-Cost Technologies Improve Farmers' Yields and Incomes in Kenya

Agriculture in the northern parts of Meru County in Central Kenya has been inhibited by erratic rainfall, poor agronomic practices, limited information, and weak market linkages, all of which create the conditions for food insecurity. As a result, the Government of Kenya has had to provide ongoing food relief to residents of Meru for several years.

Against this backdrop, the Muchui Women Group in the Buuri District of Meru County is working to enable its 100 members to utilize their resources sustainably through improved agricultural practices and natural resource conservation. Unfortunately, despite operating for nearly two decades, the group has struggled due to a lack of knowledge of critical issues, such as pests and disease management, access to certified seeds, and market outlets for their produce.

With support from Feed the Future over the past 6 months, the Muchui Women are finally beginning to achieve greater success in reaching their goals. Through a partnership between USAID and Syngenta, the women's group has been introduced to modern farming methods such as shade nets, greenhouses, drip



irrigation, safe use of pesticides, access to hybrid seeds, and nursery management. The group has now adopted horticultural farming and is growing high-value crops such as banana, avocado, greenhouse tomatoes, kales, peppers, eggplant, spinach, and sweet potato. Each member has a kitchen garden for household vegetable production and sells excess produce for income. [Read more.](#)

Members of Muchui Women Group celebrate their first ever greenhouse tomato harvest. Credit: Fintrac Inc.

With Help from Feed the Future Voucher Program, Business Thriving for Agro-Dealer in Mozambique

Moises Vilanculos is a hard-working farmer in the district of Manica in Mozambique. He and his wife have made their living from farming for two decades. Realizing that they needed to have access to quality seeds to improve their yields and increase their production, they started an informal business selling small quantities of agricultural inputs such as fertilizers and improved seeds to the local market.



Moises Vilanculos developed his own brand of high-quality seeds with help from Feed the Future.

Moises and his family were able to expand their business through assistance from a voucher program under Feed the Future that enables smallholder farmers to obtain agricultural inputs and find new business opportunities. After joining the program in 2009, Moises was trained on business management and effective use of seeds, fertilizers, and pesticides, ultimately transferring this knowledge to other agro-dealers and farmers in his community. [Read more.](#)

HEARD ON THE HILL

Rep. Sam Farr Hosts Congressional Event on Food Security in Latin America

On May 31, USAID Assistant to the Administrator Paul Weisenfeld joined Heather Hanson, Vice-President for Public Policy at the World Food Program USA; Stephanie Burgos, Senior Advisor for Agricultural and Trade Policy at Oxfam America; and moderator Charles Hanrahan, Senior Specialist in Agricultural Policy at the Congressional Research Service for a panel on the Hill regarding food security in Latin America. The event, which was organized by Rep. Sam Farr (D-CA), was part of an ongoing monthly Congressional briefing series, *Latin America on the Rise*, which addresses emerging issues in the hemisphere and highlights the importance of U.S. aid to Latin America. [Read more.](#)

[Learn more](#) about Rep. Farr's Congressional briefing series, *Latin America on the Rise*.

DOING BUSINESS DIFFERENTLY

Feed the Future Grants Awarded to Two Guatemalan Organizations

Five-year cooperative agreements have been signed between USAID and two Guatemalan organizations in support of Feed the Future's Rural Value Chains Project, operating in five zones throughout the country. The Guatemalan Exporters' Association ([AGEXPORT](#)) partnered with organizations such as Save the Children, INCAP, and Rainforest Alliance for this proposal. The Guatemalan National Coffee Association ([ANACAFÉ](#)) won the second cooperative agreement. The two grants cumulatively represent over \$60 million in USAID contributions, cost-sharing, and funds leveraged from the private sector, and will benefit more than 32,000 households. [Read more.](#)

[2012 G-8 Summit: Food Security Recap \(cont.\)](#)

At 38th G-8 Summit, Private Sector Leaders Have a Place at the Table

Representatives of agricultural organizations from 4 African countries – Ethiopia, Tanzania, Ghana, and Mozambique – traveled to Washington, DC in May to participate in meetings related to the 38th G-8 Summit and to sign the “Private Sector Declaration of Support for African Agricultural Development” as part of the New Alliance. It was the first time that the G-8 Summit included private sector leaders in these discussions. [Read more.](#)

Do You Know a Champion of Change for Hunger?

Hunger is an issue that touches the lives of people all around us. This September, the White House Office of Public Engagement and the U.S. Department of Agriculture will host a [Champions of Change](#) event on “Alleviating Hunger at Home and Abroad,” recognizing individuals who are using innovative, community-based approaches to reduce hunger and ensure that people have access to enough food both in the United States and internationally.

If you or someone you know has demonstrated exemplary commitment to fighting hunger, visit [WhiteHouse.gov](#) to apply or to submit a nomination! The deadline for all submissions is June 29.

[Read More](#) or [Submit a Nomination](#)

UPCOMING EVENTS

- **June 25 – 26 (Washington, DC)**
[Cracking the Nut 2012 Conference: Attracting Private Sector Investment to Rural and Agricultural Markets](#)
- **June 26 (Washington, DC)**
[2012 APLU Convocation: 150 Years of the Morrill Act: Advancing the Legacy](#)
- **July 15 – 16 (Lilongwe, Malawi)**
[African Union Summit](#)

NEWS & MEDIA

News

[Climate change to worsen hunger as U.N.'s Rio+20 begins](#)

June 20, 2012, Wendy Koch (USA Today)

[Transforming Dakawa into a haven of rice](#)

June 17, 2012, Jaffar Mjasiri (Tanzania Daily News Online)

[Cocoa Sustainability Stakeholders Convene for 21st World Cocoa Foundation Partnership Meeting](#)

June 13, 2012 (Yahoo Finance)

[Food Security in the Americas](#)

June 12, 2012 (Voice of America)

[Report Shows Correlation Between Peace and Resilience](#)

June 12, 2012, Stephen Kaufman (IIP Digital)

Op-Eds

[The global challenge of food and nutrition security](#)

June 17, 2012, Paul Polman and Daniel Servitje (Washington Post)

[Farm Bill Helps Fight Global Hunger](#)

June 14, 2012, (World Food Program USA)

Blogs

[The Future of America's Partnership with Sub-Saharan Africa](#)

June 14, 2012, Grant T. Harris (White House)

[More Crop Per Drop: Micro-Irrigation Pioneer Wins 2012 World Food Prize](#)

June 12, 2012, Jonathan Shrier (Department of State Dipnote)

[A call to action to feed the world](#)

June 05, 2012 (The Hill's Congress Blog)

[Recognizing MCC's 'outstanding leadership' in food security](#)

May 29, 2012, Jolyne Sanjak (MCC Poverty Reduction Blog)

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