

## SNAPSHOT: FEED THE FUTURE IN ACTION

### MARCH 2012

*“We have the resources to give every person in the world the tools they need to feed themselves and their children. So the question is not whether we can end hunger. It's whether we will.”*

**— U.S. Secretary of State Hillary Clinton, June 2009**

Feed the Future is the U.S. Government's global hunger and food security initiative. With a focus on smallholder farmers, particularly women, Feed the Future supports countries in developing their agriculture sectors as a catalyst to generate opportunities for broad-based economic growth and trade, which can support increased incomes and help reduce hunger. As the overall framework to address global hunger, Feed the Future recognizes the importance of providing food aid and other humanitarian assistance during crises to save lives and protect livelihoods. Feed the Future also integrates nutrition interventions to ensure that our investments lead to both improved agriculture and better health, and supports conflict mitigation and good governance efforts required to achieve the goals of reducing poverty and undernutrition.

Feed the Future is making progress toward its ambitious goal of increasing the incomes of 18 million vulnerable women, children, and family members – mostly smallholder farmers – to help them escape hunger and poverty, while improving the nutrition of 7 million children to prevent stunting and decrease child mortality. Working in support of country-led plans, and in alignment with donor organizations, the private sector, and civil society, we are already making great strides.

#### **To help countries drive agriculture-led economic growth, we have:**

- Significantly advanced country-owned plans and used them as a basis to develop multi-year strategies with 24 country and regional U.S. Government missions to align U.S. investments in support of these plans.
- Established the United States as one of the five inaugural donors of the Global Agriculture and Food Security Program (GAFSP), an innovative multi-donor trust fund that has allocated \$481 million to 12 low-income countries, 8 of which are Feed the Future focus countries.
- Helped launch the 1,000 Days partnership to support investment in nutrition from pregnancy through a child's second birthday, when adequate nutrition has the greatest impact on developing a child's cognitive and physical capacity. It also supports the Scaling Up Nutrition (SUN) movement to coordinate and accelerate international efforts to combat global undernutrition.
- Launched a fund to advance innovative approaches to promote gender equality in agriculture and land use and integrate gender effectively into agricultural development and food security programs.
- Launched the Women's Empowerment in Agriculture Index, a research method to effectively measure the quantity and quality of gender-related programs.

#### **To advance research and innovation, we have:**

- Leveraged the unique research capabilities of our U.S. Government partners to develop science-based solutions to many of the problems faced by smallholder farmers, many of whom are women, that result in low productivity, in addition to new food products that can improve the nutritional value of local foods.

- Designed new research programs in sustainable intensification in Africa that will conduct research in major farming systems to integrate conservation agriculture, improved water management, intercropping of nutritious and high-value crops, integration of livestock and fish, and improved varieties such as drought-tolerant crops.
- Invested in the five-year Borlaug 21st Century Leadership Program to strengthen the human and institutional capital needed to promote agriculture sector innovation in partner countries. The program strengthens universities, vocational schools, and technical institutes; trains and mentors agricultural researchers; and supports strategic planning, donor coordination, and financing for higher education across Africa.

### To leverage private sector investments and intellectual capital, we have:

- Helped establish the Southern Agricultural Growth Corridor of Tanzania (SAGCOT), a public-private partnership that aims to boost agricultural productivity in Tanzania and the wider region. SAGCOT will promote “clusters” of profitable agricultural farming and services businesses, with major benefits for smallholder farmers and local communities.
- Announced a unique, trilateral partnership between PepsiCo, USAID, and the World Food Programme that will provide a nutritionally fortified feeding product while helping to build long-term economic stability for smallholder chickpea farmers in Ethiopia by involving them directly in PepsiCo’s product supply chain.
- Launched an alliance with the World Cocoa Foundation and the Sustainable Trade Initiative (IDH) to invest in sustainable cocoa programs in West Africa. The partnership includes private sector participation from key chocolate-producing companies including Cargill, The Hershey Company, Kraft Foods, Lindt & Sprungli, Nestle, and Mars, among others.

## LOOKING FORWARD

Feed the Future will catalyze broad-based economic growth while reducing hunger and poverty by:

- Investing in the transformation of agricultural systems and nutritional outcomes in 20 focus countries by supporting **country-owned** plans for results-based programs and partnerships while promoting transparency, democracy, and good governance.
- Promoting **economic growth** through improved linkages along the entire value chain – from farm to market – by improving connections to local, regional, and global markets, promoting sustainable intensification, and supporting an enabling environment for agricultural trade to minimize the impact of food price hikes.
- Strengthening **strategic coordination** to mobilize and align the resources of diverse partners and stakeholders – including the private sector, civil society, and multilateral institutions.
- Ensuring an **integrated approach** that accelerates inclusive agriculture-led growth, reduces undernutrition, and increases the impact of humanitarian food assistance.
- Delivering on sustained and **accountable** commitments through robust monitoring and evaluation systems.