

## FEED THE FUTURE IN AFRICA: 2016 PROGRESS

Feed the Future, America's global hunger and food security initiative, is contributing to significant progress against hunger and poverty in Africa.

Feed the Future prioritizes agricultural development as the key to reducing hunger, poverty and malnutrition. The initiative creates opportunities for smallholder farmers and others engaged in agricultural value chains to improve yields and access markets.

Feed the Future concentrates its efforts in 19 focus countries, 12 of which are in Africa, while also supporting a number of aligned programs in countries throughout Africa, Asia, and Latin America. These efforts include support for innovative approaches to confront ongoing and future challenges, and help communities become more resilient and better able to respond to emergencies.



### Approach

Feed the Future was inspired by the African Union's Comprehensive Africa Agriculture Development Program (CAADP), which since 2003 has been built around a common vision to increase economic growth and participation in global markets through agriculture-led development.

In support of the food security priorities of host-country governments around the world, Feed the Future builds on resources allocated during the George W. Bush Administration to boost agricultural productivity in Africa and is the primary vehicle through which the U.S. Government supports the New Alliance for Food Security and Nutrition. A shared commitment among African leaders, donors and other development partners, the New Alliance is deepening inclusive, sustainable private sector engagement in agriculture to lift millions out of poverty.

### Achieving Impact

The Feed the Future model is proving itself in country after country, increasing incomes for smallholder farmers and contributing to notable drops in poverty and childhood stunting in many of the places where it works. Feed the Future is supporting local capacity to increase food security, agriculture-led economic growth and good nutrition. In FY2015 alone, Feed the Future investments in Africa:

- **Helped more than 3.6 million farmers** gain access to new tools or technologies such as high-yielding seeds, fertilizer application tools, soil conservation and water management practices. This and other efforts helped Feed the Future-supported farmers experience **more than \$450 million in new agricultural sales** in the same year.
- **Trained more than 1.8 million people** in Africa in child health and nutrition and, along with other U.S. Government efforts, reached **more than 13 million children** with nutrition interventions.

New data suggest that Feed the Future, combined with host-country and other global efforts, is also contributing to substantial reductions in both poverty and childhood stunting, which can rob children of their ability to grow and thrive. In the areas where Feed the Future works:

- In **Liberia**, the prevalence of **poverty dropped by 19%** from 2012-2015.
- In **Rwanda**, the prevalence of **child stunting dropped by 14%** from 2010-2015.
- In **Ethiopia**, the prevalence of **poverty dropped by 12%** from 2013-2015.
- In **Malawi**, the prevalence of **child stunting dropped by 14%** and the prevalence of **poverty dropped by 18%** from 2010-2015.
- In **Ghana**, the prevalence of **child stunting dropped by 12%** and the prevalence of **poverty dropped by 12%** from 2012-2015.



*Photo: Olivier Asselin/USAID Yaajeende*

With continued effort, these results should help ensure that more and more smallholder farmers and small- and medium-sized enterprises will continue to contribute to – and benefit from – participation in the global economy.

## Looking Forward

In 2014, African leaders reaffirmed their commitments to agricultural development with the Malabo Declaration, which builds on the CAADP principles of agriculture-led growth, regional cooperation, evidence-based planning and policy, partnership, and expanded African financial commitments. The Declaration also sets out an ambitious agenda for Africa's food security and nutrition for the next decade that is consistent with Feed the Future's goals.

In 2016, the U.S. Government launched *A Food-Secure 2030*, a vision for how global development partners can work together to achieve the Sustainable Development Goals, particularly the targets on poverty, hunger and malnutrition. The document also calls upon donors, host-country governments, civil society and the private sector to mobilize the resources and partnerships required for success, bolstered by strong country leadership and catalytic development assistance.

### Did You Know?

- **80 percent** of all farms in Africa are smallholder-owned.
- **More than two-thirds** of Africans depend directly on agriculture for their incomes.
- While **more than one-quarter** of the world's arable land is on the African continent, African agriculture accounts for only 10 percent of global agricultural output, a shortfall attributed in large part to low use of modern agricultural **tools, practices and technologies**.