## **Agency Priority Goal Action Plan**

# Food Security and Resilience

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International Affairs

#### **Overview**

#### **Goal Statement**

O Increase food security and resilience in Feed the Future countries. By September 30, 2019, Feed the Future will exhibit an average reduction in the prevalence of poverty and stunting of 20 percent, across target regions in Feed the Future's focus countries, since the beginning of the initiative in FY 2010.

#### Challenge

- O Despite progress in global food security and nutrition, there are nearly 800 million hungry people in the world today. By 2050, there will be more than nine billion mouths to feed.
- o Food security underpins national security, and advances global prosperity and stability. We have seen that where hunger and poverty persist, instability and resentment grow. This was true in 2007 and 2008, when food prices hit record highs and protests broke out around the world, and it remains true today.

#### **Overview**

#### Opportunity

- o Enacted into law in 2016, the Global Food Security Act reinforces Feed the Future's successful approach to increasing food security and nutrition.
- o With a small fraction of the international-affairs budget, Feed the Future is expanding opportunity for millions of people, empowering women and girls, and ensuring that growth reaches all people, leaving nobody behind.
- Together with other U.S. Departments and Agencies, partner governments from around the world, global organizations, and leading American business, non-profits, universities, and research institutions, we are using the best parts of American leadership, entrepreneurship, research, technology and talent to help some of the world's poorest countries and communities harness the power of agriculture and entrepreneurship to jumpstart their economies and create new opportunities for people at every level of their societies.

### Leadership

#### Core Team:

Led by USAID, Feed the Future draws on the agricultural, trade, investment, development, and policy resources and expertise of 11 Federal Departments and Agencies. Feed the Future has two deputy coordinators who lead the initiative and help the U.S. Government target activities toward a common vision:

- The Feed the Future Deputy Coordinator for Development at USAID drives the interagency process, to ensure relevant U.S. Government Agencies and Departments are engaged in formulating policies, strategies and monitoring criteria for Feed the Future; and
- The Feed the Future Deputy Coordinator for Diplomacy at the Department of State leads diplomatic efforts to advance our priorities, focused on policy coordination among major donors, strategic partners, the G-7, the G-20, and international organizations.























### **Goal Structure Strategies**

The food-security Agency Priority Goal will report progress made in implementing the U.S. Government's <u>Global Food-Security Strategy</u> (GFSS). This <u>Strategy</u> 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.

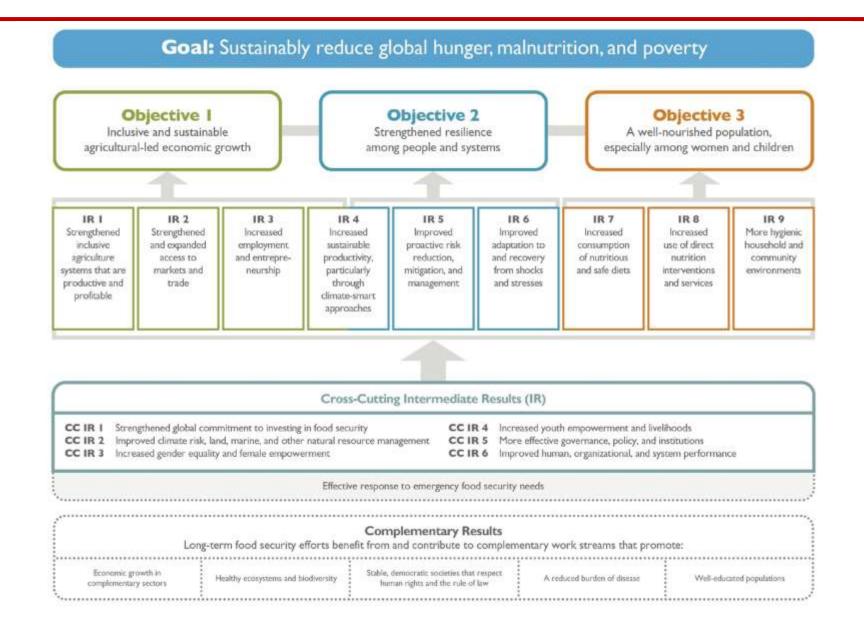
The overarching goal of the GFSS is to reduce global hunger, malnutrition, and sustainably poverty through three, interrelated and interdependent, objectives:

- Inclusive, sustainable, agricultural-led economic growth, 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.
- 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.

### **Key External Factors**

The principal challenge for Feed the Future in achieving reductions in hunger, poverty, and malnutrition are external risk factors that can inhibit progress, such as food crises, conflict, and changing host-government priorities. For GFSS target countries, implementation strategies will account for these externalities by allowing a certain degree of flexibility in their programming and assumptions to address unforeseen events. Individual USAID Missions also account for changing conditions through periodic review, stock-taking, and adjustments of each overarching Country Development Cooperation Strategy.

#### **GFSS Results Framework**



#### **Summary of Progress FY18 Q1**

Since the submission of the GFSS in October 2016, the interagency has taken a number of important steps to implement the <u>Global Food-Security Strategy</u> through Feed the Future. Key implementation work streams include the following: (1) the selection of 12 target countries; (2) the convening of an interagency working group to construct a thoughtful, long-term approach to country graduation; (3) launching the development of five-year, interagency country plans for the 12 target countries; (4) the development of detailed technical guidance to inform programmatic implementation in the field; and (5) the development of a new interagency food-security research strategy.

In addition, the GFSS Interagency Monitoring, Evaluation, and Learning Working Group has updated the Feed the Future standard indicators to monitor performance against the GFSS results framework through a consultative process that included input from over 100 publicand private-sector stakeholders and U.S. Government technical experts.

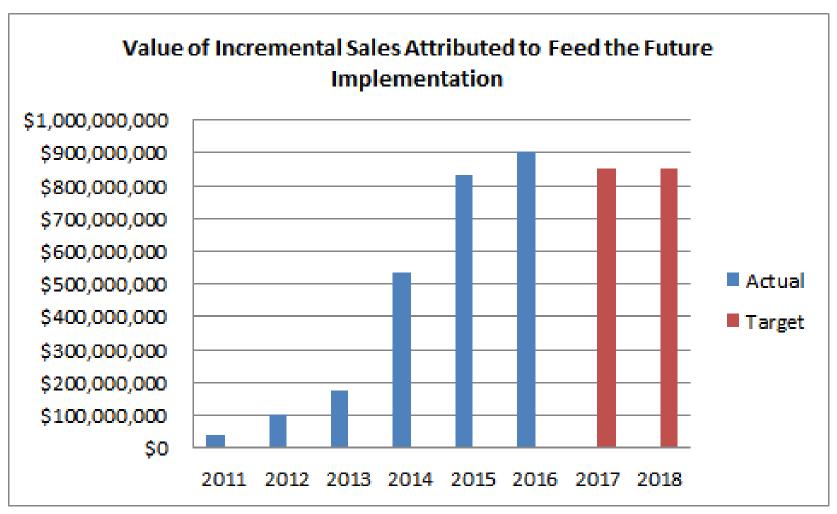
USAID also surpassed its target of two reports for the number of Feed the Future evaluation reports made public by another two. Those four reports include: (1) Scaling Seeds and the Technologies Partnership in Africa; (2) Feed the Future Innovation Lab for Food Security Policy; (3) Peace Corps Participating Agency Program Agreement; and (4) Final performance evaluation of Feed the Future Feedback.

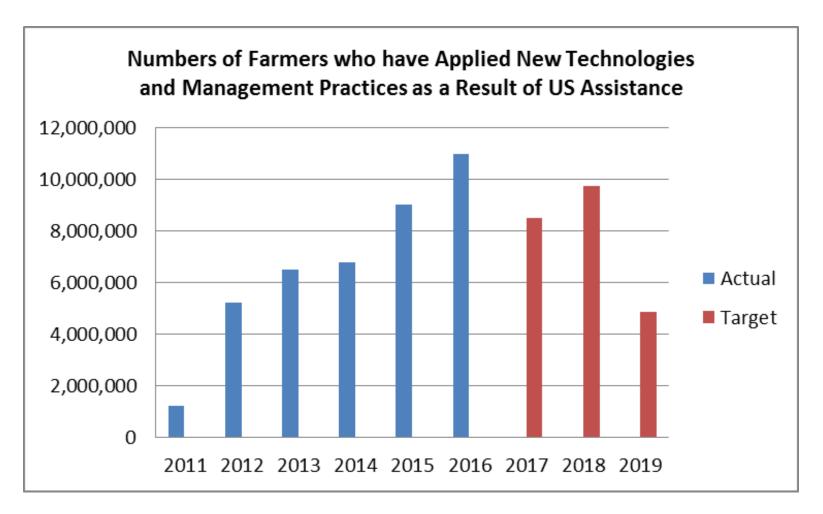
## **Key Milestones**

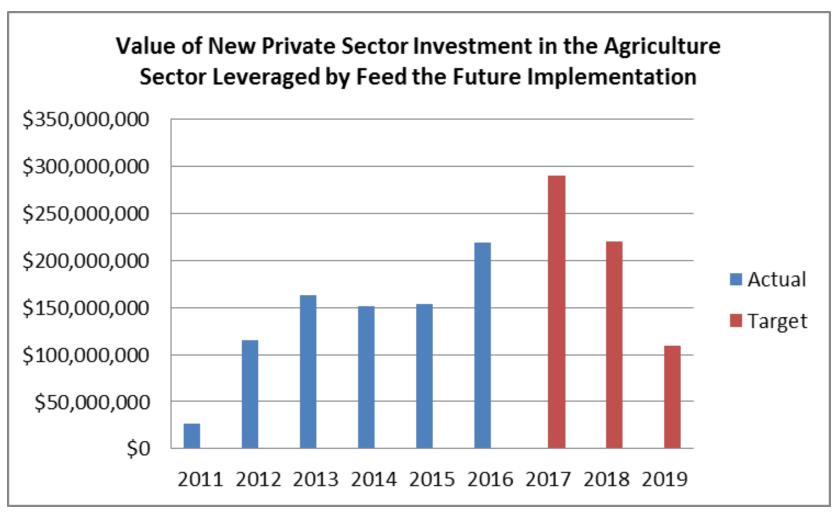
 These milestones will help track the U.S. Government's efforts to implement the Global Food-Security Strategy.

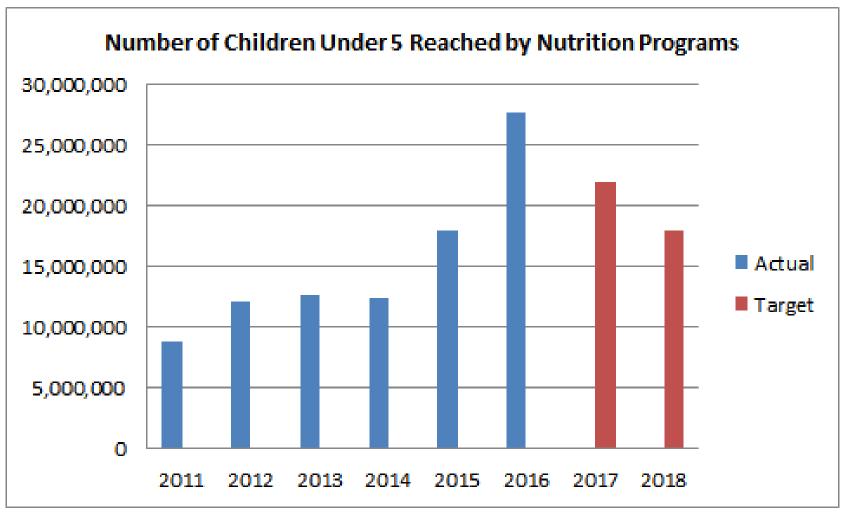
Milestone Summary					
Key Milestone		Milestone Status	Change from last quarter	Owner	Comments
Complete and post revised Feed the Future learning agenda	Q2, FY 2018				
Complete at least 10 Bureau for Food Security (BFS)/Mission Feed the Future performance reviews	Q3, FY 2018				
Complete and post 12 GFSS target country plans	Q4, FY 2018				
Complete policy matrices for 12 GFSS target countries	Q1, FY 2019				
Complete three formal knowledge sharing events during the quarter	Q2, FY 2019				
Complete at least 10 BFS/mission Feed the Future performance reviews	Q3, FY 2019				
Complete learning agenda synthesis and update	Q4, FY 2019				0

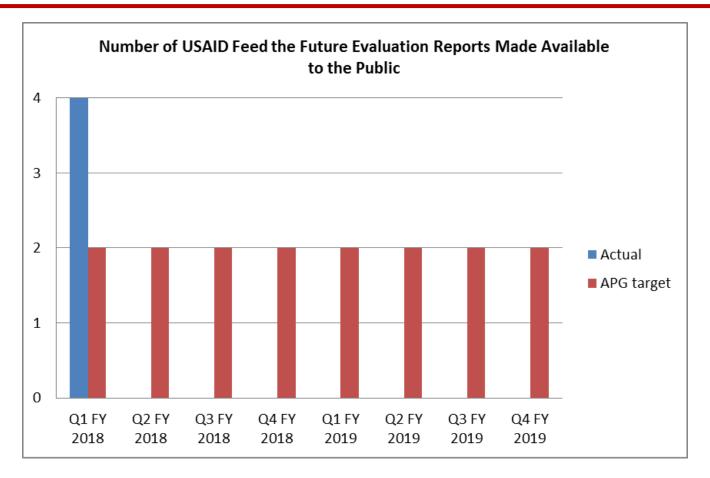
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Note: This indicator will not use interagency data collected in the Feed the Future Monitoring System (FTFMS), which collects results data annually. The number of evaluation reports will be those completed and uploaded onto the publicly accessible USAID Development Experience Clearinghouse website (<a href="https://dec.usaid.gov/dec/home/Default.aspx">https://dec.usaid.gov/dec/home/Default.aspx</a>). Unlike other indicators, which include interagency results, this indicator will only track USAID data.

## **Data Accuracy and Reliability**

Data to support the Agency Priority Goal on Food Security will come primarily from inputs to the Feed the Future Monitoring System (FTFMS), updated annually.

FTFMS is part of an interagency effort to consolidate U.S. Government reporting on Feed the Future activities. Currently, six U.S. Departments and Agencies contribute data to FTFMS, including the U.S. Agency for International Development, the U.S. Departments of Agriculture and the Treasury, the Millennium Challenge Corporation, the Peace Corps, and the U.S. African Development Foundation. FTFMS indicator data are the official results for Feed the Future, aggregated and posted on <a href="www.usaid.gov/data">www.usaid.gov/data</a> for the purposes of transparency.

Feed the Future verifies performance data using Data-Quality Assessments (DQAs), and the numbers must meet standards of validity, integrity, precision, reliability, and timeliness. Each USAID Operating Unit must document the methodology used to conduct the DQAs. DQA and data-source records are maintained in the Performance Management Plans, as described in USAID's Automated Directive System (ADS) Chapter 201.3.2.16, <a href="https://www.usaid.gov/sites/default/files/documents/1870/201.pdf">https://www.usaid.gov/sites/default/files/documents/1870/201.pdf</a>).

To ensure the quality of data, USAID works closely with interagency partners and its implementing partners to review and validate the data. Feed the Future releases data annually in the Feed the Future Progress Report (<a href="https://feedthefuture.gov/progress">https://feedthefuture.gov/progress</a>).

As Feed the Future quarterly indicators milestones focus primarily on the achievement of key activities or the public release of materials, the initiative will measure data based on the status of reaching programmatic priorities.

### **Data Accuracy and Reliability**

#### **Timing and Availability of Data**

FTFMS collects data following the end of the Fiscal Year (FY) in which the activities occurred. Based on the time needed to consolidate and validate global data from across the initiative, including from implementing partners and U.S. interagency partners, Feed the Future generally does not release progress data until well into the year. For example, in the FY 2014 - 2015 APG reporting period, FY 2015 data were not available to report in Performance.gov until the third quarter of 2016. The delay in information availability meant that the initiative could not close out the FY 2014 - 2015 APG reporting cycle until nearly the end of FY 2016. FY 2016 data for food security were not available until the end of the fourth quarter of FY 2017.

USAID proposes shifting from reporting on the Fiscal Year of data (in the next Fiscal Year) to reporting on the data available during the Fiscal Year (i.e., prior-year data). For the FY 2018 - 2019 APG, this will mean reporting FY 2017 and FY 2018 results. As reporting for the FY 2016 - 2017 APG was not completed, this will mean USAID will report FY 2017 data after the close of FY 2018, in line with the regular annual APG reporting timeline.

#### **Target Setting**

The FY 2018 President's Budget Request represented a significant decrease in funding for USAID's funding streams to food security. In addition, the President's Request did not include funding for some partner U.S. Government Agencies that report results into FTFMS (e.g., the U.S. African Development Foundation). As this is the latest public-facing budget document available, the initiative decreased targets accordingly.

#### **Additional Information**

#### **Contributing Programs**

Contributing programs to the Agency Priority Goal for food security include a range of efforts from across the U.S. Government in support of the <u>Global Food-Security Strategy</u>. See Annex 1: Agency-specific Implementation Plans of the <u>Global Food-Security Strategy</u> (<a href="https://feedthefuture.gov/resource/us-government-global-food-security-strategy-fy-2017-2021">https://feedthefuture.gov/resource/us-government-global-food-security-strategy-fy-2017-2021</a>) and Appendix 2: <u>Global Food-Security Strategy Agency Implementation Plan Updates</u> (<a href="https://feedthefuture.gov/resource/us-government-global-food-security-strategy-implementation-report-2017">https://feedthefuture.gov/resource/us-government-global-food-security-strategy-implementation-report-2017</a>) for the details of the contributions of individual U.S. Departments and Agencies.

#### **Stakeholder / Congressional Consultations**

As demonstrated by enactment of the Global Food-Security Act of 2016, which passed with strong bipartisan support, Congress remains an important stakeholder and supporter of the U.S. Government's food-security efforts. The process to develop the U.S. Government's Global Food-Security Strategy (GFSS) included external consultations with non-governmental, U.S. university, and private-sector stakeholders. USAID, with its interagency partners, continues to engage with Congress and other stakeholders on the implementation of the GFSS. In FY 2018, this will include the completion of country plans for GFSS target countries. The further development of stakeholder-collaboration platforms; and refinement of the monitoring, evaluation, and learning approach to track progress and facilitate the sharing of learning and best practices.