a millennium free from hunger

2000

U.S. National Progress Report on Implementation of the *U.S. Action Plan on Food Security* and World Food Summit Commitments

Inset cover photos (left and center) are courtesy of the World Food Programme of the United Nations.

The *U.S. Action Plan on Food Security* is a joint effort of the sub-Cabinet level Interagency Working Group on Food Security (IWG) and the non-governmental Food Security Advisory Committee (FSAC), a subcommittee of the Board for International Food and Agricultural Development.

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Note: This document is an overview of U.S. activities pertinent to food security. It is intended to be representative, not exhaustive. Because of the time and space constraints involved in its creation, this document includes only a few of the numerous activities of government agencies and civil society organizations, drawn from agency submissions and publicly available sources. Please send suggestions for additions or revisions to the office of the National Food Security Coordinator, as noted above.

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executive summary

Food security is achieved when all people at all times have physical and economic access to sufficient food to meet their dietary needs for a productive and healthy life. Sadly, over 800 million people in the world go to sleep hungry or undernourished each night. Even in the United States, where food is plentiful, safe, nutritious, and relatively inexpensive, in 1999 10.5 million households were food insecure, and of these, in nearly 3.1 million households, someone was hungry at some point during the year.

The World Food Summit of 1996 provided an opportunity to focus attention on efforts to address hunger and food insecurity. This national report discusses what the United States has done to address international and domestic commitments on food security, and key achievements, best practices, and lessons learned from both government agencies and civil society groups to share with the international community as well as U.S. stakeholders. The report also highlights that the U.S. Government and civil society now know what actions and investments would cut hunger in half both domestically and internationally.

The development of the *U.S. Action Plan on Food Security* has raised the profile of food security and has enhanced communication and coordination between government and civil society for more effective action in furthering food security goals and greater coherence among private and public food security programs.

Domestic Highlights

The Clinton/Gore Administration has made addressing hunger a priority, both at home and abroad. In March 1999, the United States released its ***U.S. Action Plan on Food Security***, which outlines the means by which the United States will address international and domestic food security goals, and represents commitments of both the public sector and civil society.

There have been several initiatives to strengthen the ***nutrition safety net***. In 1998, the first successful Clinton Administration proposal to expand access to the child nutrition programs in 20 years created a new after-school snack program and a research pilot for a universal school breakfast program. Food stamps were restored to some legal immigrants, and funding for food assistance for low-income, vulnerable

women and children and for the school breakfast program was increased.

The U.S. Government created a ***Community Food Security Initiative*** in 1999 to coordinate public and private sector response to U.S. domestic food security commitments in the *U.S. Action Plan*. Through this initiative, more than 10 million pounds of excess food have been donated to the poor that would have otherwise gone to waste. It has also created a multitude of public and private commitments and partnerships to fight hunger, and has facilitated implementation of community-based food security programs and community access to nutrition assistance programs.

A *national food security objective*. *Healthy People 2010,* the Nation's health goals for this decade and a framework to define the national health agenda and guide health promotion and disease prevention policy, includes for the first time an objective to halve food insecurity by 2010, five years earlier than the World Food Summit target. In addition, some States, like Connecticut, have set a statewide goal of eliminating food insecurity by 2010.

Welfare reform. *The U.S. Action Plan* was developed in the context of a revolutionary change in the way cash assistance is provided to low-income persons that emphasizes work, responsibility, and family. Millions on welfare are going to work, staying employed, and earning more for sustainable self-reliance. The United States has implemented many welfare-to-work programs to prepare and place long-term welfare recipients in quality jobs and to provide a broad array of services related to transportation, child care, and health insurance to help in the transition to self-sufficiency.

The ***Empowerment Zone/Enterprise Community Initiative***. The United States is providing $1.5 billion in performance grants and more than $2.5 billion in tax incentives for job creation and job-related activities for 144 urban and rural communities designated as Empowerment Zones or Enterprise Communities. The Federal seed money has leveraged over $10 billion in additional public and private investment.

Expanding health care coverage to uninsured children. The State Children's Health Insurance Program, created in 1997, has enabled States to expand health care coverage to over 2 million uninsured children from families with incomes too high to qualify for Medicaid but too low to afford private health insurance.

The United States has also expanded and enhanced the quality of ***early childhood development programs for low-income children***. Under the Clinton/Gore Administration, funding for Head Start has more than doubled, increasing enrollment by over 200,000 children, enhancing the quality of services, launching a new initiative called Early Head Start for infants and toddlers, and building partnerships with providers to deliver full-day and full-year Head Start services to help low-income parents obtain full-time work.

In 1997, President Clinton announced a ***National Food Safety Initiative*** for reducing foodborne illness from farm to table. This initiative has resulted in strategic planning of U.S. food safety efforts; improvements in the national food safety surveillance system; implementation of Hazard Analysis and Critical Control Point systems in appropriate sectors of the food supply; new scientific information and tools to better control food safety hazards; improvements in risk assessment capabilities and inspection; expanded research and consumer education; and enhanced safety of imported foods. A strong science base drives all these efforts.

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International Highlights

The Clinton/Gore Administration has shown an unprecedented interest in Africa, particularly with respect to its food security challenges. The President's historic visit to Africa in March 1998 laid the foundation for a new U.S.–Africa partnership, and has resulted in initiatives to improve nutritional status and increase rural incomes by renewing commitment to agriculture and food security and promoting sound economic development and strong democratic societies. These include the ***Africa Food Security Initiative***, the ***Education for Development and Democracy Initiative***, and the ***Africa: Seeds of Hope Act***. The United States has also supported African efforts to increase economic opportunity and income for their people through increased openness to international trade and investment through such initiatives as the ***Partnership for Economic Growth and Opportunity in Africa*** of 1997, the ***Africa Trade and Investment Program,*** and the 2000 ***African Growth and Opportunity Act***.

The 1998 ***Africa: Seeds of Hope Act*** refocuses U.S. development assistance resources on agricultural and rural development for small-scale farmers and struggling rural communities, focusing on micro-credit finance strategies, agricultural research, agricultural extension, and enhanced private enterprises in agriculture. The Act also calls for increased participation by African partners in decision-making on development and greater emphasis on entrepreneurial opportunities for women in development programming, in recognition of the role of women in small-scale agriculture. Finally, the Act calls for renewed participation by U.S. land-grant universities in agricultural research, micro-enterprise, and other efforts to reduce poverty and hunger in Africa.

So far the Africa: Seeds of Hope legislation has produced the following results for food security and agriculture:

- Real expansion of U.S. micro-enterprise programs to alleviate rural poverty
- Increased support for farmers associations, cooperatives, and rural organizations for poverty alleviation and self-sufficiency
- Increased support to agricultural research in the East, West, and southern African subregions
- Increased U.S. funding for agriculture for the first time since 1985
- A special program to link the international agricultural research centers with U.S. universities.

Trade capacity building activities. The capacity of developing countries and transitional economies to participate in the multilateral trading system will be an important factor in the evolution of a global economy that works for everyone. The U.S. Government has committed over $600 million to trade capacity building activities over the past 2 years.

Research has shown that children who suffer malnutrition in their early years are less able to learn and that hungry children are less likely to pay attention in school. Starting in 2000, the United States will support a ***Global Food for Education multilateral school feeding program*** to improve student enrollment, attendance, and performance. The United States will purchase surplus agricultural commodities and donate them for use in school feeding nutrition programs in countries with strong commitment and action plans to expand access and improve the quality of basic education, working in partnership with the World Food Programme of the United Nations and private voluntary organizations. For the first year of the program, the United States will spend $300 million, feeding as many as 9 million school children and preschoolers.

Expanded funding for biotechnology and agricultural research. The U.S. Agency for International Development (USAID) provides funding for biotechnology and biosafety capacity building in less developed countries of approximately $7 million per year for international agricultural research center programs, innovative public and private university partnerships for agricultural biotechnology support and policy, and African livestock vaccine development.

Direct support to International Agricultural Research Centers. In 1999, the United States, through USAID, contributed $39 million to 16 international agricultural research centers through the Consultative Group on International Agricultural Research. These centers, generally located in developing countries, produce improved technologies and recommend policies for adaptation and use in those nations for all the basic food crops, livestock, and natural resources.

U.S. food assistance arrives on the S.S. Colorado at the port of Massawa, Eritrea.

Largest increase in U.S. international food assistance in a decade. In both fiscal years 1997 and 1998, the United States provided roughly 3 million metric tons, valued at $1 billion, of food assistance to over 60 developing and re-industrializing countries, reaching millions of people. In fiscal year 1999, that amount tripled to 10 million tons, valued at more than $2.4 billion, and the number of countries served increased to 82. This assistance was divided almost equally between emergencies and longer term development programs.

Reversing the decline in foreign assistance for agriculture. The U.S. Government has reversed the decline in foreign assistance funding for agriculture projects that began in 1985, expanding this funding to over $300 million in fiscal year 2000. In addition, USAID has, for the first time in many years, brought new professionals on board in fiscal year 2000 to begin staffing the expanded agriculture program.

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Hurricane relief and reconstruction. In response to two devastating hurricanes in 1998, Mitch and Georges, the United States has provided $621 million in reconstruction assistance to Central America and the Caribbean for restoration of national health care delivery systems and schools; community water and sanitation; economic reactivation through rebuilding farm-to-market roads; re-establishment of agricultural production; replacement of lost housing and shelter; a risk mapping and early warning system; and disaster mitigation watershed restoration.

In 2000, USAID and the U.S. Department of Agriculture (USDA) jointly provided nearly $45 million in ***direct or indirect assistance to foreign countries to help them strengthen food security, sustainable agriculture, and natural resource management***, including over 80 projects annually that address several priority areas of the *U.S. Action Plan*. Key issues are breaking down barriers to trade within sub-continental regions, developing economic models that can predict famine and food insecurity, and developing solutions to water resource constraints.

U.S. support for Codex Alimentarius. The United States has been a leader in the Codex process since its inception, and continued U.S. leadership will result in increased food safety and food security worldwide, including in the United States, because of the global nature of our food supply. (The *Codex Alimentarius* is a collection of internationally adopted food standards intended to guide the establishment and harmonization of national requirements for foods and, in so doing, facilitate international trade.)

U.S. support to WHO food safety programs: The United States recommended a food safety agenda item to the World Health Organization (WHO) Executive Board. It was ultimately passed as a resolution on food safety in May 2000 at the Fifty-Third World Health Assembly. The United States has also supported an enhanced WHO food safety role by providing resources for programs and staff loans.

Participatory, grass-roots approach to development. The Peace Corps sends volunteers to work in 77 countries on projects which emphasize small-scale, appropriate technology, and capacity building of counterparts, institutions, and community groups for sustainability. In 2000, a total budget of $244 million is available for work in the following sectors, all with implications for food security: agriculture, business development, education, environment, and health. The projects cover water and sanitation, special initiatives for girls' education, HIV/AIDS, information technology, participation of nongovernmental organizations (NGO), women in development, and youth development.

Progress in Reducing Food Insecurity

In developing countries. We have made significant progress in ending hunger. Thirty years ago there were 959 million undernourished people in the developing world. Today there are 792 million, in spite of a 2 billion rise in population. In recent decades, the proportion of the world's population that is hungry has dropped 50 percent and the absolute number has fallen by 17 percent.

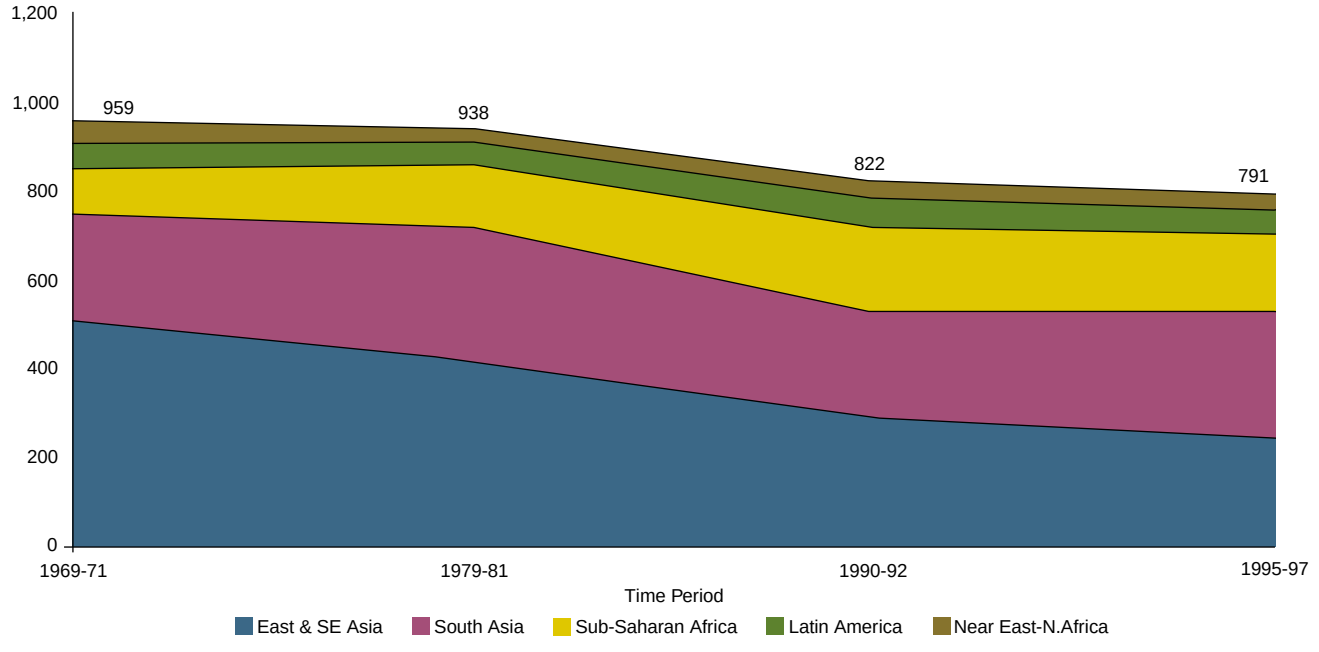
In the United States. With the help of the strongest economy in a generation and the Nation's nutrition safety net, the problem of hunger has been reduced, but not eliminated. Comparing the rates of U.S. food security between 1995 and 1999 shows a 12-percent decline in the number of food-insecure households and a decline of 24 percent in the number with hungry members. Sustained economic expansion has reduced the U.S. poverty rate to its lowest level since 1979.

The Cost of Ending Hunger

Despite the progress we have made, hunger persists, and this is simply unacceptable in a world of plenty.

In developing countries—a model for halving world hunger. A study by USAID found that viable and affordable strategies exist for achieving the World Food Summit goal of halving global hunger that involve a sustained but modest increase in current global development assis-

Number of Undernourished People, Developing World, 1969-1997



Source: FAO estimates, October 1999.

tance levels of $2.6 billion annually, with the U.S. share at $685 million per year. This study formed the basis for the discussion of resource requirements to cut hunger in half in the *U.S. Action Plan on Food Security*. Within the broad strategic areas outlined in the *U.S. Action Plan*, the five areas with the highest potential to reduce malnutrition at the lowest cost are agricultural research, rural roads, safe water, targeted income-earning opportunities, and women's education.

In the United States. According to estimates by public advocates, ending food insecurity and hunger in the United States through additional domestic food assistance would cost about $6.9 billion, but is a short-term emergency solution that would temporarily close the food gap of food-insecure households, but not ensure they stay food secure. Producing income levels to enable families currently below the poverty level to achieve and maintain economic independence would cost between $76 and $119 billion a year.

Civil society organizations have also outlined strategies to address food insecurity. For example, Bread for the World Institute's *Program to End Hunger* shows that a relatively modest investment in money and political will could dramatically reduce hunger, cutting hunger in half in the United States within two years and worldwide in two decades. The cost to the United States would be roughly $6 billion a year. That is equivalent to one-third of 1 percent of the Federal budget, and would cost each person in the United States about 6 cents per day.

The Cost of Not Ending Hunger

Not addressing hunger costs us at home and abroad in terms of treating its consequences: poor health, impaired cognitive development of our children, crime and conflict.

Several World Bank studies have estimated the worldwide loss of productivity caused by malnutrition and micronutrient deficiencies: hunger steals 46 million years of productive, disability-free life each year, valued at $16 billion. In South Asia alone, the productivity lost to hunger is 5 percent of Gross National Product. Clearly, the global cost of overcoming hunger is only a fraction of the cost of allowing it to persist.

Need To Redouble Efforts To Achieve Food Security Objectives

Despite extensive and serious international and U.S. efforts, current projections of food insecurity at home and abroad show that we are not on track to meet the World Food Summit and *U.S. Action Plan* targets of halving food insecurity. There is a large gap remaining in resources required to reach the targets. The *U.S. Action Plan* was launched against the backdrop of the longest economic expansion in U.S. history and the strongest economy in a generation. The sustainability of gains made is uncertain during an economic downturn.

While the *U.S. Action Plan on Food Security* sets laudable goals, it is up against daunting trends of declining foreign aid, and it encompasses no significant new initiatives or resources either internationally or domestically. We will not meet our food security goals without a substantial increase in resources to build agricultural productivity and rural incomes overseas. There is a need to support families trying to earn a living and communities working to sustain food security at home.

Abroad, much of the needed resources must come from private trade and investment. But, in parts of the world where food insecurity is most rampant, such as Africa, investments must come in part from public resources for: supporting agriculture and rural development; helping governments improve policies; training policymakers and researchers; developing new technologies; preserving the environment; sustaining targeted food interventions; supporting civil society initiatives; and facilitating a better private sector environment.

In the United States, advocates estimate that hunger could be reduced through additional investment in our nutrition assistance programs; support to enable all full-time workers to earn enough income to feed their families, including the Earned Income Tax Credit and access to adequate health insurance, child care and education; and safety net programs for people who, because of disability and other reasons, cannot work for a living.

Conclusion

The goal of reducing hunger is attainable both at home and abroad. What is needed is leadership, vision, and commitment by governments and civil society. The chief domestic and international strategies to address hunger are: to improve livelihoods; invest in health and education; and empower poor people to participate in decisions that affect their lives. An investment in ending hunger is an investment in the health and productivity of our citizens and the cohesiveness of our national and global societies.

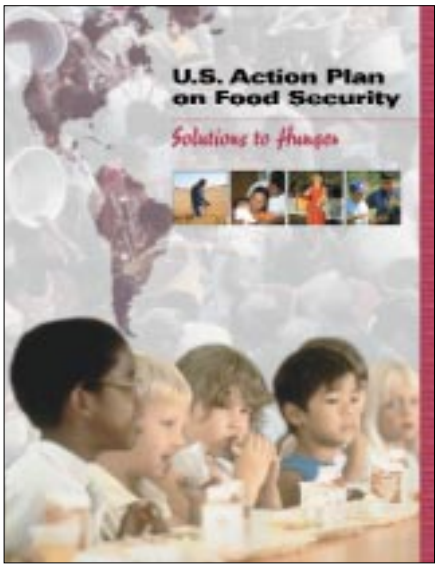
The Challenge

World Food Summit. The United Nations Food and Agriculture Organization (FAO) convened the World Food Summit in Rome in November 1996 to focus attention on the continuing problem of hunger and malnutrition facing more than 800 million people worldwide and to renew commitment to achieving sustainable food security for all. The Rome Declaration on World Food Security and World Food Summit Plan of Action endorsed at the World Food Summit provide a framework for concerted policies and actions needed at international and national levels to address the root causes of food insecurity: war and civil strife; inappropriate national policies; inadequate access to research and technology; barriers to trade; environmental degradation; poverty; population growth; gender inequality; and poor health. At the World Food Summit, the United States, 185 other countries, and the European Community pledged to reduce the number of undernourished people by half by 2015. The United States subsequently also committed to a more ambitious target of reducing domestic food insecurity by half by 2010.

The U.S. Response: The *U.S. Action Plan on Food Security*

The *U.S. Plan of Action on Food Security* outlines the means by which the United States will address international and domestic food security goals. It represents commitments of both the public sector and civil society. The *U.S. Action Plan* discusses the critical factors contributing to food security and provides a strategic framework for addressing them. It envisions government serving as a facilitator to empower communities and an active role for civil society. The *U.S. Action Plan* identifies priorities, actions, and commitments to be undertaken by the U.S. Government collaboratively with civil society to achieve greater food security at home and abroad. A summary of the *U.S. Action Plan* is provided in appendix B. A full copy of the report can be found on the Internet at *http://www.fas.usda.gov/icd/summit/pressdoc.html*.

There are seven priority areas of the *U.S. Action Plan* which are the factors which contribute to food security: an appropriate economic and policy environment; trade and investment; research and education; sustainable agricultural practices; a strong safety net; improved identification of the



food insecure; and safe food and water. Addressing them will require a collaborative effort of government, businesses, nongovernmental organizations, and communities.

U.S. National Mechanisms For Food Security Priority Setting and Implementation

The United States has applied an interagency process for policy making, monitoring, and reporting on food security issues and formulated a national action plan with input from and involvement of the private sector and NGO's, through an Interagency Working Group on Food Security and a Food Security Advisory Committee.

The Interagency Working Group on Food Security (IWG), first established to prepare for the 1996 World Food Summit, is the U.S.

Government mechanism to develop, implement, and monitor a long-term action plan to achieve food security commitments made at the World Food Summit, as set out in the *U.S. Action Plan on Food Security*. The IWG is co-chaired by the Department of State, USDA, and USAID.

The Food Security Advisory Committee (FSAC) was established in December of 1997 to provide civil society input to the IWG's work of implementing and monitoring food security commitments. The committee collaborated with the U.S. Government on the development of the national food security action plan. It will continue to participate in implementation of the *U.S. Action Plan* and serve as an outreach vehicle to all nongovernmental sectors. The FSAC is composed of representatives of academia; agribusiness; commodity groups; farmers; food recovery and food bank interests; foundations; nutrition and food policy experts; and NGO's for environment, fisheries, food aid, population, and sustainable development.

There have been public and private sector efforts to support community food security initiatives domestically. The Community Food Security Initiative is the government mechanism to coordinate action on domestic food security commitments, working with civil society. In the private sector, the Community Food Security Coalition has over 275 grassroots, civil society organization members. They focus on food and agriculture issues and community-based solutions to hunger, poor nutrition, and the globalization of the food system.

state of food security

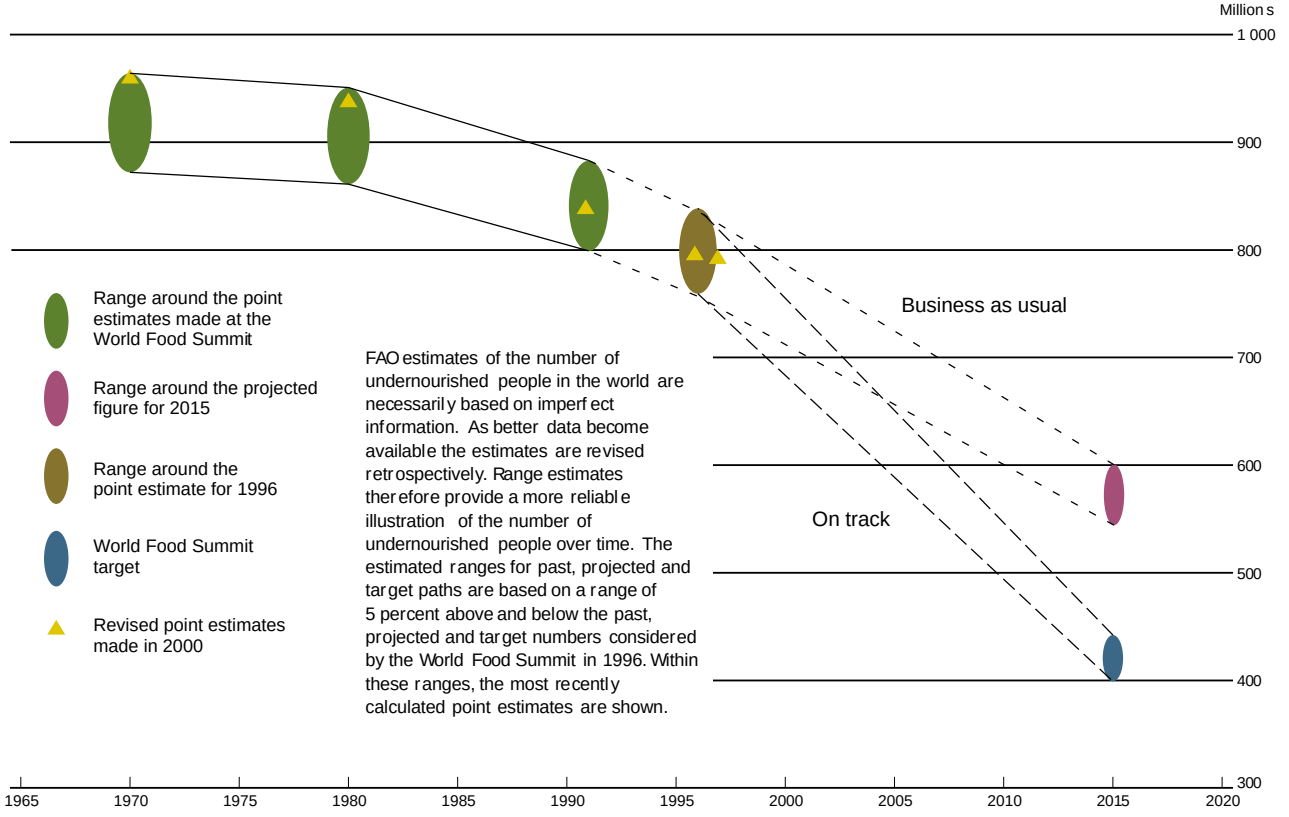
How are we doing in meeting food security commitments? Current projections of food insecurity at home and abroad show that, despite encouraging improvements, we are not on track to meet the World Food Summit target.

The State of International Food Security

According to FAO, 792 million people in developing countries and 34 million people in developed countries remain hungry today. Since the early 1990's, only 39 countries have reduced their number of undernourished people. In the rest of the developing countries, the number of the undernourished has risen, especially in Africa.

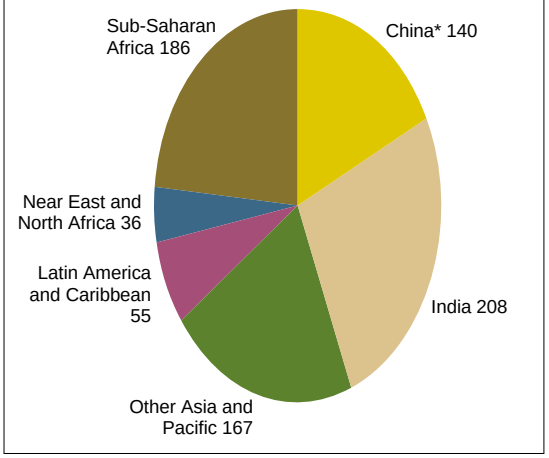
The annual 8 million reduction in the number of undernourished is too slow to reach the World Food Summit target of halving world hunger. Acceleration of progress is essential in order for the number of undernourished people to decline at the necessary rate of 20 million peo-

Number of Undernourished in the Developing World
Observed and Projected Ranges Compared With the World Food Summit Target



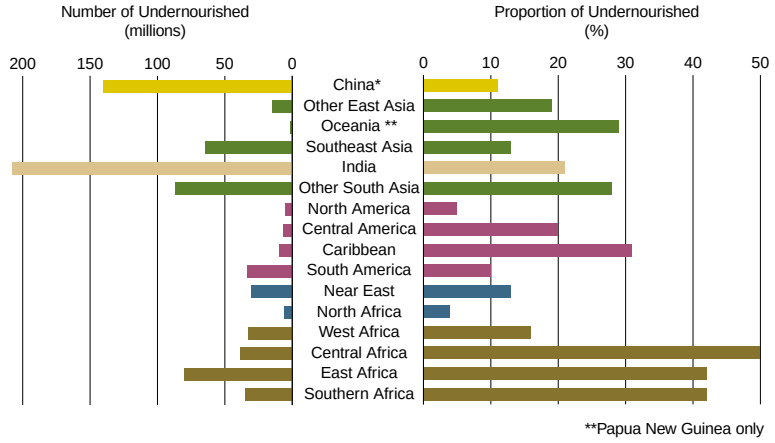
Source: *The State of Food Insecurity in the World,* FAO, 2000.

Number of Undernourished, by Region, 1996–1998 (millions)



Source: *The State of Food Insecurity in the World,* FAO, 2000.

Number and Proportion of Undernourished, by Region and Subregion, 1996–1998



Source: *The State of Food Insecurity in the World,* FAO, 2000.

ple per year. In fact, in some countries the problem of hunger and food insecurity may persist and even worsen, without concerted and determined actions, because of the anticipated increase in the world's population and the pressures placed on natural resources.

The Economic Research Service (ERS) reports that broad trends in food production and prices indicate a decline in the share of people who lack access to adequate food. There is variation among regions, countries, and income groups within countries, however. Of the 67 countries evaluated, food consumption is expected to fall short of the nutritional requirement in 30, while 45 are expected to face a decline in per capita consumption through 2009. Unequal purchasing power exacerbates food insecurity, and distribution-related problems will intensify more than they will spread.

The greatest numbers of undernourished people are in the South, East, and southeast of Asia, and sub-Saharan Africa. Food insecurity, measured in terms of the availability of kilocalories per capita per day, is most severe in sub-Saharan Africa, followed by South Asia. In all regions, food insecurity is directly related to income. The less money families have, the more food insecure they tend to be.

South Asia has the highest numbers of undernourished in the world. The problem stems in large part from several interrelated factors. There is deep poverty among the rural landless and other particularly vulnerable groups, which limits access to food. Low education and social status of women limit their control over distribution of food within the household and affects their food security and that of their children. A high population density combined with a humid monsoon climate and poor access to safe water and sanitation lead to poor health and inhibits the utilization of available food.

In sub-Saharan Africa, hunger is caused by low food availability and poverty, especially in the war-torn and least developed countries. A lack of education and poor health are also contributing factors.

state of food security

Significant growth in agricultural production is drained by relatively high population growth and limited financial resources that constrain imports and will lead to declining per capita consumption. According to ERS, the number of people in the region failing to meet their nutritional requirement is expected to jump 40 percent over the next decade to well over 400 million in 2009, meaning roughly 60 percent of the region's population will be food insecure.

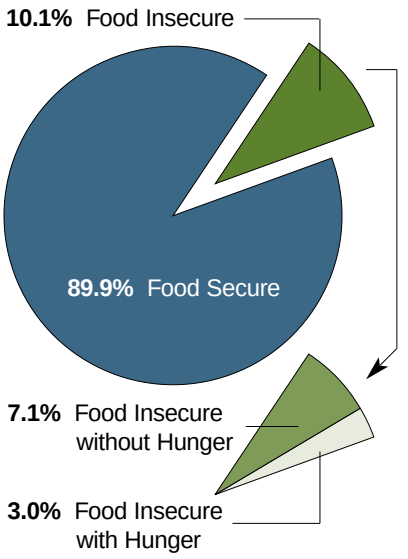
In most other areas of the world, food availability is generally adequate. Chronic food insecurity in East Asia is centered in a few countries that have yet to partake fully in the growth process. In Latin America and the Caribbean, per capita income is much higher than in other developing countries. There are, however, significant pockets of poverty and skewed income distribution, which suggest the presence of undernutrition. A number of countries, especially in Central America and the Caribbean, are still very poor, with a much higher percentage of their population food insecure and dependent on food imports. In other areas, female illiteracy is quite high, indicating the possibility of undernutrition within households.

The State of U.S. Domestic Food Security

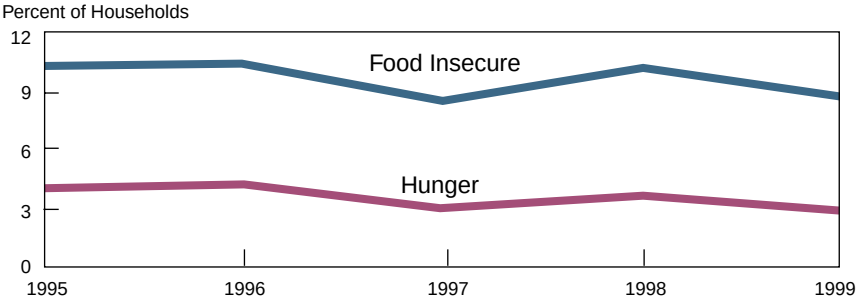
The majority of American households are food secure. Yet, even in the United States, where food is plentiful, safe, nutritious, and relatively inexpensive, 10.5 million households, or 10 percent, were food insecure in 1999. About 31 million people, 39 percent of them children, lived in these households. In 3.1 million households, one or more household members were hungry at least sometime. Faced with limited resources, one out of six Americans turns to government food assistance programs. Others cope with food insecurity by skipping meals, substituting less expensive, less nutritious alternatives, or seeking emergency food from soup kitchens or food pantries.

Prevalence of Food Security and Hunger in the United States, 1999

(Source: USDA, FNCS, "Household Food Security in the United States in 1999 (Fall 2000).



Prevalence of Food Insecurity and Hunger in U.S. Households, 1995-99



Source: Calculated by ERS based on Current Population Survey Food Security Supplements of April 1995, August 1996, April 1997, September 1998, and April 1999. Data are adjusted for cross-year comparability.

How Households Respond to Food Insecurity, 1995, 1998, and 1999

	Percent of Households			
	1995 adjusted	1998 adjusted	1999 adjusted	1999 unadjusted
Households:				
Worried food would run out before (I/we) got money to buy more	13.0	12.8	11.3	14.7
Food bought didn't last and (I/we) didn't have money to buy more	10.6	10.8	9.9	12.2
Couldn't afford to eat balanced meals	10.0	9.1	8.0	9.5
Adults:				
Adult(s) cut size of meals or skipped meals	6.5	6.0	4.7	5.2
Respondent ate less than felt he/she should	6.3	5.7	4.4	4.8
Adult(s) cut size or skipped meals in 3 or more months	4.7	7.2	3.4	3.6
Respondent hungry but didn't eat because couldn't afford	3.1	2.6	2.1	2.2
Respondent lost weight	1.7	1.6	1.2	1.2
Adult(s) did not eat for whole day	1.5	1.3	1.0	1.0
Adult(s) did not eat for whole day in 3 or more months	1.1	0.9	0.6	0.7
Children:				
Relied on few kinds of low-cost food to feed child(ren)	13.2	13.6	12.1	14.4
Couldn't feed child(ren) balanced meals	8.7	8.4	7.3	8.2
Child(ren) were not eating enough	4.8	4.4	4.2	4.7
Cut size of child(ren)'s meals	2.0	1.6	0.9	1.0
Child(ren) were hungry	1.7	1.1	0.8	0.8
Child(ren) skipped meals	0.8	0.8	0.5	0.5
Child(ren) skipped meals in 3 or more months	0.6	0.5	0.4	0.4
Child(ren) did not eat for whole day	0.2	0.2	0.1	0.1

[1]Item response frequencies weighted to population totals.

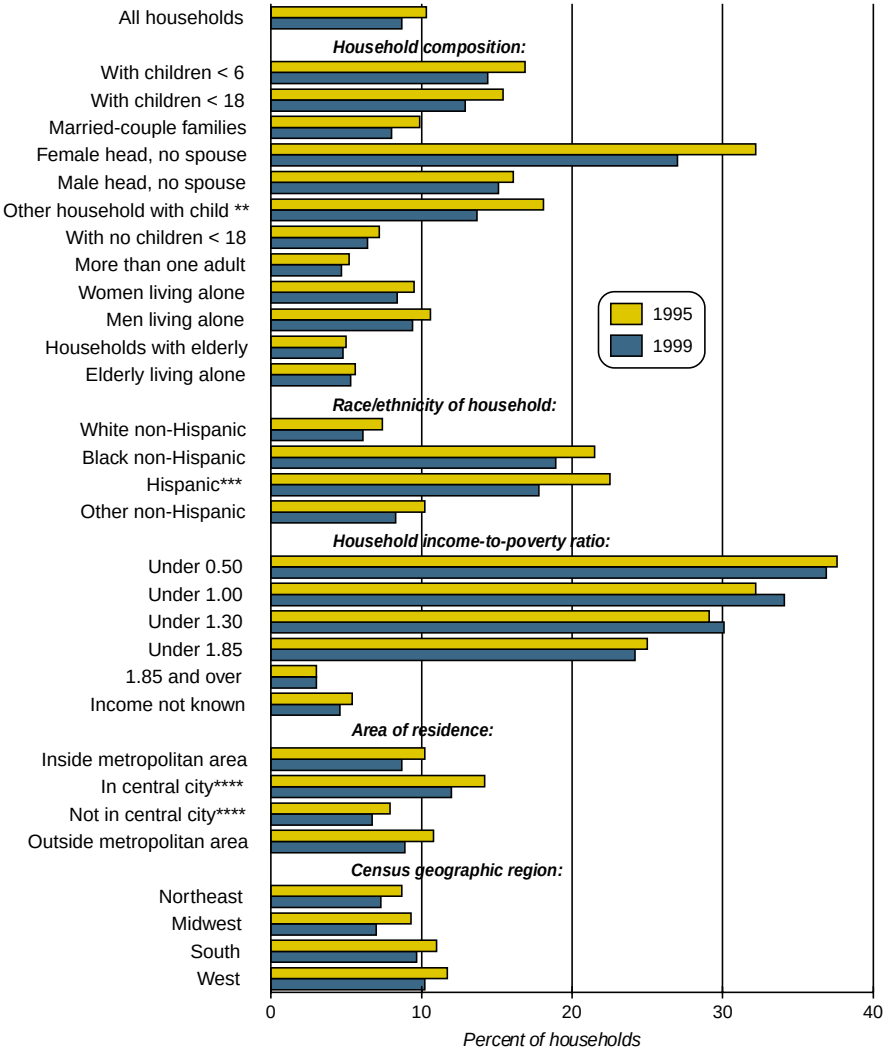
[2]The actual wording of each item includes explicit reference to resource limitation, e.g., "because (I was/we were) running out of money to buy food," or "because there wasn't enough money for food."

[3]Households not responding to item are excluded from the denominator. Households without children are excluded from the denominator of child-referenced items.

Source: Current Population Survey Food Security Supplement, April 1995, August 1998, and April 1999.

In the United States, those who may be particularly susceptible to food insecurity are: the homeless; poor children; some female-headed households; Native Americans; other minorities; central city residents; the working poor; some legal immigrants; able-bodied adults without dependents who have lost eligibility for benefits; some elderly and immuno-compromised individuals; some residents in rural and remote areas; and migrant farm workers. The most important cause of chronic food insecurity in the United States is poverty, followed by difficulty accessing food. Low literacy, certain disabilities, and poor health can all increase the risk of food insecurity and hunger for individuals. Access to food can be limited by lack of transportation, living in remote locations, or lack of affordable food stores. Additionally, some people may feel stigmatized by accepting food assistance.

Prevalence of Food Insecurity, With or Without Hunger, 1995 versus 1999



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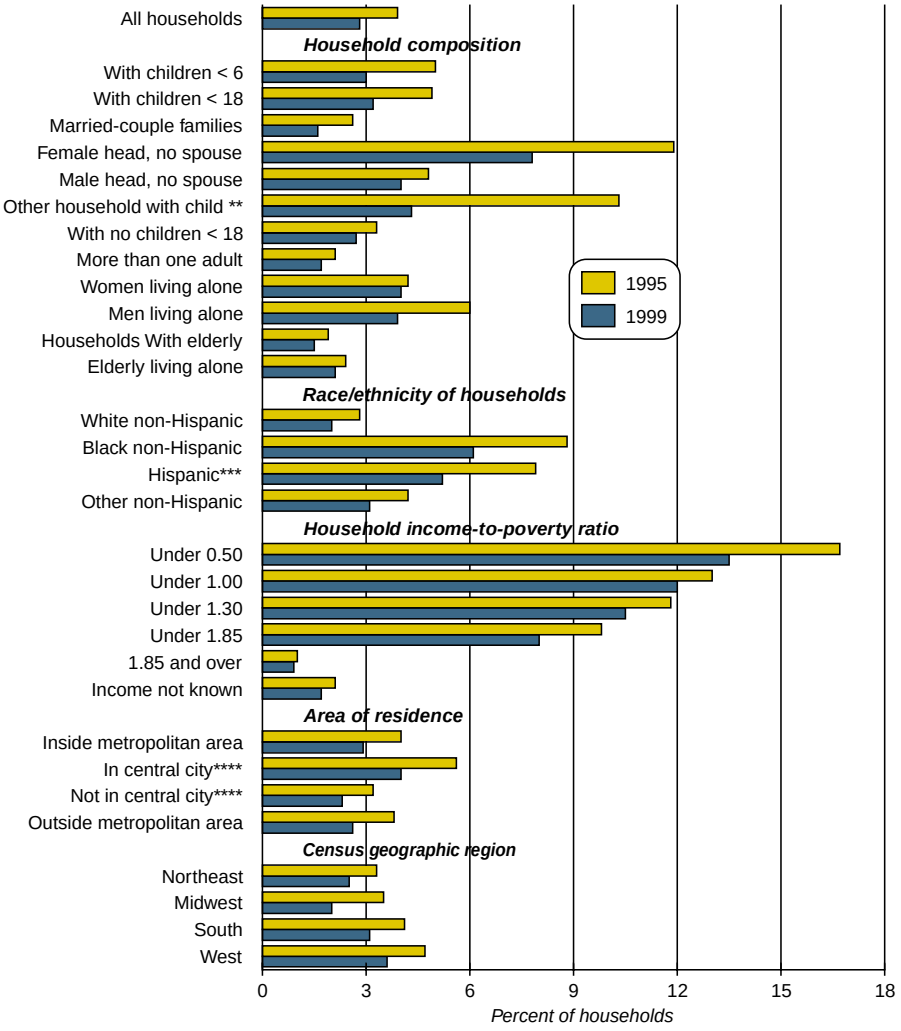
Calculated by ERS based on data from Current Population Survey Food Security Supplements as of April 1995 and April 1999, adjusted for cross-year comparability.

Prevalence of Hunger, 1995 versus 1999



, *, **** -- See notes to tables, page 9.

Source: Calculated by ERS based on data from Current Population Survey Food Security Supplements of April 1995 and April 1999, adjusted for cross-year comparability.

With the help of the strongest economy in a generation and the Nation's nutrition safety net, the problem of hunger has been reduced, but not eliminated. Comparing the rates of U.S. food security between 1995 and 1999 shows a 12-percent decline in the number of food-insecure households and a decline of 24 percent in the number with hungry members. The *U.S. Action Plan* was launched against the backdrop of the longest economic expansion in U.S. history, and the strongest economy in a generation. The sustainability of gains made is uncertain during an economic downturn.

The seven priority areas of the *U.S. Action Plan* are: 1) economic security and policy environment; 2) trade and investment; 3) research and education; 4) sustainable food systems and the environment; 5) food security safety net; 6) information and mapping; and 7) food and water safety. This report follows the same structure as the *U.S. Action Plan on Food Security*, reporting international and domestic activities separately under each of the seven priority areas, and includes a section on the food security activities of civil society.

1 Priority Area I: Economic Security and Policy Environment

Food security requires an enabling political, social, and economic environment. Promoting opportunities and providing support services for work, establishing broad-based participation, and enhancing gender equality are essential. In the international arena, support for good governance and conflict prevention are also necessary.

Domestic Actions

Welfare Reform

The Personal Responsibility and Work Opportunity Reconciliation Act of 1996 provided a historic opportunity to reform the way welfare services are provided to low-income persons, by emphasizing work, responsibility, and family. The law transformed cash assistance from an entitlement program to a block funding grant called Temporary Assistance for Needy Families which provides States with considerable flexibility in designing welfare programs. It imposed lifetime limits on the time a family could receive cash aid. The law also contains strong work requirements, performance bonuses to reward States for moving welfare recipients into jobs and reducing illegitimacy, comprehensive child support enforcement, and supports for families moving from welfare to work, including increased funding for child care.

Employment programs help recipients go to work, increase their earnings, and reduce welfare payments. However, former welfare recipients generally find relatively low-wage entry-level jobs with few benefits. Fewer are participating in Medicaid, food stamps, and child care assistance than are eligible. They report more struggles to make ends meet than peers who never received cash assistance. One-third report having to cut meal size or skip meals; nearly 40 percent report problems paying rent, mortgage, or utility bills.

The continuing struggles of former welfare recipients suggest they may continue to need help transitioning toward self-sufficiency. In the absence of public assistance, the biggest deterrents to work are the need for child care, health insurance, and transportation. Programs such as the $3 billion Welfare-to-Work grants that emphasize jobs which pay enough to allow self-reliance and provide a broader array of transitional services for the least employable are promising in that regard.

Welfare Rolls Decline as More Recipients Go to Work

Caseloads have fallen to historic new lows. Since January 1993, welfare rolls have fallen by 7.8 million, or more than 56 percent, resulting in the smallest number of people on welfare since 1968. In August 1999, the Council of Economic Advisers reported that the single most important factor contributing to this historic decline is the implementation of welfare reform. Of the caseload reduction from 1996 to 1998, approximately one-third is due to Federal and State policy changes resulting from welfare reform, and about 10 percent is due to the strong economy.

Independent studies confirm record numbers of people are moving from welfare to work. A national survey by the Urban Institute found 69 percent of recipients had left welfare for work, and 18 percent had left because they had increased income, no longer needed welfare, or had a change in family situation. A 1999 General Accounting Office report found that between 63 and 87 percent of adults have worked since leaving the welfare rolls, and recent evaluations from Minnesota, Los Angeles, and Connecticut confirm that well-designed welfare reform initiatives significantly increase the employment of welfare recipients. The Minnesota results also show that welfare reform can increase marriage rates and marital stability among low-income families. Between 1992 and 1999, the employment rate of former welfare recipients increased by 82 percent.

Innovative State Welfare-to-Work programs that employ various combinations of job support and training, like Milwaukee's New Hope Project, have been shown to increase participants' employment and reduce their poverty and use of public assistance programs. They improve children's classroom behavior, school performance, and social competence. This may be due to better access to quality child care.

Helping the Disadvantaged Move From Welfare to Work

Welfare-to-Work grants. The U.S. Department of Labor administers the Welfare-to-Work grant program for States and local communities to move welfare recipients and certain noncustodial parents into lasting, unsubsidized jobs. Funds can be used for job creation, placement, and retention efforts, including wage subsidies to private employers and other critical post-employment support services. The grants total $3 billion split between fiscal years 1998 and 1999. Grantees have up to 3 years to spend the funds. One hundred and ninety-one competitive grants have been awarded to local organizations, such as workforce boards, cities and counties, community-based organizations, and others. Approximately 200,000 participants were enrolled in the program as of March 2000.

Tax credits for employers. The Welfare-to-Work and Work Opportunity Tax Credits encourage more employers to hire welfare recipients and other disadvantaged individuals. They also encourage employers to provide certain employee benefits such as training, health coverage, and dependent care. The Welfare-to-Work Tax Credit, enacted in the Taxpayer Relief Act of 1997, offers a credit equal to 35 percent of the first $10,000 in wages in the first year of employment, and 50 percent of the first $10,000 in wages in the second year for a total credit of up to $8,500.

The ***Job Opportunities for Low-Income Individuals Program*** is a job creation program to demonstrate and evaluate ways of creating new employment opportunities for low-income individuals such as technical and financial assistance to private employers in the community and self-employment and microenterprise business opportunities. This program funds approximately 5 to 10 grants each year for nonprofit organizations, including community development corporations, for up to 3-year project periods and a maximum of $500,000 per project.

Using community kitchens to help Americans move from welfare to work. The U.S. Government, in partnership with the American School Food Service Association and community and nonprofit organizations, has established a program for school cafeterias and community kitchens to help qualified low-income, disadvantaged individuals in obtaining job training and opportunities for self sufficiency, alongside nutrition education services. USDA is also providing $370,000 in grants to support school cafeterias and community kitchens in helping food stamp recipients and low-income families obtain skills for employment in the food service industry.

Helping low-income fathers and working families support their children. To ensure that low-income parents who are not living with their children provide the financial and emotional support their children deserve, the United States has taken a number of measures. Today, parents who owe child support can have their wages garnished, their bank accounts seized, their Federal loans denied, and their tax refunds withheld. Child support collections have doubled from $8 billion in 1992 to nearly $16 billion in 1999. The number of families actually receiving child support has also increased. The Clinton/Gore Administration is seeking $255 million for the first year of a new "Fathers Work/Families Win" initiative to promote responsible fatherhood and support working families. The "Fathers Work" grants would help approximately 40,000 low-income, noncustodial parents work, pay child support, and reconnect with their children.

Support Services for Working Families

Making it easier for working families to own vehicles and receive food stamps. Some families need a car to get to work. However, owning a car can often be the one item that makes a household ineligible for food stamps. Current law limits food stamp eligibility to most families owning a car worth less than $4,650. This limit has increased only 3 percent since it was set in 1977, while the cost of cars has nearly tripled. The President's 2001 budget proposal would make it easier for working families to own a reliable vehicle and receive food stamps.

Improving access to affordable and quality child care. Under the Clinton/Gore Administration, Federal funding for child care has more than doubled, helping parents pay for the care of about 1.5 million children in 1998. The 1996 welfare reform law increased child care funding by $4 billion over 6 years to provide child care assistance to families moving from welfare to work and other low-income families.

Head Start expansion initiative. In 1997, Head Start expansion funds were used for the first time to provide Head Start services for children while also helping parents on welfare move to work. Under the new initiative, Head Start expansion funds are being used to build partnerships with child care providers to deliver full-day and full-year Head Start services where children stay in one place all day, which can, in turn, help parents obtain full-time work.

Ensuring that eligible families get Food Stamps and Medicaid. Since its peak in 1994, food stamp participation has declined sharply by nearly 11 million people. While part of the drop can be explained by a strong economy and the success of welfare reform, many poor families no longer participate despite continued eligibility. Medicaid and food stamps are essential supports for working families, and could keep them off welfare in the first place. As people leave welfare for work, continued access to health insurance and nutritional assistance is critical in making the transition to self-sufficiency. It is important for eligible people to know these services are still available. The U.S. Government has taken several steps, including a public education campaign, to make sure that everyone knows how to apply for benefits and that State and local agencies reach out to eligible

low-income working families, follow proper administrative procedures, and eliminate barriers to participation.

Restoring Food Stamp Program eligibility to legal immigrants. In 1998, food stamp benefits were restored to 225,000 legal immigrant children, senior citizens, and people with disabilities who were in the United States when welfare reform became law. A proposal to restore food stamp benefits to legal immigrants in the United States before August 22, 1996, who reach age 65 or who live in families with food-stamp-eligible children was included in the Administration's 2001 budget, that would make food stamp benefits available to another 165,000 by 2005.

Breaking the Cycle of Dependency

The Individual Development Account Program. The Assets for Independence Demonstration Program was established in 1998 to support the work of States and community-based organizations in using individual development accounts as an asset-based development strategy. Individual development accounts are dedicated savings accounts that can be used by eligible participants for purchasing a first home, paying for post-secondary education, or capitalizing a business. They consist of participant savings from earned income and are matched by deposits of up to $8 for each dollar saved. These investments have the potential to bring a new level of economic and personal security to families and communities. The intent of the demonstration is to encourage participants to develop and reinforce strong habits for saving money.

Preventing teen pregnancy. The 1996 Personal Responsibility and Work Opportunity Reconciliation Act requires unmarried minor parents to stay in school and live at home or in an adult-supervised setting in order to receive assistance. It supports "second chance homes" to provide teen parents with the skills and support they need, giving them guidance in parenting and in avoiding repeat pregnancies. The Act also provides $50 million a year for State abstinence education programs. The Government has provided funding for a national evaluation of these programs. The National Campaign to Prevent Teen Pregnancy, a private nonprofit organization, was formed in response to the President's 1995 State of the Union Address. In 1997, President Clinton announced the National Strategy to Prevent Teen Pregnancy. Teen birth rates have declined nationwide by 20 percent from 1991 to 1999. They are now at the lowest level on record since tracking began 60 years ago. In fiscal year 1999, at least 35 percent of communities in the United States had teen pregnancy prevention programs funded by the Department of Health and Human Services (DHHS).

Support services for homeless vets. Nearly one-quarter of all homeless adults and one-third of all homeless men are veterans. It has been estimated that more than 200,000 veterans may be homeless on any given night and that twice that many experience homelessness over the course of a year. The Department of Veterans Affairs (VA) administers $150 million in specialized homeless assistance to provide homeless veterans with outreach, physical and mental health care, food, housing, case management,

therapeutic work opportunities, and referrals to community services. The VA has awarded more than $53 million to more than 200 nonprofit community providers or State and local governments to establish and operate supportive housing, service centers, and transportation to homeless veterans. In fiscal year 2000, VA nearly doubled the number of homeless outreach programs, including 11 targeted to the needs of homeless women veterans. The VA homeless assistance web page *http://www.va.gov/health/homeless/assistprog.htm* serves as a catalog of social services.

Housing Assistance and Community Development for Urban Areas

The U.S. Department of Housing and Urban Development provides grants to States and communities for community development activities and promotes private sector initiatives at the community level for effective use of housing and economic development resources; public and private sector partnerships; and public entrepreneurship.

The ***Empowerment Zone/ Enterprise Community Initiative (EZ/EC)*** is a key element of the Clinton/Gore Administration's job creation strategy for America. The EZ/EC effort provides tax incentives and performance grants and loans to create jobs and expand business opportunities in the most economically distressed areas of inner cities and the rural heartland and focuses on activities to support people looking for work: job training, child care, and transportation. There are 144 designated Empowerment Zones or Enterprise Communities receiving more than $1.5 billion in performance grants and more than $2.5 billion in tax incentives for job creation and job-related activities.

Over 2,500 neighborhood-based projects and programs are underway. Federal EZ/EC seed money of $1 billion has leveraged over $10 billion in additional public and private investment, resulting in programs which have generated jobs, provided business assistance and services, and trained and educated youth and families. Other programs have improved access to child and health care and transportation services, and increased residents' safety and involvement in their neighborhoods. Over 68,000 zone residents have received job training through 800 programs, and at least 250 job fairs have been held to place residents in jobs. Extensive social services have also been established. There are over 200 child care programs serving 14,000 families in the EZ/ECs, almost 400 health-related programs serving 400,000 residents, and approximately 450 youth programs serving 200,000 young persons.

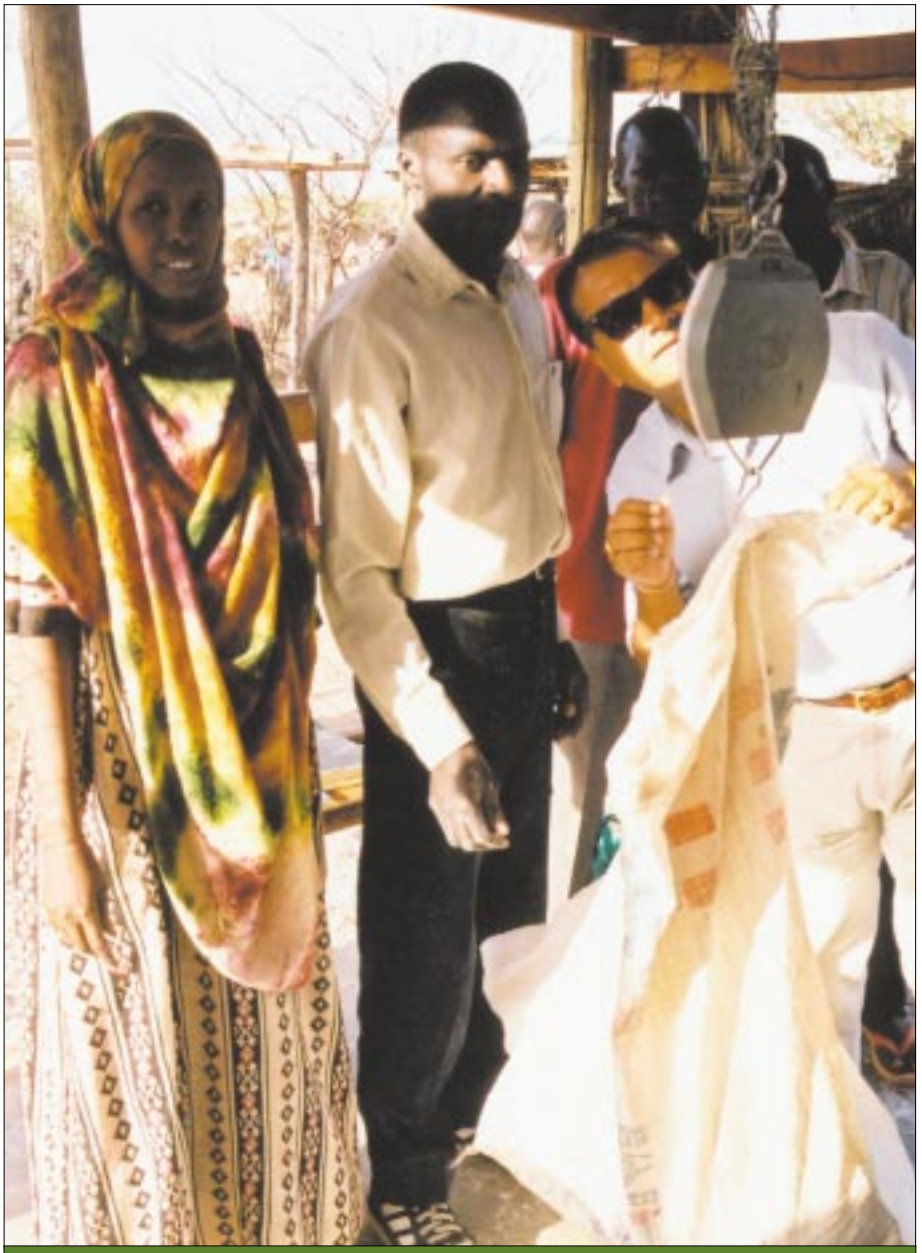
The USDA Community Food Security Initiative provides technical assistance to EZ/EC communities on a wide variety of nutrition and food-security-related projects.

Housing vouchers for hard-pressed working families. The Clinton/Gore Administration is seeking $690 million for 120,000 new housing vouchers to help America's hard-pressed working families. These housing vouchers subsidize the rents of low-income Americans, enabling them to move closer to job opportunities—many of which are being created far from where these families live. Of the 120,000 new housing vouchers, 32,000 will be targeted to families moving from welfare to work, 18,000 to homeless individuals and families, and 10,000 to low-income families moving to new housing constructed through the Low Income Housing Tax Credit. The remaining 60,000 vouchers will be allocated to local areas to help address the large unmet need for affordable housing.

International Actions

Multilateral diplomacy. The Department of State promotes increased food security around the world by advocating for an overall conducive environment, and supporting food security initiatives through diplomatic channels. Through multilateral and bilateral negotiation, the United States defends the rights consistent with Article 25 of the Universal Declaration of Human Rights that "everyone has the right to a standard of living adequate for the health and well-being of himself and his family, including food, clothing, housing and medical care and necessary social services...."

Model for halving world hunger. As part of the preparation of the *U.S. Action Plan on Food Security*, USAID commissioned a study in 1998 on the projected cost of meeting the World Food Summit target of reducing world hunger by half by 2015. The study estimated that the target could be reached with additional global overseas development assistance of $2.6 billion annually. The approximately $43 billion total over 16 years would be optimally distributed as follows: $500 million for preventing or reducing conflict; $1.7 billion for promoting democracy and good governance; $2 billion to support economic liberalization and reform; $27.6 billion in agricultural technology research and extension;



Representatives from all tribes monitor distribution of food rations to the 70,000 refugees at the Kakuma camp to ensure equitable distribution.

$1.2 billion for rural infrastructure, especially roads; and $10.4 billion in targeted programs for the poor, women's education, and increasing access to safe water, especially in Africa and South Asia.

National enabling environments. USAID provides approximately $100 million annually in funding and technical collaboration to help developing countries improve their economies through:

- Promoting economic growth and institutional reform through privatization, rationalized financial markets, legal, institutional and regulatory reforms for competitive markets, and an enhanced business environment for trade and investment.
- Strengthening the capacity of participating countries and USAID to research, analyze, and monitor food security issues. They need to formulate policies, institutional reforms, investment plans, and management processes that promote food security. For example, tools and guidelines for policy analysis have been produced, including a policy analysis matrix currently used by ministries and social scientists globally.
- Supporting national agricultural policy development capacities so that USAID missions and host-country decision-makers better understand, define, and respond to critical priorities for achieving sustainable and equitable growth and address agricultural policy issues, especially those relating to trade reform, market performance, food equity, and agricultural sustainability.

Organization for Economic Cooperation and Development, Development Assistance Committee Poverty Reduction Guidelines. USAID participated in the drafting of the Development Assistance Committee's Poverty Reduction Guidelines in order to: 1) ensure that food security policy targets were adequately addressed; 2) provide an enabling policy environment for food security progress; and 3) identify areas of policy coherence in donor countries. The guidelines will provide benchmarks for evaluating donor performance in providing economic security through poverty reduction. They are currently in their final stages of review.

Microenterprise and farmer organizations in Africa. Two important elements of economic security in Africa are to make small loans to microbusinesses, mainly women-owned, and to expand small farmer marketing opportunities through grassroots organizations. USAID support for both microenterprise and farmer organizations in Africa has doubled since 1995.

The ***Greater Horn of Africa Initiative*** is a U.S. Presidential foreign policy initiative launched in 1994. It addresses the recurring cycle of crisis, instability, and famine in the Greater Horn of Africa region. That region encompasses Ethiopia, Eritrea, Sudan, Somalia, Uganda, Djibouti, Kenya, Tanzania, Rwanda, and Burundi. This initiative improves food security and establishes a system for conflict early warning, prevention, and response.

U.S. support for multilateral development banks. In fiscal year 2000, appropriations for the multilateral development banks, which are the World Bank and the four regional development banks for Asia, Africa, Europe, and Latin-America, totaled $1.1 billion, including $975 million for soft loan windows which provide financing on concessional terms to the poorest countries unable to borrow in international capital markets. The United States also uses replenishment negotiations for the multilateral development banks as opportunities to press for U.S. policy priorities and secure needed institutional reforms to bolster effectiveness in reducing poverty, build market-oriented policies, and promote sustainable economic growth.

Enhanced Heavily Indebted Poor Countries Initiative. Debt relief for heavily indebted poor countries will free up resources to implement

growth and poverty reduction programs and invest in health, education, and rural development. The Clinton/Gore Administration is seeking $810 million to help reduce the debt of 32 countries expected to qualify. Ten countries have been determined eligible for debt relief. Total debt service relief committed to these countries will amount to more than $16 billion, or $9.1 billion in net present value terms.

Culturally relevant technical and gender expertise. USAID's Office of Women in Development sponsors grant programs to strengthen non-governmental organizations and professional associations, support research on gender and food security, and foster model partnerships with the private sector. Activities focused on agricultural issues include: 1) studies on gender issues; 2) a review of gender and agribusiness literature; and 3) training programs covering improved agricultural practices in production, processing, and preservation. Examples of studies include farm restructuring in Uzbekistan and Kyrgyzstan; women's economic activities (microenterprise, agriculture and the formal sector) in Jordan; gender issues and impact of the adoption of vegetable and fish production in Bangladesh; intra-household resource allocation issues in Ethiopia; and gender and agroforestry in Ghana.

The Peace Corps and gender. Since 1974, the Peace Corps has had a formal requirement to give particular attention to activities that integrate women into the national economies of developing countries. This improves their status and assists in the overall development effort. The Peace Corps applies participatory needs assessments and considers gender issues in project design, implementation, monitoring and evaluation, and training. The Peace Corps uses Women in Development committees as a resource to address gender issues.

In Peace Corps agricultural activities, such as post-harvest storage, marketing and craft/food production in Guatemala and Honduras, women and youth play a growing role in improving the nutritional status of the family. Conferences and workshops are also sponsored to build leadership capacity of women and girls.

Women in agriculture. Throughout the world, particularly in developing countries, women make substantial contributions to food production and natural resource management. Yet millions of rural women worldwide

Photo courtesy of the World Food Programme of the United Nations.

live below the poverty level, with limited resources, training, or education. The President's Interagency Council on Women was formed in 1995 to coordinate implementation of U.S. commitments to the Beijing Platform for Action adopted at the UN Fourth World Conference on Women. In 1998, the council sponsored the Second International Conference on Women to create opportunities for women and raise international awareness of their contributions to rural development and production agriculture. The conference focused on the status of women in agricultural economies and how they are impacted by rural policies, both in the United States and internationally. The conference provided practical information and training, and examined networking and outreach opportunities for rural women. USDA created the Women in Agriculture Web site to provide an ongoing communications network for sharing information, trading ideas, and increasing opportunities and resources.

2 Priority Area II: Trade and Investment

The ability to purchase food is as important in addressing food security concerns as its physical availability. Food security means having the capacity and infrastructure to feed one's own people, either through domestic production or imports. So encouraging open markets and trade liberalization is a part of food security.

Continued agricultural trade reform will increase food security on both a global and individual country basis by encouraging economic growth and diversification of production by comparative advantage. Trade expands sources of food supply, enhances a country's purchasing power with export earnings, and lowers prices. Lower prices, in turn, enhance the purchasing power of poor consumers. Where there is not a comparative advantage in food production, pursuing short-term self-sufficiency in food on marginal land may strain fragile natural resources. A strategy of self-reliance may be more sustainable in the long term, for example, developing other sectors of the economy in order to trade for food.

Reducing trade barriers, the subject of multilateral trade negotiations, is expected to boost global trade. ERS examined the likely impact of increased export earnings on food security. The accelerated export growth scenario resulted in a 28-percent jump in commercial imports for all studied countries by 2009. It would reduce the number of people failing to meet their nutritional gap by 89 million people, or 9 percent, by 2009, compared to the baseline projection.

The United States has supported a variety of initiatives to support African efforts to grow through increased openness to international trade and investment.

The ***African Growth and Opportunity Act***, part of the Trade and Development Act of 2000, was created to expand trade and create incentives for the countries of sub-Saharan Africa to continue reforming their economies and participate more fully in the benefits of the global economy. The Act promotes reforms in Africa to increase investment, expand economic growth, and reduce poverty. It encourages progress on human rights, worker rights, and democracy. Among other provisions, the Act will:

- Open the U.S. market more fully to a wide range of African products.
- Provide technical assistance for economic reform and development.
- Institutionalize a long-term policy dialogue, building on the President's visit in 1998 and the 1999 U.S.-Africa Ministerial.
- Emphasize the importance of assistance and debt relief programs.

Through the ***Africa Trade and Investment Policy Program***, the United States provides assistance to help reform-oriented African countries improve the environment for trade and private investment. The program will catalyze relationships between U.S. and African firms, and help finance implementation of aggressive, market-friendly reforms. The United States has provided $35 million for this program since 1998. The Clinton/Gore Administration has requested another $30 million for FY 2000.

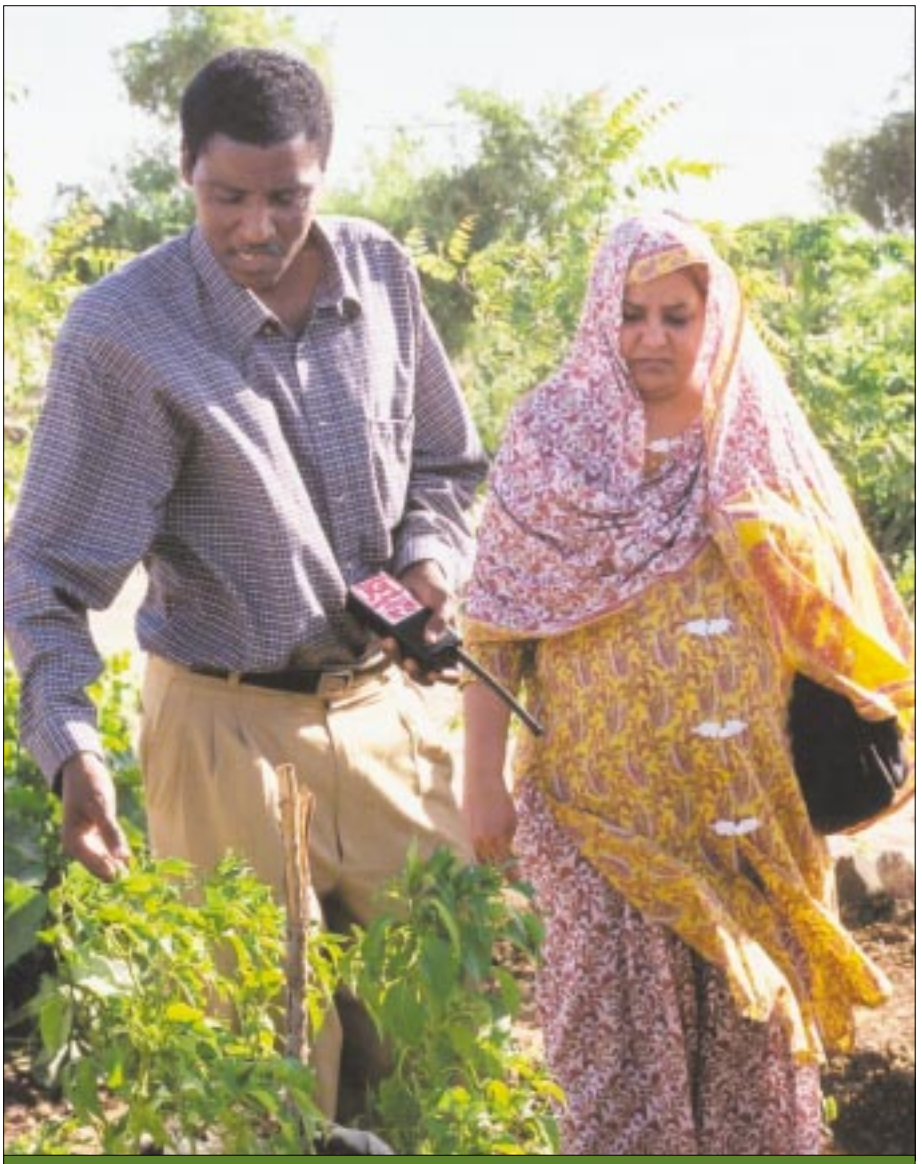
OPIC responds to Africa: Seeds of Hope Act with agricultural projects. In response to the Africa: Seeds of Hope Act, the Overseas Private Investment Corporation (OPIC) is working to expand its operations to back U.S. businesses, nongovernmental organizations, and private voluntary organizations that work directly with African rural populations. OPIC is currently providing nearly $1 billion in insurance and financing to 50 projects in 20 sub-Saharan countries. OPIC has executed new bilateral investment agreements with 12 sub-Saharan countries, since President Clinton announced his Partnership for Economic Growth and Opportunity in Africa in 1997. Later that year, OPIC launched a $120 million New Africa Opportunity Fund for Southern Africa and a $150 million Modern Africa Growth and Investment Fund. It will also support one or more new private equity funds with aggregate capital of up to $500 million to be invested in privately sponsored infrastructure projects in sub-Saharan Africa.

Here is an example of the high impact of OPIC investment support activities. In May 1999, OPIC approved a $1.68 million loan to support the organization, deployment, and operation of two mobile agricultural processing units to clean and separate cocoa beans in Ghana. Cocoa beans are Ghana's main source of export earnings. These new machines are expected to increase Ghanaian cocoa bean export earnings by 10-20 percent. The project is expected to generate U.S. and local jobs and provide a strong source of foreign exchange earnings for Ghana.

Investment in infrastructure to facilitate trade. The transportation and telecommunications infrastructure of the most impoverished countries, particularly in Africa, is not capable of efficiently handling increased international trade flows. U.S. agencies, particularly OPIC, the

Export-Import Bank, and the Trade and Development Agency, have agreed to expand their engagement with African countries and regional organizations in an effort to improve African infrastructure, through technical assistance and OPIC support for private investment in these areas.

Supporting agribusiness approaches to increasing the incomes of poor farmers. USAID provides significant support to farmer organizations, market development, and local agribusiness in their efforts to increase farm family income and food security. USAID agriculture investments seek to increase farm incomes through expanding crop production for trade. In addition, by fostering new links with U.S. agribusiness — such as the Partnership for Food Industry Development, the Agricultural Biotechnology Support Project, and collaboration with U.S. coffee and cocoa associations — USAID is helping U.S. agribusiness in ways that also expand income and food security prospects of poor rural people around the world.



Refugees at the Kakuma camp learn gardening techniques at a community gardening demonstration plot for use in their own family gardens.

The Peace Corps and business development. The Peace Corps is uniquely positioned to give voice to communities to help shape the direction of economic growth so that it is culturally and environmentally appropriate. With its focus on grassroots and community-based development, the Peace Corps can ensure that economic opportunities make their way beyond major metropolitan areas. Business development projects in the Peace Corps focus on five major objectives: 1) increasing family income; 2) improving the environment for businesses; 3) educating young people to enter the workplace; 4) assisting businesses to find markets for traditional and value-added products; and 5) community eco-

nomic development, particularly strengthening rural agricultural businesses, cooperatives, and microcredit initiatives.

Cold chain. USDA technical staff assists countries to address their weaknesses in the storage, distribution, and marketing of perishable food. Food losses due to cold chain weakness in emerging markets result in as much as half of the food grown being destroyed prior to consumption.

Hemispheric Free Trade Expansion project. In support of the U.S. Government's commitment to work towards the creation of a Free Trade Area of the Americas (FTAA), USAID has provided technical assistance to help countries of Latin America and the Caribbean meet international trade obligations under the World Trade Organization (WTO) in the area of customs valuation and sanitary and phytosanitary measures. USAID-supported programs with the Federal Trade Commission and the Department of Justice have strengthened competition policy investigation and enforcement capability in Brazil and Argentina. USAID is also developing a program of targeted regional assistance to the Andean region to address WTO obligations, facilitate business, and increase civil society participation in the FTAA process.

The U.S. WTO proposal advances food security. The United States recognizes the importance to many WTO members of expanding global food security through the WTO Agricultural Negotiations. The United States supports policies that address nontrade concerns such as food security, resource conservation, rural development, and environmental protection through nontrade-distorting means. Further trade liberalization in agricultural products and the promotion of international food aid are important elements in strengthening food security. The United States proposes a number of provisions to increase market access and export competition, reduce domestic support, and provide special and differential treatment for the least developed countries. These provisions will enhance food security by encouraging economic growth, diversifying production by comparative advantage, and enhancing a country's ability to purchase food through increased export earnings.

The United States also proposes measures to ensure that trade in products of new agricultural technology, including biotechnology, is timely, transparent, and predictable. Biotechnology has the potential to expand food security by increasing agricultural production currently limited by environmental problems, such as drought and weeds. It conserves costly inputs and water resources and also improves the nutritional content of food.

Recognizing that liberalization alone will not entirely address the food security needs in all developing countries, the U.S. proposal calls for the continued availability of international food aid for countries in need. The United States continues its commitment that implementation of the reform program will not adversely affect the availability of sufficient food aid for countries in need. This commitment was expressed in the Uruguay Round's "Decision on Measures Concerning the Possible Negative Effects of the Reform Program on Least Developed and Net-Food-Importing Developing Countries." The U.S. proposal also includes provisions for capacity building in developing countries to enhance their integration into the international trading system and their ability to benefit from it.

Trade capacity building. The capacity of developing countries and transitional economies to participate in the multilateral trading system will be an important factor in the evolution of a global economy that works for everyone. The United States recognizes that many developing countries face challenges in fully integrating into the global trading system to improve their economies and to

implement their WTO commitments. The U.S. Government has committed over $600 million to trade capacity building activities during the past 2 years.

In the area of trade-related capacity building for the agricultural sector, the United States has hosted training sessions, seminars, and conferences on the WTO and trade-related topics such as international trade policy, WTO rules, and procedures for implementing them. The United States has provided training to help countries gain WTO accession and participate in WTO negotiations. It has funded the participation of developing countries in the international standard-setting bodies. The United States has helped build capacity in pest and disease management related to risk analyses, surveillance, and control mechanisms to protect animals and plants. U.S. assistance has enhanced food safety, efficient pesticide use, monitoring of chemical residues in produce and meat, safe food preparation, and distribution of fresh produce. Other assistance has provided training in the causes and control of waterborne diseases, water safety, manure handling, personal sanitation, and worker safety. The United States provided assistance that improved cold chain storage and enhanced the existing marketing channels for perishable food products while reducing spoilage rates and product quality loss. U.S. assistance improved market information dissemination, development of agribusiness and extension, rural cooperative development, and risk management. Other advice was provided for small-scale farmers in farm management, agricultural marketing, post-harvest handling and storage, improved land cultivation practices, and other agricultural techniques.

In 2000, the USAID Women in Development Office prepared a paper on gender issues in trade and joined with other partners to support a research project to examine the impact of macroeconomic policies on women's subcontracted labor in Thailand, the Philippines, India, Pakistan, and Sri Lanka.

Gender and agribusiness. The Office of Agriculture and Food Security in USAID's Center for Economic Growth and Agricultural Development made a special effort to integrate gender considerations in the development of a public-private partnership on cocoa production and marketing. USAID is sponsoring an initiative in cooperation with the University of Illinois to form public-private research partnerships to investigate women's roles in agribusiness, including case studies on women's labor and agribusiness employment practices at processing plants in Zimbabwe and Thailand.

3 Priority Area III: Research and Education

Domestic Actions

The ***Food Assistance and Nutrition Research Program*** conducts research related to the Nation's domestic food assistance and nutrition programs. This analysis covers the benefits of improved diets and food choices; the factors that influence diet and nutrition; and the outcomes of policies and programs aimed at improving the nutrition, health, and food security of Americans. In fiscal year 1998 and fiscal year 1999, funding totaled $10 million annually. Outcomes of importance for implementing the *U.S. Action Plan on Food Security* include a Community Food Security Assessment Conference in July 1999 and a toolkit for community food security assessment.

Mississippi Delta nutrition research and education program. The Agricultural Research Service (ARS) is conducting research on the impact of food insecurity on high-risk, low-income, poorly educated minority populations in the Mississippi Delta, an impoverished area of the United States. Factors addressed by this research are health and nutritional status; the causes of food insecurity; and the effect of farmers markets, gardens,

nutrition assistance programs, and emergency feeding programs.

Piloting expansion of the School Breakfast Program. In 1998, Congress authorized a School Breakfast Pilot Project, designed to assess the effects of this universal, free school breakfast program on a broad range of student outcomes, including academic achievement, school attendance and tardiness, classroom behavior and attentiveness, and dietary status.

Researching effective nutrition education methods. In 1999, the United States released a number of nutrition education-related research reports available on the Internet at *http://www.fns.usda.gov/*. These include: 1) an evaluation of statewide nutrition education networks, an approach to expanding the reach of nutrition education and promotion for food stamp participants' choices; 2) a study of nutrition education in the Special Supplemental Food Program for Women, Infants and Children (WIC); 3) a review of the nutritional status of WIC participants; 4) a report on the nutrient composition of meals planned and changes in school food service operations in schools using nutrient-based menu planning systems; 5) an examination of the feasibility of using local consortia to deliver nutrition education; and 6) results of the Team Nutrition pilot communities.

Expanding the use of the Internet for nutrition education and promotion. In 1999, the Food and Nutrition Service (FNS) partnered with the National Agricultural Library to better make nutrition education resources available over the World Wide Web, including materials for promoting nutrition in schools, a program access guide for the working poor, and a package of downloadable Food Stamp Program education materials in both English and Spanish.

***Helping people build healthy and thrifty diets*.** The United States Government updated the *Thrifty Food Plan* used to establish food stamp benefits for low-income households. This revision addressed new information on nutritional needs, food composition, food costs, and consumption patterns. Menus and recipes based on the plan were developed by researchers at Pennsylvania State University and tested on food stamp households.

Research on poverty and labor market support. The DHHS Office of the Assistant Secretary for Planning and Evaluation (ASPE) conducts a variety of research on low-income families with children and other at-risk populations, such as immigrants, the disabled, the mentally ill, and substance abusers. Research has focused on the food security and health outcomes of families who leave welfare, the effects of welfare reform on children, teen pregnancy prevention, labor market processes, and evaluation of welfare-to-work programs. Other studies looked at the availability of social services to help individuals remain in the labor market, such as child care, health care, and the Earned Income Tax Credit. In addition, ASPE funds two poverty research centers.

International Actions

Education

Global Food for Education program. An estimated 300 million children in developing countries are chronically hungry, and 120 million do not attend school, over 60 percent of whom are girls. Others are enrolled in school but underperform or drop out in part due to hunger or malnourishment. One of the most successful U.S. domestic strategies to support both food security and education has been the school meals program, currently serving 27 million children daily. On July 23, 2000, President Clinton announced a Global Food for Education pilot program to expand access to basic education and improve childhood development in poor countries.

Better access to basic education can be a catalyst for poverty reduction and broader participation in the benefits of global economic integration. Literacy is fundamental for labor and agricultural productivity; improving basic health, especially maternal and infant health; reducing abusive child labor; promoting sustainable population growth; and expanding democratic participation.

Building on ideas promoted by George McGovern, Ambassador to the U.S. Mission to the United Nations Agencies for Food and Agriculture, and former Senator Robert Dole, a multilateral school feeding program will be launched to improve student enrollment, attendance, and performance in poor countries. The United States will purchase surplus agricultural commodities and donate them for use in school feeding and preschool nutrition programs in poor countries with strong commitment and action plans to expand access to and improve the quality of basic education, working in partnership with the World Food Programme of the United Nations and private voluntary organizations.

For the first year of the program, the United States would spend $300 million for commodities, international transportation, and other costs under current authorities, feeding as many as nine million schoolchildren and pre-schoolers. This multilateral effort would benefit greatly from the support and input of other donors and countries.

Girls' education. The United States has long recognized the powerful development impact of increased and better quality education for girls

Photo courtesy of the World Food Programme of the United Nations.

and women, and has been a pioneer in supporting programs for educating girls and women. The USAID invests around $98 million per year on basic education, and much of these funds are devoted to girls and women. Although a number of donors are active in this work, USAID is the only agency focused on mobilizing nontraditional sectors to fund and implement girls' education. USAID provides technical leadership in promoting education policy reform by governments of developing countries and in mobilizing nongovernmental resources. Efforts include: 1) stimulating private sector investment in locally initiated and funded programs to promote girls' participation in primary school; 2) mobilizing religious, business, and community leaders to be advocates for girls' education with central government; and 3) analytic studies to identify the barriers to girls' education and the financial and human resources needed to implement low-cost, locally owned actions to overcome those barriers.

The Peace Corps and girls' education. Peace Corps girls' education activities raise awareness of the benefits of girls' education and address enrollment and retention issues. The Peace Corps also integrates gender awareness and women's themes into curricula and uses inclusive teaching techniques. One strategy is to provide support services to address constraints that prevent girls from going to school. There are also activities to build self-esteem and leadership skills, such as scholarships, camps, clubs and sports; mentoring and career development; and conferences and workshops. In Guinea, the Peace Corps published a magazine from materials contributed by girls to provide a reading and discussion vehicle that allows girls from all over the country to express their views on community and health issues that affect them.

The ***Education for Development and Democracy Initiative*** will provide $120 million in the first 2 years to improve education and strengthen access to the technology and information needed to compete in the 21st century. Activities include: 1) strategic partnerships between U.S. and African institutions, such as universities, primary and secondary schools, and civic society groups; 2) improved instructional materials with emphasis on distance learning and increasing the use of information technology for education purposes; 3) resource centers supported by Peace Corps volunteers to link schools and communities to the World Wide Web; and 4) increased girls' and women's participation in formal and nonformal education, including mentoring and scholarships.

A key objective of the ***Cochran Program*** is to assist countries in developing agricultural systems necessary to meet their domestic food needs. Since January 1998, over

2,000 fellows from 67 countries have received training in a wide range of agriculture and food-security-related subjects such as production; crop and livestock marketing and consumption; agricultural finance; and business management. There was also training in food safety and phyto-sanitary issues, biotechnology, agricultural policy and WTO accession, and transportation and storage issues.

Developing human capacity. The USAID-sponsored "Leadership for Change" program in Kenya, Tanzania, Uganda, Mali, Senegal, and Benin provides training in professional skills for gender analysis, program management, proposal writing, mentoring, and advocacy related to involving women in the fields of agriculture and the environment. The experiences of "Leadership for Change" will be published as a training manual.

Research

In addition to improving income to afford food, another element of food security is enhancing food production capabilities. Research and extension should be made an integral part of the process to increase food production.

Food production is more than adequate in the developed nations, and considerable progress has been made in some developing nations. The food situation, however, remains grim for many people in most developing nations, especially in South Asia and sub-Saharan Africa. Redistribution of food supplies through food aid is expensive and depends to a large extent on donor surplus production. The answer is to increase food production. This will lower food costs–a step that is of the greatest importance to poor consumers who spend a large proportion of their meager income on food. Since there is generally little opportunity to expand crop land, land must be made more productive. To bring this about, more and sustained research is urgently required.

Biotechnology and food security. What constrains agricultural performance in poor countries? Shortage of arable land, poor moisture availability, declining soil fertility, limited access to costly farm inputs, limited technological base, and agricultural pests and diseases all play a role. Biotechnology-derived solutions could reduce the need for high-cost agro-chemicals and irrigation by controlling diseases and weeds, thus promoting sustainable agricultural production.

The debate on biotechnology is not about its applications for poor countries, but rather, how to promote, support, and apply it in ways that enhance food production, reduce hunger and poverty, and support developmental processes in a safe and environmentally sustainable manner, in addition to market-driven objectives. More assistance is needed in:

- **capacity building** for:
  1) making decisions for engagement in and application of biotechnology in different countries;
  2) developing a knowledge base for decision-making in the use of biotechnological approaches;
  3) priority-setting for biotechnology aimed at solving specific problems of national importance; and
  4) establishing policy structures for biosafety and intellectual property protection.
- **establishing linkages and cooperative mechanisms** for biotechnology development, transfer, and sustainable application.
- **public education and awareness** for informed decision-making.

New nutritional benefits of biotechnology. Recent developments in biotechnology hold promise for addressing nutrient deficiencies. Researchers at the Swiss Federal Institute of Technology and the International Rice Research Institute (IRRI) in the Philippines, with funding from the U.S. Rockefeller Foundation, have successfully genetically modified rice grains to contain more iron and beta-carotene, the chemical that the body converts into vitamin A. Vitamin A deficiency causes more than 1 million childhood deaths each year and is the single most important cause of blindness among children in the developing countries. Iron-deficiency anemia affects 2 billion people, nearly one-third of the world's population, and is the most widespread nutrient deficiency in the world. This demonstrates the potential of biotechnology to have a significant consumer benefit. In addition to the annual grant, USAID provides IRRI an additional $1 million to help bring this technology to the point where vitamin A-enhanced "golden rice" can be made available to farmers and consumers.

Expanded funding for biotechnology and agricultural research: USAID provides funding for biotechnology and biosafety capacity building in less developed countries of approximately $7 million per year. These funds are used primarily for international agricultural research center programs ($4 million); an innovative public-private-university partnership for agricultural biotechnology support and policy ($2 million); and African livestock vaccine development ($1 million). In addition, USAID initiated two new efforts in fiscal year 2000 in genetically engineered, nutritionally enhanced crops, including adaptation of golden rice by IRRI ($1 million) and a partnership with Monsanto Corporation to adapt vitamin A-enhanced mustard oil for India ($500,000).

Direct support to International Agricultural Research Centers. In 1999, the United States, through USAID, contributed $39 million to 16 international agricultural research centers through the Consultative Group on International Agricultural Research (CGIAR). These centers, generally located in developing countries, produce improved technologies and recommend policies for adaptation and use in those nations for all the basic food crops, livestock, and natural resources. An example of the importance of the work carried out by the centers was provided in October 2000, when two researchers at the International Maize and Wheat Improvement Center in Mexico received the coveted World Food Prize for their long-term research on the development of Quality Protein Maize. Researchers at another CGIAR Center, IRRI in the Philippines, received the same award in l996.

Cooperative research. International research on food security includes a long history of cooperation with the international agricultural research centers affiliated with the CGIAR, with over 30 formal and informal research collaborations. For example, Integrated Pest Management research is conducted at 36 locations, with more than 75 projects focused on developing environmentally friendly pest control technologies. In 1999, a formal agreement was signed between the CGIAR and ARS to conduct cooperative research in areas that include sustainable farming practices, natural resource management, and crop breeding for traits like greater pest resistance and nutritional content. In addition, USAID has fostered

stronger linkages between the international agricultural research centers and the scientific agricultural research of U.S. land-grant colleges and universities. Many of the research projects funded by USAID are focused on improving food security among the most vulnerable populations and should reduce the need for food aid.

Collaborative research support programs. USAID provided $20 million in fiscal year 2000 for collaborative support programs to conduct research in technical aspects of commodity production, as well as policies and resource management practices. This research improves access to resources and promotes sustainable income growth among the rural poor. For example, two sorghum lines resistant to striga weed will provide yield increases 50-100 percent greater than those of the highly susceptible local sorghums in Ethiopia. A livestock early warning system is reducing animal mortality in East Africa and will cut losses in half over the next 4 to 8 years, saving pastoralists over $100 million. In the Horn of Africa, research on patterns of bartering assets as a mechanism to cope with crises such as drought and conflict will better enable the post-crisis recovery of the region's most food-insecure people.

Direct support to international agriculture institutions. The USDA Foreign Agricultural Service (FAS) has been instrumental in providing direct research support to international agriculture institutions trying to solve critical production problems. FAS works mostly through U.S. universities. In fiscal year 2000, FAS provided $2.2 million for food security research, technical assistance, and training and policy activities. These funds require matching resources from other U.S. Federal agencies, universities, the private sector, international organizations, and foreign governments. The total amount invested, therefore, far exceeded $2.2. million. Currently, a diverse group of U.S. institutions are collaborating in nearly 140 research partnerships with 52 countries to promote the safe and appropriate development and application of biotechnology and other tools for food safety. There are other cooperative projects to improve the nutritive value and resistance of crops and livestock and environmental sustainability. Specifically in Egypt, FAS supported 22 collaborative research projects that allowed U.S. and Egyptian scientists to work together to solve critical problems that both countries face in the production of wheat, maize, rice, and faba beans.

Information and technology transfer. The United States transfers technology to potential users through cooperative partnerships and research networks which help leverage and expand research resources. Cooperative research and development agreements yield new technologies and improved varieties of plants that will enhance food production, food safety, and food security.

Scientific exchanges. Visiting scientist programs provide opportunities for U.S. and foreign scientists to share experience and knowledge. In fiscal year 1999, 59 foreign scientists from developing nations participated in the Foreign Research Associate Program. The ARS Internship Program for Early Career South African Scientists provides greater opportunities for rural development and rural income generation through education, work experience, and scientific and technology exchange.

Agricultural research information. USDA's science magazine, *Agricultural Research*, published monthly by ARS, is available electronically on the Internet at *http://www.ars.usda.gov*. The Web site includes other food and agricultural publications as well as a searchable database of current research efforts.

Gender research. With support from USAID, the International Food Policy Research Institute (IFPRI) has organized a monthly seminar series, "Strengthening Development Policy Through Gender and Intra-household Research," to present the results of gender research to a Washington-based network of development professionals, academics, policy makers, and NGO's. This forum provides an opportunity to review and exchange findings on gender and intra-household allocation of assets including agriculturally earned income, land, food, and tools of food production. USAID and IFPRI have supported research linkages with universities and research organizations in Ethiopia, South Africa, Ghana, Peru, Ecuador, and Bangladesh. Grant support from USAID has financed work with African NGO's in many countries on women's agriculture and food security issues, including Kenya, Tanzania, Uganda, Mali, Senegal, and Benin. USAID has helped NGO's and other institutions to increase their organizational viability in Mexico, South Africa, Nicaragua, India, Mali, El Salvador, and India. USAID has worked with the Asia Foundation to strengthen the capacity of women and women's NGO's to address barriers to women's economic participation in Bangladesh, Cambodia, Nepal, and Sri Lanka.

4

Priority Area IV: Sustainable Food Systems and the Environment

Domestic Actions

Improving community food production and marketing to boost farm-to-school projects. USDA's Small Farms/School Meals Initiative will conduct regional workshops to help States establish local production, processing, and distribution arrangements. This allows farmers to sell fresh produce to local schools.

Supporting research and education for sustainable agriculture. The Sustainable Agriculture Research and Education (SARE) program helps farmers and ranchers to adopt sustainable practices that are profitable, environmentally sound, and good for communities. Since 1988, SARE has helped raise farm profits and enhance communities through an innovative research and education grants program. SARE awards over 250 new grants each year that assist farmers with long-term solutions to today's challenges.

America the Beautiful is a national urban and community forestry and forest stewardship program of the Forest Service. It aims to plant and improve trees in every community across the country. For starting and maintaining 62,000 gardens, America the Beautiful donated 19,675 pounds of bulk vegetable seeds and 607,202 packets of seeds over the past year. From these gardens, 10,000 volunteers have cultivated 8 billion pounds of food for the hungry.

Direct marketing support for farmers. The Agricultural Marketing Service (AMS) has an active direct marketing program to link farmers to consumers, creating new markets for small local farmers and improving consumer access to fresh and affordable produce. Direct marketing includes farmers markets, pick-your-own-farms, roadside stands, subscription farming, community-supported agriculture, and catalog sales. Activities include: 1) promoting the development and operation of farmers markets and other marketing activities which support small farmers; 2) serving as a one-stop information source on direct marketing services; and 3) conducting research on farmer direct marketing.

Information services include a directory of farmers markets with over 2,700 entries, guidance on how to establish a farmers market, and a bibliography of direct marketing resources. There is also a Web site and a telephone hotline (800-384-8704) to provide the dates, times, and locations of USDA-sponsored farmers markets.

Many low-income, urban areas do not have grocery stores; residents often have limited access to quality, affordable produce. AMS facilitates farmers markets in these neighborhoods to improve the residents' nutrition and health. Other activities that directly address food security include allowing food stamp recipients to purchase produce from farmers markets through debit cards and promoting farm-to-school programs whereby farmers market directly to schools.

Other agencies, such as FNS; the Cooperative State Research, Education, and Extension Service (CSREES); and the National Resources Conservation Service, have also supported direct marketing, including farmers markets, for low-income communities and farm-to-school initiatives to help small farmers sell product directly to schools.

Grants for farm-to-school activities. In September 2000, the CSREES Initiative for Future Agriculture and Food Systems Program awarded $2 million in grants to increase farm-to-school activities in partnership with the Community Food Security Coalition and family farms alliances, school districts, State departments of education, and universities in California, New Jersey, New York, and Pennsylvania.

Supporting organic agriculture. In response to extensive input from our consumers and farmers, the United States is establishing national organic standards and labeling that will be among the most comprehensive in the world. Whereas most other sectors of agriculture in the United States are losing farmers, the number of organic farmers is increasing by 12 percent per year. Establishing

a uniform national organic standard provides more growth opportunities in organic agriculture and furthers the development of another new and lucrative market for farmers. In addition, the United States has proposed $5 million for research to develop improved organic production and processing methods, evaluate economic benefits to farmers, develop new markets, and support general research on organic farming.

Climate forecasting and management of marine resources. The National Oceanic and Atmospheric Administration (NOAA) contributes to food security by providing information for improved farming decisions and sustainable management of fisheries. Better climate forecasting, such as predicting El Niño events, results in benefits to U.S. agriculture of more than $300 million annually from improved crop decisions and inventory management. NOAA also engages in a variety of programs to monitor the availability and nutritional adequacy of seafood supplies and reserve stocks throughout the United States and around the world. Environmentally sound aquaculture will help meet the increasing demand for seafood with high-quality and reliable products without overfishing wild populations. In 1999, NOAA convened a panel of experts to identify current use and future applications of ecosystem principles in fisheries management and research. The panel produced a report to Congress. Thanks to another NOAA initiative,16 square miles of coral reef habitat off the Virgin Islands is now protected under the U.S. National Coral Reef Action Plan.

Consultation with Native Americans on fisheries issues. NOAA also consults with Native Americans on fisheries issues and has co-located five members of the Northwest Indian Fisheries Commission with its staff in Washington State to foster close involvement of the tribes in NOAA's Habitat Conservation Plan work. The tribes have a vested interest in salmon habitat conservation. In support of NOAA's Minority Serving Institution Capacity Building Partnership Program, the NOAA Northwest Fisheries Science Center proposed a formal collaboration with the Northwest Indian College to expand ongoing programs in aquaculture, marine science, and natural resources for the 40 member tribes.

Containers of U.S.-donated vegetable oil are recycled and used to plant seedlings.

International Actions

The ***Africa Food Security Initiative*** (AFSI) is a critical means to achieve the objectives of the 1998 Africa: Seeds of Hope Act. This 10-year program of bilateral and regional activities seeks to reduce childhood malnutrition and increase rural people's incomes in three ways: increasing agricultural production, improving market efficiency and market access, and expanding trade and investment in agriculture. AFSI strengthens and expands successful bilateral programs in agriculture and food security, and supports national and regional agricultural technology development as well as policy research networks. AFSI is in its third year of implementation, and is active in 11 countries: Ethiopia, Ghana, Kenya, Liberia, Malawi, Mali, Mozambique, Rwanda, Uganda, Tanzania, and Zambia. Total funding for fiscal years 1998 and 1999 is $61 million. The annual $30 million level for AFSI was increased 50 percent to $45 million in 2000, allowing USAID to continue to expand agriculture programs in other needy countries. So far, as a result of the initiative, U.S. support for microenterprise programs in Africa has expanded from $17 million to $38 million since 1995. Support for development of farmer organizations has almost doubled to $41 million since 1995. Title II nonemergency programs for development purposes in Africa have increased by almost 50 percent since 1995-96. Finally, incomes of small-scale farmers have increased in countries served by USAID programs expanded with AFSI resources.

Gender support to the Africa Food Security Initiative. The USAID Women in Development Office has supported a range of activities on gender issues in several of the AFSI priority countries. A grant to Winrock International promoted women's leadership in the agricultural and environmental fields by creating a network of African women scientists and leaders committed to building the skills and capacity of development profession-

als and institutions. This program will identify and address constraints to women farmers in Mali, and improve access to agricultural extension and education for a range of food and cash crops in Uganda. Another grant program to Self-Help Development, International in Malawi supported multi-sectoral community-based development projects, including a community diagnostic problem-solving tool, focused on women-headed households.

Pest eradication for Africa. USAID and USDA provide significant technical resources, amounting to more that $20 million a year, to sub-Saharan Africa to eradicate pests such as locusts, grasshoppers, screw worm, and rodents.

Men in the outskirts of Negele, Ethiopia spray their cattle for ticks as part of a livestock development project initiated by Save the Children USA.

Carbon sequestration in agriculture. The degradation of agricultural lands in developing countries, with a consequent loss of soil carbon, contributes to food insecurity and global climate change. USAID and its university partners cosponsored an international expert workshop on carbon sequestration, sustainable agriculture, and poverty alleviation with the International Fund for Agricultural Development, FAO, and the World Meteorological Organization in late August 2000. The workshop was convened to increase international awareness of how carbon dioxide in the atmosphere can be reduced through improved agricultural and agroforestry production activities that sequester carbon in biomass and in soils; sequestration of carbon in soils also increases nutrient retention and food productivity.

Hurricane relief and reconstruction. Hurricanes Mitch and Georges devastated the Caribbean and Central America in late 1998 and seriously set back the economies of several nations. In a week's time, decades of development progress were lost as roads, bridges, schools, health clinics, crops, and livestock were destroyed. Damage was estimated at $8.5 billion for the region. The United States responded immediately with relief supplies and food aid, then turned to the enormous task of helping the affected countries assess damage and repair critical infrastructure and restore services. The food airlift was the largest in U.S. history, delivering 84 million pounds of food by the end of 1998. The United States has provided $621 million in reconstruction assistance through USAID and its 13 government partners for restoration of national health care delivery systems and schools; community water and sanitation; economic reactivation through rebuilding farm-to-market roads; re-establishment of agricultural production; replacement of lost housing and shelter; a risk mapping and early warning system; and watershed restoration.

Better agricultural and environmental practices could have prevented much of the hurricane damage, particularly to Nicaragua and Honduras. Therefore, the U.S. approach to the hurricane project is to help local institutions "build back better" to prevent such widespread damage in the future. In an innovative program in the Dominican Republic, USAID and USDA are using the proceeds of a nearly $15 million food aid donation to rehabilitate and reconstruct projects aimed at communities of small farmers. To date, 33 community-based projects have been funded, including reconstruction of coffee and cocoa plantations, rebuilding access roads, reconstructing damaged facilities, replenishing herds of

livestock, and rehabilitating small farmer associations. The Food and Drug Administration (FDA), the U.S. Environmental Protection Agency (EPA), and CSREES provided technical support to the affected areas.

The Environment and Natural Resources

Global Environment Facility (GEF). The United States provided nearly $36 million in fiscal year 2000 funding for the Global Environment Facility (GEF) to support work on transboundary and global environmental problems. The GEF provides grant and concessional funding for developing-country efforts to prevent the loss of endangered species and biological diversity, improve energy efficiency, and limit greenhouse gas emissions. GEF categories relevant to food security are conservation of biodiversity, the largest GEF category (39 percent), and cleaning up international waters and protection of fisheries (14 percent). Mitigating land degradation and desertification are cross cutting components. The FAO was recently approved as an executing agency for the GEF. The GEF also recently approved a new operational program for agrobiodiversity.

Support to sustainable agriculture and natural resources management. Since 1992, USAID has supported collaborative research in sustainable agriculture and natural resources management to improve local capacity and decision-making through a partnership of universities, research institutions, development organizations, NGO's, and rural communities around the world so that food production and land use are balanced with environmental conservation.

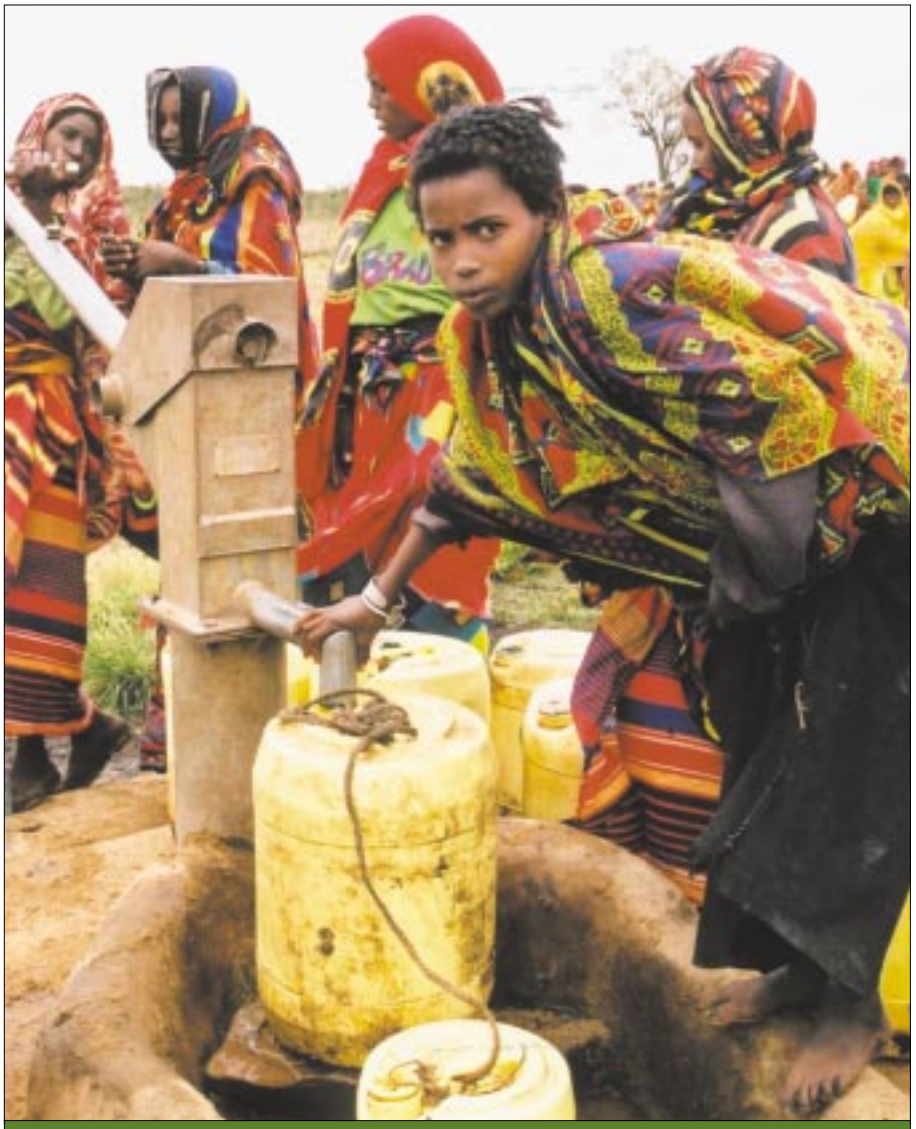
Forests. Recognizing the essential role of forests in maintaining productive agricultural systems in many areas of the world, the United States has taken steps domestically and internationally to promote sustainable forest management for the full range of socio-economic and environmental benefits. As a primary donor to the CGIAR, the United States supports the Center for International Forestry Research. The Center recently developed a toolkit to guide sustainable management of forests that has been adopted by organizations such as the African Timber Organization, the Intergovernmental Panel on Forests, and others. The United States extensively contributed to combating forest fires in forest-dependent countries that threatened significant food sources for local and indigenous communities.

Soils. Through U.S. support to the International Center for Agroforestry Research of the CGIAR, long-term productivity and food security in eastern Africa have been increased through novel soil fertility diagnosis and improvement strategies.

International fisheries. Overexploitation threatens fisheries that are critical to food security in many countries, particularly in poor coastal communities. The United States joined 94 other nations in December 1995 in adopting the Kyoto Declaration and Plan of Action on the Sustainable Contribution of Fisheries to Food Security. The United States is actively working to achieve the goals of the Kyoto conference and other such agreements

by implementing global fisheries agreements, expanding regional fisheries management organizations, ensuring that fish trade promotes food security, and through the development of sustainable and environmentally sound aquaculture. U.S. support to the International Center for Living Aquatic Resources through the CGIAR has enabled the development of an enhanced geographical information system and the first global database on coral reefs and their resources.

Aquaculture. The United States supports the Bangkok Declaration and Strategy on Aquaculture adopted in February 2000, which sets out a framework for enhancing global food security through aquaculture. Operationally, the United States supports aquaculture projects being undertaken by the Fisheries Working Group of Asia-Pacific Economic Cooperation to fight destructive fishing practices in the Asia-Pacific region.



Women in the villages around Negele, Ethiopia collect water at a water pump created by Save the Children USA, reducing time for this essential task from 7 hours to under 1 hour.

Water security. Agricultural irrigation accounts for as much as 70 percent of all water usage around the world. It is estimated that a 17-percent increase worldwide is needed to provide water for irrigated agriculture to meet future food needs. Without water to expand irrigated agriculture, pressures to meet food deficits by further expanding rain-fed agriculture through clearing forest and marginal lands could have serious environmental consequences. USAID is assisting countries with cross-border water issues to manage shared water resources under conditions of extreme scarcity and stimulate cooperation to avoid disputes in southern Africa, the Middle East, the Central Asian Republics, Central America, and the Caucasus. Another such project helps governments and key stakeholders in Asia and the Near East to reach agreement on equitable and sustainable strategies and

policies for managing scarce water resources. U.S. support to the International Water Management Institute, through the CGIAR, has enabled the development of an analytical computer-based tool, called the World Water and Climate Atlas. This tool has improved water management, thus mitigating threats from water shortages leading to food insecurity, conflicts, and environmental imbalance.

Global energy and environment. FAS technical experts promote environmentally sound policies, approaches, and technologies in USAID's assistance programs. Efforts are aimed at advancing energy conservation and efficiency, using alternative energy sources, halting deforestation and stimulating reforestation, promoting sound natural resource management, and understanding the relationship between policy and sustainable use of natural resources and the development of new technology.

USAID NGO Title II food security programs and environmental capacity building for NGO's. Almost all Title II development food aid programs implemented by NGO's are designed to promote food security and health. USAID has embarked on an ambitious program of capacity building in environmentally sound design and implementation of projects for both U.S. and host country NGO's in order to implement environmental regulations applied since 1997.

The Peace Corps and the environment. Peace Corps environmental projects address environmental education and awareness, sustainable agricultural practices (commonly in agro-forestry), and natural resource management. For greater sustainability, the potential for income generation and adding value for agricultural products is increasingly considered when determining appropriate environmental project activities. Examples are food processing and handicrafts made from nontimber forest products. In Honduras, a Peace Corps extension project for hillside farmers implemented soil conservation strategies. Farmers trained by volunteers are sought by NGO's and local governments as community leaders in agricultural development and environment issues. In Togo, the Peace Corps has conducted training on making and using improved-efficiency cook stoves to reduce the amount of fuel wood needed.

Support to conservation and management of biodiversity. The international programs of the U.S. Fish and Wildlife Service (FWS) assist foreign countries in becoming self-sufficient in their capacity to manage and conserve their biological resources. FWS has international projects in graduate-level training in wildlife management and conservation of natural resources and community-based conservation programs that emphasize environmental education and public awareness.

USAID sponsored a 4-year grants program that included innovative pilot interventions, operations research, and advocacy in several sectors, including economic growth and development. An example of one activity affecting food security is an evaluation of rural credit programs' affect on the well-being of individuals and households in Ecuador. Indicators of well-being considered are income, nutrition, education, and time allocation patterns. Technical assistance on gender issues has been applied to environmental programs, especially in the Latin America and Caribbean region in partnership with such organizations as the Nature Conservancy through its Parks in Peril Program. USAID also played an important role in helping to organize the Community Conservation Coalition.

5

Priority Area V: Food Security Safety Net

Domestic Actions

Food and Nutrition Assistance

The major domestic food assistance programs that make up the U.S. food security safety net are administered by the Food and Nutrition Service, with the Administration on Aging providing nutrition services for the elderly. They are as follows:

- The ***Food Stamp Program*** ensures that low-income families and children have the resources they need to purchase a nutritious diet, resulting in significant increases in food availability for participating households. The program provides monthly nutrition assistance for participants to purchase approved food items at approved food stores. It currently serves 17 million children and adults a month.

- The ***Child Nutrition Programs*** include the school meals programs, the Summer Food Service Program, the Special Milk Program, and the Child and Adult Care Food Program. Through these programs, the United States Government partners with schools, local government agencies, and private nonprofit organizations to provide nutritious meals and healthy eating environments for schoolchildren of all ages. These programs serve more than 26 million children every school day.

- ***The Special Supplemental Food Program for Women, Infants and Children*** (WIC) provides supplemental foods, nutrition and health counseling, and a link to health care for low-income women, infants, and children up to age 5 who are at nutritional risk. The program currently reaches over 7 million low-income pregnant and postpartum women and their children. After controlling for self-selection bias, participation in the WIC program has significant positive effect on children's intakes of iron, folate, and vitamin B-6.

- A variety of ***commodity programs,*** such as the Commodity Supplemental Food Program, the Emergency Food Assistance Program, and the Food Distribution Program on Indian Reservations, provide commodity foods to special populations that need them.

- The ***Nutrition Services for the Elderly*** program provides money to the States and tribes to deliver congregate and home-delivered meals and nutrition screening, assessment, education, and counseling to older Americans. The objective is to enable older Americans to remain independent. Priority is given to those who are in greatest economic or social

need, with particular attention to low-income, minority older adults. In 2000, funding for the program was $521,412,000 for States and $18,457,000 for the tribes.

- The ***Community Food and Nutrition Program*** provides assistance to statewide public or private agencies at the community, local and national levels to: 1) better coordinate existing private and public food assistance resources; 2) identify potential sponsors of child nutrition programs; and 3) develop innovative approaches to nutrition needs at the State and local level. Funding to provide statewide nutrition services increased by 23 percent from fiscal year 1999 to fiscal year 2000.

Providing food stamps to Kosovar refugees. In 1999, the United States facilitated participation of Kosovar refugees in the Food Stamp Program upon arrival in this country.

Establishing a toll-free number for food stamp information. In 1999, a toll-free telephone number was established to inform the public about food stamps. It covers eligibility and benefits and offers a referral to local food stamp program offices for more direct assistance in both English and Spanish.

Promoting the Afterschool Snack Program. The United States recently initiated a new program in the food security safety net that provides afterschool snacks to children through the National School Lunch and Child and Adult Care Feeding Programs. The U.S. Government is promoting awareness of the afterschool snack program and other food assistance programs through the school community.

Encouraging breastfeeding. The U.S. Government has sponsored extensive breastfeeding promotion efforts for low-income mothers through the WIC program since 1989. It launched a national campaign to increase breastfeeding initiation and duration rates among WIC participants, increase referrals to WIC for breastfeeding support, and increase general public acceptance and support of breastfeeding. It has also developed and disseminated educational materials, provided an enhanced WIC food package for nursing mothers, and sponsored a Breastfeeding Promotion Consortium of health professional and advocacy organizations. Most recently, $500,000 was provided to develop breastfeeding support kits for health care providers. These efforts have significantly increased breastfeeding initiation rates among low-income women and WIC participants.

Expanding the WIC Farmers Market Nutrition Program. One of the benefits provided through the WIC program is vouchers to buy fresh produce at farmers markets, which both supports local farmers and improves the access of participants to nutritious food. This program has expanded from 9 State agencies at its inception in fiscal year 1992 to 39 State agencies, including four Indian Tribal Organizations, in fiscal year 2000. Total available funding for this program has grown over this same time period from $3 million to $19 million.

Strengthening WIC nutrition services. In fiscal year 2000, $1.4 million was made available in WIC Special Project Grants to improve and strengthen the effectiveness of WIC nutrition services in three States: Tennessee, Washington, and New Mexico. Small grants were awarded to Iowa, Massachusetts, and Maine to develop proposals for fiscal year 2001.

Providing fresh fruits and vegetables to children on reservations. To enhance the development of local food systems, FNS contracts with the Department of Defense's Defense Support Center in Philadelphia for the purchase and delivery of fresh fruits and vegetables that are provided under the Food Distribution Program on Indian

Reservations. It is policy to purchase this produce locally from small-scale farmers where feasible.

National Nutrition Summit. USDA and DHHS cosponsored a National Nutrition Summit in May 2000 in Washington, DC to: 1) highlight accomplishments since the landmark 1969 White House Conference on Food, Nutrition and Health; 2) identify continuing challenges and emerging opportunities in these areas; 3) focus on nutrition and lifestyle issues across the lifespan, particularly obesity; and 4) heighten awareness of the continuing challenges in solving problems of hunger and food insecurity in the United States and encourage collaboration.

Health and Social Services

DHHS provides a diverse array of complementary health and social services necessary for food security.

The ***Administration for Children and Families*** is responsible for some 60 programs that provide services and assistance to needy children and families. It administers the new State-Federal welfare program, Temporary Assistance to Needy Families, administers the national child support enforcement system, and the Head Start program. It also provides funds to assist low-income families in paying for child care and supports State programs to provide for foster care and adoption assistance.

The ***Health Resources and Services Administration (HRSA)*** provides health resources for medically underserved populations through a nationwide network of 643 community and migrant health centers, and 144 primary care programs for the homeless and residents of public housing. It serves 8.1 million Americans each year. HRSA also works to build the health care workforce, maintains the National Health Service Corps, and provides maternal and child health services and services to people with HIV/AIDS.

Expanding health care coverage to uninsured children. The State Children's Health Insurance Program (S-CHIP), created in 1997 and funded for $48 billion over the next decade, enables States to expand health care coverage to uninsured children from families with incomes too high to qualify for Medicaid but too low to afford private health insurance. This program, together with Medicaid, provides health care coverage for prescription drugs, vision, hearing, and mental health services for these previously uninsured children. Every State has implemented S-CHIP, providing health insurance coverage to over 2 million children nationwide since the beginning of the program. In addition, the number of children enrolled in Medicaid has increased because of statewide outreach and eligibility simplification efforts.

Connecting child nutrition to improved children's health. School lunch data is now being used to assist Medicaid in enrolling millions of children in health programs.

Emphasizing prevention and early recognition of nutritional concerns. The DHHS-supported Bright Futures in Practice: Nutrition Program provides developmental guidelines from the prenatal period through adolescence, as well as strategies and tools to help health professionals incorporate nutrition information and counseling into their primary care services and build partnerships in nutrition with families and community members.

Head Start is America's premiere early childhood development program for low-income preschool children ages three to five. Under the Clinton/Gore Administration, funding for Head Start has more than doubled, increasing from $2.2 billion in fiscal year 1992 to $4.66 billion in fiscal year 1999. With these additional funds, Head Start has increased enrollment by over 200,000 children, enhanced the quality of services, and launched a

new initiative called Early Head Start to serve infants and toddlers. In fiscal year 1998, Head Start served 822,000 children and their families. The fiscal year 2000 budget provides $5.3 billion — an increase of $608 million over fiscal year 1999. The goals is to serve 1 million children in Head Start by 2002.

Early Head Start. The Early Head Start program was initiated in 1994 to expand the benefits of early childhood development to low-income families with children under 3 and to pregnant women. In fiscal year 1999, the program was funded at $349 million and served approximately 40,000 children.

Outreach to underserved populations. In 1999, the Head Start Bureau conducted an analysis that identified traditionally underserved groups, with a particular focus on the growing Hispanic population, and specific steps to improve outreach and services. As a result, the percentage of Hispanic children served rose by 1.7 percentage points, from 26.1 percent to 27.8 percent.

Nutrition and Health Services for Native Americans

The ***Indian Health Service*** is the principal Federal health care provider and health advocate for Native Americans. Its goal is to assure that comprehensive, culturally acceptable personal and public health services are available and accessible to American Indian and Alaska Native people.

Providing culturally appropriate food packages to reservations. In 1997, the U.S. Government initiated a comprehensive review of the food package being distributed to participants in the Food Distribution Program on Indian Reservations. The review team included tribal leaders, tribal program operators, health and nutrition experts, and Federal commodity procurement personnel. The review team achieved its goal of increasing the appeal of the food package and improving its nutritional profile, without increasing its cost.

Community Food Security and Food Recovery

Food recovery: In 1996, the United States initiated a government-wide effort to work with nonprofit anti-hunger groups to increase the recovery and gleaning of excess food for distribution to the hungry. Achievements include:

- The first National Summit on Food Recovery convened by Vice President Gore in 1997 to generate national attention to the issue, catalyze new public-private partnerships, and announce new Federal activities.
- Creation of grassroots food recovery projects in more than 40 States in conjunction with farmers and ranchers. Through these projects, more than 10 million pounds of excess food have been collected for donation to nonprofit groups such as the Society of St. Andrew.
- Distribution of more than 20,000 copies of *A Citizen's Guide to Food Recovery and Gleaning*, an easy-to-use manual on starting or expanding nonprofit food recovery efforts and other materials to encourage people to volunteer for such activities.
- A new partnership between Hewlett Packard and America's Second Harvest to install and operate a new Web-based system, *Resourcelink*. This is an informa-

tion service to match food availability among growers, manufacturers, processors, and distributors with the food needs of America's Second Harvest food bank network and its 188 food banks and 26 million customers. This service also provides information on an alliance of shipping companies that can provide no-cost or low-cost transportation.

In 1999, the United States established a government-wide ***Community Food Security Initiative*** (CFSI) to coordinate the domestic aspects of the *U.S. Action Plan*. The CFSI has established a system of State food security liaisons, held a national food security summit, and completed an action plan. A copy of the Community Food Security Initiative Action Plan can be found on the Internet at *http://www.reeusda.gov/food_security/actplan.htm*. In 2000, a Community Food Security Resource Kit was released that provides comprehensive information on best practices and Federal resources to fight hunger, improve nutrition, and strengthen local food systems. The CFSI has already significantly increased the visibility of community food security nationally.

Community food security commitments: The U.S. Government, through CFSI, has generated over 100 new public, private, and nonprofit sector commitments at the national, State, and local levels to fight hunger and strengthen local food systems. Most are carried out in conjunction with nonprofit groups. For example:

- Share Our Strength is expanding Operation Frontline, a program that engages chefs to teach hands-on nutrition education classes and distributes cookbooks to low-income families.
- World Hunger Year is working with USDA to publicize and distribute "Replication Manuals" for seven of the most effective grassroots hunger and poverty programs in the United States.
- The Millennium Green initiative to encourage all Americans to plant or adopt a tree in honor of the new Millennium is also encouraging gardeners to plant an extra row of produce for the hungry.
- Foodchain's national community kitchen initiative, the D.C. Central Kitchen, and the American School Food Service Association are starting a national program to convert school cafeterias into community kitchens. The program combines food rescue with job training. On February 14, 2000, USDA announced $370,000 in funding for this effort.
- America's Second Harvest and USDA are distributing food stamp outreach materials and designating 10 food banks to work with USDA to develop food security action plans.

- The Community Food Security Coalition (CFSC) is undertaking a major new initiative to connect family farmers with school food services. CFSC will produce a report describing innovative farm-to-school programs, cosponsor a series of regional training workshops to stimulate new farm-to-school programs, and initiate a campaign to institute a healthy foods, healthy schools approach around the country. On October 14-15, 2000, the CFSC sponsored the first ever National Summit on Community Food Security to bring all stakeholders together to begin jointly implementing these commitments.

More commodities for food banks and hot meals programs. This year, the United States will spend well over $200 million to purchase more than 200 million pounds of food for distribution, mostly through faith-based organizations and other nonprofit groups.

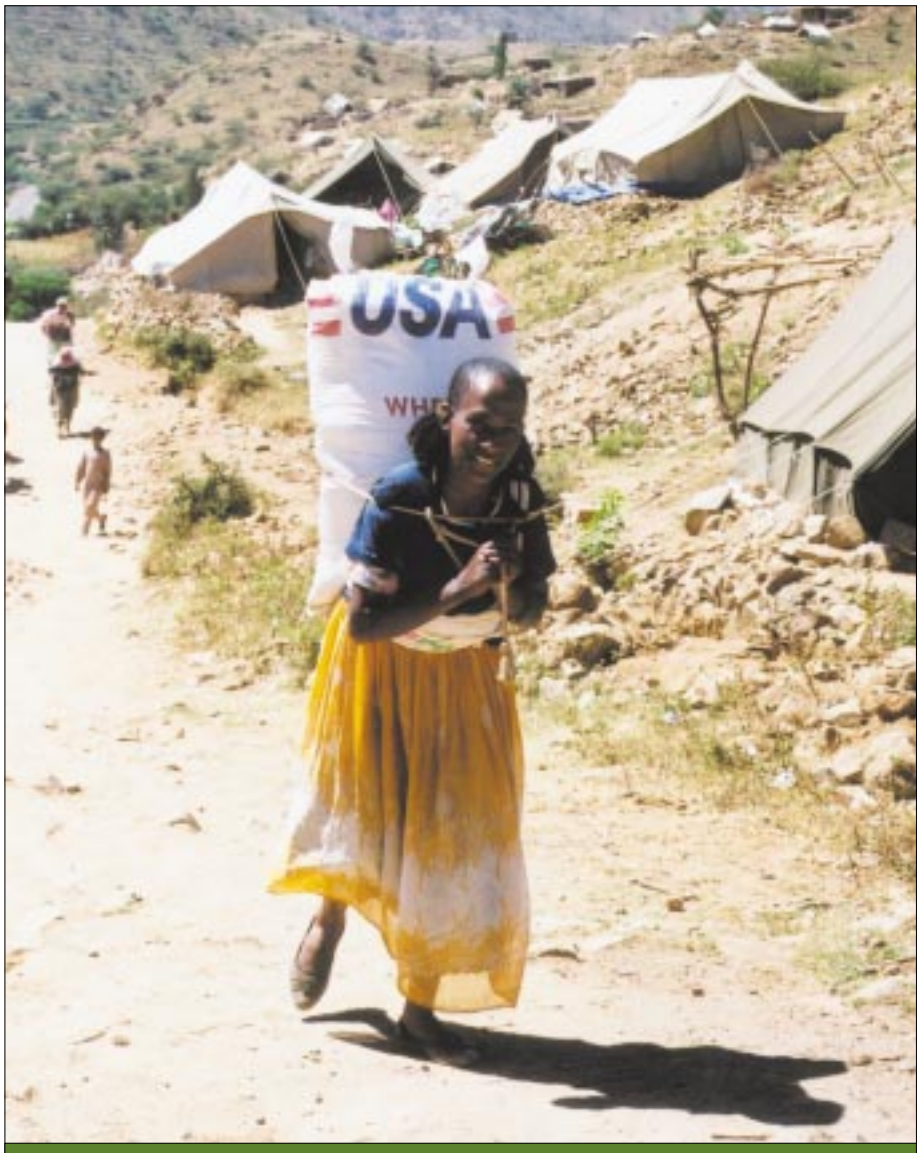
The ***Congressional Hunger Center,*** co-chaired by Congressmen Tony Hall and Frank Wolf, sponsors leadership development programs and education, research, and advocacy projects to address hunger. The center supports the national Mickey Leland Fellows program whereby 20 young people a year perform direct community service combined with public policy related to hunger. Beyond Food, a joint project of AmeriCorps and the center, enlists 80 people each year to work on community hunger initiatives in Vermont, Wisconsin, the Mississippi Delta, and Washington, D.C. Activities have included nutrition education, community gardens, and food recovery.

International Actions

For countries where people are in need, the United States supports international and bilateral humanitarian assistance efforts to provide emergency relief and foster development.

The ***Department of State*** provides substantial support for refugees, internally displaced persons, disadvantaged children, and the disabled. The mission performance plans of embassies contain, as needed, high-priority goals related to food security, emergency relief, gender-neutral education opportunities, and the empowerment of women. Population stability, maternal care, and the advancement of health, especially a reduction in the prevalence of HIV/AIDS, tuberculosis and malaria, are among the high priorities in order to break the vicious cycle of disease and poverty.

Humanitarian assistance to Africa. In 1999, the United States provided nearly $1 billion in humanitarian assistance to sub-Saharan Africa. Each year, USAID's Offices for Foreign Disaster Assistance, Transition Initiatives, and Food for Peace team with the Department of State's Bureau of Population, Refugees, and Migration and with international agencies and NGO's to provide humanitarian assistance in Africa.



A woman carries wheat back to the Harena camp for internally displaced persons outside of Asmara, Eritrea.

Food Aid

Food aid is a unique resource for addressing hunger and nutrition problems; it is self-targeting and attractive to those really in need. A major determinant of the effectiveness and sustainability of foreign assistance is the extent to which it strengthens self-reliance and the ability to cope with future crises. In planning, executing, and targeting food aid, the United States encourages implementing partners to engage local nongovernmental organizations, local expertise, and the beneficiary community. USAID policy guidelines encourage recipient countries and implementing partners to link relief and development so that relief programs reinforce development objectives and that programs are designed to help prevent or mitigate disasters.

The United States remains the world's major provider of food assistance. In fiscal year 1999, record surpluses in some U.S. commodities and an increased need for food aid worldwide led to the ***largest increase in U.S. international food assistance in a decade***. An unprecedented combination of events dramatically increased the need for international food assistance, including the continuing post-hurricane recovery effort in Central America and the Caribbean, flooding and the financial crisis in Asia, droughts in the Horn of Africa, and continuing food emergencies resulting from conflict.

In both fiscal years 1997 and 1998, the United States provided roughly 3 million tons, valued at $1 billion, of food assistance. It went to over 60 developing and re-industrializing countries, reaching millions of people. In fiscal year 1999, that amount tripled to 10 million tons, valued at more than $2.4 billion, and the number of countries served increased to

82. This assistance was divided almost equally between emergencies and longer term development programs.

U.S. Government food aid accomplishments for fiscal years 1997-99 include improvements in food aid management and commodity monetization, introduction of Title II program performance indicators that demonstrate beneficiary level impacts, increased documentation and reporting on accomplishments, increased nutritional benefit to food aid recipients through vitamin A fortification of vegetable oil, and several impact evaluations.

Integrating direct feeding activities with other productive inputs is an effective way of moving people from relief to recovery. General feeding rations provide the safety net to support displaced persons or refugees in the short term after an emergency. Nonfood inputs, such as training, seeds, and tools, support the move from relief dependency to self-reliance. Food-for-work programs provide rehabilitation of rural infrastructure and local agricultural systems, while meeting people's immediate food needs. As general rations are scaled back for the population at large, targeted supplemental rations can continue providing aid for the most vulnerable groups. Another way food aid contributes to development is the complementary investment in food transport, storage, and handling facilities, including roads, ports, and warehouses, which can then support private sector economic activity and increase access to markets.

There is a growing mismatch between food aid supply and demand, in part due to rising requirements for food aid against limited global availability. In response, the United States is increasingly using geographical targeting of food assistance and directed use of food aid in programs which have as their goals and objectives sustainable development leading to the alleviation of food insecurity.

Decisions regarding food aid allocations were directly affected by the *U.S. Action Plan on Food Security*. Food-security-related criteria have been incorporated into programming considerations. Priority is given to programs in countries with significant chronic food insecurity, and to those that include a capacity-building component such as training, extension, and infrastructure. Proposals must indicate how the project would help countries attain sustainable food security and graduate from food aid.

The Farmer-to-Farmer Initiative, managed by USAID, provides short-term technical assistance through U.S. volunteer farmers to improve production, marketing, and distribution of agricultural commodities in developing countries, funded principally through the Public Law 480 Title II program. In 1999, the program was funded for nearly $11 million and supported 710 assignments in 31 food-insecure countries.

Food Security Commodity Reserve. The Food Security Commodity Reserve Act of 1996 provides for a 4-million-ton food reserve to meet humanitarian food assistance needs in developing countries, when other U.S. food assistance funding has been fully committed. USDA has also contributed to faster response to emergencies overseas by pre-positioning commodities at major U.S. ports. The Africa: Seeds of Hope Act also enhances the capacity of the United States to respond to urgent humanitarian food crises in a timely manner by authorizing advance purchase to replenish the Food Security Commodity Reserve.

The ***Food Aid Convention*** is the legal instrument for ensuring a minimum flow of cereals as food aid. The United States participated in the recent renegotiation of the treaty effective July 1, 1999, which has improved the convention structure and commitment levels to make it a more effective mechanism for managing global food aid flows. Reforms include: broadening the list of products eligible for consideration as donated food aid; establishing a minimum global level for food aid donations of 5.5 million tons; placing more emphasis on monitoring and evaluating the impact and effectiveness of food aid operations; and committing to support recipient countries' development and implementation of their own food security strategies.

Donor coordination. The United States works in close partnership with numerous bilateral, international, regional, and subregional organizations on food-assistance-related issues. A coordinated approach is seen as the most effective way to support national food security efforts. USAID and the European Commission established a Permanent Mechanism for Consultation and Coordination on development cooperation and humanitarian assistance under the umbrella of the Trans-Atlantic Initiative.

Food aid codes of conduct. USAID collaborated on drafting a Code of Conduct for Food Aid in the context of Food Security for the Intergovernmental Authority on Development, a subregional organization comprised of the seven most drought-prone countries of the Greater Horn of Africa. The code incorporates best practices on linking relief to development, conflict resolution, gender perspective, and other development components. It further recognizes: 1) the importance of food aid as one resource to address hunger and disease due to food shortages; 2) long-term food security efforts and their role in mitigating emergencies; 3) food aid as a flexible resource which must be programmed carefully so as not to interfere with long-term food self-reliance; and 4) full integration of food aid with complementary investments, regional trade policies, and other resources. The United States also contributed to the NGO-sponsored Sphere Humanitarian Charter and Minimum Standards in Disaster Relief code of conduct for emergency relief, in which food aid is a critical component, and will strive to target its humanitarian assistance to projects and organizations that provide assistance in keeping with these principles.

HIV/AIDS

U.S. Government leadership in addressing the HIV/AIDS crisis. USAID is a leader in developing and implementing international prevention and control programs for HIV/AIDS and sexually transmitted diseases, including condom distribution and behavioral change interventions. Since 1986, USAID-funded programs have reached more than 22 million people. Agency initiatives have trained more than 180,000 educators, collaborated with more than 600 NGO's to expand prevention services, improved sexually transmitted disease programs in 22 countries, and, in 1997 alone, distributed over 230 million condoms.

The Peace Corps and HIV/AIDS. The global HIV/AIDS epidemic has reached critical proportions, particularly in Africa, where an estimated 14 million people have died of the disease, and 24 million of the world's 34 million infected people live. In June 2000, the Peace Corps announced an initiative to fight HIV/AIDS, supported by $1.5 million from USAID over the next 5 years and donations from the Gates and Packard foundations. The Peace Corps will train all 2,400 Peace Corps volunteers serving in 25 countries in Africa as AIDS educators and will increase the number of volunteers working on AIDS-related projects by the end of 2000 six-fold.

Support to Livelihood Strategies

Indigenous wild foods and their role in food security. Indigenous wild foods are vital to people coping with food shortages. USAID sponsors activities in the Greater Horn of Africa to gather and share knowledge on the use and potential of indigenous wild food plants within the region, including an assessment of their role in food security.

The role of livestock in improving food security. Food security in the Horn of Africa depends largely on livestock. Approximately 70 percent of the land in this region is pastoral rangeland. There is little or no viable economic alternative to livestock production. Therefore, livestock disease represents a serious constraint to increased food security in this region. USAID funding in the livestock sector allows for improved animal health care at decreased cost, and provides vaccination against rinderpest, a serious disease of cattle in East and Central Africa. These programs are particularly important in times of drought, when maintaining animal health and productivity is critical to reducing food aid needs of vulnerable pastoral communities.

6

Priority Area VI: Information and Mapping

Having quality data available through national monitoring, evaluation and reporting is essential for assessing effectiveness of activities and progress toward meeting food security goals and for targeting and adjusting policies and programs. Quality data tells us who and where the vulnerable groups are and the causes of their poverty and food insecurity. The United States has made an impressive investment in developing survey instruments, methodologies, and systems for collecting and analyzing information on factors related to food security status, both at home and abroad, which allow us to assess how successful our strategies have been in reducing food insecurity and thus plan effective programs.

Domestic Actions

A national food security objective. DHHS led the effort to develop *Healthy People 2010,* the Nation's health goals for this decade and a framework to define the national health agenda and guide health promotion and disease prevention policy. Ten-year health objectives were first initiated in 1979. In January 2000, new national health goals and objectives were set, with input from civil society organizations, including

the professional, voluntary and business sectors, and State and territorial health agencies. These new goals will be monitored for the next decade. For the first time, a national objective was set to reduce food insecurity by half by 2010, 5 years earlier than the World Food Summit target. Specifically, the target is to increase the prevalence of food security to at least 94 percent of all U.S. households, compared to the baseline in 1995, when 88 percent of all U.S. households were food secure.

U.S.-mandated national nutrition monitoring. The United States collects data under a legislatively mandated interagency program knows as the National Nutrition Monitoring and Related Research Program. Key components in this system include: national food supply data and household-based food expenditures; food composition and nutrient data bases; food consumption and nutrient intakes; nutritional status and nutrition-related health status; and knowledge, attitudes, and behavior assessments.

U.S. food security measurement project. Since 1995, the U.S. Government has fielded a large-scale survey effort to measure the extent of food insecurity and hunger among American households. The food security survey module is specifically designed to measure the prevalence of household food insecurity and hunger in the U.S. population and is the outgrowth of over a decade of research in this field in the United States. It is fielded annually as a supplement to the *Current Population Survey*, a monthly labor-force survey conducted by the Census Bureau. At an annual cost of about $440,000, the data collection involves interviews with approximately 45,000 households regarding their ability to provide food for all members, including questions on food expenditure patterns, adequacy of household food supplies, instances of food stress, and situations where reductions of food quantity and/or quality for adults and children in the household were necessary due to lack of financial resources. Responses to the survey are scaled to classify household status: food secure, food insecure without hunger, food insecure with hunger.

Other activities include: $225,000 to sponsor a conference to expand collaboration with universities, research institutes, and public interest groups on future research needs related to food security research measurement; to develop a set of food security items for inclusion in Federal nutrition monitoring surveys; and to support inclusion of the core household food security measurement module in various national surveys. Also, FNS and ERS have developed a handbook to help States and communities adopt methods to measure hunger and food insecurity locally.

A number of other U.S. surveys also measure food insecurity, including the National Health and Nutrition Examination Survey (NHANES). NHANES has included the 18-item household food security module beginning in 1999, and 13 additional items were included to measure individual food security, food sufficiency, and hunger in 2000. NHANES also collects data on health, diet, income, and some domestic food assistance program participation, thus allowing for correlational analyses of these factors with food security.

U.S. food security estimates. The U.S. Government first released national food security status estimates, based on data collected in April 1995, in October 1997. These estimates provide the baseline for the national food security objective. Succeeding reports document the extent of food security in the United States overall and among selected target groups through 1999. These were complemented by the release in 1999 of an analysis of food stamp recipients' food security status and measures of nutrient availability. These reports are available on the Worldwide Web at *http://www.ers.usda.gov/briefing/foodsecurity* and at

http://www.fns.usda.gov/oane/MENU/Published/FSP/FSPNutritionSecurity.htm.

An interagency ***Welfare Reform, Nutrition and Data Needs Working Group*** meets periodically to assess the adequacy of data and measurement methods for monitoring the impact of welfare reform on nutritional and health status. Data and measurement topics include food security, food sufficiency, hunger, and participation in food assistance and welfare programs.

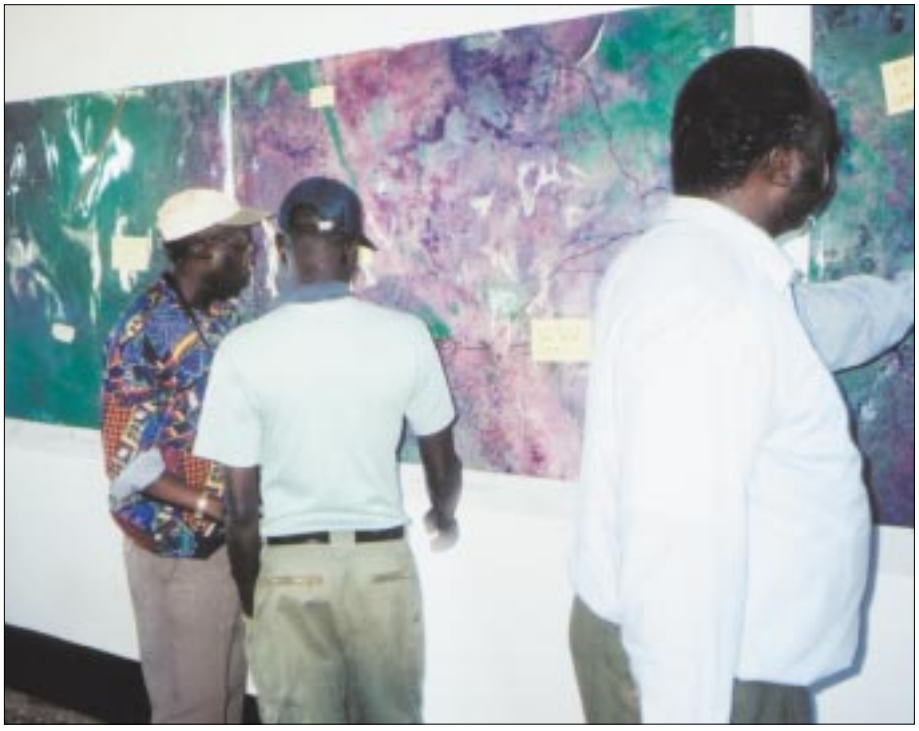
National study of the emergency feeding system. ERS is conducting the most comprehensive national study ever of the tens of thousands of food pantries, emergency kitchens, and food banks that comprise the Nation's emergency feeding system. The study will provide information about how such organizations operate, what successes they have achieved and the challenges they face, and the characteristics of the people who obtain food through the emergency feeding system.

International Actions

The ***Famine Early Warning System Network*** (FEWS NET) is a USAID-funded partnership working to improve food security in 17 drought-prone countries in Africa. The objective of FEWS NET is to help establish more effective, sustainable, and African-led food security and response planning networks that reduce the vulnerability of at-risk groups. FEWS NET's work contributes to the development of a unified international early warning system with global coverage based on national early warning systems, including capacity building in regional and national institutions. FEWS and the subsequent U.S. food aid response are widely credited with averting what was predicted to be a major famine in East Africa earlier this year.

FEWS NET specialists in the United States and Africa assess remotely sensed data and ground-based meteorological, crop, and rangeland conditions for early indications of potential famine areas and evaluate factors affecting local food availability and access in order to identify vulnerable populations requiring assistance. These assessments are continuously updated and disseminated to provide decision makers with the most timely and accurate information available. FEWS NET, in partnership with NOAA, the National Aeronautics and Space Administration, and the U.S. Geological Survey (USGS), has provided the following services: 1) on-line Internet access to satellite data on rainfall estimates for sub-Saharan Africa; 2) on-line Internet access to Normalized Difference Vegetation Index analyses; 3) on-line Internet access to all FEWS-related data archived on USGS' Africa Data Dissemination Service and direct satellite data and application support at regional centers for East and West Africa and the Southern African Development Community.

Hurricane food security assessment. Beginning in March 2000, the FAS Production Estimates and Crop Assessment Division, in collaboration with USAID, has developed a Web site to disseminate information regarding the Hurricane Mitch and Georges reconstruction projects, including current crop conditions, satellite imagery, weather information, a database on watershed rehabilitation sites, food security reports, and agricultural statistics. The focus is primarily Nicaragua and Honduras.



Resource quality, agricultural productivity, and food security. Beginning in 1997, ERS and its partners have used new geographic information system (GIS) data on soils and climate to quantify the impact of land quality and land degradation on agricultural productivity. This is the first time that data of this quality have been incorporated into international econometric analysis. The results will be incorporated in ERS projections of food production and food security gaps in low-income countries. This provides new and powerful tools for examining the interaction between environmental factors, agricultural productivity, and food security.

Global food security assessment. ERS produces an annual assessment which evaluates availability and access aspects of food security and analyzes their trends through the next decade. The study includes 67 low-income countries: 37 in sub-Saharan Africa; 4 in North Africa; 11 in Latin America and the Caribbean; 10 in Asia; and 5 in the Newly Independent States of the former Soviet Union. Food consumption at the aggregate level, as well as by different income groups, is projected. The food security position of the countries is evaluated by projecting the gaps between food consumption and consumption targets. (Food consumption is calculated by domestic production plus commercial imports minus nonfood use.) The targets are: 1) maintaining per capita food consumption at recent levels; and 2) meeting minimum nutritional requirements. National-level analysis, however, masks the impact of unequal access to income on food security. Using projections of food consumption as well as income distribution data, ERS estimated a distribution gap for each country. This gap measures the amount of food needed to raise consumption of each income group to the minimum nutritional requirements and the number of hungry, as defined by consumption falling below the nutritional target.

In December 1999, ERS published a report entitled *Food Security Assessment: Why Countries Are At Risk*. Based on the results of the global food security assessment, this report examines the feasibility of achieving food security by evaluating the required growth in agricultural productivity, foreign exchange earnings, and population. For the poorest countries, imports play a small role in the domestic food supply because foreign exchange is limited. According to the 1999 report, the number of hungry people is projected to reach nearly 1 billion by 2009, more than 40 percent of whom are in sub-Saharan Africa.

Climate forecasting. USAID is helping countries make advance preparations for seasonal climate variations through the use of climate forecasting technologies. USAID works with other U.S., international, and regional organizations, such as USGS, the International Research Institute for Climate Prediction, the World Meteorological Organization, regional drought monitoring centers, and the Asian Disaster Preparedness Center, to promote a series of Regional Climate Outlook Forum meetings. These meetings bring together country representatives to develop and share climate-forecast information, which provides probability guidance on seasonal rainfall outlooks, and helps countries to make plans in the agricultural and other sectors. The forecasts also provide an indication of the potential for extreme events, such as floods, onset of droughts, or the continuation of an ongoing drought.

Gender-disagreggated data. Primary research conducted under USAID's grant to IFPRI has helped to support linkages with regional and national institutions in Bangladesh, Ethiopia, South Africa, Guatemala, Ghana, and Indonesia to create gender-disagreggated databases. These databases are available to the local organizations, and will also be made accessible through the World Wide Web. Work in Mali has included gathering data and disaggregating information by sex to benefit gender research and findings. Two NGO's in Mali are compiling a gender database for use by Malian policymakers and institutions. A USAID grant to IFPRI has involved the creation of sex-disagreggated databases. Much of the data is collected in a compatible protocol, and is made available to national researchers and government offices. Several data sets are being readied for access through the IFPRI Web site.

Use of gender-disagreggated data improves results. In late 1998, data collection and analysis in Eritrea, Ghana, Guinea, Kenya, Mozambique, and Uganda, estimated the extent to which selected projects addressed women's roles in food security. Similarly, as part of the reconstruction effort following Hurricane Mitch, USAID sponsored a gender analysis of efforts in Honduras and Nicaragua to assist recovery and reactivation of small and medium-sized farms. The result was an increase in the availability of sex-disagreggated data and better identification of how labor on crops is divided between men and women.

To provide information that could strengthen food and agricultural policies in developing countries, USAID's IFPRI program has investigated the resource allocations within households. Primary data collection efforts have been carried out in Bangladesh, Ethiopia, South Africa, Guatemala, Ghana, and Indonesia. In Kenya, USAID supported a pilot project to demonstrate and measure women's contributions to food security at farm and household levels so that inputs can be monetized and included in the Gross Domestic Product.

Priority Area VII: Food and Water Safety

Another aspect of food security is food safety. Safe food is essential not only to achieving food security, but to maintaining physical health and economic productivity as well.

Domestic Actions

In 1997, President Clinton announced a ***National Food Safety Initiative*** for reducing foodborne illness from farm to table. Key components include: expanding the national food safety surveillance system; implementing Hazard Analysis and Critical Control Point (HACCP) systems in appropriate sectors of the food supply; improved coordination between Federal, State, and local health authorities; developing scientific information and tools to better control food safety hazards; improving risk assessment capabilities and inspection; research and consumer education; and enhancing the safety of imported foods. A strong science base drives each of these efforts. As a result of the initiative, the U.S. Government has also increased its research efforts to improve risk assessment of foodborne pathogens; placed greater emphasis on ensuring the safety of domestic and imported fresh produce and imported foods; increased training and educational programs aimed at reducing foodborne illness; and enhanced outbreak coordination among Federal and State health authorities.

In August 1998, President Clinton issued Executive Order 13100 establishing the intergovernmental ***President's Council on Food Safety*** and directing the Council to: 1) develop a comprehensive strategic plan for Federal food safety activities; 2) coordinate food safety budgets; and 3) oversee the Joint Institute for Food Safety Research in its efforts to coordinate and prioritize food safety research. In December 1998, the council broadened the scope of the National Food Safety Initiative to address chemical and physical hazards such as pesticides and additives in addition to foodborne pathogens.

PulseNet, a dedicated, high-speed Internet connection, detects and responds to emerging pathogens in the food supply for the rapid comparison of DNA fingerprints of foodborne bacteria with those in an ever-growing database at the Centers for Disease Control (CDC). PulseNet is a collaborative project among CDC, FDA, USDA, and State health departments. In 1999, PulseNet was extended to several labs.

In 1996, two laws were passed that have given consumers better information and have improved the health and safety of the food they eat: 1) the Food Quality Protection Act, which streamlines regulation of pesticides and puts important new public health protections in place; and 2) the Safe Drinking Water Act, which requires drinking water systems to protect against dangerous contaminants like Cryptosporidium, and gives people the right to know about contaminants in their tap water.

Food safety education. The Partnership for Food Safety Education, a public-private partnership, was created to reduce the incidence of foodborne illness by educating Americans about safe food handling practices. The partnership initiated a Fight BAC!™ public information campaign in 1997. In 1999, the partnership released a curriculum program for students in grades 4-6 to teach the four basic safe food handling messages through video and classroom activities. In 2000, the Food Safety and Inspection Service's (FSIS) education activities continued to support the Fight BAC!™ campaign and messages. A satellite video teleconference for educators introduced a publication entitled "*Using Partnerships to Fight BAC! ™ A Workbook for Food Safety Educators.*" The Fight BAC!™ costume appeared at school events, public health fairs, and other major conventions.

The partnership also joined with Pfizer and McDonald's corporations to provide food safety information to millions of consumers. The partnership worked extensively to get food safety information out through the media. In 1999, the Food Safety Training and Education Alliance made available information on current food safety training and education activities, training materials, and listings of available training courses accessible through the following Internet Web site: *http://www.foodsafety.gov*. This information was intended for retail food service.

The National Food Safety Information Network joins together the U.S. Government's primary mechanisms for providing food safety information to the public, and includes: *http://www.foodsafety.gov*, the "Government Gateway to Food Safety Information"; the FSIS Meat and Poultry Hotline; the Outreach and Information Center of the FDA Center for Food Safety and Nutrition; USDA/FDA Foodborne Illness Education Information Center; National Food Safety Educators Network (EdNet); and the FoodSafe online discussion group. The EdNet electronic newsletter distributed monthly had over 1,200 subscribers and FoodSafe had over 2,000 subscribers from more than 50 countries. In addition, FSIS at USDA issues a quarterly newsletter, the *Food Safety Educator*, that reaches almost 10,000 consumer subscribers.

Each year FSIS, in cooperation with FDA and EPA, sponsor National Food Safety Education Month[SM], a major food safety education focus for government and consumer organizations as well as industry. The theme of National Food Safety Education Month in September 2000 was "Be Smart. Keep Foods Apart—Don't Cross Contaminate" to educate the

public about safe food preparation. FSIS teamed up with FDA to produce a 35-page planning guide for educators.

Food safety information is disseminated though a wide range of communication methods. The USDA's Meat and Poultry Hotline is a toll-free telephone service that helps consumers prevent foodborne illness, specifically by answering their questions about safe storage, handling, and preparation of meat and poultry products. The Hotline may be reached by calling: 1-800-535-4555 (voice); (202) 720-3333 (Washington, DC, area); or 1-800-256-7072 (TDD/TTY). In 1999, FDA created an Outreach and Information Center to provide accurate and meaningful information to the public on food safety through a toll-free public information line 1-888- SAFEFOOD. In addition, a specialized egg safety campaign was developed in an effort to reduce the incidence of foodborne illnesses.

FSIS officially launched a national consumer education Thermy™ campaign in May 2000 to increase use of food thermometers in the home. The campaign featured the food safety messenger Thermy ™ and the message, "It's Safe to Bite When the Temperature is Right." Since the thermometer campaign was launched, over 50,000 information kits, 30,000 magnets, and posters have been distributed to food safety educators nationwide. Many of the Thermy™ materials are also available in Spanish.

Environmental protection. Americans enjoy one of the safest, most abundant food supplies in the world due in part to the safe use of pesticides during food production, processing, storage, and transportation. Ensuring the safety of the food supply requires continued diligence by pesticide producers, users, and regulatory bodies. At the Federal level, the U.S. Environmental Protection Agency evaluates the safety of all new and existing pesticides and restricts pesticide use to those applications that do not pose unacceptable human health or ecological risks.

EPA employs a combination of regulatory, outreach, and partnership activities to ensure safe food by reducing the risk from pesticides and reducing the use of pesticides on food, which include:

- Reviewing existing pesticides that pose the greatest health risks while registering lower risk alternatives.
- Providing outreach, training, and education to growers, pesticide applicators, and manufacturers.
- Encouraging the development and use of alternative pest management strategies, including the use of nonchemical approaches and use of lower risk pesticides.

EPA has worked towards the goals outlined in the *U.S. Action Plan* by implementing the Food Quality Protection Act's requirements for a single, health-based safety standard for new and existing pesticides and their residues in raw and processed food. Passage of the Food Quality Protection Act also brought comprehensive reform to our Nation's pesticide and food safety laws, and set in motion many fundamental changes in our approach to protecting human health and the environment from risks associated with pesticide use. EPA now routinely considers the aggregate effects of pesticide exposure from food, drinking water, and other non-occupational uses, as well as the cumulative effects of pesticides that have a common mechanism of toxicity.

EPA has updated pesticide toxicity testing guidelines to better assess risks to infants and children and is reducing the use of organophosphates. EPA has worked with USDA to find an alternative to medfly control pesticides and, in 1999, canceled the use of methyl parathion, an acutely toxic organophosphate insecticide widely used on crops, on all fruits, and on many vegetables, eaten frequently by children.

International Actions

Developed countries have committed to providing technical assistance and capacity building for developing countries struggling to meet their international trade commitments related to sanitary and phyto-sanitary (SPS) measures under the WTO. Technical assistance to help other countries develop science-based standards and strengthen national food control systems is important not only for fair trade, but to ensure that consumers have confidence in the food they eat, no matter what country it originates from.

The United States has an active program of providing technical assistance related to WTO SPS compliance, food safety, and plant and animal health to over 80 countries in every region around the world, and has reached even more through regional and global activities.

The ***Foreign Agricultural Service***, the designated U.S. WTO notification authority and enquiry point, provides a variety of technical assistance to facilitate the establishment of operational enquiry points and notification authorities in developing countries, support regional training seminars, and science-based international standards development. FAS also provides SPS technical assistance through the following programs:

- The ***Cochran Fellowship Program*** provides short-term training in the United States for agriculturalists from selected middle-income countries and emerging democracies. Since 1996, over 250 international counterparts from over 50 countries (about 60 per year) have been trained in food safety, WTO accession and compliance, and related issues, in conjunction with USDA technical agencies for animal and plant health and food safety. This level of activity is expected to increase over the coming years.
- Under the ***Emerging Markets Program***, U.S. expertise is provided through technical assistance to promote international trade in agricultural products with emerging markets. Since 1996, this program has funded over 60 different technical assistance activities to facilitate better understanding of U.S. regulatory requirements and to resolve specific SPS-related trade constraints.
- The ***Scientific Cooperation Program*** funds collaborative research projects and scientific exchanges between U.S. and foreign scientists on uses of science to help solve mutually critical agricultural and forestry problems, including technical trade barriers and SPS issues such as food safety and threats from exotic diseases and pests. Funding for joint long-term technical research and short-term scientific exchanges in food safety covers 15 projects in 13 countries, and in animal and plant health trade barriers it includes 25 projects in 14 countries.
- The ***Joint Scientific and Technical Cooperation Program*** funds projects for mutually beneficial research with foreign currencies from sales of farm products abroad under U.S. international food assistance programs (Public Law 480) and host country resources.

The ***Food Safety and Inspection Service*** administers the meat and poultry inspection program in the United States. FSIS annually conducts an Inspection Seminar for Foreign Government Officials to provide an overview of the U.S. meat and poultry inspection program, livestock production system, and HACCP. FSIS also provides technical experts to deliver training and seminars sponsored by other U.S. agencies and sponsors participants from developing countries to attend other workshops and seminars that enhance knowledge on technical and regulatory issues.

The ***Animal and Plant Health Inspection Service*** provides technical assistance to developing countries to promote science-based quarantine concepts and practices and to control specific agricultural pests and diseases.

The ***Agricultural Research Service*** coordinates international agricultural research within the U.S. Government with the aim of linking domestic and international activities, agricultural researchers, and programs. At present, the agency has 368 cooperative linkages with 51 countries, including many in developing countries. ARS is charged with extending the United States' scientific knowledge across a broad range of agricultural, forestry, fisheries, and food science areas. Related to food safety, these include scientific investigations concerning safe and high-quality food products, human nutritional needs, appropriate natural resources, and environmental management.

The ARS ***Food Safety National Program*** aims to reduce the incidence of hazards in the food supply from microbial and chemical contaminants and naturally occurring toxins. Research findings are made available to the public, government agencies, and the private sector as a basis for implementing policies and actions for a safer food supply and for conducting educational programs designed to promote food safety.

The U.S. ***Food and Drug Administration*** provides technical assistance in training, primarily to foreign government counterparts and industry groups. It also offers consultations in regulatory, enforcement, inspection, or scientific matters and laboratory operations. FDA supports cooperative activities in developing national and international scientific

and regulatory standards and mutually beneficial cooperative research of foreign scientists in FDA laboratories. Under its ***Foreign Visitors Program***, FDA hosts short-term visits by foreign officials and industry representatives to obtain an overview of FDA policies, procedures, and facilities.

FDA conducted briefings in Mexico City and Chile in 1999, and in New Zealand in 2000, for foreign government officials and industry representatives of countries of the Americas and of Southeast Asia and the Pacific on new U.S. food safety requirements. FDA participated in a planning meeting sponsored by FAO in December 1998 to assess training needs and to begin to develop a core curriculum for regional train-the-trainer workshops on good agricultural practices for Central America. It then provided instructors for the first regional training on this subject in Costa Rica in May 1999 for Central American agricultural experts and health officials. As a result of needs identified during the Hurricane Mitch Reconstruction Project, FDA conducted dairy farm sanitation and milk safety training, emphasizing on-farm practices in August 2000.

U.S. support for Codex Alimentarius. Codex Alimentarius, the joint FAO/WHO food standards program, helps protect the health of consumers and facilitate trade through the establishment of international food standards, codes of practice, and other guidelines. Codex texts are based on sound science and are therefore of unquestioned value to developing nations as a basis for their own food safety measures. The United States has been a leader in the Codex process since its inception. Continued U.S. leadership in Codex will result in increased food safety and food security worldwide, including in the United States, because of the global nature of our food supply. Additionally, transparency, a fundamental tenet of the Codex process, will have major, long-term food security benefits. The United States' continued active participation in Codex is an integral part of the food safety component of the U.S. food security initiative. The United States will encourage increased participation in Codex by the lesser developed countries, as a means of strengthening food security around the globe.

U.S. support to WHO Food Safety Programs: Food security has varied and significant public health ramifications. Human access to nutritious food can be undermined by foodborne illness. Given the importance of food safety and foodborne illness to global food security, the United States recommended a food safety agenda item to the WHO Executive Board, which was ultimately passed as a resolution on food safety in May 2000 at the 53rd World Health Assembly. In light of the importance of the WHO Food Safety initiative, in September 2000, FDA, USDA, and CDC provided funding to broaden developing country participation in an upcoming WHO strategic planning meeting of food safety experts, so that their perspectives and needs could be expressed and addressed under WHO programs. The United States has provided a scientist to work with WHO on microbiological pathogens in food.

***Seafood safety and inspection training*.** NOAA sponsors seafood safety training seminars or laboratory mentorships specifically for foreign nationals, and helped to establish the International Association of Fish Inspectors. NOAA, through its Sea Grant Extension Program, is helping to prevent post-harvest food loss by employing better prevention techniques and improving the understanding of seafood safety considerations and control procedures.

Water resource management. Rural, agricultural areas in China have water supplies typically contaminated with nitrate runoff, microbial contaminants, industrial pollutants, naturally occurring metals, and mineral deposits. As a result, safe drinking water has become the number one environmental priority in China. FAS staff in cooperation with EPA established on-site drinking water treatment demonstrations in China and Mexico.

Peace Corps water and sanitation projects build demand for water supply and sanitation facilities through hygiene education and community organizing. They increase communities' access to potable water and sanitation facilities and strengthen the capacity of communities through development of water and sanitation committees and water boards to operate, manage, and maintain water sources and sanitation facilities. There is a trend to emphasize prevention of water-related diseases through hygiene education, access to latrines, and waste management over building water systems and wells to increase water supply. Volunteers have developed low-cost, low-technology, small-scale water supply and sanitation facilities, including a hand-auger for digging wells to create garden irrigation sources in Niger and the Lasso hand pump and rainwater catchment systems in El Salvador. Due in large part to a Peace Corps Guinea Worm Prevention education program in Cote d'Ivoire, cases reported in 1999 dropped 91 percent in the participating region.

the role of civil society

Civil society[1] contributed extensively to preparation for the World Food Summit and to development of the Summit declaration and plan of action. Pre-Summit consultations stimulated the creation of food security networks along thematic and geographic lines that are now active in World Food Summit follow-up.

In the United States, government, the private sector, and civil society organizations are all engaged in policy development, economic activities, and social services. Civil society organizations are often implementing partners of government domestic and international programs for economic development, food and nutrition assistance, nutrition education, sustainable agriculture, and community food security. The U.S. Government recognizes the important role of all stakeholders in food security and national follow-up actions to the World Food Summit recommendations, including mobilizing public opinion and resources, contributing to the policy dialogue, implementing food security programs, and analyzing and sharing information.

U.S. Government Efforts To Involve Civil Society

Civil society organizations have partnered with the U.S. Government to address hunger and food insecurity at home and abroad in a variety of ways.

Development of the U.S. Action Plan

The *U.S. Action Plan* itself was the result of extensive national consultations. In addition to describing what government plans to do, it envisions a major role for civil society, as well as a range of partnerships between government and civil society. The *U.S. Action Plan* is the product of 2 years of public dialogue, government drafting, and public comment. Civil society will continue to participate in implementing, monitoring, and evaluating the *U.S. Action Plan*.

Consultations

The U.S. Government has held a series of consultations to get input from civil society on preparing for the World Food Summit, developing the national food security action plan, and conducting other food security activities. The U.S. Government is committed to continuing and strengthening communication with civil society to maintain awareness of and activity on food security. The U.S. Government will continue to sponsor consultations to provide forums to exchange ideas and experience, make views known, review cooperation and build partnerships, set priorities, and formulate implementation plans. On August 22, 2000, the U.S. Government cosponsored with NGO's a consultation on food security to re-energize the process of cooperation and dialogue. Canadian Government and civil society representatives also participated, with an eye to developing a North American approach to involving civil society in food security efforts. USDA has sponsored Hunger Roundtables around the country and a National Nutrition Summit in May 2000 that included a session on the face of hunger in America. The goal was to raise awareness and get public input into domestic food assistance programs and general food security policy that would help guide a wide range of actions to be undertaken at the community level.

[1]The United Nations system defines a nongovernmental organization broadly; i.e., any not-for-profit actor which is not governmental or intergovernmental. In practice, NGO tends to be reserved for formally constituted nonprofit organizations that provide services and/or mobilize public opinion in thematic areas. Civil society refers to the sphere in which citizens and social movements organize around objectives, constituencies, and thematic interests. Civil society organizations (CSO's) include membership organizations, such as farmers associations and consumers groups; advocacy groups dealing with food security, sustainable development, population, and the environment; humanitarian and other service delivery organizations that support and implement development projects and programs; and labor unions; business and professional associations; the media; local authorities; business leaders; and academic and research institutions.

An Evolving Relationship: Steps to Closer Collaboration

Regarding process, civil society would like active and open communication with the U.S. Government on critical food security issues, and would also like to continue to participate in U.S. food security measures. Civil society's principles for participation emphasize transparency, accountability, the need to be inclusive, and openness to new ideas and alternate visions. Civil society organizations have identified areas for immediate collaboration, as well as issues and concerns for further discussion.

During consultations, U.S. civil society expressed a desire to see: 1) more emphasis on community food security and urban agriculture; 2) more support to small producers and rural communities; 3) a stronger position on the right to food; 4) consideration of systemic causes of food insecurity resulting from concentration and globalization of food and banking systems and patterns of overconsumption; 5) consideration of the impact of trade and industrialized agriculture, including biotechnology products, on food security and the environment; and 6) consideration of the relationship between food aid and market instability.

Food Security Advisory Council

As discussed above, the FSAC is the key mechanism to get broad representative input from nutrition, food security, and agricultural interests. Members range from farmers to hunger advocates to agribusinesses. The U.S. Government decision to renew the FSAC's charter for another 2 years in July 2000 reflects its strong commitment to involve stakeholders in implementing national and international food security commitments.

International Food Security Forums

The U.S. Government has been a strong advocate for broadening participation of civil society in international forums on food security, including the work of the FAO Committee on World Food Security (CFS). The U.S. Government regularly includes representatives of civil society in its delegations to the CFS. Enabling civil society organizations to take part in the work programs of the CFS remains a U.S. priority, along with promoting practical measures to widen access.

the role of civil society

The U.S. Government and the community of civil society organizations are considering a variety of ways to achieve more consistent and effective involvement by civil society organizations in World Food Summit follow-up and in implementing the *U.S. Action Plan* to achieve food security; i.e., thematic working groups and using information technology to improve communications and build partnerships, such as enhancing the existing U.S. Government food security Web site to provide a more interactive mechanism.

Civil Society Roles, Activities, and Accomplishments

The contribution civil society makes to food security is extensive and varied.

Domestic Actions

While increases in the number of jobs and reductions in the welfare rolls indicate a healthy economy, food insecurity continues in some communities, as measured by use of the emergency food system; limited access to affordable, fresh, high-quality foods in low-income or isolated rural communities; and nutritional diseases such as obesity. At the same time, many small farmers experience low prices for their products and poor access to markets.

The ***community food security*** approach, developed in 1994, comprises comprehensive solutions to community-level food and farming problems based on the needs of low-income people; community focus; self-reliance and empowerment; local agriculture; and a food systems approach. The community food security movement seeks to create a more locally based food system that supports and benefits local farmers and low-income neighborhoods through linkages between producers seeking access to markets and consumers seeking fresh, healthy food. This movement also promotes linkages involving rural farmland protection and anti-hunger objectives, water and food quality, and rural and economic development.

The mission of the national ***Community Food Security Coalition*** (CFSC) of 275 organizations is to promote comprehensive systems-oriented solutions to the Nation's food and farming needs through policy advocacy; technical assistance in implementing local food security programs; coalition building; providing a clearinghouse and database; research and reports; and public education through the media, conferences, and newsletters. Since 1997, CFSC has served over 1,000 participants in 25 workshops across the country covering the principles and practices of community food security, and it has developed and distributed over 2,500 guidebooks on community food security project design, local food policy organizing, and inner-city farmers markets. CFSC has worked with the U.S. Government on implementing and evaluating food security programs, such as the Community Food Projects Competitive Grants Program and use of food stamp electronic debit cards at farmers markets. In addition, it has served as a catalyst in the development and operation of dozens of new food system coalitions and networks. CFSC stimulates further networking through an Internet Web site, *http://www.foodsecurity.org*, and a list serve, COMFOOD.

Food system partnerships and activities. Several regional food system partnerships have been formed, including the Hartford Food System in Connecticut; the Northeast Food System Partnership, Community Harvest in the Washington, D.C., area; the Progressive Los Angeles Network Food and Nutrition Workgroup; the Northern California Food Systems; and the Chicago Food Security Alliance. Activities include:

- Establishing and operating farmers markets in low-income neighborhoods and providing training and technical assistance for participat-

ing farmers, often working with the national WIC food assistance program to maximize the number of participants who receive vouchers for produce through the USDA WIC Farmers Market Nutrition Program.

- Developing farm-to-institution approaches for direct marketing of farm produce for nutritional and educational benefits to schools, hospitals, and senior citizen centers to establish new sales opportunities for farmers, provide healthy food choices, and create learning opportunities for school children.
- Encouraging community and urban farms to teach agricultural practices as well as provide produce to low-income people, food banks, and other institutions.
- Implementing educational programs on food, nutrition, the environment, and agriculture for farm-to-school and community and urban farm projects.
- Creating advisory councils and anti-hunger and urban-rural coalitions to carry out a variety of policy and advocacy activities. These include monitoring food prices and advocating for supermarkets in low-income communities; advocating for funding for food assistance programs and for preservation of farmland; distributing information on local food and nutrition services; raising awareness among the public and government about food system concerns; and developing a common food policy agenda, work plan, and approach to food, nutrition, and agriculture-related programs and issues.
- Establishing and operating food banks.
- Initiating free grocery delivery service for homebound elderly.

World Food Day. Twenty years ago, FAO set October 16th as a day to be observed around the world. Today, 450 nongovernmental organizations in the United States use that occasion to work together to raise public awareness and increase understanding and year-round action on hunger and food security. In the United States, World Food Day has been institutionalized as a time for people from all walks of life to express their commitment to achieving a more compassionate and food-secure world for all. This is a grassroots effort, emphasizing local creativity and initiative. Schools, faith groups, businesses, colleges, and community action groups have organized short-term efforts around World Food Day, such as food collections, fundraising for long-term projects, public policy initiatives, and community service awards. Examples include the Bread for the World Annual Hunger Report, National Food Bank Week, the granting of the World Food Prize, a major series of Food and Law Conferences, the nationwide Church World Service walkathon to raise funds for anti-hunger projects, and the launching of the Community Food Security Initiative. A flagship event since 1984, the worldwide satellite teleconference reaches a thousand sites, accompanied by a packet of study and action ideas for classroom and community use. A K-12 global curriculum on food security was prepared for World Food Day 2000 to educate children and young people around the world on the causes of and solutions to hunger, and the role they can play in building food security. The curriculum is sponsored by the American Federation of Teachers, the Newsweek Education Project, the National Peace Corps Association, and the World Bank, among others.

Domestic advocacy. Bread for the World is a grassroots advocacy movement against hunger made up of 45,000 members, including 2,000 churches. For over 25 years, Bread for the World has been a leading advocate on food security policy for hungry and poor people in the United States and internationally, supporting the expansion of development assistance. Bread for the World is currently carrying out a legislative campaign to address hunger by broadening food stamp participation and raising the minimum wage. Bread for the World's report, *A Program to End Hunger,* published in

2000, claims that the United States could cut domestic hunger in half within 2 years—and do its part to cut world hunger in half by 2015—for about $6 billion a year, or about 6 cents per day per American.

NGO participation in the governmental Community Food Security Initiative. The Community Food Security Initiative Roll Call of Commitments includes a wide range of domestic NGO commitments and programs underway to address food security in the United States. In 1996, USDA initiated a Community Food Projects Competitive Grants Program to provide $16 million in seed money (from $10,000-$250,000 per project) over 7 years to private nonprofit organizations for multi-purpose projects that meet the needs of low-income communities, encourage self-reliance, and promote the development of local food systems. Descriptions of the communities to which grants were awarded for 1996-99 and their activities can be found on the Internet at *http://www.reeusda.gov/crgam/cfp/community.htm*.

International Actions

Partnership to Cut Hunger in Africa. As a result of NGO and private sector advocacy in creating the Africa: Seeds of Hope and the African Growth and Opportunity Acts, a broad partnership of agencies (including USAID and USDA), NGO's, agricultural trade and producer associations, faith-based groups, and land-grant universities have come together to form the Partnership to Cut Hunger in Africa. With Bread for the World, Michigan State University, former Congressman Lee Hamilton, and former Senator Bob Dole in key leadership roles, the partnership is developing a strategy to cut hunger in Africa that the U.S. Government will apply to its efforts in reaching this goal.

Sustainable agriculture extension centers in Russia. Since the breakup of the Soviet Union, food production has fallen drastically, food prices have increased, and chemical fertilizers and pesticides have become scarce and expensive. In 1997, 11 pilot extension centers modeled after the U.S. Sustainable Agriculture Research and Education program were established by the Russian Ministry of Agriculture with technical assistance and funding from the Center for Citizen Initiatives and USAID to teach farmers how to grow crops with minimal chemical inputs. All of the farmers connected to these extension centers continued farming through the severe drought and economic upheaval of 1999. As a result, in December 1999, the Russian Ministry of Agriculture established an extension division and a nationwide information system to advise farmers on sustainable agriculture methods and expanded to 53 the number of sustainable agriculture extension centers across the country. In addition, the Ministry is developing a 4-year curriculum on sustainable agriculture.

Private sector action on the U.S. Action Plan. Rotary International, an organization on the formal government advisory committee for food security, has made alleviation of hunger a high priority. With 1.2 million members in 162 countries, Rotary International can link people in need of food and nutrition assistance with members in other countries that can provide resources and technical assistance. Copies of the *U.S. Action Plan* were provided to Rotary International leaders worldwide, along with recommendations for specific actions. These recommendations include building better public understanding of the importance of food security, promoting a safety net of nutrition and basic education for vulnerable women and children, and integrating environmen-

tal concerns into food security efforts to assure sustainability. Rotary International has budgeted $90 million for all of its programs in 2000, which may include food security efforts.

Urban agriculture. The proportion and number of poor people living in urban areas is growing, and the locus of poverty, food insecurity, and malnutrition continues to shift from rural to urban areas. The challenge of feeding cities can be met by facilitating consumer access to affordable, good-quality food, and by ensuring that required investments are made to increase food production, processing, and distribution capacities and services under hygienic, healthy, and environmentally sound conditions. Urban agriculture can be an important source of food for some cities, when the national rural food production, marketing, and transportation systems are not well developed. Even in large, congested cities, the urban poor may have a home garden or raise small animals as part of a coping strategy to complement household incomes and improve diet quality. In the United States, the national CFSC, the Hartford Food System Council, Boston's Food Project, New York's Just Food, Los Angeles' Food From the Hood, and the Detroit Agriculture Network are but a few nongovernmental organizations focused on urban agriculture. U.S. NGO's participate in the Support Group on Urban Agriculture headquartered in Ottawa, Canada, which supports urban agriculture as a development intervention by coordinating policies and efforts of international organizations, countries that fund development programs, and developing countries.

International advocacy. Bread for the World legislative initiatives helped achieve enactment in 1998 of the Africa: Seeds of Hope Act which redirects U.S. foreign assistance in Africa toward agriculture and rural development. Recent advocacy campaigns have focused on African agriculture, international debt reduction, national poverty, and foreign assistance to Africa. Bread for the World is also involved in research and education on distributive aspects of food security policy with NGO's in Malawi and Mozambique. Through its Debt and Development project, with NGO partners in Zambia and Nicaragua, Bread for the World has worked to monitor the implementation of the international debt relief plan approved by the nations of the world in 1999. Bread for the World also works to build capacity of smallholder producer organizations by offering training in marketing, production, and new technology, and by providing small loans and training to women farmers.

Peace Corps-NGO partnerships. Increasingly, a Peace Corp volunteer's primary assignment is with an NGO. Numerous other volunteers are choosing to work with NGO's in their community outreach activities, typically on issues of organizational development or providing technical assistance related to the sector the NGO serves and the services it provides. The Peace Corps shares with NGO's a participatory development approach to increase local capacities, a focus on the poor, a search for sustainable solutions, and a commitment to working with indigenous NGO's to benefit from local knowledge.

appendices

Appendix A: List of Acronyms

AFSI	African Food Security Initiative
AMS	Agricultural Marketing Service
ARS	Agricultural Research Service
ASPE	Office of the Assistant Secretary for Planning and Evaluation, DHHS
CFS	Committee on World Food Security
CFSC	Community Food Security Coalition
CFSI	Community Food Security Initiative
CSO	Civil Society Organization
CSREES	Cooperative State Research, Education, and Extension Service
CGIAR	Consultative Group on International Agricultural Research
DHHS	Department of Health and Human Services
EPA	U.S. Environmental Protection Agency
ERS	Economic Research Service
EZ/EC	Empowerment Zone/Enterprise Community
FAO	Food and Agriculture Organization of the United Nations
FAS	Foreign Agricultural Service
FDA	Food and Drug Administration
FNS	Food and Nutrition Service
FSAC	Food Security Advisory Council
FSIS	Food Safety and Inspection Service
FTAA	Free Trade Area of the Americas
FWS	Fish and Wildlife Service
GEF	Global Environment Facility
GIS	Geographic Information System
HACCP	Hazard Analysis and Critical Control Point
HIV/AIDS	Human Immunodeficiency Virus/ Autoimmune Deficiency Syndrome
IFPRI	International Food Policy Research Institute
IRRI	International Rice Research Institute
IWG	Interagency Working Group on Food Security
NGO	Nongovernmental Organization
NHANES	National Health and Nutrition Examination Survey
NOAA	National Oceanic and Atmospheric Administration
OPIC	Overseas Private Investment Corporation
SARE	Sustainable Agriculture Research and Education program
S-CHIP	State Children's Health Insurance Program
SPS	Sanitary and Phytosanitary
USAID	U.S. Agency for International Development
USDA	U.S. Department of Agriculture
USGS	U.S. Geological Survey
VA	Department of Veterans Affairs
WHO	World Health Organization
WIC	Special Supplemental Food Program for Women, Infants and Children
WTO	World Trade Organization

Appendix B: The U.S. Action Plan in Brief

The *United States Action Plan on Food Security,* released in March 1999, outlines the means by which the United States will address the World Food Summit's goals. It is the result of extensive national consultations and represents commitments of both the U.S. Government and civil society—private voluntary organizations, academia, businesses, and communities.

The *U.S. Action Plan on Food Security* is comprised of seven chapters, one for each element that makes up the food security equation at home and abroad. The *Plan* identifies the following priority strategies and actions:

1. Encourage a policy environment at home and abroad that enables individuals, households, communities, and nations to attain economic and food security.

Domestically, the United States will support economic security through jobs and human capital investment and will partner with civil society to achieve economic security for especially vulnerable groups. Internationally, the United States will encourage policy reform that brings about macroeconomic stability and fosters sound, market-oriented economic institutions. The United States will also encourage an enabling policy environment through bilateral and multilateral initiatives, especially in concert with the Organization for Economic Cooperation and Development poverty reduction targets, and by implementing the African Food Security Initiative.

2. Promote continued trade and investment liberalization to benefit all countries.

In new trade rounds, the United States will work with countries to achieve freer trade and to assure that benefits, especially more stable supplies of food and increased incomes, are equitably realized.

3. Strengthen food security research and educational capacity to expand the productivity and nutritional impact of agriculture and aquaculture and ensure that a broad range of appropriate information and technology reaches producers and consumers.

U.S. efforts will center on generating adequate research to meet future food security needs through private/public partnerships. Efforts will also focus on sharing the results of and improving the impacts of this research, especially in developing countries, through improved extension and linkages that help adapt new technologies to local conditions and meet the needs of producers. Also via public/private partnerships at home and abroad, the U.S. Government and civil society will promote nutrition and basic education, especially for girls and women.

4. Integrate environmental concerns into food security efforts to assure sustainability.

U.S. domestic and international priorities include developing and implementing flexible, environmentally sensitive agriculture, aquaculture, and land-use policies; enhancing local food systems through grassroots partnerships with broad participation linking communities, farms, and markets; and addressing global phenomena, especially climate change, that affect the United States and other countries.

5. Improve and, when possible, extend the food and nutrition assistance safety net, especially those programs targeting vulnerable women and children.

The delivery system provided at home and abroad by nongovernmental organization-U.S. Government partnerships is broad and largely effective, but needs improvements in targeting and more emphasis on training and achieving effective utilization of food supplies.

6. Enhance the U.S. ability to identify food-insecure individuals and populations to make better use of food assistance programs and to provide an improved decisionmaking tool for local authorities in the United States and governments and communities in developing countries.

The United States will refine its national survey measures to monitor changes in nutritional status and food security in a welfare-to-work environment. Internationally, the United States will focus on promoting a food insecurity and vulnerability information and mapping system (FIVIMS) and improving—both in details and accessibility—regional and national information systems.

7. Assure that food and water production and distribution systems meet public health safety standards as a part of ensuring food security for U.S. and international consumers.

Implementation of the President's National Food Safety Initiative and related recent Federal initiatives will require development and implementation of preventive controls for food production systems and enhanced surveillance and coordination in controlling foodborne illness. Coordination with all stakeholders is essential to the training and education of food handlers, producers, and consumers to improve the global food safety system. The United States supports the work of the Codex Alimentarius Commission in setting international standards for foods and food safety.

Appendix C: Interagency Working Group on Food Security

Co-Chairs, International

U.S. Department of Agriculture
U.S. Department of State
U.S. Agency for International Development

Co-Chairs, Domestic Sub-Group

U.S. Department of Agriculture
U.S. Department of Health and Human Services

Members

Central Intelligence Agency
Environmental Protection Agency
National Intelligence Council
National Security Council
Office of Management and Budget
Office of Science and Technology Policy
Office of the U.S. Trade Representative
Office of the Vice President
Peace Corps
U.S. Department of Agriculture
U.S. Department of Commerce
U.S. Department of Defense
U.S. Department of Education
U.S. Department of Health and Human Services
U.S. Department of Labor
U.S. Department of State
U.S. Department of the Treasury
U.S. Department of Veterans Affairs

Appendix D: Food Security Advisory Committee

Co-chairs

G. Edward Schuh
Hubert H. Humphrey Institute of Public Affairs
University of Minnesota

Christine Vladimiroff
Chair, Board of Directors
Bread for the World

Members

Andrew N. Agle
The Carter Center

Selina Ahmed
Texas Southern University

David Beckmann
Bread for the World

Margaret L. Bogle
Lower Mississippi Delta Nutrition Intervention Initiative

John Cady
National Food Processors Association

Ralph Christy
Cornell University

Ertharin Cousin
Albertsons, Inc.

Ada Demb
The Ohio State University

Betsy Faga
North American Millers' Association

Walter P. Falcon
Stanford University

Rick Foster
W.K. Kellogg Foundation

David J. Frederickson
Minnesota Farmers Union

Cutberto Garza
Cornell University

Miles Goggans
Goggans, Inc.

Richard Gutting, Jr.
National Fisheries Institute

John D. Hardin, Jr.
National Pork Producers Council

Walter A. Hill
Tuskegee University

Charles S. Johnson
Pioneer Hi-Bred International, Inc.

Charles F. MacCormack
Save the Children

Whitney MacMillan
Cargill, Inc.

P. Howard Massey, Jr.
Rotary International

Cheryl Morden
International Center for Research on Women

Sharyle Patton
Commonweal Sustainable Futures Project

P. Scott Shearer
Farmland Industries, Inc.

Barbara Spangler
American Farm Bureau Federation

John E. Tull, Jr.
Farmer

Goro Uehara
University of Hawaii

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United States Department of Agriculture
Foreign Agricultural Service

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