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OVERSIGHT OF THE FEED THE FUTURE INITIATIVE

JOINT HEARING

BEFORE THE

SUBCOMMITTEE ON INTERNATIONAL ORGANIZATIONS, HUMAN RIGHTS AND OVERSIGHT

AND THE

SUBCOMMITTEE ON AFRICA AND GLOBAL HEALTH

OF THE

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OVERSIGHT OF THE FEED THE FUTURE INITIATIVE

TUESDAY, JULY 20, 2010

HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES,
SUBCOMMITTEE ON INTERNATIONAL
ORGANIZATIONS, HUMAN RIGHTS AND
OVERSIGHT AND
SUBCOMMITTEE ON AFRICA AND GLOBAL HEALTH,
COMMITTEE ON FOREIGN AFFAIRS,
Washington, DC.

The subcommittees met, pursuant to notice, at 1:05 p.m., in room 2172, Rayburn House Office Building, Hon. Russ Carnahan (chairman of the Subcommittee on International Organizations, Human Rights and Oversight) presiding.

Mr. CARNAHAN. Good afternoon. My name is Russ Carnahan. I want to call this joint subcommittee hearing to order, the joint meeting of the Subcommittee on International Organizations, Human Rights and Oversight and the Subcommittee on Africa and Global Health.

I appreciate our panels here today. The topic of this hearing is Oversight of the Feed the Future Initiative. We are likely, I want to say upfront, likely going to be interrupted by votes we think around 2 o'clock or 2:30. We will try to get as far as we can through the first panel so we can take up the second one as well.

I want to start with opening statements from our chairs and ranking members with us here today, and then we will hope to get through our witnesses quickly.

I grew up on a farm in southern Missouri, and one of the first lessons I learned was from loading hay on a farm wagon as a teenager after the first load fell off because we didn't have the foundation laid properly. I am pleased that today we are able to talk about the strong foundation that we are building to address global hunger and food security with the administration's Feed the Future Initiative.

At the G–8 Summit in July, 2009, global leaders committed to "act with the scale and urgency needed to achieve sustainable global food security." President Obama pledged at least $3.5 billion for agriculture development and food security over 3 years, which has helped to leverage $22 billion in international funding.

It is a moral issue today that 1 billion people, nearly one-sixth of the world's population, suffer from chronic hunger. Each year, more than 3.5 children die from undernutrition.

But fighting hunger is not only a moral issue. Fighting hunger also creates jobs for people here at home. In my home State of Mis-

souri, agricultural exports support around 37,000 jobs, both on and off the farm, in food processing, storage, and transportation. Through emergency food aid programs, U.S. farmers have benefited economically from donating surplus U.S. food.

Under the Feed the Future framework, the goal is to build the capacity for poor economies to produce and purchase local agricultural supplies as well as trade in international markets. The talented employees of Missouri organizations such as Monsanto, the Donald Danforth Plant Science Center, the Missouri Botanical Garden, and our local universities are working with farmers and research institutions to increase yields and incomes in Africa, Latin America, and Asia. They will have a long-term benefit to the U.S. economy as well, growing middle classes in foreign countries to buy more U.S. products, and that is good for all of our economy.

Feeding the future, the goal of this initiative, will be no easy task. By 2050, the population is expected to reach 9 billion worldwide. To feed the growing population, farmers will need to produce more food in the next 40 years than they have in the past 10,000 years combined.

We must catalyze research and innovation to meet this challenge. We will need to focus on breeding, biotechnology, and agronomic practices. Some African producers are reluctant to use biotechnologies due to concerns that some countries in Europe—one of its primary export destinations—will not accept genetically modified foods. We must use smart power through our diplomatic and trade missions to end unfair trade restrictions.

The International Organizations, Human Rights and Oversight Subcommittee hosted a hearing on "Women as Agents of Change" last month. Women farmers produce more than half of all food that is grown in the world. It is often cited that women farmers produce up to 80 percent of the food in Africa, 60 percent of the food in Asia, and women are far more likely than men to spend their income improving their family's access to health, education, and nutrition.

This initiative is unprecedented in its focus at lifting the incomes of women, and I look forward to hearing more about how the metrics will be disaggregated by gender.

As the administration prepares to invest $3.5 billion in taxpayer resources over the next 3 years, I am also concerned about the potential for waste, fraud, and abuse. I have seen far too little contracting and grants managed and far too much corruption and waste. I appreciate the "whole of government" approach of this initiative—State, USAID, and Department of Agriculture, Treasury, U.S. Trade Representative, and the Millennium Challenge Account, all working together.

However, based on previous oversight hearings and stories of "adhocracies" out of control, I am skeptical about the ability of these agencies to align resources, avoid duplication, conduct international oversight, and successfully manage taxpayer dollars. In order to get the most bang for our buck, there is a need for strong monitoring and evaluation.

In a speech May 20, Administrator Shah said this initiative will reach 40 million people over 10 years, increasing their incomes by more than 10 percent a year; and the U.S. Government expects to

reach 25 million children directly with nutritional interventions that will prevent stunting in 10 million children. These are bold and worthy goals, but I look forward to seeing how progress will be measured and reported. I applaud the initiative of the administration on this critical issue.

After initial failure at my stacking hay on that wagon years ago, I just wanted to make sure the foundation being laid for the future of this program is sound.

I want to now recognize the chairman of the Africa and Global Health Subcommittee, Chairman Don Payne of New Jersey, for his opening remarks.

I stand corrected. We are going to recognize the ranking member of that subcommittee, my good friend from New Jersey, Congressman Chris Smith.

[The prepared statement of Mr. Carnahan follows:]

Chairman Russ Carnahan
Subcommittee on International Organizations, Human Rights and Oversight

Opening Statement
"Oversight of the Feed the Future Initiative"

July 20, 2010

I grew up on a family farm in Rolla, Missouri. As a kid, the first time I loaded bales of hay on the family truck all of the hay fell out. But from that point on, I learned that you have to build a strong foundation.

I am pleased that today we are able to talk about the strong foundation we are building to address global hunger and food security with the Administration's Feed the Future Initiative.

At the G8 Summit in L'Aquila, Italy, in July, 2009, global leaders committed to "act with the scale and urgency needed to achieve sustainable global food security." President Obama pledged at least $3.5 billion for agricultural development and food security over three years, which has helped to leverage $22 billion in international funding.

This is a moral issue: Today, more than one billion people—nearly one-sixth of the world's population—suffer from chronic hunger. Each year, more than 3.5 million children die from under nutrition.

But fighting hunger is not only a moral issue. Fighting hunger also creates good Missouri jobs.

In my home state of Missouri, agricultural exports support about 37,000 jobs both on the farm and off the farm in food processing, storage, and transportation. Through emergency food aid programs, U.S. farmers have benefitted economically from donating surplus U.S. food. Under the Feed the Future framework, the goal is to build the capacity for poorer economies to produce and purchase local agriculture supplies, as well as trade on the international market.

The talented employees of Missouri organizations such as Monsanto, the Danforth Plant Science Center, the Missouri Botanical Garden, and our local universities are working with farmers and research institutions to increase yields and incomes in Africa, Latin America and Asia.

This will have a long-term benefit to the U.S. economy. Growing middle classes in foreign countries will buy more U.S. products, and that's good for Missouri's farmers and businesses, as well as farmers and businesses throughout America who are the bedrock of our economic foundation.

"Feeding the future," the goal of this initiative, will be no easy task. By 2050, the population is expected to reach 9 billion. To feed the growing population, farmers will need to produce more food in the next 40 years than they have in the past 10,000 years combined.

We must catalyze research and innovation to meet this challenge. We will need to focus on breeding, biotechnology, and agronomic practices. Some African producers are reluctant to use biotechnology

due to concerns that some countries in Europe—one of Africa's primary export destinations—will not accept genetically modified food. We must use "smart power" through our diplomatic and trade missions to end these unfair trade restrictions.

The International Organizations, Human Rights and Oversight Subcommittee hosted a hearing on "Women as Agents of Change" last month. Women farmers produce more than half of all the food that is grown in the world. It is often cited that women farmers produce up to 80 percent of food in Africa, and 60 percent of food in Asia. Women are far more likely than men to spend their income improving their families' access to health, education, and nutrition. This initiative is unprecedented in its focus on lifting the incomes of women, which another critical element to raising people out of poverty, creating sustainable job and ensuring global security. I look forward to hearing more about how the metrics will be disaggregated by gender.

As the Administration prepares to invest $3.5 billion in taxpayer resources over three years, I am also concerned about the potential for waste, fraud, and abuse. As Chairman of the International Organizations, Human Rights and Oversight Subcommittee, I have seen far too little contracting and grants management, and far too much corruption and waste. I appreciate the "Whole of Government" approach of this initiative: The Department of State, USAID, the U.S. Department of Agriculture, Treasury, the U.S. Trade Representative, and the Millennium Challenge Account all working together.

However, based on previous oversight hearings and stories of "adhocracies" out of control, I am skeptical about the ability of these different agencies to align resources, avoid duplication, conduct internal oversight and successfully manage the taxpayer's dollars.

In order to get the most bang for the taxpayers' buck, there is a need for a strong monitoring and evaluation system. In his speech on May 20, 2010, Administrator Shah said this initiative will reach 40 million people over 10 years, increasing their incomes by more than 10 percent a year. And the United States Government expects to reach 25 million children directly with nutritional interventions that will prevent stunting in 10 million kids. These are bold and worthy goals, but I look forward to seeing how progress will be measured and reported.

I applaud the initiative of the Administration on this critical issue. After my initial failure at stacking the hay on our truck in Rolla, Missouri, I want to make sure that the foundation being laid for our future is secure and sound.

I will now turn to Chairman of the Subcommittee on Africa and Global Health, The Honorable Donald Payne, for his opening statement.

Mr. SMITH. Thank you very much, Mr. Chairman—both Mr. Chairmen; and I want to welcome our two distinguished ambassadors and look forward to your testimony.

This is a very important hearing to do the oversight that is necessary on the Feed the Future, a very exciting initiative that hopefully will help bring food and mitigate the global problem, especially in the 20 target countries, where food insecurity is absolutely rampant.

According to the U.N. Food and Agricultural Organization, people are food insecure when they do not have enough physical, social, or economic access to sufficient, safe and nutritious food to meet their dietary needs and food preferences for an active and healthy life. The FAO's 2009 report, The State of Food Insecurity in the World, noted that the decline in the numbers of chronically hungry people that was occurring some 20 years ago has been reversed, largely due to less available official developmental assistance devoted to agriculture.

That tragic trend, combined with the current global food and economic crisis, has resulted in an estimated 1 billion undernourished people around the world. The majority of those who lack food security, an estimated 642 million, live in Asia and the Pacific. Sub-Saharan Africa also has a large number, at 265 million, and has the highest prevalence, at one out of every three persons undernourished.

It is disturbing to note that developed countries are not immune from this deficiency. We have around 15 million people living in our own midst who are food insecure.

It is shocking to hear that hunger and undernutrition kill more people globally than HIV/AIDS, malaria, and tuberculosis combined. Hunger and malnutrition are the underlying causes of death of over 3.5 million children every year, or more than 10,000 children every day.

Poor households in developing countries currently are facing a particularly devastating challenge to food insecurity for two reasons. One is the global nature of the economic crisis, which reduces the availability of coping mechanisms such as currency devaluation, borrowing or increased use of ODA, or migrant remittances that could otherwise be available if only a certain region or regions were impacted.

Another is the food crisis that preceded the economic crisis, which has already placed poor households in a very weak position.

Several initiatives have been announced over the past few months to galvanize international action to address this crisis, The Global Partnership for Agriculture and Food Security announced in Italy by the G–8 in which summit leaders in other countries and organizations established the goal of mobilizing more than $20 billion over the next 3 years, in particular to promote sustainable production and world economic growth. Additional countries have since pledged an additional $2 billion to this effort.

Unfortunately, there are reports that up to one-half to two-thirds of that commitment is actually existing aid that has merely been repackaged; and I would ask our two distinguished ambassadors if they could address that issue: How much of this is brand new

money from the United States' point of view and from the other nation donors?

The G20 summit held in Pittsburgh in September endorsed the initiative and also called for the establishment of a World Bank Food Security Trust Fund. The purpose of this fund will be to boost agricultural productivity and market access in low-income countries by financing medium- and long-term investments.

Later that month, the U.N. Secretary General and the Secretary of State, Hillary Clinton, issued a joint statement in which they agreed to build on support for the global partnership.

The Secretary of State also released a consultation document at the end of September seeking the views of numerous interested parties with respect to a proposed strategy to address global hunger and food security. I commend the Secretary for emphasizing the importance of input from small-scale farmers and related agricultural producers in that consultation process.

I would also ask her to be sure to include—and I am sure our ambassadors can speak to this—as to whether or not the faith-based organizations, the international nongovernmental organizations, and, of course, always civil society at the indigenous level are also contributing, particularly to the formation of the plans at the country level.

Again, I want to thank the two chairmen for calling this hearing and yield back the balance of my time.

Mr. CARNAHAN. Thank you.

I next want to recognize Chairman Payne.

Mr. PAYNE. Thank you very much. Thank you for joining us here, all of you in the audience, for this very critical and important joint hearing, Oversight of the Feed the Future Initiative.

Let me begin by thanking Chairman Carnahan of the Subcommittee on International Organizations, Human Rights and Oversight for initiating this hearing. I also thank our distinguished witnesses, and I look forward to a productive discussion.

The number of people, as we have heard, who go hungry each day has climbed to over 1 billion over the last few years. The United Nations Secretary-General Ban Ki-Moon reported the proportion of undernourished people has risen as well. This flies directly in the face of the first Millennium Development Goal to cut in half the proportion of hungry people by 2015. Therefore, there is perhaps nothing more important we can be discussing today than what the United States is doing to address the food insecurity of nearly one-sixth of the world's population.

Food security is a critical component of development and has always been a top priority of mine as chairman of the Subcommittee on Africa and Global Health. The subcommittee has held six hearings, including this one that we are doing jointly, focused on food security since 2007. The last such hearing was held last October. It also focused on the Obama administration's Food Security Initiative, now, as we all know, called Feed the Future, which Secretary of State Hillary Clinton unveiled at the U.N. General Assembly last September.

In addition to the hearings that we have had, I traveled to the Africa Growth and Opportunity Act Forum in August 2009 in Nairobi, Kenya, and traveled with Secretary of State Hillary Clin-

ton and Secretary of Agriculture Vilsack. As we talked about the importance of this program, we visited farms in rural Kenya, visited research institutions in Kenya; and so we know that this is really a true priority of this administration.

I have also requested six GAO reports in recent years to evaluate how U.S. funds were be used to address food security around the world, and particularly in Africa. I commend President Obama for encouraging this bold initiative and Secretary Clinton, who has taken this on as a major priority.

I am also pleased that Ambassador Garvelink and Ambassador Haslach at the State Department have been appointed as deputy coordinators for this initiative, both with outstanding backgrounds; and so I certainly look forward to their announcement of a coordinator but look forward to their leadership in their new roles.

The Feed the Future Initiative builds upon the commitments made at the July 8 G–8 summit in L'Aquila, Italy, where countries agreed to $20 billion over a 3-year period. The United States said up to $3.5 billion would go toward the Global Partnership for Agriculture and Food Security. Initiatives were to address the root causes of hunger that limit the potential of millions of people and establish a lasting foundation for change by leveraging our resources with country owned plans and multiple stakeholder partnerships.

It will also have a strong emphasis on the role of women and empowering them with the education, tools, and assistance they need. Women, as we all know, make up a majority of smallholder farmers; and they are the engine for development in every society and in particular in rural societies in Africa and the developing world.

According to the Food and Agriculture Organization (FAO) of the United Nations, it will take a 70 percent increase in global food production to feed the world's population in 2050, when it is expected to reach 9.1 billion due to both population growth and rising incomes.

According to the FAO, 25,000 people die each day due to hunger and related causes. In Africa alone, 265 million people, or nearly one-third of the continent's entire population, suffers from hunger. This is simply unconscionable, particularly when the continent possess such vast, uncultivated agriculture resources.

According to the U.N. Environment Programme, 21 percent of Africa's land mass is suitable for cultivation. However, only 7 percent of this land is currently irrigated. As a result, African countries spend billions of dollars on food imports in addition to receiving food aid. Moreover, the proportion of the Africa population living on less than $1 a day increased from 47.6 percent in 1985 to 59 percent in 2000, certainly going in the wrong direction.

We can and we must do more to end hunger. Africa has both the natural and human resources to dramatically increase agricultural production. In fact, 203 million people in Africa, or 56.6 percent of the labor force, are engaged in agriculture. We must focus on leveraging our resources to ensure our food security. I believe Feed the Future is an important step toward achieving food security and, therefore, the uplifting of millions of people in Africa and around the world. I look forward to continuing to work with the ad-

ministration to make the dream of food security in the world a reality.

Again, let me thank the panel for coming and the chairman for calling this hearing.

[The prepared statement of Mr. Payne follows:]

Remarks of Chairman Donald M. Payne
Hearing of the Subcommittee on Africa and Global Health and
The Subcommittee on International Organizations, Human Rights and Oversight
"Oversight of the Feed the Future Initiative"
Tuesday, July 20th, 2010 at 1:00PM
2172 Rayburn House Office Building

Good Afternoon. Thank you for joining us here today for this critically important joint hearing "Oversight of the Feed the Future Initiative". I'm grateful for our distinguished witnesses, and I look forward to a productive discussion.

The number of people who go hungry each day has climbed to over one billion over the last few years, and United Nations Secretary-General Ban Ki-Moon reports the proportion of undernourished people has risen as well. This flies directly in the face of the first Millennium Development Goal to cut in half the proportion of hungry people by 2015.

Therefore, there is perhaps nothing more important we could be discussing today than what the United States is doing to address the food insecurity of nearly one sixth of the world's population.

Food security is a crucial component of development and has always been a top priority of mine as Chairman of the Subcommittee on Africa and Global Health. The Subcommittee has held six hearings, including this one, focused on food security since 2007. The last such hearing, held last October, also focused on the Obama Administration's Food Security Initiative, now called Feed the Future, which Secretary of State Hillary Clinton unveiled at the UN General Assembly last September.

In addition to these hearings, in August of 2009 I traveled with Secretary of State Hillary Clinton and Secretary of Agriculture Vilsack to the Africa Growth and Opportunity Act Forum in Nairobi, Kenya where we talked about the importance of food security and visited farms and research institutions. I have also requested six GAO reports in recent years to evaluate how U.S. funds were being used to address food security around the world, and particularly in Africa.

I commend President Obama for encouraging this bold initiative as well as Secretary Clinton and USAID Administrator Shah, who have taken this on as a major priority. I am pleased that Ambassador Garvelink at USAID and Ambassador Haslach at the State Department have been appointed as deputy coordinators for this initiative, and I look forward to the announcement of a coordinator.

The Feed the Future Initiative builds upon the commitments made at the July G8 Summit in L'Aquila, Italy where countries agreed to $20 billion over three years towards the Global Partnership for Agriculture and Food Security.

The initiative works to address the root causes of hunger that limit the potential of millions of people and establish a lasting foundation for change by leveraging our resources with country-owned plans and multi-stakeholder partnerships.

It will also have a strong emphasis on the role of women and empowering them with the education, tools, and assistance they need. Women make up the majority of smallholder farmers and are the engines of development in every society.

According to the Food and Agriculture Organization (FAO) of the United Nations, it will take a 70 percent increase in global food production to feed the world's population in 2050, when it is expected to reach 9.1 billion, due to both population growth and rising incomes.

According to the FAO, 25,000 people die each day due to hunger and related causes. In Africa alone, 265 million people, or nearly one-third of the continent's entire population, suffer from hunger. This is simply unconscionable, particularly when the continent possesses such vast uncultivated agricultural resources.

According to the UN Environment Programme, 21 percent of Africa's land mass is suitable for cultivation. However, only 7 percent of this land is currently irrigated. As a result, African countries spend billions of dollars on food imports in addition to receiving food aid. Moreover, the proportion of the African population living on less than $1 per day increased from 47.6 percent in 1985 to 59 percent in 2000.

We can and we must do more to end hunger. Africa has both the natural and human resources to dramatically increase agricultural productivity. In fact, 203 million people in Africa, or 56.6 percent of the labor force, are engaged in agriculture. We must focus on leveraging our resources to ensure food security. I believe Feed the Future is an important step towards achieving food security and, thereby, the upliftment of millions of people in Africa and around the world, and I look forward to continuing to work with the Administration to make the dream of a food secure world a reality.

I sincerely thank the panel of esteemed witnesses for testifying before us today and sharing your insights on what we as a nation are doing and what more must be done to address this issue.

Thank you.

Mr. CARNAHAN. Thank you, Chairman Payne.

Now I want to recognize the ranking member of the International Organizations, Human Rights and Oversight Subcommittee, Mr. Rohrabacher of California.

Mr. ROHRABACHER. Thank you very much, Mr. Chairman.

I guess today we are talking about a proposal, Feed the Future, that is proposing a $1.6 billion increase—I guess we will find those details out—in current spending, which is a 40 percent increase in funds that are directed at aiming to accomplish this goal of feeding people who are hungry.

Let us just note as we begin our discussion, as we should begin every discussion in Congress, is that last year we spent $1.5 trillion more than we took in in this government. And for 2 years in a row our deficit in this country will be $1.5 trillion, in which all these young people out there will spend the rest of their lives paying interest on.

So as we discuss any issue we have to, especially when there is a supposedly 40 percent plus-up, we need to discuss whether or not we really should be borrowing more money from China in order to give to the recipients of this program. And I will be very interested in hearing whether or not that is a justified expense.

I personally over the years have noted a relationship between suffering and poverty and people who are hungry and people who live in the worst kind of degradation that there is a relationship between their suffering and the level of freedom and integrity in their country. If they lack freedom and their government has no integrity, they are much more likely to suffer; and I do not fully appreciate or understand how providing more money for a dictatorial regime is going to change that. In fact, a strategy for the future may well be that the United States should cut off relations with dictatorships left and right and should require a certain level of integrity in a government before we give any money to that government or even involve ourselves in a program aimed at the people who live in that society. Because, quite often, as we know, funds that are going to make the lives easier on those people who are suffering quite often is stolen from them by their own government.

Honest government and enterprise, unfettered by corruption, will dramatically change the plight of people who linger in this type of suffering. I don't believe transfers of wealth from our richer countries of the world to the poorer countries of the world will change their plight at all.

So I am interested, for example, when we take a look at many countries in which starvation is a factor, we can see that a few years before certain government people took over that there were surpluses of food. I guess Zaire is probably the best example. That used to be the breadbasket of Africa and now is rapidly becoming a poverty stricken country in which their own people lack nutrition.

So with these factors it is very easy for us to want to get together and express how concerned we are for the poor people of the world. And we should be concerned about them. But using that heartfelt expression as a means of plotting out a strategy that requires a hard-headed approach to actually making things better, I think that we are going to have to make sure we take a look when people ask us to spend more money and borrow more money from China

in order to do it, whether or not there is enough change in this program to say that it will be successful compared to all the other programs I have seen in the last 22 years that have exactly the same purpose but have led to nowhere.

So, thank you, Mr. Chairman, and I will be listening.

Mr. CARNAHAN. Thank you.

We have two other members who have joined us who I want to recognize each for up to 1 minute.

Congresswoman Woolsey.

Ms. WOOLSEY. Thank you, Mr. Chairman.

Today's hearing is important. It is important because food assistance is about so very much more than hunger. Food security can derail, actually, our other foreign assistance goals. Kids who are hungry don't learn. Pregnant mothers who are hungry deliver babies who are ailing and who suffer. AIDS patients who are hungry can't process the drugs to keep them healthy. And hungry people in conflict zones see increased rates of instability and warfare.

So ensuring that our food aid gets where it needs to be is essential in meeting our foreign assistance outcome goals. So a healthy and safer world for all would be the results of, I hope, what we are going to learn from the witnesses today. I look forward to hearing from all of you.

Thank you, Mr. Chairman.

Mr. CARNAHAN. Thank you.

Now I would like to recognize Congresswoman Watson of California for 1 minute.

Ms. WATSON. Thank you so much.

I also want to thank you and Chairman Payne for this meeting that will look at the Feed the Future Initiative.

The Feed the Future Initiative, released this May, builds on the principles for sustainable food security endorsed at the 2009 World Summit on Food Security, investing in country led plans, a comprehensive approach to food security, strategic coordination, leveraging multilateral institutes, and delivery on sustained and accountable commitments; and I want to commend our world's leaders for establishing these guiding principles.

Food is a basic human necessity and human right. But ensuring the world's poor are finally food secure will require a multifaceted solution. This includes biotechnology that will help crops grow in stressed environments. It also means technical assistance in teaching farmers sustainable farming practices. Food security also includes building roads so farmers can get their foods to market before they rot. For the millions of urban poor, it means ensuring access to reasonably priced fresh produce.

It is very, very important that we take time out to find out how we can capture the bodies and minds of people when you feed them and they can be secure that they will have another meal, rather than trying to do that with guns and bullets.

Thank you very much, Mr. Chairman.

Mr. CARNAHAN. Thank you.

I would like to now introduce our administration witnesses. For the first panel, Ambassador Patricia Haslach serves as Deputy Coordinator for Diplomacy in the Office for Coordinator for the Global Hunger and Food Security Initiative at the State Department.

Prior to her current position, she served as Assistant Chief of Mission for Assistance Transition at the U.S. Embassy in Baghdad. From 2007–2009, she served as Ambassador to the Asian-Pacific Economic Corporation Forum and headed the Friends of the chair Group for Food Security. She also served as the Director, Office for Afghanistan, from 2002 to 2004. She began her career with the Federal Government at the U.S. Department of Agriculture.

Joining her is Ambassador William Garvelink. He serves as Deputy Coordinator for Development at the Office of Coordinator for Global Hunger and Food Security Initiative at USAID. He is a 31-year veteran of USAID, who most recently served as U.S. Ambassador to the Democratic Republic of the Congo. He is a member of the Senior Foreign Service, with the rank of Minister Counselor. Before joining AID in 1979, he was a professional staff member on the Subcommittee on International Organizations—this committee. So welcome back.

I am pleased to recognize Ambassador Haslach to start.

STATEMENT OF THE HONORABLE PATRICIA HASLACH, DEPUTY COORDINATOR FOR DIPLOMACY, OFFICE OF THE COORDINATOR FOR THE GLOBAL HUNGER AND FOOD SECURITY INITIATIVE, U.S. DEPARTMENT OF STATE

Ms. HASLACH. Thank you, Chairmen Carnahan and Payne, Ranking Members Rohrabacher and Smith, and members of the committee. Thank you for this opportunity to speak with you about the Feed the Future, the administration's global hunger and food security initiative.

Ambassador Garvelink and I began our work as deputy coordinators this past May. As the Deputy Coordinator for Diplomacy, I oversee donor coordination as well as engagement with bilateral and multilateral partners and international organizations.

Let me begin by providing some background for Feed the Future. President Obama, Secretary Clinton, and USAID Administrator Shah have articulated a new vision for development for the United States, one that embraces development as a strategic, economic, and moral imperative that is as central as diplomacy and defense to solving global problems and advancing America's national security.

The strategy for Feed the Future exemplifies this new vision for development. It starts with the recognition that food security is not just about food but it is also about security—national security, economic security, environmental security, and human security.

In addition to alleviating instability fueled by hunger and desperation, investing in farmers, especially women, can lead to greater economic growth and prosperity for all. At the same time, by creating vibrant markets, our efforts benefit American companies and other enterprises seeking customers and investment opportunities abroad.

My full written statement has been submitted for the record. Here I would like to briefly review the diplomatic components of Feed the Future covered in greater detail in my written statement—donor accountability, donor coordination, and whole of government action.

First, in the year since global leaders announced their renewed commitment to agricultural development and food security at L'Aquila's G–8-plus summit, we have made significant progress in holding donors accountable. For example, we participated in a G–8 accountability report, issued a few weeks ago, which includes the description of the $22 billion in donor pledges spurred by L'Aquila. Countries, including the United States, Australia, Spain, and Canada submitted significant portions of additional resources to food security.

The report also illustrates the limited capacity of some countries to commit new resources, highlighting the critical importance of strategic coordination to achieve greater efficiency and greater impact.

Perhaps most importantly, our work around accountability emphasizes that this is not just a U.S. initiative but rather a global initiative. Other countries recognize that it is in our collective interest to tackle the root causes of hunger and poverty.

Beyond donor accountability, we have increased donor coordination at country, regional, and global levels. Developing countries have initiated inclusive multi-stakeholder processes to develop comprehensive national agriculture and food security investment plans. These plans improve coordination efforts, maximize synergies among governments, development partners, civil society, and the private sector. In Africa, the comprehensive Africa Agriculture Development program has played the leading role in the investment plan process.

This past June, Ambassador Garvelink and I traveled to participate in one of the high-level CAADP events where 12 African countries and the regional body Economic Community of West African States presented their country investment plans. The meeting at Dakar, Senegal, had high-level participation from 13 developing partner nations, dozen of institutions, including the Rome-based agencies, the multilateral development banks, and representatives from civil society and the private sector.

In Asia, the U.S. provided critical support to Bangladesh. And I was recently in Manila, where I attended an Asian event hosted by the Asian Development Bank, where they, too, are starting to focus, like Africa, on the issue of food security.

At the global level, we have worked with the G20 countries and the World Bank and other organizations to set up the Global Agriculture and Food Security Initiative. The U.S. pledge of $475 million has mobilized pledges and contributions to this. We continue to seek further contributions.

Finally and most importantly, I would like to highlight how whole of government action is integral to Feed the Future. We have a working committee from State, USAID, USDA, the Millennium Challenge Corporation, Treasury, Peace Corps, and others in regular meetings. We are one team for Feed the Future. The members of the interagency team bring their expertise to bear on our shared task of sustainably reducing poverty and hunger. For example, we are drawing on USDA's experience and expertise in agriculture statistics to help establish the baselines in order for us to be able to monitor this. Finally, we are working with MCC to identify places

where our programs can build on their existing investments in infrastructure and land tenure.

Thank you very much.

[The prepared statement of Ms. Haslach follows:]

AMBASSADOR PATRICIA HASLACH, DEPUTY COORDINATOR FOR DIPLOMACY, TESTIMONY BEFORE THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES SUB-COMMITTEE FOR INTERNATIONAL ORGANIZATIONS, HUMAN RIGHTS AND OVERSIGHT AND THE SUB-COMMITTEE ON AFRICA AND GLOBAL HEALTH
WASHINGTON, D.C.
TUESDAY, July 20, 2010

Chairmen Carnahan and Payne, Ranking Members Rohrabacher and Smith, and Members of the Committees: thank you for this opportunity to speak with you about Feed the Future, the Administration's global hunger and food security initiative. Ambassador Garvelink and I began our work as Deputy Coordinators this past May. As the Deputy Coordinator for Diplomacy, I oversee donor coordination, as well as engagement with bilateral and multilateral partners and International Organizations.

Let me begin by providing some background for Feed the Future. President Obama, Secretary Clinton, and Administrator Shah have articulated a new vision for development for the United States – one that embraces development as a strategic, economic, and moral imperative that is as central as diplomacy and defense to solving global problems and advancing America's national security. The strategy for Feed the Future exemplifies this new vision for development. It starts with the recognition that food security is not just about food, but it is also about security—national security, economic security, environmental security, and human security. In addition to alleviating instability fueled by hunger and desperation, investing in farmers, especially women, can lead to greater economic growth and prosperity for all. At the same time, by creating vibrant markets, our efforts benefit American companies and other enterprises seeking customers and investment opportunities abroad.

President Obama's pledge in L'Aquila, Italy, in July 2009 of at least $3.5 billion for agricultural development and food security over three years already has helped to leverage and align more than $18.5 billion from other donors in support of a common approach to achieve sustainable food security. Since that time, 193 countries have endorsed this common set of principles – now called the Rome Principles – in a collective effort to combat the reality of global hunger and food insecurity.

The Rome Principles are the basis of our Initiative and guide both our diplomatic and our development work. We commit to:

- Invest in country owned-plans focusing on results-based programs;
- Strengthen strategic coordination among key stakeholders;
- Ensure a comprehensive approach;
- Leverage the benefits of multilateral institutions; and
- Deliver on sustained and accountable commitments.

By investing according to the Rome Principles, based on our preliminary analysis, L'Aquila donors' pledges of a combined $22 billion can increase significantly the incomes of at least 40 million people, including 13 million people living in extreme poverty on less than $1.25 per day. Our diplomatic efforts are critical to transforming this promise into a reality. Today, I will focus on three of the main diplomatic components of Feed the Future: donor accountability, donor coordination, and whole-of-government action.

In the year since global leaders at L'Aquila announced their renewed commitment to agricultural development and food security, we have made significant progress in holding donors accountable. Our Ambassadors and embassy staff are reaching out regularly to encourage donors to fulfill their financial pledges and commitment to the Rome Principles. We also participated in the G8 Accountability Report, issued at the G8 Summit in Muskoka a few weeks ago, which includes a description of donor pledges made at L'Aquila. The Report highlights the collective action that we and other donors have taken since L'Aquila, including increased financial commitments to food security through both bilateral and multilateral mechanisms. Countries including the United States, Australia, Spain and Canada committed significant proportions of additional funds to food security. The Report also illustrates the limited capacity of some countries to commit new resources, highlighting the critical importance of strategic coordination to achieve greater efficiency and greater impact. Perhaps most importantly, our work around accountability emphasizes that this is not a just U.S. initiative, but rather a global initiative. Other countries recognize that it is in our collective interest to tackle the root causes of hunger and poverty. With other donor countries and development partners, we are making shared investments in our future.

Beyond donor accountability, we have increased donor coordination – at country, regional and global levels. At the country level, where the rubber hits the road, we have increased coordination through participating in the development of rigorous country-owned investment plans for increased agricultural growth and food security. Consistent with the Rome Principles, developing countries have initiated inclusive multi-stakeholder processes to develop comprehensive national agricultural and food security investment plans. Not only are these country-owned and evidence-based plans, they provide a coordination mechanism for all stakeholders to organize and align existing and new investments in support of them. These plans improve coordination efforts and maximize synergies among governments, development partners, civil society and the private sector.

In Africa, the Comprehensive Africa Agriculture Development Program (CAADP) has played the leading role in the investment plan process. This past June, Ambassador Garvelink and I traveled to participate in one of the high level CAADP events where twelve African countries and the regional body Economic Community of West African States (ECOWAS) presented their country investment plans. The meeting in Dakar, Senegal, and co-hosted by Spain and ECOWAS, had high level participation from 13 development partner nations, dozens of institutions (including the Rome-based agencies), the multilateral development banks, and representatives from civil society and the private sector. In the plenary sessions and in bilateral meetings with countries such as Canada, UK, the EU and others, it was clear that the donor community is committed to coordinating and increasing transparency through the investment plan process.

In Asia, the U.S. provided critical support to the development of a country plan in Bangladesh, where over 40 percent of children suffer from chronic undernutrition, and where undernutrition causes two out of every three child deaths. At a high-level meeting this May, the Prime Minister of Bangladesh endorsed increased coordination among stakeholders around the challenge of reducing hunger and spurring agriculture-led growth. I recently returned from a forum in Manila where representatives from Asian governments and organizations listened to Bangladesh's experience and discussed building momentum in the region. Donors, including Australia and the Asian Development Bank, expressed commitment to accelerating our efforts and coordination in Asia, where the greatest number of hungry people live.

At the global level, we have worked with G-20 countries, the World Bank, other multilateral organizations and civil society organizations to establish the Global Agriculture and Food Security Program (GAFSP). This multilateral fund will help millions of poor farmers grow more and earn more so they can lift themselves out of hunger and poverty. In less than a year since the G-20 Leaders called for this fund at the Pittsburgh Summit, it is already operational and making high impact investments in poor countries. The USG pledge of $475 million has mobilized pledges and contributions totaling $880 million from a variety of governments as well as private foundations. The GAFSP recently awarded $224 million in grants to support the technically-reviewed country investment plans of five low-income countries – Bangladesh, Haiti, Rwanda, Sierra Leone and Togo. These grants will help countries increase the use of improved seed varieties and fertilizer, strengthen irrigation and water management, and improve the road networks that farmers use to transport their crops to market. A key element of our multi-year strategy is to continue U.S. investments in the GAFSP to leverage additional donor support from other partners.

Finally, I would like to highlight how whole-of government action is integral to Feed the Future. In his April testimony to Congress, Deputy Secretary Lew discussed how an expansive whole-of-government approach can significantly increase the impact of our programs. We have a working committee from State, USAID, USDA, MCC, Treasury, Peace Corps, and others in our regular meetings. The members of the interagency team bring their expertise to bear on our shared task of sustainably reducing poverty and hunger. For example, we are drawing on USDA's experience and expertise in agricultural statistics to help establish baselines for our work in several countries. We are working with MCC to identify places where our programs can build on their existing investments in infrastructure and land tenure.

Our efforts also benefit from a strong commitment at the cabinet level, including Secretaries Clinton, Vilsack and Geithner and Administrator Shah. All have put concrete actions behind their words of encouragement and support. Secretary Geithner's leadership was crucial for the establishment of the multi-donor trust fund, and Secretary Vilsack has been a strong advocate for a robust research agenda and has offered crucial staff and other resources to implement this Initiative. Secretary Clinton and Administrator Shah have spoken out repeatedly about how food security is at the heart of our efforts to elevate development as a pillar of our foreign policy, and have stressed with their foreign counterparts the importance of creating a policy environment that supports investment in agriculture. The work already underway through Feed the Future demonstrates our new vision for development.

This September, leaders from around the world will gather to assess our progress toward achieving the Millennium Development Goals (MDGs) and to chart a path to accelerate our progress toward meeting them. To highlight our leadership and commitment, Secretary Clinton and her Irish counterpart will host an event during the Millennium Development Goals Review Summit that highlights the connections between agriculture, nutrition and food security. Feed the Future, and the global initiative it supports, contributes to the first MDG of halving extreme poverty and hunger by 2015. If we continue our efforts to ensure mutual accountability and coordination, we can achieve sustainable progress toward a more prosperous and stable world.

Mr. CARNAHAN. Thank you.

Next, Ambassador Garvelink.

STATEMENT OF THE HONORABLE WILLIAM GARVELINK, DEPUTY COORDINATOR FOR DEVELOPMENT, OFFICE OF THE COORDINATOR FOR THE GLOBAL HUNGER AND FOOD SECURITY INITIATIVE, U.S. AGENCY FOR INTERNATIONAL DEVELOPMENT

Mr. GARVELINK. Thank you.

Chairman Carnahan, Chairman Payne, Ranking Member Rohrabacher, Ranking Member Smith, and other members of the subcommittee, thank you for holding this hearing on this important challenge of feeding the world's population.

My full written statement has been submitted for the record. However, I would briefly like to highlight a few points.

A primary goal of the President's Feed the Future Initiative is to accelerate progress toward the Millennium Development Goal. I spent much of my career in the U.S. Government working on humanitarian issues and know firsthand the value of U.S. leadership in delivering food aid to alleviate the most acute suffering, but addressing hunger over the long term requires that we rebalance our efforts, with greater emphasis on sustainable development solutions. We know that assistance, while essential, cannot bring about development in the absence of favorable domestic policies, international trade flows, private as well as public investment, and technology and innovation that create opportunities for lasting economic growth.

Through Feed the Future we will be approaching the issue of hunger and poverty in a comprehensive way consistent with the United States' commitment to preserving and accelerating the momentum toward the MDGs.

In lieu of getting too deep into the details, I would like to offer for inclusion in the record the Feed the Future Guide, which outlines the strategic approach and implementation structures of the initiative. Let me outline, however, three key aspects that are truly transforming our approach.

First, as Ambassador Haslach mentioned, is the coordination and country led planning process. These reviews represent a big step forward in the leadership and accountability of both developing countries and donors alike. We are looking to invest in areas where the United States has a comparative advantage and to collaborate and not duplicate efforts. The result is a roadmap that leverages international investment, mobilizes partner country resources, and helps ensure that food security resources are managed transparently and responsibly.

In Rwanda, for example, this coordinated and country led process already has mobilized 90 percent of the investments outlined in the government's country investment plan, a plan for agricultural development that made hard choices about priorities, given scarce resources, and will now link those choices to results.

The second area critical to the new approach within Feed the Future is combating child and maternal undernutrition. Each year, more than 3.5 million children and tens of thousands of mothers

die from undernutrition, which costs developing countries up to 3 percent of their annual Gross Domestic Product.

Women are a pivotal force behind achieving a food-secure world. In most developing countries they produce between 60 and 80 percent of the food; and when gains in income are controlled by women, they are more likely to be spent on food and children's needs. By investing more in women and addressing undernutrition holistically, we can amplify benefits across families and generations.

The third area is innovation. Drawing on America's long tradition of development through innovation, we are making significant progress in agricultural research. We know that investing in agricultural research today contributes to the growth and resilience of the food supply tomorrow. We will focus globally, addressing some of the gaps in the international research system, and nationally on constrained country systems to strengthen research and extension to allow science, technology, and innovation to better address local needs and to adapt and deliver new advances to the hands of small farmer producers.

Our commitment to sustainability and innovation will be underpinned by a relentless commitment to measuring results. To this end, we will upgrade our institutional capacity to monitor and measure development outcomes as well as support and learn from best practices and evaluation.

Finally, I will mention that U.S. Agriculture, through a rich history of sharing expertise and investing in development, has a significant opportunity to expand partnership with the developing world as we move forward with this exciting initiative. The health and prosperity of the world's poor and vulnerable and, by extension, our own security and prosperity will ultimately be determined not by the promises we make but by the results we generate together.

Thank you, Mr. Chairman.

[The prepared statement of Mr. Garvelink follows:]

Testimony
of Ambassador William Garvelink
before the House Foreign Affairs
Subcommittee on International Organizations, Human Rights and Oversight and the
Subcommittee on Africa and Global Health
"Oversight of Feed the Future: Meeting the MDGs"
July 20, 2010

Chairman Carnahan, Chairman Payne, Ranking Member Rohrabacher, Ranking Member Smith and other members of the Subcommittees, thank you for holding this important hearing today. Poverty and hunger remain at unacceptably high levels in the world today. The statistics are sobering. According to the International Food Policy Research Institute, hunger is distressingly high in South Asia, while Africa has experienced the slowest progress of all regions toward reducing hunger. Nine of those countries that saw an increase in hunger in the last ten years are in Africa.

A primary goal of the President's Feed the Future Initiative is to accelerate progress toward the hunger-related Millennium Development Goal (MDG), cutting extreme poverty and hunger by half by 2015. While we will likely reach the hunger-related MDG by 2015 at the aggregate globally, progress in many of the poorest countries will fall far short of the target. Progress in Sub-Saharan Africa is a particular focus of our efforts in Feed the Future. Fifty one percent of Africans live on less than $1.25 per day. That is only 7 percent less than in 1990, and a very long way from the MDG target of halving the proportion who live on $1.25 per day.

The Millennium Development Goal is an important target and a powerful symbol of our shared commitments. It brings both political and developmental focus. It encapsulates the largest root cause of food insecurity, poverty. I spent much of my career at USAID working on humanitarian assistance and know firsthand the value of U.S. leadership in delivering food aid to alleviate the most acute suffering. But, addressing hunger over the long term requires that we rebalance our efforts with greater emphasis on sustainable development solutions, like focusing our assistance

on small holder producers, most of whom are women. And while we know that agriculture productivity is an efficient driver of poverty reduction, it alone is not sufficient to reach our goals.

As we look to the impact Feed the Future can have in Africa and globally, USAID is prepared to meet the challenge with partners across the U.S. government and with expanding partnerships globally. I want to focus on three areas, in particular, to illustrate how this initiative has shaped our expanded development assistance efforts over the last year.

The first and most important area is the coordinated and country-led planning process. In just the last year, ten countries in Africa and one each in Latin America and Asia have completed national agriculture and food security investment plans for peer and external review. These are not plans submitted to one donor or multilateral organization; they are the subject of collective input and review. These reviews represent a big step forward in the leadership and accountability of both developing countries and donors alike. They require a commitment and significant level of investment on the part of governments to organize and coordinate behind transparent country-led processes. The result of these reviews has not been a rubber stamp of approval. Indeed all the reviews that have taken place to date have resulted in roadmaps of additional work to improve the technical quality or estimates of the costs of implementation.

This process is providing greater clarity in how U.S. development assistance can leverage developing countries' own commitments and those of other development partners. In Rwanda, for example this coordinated and country-led process has mobilized 90 percent of the investment outlined in the government's agricultural development investment plan.

We also can more clearly see the areas where the U.S. has a comparative advantage to take the lead, and other areas where we can collaborate and not duplicate efforts. Under the Rwandan investment plan, for example, USAID will be jointly funding a major project for targeted and systemic transformation of hillside agriculture, together with the Government of Rwanda, the World Bank, and counterpart development agencies from Canada and Japan. By coordinating our resources around this common program we can reach a truly transformational scale. In the

area of privatization of fertilizer distribution, USAID will take the lead, drawing from our long-standing partnership with the International Fertilizer Development Center. So it makes sense that USAID will assist the Government of Rwanda in this area to implement a phased withdrawal from subsidies that have become a fiscal burden on their own budget.

The U.S. is playing a leadership role in facilitating robust country-led processes. Over the last year, we have stepped up our support to developing country governments to undertake the analysis that is needed to set priorities based on the potential impact. In all the food security focus countries, we are increasing support for capacity building and institutional strengthening as a core area of our investments to ensure sustainability that can make lasting change in their own countries. We are emphasizing a focus on reaching small scale producers and gender for example. Countries need to improve the rigor of policy making, to make hard choices about priorities given scarce resources, and to link those choices to results.

At the June 2nd review of the Haiti agricultural plan, the Government of Haiti committed to strengthening support within their national budget to agriculture and food security. And in Bangladesh, we worked with international and Bangladeshi partners to develop their national plan of action on food security from a starting point with twenty-six priority areas to a more focused agenda around twelve priorities. In Bangladesh, a country in which the U.S. has made significant investments in agriculture in the 1980s, institutional strengths in governance, including among civil society organizations, position them to make rapid progress. In Africa, a continent-wide planning process has led many countries to increase their policy commitments to agriculture with eight countries reaching or surpassing 10 percent in 2008 and an additional nine countries reaching budget shares of between 5 and 10 percent.

The second area that is critical to Feed the Future is combating child under-nutrition. Each year, more than 3.5 million children die from undernutrition which costs developing countries up to 3 percent of their potential annual gross domestic product. With an internationally coordinated effort under the food security initiative, we believe we can reach up to 25 million children. While almost all measures of global hunger are now based on measures of under-nutrition, few countries have made dramatic progress in this area compared to poverty reduction. We need to

address the multiple dimensions of nutrition, spanning access to health services, women's control of incomes, and improving dietary quantity and quality, particularly for women and young children.

One approach is not sufficient. Rwanda provides a good illustration. Since 1998, Rwanda has experienced 6 percent economic growth every year and has achieved self-sufficiency in food production through agricultural growth of around 15 percent in recent years. Despite these impressive gains, chronic under-nutrition remains at 50 percent, unchanged over almost a decade. We are developing strategies that integrate our public health investments with agricultural development, research, and gender analysis. In this way, we will leverage dedicated funding linked to the Global Health Initiative, which includes a nearly three-fold increase in requested nutrition funding over FY 2010 appropriations, with our agricultural resources under Feed the Future in new ways to increase our impact toward alleviating this underlying factor of chronic hunger.

Combating under-nutrition is also an area where we have significant scope for partnership with other donors, multilateral organizations, civil society, and the private sector to achieve success and a high level of accountability. In April, I attended an event we co-hosted with the World Bank on food security and nutrition that advanced a global call to action. At the upcoming MDG Summit, Secretary Clinton will co-host an event with Ireland to highlight our expanding tool kit of effective approaches to improve nutrition.

The third area where we are making significant progress is in the area of agricultural research. This is an area of clear U.S. comparative advantage, with our leadership in agricultural research spanning back almost fifty years to the start of the Green Revolution. In almost every country I have visited in my development career, I have encountered scientists up through ministers who received their training with support from USAID. This is an enduring legacy that both builds openness to the U.S. and supports the human capital to drive sustained development. We know that investing in agricultural research today contributes to the growth and resilience of the food supply tomorrow. When combined with other agricultural investments, improved technologies

and practices can meet the need to feed an ever growing global population with less land, less water, and a less certain climate.

On June 16th, Secretary Clinton, Secretary Vilsack, and Administrator Shah announced a new strategy for agricultural research to support Feed the Future. The 2011 budget request represents a 64 percent increase in our support for global agricultural research over 2009.

The new research strategy will increase the impact of those investments by addressing some of the gaps in the international research system. We will be more focused, investing deeply in fewer priorities to deliver solutions that can have large scale impacts on poverty and child under-nutrition. And, we will expand and strengthen the linkages between global research partners such as U.S. universities, the private sector, and the CGIAR with developing country counterparts.

The weakness of national research and extension systems in developing countries has constrained the impact of new advances in science and technology. Recognized the world over for excellence in science and for training a generation of agricultural leaders throughout the developing world, through Feed the Future, the U.S. will harness those assets to strengthen national research and extension partners. This will ensure that global research priorities address local needs and to adapt and deliver new advances to the hands of small-scale producers.

Within our own agency, we are increasing the coherence between our Washington-funded research with our Mission programs to close these gaps and achieve greater impact. Through the reforms of the multilateral CGIAR system, we have been working with other donors over the last year to significantly advance both management and strategic changes that will increase the focus of the more than $600 million in research conducted by this valuable international system. In collaboration with USDA, we will share a draft of the new Feed the Future research strategy for further consultation with U.S. universities, industry, and non-governmental partners.

We will be launching a substantial system for monitoring and evaluation that spans both our programs and performance at the country level. This includes investing in development of host

country capacity for data collection and multilateral tools and indicators to improve our ability to measure progress against our goals and objectives. These investments will ensure not only accountability for our resources, but establish systems that endure and go beyond our programs.

With our market-led focus on agricultural growth, Feed the Future also expands opportunities for U.S. agricultural and food industries to invest in new markets overseas. As incomes increase, demand for better quality foods rises - dairy and meat, fresh fruits and vegetables, and better quality cooking oils. This expands opportunities for U.S. trade, ranging from commodities to seeds to equipment. U.S. agriculture, from our university labs, to cooperatives, to companies, to farmers themselves, has a rich history of sharing expertise and investing in development.

We look forward to expanding those partnerships, as well as with you here in Congress, as we move forward with this exciting initiative.

Mr. CARNAHAN. Thank you both.

I want to start off the questions with Chairman Payne. I want to yield 5 minutes to Chairman Payne.

Mr. PAYNE. Thank you very much.

I certainly look forward to be working with you as you move forward on the new initiative.

Let me just ask this. The Feed the Future Initiative is taking a "whole of government" approach. How will the State Department coordinate with other agencies responsible for programs and activities related to international agriculture development, nutrition, and food security, such as USDA, MCC, Department of Treasury, and USAID? And, specifically, what will be the mechanism for interagency coordination and implementation of projects on the ground, which is also important to get an organization here, but then how do we translate that in individual countries? And what, if any, are the funding implications for a whole government strategy?

I will ask either one of you or both of you to comment.

Ms. HASLACH. I would like to concentrate on the overall U.S. whole of government approach, and I would like to ask if Ambassador Garvelink could address the country led process.

Feed the Future will be led by the U.S. Global and Food Security Coordinator. The Coordinator will provide strategic policy and budget direction that spans the whole of U.S. Government and resources for Feed the Future.

The goal is to have this Coordinator in place at some point, but, in the meantime, Ambassador Garvelink and I are moving forward on setting up a one team for Feed the Future that includes colleagues from—expertise from the U.S. Department of Agriculture, Treasury, from the Peace Corps, from the Millennium Challenge Corporation, and others.

We meet regularly, and we have staff that coordinate regularly on the Feed the Future Initiative. We do not see ourselves in fact

as separate agencies any longer. We see ourselves as part of one team, the Feed the Future team.

Thank you.

Mr. GARVELINK.

Thank you.

If I could just add a couple of comments about how this program operates on the ground.

The countries where we are going to provide assistance under Feed the Future develop a country investment plan, and that is a plan that is put together by the government with participation of all stakeholders, civil society, NGOs, other organizations that explains how they will address agricultural food needs in their country. That plan is evaluated by the U.S. Government in the particular country.

In each country where we are going to provide assistance, we have a country coordinator; and that country coordinator represents all of the United States Government agencies that would be involved in responding in that country. Some countries have the Millennium Challenge Corporation; some don't. But the country coordinator in the countries we are interested right now is the USAID Mission Director for the time being. That individual will coordinate with Department of Agriculture, with Treasury, with USDA, and any other U.S. Government agencies that are operating in that country and design a plan that is supported by the entire U.S. Government to help meet the needs identified in the country investment plan.

Mr. PAYNE. One last question, since the time is running out.

USAID, as you know, over the recent past, last 10 years or so or more, has relied heavily on contractors. The offices have shrunk. Is there a goal to go back to trying to have staff persons from USAID, U.S. Department of State that can do the jobs, rather than contracting out, which we find is just done whether it is in developing countries and even in the Middle East or Afghanistan or Iraq. It is the contractors we hear about. I wonder, do we have any expertise or are we going to develop this?

Mr. GARVELINK. As you may know, the expertise in agriculture has declined over the past 20 or 30 years in USAID and in other development agencies. I think it was the shock to the international community of the dramatic increase in food prices in 2007 and 2008 that made us all realize that we may have made a mistake by not continuing to emphasize agricultural development. So, as a result of that, we are working very hard right now to expand the U.S. Government's expertise in agriculture.

So, to meet the demands of this new initiative, we are turning to AID for their agricultural experts, and we are recruiting more through their new entry program. We are working very closely with the USDA and their experts. And we are working with personal services contractors to fill gaps as well. We are working very hard to increase the number of agricultural specialists so we will have sufficient numbers over the years to reestablish ourselves as a leader—the U.S. Government as a leader in agricultural development.

Mr. CARNAHAN. Thank you. The gentleman's time has expired.

I now want to recognize the gentleman from California, Mr. Rohrabacher, for 5 minutes.

Mr. ROHRABACHER. So is this $1.6 billion of new money that you are looking for for the program?

Ms. HASLACH. President Obama was seeking $3.5 billion over 3 years. So this is part of that pledge and commitment that we made at L'Aquila a year ago.

Mr. ROHRABACHER. That is $3.5 billion of new money?

Ms. HASLACH. Correct.

Mr. ROHRABACHER. Taking the money we have already allocated year after year after year after year for helping people in poor countries. This is new money on top of that.

Ms. HASLACH. This is a budget request for a new initiative that hopes to bolster contributions from other contractors as well. It is not just a U.S. initiative or commitment.

Mr. ROHRABACHER. I got you. Again, what countries have been targeted for this?

Mr. GARVELINK. Well, the initial set of countries where we are looking at—and there is a system that was undertaken to identify these countries in terms of the need, the poverty level, the commitment of the government, involving the stakeholders and these sort of things. There are 20 countries that have been identified initially. Twelve of them are in Africa. Four of them are in Asia.

Mr. ROHRABACHER. Maybe you can read them off right now.

Mr. GARVELINK. It is Ethiopia, it is Kenya, it is Liberia, it is Rwanda, it is Tanzania, it is Mali, Malawi, Mozambique, Zambia, Ghana, and Senegal. And I think those are the 12. Those are the ones in Africa. Uganda is another one.

And in Latin America it is Guatemala, Honduras, Nicaragua and Haiti.

Then in Asia it is Bangladesh, Nepal, Cambodia, and Tajikistan.

Mr. ROHRABACHER. What was the one before Tajikistan?

Nepal. Didn't quite catch that.

So countries like Ethiopia, which is first on your list, I know there are several members of this committee who worked with me on Ethiopia and found that government to be totally unacceptable to democratic standards. They used aid that we gave them, especially some foreign aid with Jeeps and guns, not to defend their society but instead to overthrow the results of an election and put all the people who won the election in jail. Now why do we think that a country like Ethiopia, which obviously has a lot of problems with oppression—or I don't know what rank they rank with the State Department, but it seems at least unacceptable to the two of us on this committee—what makes you think that they are going to do good by their own people?

Ms. HASLACH. Congressman, this is a country led initiative, but it is not just the country that is involved in this process. It is a consultative process that involves all stakeholders, civil society, woman farmers, as well as other partners in international organizations; and good governance is something that is also taken in consideration before financial commitments are made.

Mr. ROHRABACHER. I would suggest that without good government all of the rest of it is meaningless. So all of the great words that we have heard today, and very inspiring words about this new

project, if it is not based on something we are going to work with good government—because bad government will undo everything you are saying.

Now, again, is this $3.5 billion that we are going to give a portion of it to the people of Ethiopia, who are being oppressed by their own government, I might say a corrupt government that has taken property from its own people in an unlawful way—is that worth—the results, you think, are going to be worth borrowing that money from China in order to give to the Government of Ethiopia so that these young people here will be paying for the rest of their life on the interest on what we are borrowing?

Ms. HASLACH. Ethiopia has been identified as one of the possible focus countries, but there are a number of steps that the country will need to take in order to get to the point. They, first of all, have to have a country investment plan, which they do not have yet. But we do have some successful examples of countries that have moved forward with a country investment plan, and a good example of that would be Ghana.

Mr. ROHRABACHER. Thank you, Mr. Chairman.

I would just like to note again that my own trepidation is about borrowing more money in order to provide direct food aid to countries in which are run by questionable governments. And almost all the people who are in real abject poverty find themselves under the rule of a government that is corrupt and nondemocratic. So I am skeptical that this would be a program that would be worth borrowing more money from China in order to finance.

Thank you, Mr. Chairman.

Mr. CARNAHAN. Thank you.

I now recognize myself for 5 minutes.

I guess I want to thank the witnesses for their overview and really making the point that this is more than just about food. It is about security in so many aspects—national security, economic security, human security, environmental security.

But I do want to follow up on my colleague Mr. Rohrabacher's question. And that is, we do have a responsibility in these economic times, but especially to be sure that we are getting value for these investments, and certainly we have listed a number of values that are important to us. But I would like you both to describe metrics that can be in place to measure how well we are making progress in these goals and oversight mechanisms to be sure we are watching that this is being done in an effective way.

Ms. HASLACH. Thank you.

The results framework and the monitoring and evaluation components events of this program are critical. We couldn't agree with you more. We are working very closely with people who have worked for the Millennium Challenge Corporation and other such initiatives to set up a very tight monitoring and evaluation system based on—first of all, based on good data. And we are getting a lot of assistance from the interagency on this. In fact, the U.S. Department of Agriculture and institutes like IFPRI and others are providing us with good baseline data so we can be able to evaluate this.

We are building teams both at the country level and as well in Washington to do this, and this will be part of our Feed the Future

guidelines. If you go on our Feed the Future Web site, feedthefuture.gov, we will be adding to that a comprehensive assessment of how we will be doing monitoring and evaluation.

Let me also point out that we have turned to our partners in the field, civil society and nongovernmental organizations who have been working at the country level and can provide us with a lot of guidance and insight. When we published the Feed the Future guide, it was a consultative process; and in fact we have been getting very, very good feedback from interaction in all the members of the nongovernmental organizations. They have actually been assisting us in helping to set this up.

Gender is important. There are a number of different cross-cutting issues that we are going to need to measure, and so we are committed to do doing that. We couldn't agree with you more that we want to see the resources spent properly.

And this is not an entitlement program. Just because a country may be listed as a potential to receive funding under this initiative, there are a number of steps that the country has to take in order to get the resources. And if the resources are being misspent, they will be redirected to a country that is deserving and is part of this process.

Thank you.

Mr. CARNAHAN. Certainly, there is a case to be made that this could help leverage better results at the country level and leverage better collaboration and resources.

But I guess the other question I had was with regard to measures to hold the other participating countries involved to that $22 billion commitment that has been made. Certainly that is important based on the U.S. commitment. But what efforts are under way to be sure that those other countries are held to their commitments?

Ms. HASLACH. Well, I am sure you saw that there was a recommitment at this year's G–8 that in fact the donors would live up to their pledge made last year for the full $22 billion. But we see that just as the starting contribution. In fact, we have been seeking contributions to the Global Agriculture and Food Security Trust Fund that is being managed by the World Bank; and we very happy that a number of countries—Canada and Spain and others—and South Korea—have joined us in this multilateral trust fund. So every time we meet with the donors, every time we attend a function, we press them to live up to their commitments. And we mean new commitments, not recycled monies.

Mr. CARNAHAN. If I could real quickly, because my time is running out, but very quickly, on the question of being sure that we are using the latest in innovations and technology to incorporate into these efforts, I would like you to elaborate on that.

Mr. GARVELINK. Well, it is our view that to expand agricultural production, as you have mentioned with the growing population, one of the ways not to do this is to tear down the rain forest in other parts of—places in Africa, which they tend to do to expand agriculture, but to increase innovation and use science and technology to expand the productivity of the land already under cultivation.

So we are working very closely with the Department of Agriculture and their various research institutes to draw on the expertise that U.S. scientists have—the discoveries and innovations that U.S. Scientists have developed for the United States. And there are a lot of those innovations that can be transferred to developing countries in the developing world.

There are programs that have been undertaken with Monsanto, with General Mills, with the Soybean Association, and other organizations to promote agricultural development and innovations in seed and other techniques that are being used throughout this initiative and will be highlighted whenever possible and relied on, largely from the Department of Agriculture and their experts.

Mr. CARNAHAN. Thank you.

I am going to next yield 5 minutes to the gentleman from New Jersey, Mr. Smith.

Mr. SMITH. Thank you, Ambassadors, for your testimony.

Jennifer Nazaire, the country rep for Catholic Relief Services, points out in her testimony that CRS has had a 50-year commitment to food security and other important issues in Rwanda and, I would note parenthetically, just about anywhere else where CRS is involved, where people are suffering. And she points out there is a key role for faith-based organizations and international NGOs to play.

She points out as well—and I hope you don't hold it against her—when we find out there are cuts to the funding, she points out with regard to Rwanda, she was at the first signing of the Feed the Future ceremony on December 7th and 8th in '09 and there were no specifics on how we or even the local civil society partners would be involved in the government's plan for ag transformation to improve food security.

She stated,

> "The only interaction I had with the U.S. Government delegation at this meeting was at coffee breaks during which I approached them and introduced myself. I asked whether there was an opportunity for international NGOs to meet with some of the delegation outside of meeting hours, but there was no follow up."

She points out that, in her view, USAID and other donors tend to see CRS and other international NGOs as mostly focused on subsistence and safety net ag and not cutting-edge leaders in integrated food security programing. However, international NGOs are doing significant amounts of these programs and have been doing it for decades.

My first question would be: What role do you see? Why were they seemingly excluded from this country led planning process? And if you can provide either now or for the record exactly how are international NGOs, faith-based organizations, civil society CSOs, and the private sector being included in the country-led planning process in the 20 targeted countries. If you could provide for the committee how each of those are being integrated, it would help us in our oversight.

Secondly, with regard to the 20 targeted countries, I am fully aware of the four criteria. I think they are good criteria that you

have laid out. But could you provide to the committee a detailed country by country analysis as to exactly how the 20 were selected and how this integrated analysis is done so we can really look and say, okay, pick out a country. This is the process they went through. It helps us, again, to do our oversight.

And then, what countries are or were on the bubble, like number 21, 22, 23, given more money or maybe a different set of circumstances, they too might get the additional benefits of the Feed the Future.

And, finally, with regards to the Food for Peace initiative for which the administration requested $1.69 billion for Fiscal Year 2011, how is that going to be integrated, or coordinated is probably a better word, with Feed the Future in the 20 targeted countries? Will it be working in a side-bar way? Will it be part of the country-led planning process? How does that all mesh together so we don't have a stovepipe type operation?

Mr. GARVELINK. Well, first of all, we will be glad to provide all of that information and we should be able to do that for you very quickly. I cannot comment specifically on the situation in Rwanda because I wasn't there. But a very important element of this process is the role of NGOs and civil society throughout all these planning stages and in coordination with our people on the ground and with our people here.

As a matter of fact, at 10 o'clock this morning I was meeting with Interaction on these very issues of how we involve NGOs more deeply in our programs back here, in our activities back here, and with our missions on the ground with the country team in the various embassies and U.S. missions. So it is a very critical element to what we are doing, and we are insisting on that as we move through the approval process for these countries to receive higher amounts of resources from the U.S. Government, a critical element of this is to involve all stakeholders, and that is the private sector, that is civil society, that is NGOs, that is faith-based organizations, all these organizations together. So I can't comment exactly on what happened in Rwanda, but it is a very high priority and integral part of this whole process.

Mr. SMITH. I would respectfully ask you to look into the Rwanda situation, if you could, and get back to us. I would appreciate it.

Ms. HASLACH. I was actually the attache in India, so I very much value their contributions. So we will definitely get an answer to you. With regard—and we will get you more specifics about this, Congressman. But let me just say very briefly how countries were selected, and it is a combination of things. It is an art maybe, not a science, but it is based on, first of all, the level of need, the opportunity for partnership, that is very key, potential for agricultural-led growth, opportunity for regional synergies. That is one area we didn't discuss today, but the regional component is important. Resource availability. So those are the key areas, and we will get back to you on that.

But I also want to stress, just because we have identified 20 potential countries doesn't mean that every one of those countries is going to actually be able to meet the bar. This is a pretty high bar for countries to achieve. There is phase 1 and phase 2. Phase 1 is sort of the capacity-building level where we are trying to help them

get to phase 2. But unless they commit to the process themselves and unless it is a consultative process, they will not get to phase 2. So this is important. It is a little bit different than assistance programs where you commit the resources and they are there for life.

I would also like to say that we are continuing to support for additional agriculture development and nutrition programs in up to 38 other countries. So what we are really talking about is having some kind of an impact in 60 countries. And I mentioned the strategic partners. We are also focusing on regional organizations such as ECOWAS and ones in Latin Americans and Asia as well. Thank you.

Mr. SMITH. Just a very quick follow-up on Mr. Rohrabacher's comment on Ethiopia. And I would hope, both Mr. Payne and I, Chairman Payne, when he was chairman and when I chaired the African committee, I introduced the Human Rights in Ethiopia Act. We are very concerned, and I think I speak for many members of the panel. President Meles certainly has crushed or tried to crush opposition opponents. He has thrown them into jail. We have never got an accounting for the killings that took place in Addis after the elections which were far less than free and fair. But I would be very interested, the NGOs that don't get funded in a country-led plan unless we put maximum pressure to make sure that certain faith-based as well as politically disenfranchised NGOs are included. Because, otherwise, if left up to him, they will be excluded. Thank you.

Ms. HASLACH. Thank you, Congressman. Perhaps, I would like to point out that the countries right now that we are working the closest with are Haiti, Bangladesh, Ghana, Rwanda, and Tanzania. Thank you.

Mr. CARNAHAN. Thank you. And next I would like to recognize Congresswoman Woolsey for 5 minutes.

Ms. WOOLSEY. Thank you, Mr. Chairman. I just want to dig just a little bit deeper on the sentiments of the questions that the last two members have asked.

Just in general, how are you going to implement this so that we can ensure that Feed the Future just doesn't add another layer of bureaucracy to this need? I guess, with the Washington Post showing us what has happened to our intelligence overhead, we have to be so careful that we make sure.

And in answering that, this is kind of a two-part question. You talked, you mentioned over and over about the NGOs being included in how the programs will be set up and what this will mean. How about the women that are the real deliverers of agriculture, the farmers themselves, and the people? I mean, tell us—give us an example of sitting down with women and talking to them about how this is all going to come about together.

Ms. HASLACH. Congresswoman, first of all, we really appreciate your support here on this.

Maybe take the first question. I just finished a year in Iraq, and one of the most successful programs we had at a provincial reconstruction team up in the Kurdistan region was actually a project that we ran with women where we provided—AID provided microfinance loans, and they set up a dairy, a small dairy operation and

used the milk products and sold the yogurt and made cheese. And these were widows; these were women that didn't have any other form of support. So I think these are the types of programs that we are aiming at.

And I share your concern that we are creating yet another bureaucracy. In fact, when we come to meetings we tell everyone to check their agency and their cell phones at the door, because the stovepiping is what contributes, I think, to a lot of the duplication. I saw it in Iraq when I was sent there basically to try to get everyone to work together as one team, as opposed to having one group over here working on a democracy in governance program and another group in another part of the embassy working on a democracy in governance program. So our aim is to work together as one Feed the Future team. Thank you.

Mr. GARVELINK. If I could just add a comment or two about what is going on or will go on, on the ground, in the various countries. Our country team at the U.S. mission will manage this process, and the lead person is our Feed the Future coordinator, at this point in time USAID directors. And they will make sure that everybody, like we are trying to do here, is working together and not duplicating or leaving any gaps in the programs that are being put together. And they will work very closely with the host government, but they also work with the civil society that is on the ground there. They meet regularly with those individuals and work very closely with them, whether it is CRS or World Vision or some of the—Lutheran World Relief or some of the other organizations.

There is regular meetings between the U.S. country team there and those operations. And so they will be watching these programs very closely and monitoring them, and the Feed the Future initiative will be part of the larger U.S. Government assistance program in that country. It is not a parallel activity, or it is—it will be integrated into the ongoing activities that we have in the country. So on the ground it will not really be an additional layer; it will be an additional facet to our assistance program.

Ms. WOOLSEY. So how are you hearing from the people? I mean, that is not their representatives. The people themselves, how are they bringing them into, whatever situation, sit down and talk about it this?

Mr. GARVELINK. Well, again, that works—the country team that is out there, the USAID mission, the U.S. Department of Agriculture, the Millennium Challenge Corporations, in addition to meeting with the government officials, they meet at the local level and community level. Having been an aid mission director myself a few years ago, you actually go to the communities, talk to the people under—if you are going to design your programs right, you want to know what they need and you want to hear it from them, not what you think officials in the capital city would like but you have got to talk to the people on the ground, in the villages who you will be providing assistance to, to get it right.

So our teams do in fact meet with the women on the ground and talk about, in Africa where they don't own land and they don't have access to credit and they don't have access to extension agents and women are not trained regularly as extension agents and that is something we want to change. So you have got to hear directly

from them what their needs and concerns are. And that is going on through our U.S. missions in the countries where we are designing these programs.

Ms. WOOLSEY. Thank you.

Mr. CARNAHAN. Thank you. Next, I want to recognize Congresswoman Watson from California for 5 minutes.

Ms. WATSON. Thank you very much. I just want to spread some good news about something my dear friend said referring to Ethiopia.

We just came back several months ago, and we worked on the ground with civil society with an organization called IP, Light Years IP (Intellectual Property). And as you know, they have four different levels of coffee beans there. We didn't go through government, but government officials came to visit our conference for 3 days. And what we did with the farmers, we trained them how to brand, how to copyright, how to negotiate, you know, how to get their product out there and receive the benefit back. They were getting something like $2 per bushel.

But I say that if you work with civil society, you work with the NGOs, I think our resources go further, because they are, in many cases, native people or people who have worked with the native people and they understand best how to serve their own communities and they know how to train and teach. And working with them I find has been very helpful.

As I understand, the initiative is divided into two parts. Is that correct? The food initiative for each of the host countries? Phases.

Ms. HASLACH. Yes.

Ms. WATSON. And there is a planning phase and there is an implementation phase. Am I following the instructions, from my staff in the back, correctly? And I think the administration budget justified included the funding required for each host country and each phase. The $1.6 billion request for the Feed the Future for Fiscal Year 2011, however, does not include additional funding for food aid through global health and child survival programs or Food for Peace nor food aid earmarked for the NGOs.

So can you give us some kind of timeline how that is moving? And how does phase 1 take into account the food from each of the different funding streams? And how long are the phases, say, phase 2? And how do you tend to implement?

Ms. HASLACH. The overall budget request is not just specifically for the 20 countries. It also includes our strategic partners. It is also for regional organizations. It is also for research, and it is also our contribution for the Global Agriculture and Food Security Trust Fund. So it is not specifically just for the 20 countries.

Also, phase 1——

Ms. WATSON. Would you be able to add countries as per need?

Ms. HASLACH. Yes. Or subtract if we don't see—if countries don't submit a country investment plan.

With regard to phase 1 and phase 2, we can get you much more detail about this. But, basically, phase 1 is looking at the foundation, is looking at the capacity building, looking at policy reforms, looking at sort of the nonphysical infrastructure aspects of it.

In order to graduate to phase 2 with the full country investment plan, that is when the price year projects kick in, roads, irrigation

systems, these types of things. And we want to leverage our other programs with a country as an MCC program, for example, we want to make sure that we are not building the same road or other donors or the trust fund isn't financing a project. So it requires very, very close coordination on the ground. And we on the ground and depending on the country they will call them an agricultural working group, a donor working group. They work with the government.

But, again, that is where the consultation process is taking place. That is where civil society, women, farm groups, private sector are supposed to be included in that process. And when we were in Ghana—sorry. When we were in Senegal for this recent meeting that was co-hosted by ECOWAS and Spain, 12 countries submitted their country investment plans and some were in various stages of development.

Ms. WATSON. Was Liberia?

Ms. HASLACH. Liberia was there. So what is important is the country submits this country investment plan that is part of this consultative process. But then, afterwards, once the plan was submitted then these groups got up, and each one had a long period of time in order to critique the country investment plan. So this is all part of the process.

Ms. WATSON. Well, I just want to give you a big, shall I say, a shout out for support with what you are doing. We just left a conference where President Johnson Sirleaf was, and my organization just gave $0.5 million to build a women's cooperative. You know the women that sit by the side of the road and they bring in the produce and so on? We want to build a infrastructure and we want to them bring all their intellectual property in and we want to assist them. And I tell you, she is doing a fantastic job.

So there, it is the NGOs, it is all civil society working with the government. And I do take heed that, if the government is corrupt, we could run into some problems. But what I am experiencing is that some of the countries are starting at the top and giving a green light, so to speak. And so I would be really interested in giving the information back that was asked for.

I see my time is up, but I am very interested in this program. Thank you, Mr. Chairman, for having this hearing today, and we are going to track it very closely.

Mr. GARVELINK. If I could take a minute and add one comment.

Mr. CARNAHAN. The gentleman is recognized.

Mr. GARVELINK. Thank you. You mentioned that the account for Feed the Future was separate from the Food for Peace and emergency food aid budget, and I just want to emphasize that that is true. The Feed the Future is not a substitute for the emergency food aid programs that we have run for many years through the office of Food for Peace and NAID.

For example, unfortunately, the need for emergency food aid is going to continue; and while we are focused on 20 or so countries, there are a lot of other ones that are not as fortunate as these 20 and they facing emergency situations. So, for example, in 2009, we provided about—the U.S. Government provided 2.6 million metric tons of emergency food aid to about 44 different countries.

That will continue, and the Feed the Future initiative will work very closely with emergency food aid so that they reinforce each other and help folks move from the emergency situation beyond to development issues. But the emergency food aid will continue.

Ms. WATSON. Mr. Chairman, may I take 1 more minute? I just have to say these things.

Mr. CARNAHAN. Without objection, I will recognize you for one more follow-up. And then I will do the same for Mr. Smith as we wrap up.

Ms. WATSON. Thank you. We all are concerned about what is happening in Haiti. And one of the biggest issues is that there is food and food product in storage not getting out to the people. And what we are understanding is there is now a lack of coordination. So I heard that Haiti was on the list, and that I hope that the works that you are doing will help in terms of coordinating this and getting food out to—there are youngsters in orphanages that are starving, and there are warehouses because of some kind of bureaucratic blocking are not giving permission to get that food out. So that doesn't make sense to me. And I am hoping that as we gather in the information about the process, that we can really address Haiti. Thank you for the additional time.

Mr. CARNAHAN. Thank you. And again, without objection, I want to recognize Mr. Smith for some quick follow-ups.

Mr. SMITH. Thank you. Just two quick questions. One would be on results with regards to evaluation. Will there be a focus on household level and not just on production? Yes? Secondly, with regards to DR Congo. And Mr. Ambassador Garvelink, I know that you served at DR Congo for 3 years. Yesterday, I met with your predecessor Ambassador Roger Meece, who as we all know is the special rep for the U.N., and wish him well in that very difficult job.

I visited DR Congo and met with a group of farmers in the capital, Goma. And one of the farmers told me, "I can grow anything. I just can't get it to market." And when I saw the roads that he had to take to get his produce to market, you know, his produce spoils. There is just no way of doing it in any kind of way en masse. Is the DR Congo on that potential list? They have had elections. They have made some strides. Obviously they still have a ways to go. But if you could speak to that.

Mr. GARVELINK. Unfortunately, it is not just the roads. There are blockades along the way where fees are collected. And for those reasons, as we talked about earlier, governance and the government's commitment to agricultural development is a critical element of identifying the countries that are considered for this initiative. And much to my personal regret, having spent 3 years there, they are not on the list.

Mr. SMITH. And one last point. While I was there, I learned that the Chinese government was spending billions on roads, but also had an agreement that any minerals they find in proximity to those roads become theirs, or at least their ability to extract it. And one parliamentarian told me with a bit of a smile on his face, "Yeah, that is why the roads are a little bit zigzagged, because they are trying to incorporate the find."

From a strategic point of view and in terms of investing in people—obviously, they have suffered so much, lost so many people through years of warfare. Might the DR Congo be at least considered a candidate?

Mr. GARVELINK. Well, just a couple of comments. We have a small agriculture program going on in the Congo where we are confident through NGOs that we can reach the people that we have to reach through those organizations. But there is also in the eastern part of the country—in Goma, there is a fairly large emergency assistance program that will address the needs of the folks caught in the middle of the conflict and that sort of thing, but it is not part of this initiative.

Mr. CARNAHAN. For one additional follow-up, I am going to recognize Mr. Rohrabacher for 1 minute.

Mr. ROHRABACHER. Did you say that Cambodia was on that list as well? Do you know much about the Hun Sen regime in Cambodia? Would you call that an honest government? Something that if you managed to do something to help further promote the people that it will permit the benefits to go to the people rather than being taken away by the corrupt dictatorship in Cambodia? Hun Sen is a tough guy. I mean, he is a gangster. And so are the people in Ethiopia.

Look, it is one thing that we can all proclaim how much we want to help people. And I think it is really important that the United States maintain itself as a good country as well as a free country, and we are good because we care about people. But borrowing money from China in order to promote something in a country run by Hun Sen or these guys in Ethiopia. And I don't know about these other countries. I think that we are saddling our young people with debt for the rest of their lives in order to do something like this makes no sense. Thank you.

Mr. CARNAHAN. Thank you. And I want to take care of a piece of housekeeping business. I know that Ambassador Garvelink asked that the Feed the Future guide be included in the record. Without objection, it will be. And also, just thank you, for the work you are doing, the goals—the multilevel security goals—involved in what you do, the levers that we have high hopes that this program will create. But we do want to continue to work with you, watch this closely, have you back—the new coordinator—here when the yet to be named coordinator—we hope to have him here before the committee as well. Thank you very much.

If we could have the second panel come up. We are going to jump into our second panel, if they could come forward. I want to welcome our second panel and do some quick introductions.

Beginning on my left is Dr. William Danforth. He is currently the chairman of the board of directors of Donald Danforth Plant Science Center. He also serves as chancellor emeritus of Washington University and chairs the Coalition of Plant and Life Sciences. He became Washington University's 13th chancellor in 1971 and served until his retirement in 1995. Dr. Danforth received his B.A. from Princeton University, his M.D. from Harvard Medical School in 1951, and is a native of St. Louis, Missouri.

Next, Mr. Gerald Steiner is Monsanto's executive vice president of sustainability and corporate affairs. He leads the company's

global Government and Public and Industry Affairs teams across 70 countries where Monsanto does business. He is also co-founder and board member of the Global Harvest Initiative, a public-private initiative whose mission is to sustainably double agricultural production by 2050. He received a B.S. degree in agriculture economics from the University of Wisconsin and an MBA from Washington University.

Next, Dr. Hans Herren. He was appointed Millennium Institute's president in May 2005. Previously, he was director general of the International Center for insect physiology and ecology in Nairobi, Kenya. Dr. Herren was the recipient of the 1995 world food prize, the highest award given to an individual for advancing human development by improving the quality, quantity, and availability of food in the world. Dr. Herren earned his Ph.D. at the Federal Institute of Technology in Zurich, Switzerland.

Next, Ms. Evelyn Nassuna. Welcome. Ms. Nassuna is the Uganda country director for Lutheran World Relief, an organization that works with local implementing partners around the world to seek lasting solutions to rural poverty. She manages the LWR's Uganda portfolio of agriculture, health, and livelihood development work. Previously, she worked for Catholic Relief Services in Law and Advocacy for Women in Uganda. She is a native of Uganda, holds a bachelor of law from the University in Tanzania and a master's degree from Georgetown University Law in Washington.

And, finally, Ms. Jennifer Smith Nazaire has been country representative of Rwanda since August 2008, joined Catholic Relief Services in 1993. She has worked in Morocco, Haiti, and Cameroon, holds a bachelor's degree from Mount Holyoke College, a master's from Johns Hopkins School of International Studies, and was also a Peace Corps volunteer in Cameroon.

Welcome to all of you. We are really looking forward to this second panel. And we will recognize Dr. Danforth to kick this off. Welcome, Dr. Danforth.

STATEMENT OF WILLIAM H. DANFORTH, PH.D., CHAIRMAN, BOARD OF DIRECTORS, DONALD DANFORTH PLANT SCIENCE CENTER

Mr. DANFORTH. Thank you, Mr. Chairmen, Chairman Carnahan, Chairman Payne, Ranking Members Rohrabacher and Smith. I appreciate this opportunity to share my vision with you.

We started our plant science center in St. Louis because we saw an historic opportunity to further important basic human rights; enough nutrition to sustain life and health, and a liveable environment for one's family. We saw that these goals could be pursued in partnership with national and international organizations. And we believe and do believe that the stars are aligned for success for several reasons: One, thanks to decades of Federal investment, we have the scientific biologic tools. Second, we have two strong Federal programs, the Agricultural and Food Research Initiative, AFRI, that is part of the new congressionally mandated National Institute for Food and Agriculture in the USDA. And, second, the Agency for International Development works effectively with international organizations to bring them some of the boons of modern science to people who need it most.

Thus, in my view, we have the tools and we also have problems that need solutions. We have heard earlier 1 billion people will go to bed hungry tonight. On an average, every 6 seconds a child will die causes related to malnutrition. So we feel a sense of urgency.

Moreover, the population of the world is growing, as are the demands on farmers for greater production per acre with less input of water and fertilizers. We think that biotechnology is part of the solution.

As I say to our St. Louis friends, we with our skills are at the right place at the right time. It is up to us to make the most of our opportunities to do something wonderful. And I appreciate your interest here for nothing, so great can happen without the support and help of the Federal Government.

I will tell you a bit about how our plant science center is just one example of what can take place. We are not for profit, dedicated to using plant science for human betterment. More specifically, we want to help feed the hungry and promote better human nutrition and to preserve and enhance the environment, to feed the world with its expanding population and greater per capita consumption of food without ruining the environment. That will require that, by 2050, farmers will have to double the production per acre with less use of water and fertilizer. The traditional method of adding more acreage won't work. That land just doesn't exist.

Our work with cassava will provide you with specifics. Cassava is a root crop with limited market or money-making potential in the developing world, but is the third largest source of calories in the developing world. Seven-hundred million people rely on a cassava as a major source of food. It offers a lot: Rich in calories, grows in poor soils, withstands drought. It is a food security crop. Families can preserve the roots in the ground and dig them up when they are hungry. But cassava has problems. Crops can be devastated by virus diseases. While there are lots of calories, it lacks vitamins, minerals, and proteins. Children are especially subject to protein deficiency and vitamin A deficiency, two conditions that can lead to disability and early death.

We have two separate projects. Our longest one is to increase the resistance to cassava mosaic virus and, more recently, the devastating brown streak virus that destroys crops. So far, the results of field tests in Uganda look good.

More recently, thanks to the Gates Foundation, we have been making cassava more nutritious. To date, we and our partners have quadrupled the levels of protein and iron and increased the amount of vitamin A by 30-fold. But doing science is only part of our effort. With the funding of the Gates Foundation, we created a new biosafety resource network. The goal is to assure research projects that are part of that foundation's Grand Challenge, Global Health Initiative, deal properly with biosafety regulatory issues, and the technologies are socially and culturally appropriate. We work with African scientists to train young people to be scientists.

Finally, I would say that Federal support for these timely efforts is very important to make the most of today's opportunities. And I particularly note the importance of the Department of Agriculture with its new agriculture and food research initiative and the agency for international development.

I have with me an article from the New York Times that is quite interesting and I would like to submit it, if I may, for part of the record.

Mr. CARNAHAN. Without objection. Thank you, Dr. Danforth.

[The prepared statement of Mr. Danforth follows:]

Dr. William H. Danforth
Chancellor Emeritus, Washington University in St. Louis
Chairman of the Board, Donald Danforth Plant Science Center, St. Louis Missouri
Written Statement for the Record
Before the
United States House Committee on Foreign Affairs
Subcommittee on International Organizations, Human Rights and Oversight
Subcommittee on Africa and Global Health
July 20, 2010

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Chairman Carnahan and Chairman Payne, Ranking Member Rohrabacher and Ranking Member Smith and Committee Members thank you for the opportunity to testify today on such a vital topic---global hunger and food security. I am William Danforth, former chancellor of Washington University and now chair of the board of the Donald Danforth Plant Science Center both in St. Louis, Missouri. I have been involved in biomedical research for more than fifty years and in plant science for the last dozen years.

I got into plant science because I believed

- that plant science had been neglected and underfunded for decades,
- that it was important because the next generations of innovations in agriculture depended on science,
- that because of underfunding and old-fashioned research management at the national level there were few high-quality plant science programs, few, that is, compared with biomedical programs,
- that because of the depth and breadth in biomedical sciences including genetics, cell biology, molecular biology and so on, we in our region could build first rate programs,
- that success of our work in St. Louis and, in fact of all plant and agricultural research would require change from the traditional research management of the USDA and the adoption and funding of strong, well managed, research programs in which research grants were awarded to the most promising programs as judged by knowledgeable scientists in open competition.

The last Congress established the new National Institute for Food and Agriculture (NIFA). It is now up and running with Dr. Roger Beachy as its founding director. Its competitive grants program is called The Agricultural and Food Research Initiative Competitive Grants Program (AFRI). It was modeled after the stronger programs of the

NIH and the NSF. This new program is the opportunity to develop a first-class research program modeled after the best parts of the NIH, the NSF and the best of the USDA programs.

I believe that, there is enormous potential for modern agricultural research to address issues of hunger and food security and make our world a more livable planet for generations to come. Now in 2010 we have the federal agencies ARFI and the Agency for International Development (AID) poised to use the technologies and power of modern research to bring great boons to the fields under the jurisdiction of this sub-committee.

Now I will talk about the Donald Danforth Plant Science Center, because our goals are close to some of the concerns of this House Committee. I do so because it might give an example of how one can use plant science to address human problems.

The mission of the Danforth Plant Science Center is to improve the human condition through plant science. Each day Danforth Center scientists and staff pursue new discoveries with the potential to help feed the hungry and preserve and renew our environment. That may sound challenging, but, if we work together, these are noble and achievable goals that, when achieved, will benefit the United States and the world.

Consider three challenges: (Taken from **Blessings and Challenges Science Holds the Key By William H. Danforth M.D.]**

The first is that America must continue to lead the world in agriculture. That means innovating more rapidly than others, some with more favorable climates and cheaper labor and land. We need increased productivity with fewer inputs, lower costs and new value added. Science is a necessary component of innovation and success and many others chase this goal. Over the last twenty years China and India have doubled global agricultural research. Our nation starts with many assets and should not toss away our lead.

The second challenge is ancient: better nutrition. In many places, hunger and starvation plague humankind as they have since human life began. Still tonight, one billion people will go to bed hungry and about every six seconds one child dies of causes related to malnutrition.

The third challenge is preserving and enhancing the environment so our grandchildren inherit a livable earth. This challenge is essentially new, even though throughout human time on earth we humans have been changing the environment that sustains us, usually for the worse. But the environmental damage has been local; the rest of the world has gone on as before. What is new is that there are now so many of us and our tools are so powerful that we threaten the environment of the whole world all at once.

These challenges ancient and new can be summed up as one -- produce enough food, energy and other products in a way that is indefinitely sustainable.

Consider these additional facts:

- In order to avoid mass starvation global agricultural production must double by 2050.
- The reasons include continuing growth of world population and rising consumption of meat in developing countries.
- Seventy percent of the world's fresh water is used for agriculture. At the current consumption rate, by 2024 two of every three people will live in water stressed conditions.

The need for more production with less input of water, fertilizer, and energy of all types is obvious. There is little new land that can be put into production without causing further environmental damage. About 40% of the world's arable land is currently used. Most of the uncultivated land is marginal with poor soils and either too little rainfall or too much. Bringing such land into production would require costly irrigation systems or soil enhancement measures.

Biotechnology has to be one of the tools we use to meet the needs of a growing world population while preserving the environment.

Again, a few key facts:

Crops developed using tools of biotechnology have been approved by regulators in 25 countries and have a history of safe use and consumption.

- A record 14 million farmers in 25 countries are safely using products developed through biotechnology today to improve their livelihoods.
- Ninety percent of these are smallholder farmers living in 16 developing countries.
- No single incident has compromised human health or safety in the two decades biotech crops have been commercialized.
- No environmental damage has been found in numerous studies.

Biotech crops contribute to increased food availability and affordability, increasing world production by 141 million metric tons from 1996 to 2007

- Growers of biotech crops numbered 13.3 million in 2008 compared with 12 million in 2007, the vast majority farm less than 10 acres of land.
- In agriculture-based developing economies, biotech crops are an engine of rural economic growth, which in turn can contribute substantially to national economic growth.

In addition to improving yields, biotech crops preserve our environment.

- Biotech crops reduced the amount of insecticide used in agriculture by more than 350 million pounds.
- Biotech crops have increased no-till farming by 35% since 1996 preserving thousands of tons of topsoil.

- Research in the United Kingdom indicates that energy savings created by the use of no till with GM crops is equivalent to removing five million cars from the road.

It is worth noting that in the past there have been only minimal efforts to improve food security crops like cassava, sorghum and cowpea. Unlike maize and soybean there are no commercial drivers for the improvement of these crops despite the enormous numbers of people who depend on them for sustenance. It is not possible to grow maize or soybean in many parts of Africa due to the dry climate. All of the technologies developed for commercial crops have been proven applicable to food security crops.

I'd like to share with you information about two projects underway at the Danforth Plant Science Center that are intended to address hunger in the developing world. Both are focused on the root crop cassava which is the 6th largest source of calories worldwide and 3rd largest in the developing world. 250 million people living in sub Saharan Africa and 700 million people worldwide rely on it daily as a major source of calories.

Cassava has the ability to grow on marginal land where cereals and other crops do not grow well because it can tolerate drought and can grow in low-nutrient soils. Roots are processed into a wide variety of granules, pastes, flours, etc., or consumed freshly boiled. Additionally, tubers can be left in the ground up to three years so if drought or disease kills off other crops, farmer's families can still fend off starvation by eating cassava.

Although Cassava has many properties that make it an important food across 105 countries in the world, it also has many limitations. Cassava lacks protein, vitamins A and E, iron and zinc and is susceptible to many pathogens, particularly in Africa, where one third of the continental harvest is lost each year to viral diseases.

Twenty-five percent of the research at the Danforth Center is aimed at helping developing countries in Africa and other parts of the world. The Danforth Plant Science Center has been the lead on two major projects to address two of the most important constraints to cassava production and utilization – poor nutritional content of the root and susceptibility to virus disease.

BIOCASSAVA PLUS

Danforth Center scientists have joined researchers at nine world-class institutions from around the globe in an effort to develop improved nutritional solutions for African farmers. In Nigeria, researchers at the National Root Crops Research Institute are leading the way. This project is called BioCassava Plus and is funded by the Bill & Melinda Gates Foundation's Global Challenges for Global Health Program. Its primary objective is to develop and deliver improved African cassava varieties that help meet certain minimum daily nutrient requirements.

Research at the Danforth Center is primarily focused on increasing cassava's Vitamin A protein, zinc and iron content, lowering the levels of naturally occurring cyanide releasing chemicals and reducing spoilage. Beta-carotene is the precursor to Vitamin A

and is contained in various foods today, but those foods are not readily available to many people living in the developing world.

Vitamin A deficiency is perhaps most serious. The World Health Organization (WHO) estimates that more than 250 million school children are deficient in vitamin A. Vitamin A deficiency leads to lower immune function and people with the deficiency often have a higher risk of dying from infections. Vitamin A deficiency destroys eyesight and is a leading cause of childhood blindness. In Nigeria and Kenya alone, it is estimated that 1.1 million productive years are lost annually due to vitamin A deficiencies.

Another way of looking at the importance of these nutrients comes from a recent economic study conducted by John Fiedler of Harvest Plus on behalf of the Bill & Melinda Gates Foundation that supports the benefits of nutritional enhancement. This study looked at the efficiency of uptake of various micronutrients including vitamin A, iron and zinc and then used a formula to assess the annual impact of life years lost due to death and disease also known as Disability Adjusted Life Years (DALY).

In Nigeria alone, the study predicted that increasing the level of Vitamin A to the target we have set would decrease the loss of nearly one million life years annually. Add zinc and iron and the total increases to more than two million years saved.

Furthermore the study predicted that in the first ten year time period our improved cassava varieties have the potential to provide longer healthier lives to more than 9 million people living in Nigeria and Kenya. Should these technologies also be adopted in other developing countries the potential is enormous. For example, the more than 900,000 DALYs in Nigeria resulting from a deficiency in vitamin A include the deaths of more than 35,000 children.

To date, Danforth Center researchers and our partners in Africa have met or exceeded all targets:

- The levels of beta-carotene (Vitamin A) have been increased 30X, from 1 μg/g to 37 μg dry weight.
- The levels of iron have been increased 4X, from 11 μg/g to 42 μg /g dry weight.
- The level of proteins have been increased 4X, from 3% to 12% dry weight.

These increased levels reflect what is needed to furnish the minimum daily requirements for a child.

BioCassava Plus has won the confidence of national partners and regulators in Nigeria on its effort to combat nutritional deficiency. In March 2008, it became the first entity ever to be granted a permit to conduct a confined field trial (CFT) of a transgenic crop in Nigeria. BioCassava Plus currently has a field trial of pro-vitamin A enriched events in Nigeria.

VIRUS RESISTANT CASSAVA FOR AFRICA (VIRCA)

Cassava Mosaic Disease (CMD) and Cassava Brown Streak Disease (CBSD) represent the most serious threats to cassava production in sub-Saharan Africa. Each year, CMD is responsible for a minimum of 30% losses of the harvest and cassava brown streak disease has become an increasing threat in recent years. Currently brown streak is ravaging cassava crops along the East African coast and around Lake Victoria, threatening millions of east Africans who rely on cassava for food. The virus has been present on coastal farms for several decades but in 2004 a new virus emerged in Africa's interior (spread by the white fly) and there has been an explosive pandemic-style spread since then. Farmers are desperate.

The Virus Resistant Cassava for Africa (VIRCA) project represents a collaboration between the Danforth Center, the National Crops Resources Research Institute (NaCRRI) in Uganda and the Kenyan Agricultural Research Institute in Kenya to develop farmer-preferred cassava cultivars that are resistant to cassava virus diseases for delivery to African smallholder farmers thereby increasing root yields and food and economic security. Its second goal is to increase research ownership and capacity in the target countries. VIRCA is supported by funds contributed by USAID and the Monsanto Fund.

Danforth center scientists have experienced significant progress on several fronts on both of these projects. Most importantly, in establishing multiple confined field trials of our transgenic cassava in Puerto Rico, Uganda and Nigeria. We gathered encouraging data from the field further corroborating findings in the greenhouse. Eventually we hope to stack multiple beneficial traits in the same cassava plant through transgenic technologies.

Although much of the Center's biofortification efforts have been focused on cassava, there is also significant research underway to improve virus resistance in sweet potato, and to develop more nutritious, protein-enhanced peanut. Each of the programs has engaged research partners in Africa and active collaborations are ongoing.

CAPACITY BUILDING

Training scientists from the world's tropical regions in technologies of value to their agricultural systems is a central component of our mission. Through enhancing the physical infrastructure and increasing human capacity in country, our goal is to establish functional cassava biotechnology laboratories in Uganda, Kenya and Nigeria. Researchers from each of these countries continue to receive training at our facilities on the transgenic technologies required to improve cassava.

DELIVERING FOOD PRODUCTS TO SECURE LIFE AND PEACE

The Danforth Center is committed not only to developing the science and technology to come up with improved food products but has put together a professional team of experts from the private sector to deliver these products in a timely manner. Experts in property rights, biosafety, communication, field trials, and product management have been recruited in the recent years. In recognition of this commitment, in 2008 the Danforth Center was awarded a $5.4 million grant from the Bill & Melinda Gates Foundation as part of the Grand Challenges in Global Health initiative which seeks to identify and direct funds to the most critical scientific challenges in global health.

Funds were used to create and manage a BioSafety Resource Network (BRN) to support four project teams conducting research under Grand Challenge #9 (GC9) which focuses on the use of appropriate technologies to increase nutrients in local crops in a socially and culturally acceptable way. The goal of the BRN is to ensure that research projects address quality assurance, biosafety science and regulatory science requirements. The BRN is conducting a thorough, preliminary biosafety assessment of all traits intended to be expressed in the crops, formulating a regulatory strategy and work plan for each trait-crop combination, and providing support in the planning and implementation of confined field trials. The BRN is also overseeing the systematic transfer of experience and services through the GC9 projects to scientific personnel and institutions thus building local and regional regulatory infrastructure.

The Danforth Center will continue to play a pivotal role in developing and applying the most modern scientific and business thinking to the age-old problem of providing food, plant, fiber and energy products to the people of the world in ways that can be sustained for generations to come.

The impact of global food security will have implications for foreign and trade policies as well as peace. In the past several years it is estimated that more than 76 nations have experienced food riots.

Therefore, Mr. Chairman, we strongly recommend increased Congressional investment in basic agricultural research through the Agriculture and Food Research Initiative (AFRI) at the USDA's National Institute of Food and Agriculture (NIFA) and for USAID programs that enable biotechnology applications for food security crops as well as USAID home country missions that provide support for biosafety regulation.

Thank you.

Mr. CARNAHAN. And we will next go to Mr. Steiner.

STATEMENT OF MR. GERALD A. STEINER, EXECUTIVE VICE–PRESIDENT, SUSTAINABILITY AND CORPORATE AFFAIRS, MONSANTO CORPORATION

Mr. STEINER. Thank you. And good afternoon, Chairman Carnahan and members of the committee. Thank you for inviting me to testify on an exciting new initiative, Feed the Future. I am going to present a summary of my written testimony.

For us, Feed the Future is exciting because it recognizes the power of millions of farmers to meet the world's growing demand for food and fiber and fight poverty at the same time. Farming is diverse and it is local, and there is no single way to accomplish the goal described. There is no silver bullet that, if you do just one thing, we can meet this problem and fix it. I find in my travels around the world that farmers are often underestimated, and we really believe that farmers should have more and better choices so that they can select what they see as best.

Now, I grew up on a small Wisconsin dairy farm, and I really loved watching things grow. And, Chairman, I stacked many loads of hay myself and I understand the importance of stacking the foundation very firmly. Today, I love working for Monsanto. We are a company that develops some of the tools that helps farmers produce more on every acre, do it with less risk, and with a smaller environmental footprint. As a company, we are wholly focused on agriculture. It is our only business. That gives us great opportunity and it also gives us great responsibility, and we are committed to improving agriculture's ability to meet the demands that are placed on it by the growing population that has been talked about here and the environmental challenges.

This is an immense challenge, and no one can achieve it by themselves. We actively partner with other people including on-the-ground NGOs. Together, we believe we can build systems that begin with access to more choices and tools like improved seeds, fertilizer, extension, and have to end with a functioning market and a road to get the commerce there. In other words, these are exactly the type of systems that are envisioned in Feed the Future.

For Monsanto, doing our part means investing in cutting-edge innovation to develop better seeds, seeds that farmers can see for themselves and choose when they see that they make sense. Now, this private sector investment requires predictable science-based regulatory systems and reasonable laws to protect these kinds of new inventions. We have 400 people who live and work in Africa, and we are proud that our local business in a country like Malawi was able to contribute to the improvements in food security that they have made over the last 5 years, and we believe that these situations ultimately are addressed by having a strong local business sector, and that is crucial to accomplishing the mission. And sometimes a humanitarian action is also needed to get it started.

We are engaged in a variety of public and private partnerships around the world both in the market development side as well as accessing better seeds. One of the most significant on the accessing better seeds is a 2-year-old program called the Water Efficient

Maize for Africa, or WEMA. Its goal is to increase the drought tolerance of white maize in Africa where it is the key stable crop.

Now, to maximize the performance and deliver the best locally adapted drought tolerant seed for these farmers, we have donated access to our best locally adapted hybrid germplasm, new breeding tools that we developed for our commercial business, and biotechnology-based genes that we think are going to help in drought. Nothing is held back in meeting this challenge. We believe WEMA will result in seeds that perform just as well in good conditions but achieve 20 to 35 percent more yield when we have moderate droughts. And the yield protection provided by these seeds then makes it less risky for farmers to invest in fertilizer, meaning more farmers will use it and the entire local community will benefit from the increased production and increased consistency.

The design around WEMA follows the principles that are laid out in Feed the Future. It is led by a local organization in Africa, the African Agricultural Technology Foundation based in Kenya. It directly engages the five partner countries and their ag research systems. CIMMYT, which is the International Maize and Wheat Improvement Center and home of the late Dr. Norman Borlaug. And while these scientists are out there working in the field developing this product, they are also developing their capacity. In fact, there is a brand-new team of 60 scientists that are out there today that are up and operating. This new kind of unprecedented partnership makes excellent and efficient use of public resources, and I believe it is part of the future.

In closing, the beauty of helping with better seeds, whether they are conventional, hybrids, or biotech, is that they can be used by and benefit every farmer, from the woman in Burkina Faso, farming an acre with a hoe, to the Iowa farm family using GPS-guided tractors on thousands of acres. The promise of an improved seed is portable, it is scale neutral, and it is built in. Our focus is on what works in the field.

Feed the Future contains the seeds for real progress also in helping them meet some of these most pressing needs and greatest opportunities, and we stand ready as one of many partners to help it grow. Thank you.

[The prepared statement of Mr. Steiner follows:]

Testimony by Mr. Gerald Steiner
Executive Vice President, Sustainability and Corporate Affairs
Monsanto Company
House Committee on Foreign Affairs
Subcommittee on International Organizations, Human Rights and Oversight
Subcommittee on Africa and Global Health
"Oversight of the Feed the Future Initiative"
July 20, 2010

Good afternoon, Chairman Carnahan, Chairman Payne, Ranking Member Rohrabacher, Ranking Member Smith and Members of the Committees. Thank you for inviting me to testify today on a vital new initiative, Feed the Future, which provides a framework for addressing one of our planet's great needs, and great opportunities – the use of more productive and sustainable agricultural development to reduce hunger and poverty.

I work at Monsanto, a company 100 percent focused on agriculture. We are based in St. Louis, at the heart of America's most productive farmland, but our operations reach around the globe. I represent more than 21,000 men and women, and they feel as passionately as I do about providing improved seeds and agronomic practices to growers so they can feed and clothe a growing population, in an environmentally responsible way.

Our company has made a three-pronged commitment to improve sustainable agriculture: We will do our part to help farmers double yields in our core crops of corn, cotton and soybeans between 2000 and 2030, while producing each bushel or bale with one-third fewer resources in aggregate (such as land, water and energy). And, just as importantly, in so doing we will help farmers to earn more and improve the lives of their families and rural communities.

We made this commitment in recognition that we are privileged to work in an amazing industry – agriculture – that is at the heart of some of our planet's biggest challenges, ranging from hunger, malnutrition and rural poverty to land degradation, water scarcity and climate change. And, most importantly, we made our pledge knowing that we cannot achieve it alone. Our cornerstone strategy is to actively engage and seek collaboration from a wide range of partners in the public sector, private sector, academia and civil society.

That's why I am so excited by Feed the Future and its inclusive approach to making measurable and sustainable progress in agricultural development. Monsanto, as one partner among many, stands ready and willing to contribute to this initiative. We want to do our part to help achieve the Millennium Development Goal of halving the proportion of people suffering from hunger and poverty with urgency.

USAID Administrator Dr. Rajiv Shah, when introducing Feed the Future to the Chicago Council Symposium on Agriculture and Security in May, asked for private-sector input. "Tell us what

countries and donors can do to reduce constraints on business operations," he said. "And please explore with us whether our tools to encourage investment … would help you make the commitment to invest greater resources in these specific value chains and countries."

I'd like to take this opportunity to share our experience and perspective.

Encouraging Investment

Feed the Future is exciting not least because it recognizes both the business imperatives by which Monsanto and other companies must operate, and the contributions that we can make once those imperatives are met. We want to do good in the world, while we also do well for our shareowners. We believe both must happen to make this sustainable. Our acts of social responsibility have to be part and parcel of our core business goals, or they risk becoming wishful thinking that has to be cast aside in tough times, like many of us are facing today.

At Monsanto, we develop improved seed through advanced breeding as well as biotechnology. We work with others to build cropping systems that help farmers to produce more bountiful harvests on each acre, with plants that can protect themselves from many pests. We enable weed control with conservation tillage techniques that reduce soil erosion, water loss and carbon emissions. We also offer seeds that make fruit and vegetables easier to grow, and that make them more affordable and appealing to consumers' tastes, contributing to more diverse diets and improved nutrition.

Using these tools, American farmers reach unparalleled levels of productivity to feed and clothe more people with every acre. They are driving the U.S. economy, while helping to meet the demand for food, fuel and fiber that is increasing with global population and income levels.

The beauty of our technology – of a seed – is that it is portable and scale neutral. Cutting-edge science and technology is built into the seed itself, which can be planted by an African farmer using a hoe, or an American farmer using sophisticated machinery. The African farmer does not need to make a large capital investment to access the same benefits as her counterparts in developed countries. African farmers are growing hybrid or biotech seeds that yield more, resist disease and withstand environmental stress, making farming more rewarding and a little less risky. We are proud to provide these seeds to farmers in countries that welcome them, and we want to do more.

We want to help achieve global food security through the key determinants outlined by the Feed the Future program: Availability and access to food, reached through higher farm productivity, market development and equitable distribution; and utilization of food and stability by reducing farmers' risks so they can reliably produce greater yields, resulting in higher incomes for feeding

their families. These require systems approaches that begin with improved seeds, access to fertilizer and extension training, and end with functioning markets.

What we need in order to effectively contribute – as noted in the Feed the Future Guide and implied in Dr. Shah's question – are enabling business environments.

That includes policies that provide predictability, such as reliable, science-based regulatory systems, as well as laws that protect the fruits of our research and development and the ability to fairly compete in the marketplace. Monsanto has more than 5,000 men and women engaged in discovering and developing products that usually take a decade to reach the market. We need to know that when our sustained investment does result in innovations farmers want, it will be fairly rewarded. This means that farmers need to have access to new technologies and improved seeds, so they can gain experience using them and make informed choices as part of a functioning marketplace.

Functioning markets require farmer education, infrastructure and distribution mechanisms, along with a variety of local small- and medium-sized enterprises along the value chain. Most importantly, they require policy support and country-led prioritization of rural economic development.

I am encouraged by Feed the Future's endorsement of business-enabling policies, and by its support for public-private partnerships. As the initiative recognizes, the private sector can bring to the table financial and technology resources, cutting-edge business practices, market access and in-country networks to support development. But these are most valuable when coupled with the resources of non-governmental organizations and the public sector.

Monsanto is engaged in a variety of public-private partnerships in markets around the world. For the sake of our discussion, I'd like to focus on examples in two areas: research and development, and market building.

Partnering for Research and Development

One of our partnerships, Water Efficient Maize for Africa, or WEMA, embodies several of the principles found in Feed the Future.

WEMA was formed two years ago to increase the drought tolerance of white maize in Eastern Africa, where it is a staple crop, through a combination of breeding and biotechnology techniques. The project is led by an African organization, the Kenya-based African Agricultural Technology Foundation, with partners including Monsanto, the International Maize and Wheat Improvement Center (CIMMYT) and agricultural research systems in Kenya, Mozambique,

South Africa, Tanzania and Uganda. It is funded by the Bill and Melinda Gates and Howard G. Buffett Foundations.

It is a groundbreaking effort for Monsanto, because it involves donating a gem of our technology pipeline – drought tolerance – along with our know-how in accelerated plant breeding. It represents a commitment to providing technology for the developing world at nearly the same time as in our major commercial markets. And we estimate it could result in new white maize varieties that yield between 20 percent and 35 percent more during moderate drought, enough to help many keep hunger at bay. This yield enhancement during moderate drought is projected to be enough to reduce risks so that farmers can invest in fertilizer. The combined the use of improved seeds and fertilizer boost the harvest – and, therefore, farmers' incomes.

WEMA also is helping to build R&D capacity in sub-Saharan Africa by involving more than 60 African scientists, who will carry the knowledge they gain well beyond this project. It is leveraging the unique strengths of each partner to achieve milestones, and sharing best practices across organizations and countries.

Partnerships are seldom easy, and each player in WEMA brings a different approach and perspective. But we are learning to work effectively together by focusing on the desired outcome – delivering a valuable tool to help farmers produce a desperately needed crop. In the end, WEMA aims to bring farmers seeds that will help them cope with water scarcity and climate change, which disproportionately affect sub-Saharan Africa.

We are excited about WEMA's prospects, and we engaged in it because it leverages Monsanto's strengths. Yet we recognize that there are many more needs and opportunities to improve sustainable agriculture.

With that in mind, we launched a separate program aimed at training plant breeders in wheat and rice, two staple crops that have lagged in innovation and investment. Monsanto's Beachell-Borlaug International Scholars Program, a $10 million commitment, provides full support for doctoral students from around the world. All of the students must receive cutting-edge laboratory training as well as real field experience in a developing country.

This program has an open-ended goal of building global plant-breeding capacity, particularly for the public sector, to help rice and wheat farmers in the developing world produce more on every acre under cultivation. It unleashes the creativity and talent of a new generation of scientists who are committed to helping combat global hunger.

Partnering to Build Markets

Research is one end of the spectrum of our work. Delivering tools to farmers is the other. And we are equally focused on public-private partnerships that help farmers access and use agricultural technology to produce more abundant crops, while using fewer resources.

One of these is Project Sunshine, a partnership with the government of the Indian state of Gujarat and local NGOs, which has helped thousands of subsistence farmers to increase corn yields and break the cycle of poverty.

Corn is India's third-largest cereal crop and its fastest growing, playing an increasing role in food security. Yet corn farmers' productivity there is less than half of the global average of two metric tons per acre, largely due to the lack of planting higher-yielding hybrid seeds. Farmers toil but often don't reap enough to feed their families, let alone a surplus to sell.

Monsanto and Gujarat's Tribal Development Department set out to change that. We began in 2007 with a small pilot program that reached 3,400 farmers with free hybrid seeds, other inputs, intensive training plus crop insurance. In 2010, we reached nearly 146,000 farmers – and, through planning, policies and investment, created a nascent but sustainable market.

Farmers who planted hybrids doubled, or even tripled their corn yield – and, as a result, doubled or tripled their income. Those who accepted free seed and inputs in 2008 were able to purchase them at minimal cost the following year. By 2010, Project Sunshine generated additional farm income of $27 million, improving living standards and increasing spending power so that families can afford to educate their children. At the same time, it gradually builds these farmers' ability to purchase inputs on a sustainable basis. The market has attracted attention from various end-user companies in the starch and poultry industries, who are exploring investment opportunities in the area made possible by the more reliable, higher yielding corn crop.

This is an example of a project that encompasses a system solution, from training and farmer education to market building. The hybrid seeds that Monsanto contributes are an enabling tool, but not a silver bullet. This success would not have been possible without the policy support and leadership of the local government, and the grass-roots networks of NGOs. Each partner contributed its greatest strength to economic development.

On the Right Path

That brings me back to Dr. Shah's question: What can countries and donors do to reduce constraints on business operations, and to encourage investment? I say they can realize the vision outlined in Feed the Future, by following its bold framework for putting all of our resources to bear in combating poverty and hunger.

We can make a difference when we start with country-owned and country-led plans, with a focus on results and accountability. We can build on existing processes and partnerships to leverage best practices, while using our creativity and open minds to come together in new and unexpected ways. And we can always keep the best interests of farmers and families in mind, as we focus on using our tools for agricultural economic development that meets global demand and truly improves lives.

I am proud of the work that Monsanto is doing in this area, and we look forward to doing more.

Thank you, Chairman Carnahan, Chairman Payne, Ranking Member Rohrabacher, Ranking Member Smith and Members of the Committees for your time and attention today. I look forward to answering your questions.

Mr. CARNAHAN. Thank you. Dr. Herren.

STATEMENT OF HANS HERREN, PH.D., PRESIDENT, MILLENNIUM INSTITUTE

Mr. HERREN. Chairman Carnahan, members of the committee, it is a pleasure to be here today, and thanks for the invitation.

The Feed the Future Guide, I think, is a very forward-looking document, and again which demonstrates a strong will to move forward in terms of the global food security. I would have called this Nourish the Future rather than Feed the Future, because I think we have to think also of nutrition security and not only food security in the future.

The five principles by which this initiative will be implemented look interesting, and certainly but also need to be looked at a bit more closely. In particular, the issue of this country-owned plans, and I think in particular, the issue of how are the countries able to do the planning and confer and defend their own ideas later on. And I think that has been shown in the past to be a problem and I think also in the future, unless some steps are being taken to help countries with developing those plans, in particular with capacity building to get in that direction so they can do their own, make their own decisions and confer with plans which are acceptable.

The policy approach, which consists of sustainable agriculture and small-scale farmers, again, that is good, which is lined out, but I think it is falls short on some key issues which are the center of a new paradigm for sustainable agriculture. What has been outlined as the way forward again is more of the same, more seeds and fertilizer. And there is very little talk about actually looking at the system, because the problems in agriculture are systemic problems in agriculture and beyond agriculture, which I think have to be addressed. And they cannot be sold with the quick fixes as in the past we have done already.

And as the cochair of the International Assessment of Agricultural Knowledge, Science and Technology for Development, these are the book here, 2,000 pages total which have been written by 400 people is not even mentioned in the report. And here we have basically analyzed the last 50 years of agricultural knowledge, science, and technology and look 50 years forward. It is quite interesting that even though there are summary for decisions-making which are very small, some 20 pages to read, have not found their way into the initiative. Which, by the way, was funded by the United States for $250,000, had three government members writing on it, 56 U.S. authors were also part of this exercise. So it is a bit unfortunate that all the wisdom which has been accumulated there in particular looking at sustainable agriculture issues have not been taken into account.

We also make a point that the multi-functionality of agriculture is very important, and we have to look at agriculture in the environment where it is done, and it is very site specific so one size doesn't fit all at all. And I think that is something, when we look at science and technology how this could be helping, we have to be very careful that this is done actually locally rather than just in one place and transferred to another.

One issue also which doesn't appear and which relates to actually the issue of nutrition security is the issue of diversity. And, again, here I think the report doesn't address the issue of more diversified food plants which need to be grown and worked and developed, and I think that is something which cannot be done simply and needs to be done at the country level by the people, and because they are very dependent on the different environments.

And I think we know what works. There are many technologies developed already in Africa manage to push-pull, and you can look it up, or biocontrol which have saved the cassava crop. With $20 million, we save 200 men and people's livelihood and 20 million lives. I have done this myself, so I know what is going on and how we can change things in Africa. And it cannot be done with quick fixes. Again, I think we have to think about the system and see how we can work with the system rather than with just a silver bullet approach. It is a matter of price also to make sure that some of the solutions I think which can be implemented right now are already.

They could go with much less cost and time delay than to develop new varieties, when actually we know that what exists already can quadruple minimum or maybe more in a very sustainable way the production, agricultural production in Africa and farm productivity, rather than just more yield of a specific crop.

So I think that we do have solutions. We want to make sure that they get implemented rather than to look again for silver bullets. Thank you.

Mr. CARNAHAN. Thank you, Dr. Herren.

[The prepared statement of Mr. Herren follows:]

SUBCOMMITTEE JOINT HEARING NOTICE

COMMITTEE ON FOREIGN AFFAIRS

SUBCOMMITTEE ON INTERNATIONAL ORGANIZATIONS, HUMAN RIGHTS AND OVERSIGHT

and

SUBCOMMITTEE ON AFRICA AND GLOBAL HEALTH

Statement
Hans R Herren, PhD, President Millennium Institute

1. Feed The Future Guide

Feed the Future Guide (FTF) is a forward looking document, which demonstrate the will to move forward in terms of global food security.

The policy approach considers sustainable agriculture and small-scale farmers, but falls short on the key issues that are at the center of a new paradigm for sustainable agriculture: **multi-functionality**. The operating paradigm remains a productivistic one -- along the lines of "we must increase production to feed the world and that this can be done with "new science & technologies" breeding for increased yields under different stress conditions in particular. As evidence that the full impact of the present approach to food production has not yet been internalized is showcased in the FTF statement, "As food supplies increase [from our new technologies], prices to consumers will drop [and there will be less hunger]." All the evidence shows that there is a disconnect between these assumptions and that there is a need to reconsider totally the "more food - lower prices - less hunger" paradigm.

The summary text for FTF is quite vague as to what technologies will be employed to achieve this production gains and thus reduce hunger--and this of course makes all the difference. However, the very first sentence in the Implementation Guide under how to *improve productivity* (which itself is the first section under "*agriculture-led growth*") states: "Increase access to affordable agricultural inputs and improved techniques and technology, *including agricultural biotechnology*, high quality seed, livestock feed, fertilizer, and best management practices." To have the last cited component first, would indicate a true understanding of the problem, and a will to tackle the issue from ground up --so to speak, rather than using the old "more input" paradigm, which we have learned has serious limitations in time of climate change, water shortages and high energy prices . This is confirmed in the supporting document mentioning a drought-resistant maize project now underway as an example of what FTF would support — very likely the "WEMA" GMO maize project. To emphasize a reductionist approach over an agroecological one is shortsighted and bound to replicate the earlier mistakes of the green revolution. There are many great examples of highly productive and sustainable systems that could serve as example to be mainstreamed, but there is no indication that such approaches

will be considered, despite a very favorable cost-benefit and implementation time frame.

More revealing than what is said (or not said) in Feed the Future, is it is interpreted. According to USAID, FTF will "build on breakthroughs in science and technology," to be "delivered to" small-scale agricultural producers - which seems to belie the words about participation and recognizing local and Indigenous knowledge that appeared in the Summary document (the Country Investment Plans). There is no mention of agroecological farming or ecological agriculture and neither any of the IAASTD, the most comprehensive assessment of agricultural knowledge, science and technology published in the past couple of years, or actually anytime. There is no mention of addressing inequity in trade arrangements or within or between countries. Rather, the emphasis is on "agriculture-led growth" through "trade and other mechanisms," "seeking reductions in government controls on commodity prices," and "protecting intellectual property." The focus throughout is rather vaguely on building partnerships with everyone -- with the World Bank, IFAD, private sector, NGOs, etc. Special emphasis is given to investing in the WB's Global Ag & Food Security Program (GAFSP) which allows only minimal and carefully controlled inputs from civil society and which many see as the WB's way of funneling more investments towards transgenic, nanotech & other converging technologies.

Further, given the consistency with which the high level US food/ag/foreign aid policy leaders refer to biotech/GMOs and nanotech as the way forward, particularly when speaking about Feed the Future and global food security, while passing over the more salient and promising approaches to food security that are also mentioned in the FTF. Therefore the concern that the quick techno-fix approach still prevails in the FTF over the true "sustainable agriculture" paradigm as called for in the IAASTD report promoting the environmentally, socially, economically sustainable agriculture that is needed to assure food security in the long term and under the multiple challenges ahead.

2. The International Assessment of Agricultural Knowledge, Science and Technology for Development (IAASTD).

The objective of the International Assessment of **Agricultural Knowledge, Science and Technology for Development** (IAASTD) was to assess the impacts of past, present and future agricultural knowledge, science and technology on the:

- **reduction of hunger and poverty,**
- **improvement of rural livelihoods and human health, and**
- **equitable, socially, environmentally and economically sustainable development.**

The IAASTD was initiated in 2002 by the World Bank and the Food and Agriculture Organization of the United Nations (FAO) as a global consultative process to determine whether an international assessment of agricultural knowledge, science and technology was needed. Mr. Klaus Töepfer, Executive Director of the United Nations Environment Programme (UNEP) opened the first Intergovernmental Plenary (30 August-3 September 2004) in Nairobi, Kenya, during which participants initiated a detailed scoping, preparation, drafting and peer review process.

The reports draw on the work of over four hundred experts from all regions of the world who have participated in the preparation and peer review process. As has been customary in many such global assessments, success depended first and foremost on the dedication, enthusiasm and cooperation of these experts in many different but related disciplines. It is the synergy of these interrelated disciplines that permitted IAASTD to create a unique, interdisciplinary regional and global process.
The final Intergovernmental Plenary in Johannesburg, South Africa was opened on 7 April 2008 by Achim Steiner, Executive Director of UNEP. This Plenary saw the acceptance of the Reports and the approval of the Summaries for Decision Makers and the Executive Summary of the Synthesis Report by an overwhelming majority of governments.

The IAASTD report, **Agriculture at a Crossroads**, captures the complexity and diversity of agriculture and **a**gricultural **k**nowledge, **s**cience and **t**echnology (AKST) across world regions. It is built upon the Global and five Sub-Global reports that provide evidence for the integrated analysis of the main concerns necessary to achieve development and sustainability goals.

It addresses the primary animating question: how can AKST be used to reduce hunger and poverty, improve rural livelihoods, and facilitate equitable environmentally, socially, and economically sustainable development?

The report identifies current conditions, challenges and options for action that shape AKST and eight cross-cutting themes. These include: bioenergy, biotechnology, climate change, human health, natural resource management, trade and markets, traditional and local knowledge and community- based innovation, and women in agriculture.

The International Assessment of Agricultural Knowledge, Science and Technology for Development (IAASTD) responds to the widespread realization that despite significant scientific and technological achievements in our ability to increase agricultural productivity, we have been less attentive to some of the unintended social and environmental consequences of our achievements. We are now in a good position to reflect on these consequences and to outline various policy options to meet the challenges ahead, perhaps best characterized as the need for food and livelihood security under increasingly constrained environmental conditions from within and outside the realm of agriculture and globalized economic systems.

This widespread realization is linked directly to the goals of the IAASTD: how AKST can be used to reduce hunger and poverty, to improve rural livelihoods and to facilitate equitable environmentally, socially and economically sustainable development. Under the rubric of IAASTD, we recognize the importance of AKST to the multifunctionality of agriculture and the intersection with other local to global concerns, including loss of biodiversity and ecosystem services, climate change and water availability. The IAASTD is unique in the history of agricultural science assessments in that it assesses both formal science and technology (S&T) and local and traditional knowledge, addresses not only production and productivity, but also the multifunctionality of agriculture and recognizes that multiple perspectives exist on the role and nature of AKST.

For many years, agricultural science focused on delivering component technologies to increase

farm-level productivity where the market and institutional arrangements put in of new technologies. The general model has been to continuously innovate, reduce farm gate prices and externalize costs. This model drove the phenomenal achievements of AKST in industrial countries after World War II and the spread of the Green Revolution beginning in the 1960s. But, given the new challenges we confront today, there is increasing recognition within formal S&T organizations that the current AKST model requires revision. Business as usual is no longer an option. This leads to rethinking the role of AKST in achieving development and sustainability goals; one that seeks more intensive engagement across diverse worldviews and possibly contradictory approaches in ways that can inform and suggest strategies for actions enabling the multiple functions of agriculture.

In order to address the diverse needs and interests that shape human life, we need a shared approach to sustainability with local and cross-national collaboration. We cannot escape our predicament by simply continuing to rely on the aggregation of individual choices to achieve sustainable and equitable collective outcomes. Incentives are needed to influence the choices individuals make. Issues such as poverty and climate change also require collective agreements on concerted action and governance across scales that go beyond an appeal to individual benefit.

At the global, regional, national and local levels, decision makers must be acutely conscious of the fact that there are diverse challenges, multiple theoretical frameworks and development models and a wide range of options to meet development and sustainability goals. Our perception of the challenges and the choices we make at this juncture in history will determine how we protect our planet and secure our future.

Development and sustainability goals should be placed
in the context of
(1) current social and economic inequities and political uncertainties about war and conflicts;
(2) uncertainties about the ability to sustainably produce and access sufficient food;
(3) uncertainties about the future of world food prices;
(4) changes in the economics of fossil-based energy use;
(5) the emergence of new competitors for natural resources;
(1) increasing chronic diseases that are partially a consequence of poor nutrition and poor food quality as well as food safety; and
(2) changing environmental conditions and the growing awareness of human responsibility for the maintenance of global ecosystem services (provisioning, regulating, cultural and supporting).

Today there is a world of asymmetric development, unsustainable natural resource use, and continued rural and urban poverty. Generally the adverse consequences of global changes have the most significant effects on the poorest and most vulnerable, who historically have had limited entitlements and opportunities for growth.

The pace of formal technology generation and adoption has been highly uneven. Actors within North America and Europe (NAE) and emerging economies who have captured significant economies of scale through formal AKST will continue to dominate agricultural exports and

extended value chains. There is an urgent need to diversify and strengthen AKST, recognizing differences in agroecologies and social and cultural conditions. The need to retool AKST, to reduce poverty and provide improved livelihoods options for the rural poor, especially landless and peasant communities, urban, informal and migrant workers, is a major challenge.

There is an overarching concern in all regions regarding poverty alleviation and the livelihoods options available to poor people who are faced with intra- and inter-regional inequalities. There is recognition that the mounting crisis in food security is of a different complexity and potentially different magnitude than the one of the 1960s. The ability and willingness of different actors, including those in the state, civil society and private secter, to address fundamental questions of relationships among production, social and environmental systems is affected by contentious political and economic stances.

The acknowledgment of current challenges and the acceptance of options available for action require a long-term commitment from decision makers that is responsive to the specific needs of a wide range of stakeholders. A recognition that knowledge systems and human ingenuity in science, technology, practice and policy is needed to meet the challenges, opportunities and uncertainties ahead. This recognition will require a shift to nonhierarchical development models.

The main challenge of AKST is to increase the productivity of agriculture in a sustainable manner. AKST must address the needs of small-scale farms in diverse ecosystems and create realistic opportunities for their development where the potential for improved area productivity is low and where climate change may have its most adverse consequences.

The main challenges for AKST posed by multifunctional
agricultural systems include:
• How to improve social welfare and personal livelihoods in the rural sector and enhance multiplier effects of agriculture?
• How to empower marginalized stakeholders to sustain the diversity of agriculture and food systems, including their cultural dimensions?
• How to provide safe water, maintain biodiversity, sustain the natural resource base and minimize the adverse impacts of agricultural activities on people and the environment?
• How to maintain and enhance environmental and cultural services while increasing sustainable productivity and diversity of food, fiber and biofuel production?
• How to manage effectively the collaborative generation of knowledge among increasingly heterogeneous contributors and the flow of information among diverse public and private AKST organizational arrangements?
• How to link the outputs from marginalized, rain fed lands into local, national and global markets?

Options for Action:

Successfully meeting development and sustainability goals and responding to new priorities and changing circumstances would require a fundamental shift in AKST, including science, technology, policies, institutions, capacity development and investment. Such a shift would recognize and give increased importance to the multifunctionality of agriculture, accounting for

the complexity of agricultural systems within diverse social and ecological contexts. It would require new institutional and organizational arrangements to promote an integrated approach to the development and deployment of AKST. It would also recognize farming communities, farm households, and farmers as producers and managers of ecosystems.
This shift may call for changing the incentive systems for all actors along the value chain to internalize as many externalities as possible. In terms of development and sustainability goals, these policies and institutional changes should be directed primarily at those who have been served least by previous AKST approaches, i.e., resource-poor farmers, women and ethnic minorities.

Such development would depend also on the extent to which small-scale farmers can find gainful off-farm employment and help fuel general economic growth. Large and middle-size farmers continue to be important and high pay-off targets of AKST, especially in the area of sustainable land use and food systems.

It will be important to assess the potential environmental, health and social impacts of any technology, and to implement the appropriate regulatory frameworks. AKST can contribute to radically improving food security and enhancing the social and economic performance of agricultural systems as a basis for sustainable rural and community livelihoods and wider economic development. It can help to rehabilitate degraded land, reduce environmental and health risks associated with food production and consumption and sustainably increase production.

Success would require increased public and private investment in AKST, the development of supporting policies and institutions, revalorization of traditional and local knowledge, and an interdisciplinary, holistic and systems based approach to knowledge production and sharing.

Success also depends on the extent to which international developments and events drive the priority given to development and sustainability goals and the extent to which requisite funding and qualified staff are available.

Mr. CARNAHAN. Now I would like to recognize Ms. Nassuna.

STATEMENT OF MS. EVELYN NASSUNA, UGANDA COUNTRY DIRECTOR, LUTHERAN WORLD RELIEF

Ms. NASSUNA. Thank you, Mr. Chairman, and members of the respective subcommittees for this opportunity to speak about Lutheran World Relief's work with small-scale farmers in Uganda, as well as my initial thoughts on the impact that Feed the Future can have on that work.

Some of you are probably familiar with LWR, but many of you I suspect are not. So let me begin by telling you a bit about us.

LWR is a relief and development organization support by U.S. Lutherans, church bodies, private foundations, and a small number of government grants. We are also supported by some remarkable U.S. farmers who work with the Foods Resource Bank to use their farms to raise funds to support in farmers in developing countries.

In Uganda and around the world, LWR works through local NGOs and grassroots organizations to seek lasting solutions to rural poverty. Guided by a philosophy and framework of accompaniment, we seek to empower local communities by emphasizing shared values and jointly developed objectives. I have personally been blessed to offer LWR in Uganda since 2004.

One of the organizations I have had the privilege to work with in Uganda is LWR partner Gumutindo Coffee Cooperative Enterprise. A few years ago, the story of Gumutindo could easily have been a story of failure. In 2006, Gumutindo recorded a loss of $2,000. Coffee bean quality was low, production was weak, and farmer members lacked technical knowledge to produce hearty crops. LWR worked with the organization to put in place better financial systems and provide the resources to help train the farmers. Now, Gumutindo has become a booming cooperative. Its coffee beans are high quality, its production is efficient. Membership has grown to 10,000 farmers. And, in 2008, made a profit of $250,000. The very banks that refused to work with the cooperative in 2006 are now calling Gumutindo and offering loans.

But real success is not in numbers, it is in its members. Like Mrs. Masifa Bisaso. Mrs. Bisaso is a widow and a coffee farmer who once struggled to produce enough income from her coffee trees to feed her family. As a result of her own hard work and training from Gumutindo, Mrs. Bisaso has seen a remarkable transformation in her farming enterprise. She says her trees look better and she is commanding a higher price for her crop, but she is especially excited by high increased yield which is more than 30 percent larger than last season.

With her new income, Mrs. Bisaso is investing in a diversified diet for her family by purchasing a cow and two goats. She is also paying school fees for a granddaughter and saving to buy a pulping machine which will help further increase the value of her coffee beans.

In the Wakiso district, LWR works with a Ugandan NGO and a certified microfinance institution calls Voluntary Action for Development to provide access to credit, training, and technology for ten cooperatives of maize, bean, and mushroom farmers. Mrs. Namuli Kate is one of the farmers.

A subsistence farmer for the last 10 years, Mrs. Kate was struggling to provide food and education for her three children. With the help of VAD, she recently decided to focus on growing produce to provide income as well as food for her family. After being trained in new farming techniques, bookkeeping, and marketing, Mrs. Kate was able to take out a small loan to cultivate two acres of improved maize. After selling her crop to a local school, she was able to pay off part of her loan, send her children to school, and invest in a local poultry project.

With more than 1 billion suffering from hunger, the world can learn much from the experiences of Mrs. Bisaso, Mrs. Kate, Gumutindo, and VAD. Key lessons include the need to focus on small producers, empower women, strengthen organizations, and consult with the affected communities.

One of the things I didn't tell you in connection with the story of Mrs. Kate is that much of the food accessible in rural Africa is produced by farmers just like her. I have seen American farms, so I know that her two acre maize patch might not seem much to you, but you cannot overlook her or her maize patch if you want to help Uganda. What she does is a mainstay of our economy, and the primary source of our food. Working with small-scale producers to increase yields and create value-added products, two important components of Feed the Future, is the way forward for Uganda.

Feed the Future has also identified gender as one of its cross-cutting priorities, and I strongly with this strategy. Although women like the two I have told you about do most of the farming in Africa, they face significant disadvantages compared to men. Challenges include access to land ownership, education, and credit. So I look forward to seeing increased efforts to make agricultural inputs and extension services more accessible to women.

At the same time, I hope Feed the Future will be careful not to overlook the husbands, fathers, and brothers of these women. Before starting a new project to help women, it is also important to consult with the men to find out what it would take them to make them supportive of the project. When men are included in the process and see that what the women are doing is helpful to their communities, they will support progress instead of opposing it.

Another big challenge for Feed the Future will be to scale up work that is already proving successful. LWR, for example, has helped tens of thousands of Ugandan farmers, but there are more than 30 million people in our country, the majority of which derive all or part of their livelihood from agriculture. And helping rural communities is in a developing country is challenging. Each farm is different and each community is distinct. The only thing you can count on is the fact that the travel to reach them will be difficult.

Supporting organized groups of farmers is the key to scaling up successfully. Feed the Future is a new initiative, and so the impulse may be to start new groups and organizations, but I encourage you to focus on the groups that are already there. They may be poorly governed and have little bookkeeping or business knowledge, but as demonstrated by our work with Gumutindo, there is great potential to turn these groups into good development partners, with built-in community support, who can provide technical education, collective purchasing arrangements, collective credit ar-

rangements, savings opportunities for thousands of farmers at a time. But the most important lesson I can offer you from my work in Uganda is that Feed the Future must find a way to ensure that national governments in charge of developing country plans consult with the intended beneficiaries and their local civil society organizations. In Africa, this means more farmers with limited resources and little time to spare. Civil society organizations are equally stretched, and with many staff members holding two jobs to just make ends meet. But these people and organizations must be involved if country investment plans are to be effective, accepted, and incorporated broadly.

Governments must have the financial support and the incentive to consult with farmers. In most cases, they cannot do this by e-mail or even by phone. Government officials must meet in person with small farmers and civil society groups, and provide adequate time for meaningful consultation. Very literally, this means government officials making trips, or supporting the travel of small farmers and civil society groups to hold consultation. Something as simple as providing translation is easily overlooked and also critical to consultation success. But this too calls for financial support.

I trust these efforts will be made, but at the end of the day, Feed the Future must ensure that national governments fulfill their consultation requirements by refusing to push forward country plans that do not include the input of affected communities and local civil society.

My final thought on Feed the Future is simply that you should give this program the time and the support it needs to succeed while still remaining vigilant in your roles as overseers. In the agriculture sector, results are rarely immediate, and if they are, you may want to question them.

Mrs. Bisaso and Mrs. Kate did not improve their livelihoods overnight, and, to be honest, they still face challenges. But they have more stable access to food than ever, and their diets and those of their families continue to improve. This important progress came as a result of their own hard work and a little support from people in the United States. Your continued support for Feed the Future will ensure that many more lives are impacted. Thank you.

Mr. CARNAHAN. Thank you.

[The prepared statement of Ms. Nassuna follows:]

Testimony by Evelyn Nassuna
Uganda Country Director, Lutheran World Relief
Subcommittee on International Organizations, Human Rights and Oversight
Subcommittee on Africa and Global Health
U.S. House of Representatives Committee on Foreign Affairs
July 20, 2010

Thank you Mr. Chairmen and members of the respective subcommittees for this opportunity to speak about Lutheran World Relief's work with small-scale farmers in Uganda as well as my initial thoughts on the impact that Feed the Future can have on that work.

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Mrs. Bisaso and the Gumutindo Coffee Cooperative Enterprise

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Mrs. Namuli Kate and Voluntary Action for Development

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Feed the Future

With more than one billion suffering from hunger, the world can learn much from the experiences of Mrs. Bisaso, Mrs. Kate, Gumutindo and VAD.

Key lessons include the need to:

1. Focus on small producers;
2. Empower women;
3. Strengthen organizations; and
4. Consult with affected communities.

Focus on small producers

One of the things I didn't tell you in connection with the story of Mrs. Kate is that much of the food accessible in rural Africa is produced by farmers just like her. I've seen American farms, so I know that her two acre maize patch must not seem like much to

you. But you cannot overlook her — or her maize patch — if you want to help Uganda. What she does is a mainstay of our economy and the primary source of our food. Working with small-scale producers to increase yields and create value-added products, two important components of Feed the Future, is the way forward for Uganda.

Empower women and include men

Feed the Future has also identified "gender" as one of its cross-cutting priorities and I agree strongly with this strategy. Although women like the two I've told you about do most of the farming in Africa, they face significant disadvantages compared to men. Challenges include access to land ownership, education and credit. So I look forward to seeing increased efforts to make agricultural inputs and extension services more accessible for women.

At the same time, I hope Feed the Future will be careful not to overlook the husbands, fathers and brothers of these women. Before starting a new project to help women it is also important to consult with the men — to find out what it will take to make them supportive of the project. When men are included in the process and see that what the women are doing is helpful to their communities, they will support progress instead of opposing it.

Strengthen organizations

Another big challenge for Feed the Future will be to scale up work that is already proving successful. LWR, for example, has helped tens of thousands of Ugandan farmers, but there are more than 30 million people in our country, the majority of which derive all or part of their livelihood from agriculture.

And helping rural communities in a developing country is challenging. Each farm is different, and each community is distinct. The only thing you can count on is the fact that the travel to reach them will be difficult.

Supporting organized groups of farmers is the key to scaling up successfully. Feed the Future is a new initiative, and so, the impulse may be to start new groups and organizations. But, I encourage you to focus on the groups that are already there. They may be poorly governed and have little bookkeeping or business knowledge, but, as demonstrated by our work with Gumutindo, there is great potential to turn these groups into good development partners, with built-in community support, who can provide technical education, collective purchasing arrangements, collective credit arrangements and savings opportunities for thousands of farmers at a time.

Consult with affected communities

But the most important lesson I can offer you from my work in Uganda is that Feed the Future must find a way to ensure that the national governments in charge of developing country plans consult with the intended beneficiaries and their local civil society

organizations. In Africa, this means small farmers with limited resources and little time to spare. Civil society organizations are equally stretched, with many staff members holding two jobs just to make ends meet. But these people and organizations must be involved if country investment plans are to be effective, accepted and incorporated broadly.

Governments must have the financial support and the incentive to consult with farmers. In most cases, they cannot do this by email, or even phone. Government officials must meet in person with small farmers and civil society groups and provide adequate time for meaningful consultation. Very literally, this means government officials making trips, or supporting the travel of small farmers and civil society groups to hold consultations.

Something as simple as providing translation is easily overlooked and also critical to consultation success. But this too calls for financial support.

I trust these efforts will be made, but at the end of the day, Feed the Future must ensure that national governments fulfill their consultation requirements by refusing to push forward country plans that do not include the input of affected communities and local civil society.

My final thought on Feed the Future is simply that you should give this program the time and support it needs to succeed, while still remaining vigilant in your roles as overseers. In the agricultural sector, results are rarely immediate, and, if they are, you may want to question them.

Mrs. Bisaso and Mrs. Kate did not improve their families' livelihoods overnight, and, to be honest, they still face challenges. But they have more stable access to food than ever before, and their diets (and those of their families) continue to improve. This important progress came as a result of their own hard work and a little support from people in the United States. Your continued support for Feed the Future will ensure that many more lives are impacted.

Thank you.

Mr. CARNAHAN. Next, I would like to recognize Ms. Nasaire.

STATEMENT OF MS. JENNIFER SMITH NAZAIRE, COUNTRY REPRESENTATIVE, CATHOLIC RELIEF SERVICES—RWANDA

Ms. NAZAIRE. Good afternoon. I would like to thank Chairman Payne, Chairman Carnahan, Ranking Member Smith, and Ranking Member Rohrabacher for calling this important hearing on Feed the Future program. To the two chairmen, I would like to submit my official statement for the record, and I will be summarizing my statement for you here.

I am Jennifer Smith Nazaire, Catholic Relief Services country representative for Rwanda. CRS has had a presence in Rwanda since 1960, and we have worked since then in poor communities throughout the country and many other countries on agricultural production, food security, and nutrition initiatives. CRS has maintained a steadfast relationship with these communities and local partner organizations throughout the changes and development approaches over more than four decades.

During the 20 years of neglect of agriculture by major development donors, CRS used our limited private resources to continue to work with farmers and rural communities because we recognized the crucial role that agriculture plays in rural economic development and its direct link to reducing poverty and hunger.

CRS would like to emphasize that the purpose of Feed the Future Program should be to build food security for the poorest people in the poorest countries, and not just to increase food production through agribusiness or other large-scale schemes.

Governments must play a national leadership role, but do not always have the orientation and capacity to reach the poorest farmers in a comprehensive and effective way. To develop effective and representative responses, governments need to engage with local civil society and international NGOs about the best approaches for solving problems of food security.

CRS has a long proud history of partnering with the government of Rwanda and civil society organizations in agriculture, food security, and nutrition programming. Such programs have evolved significantly over 50 years from nationwide school feeding activities to complex and comprehensive nutrition and livelihood projects, reaching Rwanda's most vulnerable populations. Today's programming also includes value chain marketing initiatives involving strategic food commodities such as cassava, orange blush sweet potato, and coffee, to name a few.

Local operational NGOs are advancing food security development efforts in significant ways in all Feed the Future target countries. National investment strategies do not always reflect this. Local NGOs have developed programs and activities over many years that advance food security to fill a void caused by lack of attention by national governments.

On December 7 and 8, 2009, I was one of a number of NGO representatives invited to a 2-day country-led consultation process for Feed the Future in Kigali, hosted by the government of Rwanda. The meeting was part of the signing of a compact between the government of Rwanda and the African Union's Comprehensive Africa Agriculture Development Program, CAADP. As you know, Rwanda

was the first Feed the Future target country. There was minimal involvement of civil society and international NGOs in the meeting discussions. It was evident that the government of Rwanda and donors do recognize that we in the international NGO community are filling an important gap until necessary capacity has been built in government and civil society, but there were no specifics on how we, or even our local civil society partners, would be involved in the government's plan for agricultural transformation to improve food security.

As I come to the end of my testimony, on behalf of CRS I would like to offer four recommendations: First, the measure of success for Feed the Future should be how families grow more food, earn more income, and are better able to provide a healthy diet for themselves and their children.

Two, we need to ensure that national investment strategies have mechanisms within their budgets for funding civil society organizations to further the goals of Feed the Future.

Three, we would like to see governments formalize mechanisms for citizen participation. Establishing participatory budgeting or ombudsmen's offices to address citizen complaints can both empower citizens and provide governments with greater understanding of societal problems. These and other mechanisms for ensuring participation in country strategy development can also serve as a foundation for greater transparency and accountability.

Fourth, and lastly, U.S. Government representatives in Feed the Future target countries need to arrange regular meetings with civil society including international NGOs, local NGO partners, faith-based groups, and other pertinent members.

To both chairmen and ranking members, thank you for this opportunity to present testimony before the subcommittees. Feed the Future is an exciting departure from the past as it seeks to address the complexities of global hunger through a comprehensive approach that brings all stakeholders into the process. It is our conviction that civil society plays a key role in that process.

I would be pleased to answer any questions that you may have at this time. Thank you.

[The prepared statement of Ms. Nazaire follows:]

STATEMENT OF JENNIFER NAZAIRE
Rwanda Country Representative for Catholic Relief Services

SUBCOMMITTEE ON INTERNATIONAL ORGANIZATIONS, HUMAN RIGHTS AND OVERSIGHT

AND

SUBCOMMITTEE ON AFRICA AND GLOBAL HEALTH

UNITED STATES HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

July 20, 2010

I would like to thank Chairman Payne, Chairman Carnahan, Ranking Member Smith and Ranking Member Rohrabacher for calling this important hearing on the Feed the Future program. I know that we are in the process of reviewing the implementation process of the Administration's new global food security strategy. I am Jennifer Nazaire, Catholic Relief Services Country Representative for Rwanda. CRS has had a presence in Rwanda since 1960 and we have worked since then in poor communities throughout the country, and many others, on agricultural production, food security and nutrition initiatives. CRS has maintained steadfast relationships with these communities and local partner organizations throughout the changes in development approaches over more than four decades. During the 20 years of neglect of agriculture by major development donors, CRS used our limited private resources to continue work with farmers and rural communities because we recognized the crucial role that agriculture plays in rural economic development and its direct link to reducing poverty and hunger.

CRS would like to emphasize that the purpose of Feed the Future should be to build food security for the poorest people in the poorest countries, and not just to increase food production through agribusiness or other large-scale schemes. The measure of the success of the program should be how families grow more food, earn more income, and are able to provide a healthy diet for themselves and their children, and that the other factors needed for household food security are in place. Congress should ensure that Administration monitoring, evaluation and reporting focus on household level indicators for food security, and not just production.

In our experience, a focus on households and food security can only be accomplished when people are involved in defining their needs and the solutions that will work for them, including the adoption of new technologies. In Rwanda and elsewhere, international NGO's such as CRS help local NGOs, the Church, and civil society organizations to organize responses that are participatory, tailored, comprehensive and effective. We also help adapt new approaches to local conditions and make sure that their benefits are equitably available.

Governments must play a national leadership role, but do not always have the

orientation and capacity to reach the poorest farmers in a comprehensive way. To develop effective and representative responses governments need to engage with local civil society and international NGOs about the best approaches for solving problems of food security.

CRS has a long, proud history of partnering with the Government of Rwanda and civil society organizations in agriculture, food security and nutrition programming. CRS' agriculture, food security and nutrition programs have evolved significantly over 50 years, from nation-wide school feeding activities to complex and comprehensive nutrition and livelihoods projects reaching Rwanda's most vulnerable populations. Today's programming also includes value chain/marketing initiatives involving strategic food commodities such as cassava, orange fleshed sweet potato and coffee, to name a few.

CRS/Rwanda is widely recognized as an industry leader when it comes to reaching the poorest of the poor with agriculture, food security and nutrition interventions, particularly with respect to working with farmer groups, associations and cooperatives in meaningful, cost-effective ways. We are equally respected for our cutting edge use of technology in agriculture projects, such as our Great Lakes Cassava Initiative, which uses GIS mapping and field-level mini computers for cassava disease diagnostics and learning. We are also well known for our capacity to bring community-based nutritional care and support to persons living with or affected by HIV, including pregnant women and children, particularly orphans and vulnerable children. CRS/Rwanda also has significant supply chain management experience and a solid management culture that has produced tangible positive results across several decades. CRS integrates economic strengthening activities across our program sectors as we view economic capacity as a central link to food security and household-level integral human development. Finally, CRS is particularly well known for our partnership model and we pride ourselves on the duration and quality of our relationships with both the Government of Rwanda and civil society organizations, including Caritas. CRS has over 50 years' experience investing in capacity-building activities with our partners.

The Government of Rwanda's current agricultural sector strategy aims to increase rural incomes, enhance food security and convert agriculture into a viable sector by moving away from subsistence to market-based activities, CRS/Rwanda's programming model completely aligns with this strategy.

During my testimony today, I will discuss:

1) The important role of CRS and our Rwandan partners in agricultural development, food security and nutrition;

2) My observations on the involvement of civil society during the initial phase of Feed the Future's country-led approach in Rwanda; and finally,

3) Recommendations on how to better involve civil society in country investment plans and Feed the Future investment strategies.

CRS and Agriculture, Food Security and Nutrition

For over 35 years, CRS/Rwanda has partnered with the Government of Rwanda and various civil society partners, to implement large-scale food security, agriculture and nutrition projects.

Until the late 1980s, CRS implemented a large-scale nation-wide school feeding program. Also in the 1980s, CRS increased its focus on small enterprise development and agricultural production. In the early 1990s CRS provided USAID food aid and non-food items to respond to the needs of a population suffering increasingly from unrest in the northern part of the country.

In June 1994 through 1997, CRS initiated a response to the short-term emergency needs of a ravaged country torn by war and genocide. CRS distributed food and non-food items to thousands of displaced persons. CRS also initiated several agricultural rehabilitation programs to give returnees and internally displaced people the necessary seeds and tools to re-launch agricultural activities—the chief livelihood of rural Rwandans. Between 1997 and 2001, CRS programs moved from emergency aid to "transition" programming. Agriculture activities focused on lowland development and watershed management to increase household crop productivity for the most vulnerable. Microfinance efforts also began in this period.

At the turn of the millennium through 2005, the CRS program moved out of transition activities into more focused livelihood interventions and formally entered into key food security value chains, including bananas and cassava. CRS, through a USAID Title II Development Assistance Program (DAP), continued its lowland development and watershed management project, supporting landless farmers in the southern diocese of Butare, one of the poorest areas and most affected by the genocide, while also supporting HIV-affected households with food aid for the first time. With the end of agricultural activities in 2005, CRS won approval for a Title II Closeout Amendment, which lasted until September 2009. CRS increased support to the most vulnerable households, especially those affected by HIV. Support to these households included food aid, improved techniques in bio-intensive agriculture, nutritional education and participation in savings and internal lending communities.

In 2006-2007, CRS increased agricultural activities in Rwanda through implementation of a regional USAID-funded Crop Crises Control project (C3P), which focused on stemming the impact of cassava *mosaic* and banana wilt, diseases that threaten two of Rwanda's most important staples. The C3P was followed by the Great Lakes Cassava Initiative, supported by the Bill & Melinda Gates Foundation, currently in its third year to more robustly address the pathological threats to cassava and improve the quality of cassava crops. Improved cassava varieties that are resistant to cassava mosaic disease are

then distributed through on-farm vouchers to vulnerable households in CRS' other projects.

Civil Society Involvement in Feed the Future's Country-Led Approach

On December 7 and 8, 2009, I was one of a number of NGO representatives invited to a two-day country-led consultation process for Feed the Future in Kigali, hosted by the Government of Rwanda. The meeting focused on agricultural production and food security as part of the signing of a compact between the Government of Rwanda and the African Union's Comprehensive Africa Agriculture Development Program (CAADP). As you know, Rwanda was the first Feed the Future target country.

The meeting was interesting and very well done, with excellent presentations from the Rwandan Ministries of Agriculture and Finance about the role of agriculture in the economy and the Government of Rwanda's 10% budget commitment to agriculture. There were opening statements by the World Bank, the U.S. Government, and the African Union. The meeting focused on what the Government of Rwanda is currently doing in agriculture to achieve its goals, and officials presented the government's plan for agricultural transformation, the elements already funded and elements that still need funding.

Rwandan civil society was mentioned sporadically during the meeting and was acknowledged because of its close association with farmers. It was mentioned that Rwandan civil society had been consulted in developing the government agriculture and food security strategy, and that they are continually part of ongoing agriculture and food security working groups. However, there was minimal involvement of civil society and international NGOs in the meeting discussions. It was evident that the Government of Rwanda and donors *do* recognize that we in the international NGO community are filling an important gap until necessary capacity has been built in government and local civil society sectors. But there were no specifics on how we, or even our local civil society partners, would be involved in the government's plan for agricultural transformation to improve food security.

The only interactions I had with the U.S. Government delegation at this meeting was at coffee breaks, during which I approached them and introduced myself. I asked whether there could be an opportunity for INGOs to meet with some of the delegation outside of meeting hours, but there was no follow up. I also offered to arrange a visit to CRS agriculture activities for the day after the meeting ended, but the USAID mission instead organized a visit to a big agribusiness project they are supporting together with JICA and another donor.

We observe that USAID and other donors tend to see CRS and other INGOs as mostly focused on subsistence and safety net agriculture, and not as cutting edge leaders in integrated food security programming. However, , international NGOs are doing a significant amount of these types of programs, in addition to the important safety net and subsistence agriculture initiatives we have been doing for decades. We are also building

the capacity of local civil society to contribute more substantively and more accountably to improving food security and other sectors.

There is an important role for International NGOs as well as for local civil society in Rwanda's agriculture sector. International NGOs can and do play an important role in building capacity in local NGO partners so they can become better at implementing programs on the ground and also serve as an advocacy voice for the poor and marginalized. International NGOs can also voice concerns that local NGOs cannot through our relationships with national governments and the international donor community. Likewise, there is a key role for faith-based organizations in that we have deep links with both communities of faith in rural areas as well as in the global faith community. We believe it is important that this role not only be recognized by the national government and donor community, but also be utilized so that communities and local organizations can play their part in feeding the future.

How to Better Involve Civil Society in Feed the Future

Local civil society organizations provide a voice and a vehicle for action by the public. Their inclusion in meaningful ways in the consultation process can bring the public into policy making. Among local civil society organizations, there are advocacy groups, faith-based organizations and others that serve as watchdogs for local government policies and budgeting, improving transparency and accountability and representing people at the margins of society. There are also local operational NGOs in these countries, and these too can enhance accountability, while also implementing programs that advance food security.

Advocacy groups and other special interest organizations in the U.S. are mostly funded by citizens and private foundations, aided by U.S. tax laws that encourage charitable donations. These funding mechanisms barely exist in the developing world. This fact, coupled with the lack of a culture of philanthropy in many countries, means that local civil society organizations are operating with small resource bases. They lack needed personnel, travel and operating budgets, and the general capacity to be effective. General civil society organization capacity building and financial support needs to be addressed—funded and monitored, so that impact over time can be documented and replicated.

Local operational NGOs are advancing food security development efforts in significant ways in all Feed the Future target countries. National investment strategies do not reflect this. Local NGOs have developed programs and activities over many years that advance food security to fill a void caused by lack of attention by national governments.

It is important to point out that in the Feed the Future country-led approach, all stakeholders except local civil society are involved in technical assistance and financial transactions. The whole Feed the Future effort is about technical assistance, capacity building and policy change, all through funding commitments. Local civil society

organizations have been completely left out of this process, and yet they play a crucial role in ensuring success.

Recommendations:

CRS's perspective on Feed the Future is influenced by our holistic vision of human development, which Pope Benedict XVI recently articulated in terms of global hunger:

> *"The problem of food insecurity needs to be addressed within a long-term perspective, eliminating the structural causes that give rise to it and promoting the agricultural development of poorer countries. This can be done by investing in rural infrastructures, irrigation systems, transport, organization of markets, and in the development and dissemination of agricultural technology that can make the best use of the human, natural and socio-economic resources that are more readily available at the local level, while guaranteeing their sustainability over the long term as well. All this needs to be accomplished with the involvement of local communities in choices and decisions that affect the use of agricultural land. In this perspective, it could be useful to consider the new possibilities that are opening up through proper use of traditional as well as innovative farming techniques, always assuming that these have been judged, after sufficient testing, to be appropriate, respectful of the environment and attentive to the needs of the most deprived peoples." (#27)*
>
> *Caritas in Veritate*
> Benedict XVI
> June 29, 2009

Based on this vision, and our experience in Rwanda and around the world, we offer several recommendations:

- The measure of success for Feed the Future should be how families grow more food, earn more income, and are better able to provide a healthy diet for themselves and their children, and that the other factors needed for household food security are in place.

- We need to ensure that national investment strategies have mechanisms within their budgets for funding civil society organizations to further the goals of Feed the Future.

- We would also like to see governments formalize mechanisms for citizen participation. Establishing participatory budgeting or ombudsmen's offices to address citizen complaints can both empower citizens and provide governments with greater understanding of societal problems. These and other mechanisms for ensuring participation in country strategy development can also serve as a foundation for greater transparency and accountability.

We recognize that this may be difficult or even impossible to achieve in some countries at this moment.

- U.S. government representatives in Feed the Future target countries need to arrange regular meetings with civil society, including international NGOs, local NGO partners, faith-based groups and other pertinent members of civil society. These meetings should include discussion of the country investment plan and the extent of civil society participation in both decision making and implementation, with the goal of identifying best practices and mechanisms for scaling up successful efforts.

Mr. Chairman, thank you for this opportunity to present testimony before the Committee. As you continue your oversight of the Feed the Future initiative, we look forward to working with the Committee to continue to offer our observations and suggestions with hopes to help maximize the effectiveness of the Feed the Future initiative. Feed the Future is an exciting departure from the past as it seeks to address the complexities of global hunger through a comprehensive approach that brings all stakeholders into the process. It is our conviction that civil society plays a key role in that process. I would be pleased to answer any questions you may have.

Mr. CARNAHAN. Thank you, and thank all the panel.

We will begin with a round of questions here. I will kick this off with the first 5 minutes and really wanted to start with Dr. Danforth.

You had cited some great examples of the cassava project in terms of nutrition and resistance to disease that are impressive. Can lessons learned from that program be applied to other crops in Africa? And, if so, could you talk about that?

Mr. DANFORTH. Yes. We have most of our efforts on cassava as an African crop. We also work with other African crops such as sorghum and chickpeas and other things, but cassava has gotten most of our attention. What we think is that the scientific technologies that we use can be applied to other plants.

Other plants are not cassava. They have different problems. For example, we have been working on the cassava mosaic virus for many years, more than a decade. The work has gone very slowly, and it has taken a long time. We are finally in field testing, and it looks as if we have something very important.

When the new virus came along, because we are used to working with cassava and doing this, instead of a dozen years, it took us 3 years to get something into the field.

So these technologies can be used. You just can't take something from one plant and necessarily transplant it into another, but it can be done if you know how to do it.

Mr. CARNAHAN. Thank you, Dr, Danforth.

For others on the panel, perhaps Mr. Steiner and Dr. Herren, Nobel Prize winner Dr. Norman Borlaug strongly supported the use of both conventional and modern biotechnologies to develop crops needed for sustainability and for our growing population needs. I guess I wanted to get your comments on really trying to focus some of these debates that have gone on on sound science versus many philosophical arguments in terms of meeting these challenges and how we can really be sure we get the best science at the table during these efforts.

Mr. STEINER. Chairman Carnahan, I would start from the perspective of a farmer. The farmer can only plant one seed in that spot in the field, and the farmer wants something that is going to work and stand up to the challenges that nature is going to bring forward.

To the extent that we can solve these problems in a more simple manner with breeding, it is fantastic. We know there are certain things that are very, very difficult to do, such as getting plants to protect themselves against viruses of the kind Dr. Danforth talked about. Many of them we do with breeding. Or protect, for example, against insects. And it is very fortunate that we have been able to use the BT proteins, the same protein that organic gardeners use to control many pests and get plants to protects themselves.

So I think if we look at this from a farmer's perspective, they just want something that works and works really reliably here. And I believe we are going to have to use the best of both to really get a solution that is going to fit in many different places, and that solution will be unique.

Mr. CARNAHAN. Dr. Herren.

Mr. HERREN. I think we need to really look what has worked in the past, number one. I think there are biological control method against pathogens and insects, for example, that work very well. I think we have to dig up again and implement it. There is a lot to do there which doesn't cost the farmer anything and which actually takes care of the system.

Now any seed, as good as it may be, won't grow on this table here. And the program actually in Africa is that we have a huge ill gap. The ill gap between the varieties which exist and what they could be performing are at least fourfold, if not more.

Now where is the problem? The problem is therefore not in the seed. The problem is in the soil, soil fertility and water retention.

So we have to put sort of the tractor in front of the cart and not behind. I think we have to really think about first issues are soil fertility, how to improve it, and actually make agriculture as part of the climate change solution, not the problem. Right now, we are losing all our organic matter. So let's put it back into the soil, have soils which are really fertile and where presently available seeds can produce enough food to feed Africa and the rest of the world beyond 2050.

So I think we have to really stop to think about where are the problems and solve the problems and then to look at we have a solution here. Where can we use it?

Mr. CARNAHAN. Thank you. My time is up.

I will recognize Mr. Smith for 5 minutes.

Mr. SMITH. Thank you, Mr. Chairman, and thank you all for your testimony and for your leadership.

Let me just ask a couple of questions.

Jennifer Nazaire, I quoted some of your testimony during the previous panel. Several of my questions were aimed at providing these two subcommittees with very detailed accounts from the two ambassadors and from their office as to the criteria used for choosing the 20 countries. I know the four criteria, but when you really get down into the weeds, what was really done to ascertain that this country would be chosen over that country, and this is what we are going to do and how much we are going to spend. We need that kind of oversight information.

But I especially want to know in addition, how the civil society and the international nongovernmental organizations have integrated. I am sure we will get that information. I hope we will get it in a timely fashion.

There are several countries that Ambassador Garvelink has ticked off—and he did all 20 countries quite well, I thought—as being in phase two: Ghana, Mali, Rwanda, Senegal, Tanzania, and Uganda. He also mentioned Haiti—and Bangladesh.

Given that these countries are close to the launch phase, I am wondering what you have been seeing in the field with regard to inclusion of faith-based and international NGOs, civil society, and the private sector.

I know we learned bitter lessons from PEPFAR and from the Global Fund—because of the CCNs and the way they operated—that many faith-based and other NGOs that were indigenous to that country were left out. Especially in countries where there had been a history of corruption and perhaps an animosity toward the

church because it was the voice for human rights that called government officials on the carpet, faith-based organizations were excluded from the CCMs. I and others have forcefully asserted that faith-based NGOs are the key to Africa health. And I would think that, given the long history that CRS has had in Rwanda, for example, since 1960, you need to be included and in a robust way. So I am very concerned.

You mentioned that, as of that meeting, there was very little contact. Where is it now? Have they reached out to try to bring in Catholic Relief Services or Lutheran or any of the groups that provide tremendous information and insights and have a whole network that they can then work with on the ground?

Ms. NAZAIRE. Thank you for your question.

Yes, as I testified, I was invited and other international NGOs and civil society to this big meeting in November to launch the Feed the Future Initiative in Rwanda. We were very happy to be invited.

As I said in my testimony, the discussions were not very inclusive, I would say, of civil society. I would not say that is the fault of the U.S. Government, necessarily. I think there are many reasons for that. Perhaps there is a certain environment in Rwanda—and I can only speak for Rwanda. I don't know what the situation was in other countries.

In terms of inclusion of civil society, both international NGOs and local civil society, we feel very happy that we have been included in the consultations of the design of this program; and I want to make that very clear. We have collaborated very, very effectively, I think, and have been invited to participate in the design of this initiative.

There is that phase and then there is the implementation phase, which you are asking about. I think it is a slow process, implementation, and there are many phases, and we may not be aware of all the phases and what is going on. What I can say is that there have been limited meetings even since then, since November, that have involved civil society, both international and local civil society. So I am a bit concerned about that.

I think also there is the nature of discussion and participation. When those meetings with civil society are called, they basically look at plans that the national government and the donors have put together and then we are just being asked to check and say, yes, that looks good, or, no, this does not, or have we been active members in putting together those plans? I think that is what I am most concerned about.

Yes, 2 weeks ago, we were invited to a meeting at USAID in Kigali. We participated. We were the only international NGO that was invited, as far as I know. I don't think local civil society was invited.

Mr. SMITH. I would hope the administration would take your advice and the advice of others into consideration, unless you want to create a sidebar type program that would be inferior to what could be done overnight. And we did it with PEPFAR. That was under the Bush administration. My hope is that we don't replicate that error here.

Secondly, very quick to Mr. Steiner, we know Europe really does have a lot of heartburn over genetically modified organisms (GMOs); and, obviously, a lot of money coming into Africa and the target countries will be interfacing and working synergistically with European money, G–8 money and even G20 money. So my question is, given their hostility toward GMOs, what kind of balance can be worked out? I think GMOs are a way of ensuring the greatest possible feeding of the world, within some guidelines. But how does that work with country led plans when you have a competing interest in terms of what kind of seeds go into the ground?

Mr. STEINER. In a meeting that I was in a number of years ago, the expression was: When the elephant is dead, the grass gets trampled. That was what they had said. What I am heartened in what I am seeing is that more and more African countries are starting the process which will enable them to look at these technologies for themselves and make a decision for themselves.

A very good example is Burkina Faso, which over the last 6 years has been looking at insect-protected cotton, the same insect-protected cotton that is grown in this country and China and India and a whole number of other countries around the world. And they have moved forward and a third of the cotton crop was produced with the help of that technology, reducing the number of sprays from six to two.

So I think the power of example will move this debate. It will be choppy, given those factors.

Mr. SMITH. My time is up. Thank you.

Mr. CARNAHAN. Thank you.

Next, I want to recognize Chairman Payne for 5 minutes.

Mr. PAYNE. Thank you very much.

I really applaud this initiative and how the world has come in to support it. With 25,000 people dying every day due to hunger or related causes and 265 million people, nearly one-third of the continent's entire population suffering from hunger, I do know that we really can't keep spending a whole lot of money that we don't have. I think that our children and our grandchildren might forgive us for this $3 billion that we are talking about over the next 3 years, and maybe it will reduce some of the 25,000 people who die every day from malnutrition and its related diseases. You might—if you divide the number into the cost—you might find it is really not that much.

I guess the question is, how much is a human life worth? I don't know whether it is in the eyes of some where the life is. However, that is a debate for another day.

Mr. PAYNE. In Rwanda, you say that you have not been that involved. But how is food production in Rwanda better this year overall than it was last year or last year better than the previous year? I might just ask you: Is there success?

Ms. NAZAIRE. Yes, Chairman Payne. I am not an agriculturalist, so I can't give you have any statistics exactly, but I understand that agriculture production is definitely improving in Rwanda. The Government of Rwanda has made a commitment to agriculture. They know the great majority of the population depends on agriculture. They have put their money forth, and their investment plan includes their own monies in addition to monies that they are

receiving from development partners—or hoping to receive. So, yes, I think it is a success story so far in Rwanda.

Mr. PAYNE. And there are countries that are doing poorer, to say the least, and it may be that the expertise that you have, the fact that you have been there so long, may have had something to do with the fact that the government has kind of pulled itself together and are doing better. So I think it is not really a rejection of your group. But it might be that there could be next door in Burundi, where I don't hear very good stories happening, that you may put your resources there, and it might be better for them.

Let me just ask Mr. Steiner, there was a discussion about modified GMOs. If you could go back—a lot of times we say in retrospect that we go back and start all over again. Of course, you represent the companies. I want you to keep your job. However, do you feel that GMOs, the concept was introduced properly? Was it something that you knew, your company knew, other scientists knew, and you said, this is good enough? How can you reject this?

I mean, look at when you are dealing with people who may have a traditional way that they went about either—I have read some articles where even the United States, an old farmer—and I don't know how old Mr. Carnahan was when he was doing that hay on the wagon—but some of the newer farmers, whether there was a thorough explanation about what this thing is.

Mr. STEINER. I think that all of us, if we look backward and say there is nothing we have learned, we probably aren't looking very hard.

The first thing I would say is that, from a standpoint of farmers, farmers everywhere around the world, when they have had the opportunity to choose, have very quickly seen the benefits of these products, whether it be fewer pesticides, less tillage, reduced costs, increased yields. And that has been true very universally.

We, I believe, got caught up in being so excited about this technology. And the first couple of products—one of those I mentioned a minute ago was insect-protected cotton that Burkina Faso just took in place right here. And we thought that how could someone, including someone who cares deeply about the environment, not want to see fewer pesticides being applied to a cotton field? How could anyone fight that? And we really thought we would see a lot more embracing from those organizations, and I think we were blinded by our own enthusiasm on this.

So if we had a chance to do it all over again, I think we would engage in a different kind of communication and a two-way dialogue at the very early stages. And we know that, once you start, you can't do it all over again. You have to deal with what you have got. But from a standpoint of technology and farmers getting a chance to see this, this has been extremely successful.

Mr. CARNAHAN. I recognize Congresswoman Woolsey for 5 minutes.

Ms. WOOLSEY. Thank you, Mr. Chairman.

I have no new thoughts on this, but I have two major concerns. We listened to the government panel, and they were quite convincing about outreach and inclusion with affected communities. I think that is because they actually believe that they are doing it, and they are doing enough of it. So I think there is a gap. I think

there is a gap between their enthusiasm to get out and get going forward and what this panel, I heard, that will be glad for help, but I think the help would be much more effective if you included us in the planning, design, and implementation. So that—and I am going to ask for feedback on how you would do that.

The other concern I have, and that is for you, Dr. Herren, when you are feeding and bridging a gap of needing a lot more food for a lot more people, how are we going to put controls on the possibility of maybe too much of a good thing when it comes to better seeds and what is really a better seed versus a better way of growing?

I actually, Mr. Steiner, I represent Marin and Sonoma County just north of San Francisco. They have placards everywhere: No NGOs. Believe me, they are worried about this. So I think we have to worry. And there is a concern that we don't take advantage of a hungry nation or hungry nations by all of a sudden setting up systems where there will no longer be fertile seeds, et cetera, et cetera.

So, first, how about you, Ms. Nazaire, on bridging the gap with the inclusion?

Ms. NAZAIRE. Right. I believe that the administration is making serious efforts. I think there can always be more.

But, obviously, some of my concrete recommendations, I would go back to what I said in my testimony about regular meetings with civil society. As I mentioned, we were included in a meeting 2 weeks ago. It is the first meeting that we had been invited to on this initiative for 6 months. So I think I would emphasize that regularity. And I don't know exactly what that regularity is. I think it depends on how fast the process is moving.

I think that the other thing is advocating vis-à-vis the Government of Rwanda, for example, for more inclusion of civil society—local civil society and international civil society. I think that the government of Rwanda, for example, doesn't automatically think of us. They are in charge of their development agenda, and they want to be running the show. They do include us from time to time. But I think that the Government of the United States could advocate for us and the role that we could play more than they are.

Ms. WOOLSEY. How about Uganda, Ms. Nassuna?

Ms. NASSUNA. In Uganda, we would recommend that Government works with the farmers themselves. They should do this in a more decentralized manner. They should go down to the districts, work with the cooperatives, the organizations, the producer organizations that already exist, to provide them with the information that is needed, instead of waiting to invite a few people to go down to the center of the country that is the capital to kind of provide their input into a plan that has already been developed. And it is important that it is done at the time that is quite convenient to the farmers. Sometimes they hold these meetings when farmers cannot even afford to leave their gardens to go out for a meeting. And they should work with civil society because they have been doing this for a very long time and they know how to work it well.

Ms. WOOLSEY. Thank you.

Dr. Herren.

Mr. HERREN. Thank you for this question.

I think we need to realize that more food or more production doesn't mean less hunger or less poverty. Look at the green revolution. For all its benefit it has provided to grow more food, we have today, what, 1.3 billion people who are hungry and another 1.5 billion which are malnourished. Obviously, there is a problem with that approach which we need to rethink, and we have done so with 400 people for 4 years around the world.

And we cannot get—although breeding is necessary, that we need better seeds, even maybe by technology or genetic engineering, the problem really is elsewhere. And we need to deal in sequence.

So, first, we have to see where are the major constraints; and they are really actually in the farming systems, in growing, in plant health. And so we need to make the best use of what we already have of the research which has been done in the international agricultural research system, funded by the United States with a lot of money.

So there are a lot of solutions that are already available. Why are they not put in place? And I think we need to think about genetic engineering or GMOs. Where do they really fit?

And I think that if you ask yourself this question, you go out and look—I mean, I have 30 years experience on the ground in Africa, so I have seen it. I think the role they play is minimal at this time, because we know how to deal with the most urgent matter.

And, actually, the farmers, women in particular, what they need is information. They want to know how can I do things differently on a project. It is amazing how much information people want and can absorb.

But is it there? No. We need to prepare it to pass it on, and then they can do it.

They want to know how do we do compost; how can we grow sustainably; how can we do a biological control. Things they don't have to pay for but which can actually increase their income. So all these things are available. Now let's put it out there and let's move it.

Again, drought tolerance. There is a lot of drought tolerance in local varieties. Actually, some of the genes which are being taken out of local varieties in Tanzania and then replaced in other varieties. Maybe that is good. But, again, there are other solutions. We need a better soil which has organic matter to absorb the water, rather than to let it run off. We need to have complex systems where you produce a fertilizer in situ with legumes, with crop rotation. We don't just want maize and more and more maize. Because I think that is, first of all, not very good human food, certainly not in Africa where we have humongous problems with aflatoxins in corn.

So, again, I think the solutions—we have worked with this so much. I would wish that the initiative would actually go back and look at this tremendous amount of work here and say, okay, what can we implement right now? Where are the needs for more research?

Again, I think GM technology, more research is actually required. How do they fit into the system, into an integrated pest management system? So we don't have those answers yet. So let

research go on and implement what we know already which doesn't create any issues and long discussions.

Mr. CARNAHAN. Thank you.

I think we have time to do some quick second round of questions before we wrap up.

I just wanted to wrap up with a question with regard to the impact and the outreach to women. We will start with Ms. Nazaire talking about the outreach you have done. We heard comments earlier about the impact that women have in what we are doing in agriculture and in food quality and development. If you could touch on that.

Ms. NAZAIRE. Sure. Absolutely.

I agree with everyone who has talked about the vital role of women in agricultural production and also as caretakers of their family. In Africa, as it has already been stated, and certainly in Rwanda this is the case as well, a lot of the farmers—majority of farmers are women. The work that CRS does with our partners on the ground always works with groups of women who are in the majority in farmers' groups and in the cooperatives.

In our nutrition activities as well, the majority of the beneficiaries are women. We are working with them on improved nutrition practices, on growing food in their kitchen gardens that are more nutritious for their families.

So I would agree with everything that has been said and say that CRS is definitely working with women in agricultural production.

And, also, it hasn't been really discussed today, but savings and internal lending groups, micro credit, are vital for food security as well; and it is important that those kind of programs be folded in. It is not all about agricultural production. It is also, as some of my colleagues said, about nutrition and access to income.

Those groups, micro credit groups, are, by and large, women, 90 percent women. And payback rates, as you have all heard already, I am sure, are very high among women.

Mr. CARNAHAN. Thank you.

Ms. Nassuna.

Ms. NASSUNA. Of course, women do most of the work on the farms. They produce the food. But, unfortunately, they face a lot of challenges. Most of the women don't own the land on which they farm. They cannot access credit, and often when there is a training, it is the men that attend. That is why we are saying the consultations are very, very important to involve both men and women. Because when the men are not involved and we target only the women, then the men are not very supportive.

We have seen this in our work, especially like with the coffee cooperative that they talked about. We may do all the work on the coffee farms; and then, when the money comes in, it is the husband that controls the money or the brother or the uncle, depending on the male figurehead around. But when one of our partners came up with an initiative that would be called the "women coffee projects" and women were being paid more, then men were more supportive and giving women land to farm their own coffee to generate income.

So we are saying that when we are doing these consultations to target women, who are facing more challenges than their male

counterparts, it is very important to involve the men, because they are supportive of the projects that we support.

Mr. CARNAHAN. Thank you.

Dr. Danforth and Mr. Steiner, can you talk about the work that you have done in outreach to women as well?

Mr. DANFORTH. Yes. Our work is primarily with science and then carrying that into field tests. We, of course, have women in our organization and involved in the projects, in the field tests. We are reliant on our partners to say what their particular countries need, and we work in training scientists, both male scientists and women scientists. Because in the long run—and we hope in the very short run—scientific decisions for developing countries should be made by scientists in those developing countries.

May I make one other comment? I would just like to say that human beings have been improving agriculture for 12,000 years. They have been improving agriculture through making better seeds, through irrigation, through looking for better land. And that is going on today, and it will probably go on long after we have gone.

It has just been very, very interesting to hear these discussions. There is not going to be a single answer. I think, given the challenges in the world today, we want to encourage everything and stop nothing.

Mr. CARNAHAN. Mr. Steiner.

Mr. STEINER. For over a decade we have had an external advisory council, and two of the most influential persons of those councils over time have been women in Africa. But one of which led an underground NGO doing work similar to what Heifer International does and another who is a farmer herself. They have kept our feet to the fire of who we are really working with, and that predominantly is women.

The last point I think Dr. Danforth made about needing everything I think is really important. As a matter of fact, I disagree with very little about what has been talked about of what is needed. The point I think we really need to be conscious of is not thinking about this from the perspective that we need to direct the agricultural system.

I believe these farmers, predominantly these women farmers, are far more rational and effective decisionmakers than they are given credit for. Yes, they absolutely need more information, and essentially it is an important piece of this. But I believe in getting choices in front of these people. They will make good choices. That is one of the things I know we are personally committed to; and I hope Feed the Future does, also.

Mr. CARNAHAN. Thank you.

Mr. Smith.

Mr. SMITH. Just three quick questions.

The Millennium Challenge Corporation and the coordination, do you see any evidence that there is an understanding by the 20 targeted countries, particularly those with compacts, that they can, again, synergistically really enhance their situation if those are coordinated?

Secondly, what country or countries would each of you add to the 20? What was left off the list that cries out for inclusion?

And finally, how well coordinated are the other donor countries' contributions, as far as you know? Is there evidence that that money, particularly the new money, is being used? We know that some is just rearranged and repackaged. But there is some new money, I am sure, coming from several of those European and other donors. How well is that being used?

Mr. HERREN. I think what is important is to see how you can also work with—on a regional base. Because the international agricultural research and the regional agricultural may actually be places where, again, more support is needed to move the whole agenda forward. And also, like was mentioned, but also the Central African arrangement and also East Africa.

So I think there are regional organizations where it may be valuable to look into because then you sort of avoid the issue of country A or B, but I think you can channel a lot of information and know-how to the farmers in these places, too. So, again, maybe looking on a regional level.

Ms. NAZAIRE. Just very quickly for the three questions you asked. In terms of MCC coordination, I haven't really seen it myself so far. In Rwanda, I haven't heard it being talked about as much as Feed the Future. For other countries, I don't have any specific countries that I would say why was that country not included. I think there is a lack of information about why those particular 20 countries were chosen. I know a number of my colleagues' country representatives have been asking those questions.

In terms of other donor participation and coordination, my feeling is that the European donors are coordinating quite well with the U.S. Government. And I can't say more than that, really.

Mr. SMITH. On that second point, we will get, I believe, a very detailed analysis from the administration as to how they were picked, criteria, the whole thing. Because I believe, Mr. Chairmen, it is very important that we know how this process is being undertaken, and maybe we might have a few ideas that could enhance it, and perhaps you would, too.

Mr. DANFORTH. I was going to say, from the standpoint of making sure that the research is done in the United States in these areas, I have been amazed at the amount of information sharing and the amount of cooperation that goes into everything that we have been associated with. We have one in our environmental area where we have a single grant that has two national laboratories, 12 universities, and 15 private corporations all involved in one big project; and it is going fantastically well. That is what you can do with modern communication.

Ms. NAZAIRE. I forgot to mention, although I don't have any specific suggestions for additional countries that need to be targeted, we do feel it is very important, and I was very glad to hear the testimony from the previous panel, that part of the Feed the Future Initiative funding will be also going outside of those 20 target countries. As we have heard, the neglect of agriculture over a number of decades has really affected a lot of countries, and I think it is important that we not just put all of our eggs into those 20 countries.

Thank you.

Mr. CARNAHAN. Thank you.

Playing cleanup for today's hearing is Chairman Payne. He is going to get the last set of questions.

Mr. PAYNE. Thank you very much. Let me once again commend you for this very important hearing.

Dr. Danforth, you mentioned about moving forward and some of the countries that haven't had much of a program. Do you feel that the different countries are at different stages and that some very basic types of things could be done such as trying to control water during the rainy season or trying to have some other type of basic irrigation? What is your feeling on the sub-Saharan countries, the difference in the ability or the capability to move forward on this increasing agriculture?

Mr. DANFORTH. Mr. Chairman, I can't comment on all of those things, because I don't have any knowledge and experience. I can comment only on the areas in which I have experience, and I would say this.

There is a lot of difference in the African countries and countries in other continents in both their scientific knowledge, understanding, and the kind of governmental organizations they have to assess safety and to work with organizations that are trying to do bio safety. There is an enormous difference.

I would also say that we work with the countries that we feel we can work with that want us to work with them. We don't have the self-confidence to coordinate these different governments. We work with those that want to work with us. Fortunately, more and more seem to be wanting to do so.

The biotechnology that we use has been around for 14 years now, and there have been no problems with it, and people are getting more and more confidence. Other coordination, I can't really say with any expert knowledge.

Mr. PAYNE. Ms. Nassuna, we talked about women having an impact. We know that Miss Wangari Maathai, the Nobel Peace Prize winner, really showed how one person can really make a difference.

And I couldn't agree with you more that the women really are the ones that are the engine, and I couldn't agree more that I think you have to bring in the men to try to make them at least feel like they are partners to try to get the job done. I think that through our program—hopefully—we will try to stress that as we move forward to the various countries in Africa.

I just conclude again by mentioning examples of good ideas and enthusiasm. For example, there was a notion 3 or 4 years ago of something called AFRICOM, where the U.S. said we are going to run in the region, and this is how we are going to do it from now on as related to the presence of the U.S. military in African countries. Now they didn't really mean they were going to go and have the General in charge and USAID and State Department report to them, but it sounded that way. So every country rejected it except Liberia. They were just looking for anybody to come in. If they are going to buy some food, they are going to help our economy.

But it was just, I guess, a more current example of how something that is not introduced—something that is really good—and I am not so sure AFRICOM is as good as you say your GMOs are—receives the same kind of rejection, suspicion. Why now? Are they going to try to militarize our countries? Will we all have to report

to Generals? We have elections to get rid of Generals and now you have got AFRICOM. So perception, as you know, is so important. And so I know that, as you move forward. I think that the way you are going about it now, perhaps with education, with results, probably is certainly going to be more advantageous than the initial response.

Mr. Chairman, thank you very much for this very important hearing. I would congratulate you for telling the Speaker don't have any votes while I am having my hearing. I wish I could be that powerful.

Mr. CARNAHAN. I think it was luck.

Thanks to all of you on this panel.

Ms. NAZAIRE. I don't want to prolong the hearing, but I was wondering, even though Chairman Payne didn't address the question to me, if I could address the issue of countries at different stages.

I would just like to say that I do really feel that the different African countries especially, but I think all the countries, are at very different stages and abilities for moving forward and showing results from this program. All of them can go forward, but can they all show results? And I think that is what we are looking for.

I think some of the things we should be looking at are absorption capacity, the level of priority that the government gives to agriculture, their commitment that has been shown and proven in the past, stability of the country. If the country doesn't have stability, it is really hard to move forward on some of these areas. And then accountability and transparency has come up in this hearing a number of times, especially earlier.

So I would put that forward as well. I think that the administration has taken into consideration all of these things, and that is why you see the two phases. So I just wanted to appreciate that.

Mr. CARNAHAN. Thanks to all of you for bringing your expertise and your passion here to this issue and for our previous government panel that is kicking off this initiative.

Again, we have a very optimistic view of this, kicking off this new vision for development. It is not just about food. It is about security on so many levels. It is not just a U.S. initiative. It certainly is international in scope. We are very much going to be looking forward to getting the new coordinator in place to get the program up and running and to be sure that we are getting the most leverage and those results. That, I think, will tell a lot in terms of how this new program is really being rolled out.

Thank you all very much.

[Whereupon, at 3:53 p.m., the joint subcommittee hearing was adjourned.]

APPENDIX

Material Submitted for the Hearing Record

SUBCOMMITTEE JOINT HEARING NOTICE
COMMITTEE ON FOREIGN AFFAIRS
U.S. HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES
WASHINGTON, D.C. 20515-0128

SUBCOMMITTEE ON INTERNATIONAL ORGANIZATIONS, HUMAN RIGHTS AND OVERSIGHT
Russ Carnahan (D-MO), Chairman

and

SUBCOMMITTEE ON AFRICA AND GLOBAL HEALTH
Donald Payne (D-NJ), Chairman

July 19, 2010

TO: MEMBERS OF THE COMMITTEE ON FOREIGN AFFAIRS

You are respectfully requested to attend a OPEN, joint hearing of the Subcommittee on International Organizations, Human Rights and Oversight, and the Subcommittee on Africa and Global Health, to be held in **Room 2172 of the Rayburn House Office Building (and available live, via the WEBCAST link on the Committee website at http://www.hcfa.house.gov)**:

DATE: Tuesday, July 20, 2010

TIME: 1:00 p.m.

SUBJECT: Oversight of the Feed the Future Initiative

WITNESSES: **Panel I**
The Honorable Patricia Haslach
Deputy Coordinator for Diplomacy
Office of the Coordinator for the Global Hunger and Food Security Initiative
U.S. Department of State

The Honorable William Garvelink
Deputy Coordinator for Development
Office of the Coordinator for the Global Hunger and Food Security Initiative
U.S. Agency for International Development

Panel II
William H. Danforth, M.D.
Chairman, Board of Directors
Donald Danforth Plant Science Center

Mr. Gerald A. Steiner
Executive Vice-President, Sustainability and Corporate Affairs
Monsanto Corporation

Hans Herren, Ph.D.
President
Millennium Institute

Ms. Evelyn Nassuna
Uganda Country Director
Lutheran World Relief

Ms. Jennifer Smith Nazaire
Country Representative
Catholic Relief Services – Rwanda

By Direction of the Chairman

The Committee on Foreign Affairs seeks to make its facilities accessible to persons with disabilities. If you are in need of special accommodations, please call 202/225-5021 at least four business days in advance of the event, whenever practicable. Questions with regard to special accommodations in general (including availability of Committee materials in alternative formats and assistive listening devices) may be directed to the Committee.

COMMITTEE ON FOREIGN AFFAIRS

MINUTES OF SUBCOMMITTEE ON *IOHRO* **MEETING**

Day *Tuesday* **Date** *07/20/10* **Room** *2172 RHOB*

Starting Time *1:06 pm* **Ending Time** *3:51 pm*

Recesses [ ] (____ to ____)

Presiding Member(s) *Chairman Carnahan, Chairman Payne, RM Rohrabacher, RM C. Smith*

CHECK ALL OF THE FOLLOWING THAT APPLY:

Open Session [✓]
Executive (closed) Session [ ]
Televised [✓]

Electronically Recorded (taped) [✓]
Stenographic Record [✓]

TITLE OF HEARING or BILLS FOR MARKUP: *(Include bill number(s) and title(s) of legislation.)*

Oversight of the Feed the Future Initiative

SUBCOMMITTEE MEMBERS PRESENT:

Rep. Carnahan; Rep. Chris Smith; Rep. Payne; Rep. Rohrabacher; Rep. Woolsey; Rep. Watson

NON-SUBCOMMITTEE MEMBERS PRESENT: *(Mark with an * if they are not Members of HIRC.)*

HEARING WITNESSES: Same as meeting notice attached? Yes [✓] **No** [ ]
(If "no", please list below and include title, agency, department, or organization.)

STATEMENTS FOR THE RECORD: *(List any statements submitted for the record.)*

Ltr from African Biotech Stakeholder's forum; USG Feed the Future Guide; Women Thrive Worldwide stmt; Poe - Questions for the Record; Poe - Statement for the record; NYT article, Tuesday June 1, 2010, re: cassava plants

ACTIONS TAKEN DURING THE MARKUP: *(Attach copies of legislation and amendments.)*

RECORDED VOTES TAKEN (FOR MARKUP): *(Attach final vote tally sheet listing each member.)*

Subject	Yeas	Nays	Present	Not Voting

TIME SCHEDULED TO RECONVENE _____
or
TIME ADJOURNED *3:51 pm*

Subcommittee Staff Director

MATERIAL SUBMITTED FOR THE RECORD BY THE HONORABLE RUSS CARNAHAN, A REPRESENTATIVE IN CONGRESS FROM THE STATE OF MISSOURI, AND CHAIRMAN, SUBCOMMITTEE ON INTERNATIONAL ORGANIZATIONS, HUMAN RIGHTS AND OVERSIGHT

ABSF

AFRICAN BIOTECHNOLOGY STAKEHOLDERS FORUM

(For Enhanced Public Awareness of Biotechnology to Alleviate Hunger and Poverty)

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Friday, July 16, 2010

Dear US Policy Makers:

Norman Borlaug, Nobel Laureate and father of the Green Revolution once said, "Almost certainly, however, the first essential component of social justice is adequate food for all mankind." Today, as this esteemed group gathers to discuss the Feed the Future initiative, Dr. Borlaug's words should serve as a guiding principle for these discussions.

In Africa, my home, hunger and poverty are things that many people know all too well. It is estimated that more than 41 percent of people in sub-Saharan Africa live on less than $1 per day and 32 percent are undernourished. And in an area of the world where an estimated 60 percent of Africans rely on agriculture for their livelihood, four-fifths of whom are women, the rising specter of climate change and its impact on agricultural productivity make the challenge all the more daunting.

But just as the Green Revolution radically changed the plight of so many in Asia, an equal opportunity exists for science and agriculture to improve the lives of those in Africa and other areas of the world.

With the right training, tools and new technologies we know that farmers can make dramatic gains in productivity that feed not only themselves but their fellow countrymen as well. Examples of this already can be seen in Africa where farmers in Burkina Faso, Malawi, South Africa and other African nations have adopted the use of better hybrid seeds and agricultural technologies that have dramatically improved production in crops like corn and cotton.

I applaud this group for recognizing the important role that agriculture plays in improving lives. At the same time, I would encourage policy makers to aggressively seek ways to put technologies such as hybrid seeds and other advanced seed technologies already enjoyed in the developed world into the hands of African farmers.

Further still, existing knowledge must reach more farmers, new research must focus on Africa-specific solutions and progressive policies must support infrastructure and education programs to build capacity.
With the right knowledge and tools, I'm confident the farmers of Africa will have the foundation they need to begin to unleash agriculture's full potential for the continent.

Sincerely,

Prof. Norah K Olembo
Executive Director, ABSF

AFRICAN BIOTECHNOLOGY STAKEHOLDERS FORUM
Date: 16/7/2010
P. O. Box 66069
NAIROBI

Joint Hearing of the Subcommittee on International Organizations, Human Rights and Oversight, and the Subcommittee on Africa and Global Health
"Oversight of the Feed the Future Initiative"
7/20/10

Women Thrive Worldwide Written Statement

Women Thrive Worldwide congratulates the Administration for including gender as a cross cutting priority of its Feed the Future (FTF) initiative. The FTF guide is exemplary in offering a comprehensive, coordinated strategy to tackle global food security that incorporates the needs, contributions, and roles of both men and women. As FTF enters into its implementation phase, we encourage those involved with the oversight of the initiative to ensure that the impressive language on gender integration in the guide is implemented on the ground. Specifically:

- **Ensure that civil society consultation includes women's organizations and associations.** The guide promises to "implement consultation as a tool for gender integration, including increased access for organizations representing women's food security and agriculture interest ins consultations at all levels." As rural women often face barriers to consultative efforts given their distance from capital cities or lack of financial resources for travel, we encourage the Administration to carefully consider how to meaningfully include the perspectives of rural women in FTF consultations.

- **Craft clear benchmarks and gender and sex-disaggregated targets to ensure that program implementation will achieve desired goals.** The FTF guide commits to promoting monitoring and evaluation of gender impacts of FTF investments in order to track the impact of programs on both men and women. Gender indicators need to be developed, and baseline studies conducted, at the beginning of program implementation to ensure that the gender impacts of FTF investments are captured over time.

- **Improve and institutionalize USAID capacity and structures to integrate gender on the ground.** As USAID works to rebuild its human capacity in the field, it must ensure gender and agriculture specialists are hired. Additionally, all USAID staff, contractors, and NGO partners have gender expertise and are equipped with the proper training and tools to effectively implement and monitor gender sensitive programs. Regional experts should be identified in order to help sustain development efforts across areas. In addition, all USAID proposals should include language on how gender integration will be operationalized and monitored throughout the program duration.

We commend the progress that has already been made in addressing many of these issues, including the recent work to bring on gender specialists in the Office of the Coordinator of Global Food Security, and look forward to seeing more of the principles outlined in the FTF guide coming to life on the ground. We know that the integration and commitment to gender in the field will contribute to a more successful and sustainable effort to reduce global hunger and improve food security for families around the world.

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Representative Ted Poe

Statement for the Record

"Feed the Future Initiative"

July 20, 2010

Thank you Chairman Carnahan for holding this hearing. For over half a century, the United States has taken a lead in combating world hunger and poverty. We are a nation richly blessed and have worked to spread those blessings to those who are not as fortunate. But the problem of world hunger and poverty is still massive. In sub-Saharan Africa especially, agriculture has been plagued by low productivity and under-investment, making it difficult for Africans to feed themselves and earn an income from farming. The spike in food prices in 2008 jeopardized even more people in poor countries as the price of imported foods such as rice, wheat, and corn peaked. This, coupled with the global financial crisis, resulted in a devastating economic impact on poor families, who often spend at least half of their income on food. It is estimated that between 2008 and 2009 the number of hungry people around the world rose by 100 million more hungry people around the world, bringing the total number to approximately 1.02 billion.

If there is one thing we have learned over these past 50 years, it's that throwing money at the problem won't work. So I want to know more about what exactly led the Administration to request $1.64 billion for Feed the Future activities in FY2011. This is always an important question, but especially when our own nation's unemployment sits at 9.3%, including a loss of 125,000 jobs last month alone, and our national deficit stands at over $1 trillion for FY2010. So I'm looking forward to hearing your comments justifying a 40% increase in funding for this initiative.

I'm also concerned about how the Feed the Future Initiative will approach gender issues. One of the most impressive aspects of the Feed the Future Guide is that it includes gender integration as a cross-cutting theme for its implementation plans, striving for gender equality in its policies. However we've heard from USAID that in their staffing up of agriculture FSOs, gender specialists are not being hired. I'm curious from hearing from our witnesses exactly how USAID will assure that it has and maintains the capacity to incorporate gender in its programs in the field. I also would like to know how USAID will measure gender impacts of FTF investments over time and what USAID is doing to ensure that women's groups are consulted when designing country-specific strategies.

Thank you for testifying before our committee today and I look forward to hearing your responses to some of the issues I raised.

Questions for the Record Submitted to
USAID Deputy Coordinator for Development
of the Global Hunger and Food Security Initiative, William Garvelink by
Congressman Ted Poe
House Foreign Affairs Subcommittee on International Organizations
July 20, 2010

Question:

One of the most impressive aspects of the Feed the Future Guide is that it includes gender integration as a cross-cutting theme for its implementation plans, striving for gender equality in its policies. However we've heard from USAID that in their staffing up of agriculture FSOs, gender specialists are not being hired. I'm curious from hearing from our witnesses exactly how USAID will assure that it has and maintains the capacity to incorporate gender in its programs in the field.

Answer:

In addition to expertise on gender provided by the Office of Women in Development (WID) in the Bureau for Economic Growth, Agriculture and Trade, the Office of Agriculture has hired a gender specialist with extensive development expertise and field experience. Her job is to focus exclusively on gender integration in target FTF missions. Her start date is August 16, 2010. She, together with Africa Bureau's and other gender specialists, will provide extensive training to mission staff and implementers in the field and will monitor successful incorporation of gender in FTF country programs. An FTF gender working group, comprised of ten gender experts from across the Agency, is actively engaged in this process.

Further, all new Foreign Service Officers are required to take an introductory gender training course that emphasizes management of gender integration in procurement and programming during their career at USAID. In addition, several gender integration training programs are planned. A one-week agriculture core course, planned from December 13 to 17, 2010, will integrate gender in all of its technical training modules; Gender training for USAID mission staff, starting in East Africa this November, will further integrate these critically important skills into programming for Feed the Future. In addition, FTF missions are working closely with host-country governments to integrate gender in their Food Security Country Investment Plans.

Question:

What gender indicators is USAID going to use to measure gender impacts of FTF investments over time?

Answer:

Many of the FTF performance indicators are sex disaggregated and gender sensitive (as appropriate) to measure how women and men benefit from FTF programming. Missions will begin to set targets and collect baselines for these indicators in the next few months. The FTF will include indicators to monitor basic impact, process, output and outcome. When the indicators are finalized, we will share the complete list with Congress. The following examples of draft sex-disaggregated indicators will give you a sense of what is forthcoming: (1) Wage employment; (2) Number of jobs attributed to FTF implementation; (3) Adoption of new technologies or management practices; and (4) Farmers who adopted technologies targeted by USG assistance. Other draft indicators are gender specific. Examples of such are: (1) Percent of underweight women; and (2) Gender perceptions index: calculated based on responses to 6-8 survey questions on female control of resources, female role in asset purchases, female decision-making authority in cropping patterns, labor allocations, and child feeding.

Question:

What is USAID doing to ensure that women's groups are consulted when designing country-specific investments over time?

Answer:

Women are recognized and supported as key stakeholders in the Feed the Future initiative. As a cross-cutting priority, gender is integrated into all stages—including consultation, implementation, and monitoring and evaluation.

We will help partner countries and implementing partners strengthen their capacity to consider and address the negative impacts of unequal access to and control over assets that affect women involved in all stages of the agricultural value chain. By working through women's producer organizations, USAID is providing information and technical assistance to improve the capacity of the groups.

Over 914 women's organizations and associations have already benefitted directly in 2009 from USG assistance. These organizations include water user associations, trade and business associations and CBOs assisted, where women are the primary beneficiaries of the organization.

FEED THE FUTURE GUIDE: A Summary

The Global Commitment to Food Security

"The question is not whether we can end hunger, it's whether we will." —*Secretary of State Hillary Rodham Clinton*

Today, more than one billion people—nearly one-sixth of the world's population—suffer from chronic hunger. This crisis has devastating and far-reaching effects. Each year, more than 3.5 million children die from undernutrition. Hunger robs the poor of a healthy and productive life and stunts the mental and physical development of the next generation. Undernutrition costs developing countries up to 3 percent of their annual gross domestic product and places individuals at risk of losing more than 10 percent of their lifetime earning potential. Reducing chronic hunger is essential to building a foundation for development investments in health, education, and economic growth. It is essential to the sustainable development of individuals, communities, and nations.

The steep rise in global food prices in 2007 and 2008 served as an alarm bell to developed and developing countries alike about the state of the global food system and the growing problem of hunger. The economic and financial crisis added tens of millions more people to the ranks of the poor and hungry and further shook countries' confidence in the global economy. The international community responded to these shocks with increases in humanitarian assistance. At the same time, momentum began to build for renewed attention to addressing persistent poverty—the root cause of hunger and economic fragility.

At the G8 Summit in L'Aquila, Italy in July 2009, global leaders committed to "act with the scale and urgency needed to achieve sustainable global food security." Food security, they noted, is closely connected with economic growth and social progress as well as with political stability and peace. Global leaders recognized that the combined effect of longstanding underinvestment in agriculture and food security, historically high and volatile food prices, and the economic and financial crisis was increasing dramatically the number of poor and hungry and jeopardizing global progress toward meeting the Millennium Development Goals (MDGs).

"While the worlds of agriculture are vast, varied, and rapidly changing, with the right policies and supportive investments at local, national, and global levels, today's agriculture offers new opportunities to hundreds of millions of rural poor to move out of poverty." —*World Bank, World Development Report 2008*

While the challenges are significant, so are the tools for success. The global commitment and experience among a broad range of stakeholders provides the political momentum, evidence base, and resources needed to address the challenge. We have seen new market-oriented approaches to small-scale agriculture deliver results on a large scale—from the rapid rise

This document summarizes the *Feed the Future Guide* (available at www.feedthefuture.gov). The *Feed the Future Guide* describes the strategic approach and implementation structures of the U.S. global hunger and food security initiative. It is intended to inform partners and stakeholders about the development of FtF and how we translate our principles into action on the ground. The FtF Guide is a living document. As we continue to consult with our partners and learn lessons, we will update our guide to reflect the evolution of Feed the Future.

of smallholder dairy industries in India to applications of modern science that led to annual maize yield increases in African countries that were comparable with those in the United States. Unleashing the proven potential of small-scale agricultural producers, while encouraging the sustainable and equitable management of natural resources, will reduce hunger and create a more resilient global food supply.

Women will be a pivotal force behind achieving a food secure world. In most developing countries, they produce between 60 and 80 percent of the food. Analysis by the International Food and Policy Research Institute shows that equalizing women's access to agricultural inputs can increase output by more than 10 percent. Studies show that when gains in income are controlled by women, they are more likely to be spent on food and children's needs. By investing more in women, we amplify benefits across families and generations.

The U.S. Commitment to Feed The Future

... Our financial commitment

At L'Aquila, global leaders—including President Obama—called for increased investment in agriculture and rural development as a proven lever for combating food insecurity and as an engine for broader economic growth, prosperity, and stability. Feed the Future (FTF), the U.S. government's global hunger and food security initiative, renews our commitment to invest in sustainably reducing hunger and poverty. President Obama's pledge of at least $3.5 billion for agricultural development and food security over three years helped to leverage and align more than $18.5 billion from other donors in support of a common approach to achieve sustainable food security. This common approach builds upon the Paris Declaration on Aid Effectiveness and the Accra Agenda for Action—agreements that embody the international commitment to increase efforts in harmonization, alignment, and managing aid for results.

A family is considered food secure when its members do not live in hunger or fear of hunger. Food security is defined as having four main components: availability, access, utilization, and stability. Families and individuals require a reliable and consistent source of quality food, as well as sufficient resources to purchase it. People must also have the knowledge and basic sanitary conditions to choose, prepare, and distribute food in a way that results in good nutrition for all family members. Finally, the ability to access and utilize food must remain stable and sustained over time.

... Our principles

Our commitment is more than a financial commitment. Feed the Future is part of our determined strategic and analytical approach to accelerate progress toward the Millennium Development Goal of halving the proportion of people living in extreme poverty and suffering from hunger by 2015. FTF also reflects our tradition of innovation and entrepreneurship. We innovate by finding new ways to leverage science and technology, creating a focused vision, and encouraging new kinds of collaboration as we build flexible partnerships with a broad range of partners, including the private sector.

"We are a country whose strength comes from the diversity of the people who have shaped it. A country that believes that dedication and innovation are the only things needed to bridge the gap between the inconceivable and the achievable. And we have backed up that belief with breakthrough, time and again."

Administrator Rajiv Shah,
U.S. Agency for International Development

The 2009 G8 and G20 Summits established a common global framework for coordinated and comprehensive action to improve food security among governments, donors, civil society, the private sector, and other stakeholders at all levels—nationally, regionally, and globally. This framework is embodied in five principles, first articulated at L'Aquila and endorsed unanimously as the Rome Principles for Sustainable Food Security by 193 countries at the 2009 World Summit on Food Security.

Feed the Future is guided by the Rome Principles as we work alongside development partners to support country-owned processes through which countries develop and implement food security investment plans that reflect their needs, priorities, and development strategies. Country-owned plans

are the foundation for countries to mobilize resources and coordinate with development partners to accelerate their progress toward the Millennium Development Goals. As described in the Rome Principles, we commit to work in partnership to:

- *Invest in country owned plans that support results based programs and partnerships*, so that assistance is tailored to the needs of individual countries through consultative processes and plans that are developed and led by country governments

- *Strengthen strategic coordination* to mobilize and align the resources of the diverse partners and stakeholders—including the private sector and civil society—that are needed to achieve our common objectives

- *Ensure a comprehensive approach* that accelerates inclusive agricultural-led growth and improves nutrition, while also bridging humanitarian relief and sustainable development efforts

- *Leverage the benefits of multilateral institutions* so that priorities and approaches are aligned, investments are coordinated, and financial and technical assistance gaps are filled

- *Deliver on sustained and accountable commitments*, phasing-in investments responsibly to ensure returns, using benchmarks and targets to measure progress toward shared goals, and holding ourselves and other stakeholders publicly accountable for achieving results.

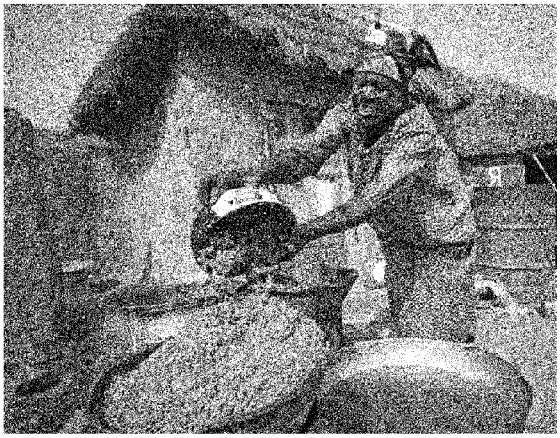
... Our commitment to development and diplomacy

The central importance we place on working in partnership with others in the global community means harnessing a range of resources across the U.S. government. Through diplomacy, we will work to sustain the political commitment to food security over the long-term. Food security must remain high on the agenda of global, regional, and national fora to catalyze the equitable poverty reduction necessary for sustained impact. Through our efforts, we will support policy reforms that create an enabling environment for private sector investment that drives gains and sustainability over the long-term. In all of our partnerships, we will work with others to ensure transparency and accountability to civil society, both at home and abroad.

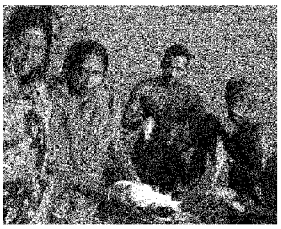
The Importance of Working...

... in countries

Sustainably reducing hunger and poverty begins with vulnerable countries. Host country governments—in consultation with donors, civil society, and the private sector—must decide their needs, priorities and development strategies for addressing the causes and consequences of food insecurity. Through Feed the Future, we align our government's investments with partner country priorities. At the country level, partners can engage in meaningful dialogue on a common framework for action, identify how resources align with strategic priorities, and determine how to address gaps and make adjustments.



Investing in strengthening partner country capacity to engage in results-based planning and robust stakeholder consultation is a key component of our approach. We will also encourage and participate in multi-stakeholder technical reviews of country-owned investment plans to provide common feedback on the steps needed to strengthen them. This coordination will provide broader opportunities to learn from the experiences of others and improve inclusivity,



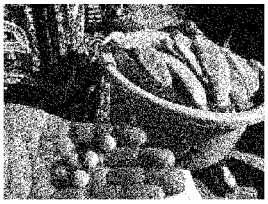
transparency, and accountability of stakeholders, including donors who participate in country-led processes.

... with multilateral institutions

Building on the Administration's commitment to multilateral engagement, we seek to leverage the strengths of multilateral organizations to build political momentum for sustained efforts to achieve food security. Multilateral institutions are not only important to mobilizing and coordinating donor country commitments, but to promoting global mutual accountability among donors, host governments, and other stakeholders. With their convening authority and technical expertise, multilateral institutions play a central role in efforts to enhance food security by providing emergency assistance, undertaking analysis and research, offering a platform for sector-wide investments in agriculture, and providing a significant portion of the external financing for investment projects and programs in developing countries.

Multilateral development banks and funds, such as the World Bank, the regional development banks, and the International Fund for Agricultural Development, have important advantages that complement bilateral programs. These institutions can leverage significant financial and technical resources, including support of country-owned plans; make multi-year funding commitments to provide host governments with certainty in their budget and planning processes; and undertake complex regional projects that require high levels of intergovernmental coordination such as regional transportation corridors that boost trade flows and reduce the costs and time to ship inputs and agricultural products.

To harness these advantages, G20 leaders at the 2009 Pittsburgh Summit called for a new, flexible multi-donor trust fund, the Global Agriculture and

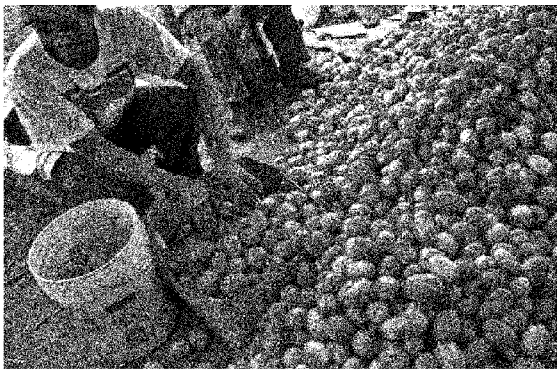


Food Security Program (GAFSP), to be administered by the World Bank and implemented by a number of multilateral institutions. With its founding contribution to GAFSP, the United States demonstrated its support for efforts to consolidate donor resources where a multilateral approach holds a comparative advantage because of economies of scale or donor capacity. GAFSP will also finance private sector activities to help catalyze investment along the agricultural value chain.

... and with NGOs and the private sector

While a country-led planning process is the central mechanism for coordination in our approach, country-led does not mean government only. Meaningful consultation with multiple stakeholders is critical to ensuring equitable growth and poverty reduction. Robust engagement helps strengthen the commitment of key actors, builds the foundation for long-term sustainability, promotes mutual accountability, and balances our support for country-led processes with our need to ensure the sound and strategic use of U.S. resources in promoting sustainable development for food security.

We seek to leverage and coordinate our resources and efforts with the full range of stakeholders interested in food security and agricultural growth. Non-governmental organizations (NGOs) and the private sector are particularly important for combating food insecurity and increasing the sustainability of our efforts.



NGOs often have close ties to local communities and are effective at ensuring that people who are very poor and vulnerable are consulted about and benefit from agricultural and nutritional programs. FTF will continue to partner and consult with NGOs as we move forward and refine our approach, embracing and deploying their expertise and seeking their technical assistance.

Public sector investments alone, while important, are not sufficient to reduce poverty and food insecurity. The private sector brings necessary financial and technical resources, human capital, market access, cutting-edge business practices, in-country networks, and other expertise related to food security. Our investments will help create enabling policy environments and the physical infrastructure that facilitates private sector investment by individual agricultural producers, small and medium enterprises, and larger businesses. By coordinating with the private sector and sharing risks in pursuit of food security, we will increase our collective effectiveness and impact.

Our Investments in Food Security

... Our goals and collective impact

One of the key elements of our approach is our strong commitment to coordinate and partner with developing countries, other donors, international institutions, and other development partners to achieve much greater results.

At the G8 and G20 Summits in 2009, donors committed to increase investment in agricultural development and to allocate resources for agricultural development and food security using a common set of principles, including strategic coordination. If the $22 billion pledged under this global initiative is invested in country-led, evidence-based strategies consistent with the Rome Principles, we can collectively raise incomes, improve nutrition, and enhance food security in at least four different ways.

- First, based on our preliminary analysis, the combined investments of this global effort focused directly on agricultural production in, for example, extension services, training, roads, and irrigation can increase the incomes of at least 40 million people, including 28 million people who are currently living on incomes of less than $2 per day, and 13 million people living in extreme poverty on less than $1.25 per day. These investments will result in direct benefits in the form of increased incomes for many years after the life of the specific projects in which we invest—a gain in income equivalent to an extra year's worth of income over ten years.

- Second, in addition to the direct producer level investments, this global effort will include significant increases in investments in research and development and its dissemination at the global, regional, and national levels. This research on production systems, development of new crop varieties, post-harvest value chains, risk and vulnerability reduction, and other areas will significantly increase productivity gains and income above and beyond the amounts described above. The returns from new research in agriculture are potentially quite large, especially when applied in conjunction with the direct investments in nutrition and agricultural production.

- Third, beyond those individuals and families whose incomes will grow directly, millions more will benefit indirectly from the producer level investments, increased market access, and new research as food supplies increase and prices to all consumers are lowered. These effects and a range of other indirect but measurable benefits—including increased technical and institutional capacity, favorable policy environments, and the expansion of recipient countries' own public and

private investments—will accelerate a process of sustainable, country-driven development, poverty reduction, and improved nutrition.

- Fourth, based on our preliminary analysis, our combined investments can reach 25 million children with a package of nutrition interventions that has been demonstrated to reduce child mortality, improve nutrition outcomes, and protect human capital. These interventions are projected to reduce the number of stunted children by nearly 10 million, and the number of underweight children by more than 4 million.

... Our FTF investments

Drawing on an international base of research and experience, we have developed a set of potential investments to guide us as we design investments in support of specific country-owned plans. Our investments will vary by country and will depend on the country's highest priorities and the investments of the country itself, as well as the investments of other donors and key actors. They will build on our existing successes, expertise and strengths, and be concentrated in strategic areas based on our comparative advantages. They will be designed in close coordination with governments and other development partners in order to maximize our collective impact on our goal of sustainably reducing poverty and hunger.

Our FTF investments will address the key determinants of food insecurity:

- *availability and access*, through investments in agricultural productivity, agribusiness and market development, and equitable distribution of and control over productive resources

- *utilization of food*, through a multifaceted approach to nutrition

- *stability*, through ensuring that effective mechanisms are in place to address chronic food insecurity.

We recognize that creating significant new economic opportunities for women and addressing environmental challenges are critical levers for accelerating growth and achieving a food secure world. Therefore, in all of our investments and activities, we will promote and foster a shared commitment to the goals and the fundamental principles set forth in our guidance on gender, environment, and climate change. We will do so through early, consistent, and constructive engagement with country counterparts and other stakeholders and through support for food security programs that help partner countries address our mutual environmental, social, and development priorities.

Where FTF is Investing

... in focus countries

To increase the impact of our investments, we will prioritize and concentrate our efforts and resources in focus countries where the Rome Principles can best be realized in practice. We will continue to provide assistance for agricultural development to some other countries where the overall political and investment environment may not be conducive for a major scale-up in investments, or where other donors are playing a major role in food security. In these countries, we commit to align our programs with our objectives and to invest according to the Rome Principles to the extent possible.

Based on the global burden of undernutrition and other factors that examined the prevalence and dynamics of poverty, country commitment, and opportunities for agriculture-led growth, the potential twenty focus countries are: Ethiopia, Ghana, Kenya, Liberia, Mali, Malawi, Mozambique, Rwanda, Senegal, Tanzania, Uganda, and Zambia in Africa; Bangladesh, Cambodia, Nepal, Tajikistan in Asia; and Guatemala, Haiti, Honduras,

and Nicaragua in Latin American. These countries experience chronic hunger and poverty in rural areas and are particularly vulnerable to food price shocks. At the same time, they currently demonstrate potential for rapid and sustainable agricultural-led growth, good governance, and opportunities for regional coordination through trade and other mechanisms. Our final selection of focus countries will also depend upon the timing and availability of FTF resources.

We expect to make our focus country investments in two phases to help ensure the sustainability and impact of our investments. In Phase I, significant FTF effort is devoted to *foundational investments*—providing technical, political, and financial support to assist a country in developing its food security investment plan. Foundational investments also consist of assisting countries in devising policy reforms and in building the capacity for successful implementation of the country-owned plan. Phase I investments also include *core investments*—investments in our two key objectives of inclusive agriculture sector growth and improved nutritional status. Foundational investments in Phase I are designed to lay the groundwork for an expansion of core investments in Phase II, helping to provide both donors and recipients with the assurance that our investments will be efficient, well-targeted, and mutually reinforcing.

To move to Phase II, a country must have a technically sound food security investment plan, as determined by a multi-stakeholder review panel. In addition, a country must provide evidence of coordination and consultation with key stakeholders and demonstrate commitment and capacity to address the challenges of food insecurity as indicated by follow through on its financial and policy commitments. When a country enters Phase II, it is eligible for larger-scale FTF investments in priority areas that are aligned with the country investment plan. In Phase II, we will invest in a greater proportion of core investments that result in scaled-up development impacts at the country and regional level, while continuing to build the foundation for sustainable and inclusive market-led growth.

... in complementary areas

In addition to our bilateral investments, we will also engage in complementary investments that are designed to support our efforts to combat hunger and poverty in our focus countries. These include:

- Investments in *regional programs* where focus countries are located, when significant challenges to food security require cooperation across national borders

- Investments in multilateral mechanisms such as the new World Bank-administered, multi-donor trust fund—*the Global Agriculture and Food Security Program (GAFSP)*—an important means to leverage the comparative advantage of multilateral development agencies in large-scale investments, such as infrastructure

- Investments in countries that are *strategic partners*, where FTF investments will benefit focus countries through technical, policy and other cooperation

- Investments in *global research and innovation* that build on new breakthroughs in science and technology, reverse the decline in investment in agricultural productivity, respond to key challenges such as global climate change and water scarcity, and strengthen institutions that deliver technologies to small-scale agricultural producers.

Our investments in agricultural research are particularly important because innovation drives the growth and resilience of the food supply of the future. When adapted to local needs and combined with other investments in agricultural development and nutrition, research-based innovations can address some of the fundamental constraints that give rise to food insecurity by

reducing production risks associated with pests, diseases, and weather patterns; increasing agricultural productivity and resource-use efficiency; contributing to market development; and enhancing food quality to assure a sufficient supply of nutrients to meet people's basic needs.

Accounting for Results

A robust system to measure progress and enhance accountability is central to improving aid effectiveness, as reflected in the Paris Declaration, the Accra Agenda and the Rome Principles. Donors and partner countries must set benchmarks and targets for investments—and be held publicly accountable to them. In addition to monitoring and evaluating our own investments, we support the development of common monitoring and evaluation systems at country, regional and multilateral levels to track the progress of our collective efforts toward the hunger and poverty MDG. Our evaluation strategy will focus our resources on informing future program design so that we learn from our experience and develop results that we can share with partner countries, stakeholders, and other development partners.

How FTF Fits Into Other USG Programs

Feed the Future builds on the U.S. government's continued and robust commitment to humanitarian assistance that helps alleviate the immediate impact of acute hunger. FTF complements our existing programs in agriculture and food security and the related work by international and financial institutions receiving funds from the U.S. government. We will elevate coordination within the U.S government to align our diverse resources and effectively partner with other stakeholders to leverage and harmonize our investments for the greatest collective impact. We see our role and that of other donors as catalyzing pro-poor economic growth through providing political, financial, and technical assistance. We envision a world where private investment drives sustainable growth, and where country and market-led development supplants foreign assistance.

Our Vision

Feed the Future pursues two paths: (1) addressing the root causes of hunger that limit the potential of millions of people; and (2) establishing a lasting foundation for change by aligning our resources with country-owned processes and sustained, multi-stakeholder partnerships. Through our leadership in this initiative, we advance global stability and prosperity by improving the most basic of human conditions—the need that families and individuals have for a reliable source of quality food and sufficient resources to access and purchase it. FTF and other U.S. government priorities—including global health and climate change—allow us to confront the growing challenges of global poverty, disease, water scarcity, climate change and depleting natural resources. By addressing these complex challenges and promoting our values, we protect our own security and lay the foundation for a more peaceful and prosperous future for all.

"...the United States is leading an effort to reach out to people around the world who are suffering, to provide them immediate assistance and to extend support for food security that will help them lift themselves out of poverty. All of us must join together in this effort, not just because it is right, but because by providing assistance to those countries most in need, we will provide new markets, we will drive the growth of the future that lifts all of us up."

President Barack Obama

a U.S. Government initiative

feedthefuture.gov

[NOTE: The entire May 2010 Feed the Future Guide is not reprinted here but is available in committee records or may be accessed via the Internet (accessed 10/25/10) at: www.feedthefuture.gov/FTF__Guide.pdf]

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