

GAFSP



global agriculture & food security program

HOW CAN FOOD AND AGRICULTURE REDUCE EXTREME POVERTY?

ANSWER: Growth in agriculture has been shown to be two to four times more effective at reducing extreme poverty than growth in any other sector, and more than 80 percent of food is produced by smallholders.



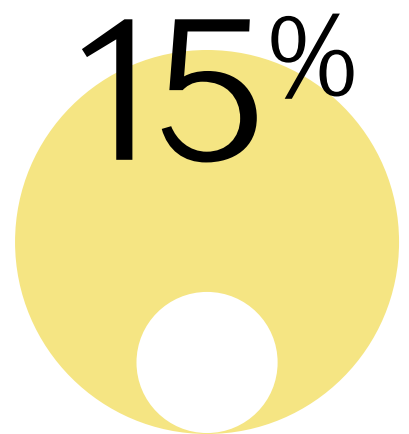
How does GAFSP help improve nutrition?

ANSWER: Through long-term investments in agriculture and in food and nutrition security, GAFSP is making **measurable progress**.

GAFSP is contributing directly to combat hunger and extreme poverty in countries with average rates of poverty at 40 percent (compared with 22 percent for all developing countries) and where the incidence of hunger is 27 percent.

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More than half of the GAFSP Public Sector Window projects include nutrition-related activities, totaling \$158 million (about 15 percent of funding from the Public Sector Window financing).



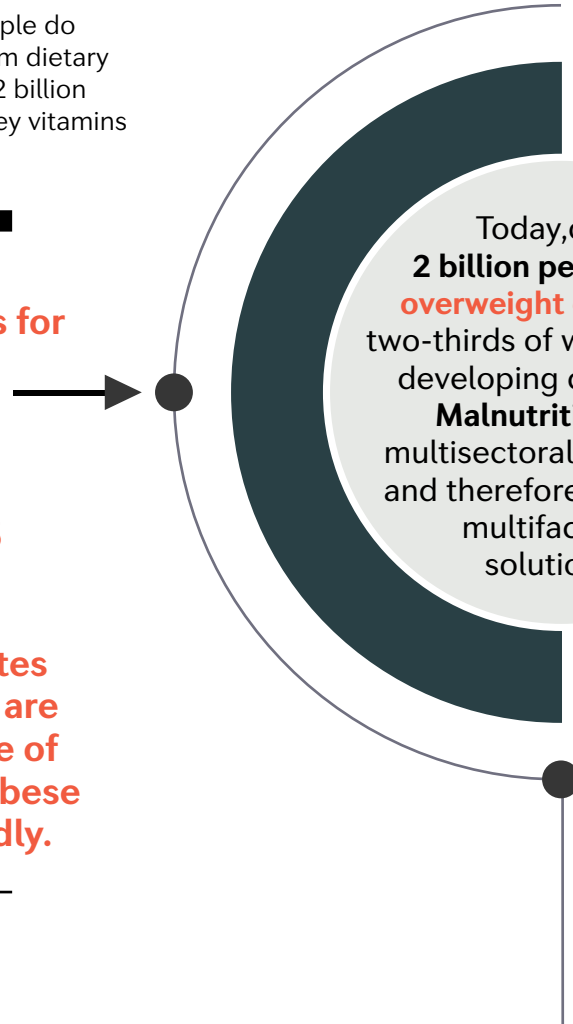
ENDING POVERTY AND HUNGER

IMPROVING FOOD AND NUTRITION SECURITY

The first two global goals commit the international community to ending poverty in all its forms everywhere (SDG1) and to ending hunger, achieving food security, improving nutrition, and promoting sustainable agriculture (SDG2). With a rapidly growing population, increased food demand, and a changing climate, achieving these goals is daunting, but possible, and rests on our ability to ensure a productive, resilient global food system.

Globally, 795 million people do not receive their minimum dietary energy needs, and over 2 billion people are deficient in key vitamins and minerals.

Undernutrition in children accounts for approximately 45 percent of all child deaths and contributes to the growth of 165 million children under five being stunted. While rates of undernutrition are declining, the rate of overweight and obese is increasing rapidly.



Today, over **2 billion people are overweight or obese**, two-thirds of whom live in developing countries. **Malnutrition** is a multisectoral challenge and therefore demands multifaceted solutions.

Growth in agriculture has been shown to be two to four times more effective at reducing extreme poverty than growth in any other sector,¹ and more than 80 percent of food is produced by smallholders. Agriculture also has an important role to play in improving nutrition by increasing access to nutritious and diverse foods through farming activities to increase women's discretionary income; the development and adoption of biofortified varieties like the orange flesh sweet potato and vitamin A-enriched maize; food fortification that adds micronutrients to processed foods like flour; crop diversification to foods with high nutrient content (such as horticulture, pulses, meat, dairy, and fish); decreased food losses and waste; and

increased nutrition education through agricultural extension and livelihoods projects, which can improve dietary variety in production and consumption.

Through long-term investments in agriculture and in food and nutrition security, GAFSP is making measurable progress—contributing directly to combat hunger and extreme poverty in countries with average rates of poverty at 40 percent (compared with 22 percent for all developing countries) and where the incidence of hunger is 27 percent.

More than half of the GAFSP Public Sector Window projects include nutrition-related activities, totaling \$158 million (about 15 percent of funding from the Public Sector Window financing). About two-thirds of the nutrition-related spending by GAFSP is on nutrition-sensitive agricultural activities, while about a third is for direct nutrition-specific activities, including the distribution of micronutrient supplements (such as folic acid and iron to pregnant women, women of reproductive age, and adolescent girls, or sprinkles for children), behavioral change campaigns, and improving home conditions (such as kitchen and latrines).



HOW DO WE MEASURE NUTRITIONAL IMPACT?

To date, GAFSP projects have used various indicators to capture the impact of nutrition-related activities. These include:

- Number and proportion of malnourished, as defined by underweight, stunting, wasting, and micronutrient deficiency, disaggregated by gender (Bangladesh and Kenya)
- Chronic malnutrition rate in children under five (Benin, Burundi, Mali, and Zambia)
- Delivery of nutrition, health awareness, and access to micronutrient-rich foods to pregnant and nursing women and to children (Benin, Bhutan, Cambodia, Kenya, the Kyrgyz Republic, Nepal, and Nicaragua)
- Improved food security and nutritional status of vulnerable groups and households measured by wasting prevalence (The Gambia)
- Food Consumption Score (Kyrgyz Republic and Mongolia)
- Dietary Diversity Score (Honduras, Nicaragua, Rwanda, Uganda, and Yemen).

The **Nepal** GAFSP project is working to enhance food and nutritional security of vulnerable communities by increasing food availability and the productivity of high-nutrient crops and livestock. The project commissioned a study to analyze the nutritive value—including moisture, ash, fat, protein, carbohydrate, crude fiber, energy, iron, phosphorus, and vitamin C content—of locally available foods. Based on the findings of this study, nutritious recipes from locally available underutilized food were developed and disseminated through the project, including for the preparation of weaning food for infants.



NEPAL



RWANDA

In **Rwanda**, the GAFSP project supports kitchen gardens to increase the availability of nutritious foods for self-consumption, the production of fruits and vegetables, seed multiplication for iron-enriched beans, and training about growing and consuming nutritious foods, especially by children. To date, 84 percent of households have an acceptable diversity of food consumption, and over 12,000 kitchen gardens have been constructed.

Going forward, GAFSP will measure progress toward food security by using the SDG2 indicator for hunger, the Food Insecurity Experience Scale (FIES), as well as the Food Consumption Score to track progress on improving dietary diversity of households, or for individuals the Minimum Dietary Diversity of women/young children where these are explicit nutrition-related objectives in GAFSP projects. GAFSP's strong monitoring and evaluation system, which is aligned to the SDGs, is leading efforts to implement the use of FIES in projects.

The GAFSP Private Sector Window

The GAFSP Private Sector Window also addresses the issue of chronic malnutrition and its negative impact on human capital development. In 2015 the Private Sector Window made an investment in Africa Improved Foods Limited (AIFL) to establish a nutritious food processing plant in Rwanda that will feed 700,000 malnourished children there each year. The AIFL project promises significant development impact—using maize and soybeans grown and sourced locally by Rwandan farmers, the processing plant will develop fortified blended foods for young children and their mothers, supporting the prevention and treatment of malnutrition in this vulnerable population. The project is part of a broader public-private partnership between the Clinton Health Access Initiative, the World Food Programme, the IFC, the government of Rwanda, GAFSP, and private sector actors. This project enables GAFSP to help malnourished children by giving them access to fortified nutrients that will allow them to reach their full potential. It also means that farmers in Rwanda can gain access to new market opportunities, higher-quality inputs, and better farm management practices.

¹ E. Ligon and e. Sadoulet. 2007. "Estimating the effects of aggregate agricultural growth on the distribution of expenditures." *Background paper for the World Development Report 2008: Agriculture for Development*. Washington, dc: world bank.

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- SDG2 indicator for hunger
- Food Insecurity Experience Scale (FIES)
- Food Consumption Score



About GAFSP

The Global Agriculture and Food Security Program (GAFSP) is a multilateral mechanism to assist in the implementation of pledges made by the G8++ at the L'Aquila Summit in July 2009 and set up in response to a request from the G20 in Pittsburgh in September 2009. Its objective is to address the underfunding of country and regional agriculture and food security strategic investment plans already being developed by countries in consultation with donors and other stakeholders at the country level.

GAFSP helps farmers to achieve substantial income gains, to be food-secure, and ultimately to be "market-ready" and share in the gains of local growth and development by

investing in a wide range of opportunities across five key components:

- raising agricultural productivity;
- linking farmers to markets;
- improving non-farm rural livelihoods;
- reducing risk and vulnerability;
- and providing technical assistance, institution building, and capacity development.

GAFSP is a funding mechanism that channels funds to stakeholders in different ways, adapted to their need: to countries through their governments, and to private sector enterprises and agribusiness through innovative financing packages. GAFSP is also testing ways to channel funds more

directly to farmer organizations with the support of partners, through its Missing Middle Initiative.

The decision-making body of GAFSP is its Steering Committee, which includes an equal number of donor countries and recipient representatives as voting members. Other stakeholders on the Committee include GAFSP's supervising entities (ADB, AfDB, FAO, IFAD, IFC, IDB, World Bank, and WFP), civil society organizations (from both North and South), and the Special Representative of the United Nations Secretary General.

www.gafspfund.org

