

114TH CONGRESS
1ST SESSION

H. R. 1567

To authorize a comprehensive, strategic approach for United States foreign assistance to developing countries to reduce global poverty and hunger, achieve food security and improved nutrition, promote inclusive, sustainable agricultural-led economic growth, improve nutritional outcomes, especially for women and children, build resilience among vulnerable populations, and for other purposes.

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

MARCH 24, 2015

Mr. SMITH of New Jersey (for himself, Ms. MCCOLLUM, Mr. ROYCE, Mr. ENGEL, Mr. FORTENBERRY, Ms. BASS, Mr. CRENSHAW, Ms. DELAURO, Mr. REICHERT, Mr. SMITH of Washington, Mr. PAULSEN, and Mr. CICILLINE) introduced the following bill; which was referred to the Committee on Foreign Affairs

A BILL

To authorize a comprehensive, strategic approach for United States foreign assistance to developing countries to reduce global poverty and hunger, achieve food security and improved nutrition, promote inclusive, sustainable agricultural-led economic growth, improve nutritional outcomes, especially for women and children, build resilience among vulnerable populations, and for other purposes.

1 *Be it enacted by the Senate and House of Representa-*
2 *tives of the United States of America in Congress assembled,*

1 **SECTION 1. SHORT TITLE.**

2 This Act may be cited as the “Global Food Security
3 Act of 2015”.

4 **SEC. 2. STATEMENT OF POLICY OBJECTIVES; SENSE OF**
5 **CONGRESS.**

6 (a) STATEMENT OF POLICY OBJECTIVES.—It is in
7 the national security interest of the United States to pro-
8 mote global food security, resilience, and nutrition, con-
9 sistent with national food security investment plans, which
10 is reinforced through programs, activities, and initiatives
11 that—

12 (1) accelerate inclusive, agricultural-led eco-
13 nomic growth that reduces global poverty, hunger,
14 and malnutrition, particularly among women and
15 children;

16 (2) increase the productivity, incomes, and live-
17 lihoods of small-scale producers, especially women,
18 by working across agricultural value chains and ex-
19 panding producer access to local and international
20 markets;

21 (3) build resilience to food shocks among vul-
22 nerable populations and households while reducing
23 reliance upon emergency food assistance;

24 (4) create an enabling environment for agricul-
25 tural growth and investment, including through the
26 promotion of secure and transparent property rights;

1 (5) improve the nutritional status of women
2 and children, with a focus on reducing child stunt-
3 ing, including through the promotion of highly nutri-
4 tious foods, diet diversification, and nutritional be-
5 haviors that improve maternal and child health;

6 (6) align with and leverage broader United
7 States strategies and investments in trade, economic
8 growth, science and technology, maternal and child
9 health, nutrition, and water, sanitation, and hygiene;

10 (7) continue to strengthen partnerships between
11 United States-based universities and institutions in
12 developing countries that build agricultural capacity;
13 and

14 (8) ensure the effective use of United States
15 taxpayer dollars to further these objectives.

16 (b) SENSE OF CONGRESS.—It is the sense of the
17 Congress that the President, in providing assistance to im-
18 plement the Global Food Security Strategy, should—

19 (1) coordinate, through a whole-of-government
20 approach, the efforts of relevant Federal depart-
21 ments and agencies to implement the Global Food
22 Security Strategy; and

23 (2) utilize, to the extent possible, open and
24 streamlined solicitations to allow for the participa-

1 tion of a wide range of implementing partners via
2 the most appropriate procurement mechanism.

3 **SEC. 3. DEFINITIONS.**

4 In this Act:

5 (1) **AGRICULTURE.**—The term “agriculture”
6 means crops, livestock, fisheries, and forestries.

7 (2) **APPROPRIATE CONGRESSIONAL COMMIT-**
8 **TEES.**—The term “appropriate congressional com-

9 mittees” means—

10 (A) the Committee on Foreign Relations of
11 the Senate;

12 (B) the Committee on Agriculture, Nutri-
13 tion, and Forestry of the Senate;

14 (C) the Committee on Appropriations of
15 the Senate;

16 (D) the Committee on Foreign Affairs of
17 the House of Representatives;

18 (E) the Committee on Agriculture of the
19 House of Representatives; and

20 (F) the Committee on Appropriations of
21 the House of Representatives.

22 (3) **FEED THE FUTURE INNOVATION LABS.**—
23 The term “Feed the Future Innovation Labs”
24 means research partnerships led by United States

1 universities that advance solutions to reduce global
2 hunger, poverty, and malnutrition.

3 (4) FOOD AND NUTRITION SECURITY.—The
4 term “food and nutrition security” means access to,
5 and availability, utilization, and stability of, suffi-
6 cient food to meet caloric and nutritional needs for
7 an active and healthy life.

8 (5) GLOBAL FOOD SECURITY STRATEGY.—The
9 term “Global Food Security Strategy” means the
10 strategy developed and implemented pursuant to sec-
11 tion 4(a).

12 (6) MALNUTRITION.—The term “malnutrition”
13 means poor nutritional status caused by nutritional
14 deficiency or excess.

15 (7) RELEVANT FEDERAL DEPARTMENTS AND
16 AGENCIES.—The term “relevant Federal depart-
17 ments and agencies” means the United States Agen-
18 cy for International Development, the Department of
19 Agriculture, the Department of Commerce, the De-
20 partment of State, the Department of the Treasury,
21 the Millennium Challenge Corporation, the Overseas
22 Private Investment Corporation, the Peace Corps,
23 the Office of the United States Trade Representa-
24 tive, the United States African Development Foun-
25 dation, the United States Geological Survey, and

1 any other department or agency specified by the
2 President for purposes of this section.

3 (8) RESILIENCE.—The term “resilience” means
4 the ability of people, households, communities, coun-
5 tries, and systems to mitigate, adapt to, and recover
6 from shocks and stresses to food security in a man-
7 ner that reduces chronic vulnerability and facilitates
8 inclusive growth.

9 (9) SMALL-SCALE PRODUCER.—The term
10 “small-scale producer” means farmers, pastoralists,
11 foresters, and fishers that have a low-asset base and
12 limited resources, including land, capital, skills and
13 labor, and, in the case of farmers, typically farm on
14 fewer than 5 hectares of land.

15 (10) SUSTAINABLE.—The term “sustainable”
16 means the ability of a target country, community,
17 partner, or beneficiary to maintain, over time, the
18 programs authorized and outcomes achieved pursu-
19 ant to this Act.

20 **SEC. 4. COMPREHENSIVE GLOBAL FOOD SECURITY STRAT-**
21 **EGY.**

22 (a) STRATEGY.—The President shall coordinate the
23 development and implementation of a United States
24 whole-of-government strategy to accomplish the policy ob-
25 jectives set forth in section 2(a), which shall—

1 (1) support and be aligned with country-owned
2 agriculture, nutrition, and food security policy and
3 investment plans developed with input from relevant
4 governmental and nongovernmental sectors within
5 partner countries and regional bodies, including rep-
6 resentatives of the private sector, agricultural pro-
7 ducers, including women and small-scale producers,
8 international and local civil society organizations,
9 faith-based organizations, research institutions, and
10 farmers as reasonable and appropriate;

11 (2) support inclusive agricultural value chain
12 development, with small-scale producers, especially
13 women, gaining greater access to the inputs, skills,
14 networking, bargaining power, financing, and mar-
15 ket linkages needed to sustain their long-term eco-
16 nomic prosperity;

17 (3) support improvement of the nutritional sta-
18 tus of women and children, particularly during the
19 critical first 1,000-day window until a child reaches
20 2 years of age, with a focus on reducing child stunt-
21 ing;

22 (4) support the long-term success of programs
23 by building the capacity of local organizations and
24 institutions;

1 (5) integrate resilience and nutrition strategies
2 into food security programs, such that chronically
3 vulnerable populations are better able to build safety
4 nets, secure livelihoods, access markets, and access
5 opportunities from longer-term economic growth;

6 (6) develop community and producer resiliency
7 to natural disasters, emergencies, and natural occur-
8 rences that adversely impact agricultural yield;

9 (7) harness science, technology, and innovation,
10 including the research conducted at Feed the Future
11 Innovation Labs, or any successor entities, through-
12 out the United States;

13 (8) integrate agricultural development activities
14 among food insecure populations living in proximity
15 to designated national parks or wildlife areas into
16 wildlife conservation efforts;

17 (9) leverage resources and expertise through
18 partnerships with the private sector, farm organiza-
19 tions, cooperatives, civil society, faith-based organi-
20 zations, research entities, and academic institutions;

21 (10) support collaboration, as appropriate, be-
22 tween United States universities and public and pri-
23 vate institutions in developing countries to promote
24 agricultural development and innovation;

1 (11) seek to ensure that target countries re-
2 spect and promote land tenure rights of local com-
3 munities, particularly those of women and small-
4 scale producers;

5 (12) set clear and transparent selection criteria
6 for target countries, regions, and intended bene-
7 ficiaries of assistance to implement the Global Food
8 Security Strategy;

9 (13) set specific and measurable goals, targets,
10 and time frames, and a plan of action consistent
11 with the policy objectives described in section 2(a);
12 and

13 (14) include criteria and methodology for grad-
14 uating countries from assistance provided to imple-
15 ment the Global Food Security Strategy as countries
16 meet the progress benchmarks identified pursuant to
17 section 6(b)(3).

18 (b) COORDINATION.—The President shall coordinate,
19 through a whole-of-government approach, the efforts of
20 relevant Federal departments and agencies in the imple-
21 mentation of the Global Food Security Strategy by—

22 (1) establishing monitoring and evaluation sys-
23 tems, coherence, and coordination across relevant
24 Federal departments and agencies; and

1 (2) establishing platforms for regular consulta-
2 tion and collaboration with key stakeholders, includ-
3 ing—

4 (A) multilateral institutions;

5 (B) private voluntary organizations;

6 (C) cooperatives;

7 (D) the private sector;

8 (E) local nongovernmental and civil society
9 organizations;

10 (F) faith-based organizations;

11 (G) congressional committees; and

12 (H) other stakeholders, as appropriate.

13 (c) STRATEGY SUBMISSION.—

14 (1) IN GENERAL.—Not later than October 1,
15 2016, the President shall submit to the appropriate
16 congressional committees the Global Food Security
17 Strategy required under this section that provides a
18 detailed description of how the United States in-
19 tends to advance the objectives set forth in section
20 2(a) and the agency-specific plans described in para-
21 graph (2).

22 (2) AGENCY-SPECIFIC PLANS.—The Global
23 Food Security Strategy shall include specific imple-
24 mentation plans from each relevant Federal depart-
25 ment and agency that describes—

1 (A) the anticipated contributions of the de-
2 partment or agency, including technical, finan-
3 cial, and in-kind contributions, to implement
4 the Global Food Security Strategy; and

5 (B) the efforts of the department or agen-
6 cy to ensure that the activities and programs
7 carried out pursuant to the strategy are de-
8 signed to achieve maximum impact and long-
9 term sustainability.

10 **SEC. 5. ASSISTANCE TO IMPLEMENT THE GLOBAL FOOD SE-**
11 **CURITY STRATEGY.**

12 (a) **FOOD SHORTAGES.**—The President is authorized
13 to carry out activities pursuant to section 103, section
14 103A, title XII of chapter 2 of part I, and chapter 4 of
15 part II of the Foreign Assistance Act of 1961 (22 U.S.C.
16 2151a, 2151a–1, 2220a et seq., and 2346 et seq.) to pre-
17 vent or address food shortages notwithstanding any other
18 provision of law.

19 (b) **MONITORING AND EVALUATION.**—The President
20 should seek to ensure that assistance to implement the
21 Global Food Security Strategy is provided under estab-
22 lished parameters for a rigorous accountability system to
23 monitor and evaluate progress and impact of the strategy,
24 including by reporting to the appropriate congressional
25 committees and the public on an annual basis.

1 (c) AUTHORIZATION OF APPROPRIATIONS.—There is
2 authorized to be appropriated to the President
3 \$1,000,600,000 for fiscal year 2016 to carry out the Glob-
4 al Food Security Strategy.

5 **SEC. 6. REPORT.**

6 (a) IN GENERAL.—Not later than 1 year after the
7 date of the submission of the strategy required under sec-
8 tion 4(c), the President shall submit to the appropriate
9 congressional committees a report that describes the sta-
10 tus of the implementation of the Global Food Security
11 Strategy.

12 (b) CONTENT.—The report required under subsection
13 (a) shall—

14 (1) contain a summary of the Global Food Se-
15 curity Strategy as an appendix;

16 (2) identify any substantial changes made in
17 the Global Food Security Strategy during the pre-
18 ceding calendar year;

19 (3) identify the indicators that will be used to
20 measure results, set benchmarks for progress over
21 time, and establish mechanisms for reporting results
22 in an open and transparent manner;

23 (4) describe the progress made in implementing
24 the Global Food Security Strategy;

1 (5) assess the progress and results of imple-
2 menting international food and nutrition security
3 programming;

4 (6) contain a transparent, open, and detailed
5 accounting of spending by relevant Federal depart-
6 ments and agencies to implement the Global Food
7 Security Strategy, including by listing all recipients
8 of funding or partner organizations and, to the ex-
9 tent possible, describing their activities;

10 (7) identify any United States legal or regu-
11 latory impediments that could obstruct the effective
12 implementation of the programming referred to in
13 paragraph (5);

14 (8) contain a clear gender analysis of program-
15 ming that includes established disaggregated gender
16 indicators to better analyze outcomes for food pro-
17 ductivity, income growth, equity in access to inputs,
18 jobs and markets, and nutrition;

19 (9) describe the strategies and benchmarks for
20 graduating target countries and monitoring any
21 graduated target countries;

22 (10) assess efforts to coordinate United States
23 international food security and nutrition programs,
24 activities, and initiatives with—

25 (A) other bilateral donors;

1 (B) international and multilateral organi-
2 zations;

3 (C) international financial institutions;

4 (D) host country governments;

5 (E) international and local private vol-
6 untary, nongovernmental, faith-based organiza-
7 tions, and civil society organizations; and

8 (F) other stakeholders;

9 (11) assess United States Government-facili-
10 tated private investment in related sectors and the
11 impact of private sector investment in target coun-
12 tries;

13 (12) include consultation with relevant United
14 States Government agencies in the preparation of
15 the report; and

16 (13) incorporate a plan for regularly reviewing
17 and updating strategies, partnerships, and programs
18 and sharing lessons learned with a wide range of
19 stakeholders.

20 (c) PUBLIC AVAILABILITY OF INFORMATION.—The
21 information referred to in subsection (b) shall be made
22 publicly accessible in a timely manner on a consolidated
23 website.

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