



PRESIDENTS UNITED TO SOLVE HUNGER

Presidents' Commitment to Food and Nutrition Security

We, the undersigned – presidents, chancellors, and leaders of universities – acknowledge hunger, malnutrition, and food insecurity to be the gravest of threats to a sustainable world. A lack of access to sufficient, nutritious food destabilizes countries, endangers national security, compromises individual and economic productivity, and robs our youngest generation of opportunities for a healthy, prosperous future.

Although the world as a whole has made dramatic progress against hunger and malnutrition in recent years, a shocking percentage in every nation of the world continues to struggle with food insecurity. Significant strides are still needed in areas such as agricultural productivity, nutrition assistance, public policy, and community empowerment, not only to improve the livelihoods of citizens locally, but to stay ahead of the hunger curve as the global population soars and climate change diminishes harvests. This is especially critical with the UN Food and Agriculture Organization (FAO) calling for a 70% increase in food production by 2050 to meet rising demands.

The UN Sustainable Development Goals, Feed the Future in the US, and other action plans have created a path forward and challenged all sectors to mobilize in this effort to feed the world. Historically, universities have addressed this issue through the work of researchers in agriculture, nutrition, and related disciplines.

With the personal and societal threats we face globally and in our own communities, now is the time to bring expertise from throughout the academy, to engage every discipline in finding sustainable solutions to hunger and malnutrition. Further, while some universities previously have made food security a strategic priority, working together we can exponentially increase our collective impact in teaching, research, outreach, and student engagement as we prepare the next generation to meet the grand challenge of ensuring food and nutrition security for everyone, everywhere.

Commitment Goals

Recognizing that each of the undersigned institutions is already engaged in critical work related to food insecurity and malnutrition, to bring collective action and new energy in seeking solutions to this global issue, we commit to the following goals:

- Build and strengthen a university food and nutrition security network by sharing information and best practices across institutions in teaching, research, outreach, and student engagement
- Develop a new generation of enlightened global citizens who will advance the social good through “disruptive” critical thinking, collaborative, multidisciplinary problem solving, and a fervent commitment to ending hunger
- Engage researchers across disciplines and institutions to develop and implement a comprehensive agenda for a Zero Hunger world
- Create public and political will to end hunger by collaborating with and disseminating relevant information and resources to our multi-sector partners and constituents in business, government, and civil society
- Empower students to meet the grand challenge of ending hunger through informed awareness, effective advocacy, and strategic action on their own campuses and collectively across campuses

The Presidents’ Commitment to Food and Nutrition Security is an outcome of the Inaugural Universities Fighting World Hunger Pre-summit Forum convened by the Hunger Solutions Institute at Auburn University and co-sponsored by FAO and the Association of Public and Land-grant Universities on February 27-28, 2014.

Signed,

President/Chancellor Signature

President/Chancellor Name

College or University

Date

**Please send the signed
commitment document to:**
hsi@auburn.edu

You can also fax to Dr. Susan Hubbard
at 334-844-3749, or mail to:

Dr. Susan Hubbard, Executive
Director Hunger Solutions Institute
210 Spidle Hall
Auburn, AL 36849-5601



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Presidents' Commitment to Food and Nutrition Security - Addendum

Action Guide

To accomplish the goals of the Presidents' Commitment to Food and Nutrition Security, campuses are encouraged to develop action plans. The following activities may be useful as a guide:

Inventory and Mapping

1. Inventory all academic, research, outreach, international, and student activities related to combating hunger, food insecurity, and malnutrition on our campus (Target Completion: 18 months)
2. Share inventory data and best practices on a voluntary basis with collaborating universities and multi-sector partners via a knowledge portal to identify strengths and gaps in hunger solutions (Target Completion: Ongoing)
3. Conduct a hunger assessment of our university, followed by an action plan directed toward achieving a zero hunger campus (Target Completion: 5 years)
4. Promote food and nutrition security as a strategic priority emanating from a comprehensive sustainability paradigm focused on human well-being and the social good (Target Completion: Immediate and Ongoing)

Teaching

(Choose at least 2 of 4 activities)

1. Ensure that students on our campus have access to courses and/or programs focused on the study of hunger/food insecurity and malnutrition (resident and/or distance instruction) (Target Completion: 3 years & Ongoing)
2. Provide students with diverse in-country opportunities and/or study abroad, especially in the developing world, to strengthen their experiential knowledge of food insecurity (Target Completion: 2 years & Ongoing)
3. Partner with institutions of higher learning in developing nations to build capacity around food and nutrition security (Target Completion: Ongoing)
4. Facilitate faculty and student development through professional externships, sabbaticals, fellowships, internships, and other practicum experiences (Target Completion: 2 year and Ongoing)

Research

(Choose at least 2 of 4 activities)

1. Create an on-campus forum to facilitate discussion and planning of a multidisciplinary research agenda focused on food insecurity and malnutrition (Target Completion: 18 months & Ongoing)
2. Provide appropriate incentives and/or rewards for breakthrough research contributing to a hunger-free world (Target Completion: 1 year and Ongoing)
3. Encourage undergraduate student research on topics related to hunger and malnutrition, as well as participation at relevant conferences (Target Completion: 2 years & Ongoing)
4. Foster North-South partnerships to reduce poverty, increase agricultural production, and improve

community development with a focus on the role of women in society (Target Completion: Ongoing)

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Outreach

(Choose at least 2 of 4 activities)

1. Convene and/or participate in multi-sector coalitions to reduce hunger and malnutrition in our city, state, region, or area (e.g., End Child Hunger, Let's Move, No Kid Hungry, Zero Hunger Challenge, and other food security and nutrition initiatives) (Target Completion: Ongoing)
2. Sponsor speakers series and/or other programming in hunger and malnutrition to educate elected officials and the larger community, e.g., Town Hall meetings (Target Completion: Ongoing)
3. Support the work of local and state hunger and malnutrition initiatives, e.g., food policy councils, farmers markets, community-assisted agriculture, urban gardens, etc. (Target Completion: 2 years & Ongoing)
4. Initiate a communications and marketing campaign to raise awareness about local and/or global hunger and malnutrition

Student Engagement

(Choose at least 2 of 4 activities)

1. Encourage student innovation of hunger and malnutrition solutions through competitions and university incubation and business center support (Target Completion: Ongoing)
2. Increase campus and community hunger awareness through student leadership and participation in activities, such as food packaging events (e.g., Stop Hunger Now; Outreach, Inc.), promotions and exhibitions (e.g., HungerU), statewide hunger dialogues, food drives, and campus and/or community gardens (Target Completion: Immediate & Ongoing)
3. Affiliate with organizations and movements such as Universities Fighting World Hunger, ONE, Clinton Global Initiative University, Bread for the World, Campus Kitchens, Thought for Food, and Results, thus creating a cross-university multiplier effect to eradicate hunger (Target Completion: Ongoing)
4. Facilitate integrative programming between the academic and student affairs divisions of the university to foster a comprehensive student engagement strategy around an anti-hunger agenda (2 years & Ongoing)



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