

2002-2003 Progress Report on
Implementation of World Food Summit Commitments
United States of America

SECTION I: Background Information

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4. Institutional arrangements established for follow-up of the WFS Plan of Action:

The United States has several interagency processes for coordinating food security policy and programs among federal departments and for engaging civil society.

SECTION II – Overview and State of Food Security

Hunger increased at home and around the world between 2000 and 2002, due in part to a slow economy in the United States and worldwide.

Domestic:

The U.S. seeks to halve the proportion of food insecure at home by 2010. Eighty-nine percent of U.S. households were food secure throughout the entire year 2002, meaning that they had access at all times to enough food for an active, healthy life for all household members. The remaining 11.1 percent of households were food insecure at least some time during that year, including 3.5 percent in which one or more household members were hungry at times because of the household's food insecurity.

The United States made encouraging progress in reducing the rate of domestic food insecurity through 1999. The prevalence of food insecurity fell from 11.8 percent in 1995 to 10.1 percent in 1999, an average of 0.42 percentage points per year. These gains, however, occurred largely during a period of sustained economic growth. From 1999 to 2002, the prevalence of food insecurity slipped to 11.1 percent, and food insecurity with hunger increased from 3.0 percent in 1999 to 3.5 percent in 2002. While this still represents progress from the 1995 baseline—an

overall reduction of 0.7 percentage points in the prevalence of food insecurity over the seven-year period—more rapid reductions averaging 0.64 percentage points per year will be required to achieve the U.S. food security objective.

Economic growth has since returned in the United States, and is now fairly brisk. To the extent that this results in substantial employment growth, it should contribute to renewed reductions in food insecurity and hunger. Continued progress will also require attention to policies and programs that affect the employment and earnings opportunities of less skilled workers and disadvantaged households.

Welfare reforms enacted in 1996 replaced individual entitlements to benefits with strong requirements designed to encourage work and require all welfare recipients to do everything they can to end their dependence on welfare and gain a secure foothold in the workforce. By September 2003, the number of families receiving cash benefits had decreased dramatically by 54 percent, and over 60 percent fewer individuals were receiving benefits. Employment among single mothers has increased and the overall income of low-income families with single mothers has increased since 1996. Both overall and child poverty remain substantially below the 1996 levels. Compared to 1996, 1.96 million fewer people are in poverty, and 2.33 million fewer children are in families with incomes below poverty.

International:

U.S. development assistance focuses on promoting agriculture, trade, and economic growth; democracy and good governance; health and education; and environmental stewardship. In 2002 and 2003, the U.S. Government provided \$13.3 and \$15.8 billion respectively in official development assistance; total contributions from the private (direct investment) and charitable sectors for those years were \$26.8 billion and \$12.2 billion.

In 2002, the United States announced its intention to increase core development assistance by \$5 billion, an increase of 50 percent over current levels by 2006, to be managed through a Millennium Challenge Account. Official development assistance has increased 12 percent a year over the period 2002-2004. There have been major Presidential initiatives on agriculture, famine, HIV/AIDS and water, key partnerships on sustainable development, and an initiative by the U.S. Secretary of Agriculture on science and technology. The United States remains the world's largest aid donor in volume terms, the largest supplier of emergency humanitarian and trade capacity building assistance and the largest contributor to the multilateral development banks.

In the United States, there is heightened interest to engage faith- and community-based organizations more fully in providing publicly funded social services at home and foreign assistance abroad in light of their capacity to provide highly flexible, often low-cost responses to local needs.

Trade and investment are the real drivers of development, and increasing private sector led growth

is the most important factor for achieving development goals. Mobilizing domestic and external private resources for financing development – from foundations, corporations, universities, non-governmental and private voluntary organizations and remittances - are what will drive development success.

The United States imports some \$450 billion equivalent from the developing world each year, about eight times more than aid to developing nations from all sources. In the 1970s, 70 percent of resource flows from the United States to the developing world were from official development assistance, while today it is only 20 percent. At the same time, developing countries have substantial domestic savings and export earnings (over \$2 trillion per year in each category) as well as access to some \$80 billion per year in remittances and well over \$150 billion in foreign direct investment.

Developing countries must be helped to tap private capital more effectively to diversify and transform their economies and to empower people to use their creativity and assets for better lives for their families and communities. It has been estimated that informal assets locked out of productive use in developing countries may be as high as \$9.4 trillion. Countries must fix the investment climate with sound policies and institutions – a modern financial system, mortgage markets, property rights, ability to use collateral for borrowing, transparent regulatory and legal frameworks, lower barriers to starting and operating companies, infrastructure, the rule of law, access to skills and knowledge – in order to remove constraints to creating and expanding businesses and jobs, particularly in small and medium enterprises.

Aid can play a critical role if linked to the right policies. The U.S. approach to development assistance is consistent with the 2002 Monterrey consensus of increased accountability for rich and poor nations alike - linking greater contributions by developed nations to greater responsibility by developing nations for good governance, investing in people, and engaging the enterprise of the charitable and business sectors in addressing the development challenge.

The United States believes that the best strategy for cutting hunger is sustained investments in agriculture-based strategies, programs and policies, in conjunction with improvements in health, education, infrastructure, environment and public policy management. The U.S. framework for addressing hunger and food insecurity involves improving policy frameworks; mobilizing science and technology and fostering a capacity for innovation; developing domestic market and trade opportunities and improving the capacity of producers and rural industries to act on them; securing property rights and access to finance; enhancing human capital; and protecting the vulnerable. Agriculture has again become a strategic priority for U.S. foreign assistance, focused on increasing agricultural productivity, ending famine and improving nutrition.

SECTION III: Actions By Commitment

Commitment I: Creating an enabling political, social and economic environment.

International:

Special initiatives for women's empowerment. The United States is supporting programs to ensure women's full and equal economic and political participation in the reconstruction of Afghanistan and Iraq. The United States has allocated \$2.5 million for the construction of Women's Resource Centers in 14 provinces throughout Afghanistan. In 2002, the U.S.-Afghan Women's Council was established as a public-private partnership between the two countries to support health, education and literacy programs, jobs skills and political participation training, microfinance, leadership capacity building, and women's resource centers. Through the Council, the United States is providing \$1 million for training at resource centers. In Iraq, the United States has allocated \$27 million for diverse projects – from literacy, computer, vocational and civic training to educating women about their rights.

Trafficking in persons. The United States plays an active role in the international effort to address trafficking in persons. In December 2002, President Bush signed a presidential directive committing the U.S. Government to raising awareness about human trafficking and to stepping up efforts to eradicate it. In 2003 the United States provided over \$15 million to prevent trafficking, prosecute perpetrators and protect victims in 36 countries, an increase of more than 50 percent over funding for 2002. During 2003, countries making progress in combating trafficking have passed new legislation; conducted high-profile public awareness campaigns; developed training programs for police, immigration and judicial officials; created national task forces and action plans; and promoted sensitive treatment for victims.

Aid harmonization. Improving aid effectiveness enhances food security by ensuring the success of development assistance programs. The United States is an active participant in aid effectiveness, harmonization and alignment activities among donors at the country level and through the Organization for Economic Cooperation and Development, including analysis, assessments, evaluations, monitoring, and reporting. The United States is currently leading efforts to generate donor cooperation and support for famine prevention efforts in Ethiopia and other famine-threatened regions and has sent representatives to missions to assess alignment of sector programs with national poverty reduction strategies.

Commitment II: Eradicating poverty and inequality and improving physical access to food.

Domestic:

Improving the national nutrition safety net. The United States has maintained and strengthened its domestic safety net to continue to provide a national structure of nutrition assistance for children and low-income people, committing over \$45 billion to these programs in fiscal year 2004. For fiscal year 2005, the Bush Administration has requested increased funding for domestic food assistance programs, a record \$47.9 billion. A significant volume of commodities purchased to support agriculture markets helped to supply the domestic food assistance programs.

Improving access to food and nutrition programs: Recent efforts to lower barriers to U.S. domestic assistance programs, with a particular focus on the working poor, immigrants, and the elderly include: a nationwide initiative to promote children's access to nutritious meals and snacks when school is not in session, a national media campaign to promote benefits of nutrition programs, \$6 million to test innovative strategies to reach out to underserved populations and to improve access to program benefits, an Internet-based tool that estimates eligibility and approximate benefits, and a national toll free line to provide information on the program and how to apply.

Welfare to work. Welfare reform created a program funded at \$16.5 billion each year to provide time-limited cash assistance to needy families with children, support their transition to self-sufficiency through work and marriage, and promote the formation of two-parent families. In 2002, President Bush proposed a plan to strengthen welfare reform to help families remaining on welfare and other low-income families move toward self-sufficiency. The key elements of the President's plan are to strengthen the federal-State partnership, maximize self-sufficiency through work, promote child well-being and healthy marriages, encourage abstinence and prevent teen pregnancies, improve program performance and facilitate program integration, and enhance child support enforcement.

Promoting nutrition among the elderly. In 2002, the Older Americans Act Nutrition Program provided \$723 million to support older adults and their caregivers through meals, nutrition education, nutrition counseling, and linkages to other food, nutrition assistance, and home and community based services. Approximately 108.5 million congregate meals and 142 million home delivered meals were served to 3 million older adults. This program functions as the primary source of daily food for most program participants and extends the ability of high-risk older adults to remain healthy, independent and at home in the community rather than in nursing homes.

Early childhood development. Increased grants of \$72 million to 160 local agencies will increase enrollment in the national program of early childhood education for at-risk children (Early Head Start) by approximately 7,000 infants and toddlers, bringing total Early Head Start enrollment to 62,400.

Assistance to homeless people. For 2003, nearly \$130 million in grants to health centers, local health departments, hospitals and community coalitions in both rural and urban areas were made to improve access by homeless individuals to primary health care and mental health and substance abuse services. A national comprehensive plan to end chronic homelessness was also developed to address the need for an integrated network of homeless support systems.

Women's health. National initiatives are calling for expanding community-based health education programs to promote risk assessment and support quality care and self-management for diabetes in women; encouraging research into the factors that influence diabetes and women's health; and raising awareness that heart disease is the number one killer of American women.

Disease prevention. The Steps to a Healthier U.S. program provided \$13.7 million to promote better health and prevent diabetes, asthma and obesity in 23 at-risk communities by addressing three related factors: physical inactivity, poor nutrition, and tobacco use.

HIV/AIDS. The U.S. Department of Health and Human Services awarded \$1 billion in grants to states and territories to provide medical care, support services and prescription drugs for people living with HIV/AIDS, including minority communities and areas with significant populations of people living with AIDS.

Expansion of health centers. A five-year initiative was launched in 2002 to add 1,200 new and expanded health centers in low-income, high need areas where people face barriers accessing health care and to increase the number of people served annually from about 10 million in 2001 to more than 16 million by 2006. Funding for fiscal year 2004 is \$1.6 billion.

Partnership with local government and civil society. U.S. domestic food assistance programs are implemented in partnership with State and local governments, community organizations and advocates. The U.S. Government has worked to strengthen cooperation with faith-based and community organizations to promote access and participation in nutrition assistance programs.

Promoting breastfeeding The United States encourages and supports breastfeeding as the preferred infant feeding practice through its health and nutrition programs and is working to institute a program of lay counselors to help new mothers learn how to breastfeed successfully.

Fostering healthy food and lifestyle choices. Faced with new health problems stemming from food consumption patterns that result in obesity and increased risk of major chronic health problems, the United States is implementing programs to encourage Americans to improve their diets and physical activity habits.

International:

Support to basic education. In 2002, USAID invested \$357 million to strengthen basic education in more than 25 countries, 25 percent more than in 2001. The Peace Corps devotes more than \$80

million a year to basic education in more than 50 countries.

Global food for education. From 2001 through 2003, the \$300 million U.S. pilot school feeding and education program fed over 7 million children in 38 developing countries committed to universal education for their children. The program resulted in improvements in school enrollment ranging from 6 to 10 percent compared with the previous three years. School attendance, student performance and the learning environment also improved. The project catalyzed greater community participation in improving local infrastructure like roads and schools and greater involvement by parents in local schools and their children's education. The program also provided an opportunity to promote good health, hygiene and nutrition practices by integrating with programs for deworming, water and sanitation, and health education for parents and students. The program was made permanent in 2003 as the McGovern-Dole International Food for Education and Child Nutrition Program and \$50 million was allocated to continue it in 2004.

Centers of Excellence for Teacher Training. The United States is establishing three regional centers for Latin America and the Caribbean to improve the quality of early reading instruction in the classroom throughout the hemisphere, with special emphasis on poorer countries and disadvantaged communities. Fifteen thousand teachers will benefit over four years. Initial seed money of \$20 million from the U.S. Government is attracting additional funding from the private sector in the United States and the region.

Standards for accountability in education. USAID supported the UN Educational, Scientific and Cultural Organization (UNESCO) in developing region-wide standards and assessment indicators to address the Summit of the Americas goal of increasing accountability in education.

Post-conflict rehabilitation of education. In 2003, the United States provided UNESCO \$9.5 million for post-conflict rehabilitation of the educational system related to curriculum development and teacher training in Afghanistan and other conflict-affected countries in Africa.

The ***Africa Education Initiative*** seeks to provide \$200 million over five years to increase access to quality basic education in Africa by training 160,000 new teachers and 260,000 existing teachers, providing 4.5 million textbooks, supporting community involvement and providing scholarships to girls and other vulnerable children. In 2003, 24,800 teachers were trained.

HIV/AIDS initiatives: The U.S. Government continues to be the world leader in responding to the global pandemic of AIDS, committing \$2.7 billion in total for fiscal years 2002 and 2003 to enhance prevention efforts and improve access to care, treatment and support for people living with HIV/AIDS and affected families, especially orphans. Assistance includes international research in applied prevention and developing a vaccine for international markets. U.S. contributions to the Global Fund to Fight AIDS, Tuberculosis and Malaria since 2001 total \$650 million. USAID distributed more than half a billion condoms worldwide. In 2003, the International Mother and Child HIV Prevention Initiative reached 10 percent of HIV-infected pregnant women receiving treatment in service areas through 215 health sites. The President's Emergency Plan for AIDS

Relief, launched in 2004, provides \$15 billion over the next five years to fight HIV/AIDS internationally, including \$9 billion in new funds targeted to 12 African countries plus Haiti and Guyana, home to nearly 50 percent of HIV infections worldwide. The initiative provides \$5 billion to continue bilateral assistance to over 100 countries and \$1 billion for the Global Fund. The goals of the Emergency Plan are to prevent 7 million new infections, provide treatment for 2 million living with HIV/AIDS, and care for 10 million individuals infected or affected by HIV/AIDS, including orphans and other vulnerable children.

Malaria prevention. U.S. funding for the NetMark Plus public-private partnership to provide insecticide-treated nets throughout sub-Saharan Africa is \$65.4 million over eight years.

International food assistance. The United States provided more than \$1.7 billion in 2002 and \$1.3 billion in 2003 in food aid for emergency and development programs in 91 developing and reindustrializing countries, reaching millions worldwide. In the agriculture sector, food aid is used to support activities that promote more productive and diversified farming systems, improve post-harvest management and marketing of crops, provide microfinance credit for seeds, fertilizers and other inputs, and promote improved management of natural resources.

Famine fund. The United States created a fund to ensure necessary resources are available for rapid and efficient response to famines that cannot be prevented and to address root causes of famine, while more equitably sharing the burden of famine response among donors. The United States is seeking up to \$200 million for the fund; in 2004, \$20 million was approved as a U.S. contribution.

Advising on improving diets. The United States has worked with the UN World Food Program and the Five-A-Day Program for increasing daily produce consumption to share U.S. experience in implementing food assistance and nutrition education programs with South Africa, Hong Kong, Brazil, Japan, and Caribbean and Central America countries.

Commitment III: Participatory and sustainable food, agriculture, fisheries, forestry and rural development policies and combating pests, drought and desertification.

Domestic:

Green infrastructure. Green infrastructure is a type of open space planning that seeks to conserve working landscapes and woodlands, wetlands, waterways, wildlife habitats, parks and greenways for a variety of purposes, including recreation and services provided by natural systems. The U.S. Government is partnering with local governments and non-profit organizations to plan and implement the green infrastructure approach in local communities and has developed a training course for conservation professionals with the Conservation Fund. The National Agroforestry Center is applying research on conservation buffer design to agricultural settings and water quality and quantity issues in both rural and urban communities, like in Topeka, Kansas to manage stormwater runoff.

Sustainable Agriculture Research and Education (SARE) Program. Since 1988, the SARE program has supported some 2,500 projects to improve agricultural systems sustainably through research, professional development for educators, and crop, livestock and marketing innovations tested by producers that promote profits, good stewardship of the land and quality of life in rural communities. Funding was \$17 million in 2002 and \$18.5 million in 2003. For example, a new resource will help agricultural entrepreneurs develop business plans to take advantage of new opportunities in on-farm processing, direct marketing, organics and rural tourism.

Food safety research agenda. Every part of the food safety system relies on scientific research to keep ahead of the ever changing and emerging threats to food safety. The U.S. Department of Agriculture (USDA), primarily through the Agricultural Research Service and the Cooperative State Research, Education and Extension Service, provides critical scientific information and technology to assure the safety of food. In November of 2003, USDA announced a new *USDA Food Safety Research Agenda* to better focus and coordinate food safety research, currently funded at \$128.8 million per year.

International:

In fiscal years 2002 and 2003, USAID invested over \$420 and \$474 million respectively in agriculture-related activities. This represents a 37 percent increase since the 1996 assistance levels (\$308 million) and reflects the shift in U.S. policy to give greater priority to agriculture as a key strategy for economic growth and poverty reduction.

International agricultural research and technical assistance: Each year the United States contributes \$27 million to international agricultural research centers through the Consultative Group on International Agricultural Research and over \$20 million to collaborative research programs. Volunteer technical assistance from U.S. farmers, agricultural universities, cooperatives and private agribusinesses is provided through the Farmer-to-Farmer Programs, reaching 36

countries in 2002 with \$10.6 million. In 2004, the United States will launch the International Science and Education program to provide grants to U.S. land-grant colleges and universities to bring an international perspective and focus to their agricultural teaching, research and extension activities.

International Scientific Cooperation Research Program. U.S. agricultural researchers traditionally have received limited funding for international cooperation. Since 1982, the Scientific Cooperation Research Program has provided a critical link between researchers in the United States and those in other countries on agriculture and environmental issues of mutual concern. In 2002 over half of the program's funding (\$693,000) supported 74 food security related projects in 46 countries and in 2003 \$570,000 supported 61 collaborative activities in 40 countries. Scientific cooperation leveraged resources and expertise, enhanced research efforts, and increased the technical capacity of scientists domestically and worldwide.

Monetized food aid for research and development. For more than 40 years, the United States has used local currencies generated from monetizing food aid to support mutually beneficial collaborative agricultural research projects conducted by host country scientists. New projects in 2002 include \$500,000 for underutilized crops in Ecuador and \$1 million over four years in Peru to strengthen the capacity to conserve and promote the use of agricultural genetic resources. Other ongoing local currency funded research includes 7 projects in India, 68 projects in Pakistan, 24 research projects in Uzbekistan 12 projects in Sri Lanka, and 10 projects in Bangladesh. Local currencies are also used for regional food security and nutrition workshops and small grants programs supporting grass-roots development projects.

International food and nutrition security workshops. The United States organized regional workshops for technical experts and decisionmakers from governments and international organizations on national policies and programs to alleviate food insecurity and poverty with the Institute of Nutrition of Central America and Panama in 2002 and with the Caribbean Food and Nutrition Institute and the Caribbean Community Secretariat in 2003.

The ***Initiative to End Hunger in Africa*** seeks to harness science and technology and use the power of market forces to increase smallholder agricultural productivity. Through this initiative, the United States is seeking to increase by 25 percent its financial commitments to boost agricultural productivity and trade in Africa. The United States contributed \$34.6 million to this initiative in 2003 and dedicated another \$117 million in development assistance and \$7 million in food aid resources to activities related to the initiative's objectives. In 2003, twenty-three new technologies to improve agricultural productivity – from improved cassava and banana varieties to new techniques for applying fertilizer – were distributed in collaboration with over 400 local partners.

Secretary's Science and Technology Initiative. In June 2003, the U.S. Secretary of Agriculture convened one of the largest meetings ever to discuss the critical role of science and technology in raising agricultural productivity in developing countries to reduce hunger and poverty in an environmentally sustainable way; over 100 Ministers participated. There have been follow up

policy dialogues with Ministers in Central America and West Africa and at international forums. Another outcome of the conference was the launching in March 2004 of the Norman E. Borlaug International Science and Technology Fellows Program to provide short-term scientific training for international agricultural research scientists and policymakers from developing countries.

Biotechnology. The Collaborative Agricultural Biotechnology Initiative was initiated in 2002 to assist developing countries in biotechnology crop development and training, building policies and capacity for science-based regulations, examining biosafety in the context of economics, environment, science and trade issues, and building biotechnology leadership. Funding for 2002 was \$2.8 million.

AfricaLink allows agricultural research institutes in the region to use the Internet to share information and technical knowledge.

Sustainable development partnerships. Since 2002, the United States has been actively involved in a variety of sustainable development partnerships with other donors and civil society organizations on clean and safe water; community water and sanitation; transboundary and coastal water resources management; global village energy; housing; health and fighting infectious disease; geographic learning, education and communication for sustainable development, etc.

Integrated water resources management. The United States has provided \$11 billion over the last 30 years and well over \$350 million annually in recent years to improve access to safe and adequate water supply and sanitation, improve irrigation technology and management, enhance natural ecosystem function and develop better institutional capacity for resource management in over 66 countries. In 2004, \$460 million will be obligated for water initiatives.

Through the **Water for the Poor Initiative**, the United States will invest \$970 million over three years (2003-2005) to improve sustainable water resources management. In 2003, the initiative established over 3,000 water groups, established and trained 870 water supply and sanitation committees, 1,000 water supply and sanitation projects that became sustainable and supported almost 400 watershed management governance groups.

White Water to Blue Water. Water in agriculture was identified as a key issue in the 2003 U.S.-sponsored ministerial conference on agricultural science and technology. The Caribbean Community, Central American Commission on the Environment and Development, UN Economic Commission for Latin America and the Caribbean, UN Environment Program and the United States are collaborating on the White Water to Blue Water initiative for the Caribbean to enhance existing programs and develop partnerships in integrated watershed, coastal and marine ecosystem management in areas such as wastewater and sanitation, sustainable agricultural practices, sustainable tourism, and environmentally sound marine transportation. A Web site at <http://www.w2bw.org/> disseminates information on the initiative and serves as a mechanism to encourage participation. Outcomes may serve as a blueprint for future programs in Africa and the South Pacific. A conference and training institute was held in March 2004 to facilitate partnerships, exchange best practices and encourage innovation. The initiative is funded so far at

\$5.6 million from 2002 through 2005, which includes \$3.5 million from the United States, \$1 million from Sweden and contributions from the United Kingdom, Netherlands, and Canada, the Global Environment Facility, Gillette Company, the World Conservation Union, and Environmental Defense, a non-governmental organization (NGO).

Global Climate Change. The United States plans to increase annual expenditures for climate-change programs by \$653 million. This initiative will support activities to promote transfer of clean energy technologies, measure reductions in greenhouse gas emissions, promote carbon management through improved land use, assess vulnerability to the impacts of climate change and increase ability to adapt. In 2003, the initiative resulted in energy and land-use sector policies adopted and implemented and 621,000 technical assistance or trainings in the land use sector.

The ***Clean Energy Initiative*** will increase access to modern and affordable energy services in underserved areas; improve the productivity, efficiency, and reliability of current operating systems, delaying the need for new generating capacity; and promote cleaner transportation fuels and indoor cooking and heating practices to reduce the estimated 3 million associated deaths. Under this initiative, the Powering Sustainable Development Initiative proposes to invest up to \$43 million in 2003 to leverage \$400 million in investments from other public and private partners. In 2003, 14,000 people were trained 1,100 institutions strengthened.

The ***Congo Basin Forest Partnership*** promotes economic development, poverty alleviation, improved governance, and natural resource conservation in Central Africa. Support will be provided to a network of national parks and protected areas, and well-managed forestry concessions and to communities who depend upon the conservation of the outstanding forest and wildlife resources. Partner NGOs like the World Wildlife Fund have committed to matching the U.S. contribution of up to \$53 million over four years (2002-2005).

The ***Initiative Against Illegal Logging*** seeks to build country capacity to establish and strengthen legal regimes and enforce laws affecting forest management; to enhance community involvement in forest governance and related wildlife issues; to develop monitoring systems and building in-country capacity to monitor forest activity and compliance with laws; and to promote good business practices, transparent markets and legal trade.

Commitment IV: Making trade and trade policies conducive to food security.

International:

Fostering markets and private enterprise. USAID invests about \$2.3 billion a year in activities aimed at fostering market-oriented, private-sector-led economic growth.

Trade capacity building. The United States is the largest single country donor of trade capacity building assistance, providing \$752 million in 2003, up from \$369 million in 1999. Assistance takes the form of supporting technical assistance commitments through the World Trade Organization, as well as directly helping developing countries create conditions conducive to open trade and respond effectively to opportunities created by trade liberalization. This includes helping developing countries improve food safety, conduct pest risk assessments, identify markets and establish business linkages with American firms in order to take advantage of opportunities created by U.S. trade preference programs.

The ***Africa Growth and Opportunity Act*** (AGOA) provides trade preferences for African countries moving to adopt market-based economies, the rule of law, free trade and other reforms. Thirty-eight of the 48 sub-Saharan African countries are now eligible. In 2002, 94 percent of U.S. imports from AGOA-eligible countries entered duty-free. U.S. imports under AGOA were valued at \$9 billion in 2002, a 10 percent increase from 2001. Since 1999, the United States has provided over \$345 million in trade capacity building assistance to sub-Saharan African countries and established three Regional Hubs for Global Competitiveness. The United States is currently negotiating a free trade agreement with the Southern African Customs Union. The United States is seeking to extend AGOA beyond 2008 and enhance provisions for trade capacity building, improving investment climate, and preferential treatment of key imports.

The ***Central America Free Trade Initiative.*** Expanded trade capacity building assistance is being provided to Central American nations to help prepare them for a U.S. Central America Free Trade Agreement. Twenty-eight thousand were trained in 2003.

The ***Trade for African Development and Enterprise*** initiative helps African countries and businesses improve their competitiveness and gain greater access to global and regional markets through three regional centers. The initiative was funded at \$40 million for 2003 and 2004. In 2003, the initiative delivered almost 12 person-months of training and 7 months of technical assistance on taking advantage of increased opportunities to trade with the United States through the African Growth and Opportunity Act, understanding the U.S. market, and developing sanitary and phytosanitary standards for exports, fostering \$1.4 million growth in exports under AGOA preferences.

Cochran Fellowship Program. During 2002 and 2003, the United States provided \$2,400,000, about 25 percent of the total program budget, to train 445 foreign nationals on topics related to trade capacity building, such as intellectual property rights, grain handling, agricultural trade

policy, and agricultural credit/finance through the Cochran Fellowship Program.

FAO/WHO trust fund for participation in Codex. The United States contributed \$168,000 to a trust fund to help developing countries and countries in transition participate in the Codex Alimentarius Commission.

Commitment V: Preventing disasters

Domestic:

Homeland Security. In 2002, the United States created the Department of Homeland Security to reduce America's vulnerability to terrorism and enhance the nation's ability to recover from attack at home. Over \$55 billion total was spent in 2002 and 2003 on homeland security.

Protecting the food supply. Regulatory steps have been taken to strengthen protection of the nation's food supply against terrorist acts and other food-related emergencies, including advance notice of imported food shipments and registration of domestic and foreign food facilities to quickly identify and locate affected food processors and other establishments in the event of deliberate or accidental contamination of food. A new \$5 million research program will develop technologies and strategies to prevent and minimize potential threats to the safety and security of the nation's food supply. Examinations of food imports have increased five-fold by the nation's food safety system.

Food safety outreach. The United States has engaged in an extensive outreach effort to inform domestic and foreign food facilities, importers, U.S. federal and State government agencies, and foreign governments and industries of more stringent food safety responsibilities under new U.S. bioterrorism laws, including facility registration. Step-by-step interactive tutorials and help menus that explain how to register electronically or how to download or obtain by mail a hard copy of the registration form are available online at <http://www.fda.gov/oc/bioterrorism/bioact.html>.

International:

Early warning. The Famine Early Warning System (FEWS) was established in 1986 to prevent a repeat of the devastating 1984 drought and famine in the Sahel and Ethiopia. Today, the FEWS information network (FEWS NET) shares U.S. satellite data on precipitation, river levels, and crop growing conditions and FEWS professionals monitor rainfall, crop and rangeland conditions, and regional food prices to help forecast floods, cyclones, and droughts and to regularly assess household and community food security and vulnerability. In recent years, FEWS NET provided information to identify emergency food requirements and target food assistance to prevent famine in Southern Africa, Ethiopia and the Sahel. FEWS is now active in sub-Saharan Africa, Afghanistan, Central Asia, Central America and the Caribbean. FEWS NET information available online and in field offices helps countries prepare for droughts and floods, tells commodity traders where food deficits and surpluses are to enlist market forces in addressing scarcity, and helps U.S. food assistance programs target and bring aid to those most in need. FEWS NET has contributed to improved emergency needs assessments that informed international action plans on famine and emergency food aid appeals from the UN World Food Programme. Budget for 2002 and 2003 was \$9.7 million and \$11.2 million respectively, with \$11.8 million requested in 2004.

Commitment VI: Investment in human capital and sustainable food, agriculture, fishery and forestry systems

International:

Official Development Assistance. The United States remains the world's largest aid donor in volume terms. In 2003, the United States increased its official development assistance by 16.9 percent in real terms to \$15.8 billion. In 2002, the United States announced its intention to increase core development assistance by \$5 billion by 2006, an increase of 50 percent over 2002 levels, to be managed through a Millennium Challenge Account. Spending by the U.S. foreign assistance agency, USAID, increased from \$7.9 billion in 2001 to \$14.2 billion in 2003.

Millennium Challenge Account. In 2002, the United States proposed a new compact for global development to link greater contributions from the developed nations to greater responsibility from developing nations. In 2004, the United States set up a corporation to implement a Millennium Challenge Account (MCA) with initial funding of \$1 billion. Starting in 2004, the corporation will enter into compacts with participating countries that establish policy objectives and target investment; countries will be selected based on performance on 16 indicators related to political governance, economic policy and investment in people. Countries eligible to apply for MCA assistance in 2004 are Armenia, Benin, Bolivia, Cape Verde, Georgia, Ghana, Honduras, Lesotho, Madagascar, Mali, Mongolia, Mozambique, Nicaragua, Senegal, Sri Lanka and Vanuatu. The U.S. Agency for International Development (USAID) may use up to 10 percent of its budget to help countries become eligible for MCA funding. More information is online at www.mcc.gov.

Global Development Alliance. With \$273 million in 2003, USAID helped form some 140 new public-private alliances that leveraged an additional \$1.3 billion in private sector funding for international development. In 2003, USAID worked with 3,500 American companies and 300 U.S.-based private voluntary organizations.

U.S. support for multilateral development banks. The United States is the largest aggregate shareholder in the multilateral development banks (MDB), contributing \$1.3 billion in 2003, including support to the Global Environment Facility. The MDBs promote global economic growth and poverty reduction through a combination of market- and concessional-rate loans, grants and policy advice.

HIPC debt relief. Through 2004, the United States provided \$675 million for the Trust Fund for Heavily Indebted Poor Countries (HIPC) and pledged an additional \$75 million to help fund remaining HIPC costs. The HIPC Trust Fund helps regional development banks and other multilateral institutions meet the costs of providing debt reduction to heavily indebted poor countries committed to economic, social and governance reforms. Twenty-seven countries have made sufficient progress on economic reforms and commitments to poverty reduction to qualify for relief on debt payments coming due; ten have qualified for reduction in their stock of debt.

Debt relief for forest conservation. The United States also provides debt relief for low and

middle-income countries to support conservation of endangered forests through a program authorized by the Tropical Forest Conservation Act; eligible countries can negotiate a buyback, swap (usually with an international environmental NGO), or reduction/restructuring of U.S. debt. From 1998 through 2004, \$71 million was made available. In 2002, Conservation International, World Wildlife Fund, and the Nature Conservancy raised more than \$1 million toward a debt swap that provided over \$10.5 million toward conservation of ten protected areas in Peru, including the Pacaya Samiria National Reserve, and the Machu Picchu Historical Sanctuary. Another agreement generated more than \$8 million for protection of tropical and coastal forest areas in the Luzon, Visayas, and Mindanao regions of the Philippines. In 2003, the Nature Conservancy contributed nearly \$1.2 million for a debt swap with Panama that generated \$10 million for protection and conservation of the Chagres National Park, home to endangered species such as jaguars, mantled howler monkeys and anteaters.

Financial sector reform. The United States has provided \$3.2 billion for financial sector reform and development since 1988.

Microenterprise. The United States provided \$170.4 million in support of microenterprise programs worldwide in 2002, promoting access to credit and other financial services, expanding business development services to microentrepreneurs and supporting policy reforms. U.S.-supported microfinance institutions served 2.7 million clients with a loan portfolio of nearly \$1.3 billion. Another \$2.9 million clients received loans through a single U.S. partner, Bank Rakyat Indonesia (BRI), which had a loan portfolio of \$1.3 billion. Women clients constituted more than two-thirds of all microfinance clients (excluding BRI). U.S.-supported microfinance institutions reported 3.2 million savings clients with combined savings deposits of \$779 million. Almost half of all U.S.-assisted institutions were fully financially sustainable.

Cochran Fellowship Program. During 2002 and 2003, the United States provided \$2,700,000, about 30 percent of the total program budget, to train 550 foreign nationals on food safety, biotechnology, and sustainable agricultural practices through the Cochran Fellowship Program.

Commitment VII: Institutional arrangements to implement the World Food Summit Plan of Action.

Domestic:

Information for food security analysis, surveillance and targeting. The U.S. has an extensive system of collecting data on the food security of U.S. households through several national surveys conducted annually. Information is collected on household food security and food spending; on household composition, income, and employment for analysis of determinants of food insecurity; on health, nutrition, and food intake for analysis of health and nutrition outcomes of food insecurity; on child development and educational progress indicators for analysis of outcomes of food insecurity in these areas; and on a wide range of income sources and receipt of public assistance for analysis of the effects of public assistance programs on food insecurity.

The ***Alliance to End Hunger*** is an advocacy initiative to shift U.S. public opinion, institutions and policy to support enhanced efforts to address hunger in the United States and abroad. It consists of over 25 civil society organizations - advocacy, farm and religious groups, foundations, businesses, academia, and assistance networks - including Bread for the World and America's Second Harvest. The Alliance has sponsored public opinion polls on hunger for formulating promotional messages on addressing hunger. The U.S. Alliance has been a model of cooperation between governments and civil society to implement World Food Summit commitments for the International Alliance to End Hunger.

International:

Technical assistance on food security measurement model. The United States has provided technical assistance on adapting the U.S. method for conducting a national food security survey to researchers working in 13 countries and funded food security measurement research in the Dominican Republic.

Civil Society Reporting:

Faith-Based and Community Initiative. The non-profit sector has always played a key role in implementing and supplementing U.S. domestic and foreign assistance programs in all sectors. The Bush Administration is seeking to further involve faith-based and community organizations as partners.

International:

Volunteers for Prosperity. In 2003, a new initiative was launched to support U.S. development initiatives overseas using the talents of highly skilled American professionals in the health care, information technology, financial services, trade and investment, education, and agricultural development fields who will work as volunteers with U.S. organizations for flexible terms of a few weeks to several years.

Private sector support for White Water to Blue Water. The Gillette Company, the Nature Conservancy, the UN Foundation, the RAMSCAR Convention Secretariat and Coastal America have formed a partnership to preserve and restore wetlands; an initial project at Sian Ka'an in Mexico is funded at \$750,000.

Sustainable Forest Products Global Alliance. The U.S. Government, businesses like Home Depot and NGOs like Forest Trends have joined forces to encourage responsible forestry practices and reduce illegal trade in forest products. The initiative strengthens the market for responsibly produced forest products by connecting producers to buyers.

Primary education. A consortium of Historically Black Colleges and Universities in the United States is working with USAID and African education institutions to develop, publish, and distribute high quality, low-cost learning materials through the Africa Education Initiative.

HIV/AIDS. With \$53 million in 2002, USAID leveraged \$140 million in contributions from partners of the Global Alliance for Vaccines and Immunization, such as the Bill & Melinda Gates Foundation and the pharmaceutical industry. In 2003, the alliance spent \$255 million to deliver 260 million doses of vaccine to 30 million children. USAID also launched a \$100 million agreement with the Elizabeth Glaser Pediatric AIDS Foundation to expand services to prevent mother-to-child transmission of HIV/AIDS, in support of the International Mother and Child HIV Prevention Initiative.

Enterprise development. USAID and ChevronTexaco each contributed \$10 million to provide support and training for enterprise development in Angola.

Faith-based-farmer agriculture alliance. The Food Resource Bank is a collaboration between U.S. farmers that donate land and equipment and 14 faith-based organizations that donate cash for seeds and fertilizer to produce a harvest sold to fund community-based food security project in

Africa.

Geographic information for sustainable development. In 2002, the United States contributed \$2 million for training, capacity building and technology transfer to apply geographic information systems technologies and knowledge to sustainable development problems in developing countries which leveraged more than \$6 million in in-kind services, technical assistance, software, hardware and an array of data products from the private sector.

Support for the UN. The United Nations Foundation will give \$104 million in grants in 2003, bringing to \$689 million the total amount given since its inception six years ago. Grants have supported initiatives on women and population, environment, children's health, and peace, security and human rights. Projects for this year include sanitizing drinking water in West Africa and promoting renewable energy sources in developing countries.

Partnership to Cut Hunger and Poverty in Africa. This high-level U.S.-Africa coalition builds consensus around strategic actions needed to cut hunger and poverty and facilitates collaboration across public and private sectors to initiate critical programs. Outreach by Partnership leaders helped bring about policy shifts among key governments and multilateral organizations favoring support for agriculture and rural development as key factors in reducing African poverty and hunger. The Partnership has organized a number of high-level events to focus attention on the critical importance of increasing investment in African agriculture and rural sectors and convened technical workshops and panel discussions on biotechnology, agricultural marketing, HIV/AIDS and agriculture, and infrastructure investment opportunities during the United Nations General Assembly and the 2003 AGOA Forum.

Lessons Learned

- With respect to health and nutrition, food quality is as important as food quantity. As countries develop and alleviate hunger, they must consider systems like nutrition education and culturally appropriate dietary guidelines in order to avoid diet-related health problems.
- Partnerships between government and civil society through national alliances are an effective way to build political will to enact policies and programs necessary for addressing hunger. A diverse membership that fully represents the various segments of civil society – businesses, civil rights and hunger response advocates, labor unions, educational institutions, charitable foundations and religious leaders - is imperative for effective national alliances to end hunger. Community-based organizations can play a role in providing publicly funded social services at home and foreign assistance abroad in light of their capacity to provide highly flexible, often low-cost response to local needs.
- Trade and investment are the real drivers of development, and creating an enabling environment to increase private sector led growth is the most important factor for achieving development goals. Countries must fix the investment climate and improve export capacity with sound policies and institutions. Donors can help with capacity building. Improvements to market access programs are also needed to benefit more countries and bring more impact for the very poorest.
- Priorities for improving agricultural productivity through science and technology are: 1) improving developing country understanding of the broad range of conventional and emerging agricultural technologies; 2) making applied research and technology accessible to farmers; 3) strengthening market infrastructure; 4) expanding the knowledge base; 5) promoting public-private partnerships; 6) recognizing water quality and availability as pressing problems deserving special attention; 7) facilitating the benefits of technology through supportive policies and regulations; and 8) integrating HIV/AIDS and rural development programs to address the impact of this crisis on agriculture.
- The sustainability of school feeding programs can be strengthened by targeting to food insecure areas, obtaining local government and parental involvement and support, requiring counterpart contributions, and planning for phase out of external assistance. Food can be used creatively to support education through food for work programs to improve school and community infrastructure and as teacher payment. Direct distribution of food to students has had a greater impact than monetizing food to support programs. School feeding programs can also be improved by integrating health, nutrition and environmental education programs. Greater emphasis is needed on targeting girls, promoting gender equity in program implementation, and improving data collection.

*food security and related indicators*¹

U = Unavailable

N/A = Not Applicable

****Footnoted and italicised items indicate changes made to original statistics**

INDICATORS	1996	1997	1998	1999	2000	2001	2002	2003e	Source
1. Food security indicators									
• Availability									
Average per person dietary energy supply (kcal)	3700	3700	3700	3800	3900	U	U	U	ERS
Food production index	114	119	120	122	124	122	122	U	ERS
Food self-sufficiency ratio (<i>average from 1996-2003</i>)	1.337	1.337	1.337	1.337	1.337	1.337	1.337	1.337	ERS
Cereal supply per person	196.4	197.1	193.5	194.4	199	194.4	191.7	U	ERS
Animal protein supply per person (per day)	67.3	66.9	67.7	69	69.6	U	U	U	ERS
Value of food imports/export earnings	54%	62%	69%	76%	77%	74%	77%	81%	U.S. Agl Trade, Bureau of Census
Debt service ratio (% of exports)	U	U	37.6%	35.8%	33.5%	35.6%	33.8%	30.5%	Economic Intelligence Unit (for exports 2003), World Bank Online, Treasury Department
Value of gross investment in agriculture (<i>in USD billions</i>) ²	\$10.5	\$11.2	\$12	\$11.8	\$12.4	\$12.3	\$12.8	U	ERS
• Stability									
Food price index (<i>1995 = 100</i>)	103	106	108	111	113	116	U	U	World Bank Online
Index of variability of food production	U	U	U	U	U	U	U	U	ERS
Ratio of national food reserves to domestic food consumption	U	U	U	U	U	U	U	U	ERS
Export earnings instability (See footnote)	U	U	U	U	U	U	U	U	ERS
• Access									
Rate of growth in real GDP per person/per year (%) (<i>1995 = 100</i>)	1.02%	1.03%	1.03%	1.03%	1.02%	1%	1.01%	U	Economic Intelligence Unit: March 2004
Gini ratio of income	.455	.459	.456	.458	.462	.466	.462	U	Census Bureau

¹ Please refer to explanatory notes of these indicators at the end of this document.

² Real 1982 USD.

INDICATORS	1996	1997	1998	1999	2000	2001	2002	2003e	Source
distribution									
Percentage of population living below national poverty line (%)	13.7%	13.3%	12.7%	11.8%	11.3%	11.7%	12.1%	U	Census Bureau
Percentage of population living on less than \$ 1 a day (%)	N/A	N/A	N/A	N/A	N/A	N/A	N/A	N/A	
Percentage of income spent on food (%)	U	U	U	U	10.2%	10.2%	10.1%	U	ERS
Consumer price index	473.1	482.8	490.4	502.5	519.9	531.7	541.8	553	Bureau of Labor
Estimated total number of undernourished people	U	U	U	U	U	U	U	U	CDC
Percentage of total population undernourished (%)	U	U	U	U	U	U	U	U	CDC
Percentage of children under 5 that are underweight (%) (total population)	U	U	U	U	U	U	U	U	CDC
Percentage of children under 5 that are stunted (%) (total population)	U	U	U	U	U	U	U	U	CDC
Percentage of children under 5 that are wasted (%) (total population)	U	U	U	U	U	U	U	U	CDC
Food Secure Households (in thousands)	U	U	91,121	94,154	94,942	96,303	96,543	U	USDA
Food Insecure Households without hunger (in thousands)	U	U	8,353	7,420	7,786	8,010	8,259	U	USDA
Food Insecure Households with hunger (in thousands)	U	U	83,835	3,109	3,315	3,511	3,799	U	USDA
2. Social indicators									
Life expectancy at birth (age)	76.1	76.5	76.7	76.7	77	77.2	77	U	CDC
Under-5 mortality rate (%)	U	U	U	U	.9%	U	.8%	U	World Bank Online
Net school enrolment in primary education of children aged 5-12 (%) ³	96.4%	98.2%	97.8%	97.8%	97.3%	97.3%	97.2%	U	Census Bureau
Ratio of girls to boys in primary education ⁴ per 1000	U	U	U	.96	.95	.93	.96	U	Census Bureau

3 Used age 5-13.

4 Used age 3-12.

INDICATORS	1996	1997	1998	1999	2000	2001	2002	2003e	Source
Adult literacy rate	U	U	U	U	U	U	U	U	Document Pending until March 2005, National Center for Education Statistics
Total number of doctors, nurses and other health personnel per 100,000 people	U	47,689	47,777	47,901	48,504	47,993	47,329	U	CDC
Infant mortality rate (%) per 1000	7.3	7.2	7.2	7.1	6.9	6.8	U	U	CDC
Maternal mortality rate (%) per 100,000	U	U	6.1	8.3	8.2	8.8	U	U	CDC
Adult morbidity rate (%)	U	U	U	U	U	U	U	U	CDC
Adult male mortality rate (%) per 1000	160	152	148	U	147	U	135	U	World Bank Online
Adult female mortality rate (%) per 1000	88	86	84	U	84	U	80	U	World Bank Online
3. Infectious diseases and HIV/AIDS indicators									
Death rate from infectious diseases (25-64 years) per 100,000	12,300	11,400	11,300	11,500	11,600	11,300	U	U	CDC
Death rate from HIV/AIDS per 100,000	1170	620	560	530	510	500	U	U	CDC
Percentage of population orphaned (%)	4.1%	3.9%	4.14%	4.22%	4.16%	4.11%	3.98%	U	Census Bureau
Percentage of child-headed households per 10005	348	437	405	157	150	166	186	U	CNS
Average age of household head (age)	46	46.1	46.3	46.6	46.8	47	47.2	U	Census Bureau
Rate of total population with HIV/AIDS infection (%)	U	U	.1%	.11%	.11%	.13%	.13%	U	CDC
4. Economic and Trade									

5 Utilized age 20 from 1996-8 and 15-17 from 1999-02.

INDICATORS	1996	1997	1998	1999	2000	2001	2002	2003e	Source
Proportion of total imports by value, excluding arms, from developing countries and from LDCs admitted free of duties ^{/a} (USD billions) ⁶	U	\$386.4	\$406.7	\$460.3	\$566.7	\$530.2	\$558.3	\$620.2	ITC
Average applied tariffs imposed on agricultural products from developing countries ^{/a}	U	20.6%	16.5%	16.9%	18.5%	18.5%	19.9%	16.8%	ERS
Agricultural support estimate as percentage of GDP ^{/a}	0.99%	0.92%	1.04%	1.07%	0.95%	0.96%	0.86%	0.86%	OECD, US Dept of Commerce, Bureau of Econ. Analysis
Proportion of ODA provided to help build trade capacity ^{/a}	U	U	U	4	5.1	5.2	4.8	4.8	USAID
Share of primary exports of total exports earnings ^{/b} (USD billions) ⁷	\$31.73	\$29.6	\$28.26	\$25.56	\$27	\$28.71	\$29.1	\$28	ERS
Share of manufactured exports of total exports earnings ^{/b} (USD billions) ⁸	U	\$253.3	\$244.8	\$242.5	\$279.2	\$258.8	\$246.4	\$256.2	USITC
Terms of trade ^{/b} (import prices/export prices)	101.4	100.1	99.05	99.48	100	98.38	99.45	102.9	Department of Labor
External agricultural income terms of trade	U	U	U	U	U	U	U	U	ERS
5. Sustainability of natural resources									
Proportion of land area under forest cover (%) ⁹	8.1%	8.18%	8.18%	8.19%	8.19%	8.2%	8.2%	8.2%	US Forest Service
Proportion of area protected to maintain biological diversity (%) ¹⁰	.093%	.1%	.91%	1.1%	1.3%	1.45%	1.47%	1.48%	FSA, World Bank Online

a/ Applicable to developed countries

b/ Applicable to developing countries

6 Utilized Customs Value due to a lack of specification.

7 Utilized Customs Value due to a lack of specification.

8 Utilized Customs Value due to a lack of specification.

9 Utilized Hectares due to a lack of specification.

10 Utilized Hectares due to a lack of specification.