



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 a critical threat 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 percent increase in food production by 2050 to meet rising demands.

The UN Millennium Development Goals and other action plans, such as Feed the Future in the US, have created a path forward and challenged all sectors to mobilize in an effort to feed the world. Historically, universities have addressed this issue through education, problem-solving research, institution building, and engagement in agriculture, nutrition, environment, 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 our institution is already engaged in critical work related to food insecurity and malnutrition, I am joining other university leaders from around the world to bring collective action and new energy in seeking solutions to this global issue by committing to contribute 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 faculty across disciplines and institutions in developing and implementing a strategy to solve hunger and malnutrition
- Create public and political will to end hunger by collaborating with and disseminating relevant information and resources to 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. June Henton
at 334-844-3749, or mail to:

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


PRESIDENTS UNITED to SOLVE HUNGER X

Presidents' Commitment to Food and Nutrition Security - Addendum

Action Guide

Several actions have been identified that a university may wish to undertake, and they are listed below. These steps are not required commitments, and each university will make its own decisions as to what is needed and appropriate for that institution.

Inventory and Mapping

1. Inventory academic, research, outreach, international, and student activities on campus related to combating hunger, food insecurity, and malnutrition
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
3. Conduct a hunger assessment of the university, followed by an action plan directed toward achieving a zero-hunger campus
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

Teaching

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

Research

1. Create an on-campus forum to facilitate discussion and planning of a multi-disciplinary research agenda focused on food insecurity and malnutrition
2. Provide appropriate incentives and/or rewards for breakthrough research contributing to a hunger-free world
3. Encourage undergraduate student research on topics related to hunger and malnutrition, as well as participation at relevant conferences
4. Foster partnerships between developed and developing countries to reduce poverty, increase agricultural production, and improve community development with a focus on the role of women in society

Outreach

1. Convene and/or participate in multi-sector coalitions to reduce hunger and malnutrition in the institution's 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)
2. Sponsor speaker series and/or other programming in hunger and malnutrition to educate elected officials and the larger community (e.g., Town Hall meetings)
3. Support the work of local and state hunger and malnutrition initiatives (e.g., food policy councils, farmers markets, community-assisted agriculture, urban gardens)
4. Initiate a communications and marketing campaign to raise awareness about local and/or global hunger and malnutrition

Student Engagement

1. Encourage student innovation of hunger and malnutrition solutions through competitions and university incubation and business center support
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
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, FeelGood and Results, thus creating a cross-university multiplier effect to eradicate hunger
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



PRESIDENTS UNITED
TO SOLVE **HUNGER**