



Feed the Future Country Fact Sheet

Online Version: <https://feedthefuture.gov/article/g8-international-conference-open-data-agriculture>

G8 International Conference on Open Data for Agriculture



Sharon Ketchum, USUN Rome

A smallholder farmer places a bid to sell maize to the World Food Programme. Smallholder farmers like this one receive market information on their cell phones in Malawi.

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Open data is being used by innovators and entrepreneurs around the world to accelerate development.

At last year's G8 Summit, leaders committed to the [New Alliance for Food Security and Nutrition](#)—including an agreement to share relevant agricultural data available from G8 countries with African partners and convene an international conference on Open Data for Agriculture.

Taking place April 29-30 in Washington, DC, [this conference](#) brought together innovators, food security experts, data scientists, and policy makers from around the world to discuss the importance of open agricultural data to increased food security.

- U.S. and private sector partners **announced newly opened and accessible data sets.**
- Innovators **presented solutions** that demonstrate the potential impact of sharing data.
- G8 and African countries **devised action plans** to open additional food security data and invest in projects that increase publicly and privately funded global agriculturally relevant data. This data will be accessible to the global public, including users in Africa, and will support a sustainable increase in food security in developed and developing countries.

What is commonly meant by “open data?” Open data is often referred to as the concept that information should be freely available to the public, without restriction or charge for its use by others.

In the food and agricultural realm, open data is an essential piece of finding the answers we'll need to feed the world.

Data!

[Feed the Future Bangladesh Integrated Household Survey](#)

[Feed the Future Ghana Baseline Survey](#)

[Feed the Future's Women's Empowerment in Agriculture Index](#) (related [blog post](#))

[Food, Agriculture, and Rural Community](#) on Data.gov

Looking for more?

[Visit the event website](#) for more information

[Read blog posts](#) on #OpenAgData on USDA.gov

[Read USDA](#) and [USAID](#) press releases on the event

[Read a Feed the Future blog post](#) on open data

[Read a White House OSTP blog post](#) summarizing the event

[Read a blog post](#) on a new global open data initiative

[Visit the website](#) for the Global Open Data for Agriculture and Nutrition initiative

Updates: Day 1

[Storify](#) by USDA on Day 1

[Press release](#) from USDA on Data.gov virtual community

[Blog post](#) from USAID on M-Farm and open agriculture data

[Blog post](#) from USDA reviewing day 1 of the conference

[Press release](#) from MCC announcing data release

Updates: Day 2

[Storify](#) by USDA on Day 2

[Action plans for open data](#) released today by the G8

[Press release](#) from USAID on new open data and tech tools

[Press statement](#) summarizing the event