



Feed the Future Country Fact Sheet

Online Version: <https://feedthefuture.gov/sub-approach/climate-smart-development>

Climate-Smart Development



Kashish Das Shrestha, USAID

Innovation and invention are the way forward and the way that we can face the challenges of food security and climate. – U.S. Secretary of State John Kerry

Climate change is already proving to be a critical challenge for food production around the world.

As greenhouse gas concentrations rise, global temperatures are increasing, precipitation patterns are changing, and oceans are rising and becoming more acidic. These shifts are already affecting agriculture, adding to the challenge of feeding a growing world population with fewer natural resources by 2050.

As climate-related threats grow more severe, decisions about where and how food is produced can either accelerate or help put the brake on climate change. In many countries, those most vulnerable to the impacts of climate change are also the most food-insecure. Ultimately, climate change puts the sustainability of agricultural development and food security at risk and aggravates hunger and poverty, particularly where farming conditions are marginal and social safety nets are weak.

Delivering Smart Solutions

To address these challenges, Feed the Future employs a *climate-smart* approach that draws on state-of-the-art science and policy to help:

- Smallholder farmers and rural communities **build resilience** by sustainably boosting agricultural yields and household income
- Countries and communities **transition** to agricultural systems that are better adapted to climate change stress
- Farmers and others involved in food production **reduce greenhouse gas emissions** from agricultural activities and their influence on land-use conversion

Collaborating for Success

Working in concert with the [U.S. Global Climate Change Initiative](#), Feed the Future is helping governments, researchers and farmers assess the potential vulnerabilities and impacts of climate change, [sustainably intensify](#) their production, develop and deploy climate-smart technologies and management practices, and support policies that encourage the necessary investments and enabling environments to mitigate risk, improve resilience, and increase food security despite changing climate patterns.

The United States recently helped launch the [Global Alliance for Climate Smart Agriculture](#), which calls on leaders to advance a global, evidence-based approach to food security. It represents an ambitious step in U.S. efforts to integrate a holistic approach to climate change into every area of our work. Feed the Future's efforts also align with the 2014 U.S. [Executive Order on Climate-Resilient International Development](#).

Together with our partners, we are:

- Using the best available science and policy to identify climate-related risk and stresses along the entire value chain
- Helping farmers improve soil health and fertility through the promotion of efficient fertilizer use and conservation management practices
- Improving the management and productivity of water and other natural resources
- Identifying ways to breed seeds that are tolerant to climate-related disease, heat and drought stressors
- Protecting livestock and fisheries by undertaking research that helps food producers adapt
- Examining crop and animal production systems in developing countries to help ensure increased resilience at each step in the value chain

Climate change is bringing new challenges to the agriculture sector. By strengthening food production systems and investing in agricultural research and strategies today, Feed the Future is contributing to the growth and resilience of people, communities and the global food supply tomorrow.

[Learn more about this approach](#) in our climate change and food security fact sheet.

Did You Know?

- Food production needs to increase by at least 60 percent to adequately feed a growing global population by 2050.
- About 2.5 billion people's livelihoods depend directly on climate-sensitive economic activities such as agriculture and fisheries.
- Climate change-induced temperature increases are likely to reduce wheat production in developing countries 20-30 percent by 2050. (IFAD)

Climate-Smart Agriculture in Action

Feed the Future utilizes a [sustainable intensification](#) approach, working with researchers and local actors to produce more and better quality food, stimulate economic growth and build resilience while achieving more efficient use of land, water and inputs.

Additional Reading:

- [Climate Change Analysis Strengthens Early Warning of Food Insecurity](#)
- [Building Resilience to Climate Change Through Irrigation](#)
- [Fighting Coffee Rust in Latin America and the Caribbean](#)

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