

## Global Food Security Strategy “Refresh” (GFSS-R)

**Overview:** The [Global Food Security Strategy](#) (GFSS) is a whole-of-government strategy to promote global food security, resilience, and nutrition that was launched in 2016 and expires at the end of September 2021. The topline goal of the GFSS is to sustainably reduce global hunger, malnutrition and poverty. The GFSS guides the U.S. Government’s Feed the Future initiative’s approach to planning, programming and monitoring and includes implementation plans for each of the 12 U.S. Government agencies supporting Feed the Future. The U.S. Agency for International Development (USAID) is leading an interagency effort to refresh and extend the multi-year strategy, taking into account the evidence and lessons learned from the last four years of implementation. The refreshed GFSS will also account for the forces reshaping our global context, including the COVID-19 pandemic, conflict, and climate change.

**Guiding Principles:** We know this process will not be successful without the input from our partners and we look forward to engaging externally to review and synthesize evidence and hear your recommendations. The Feed the Future interagency will follow a set of key guiding principles as it works through the process to update and refresh the GFSS:

- Openness and transparency;
- Evidence-driven decision-making; and,
- Robust consultation with our partners.

The GFSS-R will take place in a three-phase process from December 2020 to October 2021:

**Concept Phase (December 2020 - April 2021):** During the concept phase, Feed the Future agencies will agree on the priorities and scope of the GFSS-R. This includes a review of the evidence and learning from Feed the Future implementation and consultation with a wide range of our stakeholders, both within the U.S. government and in the external partner community. At the end of this phase, USAID will convene the interagency to review and synthesize the evidence and recommendations surfaced through the consultation process and then set priorities to guide the scope of the refresh. Relevant evidence could include but is not limited to:

- Relevant studies and impact assessments from Multilateral Development Banks and similar partner organizations;
- Papers and other information being produced for the 2021 UN Food Systems Summit;
- USAID Mission-level impact and performance evaluations and implementation research;
- Third-party academic research, including Minority Serving Institutions in academia; and

- Data and evidence from our partner countries and relevant regional bodies.

**USAID is currently developing a consultation schedule that will be shared publicly with the external partner community in the coming weeks.** In the meantime, partners are encouraged to begin reviewing valid, robust evidence and formulating initial recommendations on how the evidence should be used to revise and update the strategy.

**Drafting Phase (May 2021 - July 2021):** The Feed the Future interagency will spend approximately two months preparing the first draft of the GFSS-R. Once the first draft is complete, there will be a second opportunity for stakeholders to provide feedback. USAID will then organize a workshop for Feed the Future agencies to review feedback on the first draft and reach consensus on the changes to be made for the final version.

**Finalization Phase (August 2021 - October 2021):** The Feed the Future interagency will prepare a final version of the GFSS-R. Once finalized, the GFSS-R will be submitted to Congress and will be formally launched in October 2021 in a to-be-determined public forum.

**What Happens Next?** USAID will release its virtual consultation schedule by the end of February and we encourage you to sign up and share with your colleagues. As we engage with you to refresh the strategy, it is important to note that the strategy is a high level document and we anticipate our partners will share evidence and recommendations that may be more relevant to our global technical approaches (i.e., strategy implementation). We view this as an ongoing process of learning and engagement and refreshing the strategy is an important first step.