

## The Global Food Security Reauthorization Act (H.R.8446/S.4649)

**The Issue**: In 2018, more than 795 million people globally suffered from chronic hunger. Unfortunately, the economic impact of COVID-19, conflict and extreme weather events are driving even greater hunger in 2022. Today, 828 million people are going to bed hungry and over 34 million people in 14 countries are facing emergency or catastrophic levels of hunger.

## Current landscape:

- The conflict in Ukraine has made a bad situation worse by driving up fuel prices and interrupting the supply of Ukrainian grains and agricultural inputs, like fertilizer.
- Every 48 seconds, one person is estimated to be dying from hunger in drought-ravaged Ethiopia, Kenya and Somalia.
- In South Sudan, nearly two thirds of the total population are currently experiencing crisis levels of hunger, of which approximately 87,000 people are facing famine-like conditions.

**The Solution:** By sharing U.S. expertise in agriculture development and supporting programs that work in partnership with small farmers, the progress continues in tackling hunger and malnutrition under the Feed the Future Initiative. This program helps families lift themselves out of poverty in order to access more nutritious food, education and proper healthcare.

The Global Food Security Reauthorization Act reauthorizes the Global Food Security Act and Feed the Future Initiative through Fiscal Year 2028. Since 2011, Feed the Future has provided more than \$4 billion dollars in agricultural financing, as well as generated over \$15.3 billion in agricultural sales, and has acquired nearly \$2.2 billion in private sector investment for food security and nutrition.

The Global Food Security Act is designed to:

- 1. Eradicate hunger and malnutrition, especially among women and children;
- 2. Assist foreign countries in achieving long-term, sustainable agricultural development; and
- 3. Ensure the effective use of taxpayer dollars to further these objectives.

**Support:** The original Global Food Security Act of 2016 secured 127 co-sponsors in the House and 15 co-sponsors in the Senate. The bill passed with wide bipartisan support on July 6, 2016, and was signed into law on July 20, 2016 and reauthorized for an additional five years in 2018.

The current reauthorization successfully passed the House with strong bipartisan support in late September, 2022. **The Borgen Project urges the Senate Foreign Relations Committee to consider the bill in the near future.** S.2269 was introduced by Sen. Casey (D-PA), Risch (R-ID), Coons (D-DE) and Boozman (R-AR)

Source: Oxfam