

WHY COFFEE CARES

ABOUT THE GLOBAL FOOD SECURITY ACT

Small-scale growers that tend small farms in low-income countries are a crucial source for the U.S. coffee industry. These smallholder operations face many challenges yet are critical to an industry that generates \$225 billion each year for the U.S. economy.

The Global Food Security Act authorizes foreign assistance funding and international development programs that benefit these growers.



Coffee Fuels America

- 1.6+ million jobs
- 189 million consumers
- \$225 billion in economic activity
- \$28 billion in tax revenue

Smallholders Fuel Supply

- 60% of global coffee supply grown by smallholders
- 100 million people rely on coffee for a living around the world

World Coffee Research and its member companies, in alignment with the National Coffee Association, would like to see this legislation more strongly support smallholder farmers, agricultural research and development, and public-private partnerships, which in turn strengthen global coffee supply chains and benefit U.S. growers and companies.

COFFEE CARES ABOUT

Keeping smallholders in business.

- Climate pressures and the growing costs of production are putting small-scale coffee growers out of business or pushing them to switch to other crops—or out of farming altogether—at alarming rates.
- Coffee cares about strengthening the agricultural systems, financial tools, and markets that coffee growers and other smallholder farmers rely on to grow their businesses, reduce risk, and ultimately reduce poverty. When these smallholders thrive, it benefits the U.S. industry.
- The Act has historically supported these types of interventions, which require long-term, focused effort to yield results.

Our ask: That the Act reaffirm a focus on smallholder farmers and long-term agricultural development.

Keeping coffee diverse.

- Coffee grown in distinct places around the world enables the differentiation, dynamism, and expansion of the U.S. coffee industry. Yet coffee is highly vulnerable to pests, disease, climate pressures, and more.
- Coffee cares about agricultural research and development that protects this industry by helping growers around the world contend with challenges, preserve natural resources, and continue growing a diverse array of coffees.
- Innovation in complementary crops, like bananas and beans, is also critical as coffee farmers rely on growing a variety of crops to manage risk.
- Coffee cares about strong seed systems and breeding programs in low-income countries that can develop and deploy solutions to smallholders while generating benefits for U.S. growers.

Our ask: That the Act codify expanded investment in agricultural R&D to not less than 20% of funding authorized for USAID in the Act.

Keeping supply chains resilient and sustainable.

- Coffee cares about fostering stronger connections between smallholders and U.S. roasters, retailers, and suppliers through training and support across the supply chain.
- Companies have worked with USAID to support opportunities for smallholder farmers, enhance coffee quality, and facilitate market access in countries that lack investment.
- The investment gap is significant, and more is needed to align investment.

Our ask: That the Act reaffirm a focus on public-private partnerships, especially ones that target smallholder farmers and bring investment to rural areas of low-income countries.



Bottom Line: Poverty reduction among rural, low-income communities leads to a stronger and more diverse supply of coffee, which in turn supports American jobs and the U.S. economy. The Global Food Security Act is a critical tool for reducing poverty and supporting interventions that help coffee growers—and the industry that relies on them—thrive.

The Global Food Security Act authorizes funding for the U.S. Agency for International Development and Department of State. It codifies a strategy for related global agriculture and food security programs that address the root causes of hunger, poverty, and malnutrition in low-income countries. It has helped 20 million people rise out of poverty and 5 million families escape hunger.

World Coffee Research is a global, industry-driven organization that drives agricultural innovation for coffee. Over 175 companies support our work worldwide, including 79 located in 21 U.S. states.