

## COFFEE R&D ADVOCACY PRIORITIES

World Coffee Research (WCR), as an industry-driven organization, is aligned with the National Coffee Association's legislative agenda. WCR advocacy focuses on the research and development (R&D) aspects.

### WHY ADVOCATE?

- Coffee R&D is under-resourced by the federal government compared to other commodities with similar economic impact. There is funding we can unlock for coffee research that will benefit long-term supply, including farmer resilience to climate change, pests, and disease.
- Our companies rely on coffee grown in more than 100 countries, often by smallholders in low-income settings. U.S. foreign assistance programs and funding in these areas could better support coffee growers and research, thus strengthening long-term global supply.

WCR advocacy focuses on two specific pieces of legislation this Congress:

#### **Coffee Plant Health Initiative Amendments Act (CPHIAA)**

- Coffee-specific legislation introduced by Hawaiian and other Members of Congress (H.R. 5421, S. 2884)
- Broadens scope of research from one coffee pest to all coffee pests and diseases
- Enables U.S. researchers to obtain USDA funding for coffee research

#### **WHY WE SUPPORT IT**

- Smallholders in other countries often lack the research support to deal effectively with coffee pests and diseases
- By broadening the scope of existing research, this legislation would open the door for federal funding to flow to more areas of coffee research
- Research protects global coffee supplies and U.S. growers from emerging threats

#### **Global Food Security Act Reauthorization (GFSA)**

- Provides funding for global food security programs focused on smallholders
- Provides direction for these programs, such as requiring agricultural R&D investments, gender equity, and sustainability
- Reduces poverty, which reduces smallholder business risks as well as the reputational risks for companies working in their communities

#### **WHY WE SUPPORT IT**

- The global coffee supply relies on smallholders, and we need them to stay in business long-term despite shocks
- It addresses many shocks they face, including agricultural R&D investments in coffee and complementary crops like banana and beans
- It overall reduces poverty and hunger, which reduces risk in the low-income communities we source from

### HOW ARE THEY DIFFERENT?

- The CPHIAA is a bill that focuses specifically on coffee research conducted by U.S. institutions.
- The GFSA is a broader bill that supports smallholder farmers and their food systems, including agricultural R&D systems in low-income countries. Coffee is a part and benefits greatly.