

Citi Foundation



Global Innovation Challenge: Expanding Food Security

Meet the Grantees



Global Innovation Challenge:

Food Security

Food security is one of today’s top global challenges, with 770 million people suffering from some form of malnutrition around the world. A recent study from Citi Global Perspectives & Solutions (GPS) found that the estimated economic impact of malnutrition on the global economy could be as high as \$3.5 trillion per year.*

The Citi Foundation recognizes the role philanthropy plays in catalyzing change and innovation, which is why it announced its Global Innovation Challenge model in 2023. Through an open request for proposals (RFP) this inaugural Challenge supports nonprofits to pilot or scale innovative ideas and projects that expand food security and strengthen the physical and financial health of low-income communities around the world.

Over two years, grantees also have access to a learning community facilitated by IDEO.org, a nonprofit design studio. Through a digital platform and a set of curated experiences, grantees have the opportunity to collaborate, share lessons learned and exchange best practices to advance their efforts spearheading solutions that improve food access, affordability, availability and community resilience.

* Food Security: Tackling the Current Crisis and Building Future Resilience,” Citi GPS (November 2022) <https://www.citigroup.com/global/insights/citigps/food-security>

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Philanthropic capital plays a critical role in the marketplace of social solutions and the Citi Foundation’s Global Innovation Challenge is designed to help new ideas grow and scale. From providing immediate relief to those in crisis to longer term interventions, the organizations that make up our first-ever Global Innovation Challenge cohort are delivering life-changing solutions that strengthen the health of low-income communities.

Brandee McHale

President of the Citi Foundation

Highlights



50 community organizations



\$25MM committed

Meet Our Grantees Working in Asia Pacific



International Development Enterprises (iDE) is helping ethnic minority rice farmers in Vietnam overcome climate-related challenges by using efficient technologies and creating sustainable businesses to boost their rice production.



Negros Women for Tomorrow Foundation is piloting training programs on modern farming techniques to develop and grow agricultural businesses for low-income farmers in the rural Philippines.



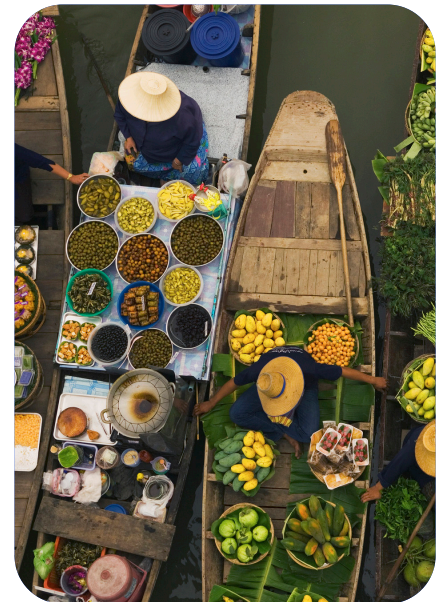
Open Food Network is creating a voucher program to help make quality food more financially accessible to low-income and food insecure households in Australia.



Plan Indonesia is scaling its program for young farmers, especially young women, to grow sustainable crops and livestock businesses while promoting the importance of healthy foods in an effort to prevent growth stunting.



SAJIDA Foundation is supporting farmers in vulnerable communities of Bangladesh with climate-resilient agriculture methods, storage facilities, market access and weather alerts.





Singapore Management University's Lien Centre for Social Innovation is developing and delivering an applied research and trial project to assess solutions that address food insecurity across marginalized communities in Singapore.



The Global Alliance for Improved Nutrition (GAIN) through a training-of-trainers model – is supporting youth-led enterprises in Bangladesh to further train and provide support services to other farmers.



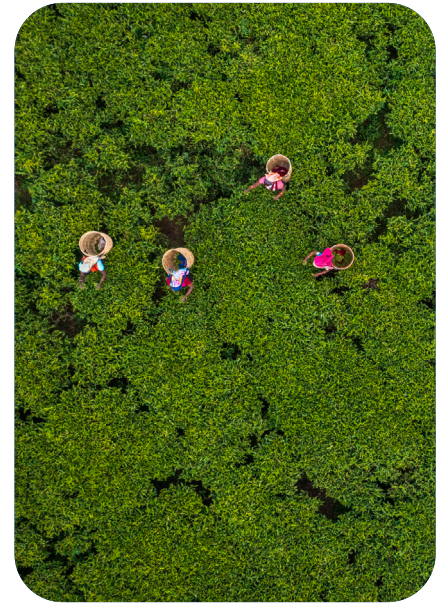
The United Nations Development Programme (UNDP) is supporting small-scale women farmers in Northern Sri Lanka by introducing tech-based farming, access to inclusive financing products and services and by teaching environmentally friendly agriculture techniques to improve productivity and community resilience.



World Vision Development Foundation is equipping farmers in the Philippines with financial and agricultural knowledge to start or grow profitable farming businesses and implement sustainable agricultural practices.



Yayasan Kopernik is working with small farmers in West Timor, Indonesia to revitalize indigenous farming practices and utilize innovative post-harvest technologies to help build a more resilient and self-sustaining food system.



Meet Our Grantees Working in Europe



Co-funded by the European Union



EIT Food is rolling out a social innovation and enterprise initiative with local partners in European cities to help entrepreneurs access tools, training and funds for their food-related businesses.



Food Bank in Olsztyn is launching new social enterprises in Poland to employ marginalized individuals and serve healthy and affordable food to low-income communities in collaboration with local governments, nonprofits and the business community.



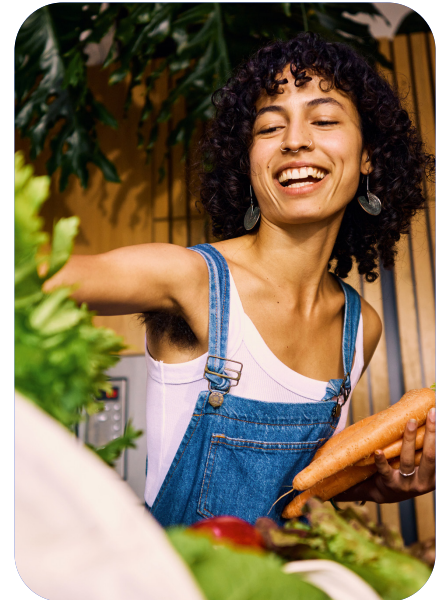
New Agriculture New Generation is piloting an agricultural training program in collaboration with community organizations that helps incarcerated individuals in Greece prepare for future farming careers while increasing food production and availability to the local community.



The Felix Project is piloting a program to secure and safely preserve surplus food from farmers and connect them to manufacturers or charities to decrease food waste on farms and increase food availability for those in London struggling with food insecurity.



The Trussell Trust is providing financial inclusion programs so that people facing hardship in the UK can access money advice and support, reducing the likelihood of needing food bank services.



Meet Our Grantees Working in Latin America and the Caribbean



Asociación de Bancos de Alimentos Colombia is strengthening Argentina's food banks to increase the delivery of healthy food to those in need, especially women and children, by providing training and improving infrastructure.



Bancos de Alimentos ARGENTINA (BAA) is strengthening Argentina's food banks to increase the delivery of healthy food to those in need, especially women and children, by providing training and improving infrastructure.



Cooperative for Assistance and Relief Everywhere (CARE) is expanding programming for indigenous women and youth farmers in Guatemala around climate-resilient agricultural practices and access to technology, financial services and inclusive markets.



Fondation Connaissance et Liberté (FOKAL) is scaling support to smallholder farmers organizations, women-led savings and loan cooperatives in Haiti, enabling them to purchase agricultural inputs that increase their food production and family livelihood opportunities.



Gerando Falcões is launching a project to set up two community kitchens in Brazil to provide affordable, healthy meals and create local job opportunities.

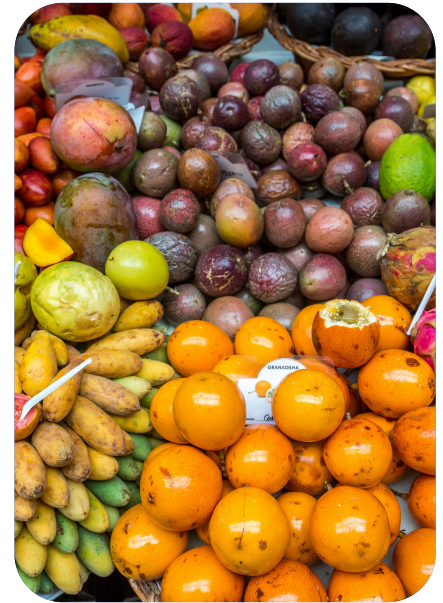


Groundswell International is working with a network of non-governmental organizations in Honduras and Guatemala to establish community grain and seed reserves and to promote sustainable farming methods with a focus on supporting women and Indigenous communities.





Heartland Alliance International is launching a program in the Dominican Republic for migrants and stateless individuals living in rural communities to improve sustainable farming practices, establish cooperatives and build local food networks.



Nuup is launching a program in southeast Mexico primarily for low-income coffee and cocoa farming families in indigenous areas to promote income diversification through beekeeping and agroforestry crops.



Red de Alimentos is broadening its efforts to recover more food across Chile by enhancing its app and developing partnerships with new food providers to reach underserved groups including women, migrants, youth and people in need.



The Hunger Project is scaling its initiative to engage indigenous women in southern Mexico in leadership and entrepreneurship technical training to create community-led food businesses.



Welthungerhilfe (WHH) is strengthening local, sustainable farming and promoting healthier diets in rural communities in Peru by connecting family farmers with local markets and school meal programs.



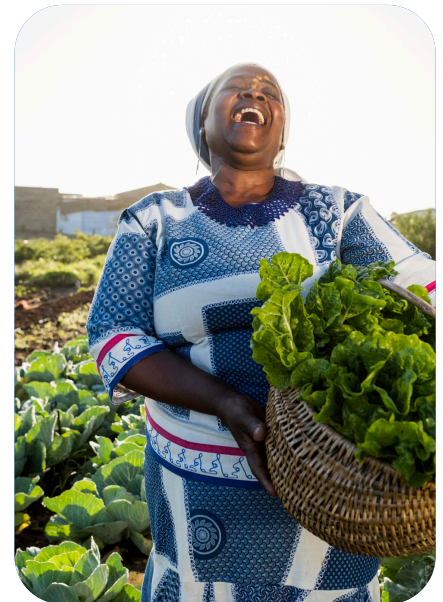
Meet Our Grantees Working in the Middle East & Africa



Anera is leveraging its cost-effective crop cultivation system to expand rooftop gardens in Lebanon that help families become self-sufficient, fulfill their nutritional needs, and share or sell surplus produce to neighbors.



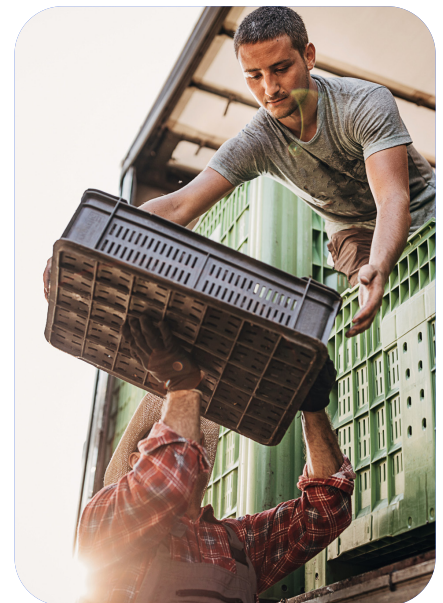
Concern Worldwide is supporting vulnerable communities in Nairobi's informal settlements, particularly youth and women, by providing access to affordable, healthy food, creating a small enterprises accelerator program and promoting nutritious practices through community engagement.



FoodCloud is enhancing its food rescue app, enabling food industry partners in four European markets to redistribute surplus food and trialing their solution in Kenya and Indonesia.



International Center for Agricultural Research in the Dry Areas (ICARDA) is facilitating food marketing and management interventions and customized training programs for low-income rural Moroccans and Tunisians.



Leket Israel is piloting a mobile grocery truck project to collect surplus farm produce and deliver it to remote and underserved communities in the country.



Misr Elkheir Foundation is supporting small-scale women farmers in Egypt by helping them use solar-powered tools to preserve their produce longer and training them to turn their farming into sustainable, self-run businesses.



Partners in Food Solutions is providing Kenyan grain processors with affordable equipment and expert guidance from global food companies to help them create nutrient-rich fortified flour.



Seriti Institute is strengthening the connection between local growers and consumers in low-income communities in South Africa by establishing multi-functional facilities that provide resources, training and agriculture skill-building opportunities for local farmers.



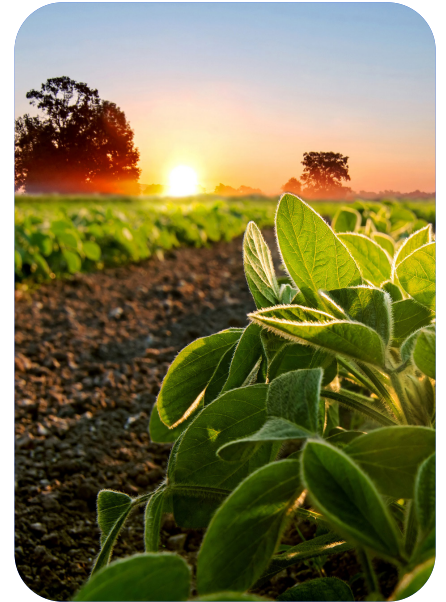
Tameer e Khalaq Foundation (TKF) is fostering community resilience in regions affected by flooding in Pakistan through field schools for farmers that offer training in community organizing, sustainable irrigation, livestock management and solar-powered produce drying units.



TechnoServe is increasing access to and availability of nutritious foods in low-income communities in Nigeria by enhancing producers' financial capacity and building their resilience to shocks and stresses.



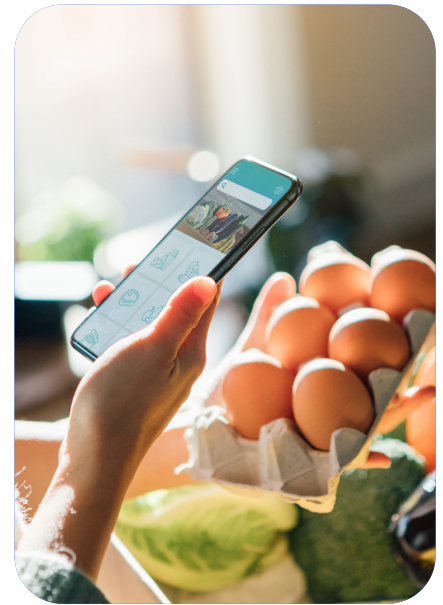
The World Food Program USA is working with communities in Zambia to provide financial services, micro-insurance and climate-risk mitigation tools and technical training for farmers.



Meet Our Grantees Working in the U.S. & Canada



Black Farmer Fund is helping Black farmers and food business owners benefit from new financial structures, intellectual capital, technical assistance, networking and public policies in the Northeast region of the U.S.



Choice for All is connecting community organizations led by people of color with tools and a centralized digital platform to enhance food distribution efforts across Long Island, New York.



Feed the Hunger Fund is supporting low-income food entrepreneurs in California by expanding loans, grants and technical assistance to foster sustainable agriculture, ensure food distribution to underserved areas and promote organic and climate-resilient farming practices.



FRESHFARM is connecting small- and mid-sized farmers in the Mid-Atlantic region, especially Black and Brown farmers, with nonprofits serving families struggling with food security to provide access to locally grown produce at wholesale prices.



Hispanic Unity of Florida is improving food security through new programming that will deliver access to healthy food, financial aid, and nutrition education to those living in areas with limited food options in South Florida.



Lakota Funds is boosting local fresh food production on the Pine Ridge and Rosebud Reservations in South Dakota by providing financial support to Native American farmers and ranchers to enhance livestock and crop production.



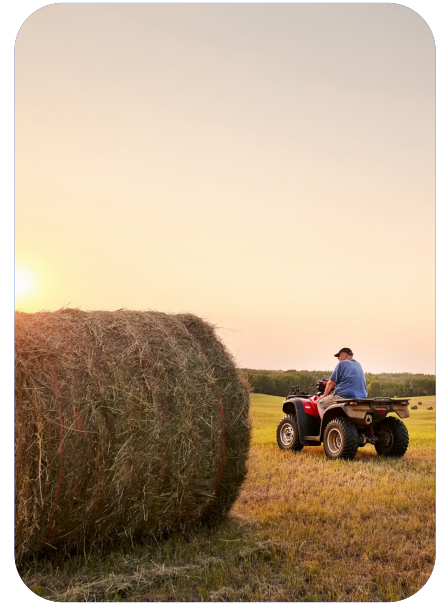
Qajuqturvik Community Food Centre is setting up the first pay-what-you-can country food and bulk food store in Nunavut, Canada's Arctic territory, to offer traditional Indigenous foods and other healthy, culturally relevant options to residents.



The Campaign Against Hunger is expanding its online food pantry delivery service to enable low-income communities in New York City food deserts to use government benefits to access fresh, healthy food.



White Pony Express is introducing an app-based community service platform that connects volunteers in California with surplus food donations they can personally deliver in real-time to those in need.



Meet Our Grantees Working Globally



Accion is scaling its support to agri-fintech startups that deliver financial services to low-income communities and small businesses, including in Brazil, Indonesia, Kenya and Zambia.



Chatham House is conducting a research and engagement project to assess early warning systems and mitigate food security risks, engaging communities in Bangladesh and Senegal and international humanitarian organizations.



The Global FoodBanking Network is providing technical support, mentoring, peer-to-peer connections and partnership opportunities to growing food banks operating in communities with high rates of hunger, with a focus in sub-Saharan Africa and Southeast Asia.



WhyHunger is working with agriculture schools that provide intensive, hands-on education to help students produce food for their families and communities in Colombia, Dominican Republic, Paraguay, Spain, Thailand, and the United States and supporting the establishment of new schools in Brazil, Panama, Peru and Sri Lanka.



Learn more about the Global
Innovation Challenge at
citifoundation.com/challenge

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