

USDA McGovern-Dole International Food for Education and Child Nutrition Program

Introductory Presentation

Lindsay Carter

McGovern-Dole Director

International Food Assistance Division

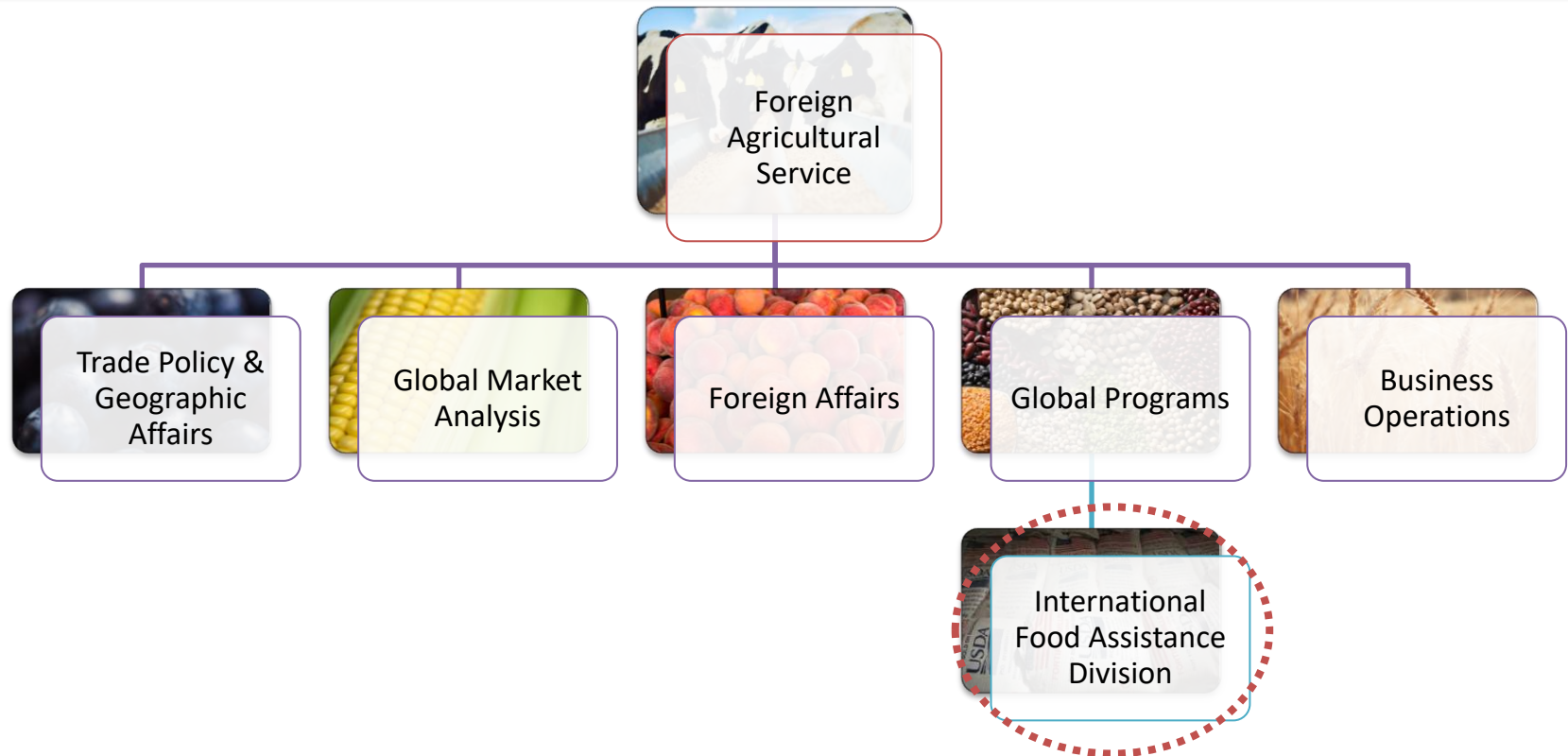
Foreign Agricultural Service

fas.usda.gov/programs/mcgovern_dole_food_education_program





Overview of International Food Assistance within FAS



Alongside the goals laid out in [Secretary's Memorandum 1078-12](#), USDA is committed to ensuring international food assistance program reduce dependency on long-term assistance, and projects mitigate and reduce fraud, waste, and abuse.



McGovern-Dole International Food For Education and Child Nutrition

7 U.S. Code 1736o-1 (b)

“[A] program, to be known as ‘McGovern-Dole International Food for Education and Child Nutrition Program,’ requiring the procurement of agricultural commodities and the provision of financial and technical assistance to carry out –

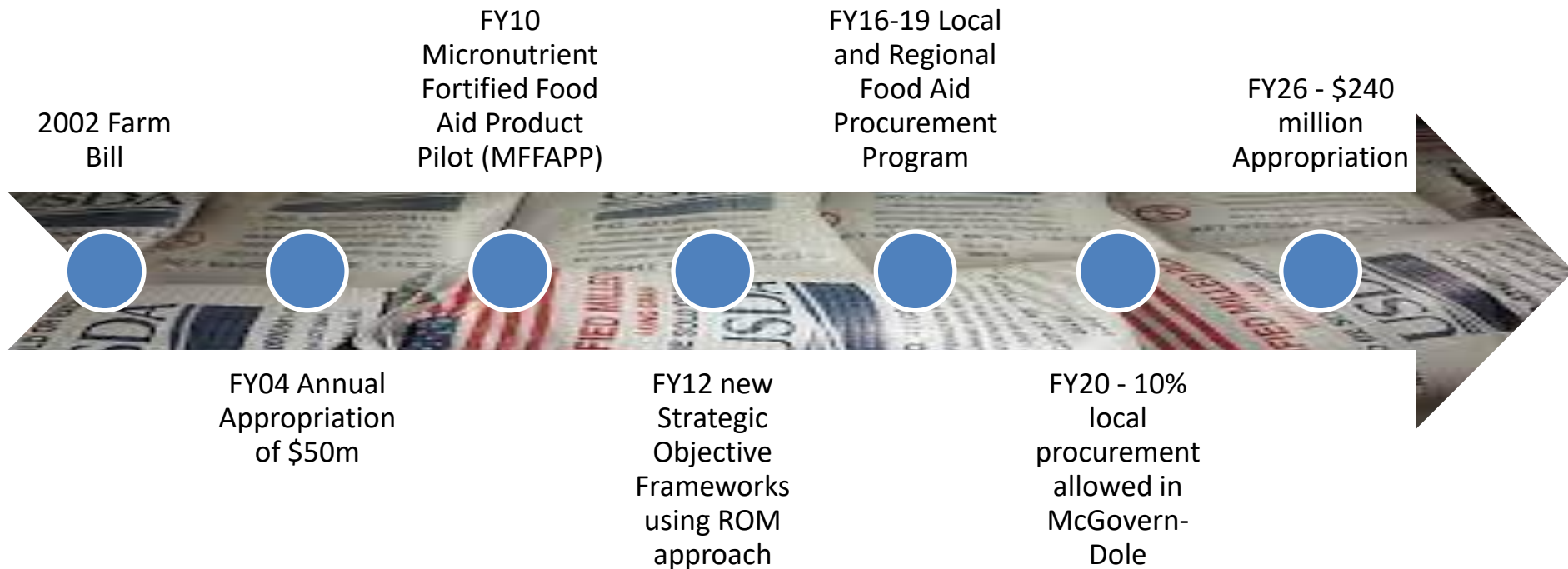
(1) **preschool** and **school food** for education programs in foreign countries to improve **food security**, reduce the incidence of **hunger**, and improve literacy and **primary education**, particularly with respect to **girls**; and

(2) **maternal, infant, and child** nutrition programs for pregnant women, nursing mothers, infants, and children who are 5 years of age or younger.”





Evolution of the McGovern-Dole Program since 2002





USDA Foreign Agricultural Service McGovern-Dole Countries



29 active projects in 24 countries

- **5 year cooperative agreements with average value \$25 to \$40 million**
- **School Meals:**
 - U.S.-provided commodities
 - Local and regionally procured commodities
- **Work closely with host governments**
- **Semi-annual reporting**
- **Three external evaluations (baseline, midline, final)**
- **Target schools in hardest-to-reach areas**
- **Prime organization with sub-recipients**



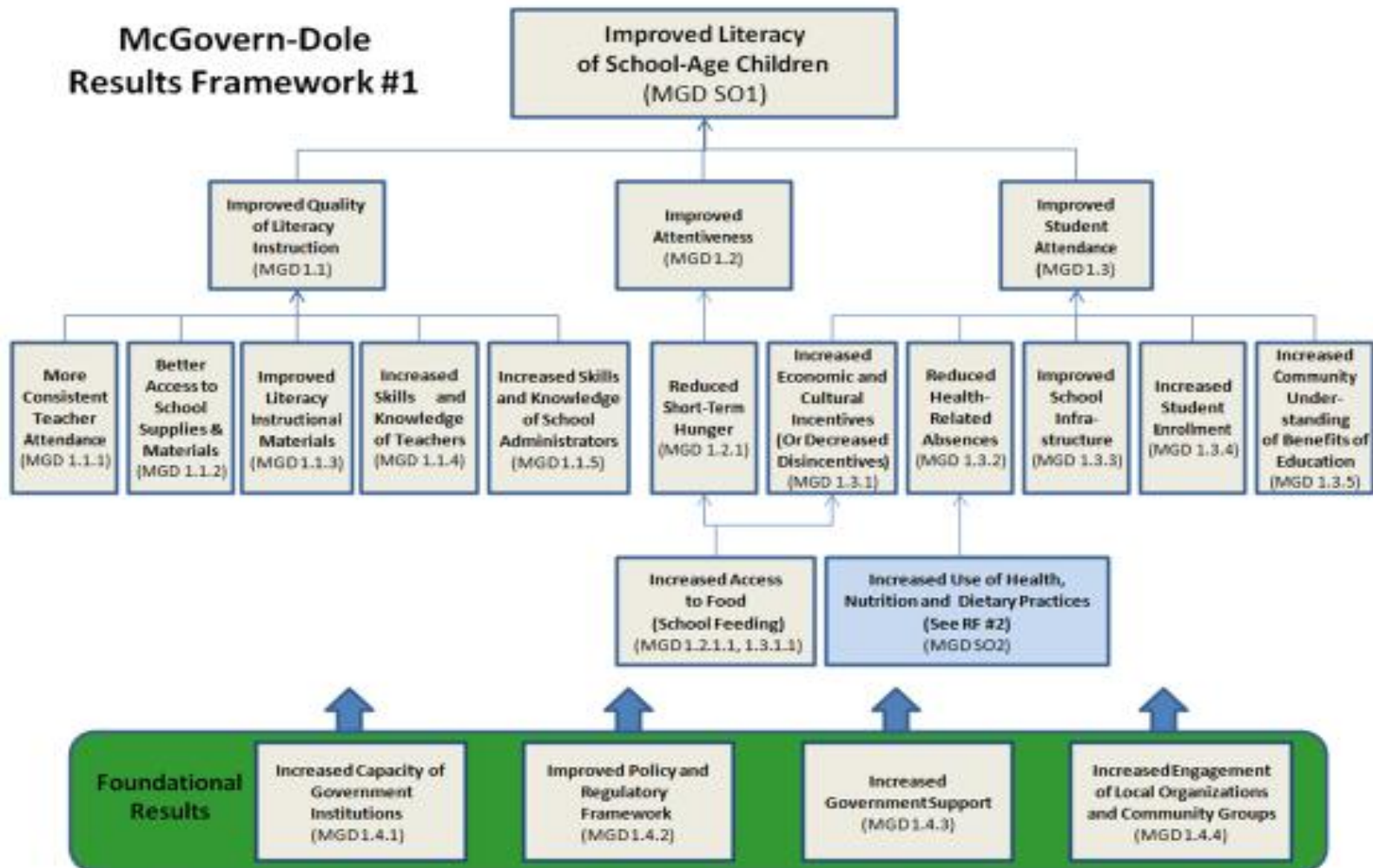


United States Department of Agriculture
Foreign Agricultural Service

School Meals

- **Cornerstone of McGovern-Dole**
- **Variety of modalities:**
 - Breakfast / Lunch / Snack
 - In-school or Central Kitchen
- **Safe, clean, and nutritious**
- **Min. 1/3rd of daily caloric needs**
- **Address nutritional needs**
- **Culturally-appropriate**





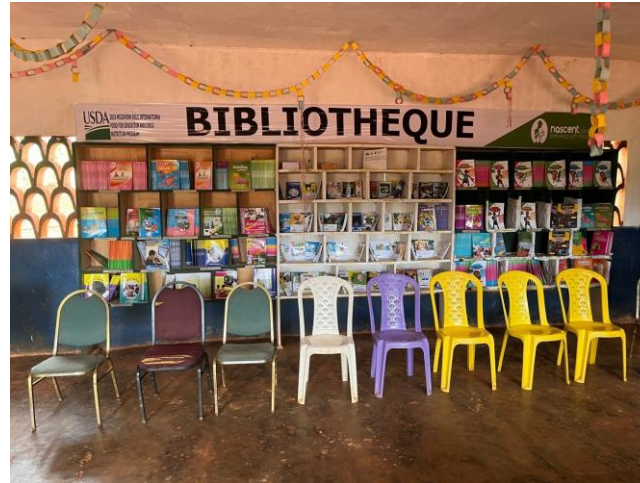
A Note on Foundational Results: These results can feed into one or more higher-level results. Causal relationships sometimes exist between foundational results.



United States Department of Agriculture
Foreign Agricultural Service

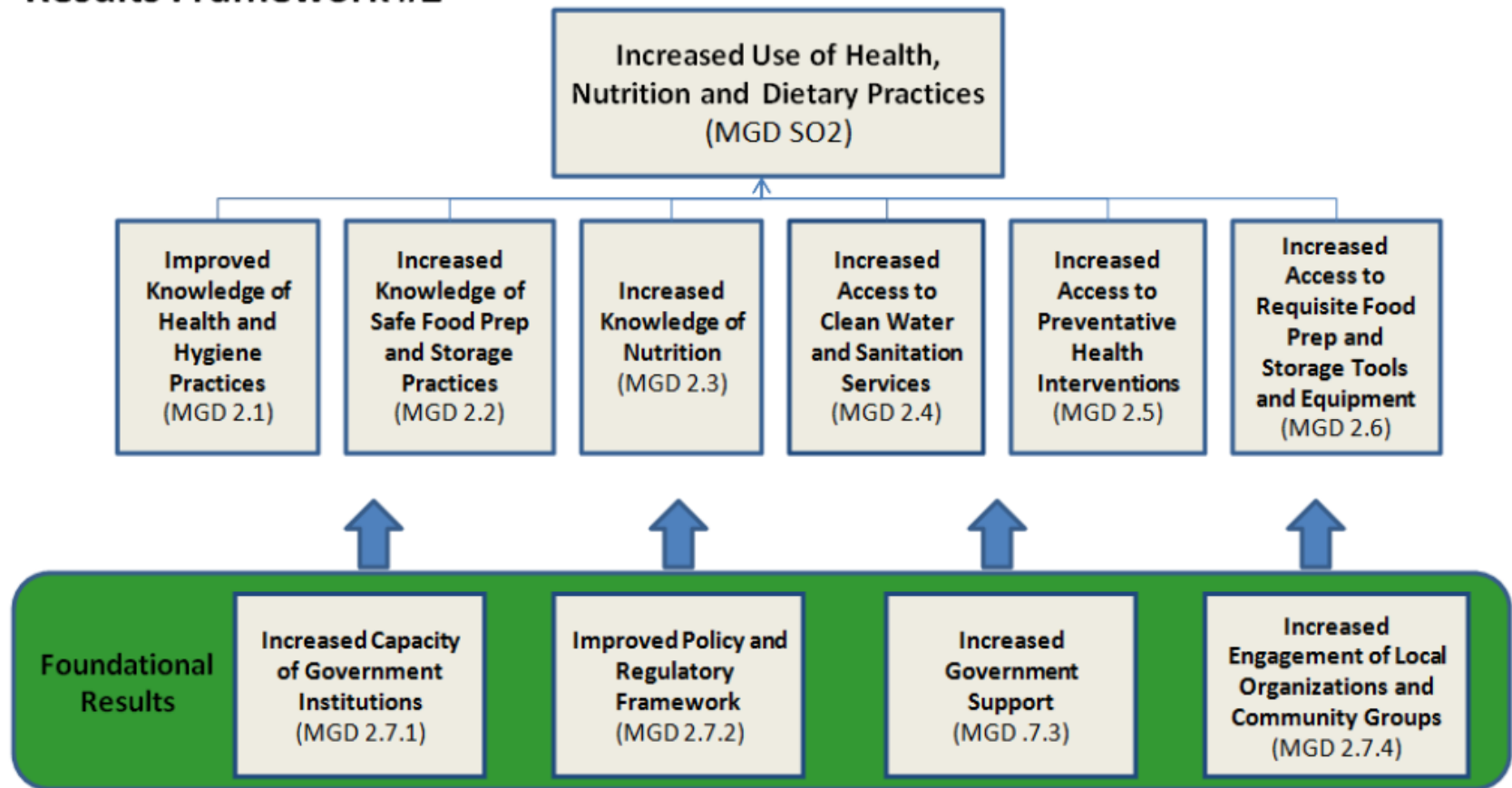
SO1: Improved Literacy of School Age Children

- Provide school meals
- Take home rations
- Curriculum Development
- Distribute School supplies and materials
- Teacher Training and Coaching
- Promote Teacher Attendance
- Strengthen Parent-Teacher Associations
- School Gardens (pedagogical tool)





McGovern-Dole Results Framework #2



A Note on Foundational Results: These results can feed into one or more higher-level results. Causal relationships sometimes exist between foundational results.

SO2: Increased Use of Improved Health and Dietary Practices



- Building/Rehabilitation of Kitchens and Storerooms
- Building/Rehabilitation: Latrines and Water Sources
- Distribution: Deworming medication, vitamins & minerals
- Monitor children's growth
- Training: Commodity management, Food preparation and storage practices
- Training: Good health and nutrition practices
- Social and Behavior Change interventions





Sustainability

- Capacity building and training at Local, regional, and national levels
- Develop farm-to-school supply chains and procurement mechanisms
- Advocate for budget line item and increased funding for schools feeding
- Establish/strengthen interministerial committees
- Develop/strengthen national policies, laws, curricula, guidelines, etc.
- Build innovative funding mechanisms, including private sector funding

Graduation

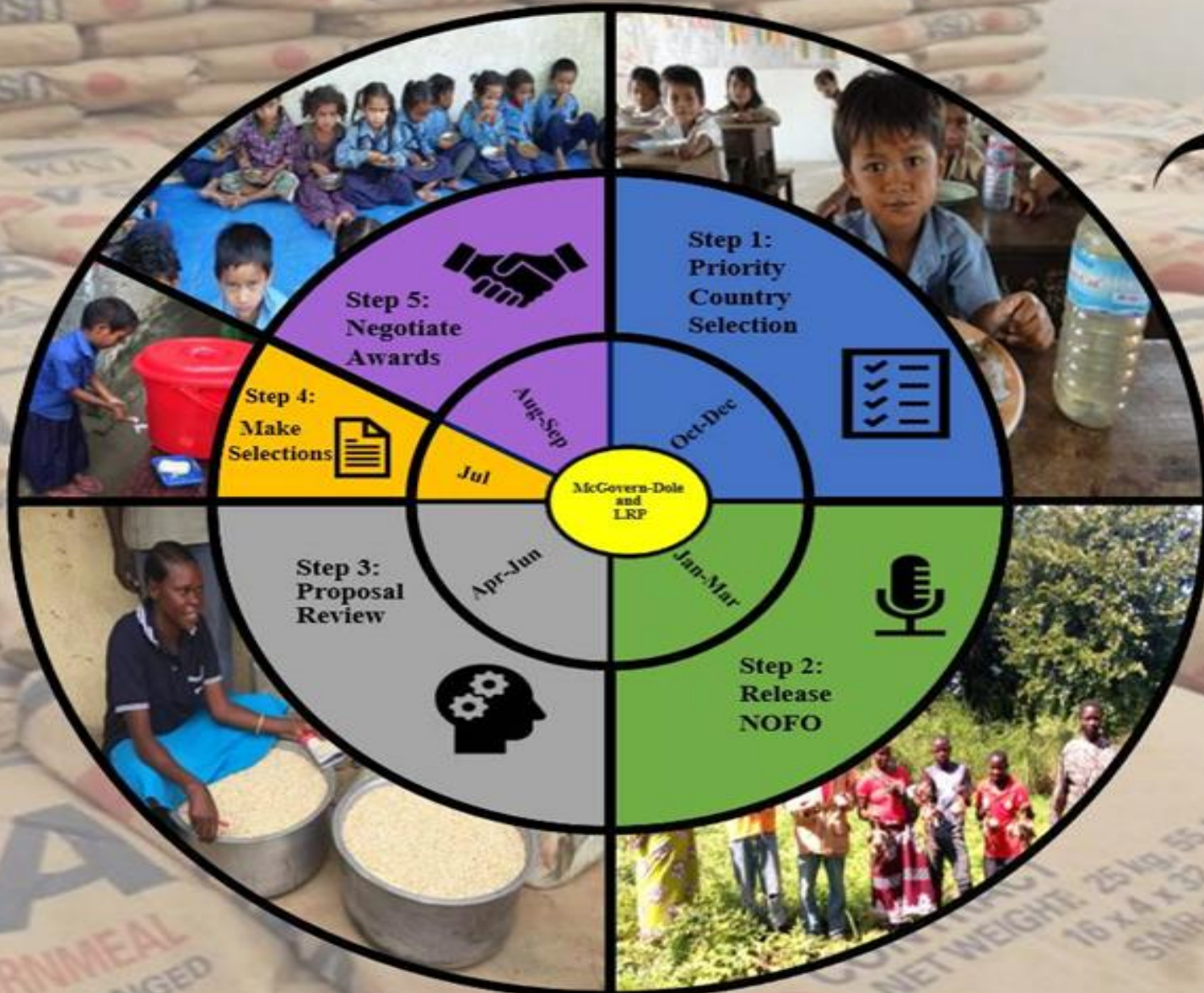
- Phasing over activities to host country governments and/or communities for lasting impact beyond USDA McGovern-Dole support





United States Department of Agriculture
Foreign Agricultural Service

Annual McGovern-Dole Cycle





Who Is Eligible to Apply

In accordance with the McGovern-Dole authorizing legislation, [7 U.S.C. 1736o-1](#), the following entities are eligible Applicants:

- Private Voluntary Organizations (defined at [7 CFR 1599.2](#));
 - Cooperatives;
 - Intergovernmental Organizations;
 - Governments of developing countries and their agencies; and
 - Other Organizations, including Higher Education Institutions
-
- All Applicants must have an active registration in the U.S. Government System for Award Management (www.sam.gov) before the application submission deadline of the announcement.
 - Applicants with inactive, expired, pending, or excluded listings will be deemed ineligible.
 - To be considered eligible, an application must propose the use of U.S. Commodities



- Released annually on Grants.gov
- Main NOFO Guidance Document includes:
 - Information on funding details, key dates
 - Application Content Guidance
 - Application Submission Instructions (including for FAIS)
 - Application Review Information
 - Post-Award Requirements
 - U.S. commodities list
- Relevant Attachments, such as third-party project evaluations



[Grants.gov Search
Results for Archived
McGovern-Dole
NOFOs](#)



Advice for organizations interested in McGovern-Dole

- Read prior year McGovern-Dole NOFOs and publicly-available documents
- Read previous McGovern-Dole project evaluations
- Familiarize yourselves with U.S. commodity management requirements
- Keep a lookout for USDA McGovern-Dole priority country announcements

Advice for organizations who apply for McGovern-Dole

- Read the NOFO and any country-specific guidance very carefully
 - Respond to the NOFO, paying attention to what must be included versus what is recommended
 - Ensure U.S. commodities are an integral part of the application
 - Incorporate principles to mitigate and reduce fraud, waste, and abuse
 - Cost-effective
 - Follow page limits and required attachments and forms
 - Track posted Q+As posted during application period
- Register and set-up an account in FAIS well in advance: Please do not leave it until the last minute to submit applications in FAIS.



Lindsay Carter
McGovern-Dole Director, Foreign
Agricultural Service
Lindsay.Carter@usda.gov



[Active McGovern-Dole Projects](#)

[Map of Active Food Assistance Projects](#)

[Agricultural Commodities Purchased and Transported by State for Active McGovern-Dole Projects](#)

[Annual Funding Allocations](#)

[Contact](#)





- [Secretary's Memorandum 1078-12: PRIORITIZING FOREIGN ASSISTANCE FROM THE UNITED STATES DEPARTMENT OF AGRICULTURE, WHICH MAKES THE UNITED STATES OF AMERICA SAFER, STRONGER, AND MORE PROSPEROUS. \(June 30, 2025\)](#)
- [McGovern-Dole Program](#)
- [McGovern-Dole Program Authorizing Legislation](#)
- [McGovern-Dole Program Regulations](#)
- [Food Aid Information System \(FAIS\)](#)
- [FY 2025 Notice of Funding Opportunity \(Grants.gov Archive\)](#)
 - [Grants.gov page with attachments \(Past Evaluations, Q+A responses\)](#)
- [McGovern-Dole Standard Indicators and Definitions](#)
- [Monitoring and Evaluation Policy](#)
- [International Commodity Requirements \(AMS\)](#)
- [International Commodity Procurement \(AMS\)](#)