Cargill has deep roots in the communities in which we live and work. Our efforts to build a more equitable, inclusive, and resilient food system include supporting local communities around the world, leveraging the strength of our partnerships, expertise, and resources.
Our approach

Cargill is strengthening communities through economic development, partnerships, philanthropy, and employee volunteerism.

We recognize the magnitude of the challenges facing our world – food insecurity, climate change, poverty, and human rights issues.

Working hand-in-hand with our partners and other key stakeholders, we harness the power of our global reach, expertise, and resources to address these challenges and strengthen local communities.

We align our philanthropic and impact investments with our sustainability strategy and key focus areas of Climate, Land and Water, and People. Our community impact initiatives are embedded throughout this report, and many of our programs and partnerships deliver multiple benefits across all three of these focus areas. They also work to improve access to safe, nutritious, and affordable food.

Our work contributes to the following SDGs:

Guided by our purpose ➔ led by our strategic focus areas ➔ enabled and amplified by our impact partners ➔ to nourish and empower local communities

To nourish the world in a safe, responsible, and sustainable way

To the left of the content:

- Climate
- People
- Land & Water

To the right of the content:

- Integrated strategy, multiple benefits
- Nourishment, empowerment, and engagement

To the bottom of the content:

- SDG icons and numbers

To the bottom right:

- Globe with text "To nourish the world in a safe, responsible, and sustainable way"
Strategic partners

Nourishing the world requires us to deepen relationships with local communities. Through our extensive collaborations with leading civil society partners across regions and supply chains, we are proactively addressing the needs of individual communities – providing them with access, representation, and a voice. The following list is representative of the breadth and depth of our partnerships with global NGOs:

**Care**

For more than 60 years, Cargill and CARE have collaborated to improve agricultural productivity and market access, increase food security and nutrition, and strengthen education and economic opportunities, especially for women and girls. In the last 15 years, the partnership has reached more than 4.6 million people through 34 projects in 12 countries.

**Earthworm**

Earthworm Foundation has been working with Cargill since 2010 to drive community-based, integrated sustainability approaches. Our collaboration began with a customer-focused, supply chain solution to make palm production more sustainable. Today we are working together to address land use, farmer livelihoods, food security, human rights, and other issues in cocoa, soy, and other supply chains.

**Global Water Challenge (GWC)**

Cargill and Global Water Challenge launched Cargill Currents in 2021 to address water challenges faced by local communities in priority regions. By tailoring interventions to the specific needs of the target communities, the program supports access to safe drinking water and sanitation and promotes sustainable water management practices. Our work delivers benefits beyond water access, including supporting farmer livelihoods, empowering women and youth, and addressing climate impacts.

**Save the Children**

Cargill partners with Save the Children globally with a focus on human rights, food security, and water and sanitation access in rural communities. Whether in Southeast Asia or Côte d’Ivoire, we are working to improve food security for young people, reduce child labor, create livelihood opportunities for youth in cocoa farming, and provide better health outcomes through access to safe water and sanitation.

**TechnoServe**

We work with TechnoServe to build strong market-based solutions that create more resilient, profitable, and inclusive food systems. Partnering with supply chain teams around the world, TechnoServe focuses on strategies and on-the-ground work with farmers in Latin America, Africa, and Asia. The scope of our work includes Coop Academy, an on-the-job development program for cocoa cooperative managers.

**UN World Food Programme USA (WFP)**

Cargill has worked with World Food Program USA (WFP USA) and the United Nations World Food Programme (WFP) since 2001. Together, we are focused on building global and local food security solutions that help people respond to hunger and build stronger, more resilient food systems. We have worked together to connect farmers to local supply chains, advance school meal solutions, purchase local food in the midst of crisis, and provide emergency food assistance where it is needed and welcomed.

**World Resources Institute (WRI)**

We work with World Resources Institute (WRI) to advance more environmentally sustainable agricultural approaches. With a focus on integrated approaches across climate, land use, water, and farmer livelihoods, we have collaborated on analytical tools like WRI’s Aqueduct Water Risk Atlas, Aqueduct Food, and Global Forest Watch Pro. Cargill supported WRI and partners in the development of industry guidance to help companies set contextual water targets across their enterprise.
Partnerships in action

Empowering women in agricultural communities

This year, Cargill and CARE embarked on the next chapter of our partnership with a focus on women farmers and entrepreneurs, who produce up to 80% of the world’s food in developing countries, according to the UN Food and Agriculture Organization. The expanded phase of the partnership will support 12 projects spanning 11 countries, including Côte d’Ivoire, Guatemala, and Vietnam. The program’s focus areas include enabling women’s access to inclusive markets to unlock greater production, expanding profits on small-scale agriculture, and ensuring food security. The program will also work to increase women’s access and agency to productive agricultural resources by improving access to information, land, water, inputs, information, technology, extension and climate services, and finance.

We will invest $14 million in this program over the next three years with a goal of reaching more than 1.6 million people.

Strengthening financial literacy in Indonesia

Cargill collaborated with Save the Children to identify opportunities to strengthen financial literacy among independent palm producers in Indonesia. Working with palm producing households we learned nearly 80% do not have an emergency fund.

Our support for Save the Children, in partnership with local organization Gapemasda, enabled the implementation of a program focused on youth development and business promotion. We also launched 27 Village Savings and Loan Association (VSLA) groups to strengthen the economic resilience of oil palm farming families. In VSLAs, community members cooperate and work together more, and share information to issue loans, make future plans, and understand financial agreements.

“Before this program, young people like me were running out of money.”

Benyamin Umang
Palm producer in Indonesia

Maria Magdalena Rivera (pictured right) is a tilapia farmer in a women-run cooperative called Achiotal Aquaculture Association, located in rural Honduras. Read her story
With more than 700 million people affected by hunger globally, ensuring food security requires decisive, short-term action and long-term investments to build more resilient food systems that can address shocks like the war in Ukraine, inflation, and natural disasters.

Advancing food security requires partners working together across borders, areas of expertise, and interests. We are focused on responding to crises and building long-term solutions. We prioritize investments in improving farmer incomes and productivity, helping producers adapt to climate change, and more effectively responding to shocks and feeding a rapidly growing, global population.

Long-term view: Building resilient supply chains

Hatching Hope: The goal of the global initiative is to improve nutrition and economic livelihoods by reaching 100 million people by 2030 through the production, promotion, and consumption of poultry. To date, we have reached 21 million people and are continuing to expand with new partners in new geographies. See People: Farmer Livelihoods for more on this and other programs.

Urgent food needs: Responding in times of crises

Amid the conflict in Ukraine, our teams are working to keep food supply chains running through the Black Sea corridor. We’re also supporting humanitarian relief efforts in the region and others around the world impacted by the crisis. See “Responding in times of crisis” for more details on our emergency response efforts.

30 United Nations Food and Agriculture Organization (FAO)

“Our employees are real-life examples of our purpose in action. They are helping to nourish the world by keeping the food system working even in the most challenging circumstances.”

Roger Watchorn
Leader of Agricultural Supply Chain and Corporate Trading at Cargill

Photo credit: WFP/Giulio d’Adamo
Global philanthropy and volunteerism

Cargill has a long history of corporate, business, and foundation giving to support strategic partnerships that advance our social and environmental priorities. We also leverage the passion and talent of our global workforce by providing them opportunities to contribute their time and expertise. This approach maximizes our monetary donations and talent, and provides our local, regional, and global partners with the resources needed to sustain, grow, and deliver impactful programming.

Our investments and impact

This year, we contributed more than $115.5 million globally to support our partners and local communities. Some of our most significant impacts included:

- **57% average increase** in farmer income among our partners reporting
- **114,000 people** with improved access to water, sanitation, and hygiene
- **3.4 million people** with increased access to food

This year, we met our global annual goal to invest 2% of our global pre-tax earnings with NGOs and other partners to advance our social and environmental priorities and support local communities. Our funding is managed and distributed through both corporate and business giving, as well as through Cargill foundations in select countries.

Bolstering food security around the world

A key pillar of our food security strategy is supporting food banks, which are often a vital lifeline for those in need. Cargill has deep local ties with many community food banks, providing financial support and volunteer assistance over many years. For example, we contributed nearly $5 million to Feeding America to support hunger relief and address the shortage of fresh protein at food banks throughout the U.S.

We also scale up our support in times of crisis. Our donation to the European Food Banks Federation assisted hunger relief efforts for refugees in Poland and directly in Ukraine. Additionally, we partnered with the World Food Program (WFP) USA to provide the equivalent of 2 million meals in Yemen and Somalia. We also partnered with our suppliers to provide rice to 4,000 red seaweed producers in Tanzania and Madagascar to address short-term food shortages.

Investing in our hometown youth

The Cargill Foundation partners with nonprofit organizations in our headquarters community of Minneapolis/St. Paul, Minnesota, U.S., to nourish and educate children so they can succeed in school, work, and life. Our focus is on supporting low-income and Black, Indigenous, and other youth of color through investments in programs that improve access to nutritious food, expand education in Science, Technology, Engineering, and Mathematics (STEM), and prepare students for college and careers.

This year, our contributions resulted in more than 20 million meals.

This year, the Cargill Foundation provided 20,000 children with access to STEM curriculum and served more than 12 million nutritious meals and snacks.

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31 Based on global, consolidated pre-tax earnings over a three-year trailing average
Responding in times of crisis

From natural disasters like the earthquakes in Türkiye and Syria, to the ongoing war in Ukraine, we are committed to supporting communities around the globe in times of crisis.

Providing relief in Ukraine

Since the full-scale invasion of Ukraine more than a year ago, we have remained committed to the safety of our employees and continue to provide humanitarian relief to communities impacted by the war. At its peak, more than 13 million Ukrainians were displaced by the war, and the nation has suffered more than $28.3 billion in agricultural losses.

We are committed to helping Ukrainian farmers produce the food the world depends on while also re-establishing their livelihoods, which have been torn apart by the war. Farmers in the region face a growing risk posed by landmine contamination, which is estimated at 174,000 square kilometers – or approximately half the territory of Japan or double the territory of Austria. We are working with a global landmine clearance NGO, The HALO Trust, to provide mine risk education to farmers and safely remove mines from farmland. Our farmer risk education campaign has reached more than 5.3 million farmers and agricultural workers in the country’s most at-risk regions.

Through employee-led Cargill Cares Councils, we also provide support to dozens of local organizations and projects in Ukraine and Eastern Europe, spanning emergency relief, medical assistance, food, housing, and education for Ukrainians, including those displaced by the war. For example, we partnered with Ukrainian NGO CF Blagomay to build container houses for refugees who have lost their homes, as well as a multi-functional shelter space, including a children’s room and center for psychological support. We also support the charity foundation Superhumans Center, which opened a state-of-the-art rehabilitation center in mid-2023 for Ukrainians injured during the war. The center will treat 2,800 patients per year who have been partially or permanently impaired.

We also continue to provide monetary support to our global humanitarian partners, such as WFP USA. With Cargill’s support, WFP USA was able to provide 55,000 people in Kharkiv with food assistance for two months, as well as provide cash-based transfers to 35,000 people for one month.

To date, we’ve committed more than $40 million in humanitarian relief to Ukraine and the broader region.

Supporting humanitarian efforts in Türkiye

In February of this year, two powerful earthquakes struck a wide area of southeastern Türkiye and Syria, which had a devastating effect on communities, including limiting access to food.

In response, we committed $1 million to support humanitarian efforts through local organizations; under the coordination of the governmental organization AFAD (Türkiye’s Disaster and Emergency Management Authority), we supported local organizations like TIDER, other local NGOs, and World Central Kitchen, whose team was on the ground providing meals for families impacted and relief workers. In the immediate aftermath of the disaster, we purchased and prepared a total of 2,400 ready-to-go food bags to distribute to children living in the disaster area.

Our next steps include working with TIDER to open a food bank in Adıyaman in fall 2023. This project will run for two years and support approximately 1,500 families every month with food as well as cleaning and hygiene products. The food bank will also provide animal feed products and will have four employees, an office, a storage area, and various transportation vehicles for daily use to manage the food bank.

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32 United Nations High Commissioner for Refugees (UNHCR)
33 United Nations Food and Agriculture Organization (FAO)
34 Statement by Ukrainian Prime Minister Denys Shmyhal