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2023 G7 Hiroshima Summit Interim Compliance Report

22 May 2023 to 3 December 2023

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19 February 2024

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“We have meanwhile set up a process and there are also independent institutions monitoring which objectives of our G7 meetings we actually achieve. When it comes to these goals we have a compliance rate of about 80%, according to the University of Toronto. Germany, with its 87%, comes off pretty well. That means that next year too, under the Japanese G7 presidency, we are going to check where we stand in comparison to what we have discussed with each other now. So a lot of what we have resolved to do here together is something that we are going to have to work very hard at over the next few months. But I think that it has become apparent that we, as the G7, want to assume responsibility far beyond the prosperity in our own countries. That’s why today’s outreach meetings, that is the meetings with our guests, were also of great importance.”

Chancellor Angela Merkel, Schloss Elmau, 8 June 2015

G7 summits are a moment for people to judge whether aspirational intent is met by concrete commitments. The G7 Research Group provides a report card on the implementation of G7 and G20 commitments. It is a good moment for the public to interact with leaders and say, you took a leadership position on these issues — a year later, or three years later, what have you accomplished?

Achim Steiner, Administrator, United Nations Development Programme,
in G7 Canada: The 2018 Charlevoix Summit

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9. Food and Agriculture: Healthy and Safe Diets

[We commit to improving access to affordable healthy diets and safe and nutritious foods through] ... increasing the availability, affordability and quality of malnutrition treatment and prevention products and services.

Hiroshima G7 Summit Communiqué

Assessment

	No Compliance	Partial Compliance	Full Compliance
Canada			+1
France			+1
Germany			+1
Italy			+1
Japan		0	
United Kingdom			+1
United States			+1
European Union			+1
Average		+0.88 (94%)	

Background

As part of the United Nations 2015 Millennium Project with its eight Millennium Development Goals (MDGs), signed in 2002 (Eradicate Extreme Poverty and Hunger, Reduce Child Mortality, Improve Maternal Health) and the UN's 2030 Agenda for Sustainable Development with its 17 Sustainable Development Goals, signed in 2015 (Zero Hunger, Good Health and Well-Being) malnutrition and food security have been recurring commitments at the G7 summit. Food security first appeared on the G7's agenda at the 1979 Tokyo Summit.¹²⁸⁷ Since then, the issue has evolved from a primary focus on regions of conflict and drought also suffering from malnutrition, such as Sub-Saharan Africa, to maternal and child health to using biotechnology to develop agricultural productivity and improve food safety, and more Equitable access to safe and healthy food remains a challenge. Economic crises, such as the sharp rise in food prices in 2008, have historically led to vulnerable populations remaining behind in terms of nutrition. Malnutrition extends to obesity, which appeared on the G7's agenda at the 2016 Ise-Shima Summit. Thus, nutrition is a wide-ranging issue on the G7's expanding agenda.

At the 1979 Tokyo Summit, G7 leaders emphasized the need for “cooperation with developing countries to overcome hunger and malnutrition.”¹²⁸⁸ They also recognized the need to urge multilateral organizations to develop effective agricultural strategies and build up storage capacity to strengthen national food reserves. They also gave consideration to developing human resources and agricultural research adapted to local conditions.

At the 1980 Venice Summit, G7 leaders reiterated concerns regarding extreme poverty and chronic malnutrition afflicting hundreds of millions of people in developing countries.¹²⁸⁹ They recognized the need to reduce developing countries' reliance on food imports and increase their ability to feed themselves, and confirmed their readiness to join with developing countries and international agencies to improve national and international research services as well as supplement World Bank and Food and Agricultural Organization of the United Nations (FAO) initiatives to improve grain storage and food handling facilities.

¹²⁸⁷ Background, United Nations (New York) n.d. Access Date: 30 September 2023.
<https://www.un.org/millenniumgoals/bkgd.shtml>

¹²⁸⁸ Declaration, G7 Information Centre (Toronto) 29 June 1979. Access Date: 30 September 2023.
<http://www.g7.utoronto.ca/summit/1979tokyo/communique.html>

¹²⁸⁹ Declaration, G7 Information Centre (Toronto) 23 June 1980. Access Date: 30 September 2023.
<http://www.g7.utoronto.ca/summit/1980venice/communique/index.html>

At the 1985 Bonn Summit, G7 leaders acknowledged the “plight of African peoples who are suffering from famine and drought.”¹²⁹⁰ They emphasized that political obstacles in the region should not impede food delivery to the hungry and reiterated the need for promoting increases in food production and intensifying cooperation for long-term food strategy based on local agricultural programs.

At the 1986 Tokyo Summit, G7 leaders reaffirmed their commitment to fight against hunger, disease and poverty¹²⁹¹ and reiterated their readiness to assist the food situation in Africa through emergency aid.

At the 1999 Köln Summit, G8 leaders recognized the importance of food safety and invited the Organisation for Economic Co-operation and Development (OECD) Working Group on Harmonization of Regulatory Oversight of Biotechnology and the OECD Task Force for the Safety of Novel Foods and Feeds to study the implications of biotechnology and other aspects of food safety.¹²⁹²

At the 2000 Okinawa Summit, G8 leaders reiterated the need for strengthened partnership with governments, the World Health Organization (WHO) and other international organizations, industry, academic institutions, non-governmental organizations and other relevant actors to cover development of expanded nutrition and micro-nutrients.¹²⁹³ They also reiterated the importance of food safety and working with the FAO and WHO to organize meetings of food safety regulators. Members also confirmed their continued interest in developing systems that address “global food security, health, nutritional and environmental challenges and are adapted to specific conditions in [developing] countries,” with consideration given to the accelerated pace of biotechnology development and the increased cross-border movement of food.

At the 2001 Genoa Summit, G8 members reiterated the need for strong national health systems that promote prevention, treatment and care and improve access to essential healthcare services.¹²⁹⁴ Members also confirmed their support for “a transparent, scientific and rules-based approach” to food safety to promote public understanding of food safety benefits and risks.

At the 2003 Evian Summit, G8 leaders reaffirmed their commitment to strengthening health systems as a framework for “increasing access of the neediest populations of developing countries to health care, drugs and treatments.”¹²⁹⁵ They also reaffirmed the importance of increasing and retaining healthcare personnel, advancing the rational use of medicine and strengthening drug distribution systems. The leaders expressed their continued intent to promote agricultural research and biotechnology development.

At the 2004 Sea Island Summit, G8 leaders emphasized the need to develop agricultural science and technology to meet international food safety standards, promoting “hardier crops for healthier people” by improving agricultural productivity and thus reducing the threat of malnutrition.¹²⁹⁶ They reiterated the need for meeting emergency food aid needs, especially in ending the famine in the Horn of Africa, as well as collecting data on national nutrition and mortality levels and adding value to farmers’ production to reduce reliance on food aid.

¹²⁹⁰ The Bonn Economic Declaration: Towards Sustained Growth and Higher Employment, G7 Information Centre (Toronto) 4 May 1985. Access Date: 30 September 2023. <http://www.g7.utoronto.ca/summit/1985bonn/communique.html>.

¹²⁹¹ Tokyo Declaration: Looking Forward to a Better Future, G7 Information Centre (Toronto) 5 May 1986. Access Date: 30 September 2023. <http://www.g7.utoronto.ca/summit/1986tokyo/future.html>

¹²⁹² G8 Communiqué Köln 1999 Final, G7 Information Centre (Toronto) 20 June 1999. Access Date: 30 September 2023. <http://www.g7.utoronto.ca/summit/1999koln/finalcom.html>

¹²⁹³ G8 Communiqué Okinawa 2000, G7 Information Centre (Toronto) 23 July 2000. Access Date: 30 September 2023. <http://www.g7.utoronto.ca/summit/2000okinawa/finalcom.html>

¹²⁹⁴ Communiqué, G7 Information Centre (Toronto) 22 July 2001. Access Date: 30 September 2023. <http://www.g7.utoronto.ca/summit/2001genoa/finalcommuniqué.html>

¹²⁹⁵ Health: A G8 Action Plan, G7 Information Centre (Toronto) 2 June 2003. Access Date: 30 September 2023. http://www.g7.utoronto.ca/summit/2003evian/health_en.html

¹²⁹⁶ Ending the Cycle of Famine in the Horn of Africa, Raising Agricultural Productivity and Promoting Rural Development in Food Insecure Countries, G7 Information Centre (Toronto) 10 June 2004. Access Date: 30 September 2023. <http://www.g7.utoronto.ca/summit/2004seaisland/famine.html>

At the 2008 Hokkaido Toyako Summit, G8 leaders reiterated the need for improving access to health services and essential medicines by strengthening health systems and building a reliable health workforce, in addition to recognising the need for nutrition that included a greater focus on maternal, newborn and child health in line with the health-focused MDGs.¹²⁹⁷

At the 2009 L'Aquila Summit, G8 leaders committed to investing in sustainably increasing global food production and promote transparent food markets to combat price surges and speculation in food prices. The leaders also called for increased participation in and implementation of the Global Partnership for Agriculture and Food Security to promote a global response to food insecurity.¹²⁹⁸

At the 2010 Muskoka Summit, G8 leaders reiterated the commitments to improving health systems and nutrition that were made at the 2009 L'Aquila Summit and proposed new accountability measures for measuring member spending on Maternal, Newborn and Child Health through the Muskoka Maternal, Newborn and Child Health initiative, including spending on maternal and child nutrition.¹²⁹⁹

At the 2011 Deauville Summit, G8 leaders endorsed the Deauville Accountability Report: “G8 Commitments on Health and Food Security: State of Delivery and Results” which “documents G8 action on health and food security, and mobilization of financial resources including 85% of all commitments to the L'Aquila Food Security Initiative.”¹³⁰⁰ They also expressed continued commitment to the Muskoka Maternal, Newborn and Child Health initiative.

At the 2012 Camp David Summit, G8 leaders committed to launch the New Alliance for Food Security and Nutrition to maintain sustainable agricultural productivity and attain better nutrition, especially in the African region.¹³⁰¹ They expressed support for the Scaling Up Nutrition movement and welcomed the commitment of African partners to improve the nutritional well-being of their populations, especially during the critical 1,000 days window from pregnancy to a child's second birthday.

At the 2013 Lough Erne Summit, G8 leaders welcomed the Global Nutrition for Growth Compact which committed to under-nutrition reduction targets for 2020, and welcomed the “financial and policy commitments to accelerate progress towards ending under-nutrition for women and young children.”¹³⁰² They reaffirmed their commitment to the commitments made at the 2009 L'Aquila Summit and the New Alliance for Food Security and Nutrition, as well as their continued support of the Scaling-Up Nutrition Movement.

At the 2016 Ise-Shima Summit, G7 leaders emphasized the need for universal health coverage including better nutrition, attained with strong health systems and better preparedness.¹³⁰³ They recognised the need for international efforts to combat malnutrition and to hold the rise of obesity and over-weight targeting most vulnerable populations – mothers, children and adolescent girls – and consistent with the WHO Comprehensive Implementation Plan on Maternal, Infant and Young Child Nutrition.

¹²⁹⁷ G8 Hokkaido Toyako Summit Leaders' Declaration, G7 Information Centre (Toronto) 8 July 2008. Access Date: 30 September 2023. <http://www.g7.utoronto.ca/summit/2008hokkaido/2008-declaration.html>.

¹²⁹⁸ Responsible Leadership for a Sustainable Future, G7 Information Centre (Toronto) 8 July 2009. Access Date: 9 January 2024. <http://www.g7.utoronto.ca/summit/2009laquila/2009-declaration.html>

¹²⁹⁹ Methodology for Calculating Baselines and Commitments: G8 Member Spending on Maternal, Newborn and Child Health, G7 Information Centre (Toronto) n.d. Access Date: 30 September 2023. <http://www.g7.utoronto.ca/summit/2010muskoka/methodology.html>

¹³⁰⁰ G8 Declaration: Renewed Commitment for Freedom and Democracy, G7 Information Centre (Toronto) n.d. Access Date: 30 September 2023. <http://www.g7.utoronto.ca/summit/2011deauville/2011-declaration-en.html>

¹³⁰¹ Camp David Declaration, G7 Information Centre (Toronto) 19 May 2012. Access Date: 30 September 2023. <http://www.g7.utoronto.ca/summit/2012campdavid/g8-declaration.html>

¹³⁰² G8 Lough Erne Leaders Communiqué, G7 Information Centre (Toronto) 18 June 2013. Access Date: 30 September 2023. <http://www.g7.utoronto.ca/summit/2013lougherne/lough-erne-communique.html>

¹³⁰³ G7 Ise-Shima Vision for Global Health, G7 Information Centre (Toronto) 27 May 2016. Access Date: 30 September 2023. <http://www.g7.utoronto.ca/summit/2016shima/ise-shima-declaration-en.html>

At the 2017 Taormina Summit, G7 leaders reaffirmed their commitment to ending hunger and achieving food security and improved nutrition as well as the role of education in improving nutrition, especially in children as mentioned in the summit progress report.¹³⁰⁴

At the 2019 Biarritz Summit, G7 leaders acknowledged the importance of the Nutrition for Growth Summit in Tokyo occurring in the following year in identifying essential actions to further progress against malnutrition.¹³⁰⁵

At the 2023 Hiroshima Summit, G7 leaders committed to improving access to affordable healthy diets and safe and nutritious foods through increasing the availability, affordability and quality of malnutrition treatment and prevention products and services.¹³⁰⁶

Commitment Features

At the 2023 Hiroshima Summit, G7 leaders committed to “improving access to affordable healthy diets and safe and nutritious foods through] ... increasing the availability, affordability and quality of malnutrition treatment and prevention products and services.”¹³⁰⁷

Definitions and Concepts

“Improving” can be defined as to make something better or to produce something better than what already exists.¹³⁰⁸ In a G7 context, when a commitment states that it will “improve” it should be interpreted to mean that old initiatives will be updated.

“Access” is understood to mean the right to obtain or make use of the entity in reference.¹³⁰⁹

“Healthy diets” refers to a combination of different foods for good health and nutrition.¹³¹⁰ These include a balance of “cereals (wheat, barley, rye, maize or rice), legumes (lentils and beans), fruit and vegetables, and foods from animal sources (meat, fish, eggs and milk).”

“Availability” can be defined in terms of the reachability (physical access), affordability (economic access) and acceptability (socio-cultural access) of services.¹³¹¹ Malnutrition treatment must therefore be readily physically accessible, affordable, and acceptable to be considered available.

“Affordability” can be defined as low in cost.¹³¹² In the context of this commitment, food and dietary treatments must be both easily accessible and adequate to provide to populations.

¹³⁰⁴ G7 Taormina Leaders’ Communiqué, G7 Information Centre (Toronto) 27 May 2017. Access Date: 30 September 2023. <http://www.g7.utoronto.ca/summit/2017taormina/communique.html>

¹³⁰⁵ Sahel Partnership Action Plan, G7 Information Centre (Toronto) 26 August 2019. Access Date: 30 September 2023. <http://www.g7.utoronto.ca/summit/2019biarritz/sahel-partnership-action-plan.html>

¹³⁰⁶ G7 Leaders’ Communiqué, G7 Information Centre (Toronto) 20 May 2023. Access Date: 23 September 2023. <http://www.g7.utoronto.ca/summit/2023hiroshima/230520-communique.html>

¹³⁰⁷ G7 Leaders’ Communiqué, G7 Information Centre (Toronto) 20 May 2023. Access Date: 23 September 2023. <http://www.g7.utoronto.ca/summit/2023hiroshima/230520-communique.html>

¹³⁰⁸ Compliance Coding Manual, G7 Information Centre (Toronto) 12 November 2020. Access Date 28 September 2023. http://www.g7.utoronto.ca/compliance/Compliance_Coding_Manual_2020.pdf

¹³⁰⁹ Compliance Coding Manual, G7 Information Centre (Toronto) 12 November 2020. Access Date 28 September 2023. http://www.g7.utoronto.ca/compliance/Compliance_Coding_Manual_2020.pdf

¹³¹⁰ Healthy Diet, World Health Organization (Geneva) n.d. Access Date: 29 September 2023. <https://www.who.int/initiatives/behealthy/healthy-diet>

¹³¹¹ Compliance Coding Manual, G7 Information Centre (Toronto) 12 November 2020. Access Date 28 September 2023. http://www.g7.utoronto.ca/compliance/Compliance_Coding_Manual_2020.pdf

¹³¹² Compliance Coding Manual, G7 Information Centre (Toronto) 12 November 2020. Access Date 28 September 2023. http://www.g7.utoronto.ca/compliance/Compliance_Coding_Manual_2020.pdf

“Quality” should be interpreted to mean the “degree to which a set of inherent characteristics fulfills requirements.”¹³¹³ Food and dietary treatments must meet the standard of a healthy diet in order to be considered adequate to provide to populations.

“Malnutrition” refers to “deficiencies or excesses in nutrient intake, imbalance of essential nutrients or impaired nutrient utilization.”¹³¹⁴ It consists of both undernutrition and obesity, as well as diet-related noncommunicable diseases. Undernutrition “manifests in four broad forms: wasting, stunting, underweight, and micronutrient deficiencies.”

“Treatment” refers to providing for a patient to prevent or cure one from a condition.¹³¹⁵ Malnutrition treatment can come in many forms, such as “food, health, water and sanitation, and social protection systems.”¹³¹⁶

“Prevention” can be defined as to keep from happening.¹³¹⁷ Prevention products and services therefore act to avoid increasing risks of malnutrition among populations.

General Interpretive Guidelines

Full compliance, or a score of +1, is awarded to G7 members who demonstrate strong action towards increasing malnutrition treatment and prevention through both products and services in at least two and weaker actions in one of the pillars of the commitment. The three pillars include: 1) availability, 2) affordability, and 3) quality. Products are manufactured forms of malnutrition treatments or prevention, such as developing medication or improving agricultural technology. Services consist of actions that provide assistance in addressing nutrition related conditions, such as funding treatment centers or access to medical professionals. Examples of strong actions include, but are not limited to, investing in government and international plans that address food security and nutrition challenges, strengthening local food production systems, meeting local and regional agriculture demand, building markets and reducing food loss to support development of sustainable and resilient food systems for small-scale producers, and developing climate-smart solutions and innovations to better agriculture production.¹³¹⁸

Partial compliance, or a score of 0, is awarded to G7 members who demonstrate weak action towards improving malnutrition treatment and prevention products and services in only two of the three pillars. Weaker actions include support of commitments to make malnutrition treatments and prevention products more available, affordable and higher quality by making public statements and attending summits without taking any concrete action or issuing any funding for initiatives.

Non-compliance, or a score of –1, is awarded to those members who demonstrate no action towards increasing the availability, affordability and quality of malnutrition treatment and prevention products and services.

¹³¹³ Compliance Coding Manual, G7 Information Centre (Toronto) 12 November 2020. Access Date 28 September 2023. http://www.g7.utoronto.ca/compliance/Compliance_Coding_Manual_2020.pdf

¹³¹⁴ Malnutrition, World Health Organization (Geneva) n.d. Access Date: 28 September 2023. https://www.who.int/health-topics/malnutrition#tab=tab_1

¹³¹⁵ Treatment, Merriam-Webster (Springfield) n.d. Access Date: 1 October 2023. <https://www.merriam-webster.com/dictionary/treatment>

¹³¹⁶ Nutrition and care for children with wasting, United Nations International Children's Emergency Fund (New York) n.d. Access Date 28 September 2023. <https://www.unicef.org/nutrition/child-wasting>

¹³¹⁷ Prevention, Merriam-Webster (Springfield) n.d. Access Date: 1 October 2023. <https://www.merriam-webster.com/dictionary/prevention>

¹³¹⁸ Sustainable food systems, Food and Agriculture Organization of the United Nations (Rome) n.d. Access Date: 29 September 2023. <https://www.fao.org/3/ca2079en/CA2079EN.pdf>

Scoring Guidelines

-1	The G7 member has taken no action towards increasing malnutrition treatment and prevention through either products or services in any of the following: 1) availability, 2) affordability, or 3) quality, in order to improve access to affordable healthy diets and safe and nutritious foods.
0	The G7 member has taken weak action towards increasing malnutrition treatment and prevention through both products and services in only two of the following: 1) availability, 2) affordability, or 3) quality, in order to improve access to affordable healthy diets and safe and nutritious foods.
+1	The G7 member has taken strong action towards increasing malnutrition treatment and prevention through both products and services in at least two and weaker action in one of the following: 1) availability, 2) affordability, or 3) quality, in order to improve access to affordable healthy diets and safe and nutritious foods.

Compliance Director: Eisha Khan

Lead Analyst: Mathula Mubundan

Canada: +1

Canada has fully complied with its commitment to improving access to affordable healthy diets and safe and nutritious foods through increasing the availability, affordability and quality of malnutrition treatment and prevention products and services.

On 30 August 2023, Minister of Agriculture and Agri-Food Lawrence MacAulay announced that the Canadian government had invested CAD5.3 million in BioFuelNet) Canada to aid in sustainable agriculture technology development.¹³¹⁹ With greater environmentally friendly agriculture technologies and methods, food security is thought to increase for both Canada, as well as the entire world.

On 29 September 2023, Minister MacAulay announced the creation of the Dairy Innovation and Investment Fund containing an investment of up to CAD333 million over the next 10 years.¹³²⁰ This funding will better Canada's dairy industry by being utilized to buy new machinery and development technology. Through making the Canadian dairy industry more competitive, there is greater access to dairy products in Canada as well as in trading nations.

On 20 October 2023, through the AgriRecovery Framework, Canada allocated CAD219 million to support farmers and ranchers in Western Canada impacted with high costs resulting from drought conditions and wildfires.¹³²¹ This funding enables Western Canadian farmers to recover from environmental conditions and increase food security for Canada as well as dependent trade partners.

On 25 October 2023, Minister of International Development Ahmed Hussen announced the Government of Canada's allocation of CAD2 million in humanitarian aid to the World Food Programme to support individuals

¹³¹⁹ Government of Canada announces investment in BioFuelNet Canada to strengthen bioeconomy, Agriculture and Agri-Food Canada (Sainte-Anne-de-Bellevue) 30 August 2023. Access Date: 3 November 2023. <https://www.canada.ca/en/agriculture-agri-food/news/2023/08/government-of-canada-announces-investment-in-biofuelnet-canada-to-strengthen-bioeconomy.html>

¹³²⁰ Minister MacAulay launches new program to support the Canadian dairy sector, Agriculture and Agri-Food Canada (Saint-Hyacinthe) 29 September 2023. Access Date: 3 November 2023. <https://www.canada.ca/en/agriculture-agri-food/news/2023/09/minister-macaulay-launches-new-program-to-support-the-canadian-dairy-sector.html>

¹³²¹ Government of Canada announces \$219 million to support farmers and ranchers in Western Canada facing the impacts of drought and wildfires, Agriculture and Agri-Food Canada (Ottawa) 20 October 2023. Access Date: 3 November 2023. <https://www.canada.ca/en/agriculture-agri-food/news/2023/10/government-of-canada-announces-219-million-to-support-farmers-and-ranchers-in-western-canada-facing-the-impacts-of-drought-and-wildfires.html>

in the Gaza Strip, the West Bank, Israel and neighbouring areas.¹³²² With the funding, the World Food Programme will be supplying individuals with water, food, and other necessities.

On 30 October 2023, Agriculture and Agri-Food Canada announced that the federal government and the Government of Ontario will be investing CAD8 million through the Sustainable Canadian Agricultural Partnership to help the producers of apple, tender fruit, and wine grape with production. The aim is to use the funds to produce popular varieties of the fruit, improve fruit quality and increase the resistance of the crops to pests and diseases in order to make them safer for human consumption.¹³²³

On 3 November 2023, Minister Hussen announced the Government of Canada's CAD35.5 million in funding over the next three years to the Canadian Foodgrains Bank.¹³²⁴ This funding was done to support its project Nature-Positive Food Systems for Climate Change Adaptation. With the increase in funding and greater resources for the Canadian Foodgrains Bank, nature-based solutions combined with landscape-level restoration increases food security in rural areas of Ethiopia, Kenya, Mozambique and Zimbabwe.

On 14 November 2023, Minister MacAulay announced over CAD9 million in funding to the Canola Council of Canada through the AgriScience Program – Clusters Component to strengthen the canola industry in order to promote canola as a nutritious food source.¹³²⁵

On 20 November 2023, the Government of Canada invested up to CAD25 million, through the Sustainable Canadian Agricultural Partnership.¹³²⁶ The funding is part of the Agri-Tech Innovation Initiative, which aims to provide select businesses in the food processing industry to help invest in innovative technology and equipment. This technology will expand agricultural production capacity which will help improve availability and affordability of the food sector overall.

Canada has fully complied with commitment to improving access to affordable healthy diets and safe and nutritious foods through increasing the availability, affordability and quality of malnutrition treatment and prevention products and services. Canada has achieved full compliance in supporting food security through foreign aid, investment in agriculture technologies as well as establishing programs increasing food for Canadians and trade partners.

Thus, Canada receives a score of +1.

Analyst: Artin Khiabani

France: +1

France has fully complied with its commitment to improving access to affordable healthy diets and safe and nutritious foods through increasing the availability, affordability and quality of malnutrition treatment and prevention products and services.

¹³²² Canada allocates funding for partners responding to urgent needs stemming from the crisis in Gaza Strip, West Bank, Israel and neighbouring areas, Global Affairs Canada (Ottawa) 25 October 2023. Access Date: 4 November 2023.

<https://www.canada.ca/en/global-affairs/news/2023/10/canada-allocates-funding-for-partners-responding-to-urgent-needs-stemming-from-the-crisis-in-gaza-strip-west-bank-israel-and-neighbouring-areas.html>

¹³²³ Governments positioning fruit farming sector for growth, Agriculture and Agri-Food Canada (Lincoln) 30 October 2023.

Access Date: 19 December 2023. <https://www.canada.ca/en/agriculture-agri-food/news/2023/10/governments-positioning-fruit-farming-sector-for-growth.html>

¹³²⁴ Minister Hussen announces funding for Canadian Foodgrains Bank, Global Affairs Canada (Winnipeg) 3 November 2023.

Access Date: 5 November 2023. <https://www.canada.ca/en/global-affairs/news/2023/11/minister-hussen-announces-funding-for-canadian-foodgrains-bank.html>

¹³²⁵ Minister MacAulay announces investment to strengthen Canada's canola sector, Agriculture and Agri-Food Canada (Glenlea)

14 November 2023. Access Date: 19 December 2023. <https://www.canada.ca/en/agriculture-agri-food/news/2023/11/minister-macaulay-announces-investment-to-strengthen-canadas-canola-sector.html>

¹³²⁶ Governments driving innovation in food production, Government of Canada (Ottawa) 20 November 2023. Access Date: 12 December 2023. <https://www.canada.ca/en/agriculture-agri-food/news/2023/11/governments-driving-innovation-in-food-production.html>

On 13 June 2023, the Government of France donated roughly USD545,000 to a food security project for the region of Thateng in Laos.¹³²⁷ This funding will target malnutrition and provide training for effective nutrition and resilience projects. The project also enables participants to strengthen food security in their community. Programmed food aid supported by the Government of France's donation improves food availability and quality in the region.

On 15 June 2023, the Government of France contributed EUR3.5 million to the United Nations World Food Programme to support a disaster response in Pakistan following the 2022 floods.¹³²⁸ The funding targets children, pregnant and breastfeeding women at risk of malnutrition in the provinces of Sindh and Balochistan by supporting recovery in the region. The Government of France makes this contribution with a history of funding for World Food Programme (WFP) activity in Pakistan last year. Funding directly provides for increased availability of malnutrition treatment to support nutrition.

On 23 June 2023, the Government of France contributed EUR1 million to the World Trade Organization's (WTO) Fisheries Funding Mechanism to support the implementation of the 2022 WTO Agreement on Fisheries Subsidies.¹³²⁹ This contribution is poised to support developing and least-developed country members of the WTO, involving the improvement of fishery practices. This contribution ameliorates international industry standards in fishing and aids in the quality of food production.

On 6 September 2023, Minister of the Economy, Finance and Recovery Bruno Le Maire reached an agreement with 75 food companies, representing 80 per cent of French consumption, to reduce prices on various products.¹³³⁰ The agreement is enforced by sanction mechanisms to ensure accountability. This price relief narrows the discrepancy between high product prices and declining costs, increasing the affordability of food.

On 15 September 2023, the Government of France contributed EUR500,000 through the United Nations Children's Fund (UNICEF) to support child malnutrition treatment and prevention in Sri Lanka.¹³³¹ The funding supports UNICEF in collaboration with Sri Lanka's Ministry of Health to provide therapeutic food and micronutrients to children in need. The Government of France makes this contribution following its 2019 International Strategy for Food Security, Nutrition and Sustainable Agriculture, supporting the quality and availability of food internationally.

On 17 September 2023, Minister for Europe and Foreign Affairs Catherine Colonna announced a contribution of EUR40 million to support the Grain from Ukraine initiative at a meeting with WFP Executive Director Cindy McCain.¹³³² The contribution will "facilitate the shipment of grain to Nigeria and Sudan, additional aid

¹³²⁷ WFP and France join forces to combat food insecurity in Sekong, World Food Programme (Lamam) 13 June 2023. Access Date: 2 December 2023. <https://www.wfp.org/news/wfp-and-france-join-forces-combat-food-insecurity-sekong>

¹³²⁸ French contribution enables WFP to respond to the nutrition crisis in Pakistan, World Food Programme (Islamabad) 15 June 2023. Access Date: 4 November 2023. <https://www.wfp.org/news/french-contribution-enables-wfp-respond-nutrition-crisis-pakistan>

¹³²⁹ France Commits EUR 1 million to WTO Fisheries Funding Mechanism, World Trade Organization (Geneva) 23 June 2023. Access Date: 4 November 2023. https://www.wto.org/english/news_e/pres23_e/pr929_e.htm

¹³³⁰ France strong-arms big food companies into cutting prices, Reuters (Toronto) 9 June 2023. Access Date: 4 November 2023. <https://www.reuters.com/markets/europe/frances-le-maire-says-75-food-firms-cut-prices-2023-06-09/>

¹³³¹ France contributes half a million euros to support nutrition services for children in Sri Lanka, UNICEF Sri Lanka (Colombo) 15 September 2023. Access Date: 4 November 2023 <https://www.unicef.org/srilanka/press-releases/france-contributes-half-million-euros-support-nutrition-services-children-sri-lanka>

¹³³² UN – Conversation between Catherine Colonna and World Food Programme Executive Director Cindy McCain (17 september 2023), Ministère de l'Europe et des Affaires étrangères (Paris) 17 September 2023. Access Date: 4 November 2023. <https://www.diplomatie.gouv.fr/en/french-foreign-policy/united-nations/news-and-events/news/news-2023/article/un-conversation-between-catherine-colonna-and-world-food-programme-executive>

to the Ukrainian food system, and the restructuring of the WFP's regional reserves.¹³³³ This support reflects a commitment from France to support food availability and trade against food insecurity.

On 23 September 2023, President Emmanuel Macron announced a contribution of USD150 million to the International Fund for Agricultural Development (IFAD).¹³³⁴ The call to action and contribution supports the availability of food in rural regions by supporting agriculture and income development support from IFAD mandates.

On 29 September 2023, French Ambassador to the Philippines Marie Fontanel attended an event in the Caraga region of the Philippines for the pilot phase of the Walang Gutom (zero hunger) project to support food security.¹³³⁵ Through the French Development Agency, the Government of France contributed a EUR500,000 grant to the project. Ambassador Fontanel's speech at the event included references to the Paris Pact for People and Planet, which targets sustainable and human development.

On 7 October 2023, Minister Le Maire and Minister of Agriculture and Food Marc Fesneau announced structuring measures for the livestock industry at the 32nd Livestock Summit in Cournon-d'Auvergne.¹³³⁶ The measures included contributions upwards of EUR3 million to support and promote livestock farming, subsidies for cattle breeders, and ecological considerations for the industry. These actions maintain the food sovereignty of France by supporting domestic production and therefore strengthen the availability and affordability of livestock products.

On 16 October 2023, Minister Fesneau announced that an aid payment schedule from the 2023 Common Agricultural Policy will be paid into farmers' accounts. Contributions of EUR3.64 billion were sent to provide aid for industry issues of sustainable development, income aid for young farmers and livestock aid.¹³³⁷ Support from contributions will maintain agricultural production and improve sustainability within the industry, therefore strengthening the availability and affordability of agricultural products.

On 18 October 2023, the first meeting of the Global School Meals Coalition was held in Paris, supported by the Government of France and Finland.¹³³⁸ The coalition brings together 87 Member States, the European Union and the African Union along with supporting institutions, aiming to offer access to school meals to every child by 2030. The Government of France has already contributed an investment of EUR28 million in 2022 to the cause, increasing the availability and quality of food for children.

¹³³³ UN – Conversation between Catherine Colonna and World Food Programme Executive Director Cindy McCain (17 September 2023), Ministère de l'Europe et des Affaires étrangères (Paris) 17 September 2023. Access Date: 4 November 2023.

<https://www.diplomatie.gouv.fr/en/french-foreign-policy/united-nations/news-and-events/news/news-2023/article/un-conversation-between-catherine-colonna-and-world-food-programme-executive>

¹³³⁴ About us, International Fund for Agricultural Development (Rome) n.d. Access Date: 4 November 2023.

<https://www.ifad.org/en/about>

¹³³⁵ France is working alongside the Philippines to improve food security, Ambassade de France aux Philippines et en Micronésie (Manila) 3 October 2023. Access Date: 4 November 2023. <https://ph.ambafrance.org/Food-security-Visit-of-Ambassador-Marie-Fontanel-for-the-Zero-Hunger-project-in>

¹³³⁶ À l'occasion du 32e Sommet de l'Élevage, Bruno Le Maire et Marc Fesneau annoncent un plan de reconquête de la souveraineté de l'élevage, Ministère de l'Agriculture et de la Souveraineté alimentaire (Paris) 7 October 2023. Translation provided by Google Translate and Analyst. Access Date: 4 November 2023. <https://agriculture.gouv.fr/occasion-du-32e-sommet-de-lelevage-bruno-le-maire-et-marc-fesneau-annoncent-un-plan-de-reconquete>

¹³³⁷ Campagne PAC 2023 : le calendrier est tenu, avec un versement effectif de l'avance des aides directes et de l'ICHN à partir du lundi 16 octobre, Ministère de l'Agriculture et de la Souveraineté alimentaire (Paris) 16 October 2023. Translation provided by Google Translate and Analyst. Access Date: 4 November 2023. <https://agriculture.gouv.fr/campagne-pac-2023-versement-effectif-de-lavance-des-aides-partir-du-lundi-16-octobre>

¹³³⁸ First meeting of the Global School Meals Coalition, Ministère de l'Europe et des Affaires étrangères (Paris) n.d. Access Date: 4 November 2023. https://www.diplomatie.gouv.fr/en/french-foreign-policy/development-assistance/food-security-nutrition-and-sustainable-agriculture/first-meeting-of-the-global-school-meals-coalition/#sommaire_3

On 3 November 2023, the Government of France contributed EUR500,000 to the WFP to support school meals for children and food aid to refugees in Malawi.¹³³⁹ The contribution provides 18,000 school children with meals that are made from fresh food supplied by local farmers. This food aid will also be provided to 50,000 refugees. The provision of fresh food and increasing food supplies will improve the access and quality of food in Malawi.

On 22 November 2023, the French Development Agency approved financing of EUR80 million to promote sustainability and resilience for Moroccan agriculture.¹³⁴⁰ The financing of agriculture will be directed at improving sustainable irrigation and the promotion of food security by supporting the resilience of standard food items. These investments will support the availability of food by ensuring agricultural supply in Morocco.

France has fully complied with its commitment to improving access to affordable healthy diets and safe and nutritious foods through increasing the availability, affordability and quality of malnutrition treatment and prevention products and services. Actions from France have targeted food security in regional areas in addition to support for food aid. Humanitarian efforts have been supported by contributions from France, allowing for the provision of food products to regions in crisis. For agricultural support, France has made contributions to support the industry through various means. Regarding the affordability of food, France has utilized economic and collaborative means to improve access.

Thus, France receives a score of +1.

Analyst: Ethan Lui

Germany: +1

Germany has fully complied with its commitment to improving access to affordable healthy diets and safe and nutritious foods through increasing the availability, affordability and quality of malnutrition treatment and prevention products and services.

On 1 June 2023, Germany began a project to support resilient agricultural development in Tanzania.¹³⁴¹ This project research includes climate change adaptation, crop enhancement, and sustainability in the Manyoni District of Tanzania.

On 30 June 2023, the Federal Ministry of Food and Agriculture announced that its Act on Animal Husbandry Labelling was adopted in the Bundestag.¹³⁴² This act mandates a label on meat products that provides consumers with information on how the animals were kept on farms. The purpose of this act is to increase transparency in the meat sector. The act also establishes increased regulations for farmers to ensure adequate procedures are followed.

¹³³⁹ France partners WFP to fight hunger as millions of people face high levels of food insecurity in Malawi, World Food Programme (Lilongwe) 3 November 2023. Access Date: 2 December 2023. <https://www.wfp.org/news/france-partners-wfp-fight-hunger-millions-people-face-high-levels-food-insecurity-malawi>

¹³⁴⁰ L'Agence française de développement renforce son partenariat avec le Crédit Agricole du Maroc, Ambassade de France à Rabat (Rabat) 29 November 2023. Translation provided by Google Translate. Access Date: 2 December 2023. <https://ma.ambafrance.org/L-Agence-francaise-de-developpement-renforce-son-partenariat-avec-le-Credit>

¹³⁴¹ Projekte in den Förderprogrammen des BMEL, betreut durch den Projektträger BLE (PT BLE), Bundesanstalt für Landwirtschaft und Ernährung (Berlin) 1 June 2023. Translation provided by Google Translate. Access Date: 5 November 2023. https://service.ble.de/ptdb/index2.php?detail_id=89933540&ssk=PTDB-alles&site_key=141&lbn=5&lbn=5&lbn=5&lem=11&lej=2023&zeilenzahl_zaeher=2157#newContent

¹³⁴² Animal husbandry label and amendments to Federal Building Code adopted in Bundestag, Federal Ministry of Food and Agriculture (Berlin) 30 June 2023. Access Date: 5 November 2023. <https://www.bmel.de/EN/topics/animals/animal-welfare/state-run-animal-welfare-label-pigs.html>

On 11 September 2023, Minister of Agriculture Cem Özdemir signed a Joint Declaration of Intent with New Zealand.¹³⁴³ This partnership aims to collaboratively reduce agricultural emissions while increasing the climate-resiliency of food production systems.

On 5 October 2023, the Federal Ministry of Food and Agriculture provided EUR2.7 million to fund the creation of a new laboratory in Ukraine, which will support food safety and make it easier for Ukraine to export agricultural products.¹³⁴⁴

On 18 October 2023, the Ministry for Family Affairs, Senior Citizens, Women and Youth published their National Action Plan: New Opportunities for Children in Germany.¹³⁴⁵ This reaffirmed pre-existing measures to support the nutrition of children, such as providing healthy meals at nurseries and schools.

Germany has fully complied with its commitment to improving access to affordable healthy diets and safe and nutritious foods through increasing the availability, affordability and quality of malnutrition treatment and prevention products and services. Germany has taken strong action to support beneficial food systems through foreign aid as well as through domestic policymaking, prioritizing nutrition, and sustainability. These actions have covered a variety of issues from providing food aid during conflicts as well as economic contributions to support agricultural and farming industries.

Thus, Germany receives a score of +1.

Analyst: Yalda Matin

Italy: +1

Italy has fully complied with its commitment to improving access to affordable healthy diets and safe and nutritious foods through increasing the availability, affordability and quality of malnutrition treatment and prevention products and services.

On 6 July 2023, Minister of Agriculture, Food, Sovereignty and Forestry Francesco Lollobrigida, announced a collaboration with Israel's Minister of Agriculture and Rural Development Abraham Dichter in the field of agriculture.¹³⁴⁶ This partnership aims to promote innovation and sustainability to ensure food security for both Israel and Italy.

On 11 July 2023, the Italian government introduced the “Dedicated to you” card, which will allocate EUR500 million to 1.3 million families who do not currently receive government subsidies.¹³⁴⁷ The goal is to alleviate the difficulties families encounter in purchasing and acquiring food, offering a 15 per cent discount on purchases. This initiative aims to enable families to make convenient yet quality food purchases.

¹³⁴³ Climate-friendly agriculture: cooperation with New Zealand intensified, Federal Ministry of Food and Agriculture (Berlin) 11 September 2023. Access Date: 5 November 2023. <https://www.bmel.de/SharedDocs/Pressemitteilungen/EN/2023/new-zeeland.html>

¹³⁴⁴ Strengthening of alternative export routes - Özdemir opens laboratory in Ukraine, Federal Ministry of Food and Agriculture (Berlin) 5 October 2023. Access Date: 5 November 2023. <https://www.bmel.de/SharedDocs/Pressemitteilungen/EN/2023/ukraine.html>

¹³⁴⁵ National Action Plan: New Opportunities for Children in Germany, Federal Ministry for Family Affairs, Senior Citizens, Women and Youth (Berlin) 18 October 2023. Access Date: 5 November 2023. <https://www.bmfsfj.de/resource/blob/232046/c25ff1a5ecf93b129b748ab642047468/nationaler-aktionsplan-neue-chancen-fuer-kinder-in-deutschland-englisch-data.pdf>

¹³⁴⁶ Acqua. Lollobrigida: collaborazione Italia – Israele può essere esempio sinergia Vincente, Ministero dell'agricoltura, della sovranità alimentare e delle foreste (Rome) 20 October 2023. Translation provided by Google Translate. Access Date: 1 November 2023. https://www.politicheagricole.it/Israele_Italia_collaborazione

¹³⁴⁷ Presentata la carta “Dedicata a te” per acquisto generi alimentari di prima necessità, Ministero dell'agricoltura, della sovranità alimentare e delle foreste (Rome) 20 October 2023. Translation provided by Google Translate. Access Date: 1 November 2023. <https://www.politicheagricole.it/dedicataate>

On 24 July 2023, Prime Minister Giorgia Meloni announced Italy's plan to invest in Agritech to improve the development of new technologies, including their application in agriculture.¹³⁴⁸ The new research and technology aim to innovate Italy's food system, enhancing sustainability and improving the quality and quantity of production.

On 26 July 2023, Minister Lollobrigida, along with the Ministry of Economy and Finance, reached an agreement on implementing the Fund for Innovation in Agriculture.¹³⁴⁹ This Fund aims to elevate productivity within the agricultural, fishing and aquaculture sectors by introducing new technologies that would drive innovation in the agri-food sector.

On 8 August 2023, Minister Lollobrigida announced the approved interventions required to restore wineries affected by downy mildew and to address the issues caused by blue crab, protecting the supply chain.¹³⁵⁰ EUR2.9 million has been allocated toward the capture and disposal of blue crab, and EUR1 million from the National Solidarity fund has been allocated to support wine businesses affected by downy mildew.

On 10 October 2023, Minister Lollobrigida announced the approval of the reduction in the use of pesticides by 2035.¹³⁵¹ This reduction ensures environmental sustainability and guarantees food sovereignty, protecting Italy's agricultural system and enhancing exports worldwide.

On 17 October 2023, Minister Lollobrigida announced the first payment of Common Agricultural Policy advances, totaling EUR2.4 billion, with EUR700 million allocated toward rural development.¹³⁵² This payment provides farmers with the opportunity to plan their work and continue agricultural production, ensuring healthy eating and access to quality food. This is aimed to support farmers' income and ensure liquidity for agricultural businesses, encouraging reinvestment in the agricultural sector.

On 29 October 2023, Minister Lollobrigida announced the pending approval of a law that pertains to a specific type of prohibition on a certain type of meat production.¹³⁵³ The Italian government supported the legislation, which would allow parliamentary representation that reflects the will of the people in determining the future of Italy's agricultural and livestock systems.

Italy has fully complied with its commitment to improving access to affordable healthy diets and safe and nutritious foods through increasing the availability, affordability and quality of malnutrition treatment and prevention products and services. The country's strong action toward sustainability and the advancement of the agri-food sector strengthens food security and the quality of produce by investing in new technologies that promote sustainability and improved agricultural practices. Italy accomplishes this by forging international partnerships and collaborations, as well as implementing initiatives that bolster innovation, health, and overall wellbeing.

¹³⁴⁸ Intervento del Presidente Meloni al Vertice delle Nazioni Unite sui Sistemi Alimentari, Governo Italiano Presidenza del Consiglio dei Ministri (Rome) 24 July 2023. Translation provided by Google Translate. Access Date: 20 October 2023. <https://www.governo.it/en/node/23272>

¹³⁴⁹ Innovazione. Da Conferenza Stato-Regioni ok al Fondo. Lollobrigida: element strategico per sviluppo agricoltura, Ministero dell'agricoltura, della sovranità alimentare e delle foreste (Rome) 20 October 2023. Translation provided by Google Translate. Access Date: 1 November 2023. https://www.politicheagricole.it/CSR_fondoinnovazione

¹³⁵⁰ CdM. Lollobrigida: via libera a decreto contro peronospora e granchio blu e ddl per Premio Maestro dell'arte della cucina italiana, Ministero dell'agricoltura, della sovranità alimentare e delle foreste (Rome) 20 October 2023. Translation provided by Google Translate. Access Date: 1 November 2023. https://www.politicheagricole.it/cdm_07-08-2023

¹³⁵¹ Fitofarmaci. Lollobrigida, bene riduzione compatibile con produzione, Ministero dell'agricoltura, della sovranità alimentare e delle foreste (Rome) 20 October 2023. Translation provided by Google Translate. Access Date: 1 November 2023. <https://www.politicheagricole.it/fitofarmaci-commissioneagri>

¹³⁵² Pagamenti anticipi PAC 2023-2027. 2.4 miliardi di euro per rilanciare il settore agricolo italiano, Ministero dell'agricoltura, della sovranità alimentare e delle foreste (Rome) 20 October 2023. Translation provided by Google Translate. Access Date: 1 November 2023. <https://www.politicheagricole.it/anticipi-pac-masaf-agea>

¹³⁵³ Zootecnia. Lollobrigida: complete vicinanza al settore, Ministero dell'agricoltura, della sovranità alimentare e delle foreste (Rome) 29 October 2023. Translation provided by Google Translate. Access Date: 1 November 2023. https://www.politicheagricole.it/zootecnia_vicinanza_settore

Thus, Italy receives a score of +1.

Analyst: E. Alliah Ramirez

Japan: 0

Japan has partially complied with its commitment to improving access to affordable healthy diets and safe and nutritious foods through increasing the availability, affordability and quality of malnutrition treatment and prevention products and services.

On 20 June 2023, Japan donated USD2 million to the United Nations World Food Programme (WFP) in response to the flood disaster resulting from the collapse of the dam at the Kakhovka Hydroelectric Power Plant in southern Ukraine.¹³⁵⁴ The fund was utilized as emergency humanitarian assistance in areas such as food and water.

On 5 September 2023, Ambassador for Palestinian Affairs and Representative of Japan to Palestine Yoichi Nakashima announced that the Government of Japan had contributed USD1.5 million to the WFP to support Palestinian populations.¹³⁵⁵ Japan's donation has enabled the WFP to provide nutritious food to 27,000 food-insecure Palestinians in Gaza for a period of three months. This donation to the World Food Programme contributes to increasing food security and availability for Palestinian populations as well as the presence of nutritious and healthy choices for vulnerable populations.

On 10 October 2023, Parliamentary Vice-Minister of Foreign Affairs of Japan Masahiro Komura announced the Government of Japan's support of the Emergency Food Assistance and Nutrition Support by the WFP by donating USD6.5 million to Sri Lanka.¹³⁵⁶ With the fund, 7200 metric tonnes of rice, lentils, vegetable oil, maize and soya beans were purchased for the people of Sri Lanka. This donation contributes to alleviating issues of food insecurity present in Sri Lanka.

On 28 November 2023, the Ministry of Agriculture, Forestry and Fisheries announced that it has allocated USD20 million to increase the production of rice flour to reach 130,000 tonnes by the goal year of 2030.¹³⁵⁷ With this goal of increasing rice flour production, Japan is aspiring to meet their self-sufficiency goal of 75 per cent on a production basis by 2030. This project will contribute to meeting the high demand for rice flour and related products in Japan.

Japan has partially complied with its commitment to improving access to affordable healthy diets and safe and nutritious foods through increasing the availability, affordability and quality of malnutrition treatment and prevention products and services. While Japan has taken strong action to support food security through foreign aid and international partnerships, it has not taken enough action to support domestic agricultural and food security development. More actions need to be taken to support services and products that improve the affordability and availability of food products and malnutrition treatments.

Thus, Japan receives a score of 0.

Analyst: Artin Khiabani

¹³⁵⁴ Emergency Grant Aid in response to the flood disaster in southern Ukraine, Ministry of Foreign Affairs of Japan (Tokyo) 20 June 2023. Access Date: 3 November 2023. https://www.mofa.go.jp/press/release/press7e_000013.html

¹³⁵⁵ Japan renews its commitment to supporting the food needs of the most vulnerable Palestinians, The United Nations World Food Programme (Ramallah) 5 September 2023. Access Date: 3 November 2023. <https://www.wfp.org/news/japan-renews-its-commitment-supporting-food-needs-most-vulnerable-palestinians>

¹³⁵⁶ Japanese Parliamentary Vice-Minister for Foreign Affairs Reaffirmed Japan's Robust Commitment on Humanitarian Assistance, Embassy of Japan in Sri Lanka (Colombo) 10 October 2023. Access Date: 4 November 2023. https://www.lk.emb-japan.go.jp/itpr_en/11_000001_00257.html

¹³⁵⁷ The only self-sufficient grain': Japan pouring resources into rice flour innovation expansion in latest food security bid, Food Navigator Asia (Singapore) 28 November 2023. Access Date: 2 December 2023. <https://www.foodnavigator-asia.com/Article/2023/11/29/japan-pouring-resources-into-rice-flour-innovation-expansion-in-latest-food-security-bid>

United Kingdom: +1

The United Kingdom has fully complied with its commitment to improving access to affordable healthy diets and safe and nutritious foods through increasing the availability, affordability and quality of malnutrition treatment and prevention products and services.

On 24 May 2023, Minister for Development Andrew Mitchell announced GBP143 million in humanitarian support for East African countries who required support with nutrition and food access, among other humanitarian needs.¹³⁵⁸

On 28 July 2023, the Foreign, Commonwealth and Development Office unveiled its Yemen Women and Children Programme, a GBP160 million program which aims to provide nutrition and improve water sanitation for over 1 million women and children annually in Yemen.¹³⁵⁹

On 1 August 2023, the Crown Commercial Service announced plans to improve the food quality provided to citizens in hospitals and schools.¹³⁶⁰ This plan includes an increase in the standards for food to be provided at these governmental institutions, as well as support for small and local businesses to gain access to public sector contracts. The goal is for this process to enable high-quality producers to reach public sector institutions.

On 2 August 2023, the Department for Environment, Food and Rural Affairs provided GBP14 million for research competitions through the Farming Innovation Programme.¹³⁶¹ These competitions seek to spur the development of innovative agricultural solutions to sustainability and productivity.

On 7 September 2023, Prime Minister Rishi Sunak promised to use the country's military intelligence to monitor the Black Sea region to deter Russia from harming Ukrainian vessels carrying cargo such as grain.¹³⁶² The country also provided GBP3 million in funding for Ukraine's 'Grain from Ukraine' initiative through the World Food Programme. This supports Ukrainian production while providing wheat to countries that need it the most.

On 8 September 2023, the Foreign, Commonwealth and Development Office partnered with the Bill and Melinda Gates Foundation and the Children's Investment Fund Foundation to host a conference on global food security.¹³⁶³ The conference will be held in November 2023 and focus on using science and technology, collaborative policymaking, and innovation to prevent malnutrition and hunger considering global food security challenges such as conflict and climate change.

On 16 October 2023, the Foreign, Commonwealth and Development Office announced a partnership with the Access to Nutrition Initiative to combat global malnutrition.¹³⁶⁴ Their partnership involves the provision of a GBP2 million package that will aid the organization in conducting research on the healthiness and sustainability

¹³⁵⁸ Press Release: UK pledges support for over a million people in East Africa, Foreign, Commonwealth & Development Office (London) 24 May 2023. Access Date: 4 November 2023. <https://www.gov.uk/government/news/uk-pledges-support-for-over-a-million-people-in-east-africa>

¹³⁵⁹ Press release: UK announces new support for vulnerable Yemeni women and children, Foreign, Commonwealth & Development Office (London) 28 July 2023. Access Date: 4 November 2023. <https://www.gov.uk/government/news/uk-announces-new-support-for-vulnerable-yemeni-women-and-children>

¹³⁶⁰ Press release: School children and hospital patients set for higher quality food under new government plans, Crown Commercial Service (London) 1 August 2023. Access Date: 4 November 2023. <https://www.gov.uk/government/news/school-children-and-hospital-patients-set-for-higher-quality-food-under-new-government-plans>

¹³⁶¹ £14 million to unlock agricultural innovation, Department for Environment, Food & Rural Affairs (London) 2 August 2023. Access Date: 4 November 2023. <https://www.gov.uk/government/news/14-million-to-unlock-agricultural-innovation>

¹³⁶² PM announces support to alleviate global impact of Putin's weaponisation of Ukrainian grain, Prime Minister's Office (London) 8 September 2023. Access Date: 4 November 2023. <https://www.gov.uk/government/news/pm-announces-support-to-alleviate-global-impact-of-putins-weaponisation-of-ukrainian-grain>

¹³⁶³ World news story: UK to host global summit to turn the dial on world hunger, British Embassy Mogadishu (Mogadishu) 8 September 2023. Access Date: 4 November 2023. <https://www.gov.uk/government/news/uk-to-host-global-summit-to-turn-the-dial-on-world-hunger>

¹³⁶⁴ UK government urges big business to tackle global hunger, Government of UK (London) 16 October 2023. Access Date: 4 November 2023. <https://www.gov.uk/government/news/uk-government-urges-big-business-to-tackle-global-hunger>

of the products of the world's largest food and drink companies. The organization's research will also study the impact of these companies on communities that are vulnerable to malnutrition.

On 18 October 2023, the Department for Environment, Food and Rural Affairs announced the provision of payments to farmers through the Sustainable Farming Incentive, which aimed to support environmental sustainability, farm resilience, and food production in the country's agricultural sector. This aims to reinforce the availability of nutritious, locally produced food throughout the UK, while supporting local farmers.

On 3 November 2023, the Department for Science, Innovation and Technology announced that it was providing GBP2 million to the Innovate for Food and Nutrition Security programme, to support innovation and technological development to promote health and nutrition in Southeast Asia.

On 20 November 2023, the UK, with the United Arab Emirates and Somalia, hosted the Global Food Security Summit in London.¹³⁶⁵ The summit aimed to address hunger and malnutrition by investing in UK funded science and technology as well as support solutions that prevent famine and wider food insecurity on the international level.

The United Kingdom has fully complied with its commitment to improving access to affordable healthy diets and safe and nutritious foods through increasing the availability, affordability and quality of malnutrition treatment and prevention products and services. The United Kingdom has taken strong action to alleviate food insecurity by investing in both global and domestic partnerships. In addition to this, it has also helped to support the nutrition of its own citizens, and promote sustainable, resilient agricultural development.

Thus, the United Kingdom receives a score of +1.

Analyst: Yalda Matin

United States: +1

The United States has fully complied with its commitment to improving access to affordable healthy diets and safe and nutritious foods through increasing the availability, affordability and quality of malnutrition treatment and prevention products and services.

On 8 June 2023, Vice President Kamala Harris announced an additional USD53.7 million in humanitarian aid from the United States Agency for International Development's Bureau for Humanitarian Assistance (USAID/BHA) for the emergency crisis in Haiti to urgently address food insecurity, malnutrition and other concerns.¹³⁶⁶ This raised the contribution to more than USD110 million.

On 11 July 2023, the United States Congress approved the designation of June 2023 as National Dairy Month, recognizing the important role dairy plays in a healthy diet, including the vital role of dairy producers in the global food system.¹³⁶⁷

On 21 July 2023, the US Department of Agriculture (USDA) announced USD10.7 million in investments for the expansion of the Healthy Food Financing Initiative.¹³⁶⁸ This funding is a part of the Biden Administration's

¹³⁶⁵ Global Food Security Summit: London 2023, Government of UK (London) 20 November 2023. Access Date: 12 December 2023. <https://www.gov.uk/government/topical-events/global-food-security-summit-london-2023>

¹³⁶⁶ Haiti – Complex Emergency, United States Agency for International Development (Washington D.C.) 15 June 2023. Access Date: 20 October 2023. https://www.usaid.gov/sites/default/files/2023-06/2023-06-15_USAID-BHA_Haiti_Complex_Emergency_Fact_Sheet_5.pdf

¹³⁶⁷ S.Res.284 – A resolution expressing support for the designation of June 2023 as “National Dairy Month” to recognize the important role dairy plays in a healthy diet and the exceptional work of dairy producers in being stewards of the land and livestock, The United States Congress (Washington D.C.) 11 July 2023. Access Date: 20 October 2023. <https://www.govinfo.gov/app/details/BILLS-118sres284ats>

¹³⁶⁸ Biden-Harris Administration Announces Investments in Urban Agriculture, Food and Market Access through President Biden's Investing in America Agenda, U.S. Department of Agriculture (Washington D.C.) 21 July 2023. Access Date: 12 December 2023. <https://www.fns.usda.gov/news-item/usda-0155.23>

series of investments that will aim to strengthen the food system and provide consumers with more accessible and affordable locally grown foods.

On 10 September 2023, USAID/BHA launched a new project in the Mekong Delta to enhance its climate resistance.¹³⁶⁹ The USAID will invest USD11.41 million over two years, pending Congress approval, to support this region which is responsible for half of Vietnam's rice harvest and three quarters of its fruit, aquaculture and fisheries products.

On 20 September 2023, the United States pledged USD100 to the Vision for Adapted Crops and Soils initiative USD30 million for adapting crops, as well as USD70 million toward improving soil health.¹³⁷⁰ Additionally, the US collaborated with the International Fund for Agricultural Development, establishing a new-multi donor funding platform to enhance the financing of the development of improved seeds and soils.

On 27 September 2023, Senator John Fetterman introduced the bill Addressing Digestive Distress in Stomachs of Our Youth Act.¹³⁷¹ This bill requires schools participating in the National School Lunch Program to offer a non-dairy beverage as a substitute for milk if requested by a student or their parent/guardian. This bill eliminates the need to require medical or special dietary reasons to request a substitute. Under this bill, schools will not pay additional costs if providing these substitutes exceed the covered reimbursement amounts.

On 21 October 2023, President Joe Biden announced that the first convoy of humanitarian assistance had crossed into Gaza and reached Palestinians in need, ensuring civilians have access to food, water, medical aid and other assistance.¹³⁷² The United States' decision to work in partnership with Egypt and Israel will aim to ensure the continued movement of aid.

On 25 October 2023, the Biden administration proposed a budget of USD1.05 billion for an international food assistance response package.¹³⁷³ This package aims to address global food emergencies using food and produce grown by US farmers, along with USD5 million for the McGovern-Dole Food for Education which is designed to support school feeding and maternal and child nutrition projects globally.

The US has fully complied with its commitment to improving access to affordable healthy diets and nutritious foods through increasing the availability, affordability and quality of malnutrition treatment and prevention products and services. It has demonstrated strong action globally and invested in humanitarian aid to alleviate malnutrition and hunger, aiming to increase equitable access to food, water and other essentials. It has also taken actions domestically to implement or enhance plans to support nutrition and address challenges related to food access, food production systems, sustainable development and agricultural demand.

Thus, the United States receives a score of +1.

Analyst: E. Alliah Ramirez

¹³⁶⁹ FACT SHEET: President Joseph R. Biden and General Secretary Nguyen Phu Trong Announce the U.S.-Vietnam Comprehensive Strategic Partnership, The White House (Washington D.C.) 10 September 2023. Access Date: 20 October 2023.

<https://www.whitehouse.gov/briefing-room/statements-releases/2023/09/10/fact-sheet-president-joseph-r-biden-and-general-secretary-nguyen-phu-trong-announce-the-u-s-vietnam-comprehensive-strategic-partnership/>

¹³⁷⁰ Secretary Anthony J. Blinken at the Vision for Adapted Crops and Soils: Global Solutions for Food Security Event, The U.S. Department of State (New York) 20 September 2023. Access Date: 20 October 2023. <https://www.state.gov/secretary-antony-j-blinken-at-the-vision-for-adapted-crops-and-soils-global-solutions-for-food-security-event/>

¹³⁷¹ S.2943 - Addressing Digestive Distress in Stomachs of Our Youth Act, The United States Congress (Washington D.C.) 27 September 2023. Access Date: 20 October 2023. <https://www.congress.gov/bill/118th-congress/senate-bill/2943?q=%7B%22search%22%3A%22food+diets%22%7D&s=2&r=20>

¹³⁷² Statement from President Joe Biden on the Delivery of Humanitarian Aid to Gaza, The White House (Washington D.C.) 21 October 2023. Access Date: 30 October 2023. <https://www.whitehouse.gov/briefing-room/statements-releases/2023/10/21/statement-from-president-joe-biden-on-the-delivery-of-humanitarian-aid-to-gaza/>

¹³⁷³ Here's what's in the White House's \$56 billion domestic spending request, CNN (Washington D.C.) 25 October 2023. Access Date: 30 October 2023. <https://www.cnn.com/white-house-domestic-spending-package/index.html>

European Union: +1

The European Union has fully complied with its commitment to improving access to affordable healthy diets and safe and nutritious foods through increasing the availability, affordability and quality of malnutrition treatment and prevention products and services.

On 1 June 2023, the European Commission's Financial Instrument for the Environment/L'Instrument Financier pour l'Environnement (LIFE) Programme contributed roughly EUR6.3 million to a sustainable aquaculture project.¹³⁷⁴ This project seeks to optimize aquaculture systems for fertilizer and biogas, creating a circular economy for stakeholders. As a result, the project serves to adapt fishing systems to overcome food production challenges from increased demand.

On 26 June 2023, the European Commission approved a support package of EUR100 million for farmers in Poland, Slovakia, Hungary, Romania and Bulgaria.¹³⁷⁵ The package is directed towards farmers who produce cereals and oilseeds, compensating for logistical issues stemming from the import of Ukrainian agricultural products.¹³⁷⁶ This package, which alleviates economic difficulties for agricultural production, improves the affordability of food products.

On 27 June 2023, the European Investment Bank signed a EUR50 million investment in the construction of a new port facility near the Port of Varna in Bulgaria.¹³⁷⁷ The port will be used for the storage, handling, and export of oil seed products and grain cereals, with the project seeking to address economic market failures and sustainable transport. The reduction of costs combined with investment in storage and processing in this project improves the affordability, availability, and quality of food in Bulgaria.

On 5 July 2023, the European Commission adopted a proposal for regulations on plants which were produced using certain genomic techniques.¹³⁷⁸ The proposal aims to maintain protections for health and the environment by introducing new regulatory measures for agricultural products. The proposal is part of the EU's Farm to Fork strategy, which is poised to achieve a sustainable food system transition, notably seeking to improve food security and public health by ensuring access to nutritious and sustainable food.¹³⁷⁹ The proposal's intention to protect human health alongside its regulatory goals seeks to improve the quality and safety of food.

On 18 July 2023, the European Investment Bank signed a EUR20 million loan to support an agricultural project in Madagascar.¹³⁸⁰ The project, supported by social enterprise Sahanala, seeks to promote mechanisation alongside traditional agricultural practices to improve producer revenues and living conditions. The scope of the loan covers the affordability, availability, and quality of food by investing in the efficiency and processing within food systems in Madagascar.

¹³⁷⁴ From salmon sludge and manure to fertiliser: a circular economy around land-based salmon farming, European Commission (Brussels) n.d. Access Date: 1 December 2023. <https://webgate.ec.europa.eu/life/publicWebsite/project/LIFE22-ENV-IS-TERRAFORMING-LIFE-101113811/from-salmon-sludge-and-manure-to-fertiliser-a-circular-economy-around-land-based-salmon-farming>

¹³⁷⁵ €430 million of EU funds to support the EU agricultural sector, European Commission (Brussels) 26 June 2023. Access Date: 4 November 2023. https://ec.europa.eu/commission/presscorner/detail/en/IP_23_3189

¹³⁷⁶ €100 million to support farmers from Bulgaria, Hungary, Poland, Romania and Slovakia, European Commission (Brussels) 3 May 2023. Access Date: 4 November 2023. https://agriculture.ec.europa.eu/news/eu100-million-support-farmers-bulgaria-hungary-poland-romania-and-slovakia-2023-05-03_en

¹³⁷⁷ Oliva Grain Port Terminal, European Investment Bank (Luxembourg) 13 June 2023. Access Date: 4 November 2023. <https://www.eib.org/en/projects/pipelines/all/20210337>

¹³⁷⁸ New techniques in biotechnology, European Commission (Brussels) 5 July 2023. Access Date: 1 December 2023. https://food.ec.europa.eu/plants/genetically-modified-organisms/new-techniques-biotechnology_en

¹³⁷⁹ Farm to Fork strategy, European Commission (Brussels) n.d. Access Date: 4 November 2023. https://food.ec.europa.eu/horizontal-topics/farm-fork-strategy_en

¹³⁸⁰ Madagascar: Boost for farmers, fishers and food security with €20 million EIB loan for Sahanala initiative, European Investment Bank (Luxembourg) 18 July 2023. Access Date: 28 November 2023.

On 19 July 2023, the European Investment Bank signed a EUR15 million investment to develop and enhance the digital marketplace CrowdFarming, which allows farmers to sell directly to consumers.¹³⁸¹ The investment seeks to improve user experiences and develop logistics support. Improvement in accessible and direct marketplaces for farmers improves the availability of food for consumers.

On 18 August 2023, the European Investment Bank signed a EUR40 million investment in the development of the poultry sector through a project developed in the Netherlands.¹³⁸² The investment finances the development of technology which notably monitors the health of eggs and chicks to improve quality and decrease waste. The project, which aligns with the EU's Farm to Fork strategy, also seeks to increase the productivity of the poultry sector. The improvement of industry productivity and quality improves the overall availability and quality of food.

On 1 September 2023, the European Commission's LIFE Programme contributed roughly EUR1.2 million to CROPS4LIFE, an initiative focused on reducing the climate footprint of agriculture and food systems in Vitoria-Gasteiz, Spain.¹³⁸³ This initiative seeks to act on farming adaptations to climate change, training within the farming profession, food supply chains and adaptive governance to improve agricultural outcomes. Notably, the initiative's goal of influencing food choices towards locally produced products can improve the availability and quality of food for consumers.

On 6 September 2023, the European Investment Bank released a proposal loan of EUR400 million to "co-finance investment schemes supported by the European Agricultural Fund for Rural Development...within the Hungarian Common Agricultural Policy Strategic Plan."¹³⁸⁴ The proposal aims to target farming in rural areas for sustainable development. Additionally, the loan seeks to support investments in agriculture and processing. The investment's goal to support sustainable development in farming, agriculture, and processing improves the availability and quality of food in Hungary.

On 11 October 2023, the European Union Humanitarian Aid Department contributed EUR2.5 million to the United Nations Children's Fund in Haiti to address child wasting.¹³⁸⁵ Funding will target malnutrition by supporting access to nutrition services and improved nutrition. The contribution's impact on improving nutrition among children in Haiti with the provision of Ready-to-use Therapeutic Products and other supplies improves the availability and quality of food.

On 20 October 2023, the European Union contributed EUR9.9 million to the World Food Programme in support of primary school students in Afghanistan for over two years.¹³⁸⁶ The funding allows the provision of nutritious food to children, notably locally produced fortified biscuits and vegetable oil. The specific provision of specialized foods to prevent malnutrition improves access and quality of food in Afghanistan.

¹³⁸¹ Crowdfarming (IEU G), European Investment Bank (Luxembourg) 27 October 2023. Access Date: 4 November 2023.

<https://www.eib.org/en/projects/pipelines/all/20220630>

¹³⁸² In Ovo (IEU GT), European Investment Bank (Luxembourg) 4 May 2023. Access Date: 4 November 2023.

<https://www.eib.org/en/projects/pipelines/all/20220702>

¹³⁸³ Carbon Removal governance Outline and Periurban agriculture for Sustainable food system, European Commission (Brussels) n.d. Access Date: 1 December 2023. <https://webgate.ec.europa.eu/life/publicWebsite/project/LIFE22-ENV-IS-TERRAFORMING-LIFE-101113811/from-salmon-sludge-and-manure-to-fertiliser-a-circular-economy-around-land-based-salmon-farming>

¹³⁸⁴ Rural Development 2023-27 HU, European Investment Bank (Luxembourg) 6 September 2023. Access Date: 4 November 2023. <https://www.eib.org/en/projects/pipelines/all/20230221>

¹³⁸⁵ The EU Humanitarian Aid provided 2.5 million euros to combat child malnutrition in Haiti., UNICEF Haiti (Port-au-Prince) 11 October 2023. Access Date: 4 November 2023. <https://www.unicef.org/haiti/communiqu%C3%A9s-de-presse/eu-humanitarian-aid-provided-25-million-euros-combat-child-malnutrition-haiti>

¹³⁸⁶ The EU supports school feeding in Afghanistan for nearly 2 million girls and boys in primary school, World Food Programme (Kabul) 20 October 2023. Access Date: 4 November 2023. <https://www.wfp.org/news/eu-supports-school-feeding-afghanistan-nearly-2-million-girls-and-boys-primary-school>

On 22 October 2023, the European Investment Bank signed a EUR150 million loan to support climate action projects which facilitate agricultural production adaptation in Argentina.¹³⁸⁷ The loan seeks to develop the agricultural sector and improve the quality and access to new markets, thereby improving the availability of agricultural products.

On 7 November 2023, the European Investment Bank approved a EUR28 million investment in sustainable aquaculture infrastructure.¹³⁸⁸ This funding will support a recirculating aquaculture system with a processing facility for arctic char, which aims to have minimal environmental impact. The project will expand current infrastructure in food production and processing, thereby increasing food availability and quality.

On 23 November 2023, the European Union contributed EUR1 million to the World Trade Organization's Fisheries Funding Mechanism which assists least-developed states to implement the organization's Agreement on Fisheries Subsidies.¹³⁸⁹ Funding will help to improve the sustainability of fisheries and protect the health of oceans. The protection of marine stock and improved sustainable practices will help to improve the availability and quality of aquaculture food products.

On 24 November 2023, the European Union contributed EUR19 million in support of regional food security in the Caribbean.¹³⁹⁰ The contribution helps launch a programme that will enhance food system practices and processing, while improving access to nutritious diets for the region. The funding will also target investment for development in agriculture and fishery sectors, while addressing food objectives in sustainability, innovation, distribution, efficiency and equity. The contribution's ability to comprehensively address sector development improves regional food security through increased food availability, affordability and quality.

The European Union has fully complied with its commitment to improving access to affordable healthy diets and safe and nutritious foods through increasing the availability, affordability and quality of malnutrition treatment and prevention products and services. The European Union has improved supports for farmers and logistics through investments. Funding has also further developed food systems, specifically in processing and the usage of new technology. On the global level, the European Union has contributed to humanitarian aid efforts around the world and has helped with the provision of direct malnutrition prevention and therapy, increasing the general availability of quality nutrition for those who need it.

Thus, the European Union receives a score of +1.

Analyst: Ethan Lui

¹³⁸⁷ AR-Provincial Agricultural Services Programme FL, European Investment Bank (Luxembourg) 27 June 2023. Access Date: 4 November 2023. <https://www.eib.org/en/projects/pipelines/all/20230168>

¹³⁸⁸ Cold Lake Sustainable Arctic Char (IEU GT), European Investment Bank (Luxembourg) 9 November 2023. Access Date: 1 December 2023. <https://www.eib.org/en/projects/pipelines/all/20230217>

¹³⁸⁹ EU donates EUR 1 million to WTO Fisheries Funding Mechanism, World Trade Organization (Geneva) 23 November 2023. Access Date: 1 December 2023. https://www.wto.org/english/news_e/pres23_e/pr940_e.htm

¹³⁹⁰ Global Gateway: EU launches regional food security programme for the Caribbean to boost agriculture and fisheries sectors, European Commission (Brussels) 24 November 2023. Access Date: 1 December 2023. https://international-partnerships.ec.europa.eu/news-and-events/news/global-gateway-eu-launches-regional-food-security-programme-caribbean-boost-agriculture-and-2023-11-24_en