



**THE CAMPAIGN TO MAKE
POVERTY HISTORY
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THE U.S. FARM BILL AN OPPORTUNITY TO COMBAT GLOBAL POVERTY

The five-year Farm Bill will expire in 2007, presenting an opportunity to make needed changes that would have a significant impact in developing countries, especially for poor farmers. The current Farm Bill can be improved by reforming U.S. commodity programs and strengthening U.S. international food aid. Addressing current inefficiencies in the U.S. Farm Bill is necessary in order to unlock the ability of small farmers in developing countries – who comprise the majority of the world's hungry people – so they can improve their livelihoods and escape poverty. Because the current system does not primarily benefit America's small farmers, reforms should also provide better and more targeted support for U.S. farm families of modest means, while ensuring that all Americans have an adequate, nutritious diet, and conserving the land for future generations.

WHY IS TRADE IMPORTANT?

As important as foreign assistance is for helping the global poor lift themselves up out of poverty, government assistance alone cannot accomplish this. Developing countries need a fair system which lets them trade with wealthier nations and earn more money, so they can grow their economies to pay for their own education and healthcare. ***If Africa could regain just an additional 1% share of global trade, African countries would earn \$70 billion more in exports each year. That's several times more than what they currently receive in foreign aid.*** For small farmers living off the land, a few key reforms can make all the difference for the survival for their families.

WHAT YOU CAN DO

As ONE, we are asking America to reform unfair trade rules so people in poor countries can have the chance to earn their way out of poverty. Ask your Member of Congress to make trade work for the world's poor by imposing limitations on trade-distorting commodity payments in the upcoming Farm Bill reauthorization.

KEY REFORMS

ONE is urging Congress to take the opportunity presented by the reauthorization of the Farm Bill to prioritize policies that reduce hunger and poverty around the world. The new Farm Bill must include these key changes:

- Provide a transition for American farmers to alternative forms of support that are more beneficial and equitable and do not distort trade in ways that fuel hunger and poverty in other countries
- Strengthen international food aid in ways that encourage local food security
- Increase international food aid to ensure that the first Millennium Development Goal of reducing hunger by one-half is achieved by 2015