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Acronyms

ACLU  American Civil Liberties Union
AFDC  Aid to Families with Dependent Children
ARC  African Risk Capacity
ARRA  American Recovery and Reinvestment Act
BLS  Bureau of Labor Statistics
CAADP  Comprehensive Africa Agriculture Development Program
CAR  Central African Republic
CCCS  Catholic Charities Community Services
CCrif  Caribbean Catastrophic Risk Insurance Facility
CEPR  Center for Economic and Policy Research
CFAN  Climate Forecast Applications Network
CGD  Center for Global Development
CICIG  Comisión Internacional contra la Impunidad en Guatemala
CMN  Comisarías de la Mujer y de la Niñez
CO2  Carbon dioxide
COD  Cash on Delivery
CTC  Child Tax Credit
CWS  Church World Service
DCM  Disaster Case Management
DOJ  United States Department of Justice
DRC  Democratic Republic of Congo
EITC  Earned Income Tax Credit
FAO  Food and Agriculture Organization of the United Nations
FARC  Fuerzas Armadas Revolucionarias de Colombia
FCHV  Female Community Health Volunteer
FEMA  Federal Emergency Management Agency
Fews Net  Famine Early Warning System Network
G-7  Group of 7
GDP  Gross domestic product
GYIN  Global Youth Innovation Network
HUD  United States Department of Housing and Urban Development
IDA  International Development Association
IDPs  Internally displaced persons
IFAD  International Fund for Agricultural Development
IOM  International Organization for Migration
IPCC  Intergovernmental Panel on Climate Change
ISIS  Islamic State
JRS  Jesuit Refugee Service
MCC  Millennium Challenge Corporation
MDGs  Millennium Development Goals
MENA  Middle East and North Africa
NAACP  National Association of Colored People
NASFAM  National Association of Small Farmers of Malawi
NCCC  National Civilian Community Corps
NGOs  Nongovernmental organizations
NLIHC  National Low Income Housing Coalition
OECD  Organization for Economic Cooperation and Development
OGP  Open Government Partnership
OSAPO  Oganizasyon Santé Popile/Popular Health Organization
PSNP  Productive Safety Net Program
REDD+  Reducing Emissions from Deforestation and Forest Degradation
RLP  Religious Leaders Platform
RRI  Comprehensive Rural Reform
SAFID  Somali Agency for International Development
SDGs  Sustainable Development Goals
SIGAR  United States Special Investigator General for Afghanistan Reconstruction
SKDE  Sant Kretyen pou Devlopman Entegre
SNAP  Supplemental Nutrition Assistance Program
TANF  Temporary Assistance for Needy Families
UCBC  Bilingual Christian University of Congo
UN  United Nations
UNHCR  United Nations High Commissioner for Refugees
UNICEF  United Nations Children’s Fund
USAID  United States Agency for International Development
VISTA  Volunteers in Service to America
WASH  Water, Sanitation, and Hygiene Program
WFP  World Food Program
Alliance of Small Island States: A coalition of 44 small island and low-lying coastal countries that share similar development challenges and concerns, especially their vulnerability to the adverse effects of global climate change.

American Recovery and Reinvestment Act (ARRA): The economic recovery plan enacted in February 2009 with provisions for federal tax cuts and incentives, investments in infrastructure repair, expansion of unemployment benefits and other social entitlement programs, as well as support to states so that they could continue to fund services.

Area median income: The income level at which half of households in a designated geographic area earn more and half earn less.

Bilateral aid: Aid from a single donor country to a single recipient country.

Block grant: A vehicle the federal government uses to provide state and local governments a specified amount of funding to assist them in addressing broad purposes.

Capacity building: Development assistance specifically designed to build skills and/or technical and management capacity among the beneficiaries.

Carbon markets: A market-based approach to reducing carbon dioxide emissions, the primary greenhouse gas causing climate change.

Conditional cash transfer: A government transfer of cash based on conditions that promote poverty reduction and long-term self-sufficiency, such as enrolling children in schools, regular medical check-ups, vaccinations, or more nutritious eating.

Developed countries: Highly industrialized nations such as the United States, Great Britain, France, Germany, and Japan; also referred to as high-income.

Developing countries: These include low- and middle-income countries, where extreme poverty, hunger and other hardships remain common.

Development assistance: Grants and loans to developing countries by donors to spur economic development and poverty reduction.

Earned Income Tax Credit (EITC): A federal government program that provides a cash benefit to many low-income working people by refunding a portion of their income taxes.

Extreme poverty: The international poverty line of $1.90 USD per person per day.

Famine: An extreme collapse in local availability and access to food that causes a widespread rise in deaths from outright starvation or hunger-related illnesses.

Feed the Future: The U.S. government’s global hunger and food security initiative, through which the United States works with host governments, development partners, and other stakeholders to sustainably tackle the root causes of global poverty and hunger.

Food insecurity: Uncertain availability or inability to acquire safe, nutritious food in socially acceptable ways.

Food security: Assured access to enough nutritious food to sustain an active and healthy life with dignity.

g7+: A voluntary association of countries that are or have been affected by conflict and are transitioning to the next stage of development.

Governance: The norms by which a government operates, measured in terms such as transparency, accountability, rule of law and strength of institutions.

Great Recession: The worst economic downturn in the United States since the Great Depression. It started in December 2007 with the bursting of a housing bubble that led to a financial crisis and a steep rise in unemployment.

Green Climate Fund: A fund set up through the United Nations Framework Convention on Climate Change (UNFCCC) with the intent to raise money from developed countries to help developing countries cope with the impacts of climate change.

Green Revolution: Modification of agriculture in the 1960s and 1970s to improve agricultural production of high-yielding varieties of grains (such as rice, wheat and corn) through the use of new technologies, including new machines, fertilizer, pesticides, irrigation and cultivation methods.
**Greenhouse gas emissions:** Gases that trap heat in the atmosphere and are linked to global climate change.

**Group of 7 (G-7):** The wealthiest industrial countries: Canada, France, Germany, Italy, Japan, United Kingdom, and United States.

**Gross domestic product (GDP):** The value of all goods and services produced within a nation during a specified period, usually a year.

**Hidden hunger:** A deficiency in the vitamins, major minerals and trace elements needed for a healthy, balanced diet.

**High-income country:** Determined by the World Bank as any country that earns an annual income per capita of more than $12,476 USD or more in 2015.

**Housing bubble:** An unsustainable rise in home prices fueled by cheap credit and speculation in the real estate market.

**Hunger:** A condition in which people do not get enough food to provide the nutrients (carbohydrate, fat, protein, vitamins, minerals and water) for fully productive, active, and healthy lives.

**International Development Association (IDA):** The part of the World Bank that provides assistance to the world’s poorest countries with grants and low interest loans covering primary education, basic health services, clean water and sanitation, agriculture and nutrition, business climate improvements, infrastructure, and institutional reforms.

**International Monetary Fund (IMF):** An international organization that makes loans to countries with short-term foreign exchange and monetary problems.

**International Panel on Climate Change (IPCC):** The IPCC was established jointly by the United Nations Environment Program and the World Meteorological Organization in 1988. The purpose of the IPCC is to assess information in the scientific and technical literature related to all significant components of the issue of climate change.

**Land grab:** A large-scale land acquisition in a developing country, usually on very favorable terms to the purchaser and sometimes involving the displacement of the resident population.

**Low-income country:** Determined by the World Bank as any country that earns an annual income per capita of $1,025 USD or less in 2015.

**Malnutrition:** An abnormal physiological condition caused by inadequate, unbalanced or excessive consumption of macronutrients and/or micronutrients.

**Mass incarceration:** A term to describe the high rates of incarceration in the United States.

**Micronutrients:** The vitamins, major minerals and trace elements needed for a healthy, balanced diet.

**Middle-income country:** Determined by the World Bank as any country that earns an annual income per capita of $1,026-$12,475 USD. It is further divided between lower middle income countries, ($1,026-$4,035) and upper middle income countries, ($4,036-$12,475).

**Millennium Challenge Corporation (MCC):** An independent U.S. government foreign aid agency that provides aid to countries that demonstrate principles of good governance such as respect for the rule of law and development of accountable state institutions.

**Millennium Development Goals (MDGs):** A global agreement officially adopted at the United Nations in the year 2000. The goals served as a road map for development outcomes to be achieved by 2015.

**Multilateral aid:** Financial or material assistance channeled to developing countries via international organizations such as the World Bank, the European Union or UN agencies (as distinguished from bilateral aid).

**New Deal for Engagement in Fragile States:** An agreement between fragile and conflict-affected states, international development partners and civil society to improve current development policy and practice in fragile states.

**Northern Triangle:** A region of Central America made up of Guatemala, Honduras, and El Salvador.

**Official Development Assistance (ODA):** The term used by the Organization for Economic Cooperation and Development for grants and loans to developing countries undertaken by governments to pursue economic development at concessional financial terms.
Organization for Economic Cooperation and Development (OECD): A group of 35 industrialized countries that pursue economic development while fostering good governance in the public sector and in corporate activity. OECD countries make up the traditional class of donors.

Paris Principles on Aid Effectiveness: An international agreement signed in 2005 by more than a hundred senior government officials of donor countries and aid-recipient countries that committed their respective governments to better coordinate their efforts to achieve the Millennium Development Goals.

Plumpy’ Nut: A ready-to-use therapeutic food that comes in the form of a fortified peanut paste for treating severely malnourished children.

Safety nets: Government policies and charitable programs designed to ensure basic needs are met among low-income, disabled and other vulnerable social groups.

Smallholder farmer: A farmer who works a small plot of land, generally less than five acres. The greatest number of people living in extreme poverty consists of smallholder farmers and their families.

Social protection: A cash or in-kind transfer to a household to protect against financial hardship resulting from conditions such as disability, old age, poor health, unemployment, care of children or elderly, food insecurity, or lack of housing.

State building: Building effective, legitimate, and resilient state institutions, capable of engaging productively with their people to promote sustained development.

Stunting: A result of chronic malnutrition during the formative years of childhood. The most visible sign is when a child fails to grow to normal height, but may also result in decreased mental capacity and long-term health problems for the rest of a person’s life.

Supplemental Nutrition Assistance Program (SNAP): Previously called the Food Stamp Program, SNAP supplements the food budgets of low-income households with monthly benefits in the form of an electronic benefits (EBT) card that they can use like cash at authorized retail stores.

Sustainable development: Development which meets the needs of the present without compromising the ability of future generations to meet their own needs.

Sustainable development goals (SDGs): A set of 17 international development goals agreed to by 193 countries at the United Nations General Assembly in 2015. The SDGs succeed the Millennium Development Goals (MDGs) as the most prominent international development framework, and they include goals to end hunger and extreme poverty globally by 2030.

Temporary Assistance for Needy Families (TANF): Monthly cash assistance program for poor families with children under age 18, sometimes referred to as welfare, and formerly known as Aid to Families with Dependent Children before welfare reform legislation in 1996.

United Nation High Commissioner for Refugees (UNHCR): Also known as the UN Refugee Agency, UNHCR is mandated to protect and support refugees at the request of a government or the UN itself and assist in their voluntary repatriation, local integration or resettlement to a third country.

United States Agency for International Development (USAID): A federal agency that supports long-term and equitable economic growth and poverty reduction in developing countries and advances U.S. foreign policy objectives.

War on Poverty: An initiative launched by President Lyndon Johnson in 1964 that included the establishment of a set of government programs, including, among others, Head Start, Medicaid and Medicare, the Food Stamp Program, and improvements to Social Security.

Whole-of-government plan: A plan that integrates the collaborative efforts of the departments and agencies of government toward a shared goal.

World Bank: An intergovernmental development bank that makes long-term loans to governments of developing nations and conducts research and analysis on issues of global economic importance, particularly related to economic development and poverty reduction.

World Food Program (WFP): A U.N. body providing logistical support necessary to get food to the right people at the right time in response to emergency food shortages and in development work.