

American Soybean Association

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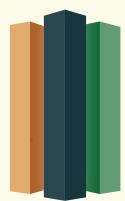




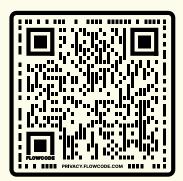
Make Moves with U.S. Soy

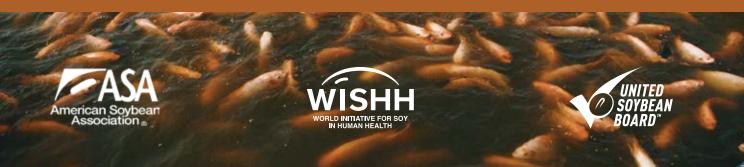
Our founding farmers took action **22 years ago** to launch ASA's World Initiative for Soy in Human Health so WISHH could grow new markets for U.S. Soy. Today, WISHH is working with strategic partners that use soy for food or feed in **28 countries** across Asia and Latin America to sub-Saharan Africa.

Find out how WISHH's three pillars of trade, development and food security cultivate new markets for U.S. Soy protein.



Trade. Development. Food Security.







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FEATURE!

COVER STORY
Vision for Trade
Realized: WISHH achieves

soybean growers' vision for diversified soy trade.

SOY FACES Meet individuals with WISHH success stories from Cambodia, Ghana and the Dominican Republic.

SOY FORWARD

WISHH looks to youth to help innovate for climate concerns.



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The American Soybean Association (ASA) represents U.S. soybean farmers on domestic and international American Soybean Association policy issues important to the soybean industry.

ASA has 26 affiliated state associations representing ASA has 26 affiliated state associations representing 30 states and more than 500,000 soybean farmers.

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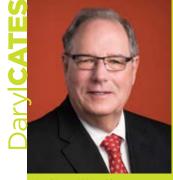
ASA Teadership Corner

It has been a pleasure to serve in 2023 as your ASA president and, just a few years back, as chair of ASA's World Initiative for Soy in Human Health program. This quarter, our American Soybean is all about WISHH, which was founded more than 20 years ago to connect trade and development across global market systems and improve food security. Through its initiatives, WISHH opens up new worlds, quite literally, for U.S. soy. Developing and emerging markets are exposed to high quality, versatile soy, which helps those countries more efficiently and safely feed their populations, both humans and animals. Soy is a miracle bean when it comes to providing protein in diets for both people and animal agriculture, be that poultry breeding, aquaculture (fish) or other. For people, the world truly is our oyster when it comes to innovative soy food products, developed in part through the support of WISHH in countries including Ghana, Cambodia, Nigeria and 26 others throughout sub-Saharan Africa, Asia and Latin America.

There are always plenty of pressing policy concerns on tap in D.C. Right now, our government affairs team in Washington is working on farm bill priorities, critical pesticide regulation decisions, sustainable aviation fuel developments and a host of new threats to our soy checkoff. Please read more on that from ASA Director of Government Affairs Virginia Houston in the pages ahead. Our work as your national

policy organization has never been more important than right nowand your voice, likewise, is essential at this time. We hope you'll visit soygrowers.com and participate in our calls to action to defend our soy checkoff, push for swift passage of a meaningful farm bill and keep vital crop protection tools on the market. Helping us advocate on your behalf is as easy as clicking a couple of buttons to send prewritten letters to your members of Congress or the administration. You'll find those open calls to action in our Soy Action Center on the top of the soygrowers.com home page.

Meantime, I am pleased to share a few photos from my work



Daryl Cates, ASA President

with WISHH to witness firsthand their efforts, the training they provide and exactly how the ASA program is opening new doors abroad for U.S. soy's future. I hope you enjoy, and thank you for allowing me to serve on your behalf this year.



I had the opportunity to meet with the village leader who conducted WISHH feeding trials in his ponds in Cambodia.



Here, Brad Doyle and I joined in the prepping of carnivorous snakehead fish that is popular in many Cambodian food dishes. A WISHH strategic partner is innovating with a new boneless fish chip made from snakehead.



WISHH in-country representatives Sambath Sak (Cambodia); Athula Mahagamage (Sri Lanka); Thae Ei Phyu and Rick Chase (Myanmar) joined me on my Illinois farm in 2022.



USSEC Tackles Technical Challenges for U.S. Soy Customers

The process of crushing soybeans and effectively using the meal and oil is complicated. That's where technical support from the U.S. Soybean Export Council can help. Provided in part with soy checkoff funding, technical assistance from USSEC helps current and potential soy customers identify specific issues and implement solutions that can improve their operations. The value of U.S. soy is highlighted along the way.

"Through our technical services, we build relationships and trust with USSEC customers around the world." says Tom D'Alfonso, USSEC director of animal and aquaculture. "At the same time, these efforts create a stronger preference for U.S. soy."

As examples, D'Alfonso points to recent efforts providing customized technical insight and support at crushing plants, feed and pellet manufacturers and poultry producers on opposite sides of the globe.

In Bangladesh, USSEC arranged for a crushing product specialist to tour four crushing plants in June 2023. The tour positioned USSEC as a source for deep discussions of technical details and developing solutions.

During conversations at each plant, the USSEC specialist provided immediate recommendations for issues like hexane loss and extractor issues. The introductions and tours opened the door for longerterm discussions about further improvements, like final product composition.

In the Dominican Republic, 17 key U.S. soy customers received invaluable technical assistance



USSEC expert offers solutions at Dominican Republic feed manufacturing plant.

in various critical areas. A team of USSEC consultants provided customized knowledge and support in feed and pellet manufacturing, as well as poultry nutrition and production. This expertise enabled companies to enhance their operations.

"In both Bangladesh and the Dominican Republic, the USSEC team assessed operations and current practices to identify areas for improvement," D'Alfonso explains. "Tailored advice and guidance highlighted specific measures that could improve efficiency and productivity, all with a focus on the advantages U.S. soy offers."

This guidance is driving positive change for companies receiving technical support, allowing them to

improve overall performance and, in turn, stay competitive and meet market demand. USSEC technical support helps position U.S. sov customers at the forefront of their respective industries.

"These are just a few recent examples of the countless ways USSEC teams build relationships and share their expertise with customers in all our global regions," D'Alfonso says. "One-on-one meetings and regular interactions reveal how customers can benefit from the quality, versatility, reliability and sustainability of U.S. soy."

Source: U.S. Soybean Export Council

ASTA



ASA Conservation Champions met in Washington, D.C., for three days of communications training, conservation discussions and educational sessions with industry leaders, with specific program components sponsored by Bayer, United Soybean Board and Walton Family Foundation. Pictured: (I to r) ASA Chairman Brad Doyle (AR), Lori Dabbs (AR), Andy Bensend (WI), and ASA Directors Charles Atkinson (KS) and Jim Martin (IL). Other farmer-leaders not pictured: Danny Murphy (MS), Jeff O'Connor (IL), and LaVell Winsor (KS).



ASA Director Jordan Scott (SD) and ASA Vice President Josh Gackle (ND) were excited to see the U.S. Soy digital billboards, part of the ASA/USB Education Project, throughout Reagan National Airport when they landed in D.C. in July.

ASA Director Tanner Johnson (far right) and Wisconsin Soybean Association leaders discuss farm bill priorities with Rep. Gwen Moore.

A select group of nine college students from across the country completed the Ag Voices of the Future program July 10-13, while in Washington, D.C. Sponsored by ASA and Valent U.S.A., the program gives students an inside look at how agricultural policies are made in the nation's capital. The class was held in conjunction with ASA's summer board meeting and other soy events. Participants included: Lakin Booker, University of Tennessee-Knoxville; Colby Brandt, lowa State University; Owen Brown, Oklahoma State University; Julia DeSalvo, Southern Arkansas University; Reagan Koester, Purdue University; Cody Loganbill, Oklahoma State University; Eliza Patchin, Iowa State University; Cleb Simpson, University of Missouri-Columbia; and Makenna Stundebeck, University of Missouri-Columbia.







ASA's Innovation to Market (I2M) Work Group met in Des Moines, Iowa, to discuss issues facing the pesticide and biotechnology industries. Soybean grower-leaders and industry partners collaborated on broader issues facing grower access to these important tools—and also product-specific developments—during one-on-one consultations with developers and registrants.



Brownfield Ag News' Carah Hart interviews ASA Vice President Josh Gackle (ND) at Farm Progress 2023.





ASA Directors George Goblish (MN) (left) and Jordan Scott (SD) (center), along with ASA Director of Government Affairs Alexa Combelic (right), attend the BNSF Ag Rail Business Council meeting, visiting the Export Grain Terminal facility in Longview, WA.

ASA and USB leaders participated in the Producer and Industry Information Exchange program in North Dakota. USB and the National Oilseed Processors Association sponsored the program. PIIE tour participants had a firsthand look at agriculture in the western plains while engaging in important conversations about agriculture and energy.



ASA leaders and staff meet with Sen. John Boozman, Ranking Member of the Senate Ag Committee, to discuss soy policy. Pictured: (I to r) ASA Vice President Josh Gackle (ND); ASA Chairman Brad Doyle (AR); Sen. Boozman; ASA President Daryl Cates (IL); ASA CEO Stephen Censky; and ASA Executive Director of Government Affairs Christy Seyfert.





While in D.C. in July, ASA CEO Stephen Censky and ASA's Executive Committee met with EPA's Office of Chemical Safety and Pollution Prevention to discuss pesticide issues, including the Endangered Species Act implementation.



ASA Director/Tennessee Soybean Association Secretary Casey Youngerman represented U.S. soy priorities at the U.S. House Committee on Agriculture Farm Bill Listening Session in June.



ASA President Daryl Cates (IL) welcomed attendees to the annual ASA Action Partnership meeting, "Land, Water and Air—Sustainable Systems for the Preservation of Agriculture," in Portland, Maine. The meeting provided national and state soybean grower-leaders, staff and industry partners an opportunity to discuss critical industry issues. These included Bioheat*, PFAS, and the EPA Vulnerable Species Pilot and the Ability to Farm.







ASA and the National Oilseed Processors Association hosted a reception at the Dirksen Senate Office Building in D.C. during July board meetings. ASA directors and staff enjoy networking with attendees.

ASA President Daryl Cates (IL) chats with Rep. Mike Bost during the Farm Progress Show this year in Decatur, Illinois.





ASA Director Alan Meadows (TN) hosted EPA and state pesticide regulators on a farm tour as part of the State FIFRA Issues Research and Evaluation Group (SFIREG) meeting in West Tennessee. Meadows discussed the Endangered Species Act implementation and ensuring growers have the tools they need to maintain conservation practices and protect their crops from herbicide-resistant weeds.



ASA Directors Phil Ramsey (ASA STC Representative) and Mike Koehne (STC Secretary-Treasurer) attended the Soy Transportation Coalition meeting in Buffalo, New York, and Ontario, Canada. The group learned about the challenges and opportunities for ag shipping on the Great Lakes and St. Lawrence Seaway—a northern shipping artery that gained additional attention during recent low-water levels on the Mississippi River. Pictured: (I to r) STC Executive Director Mike Steenhoek, Ramsey and Koehne.

Members of the 2023 ASA Corteva Agriscience Young Leader Class participated in the third phase of training in D.C. Participants included: Andrew and Mary Lauver (IA); Catlin Young (KY); Skyler de Regt (MS); Bill Parks (MS); Chandra Blase (NE); Kody & Shelby Leonard (OK); Jeff Kloucek (SD) and Jake Steffes (WI).



Better beans. Many possibilities.

Tennessee farmers welcome the many possibilities by supporting research and actively learning about planting, growing, and harvesting a better bean for food, feed, fuel, and beyond.





One, two, three, four.

Those four numbers are the first ones we are taught when learning how to count. And for soybean growers, those are numbers you should always keep in mind, as those numbers represent a dollar amount-\$12.34that every U.S. soybean grower sees as added value for every dollar invested in the national soy checkoff, not counting value provided by statelevel checkoff activity.

What's even more amazing? That number grows to nearly \$18 when you factor in international promotional activities. Investments in the soy checkoff continue to pay dividends and build demand for high-quality, high-protein U.S. soy on both the domestic and global stages.

Investing in the soy checkoff matters, and farmers know it! In fact, every five years, USDA conducts a new request for referendum to determine if there is sufficient interest among soybean farmers to vote on whether to continue the soy checkoff. The last referendum was held Mav 2019, when less than 1% (officially 0.13%) of all eligible soybean farmers requested a referendum-far short of the 10% threshold needed to trigger

a vote. Put another way, only some 700-odd farmers of the half a million in the U.S. voted in favor of a referendum.

There are, however, threats to the checkoff lurking in the halls of Capitol Hill. U.S. Sens. Cory Booker (D-NJ) and Mike Lee (R-UT) are leading a "pro-farmer effort to reform agricultural checkoff programs," by introducing the Opportunities for Fairness in Farming Act (OFF Act), which also has a House companion. In addition to drastically impacting the ability to promote and enhance opportunities for U.S. soy, this legislation fails to recognize the extensive existing oversight USDA provides to the organizations that administer these checkoff programs. The soy checkoff takes compliance very seriously and ensures compliance with applicable laws, regulations and policies. Importantly, this strict administration and oversight includes not using farmer checkoff funds to influence legislation or government policy.

However, for every shadow on Capitol Hill, there is light, and the agriculture industry does have friends who understand and recognize the

valuable work in which checkoffs engage on behalf of U.S. agriculture. This summer, Representative Barry Moore from Alabama and a bipartisan group of over two dozen House members filed a Congressional resolution in support of checkoff programs. As of September, 33 members of the House had signed on as cosponsors of this resolution.

As we work toward a new farm bill, these threats will continue to arise, but the soy industry has a great story to tell about the checkoff. Through investments in the soy checkoff, we're consistently discovering new and innovative uses for soy products-from lubricants and paint to golf balls and tennis shoes. This is in addition to research and innovations supporting our #1 customer both at home and abroad: animal agriculture.

Now more than ever, we need U.S. soy farmers to make their voice heard and speak up about the good (and transparent) work the soy checkoff is doing for them. We all know that in D.C., if you're not at the table, you're on the menu. Simple as one, two, three (four!).



By Charlie Townsend

In the late 1990s, mobile phones still flipped or were as big as a banana. Steve Jobs was looking ahead to his 2007 iPhone release. NASA was moving into new frontiers after Sojourner succeeded as the first rover to explore the surface of the Red Planet, Mars. Soybean growers were also looking to the future. Their vision for diversified soy trade is now a growing reality through ASA's World Initiative for Soy in Human Health.

Qualified State Soybean Boards, particularly Illinois, were

looking to the future of population growth and protein demand. Their economic analysis showed them the fastest-growing economies were going to be in countries such as Nigeria and Cambodia. These QSSBs needed to take action to be ready to engage with customers and organizations that had never met anyone from U.S. soy organizations, or maybe even anyone from the United States. Knowing that protein plays an essential role in human nutrition, these visionary U.S. soybean growers founded WISHH

in 2000 to serve as a catalyst in developing and emerging markets in sub-Saharan Africa, Asia and Latin America.

The trends continue to support the farmers' vision. For example, while population growth in other regions has slowed, Africa's has increased by 2.42% per year for the past 30 years. Just over one billion people live in Africa, half of whom are under the age of 20.

"These soybean growers did a great job," WISHH Executive Director Gena Perry says, explaining, "The future they envisioned for



WISHH has grown into both animal feeds and human foods that can all benefit from U.S. soy as an abundant and high-quality protein."

The path to develop a market for U.S. soy protein is as different as the 29 countries where WISHH works today. WISHH's unique approach unites trade, development and global food security. By working hand in hand with local partners, WISHH unlocks local protein solutions that contribute to the countries' global food security, development and trade.

"While WISHH's strategy has grown and adapted, we remain true to our roots of farmer leadership," says Perry. "We are thankful to have ongoing soybean grower guidance through WISHH's farmer-led program committee."

WISHH's 16-year partnership with Nigeria's **Alltech Nutrients lifts** U.S. soy trade

Alltech Nutrients Limited, a Nigerian food company, continues to prefer U.S. soy for quality and innovation thanks to its 16-year partnership with WISHH. Through WISHH's long-term trade and development partnership, the company has bought 255 metric tons of U.S. soy since 2018. This includes 80 metric tons of sov flour and other high-protein U.S. soy products purchased from U.S. companies such as Benson Hill.

"WISHH has shown us the obvious reasons why we are continuing to import U.S. soy: It is top quality and consistent. What we get from WISHH and U.S. soy is hard to find elsewhere," says Alltech Business Development Manager Chimezie Obialor.

He notes that, through its work with WISHH, Alltech got remarkably stronger during the tough years of the COVID-19 pandemic. The Nigerian company has doubled in size to 40 employees, who are manufacturing and selling defatted soy flour to Nigerian bakers and textured soy protein to snack food makers. These companies are taking advantage of U.S. soy's quality and ability to boost protein levels in their foods. Soy protein is a powerhouse for food security in Nigeria. With more than 200 million people, Nigeria is the most populated country in Africa and the seventh in the world. The annual growth rate of the population is approximately 2.7%, and more

than half are under 30 years of age.

Based in Lagos, Alltech's trade relationships are well positioned to take advantage of the new Lekki Deep Sea Port, which is partly operational while under construction. The port will strengthen Nigeria's position as a regional maritime hub and be equipped with ships able to transport over 14,500 containers.

Beyond supporting the trade of U.S. soy for Alltech's top tier products, Alltech's journey with WISHH is enriched by technical trainings offered in the United States and Nigeria. "Our partnership with WISHH over the vears has been value-packed." says Obialor. "The partnership has been of tremendous support in developing the Nigeria market with value-added U.S. sov products and, invariably, has grown our business."

Alltech staff participation in the "Baking with Soy Flour" class at the Northern Crops Institute and INTSOY, along with courses at the National Soybean Research Laboratory in Champaign, Illinois, in 2011, laid the foundation for a journey of ongoing learning and improvement. Furthering its technical prowess, staff at Alltech attended other courses intended to solidify their commitment to staying at the forefront of soy industry advancements for Nigeria.

Obialor also notes how proud he is that Alltech is leading this charge with WISHH in his country, particularly when it comes to getting more protein into foods. "The costs of protein from meat only continue to increase; we know there is growth opportunity for soy protein in products, as well. Soy offers an excellent alternative to meat protein in terms of quality and costs."

Through these courses, Obialor and his staff learned soybeans are the only plant-

(continued on page 14)

(continued from page 13)

based protein that contains all nine essential amino acids. For a country where meat consumption can be challenging, soy offers a nutritious and delicious substitute.

The technical support from WISHH has affirmed Alltech's pro-soya marketing strategies. To provide this sort of training and guidance, WISHH leverages money from multiple QSSBs with USDA Market Access Promotion, Foreign Market Development, and Agricultural Trade Promotion funding.

WISHH's lean management trainings have greatly contributed to the company's business growth and ability to weather COVID-19 and other economic challenges. Obialor notes that Alltech became more efficient while doubling staff size and eliminating various forms of waste, strengths that separate the company from its competitors.

Alltech CEO Frank Nwabudike praises WISHH's support during this 16-year partnership with Alltech, noting the collaboration has noticeably increased U.S. soy's presence in Nigeria and created a win-win for both partners. Alltech continues to explore various ways of increasing U.S. soy in its product offerings.

"Our partnership with WISHH has been an exciting one," notes Nwabudike. "I have had, and still have, partnerships with different companies and organizations in different fields across the world. However, the relationship we share with WISHH has added tremendous value in helping us develop a market that was previously untapped. WISHH helped my company as well as Nigerians see the enormous value in soy and value-added soy products from the United States."

Where in the World is WISHH?





Alltech LTD employees walk through the company's warehouse in Lagos, Nigeria, during lean management training courses offered by WISHH. The training helped the company become more efficient and supported its pro-soya marketing strategies.

These maps show which countries WISHH is working in to unite trade, development and food security.



What Does International Food Aid Have to Do with Trade Policy?

By Virginia Houston, ASA Government Affairs Director

In the Trade title of the farm bill, the Market Access Program and Foreign Market Development programs get the majority of the attention, but did you know there are international food assistance programs (i.e., food aid) in the farm bill?

America's international food aid programs have enjoyed bipartisan support and feed millions of vulnerable people around the world every year. Programs like Food for Peace (administered by the U.S. Agency for International Development, or USAID), Food for Progress and McGovern-Dole Food for Education (administered by USDA) help address global food insecurity while advancing foreign policy and humanitarian goals.

But what does international food aid have to do with trade policy? The short answer is everything!



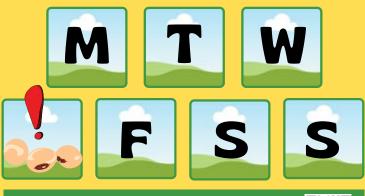
Food aid is a building block upon which trading relationships can be built. Several former food aid recipients, such as South Korea and Kenya, were once beneficiaries of U.S. food aid. Those countries are now well-established trading partners. Continued investments in the farm bill's international food assistance programs allow U.S. soy to continue to be used through products such as corn-soy blend (CSB), texturized soy protein (TSP) and canned vegetable oil. These soy products have served as staples for emergency response in at least 88 countries throughout the world.

As Congress continues to draft the farm bill, ASA will be there to ensure soybeans, through reauthorization of the bill's international food assistance programs, continue to play a vital role in combating global food insecurity.

DO YOU eBEAN?!?



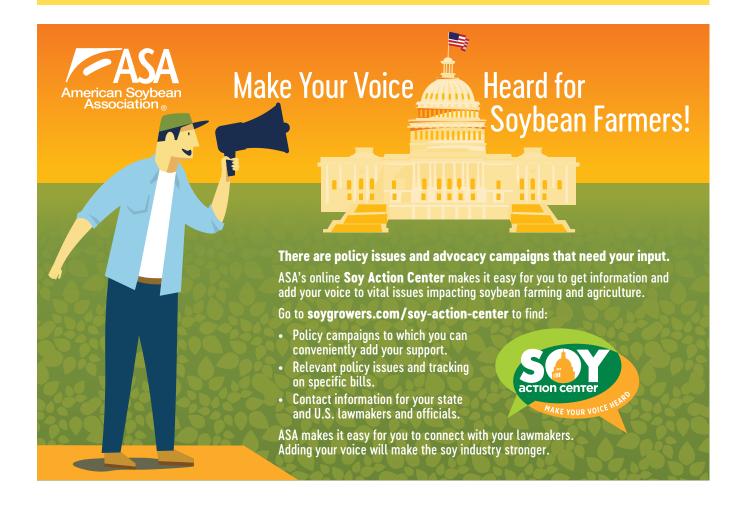
Get the week's key soybean policy news in your inbox from ASA every Thursday!











By Zippy Duvall, American Farm **Bureau Federation**

Farm Bill for America's Families: Sustaining Our Future

The clock has run out on the current farm bill, and it's going to take a strong effort across agriculture and beyond to ensure we get a 2023 farm bill as soon as possible. The farm bill matters to all Americans, and we cannot afford to put our nation's food, fiber and fuel supply at risk, especially as we continue to face the impact of inflation and supply chain disruptions around the globe.

That's why the American Farm Bureau led the way in bringing together a diverse group of agricultural, environmental, forestry, wildlife, nutrition and hunger advocates to launch the "Farm Bill for America's Families: Sustaining Our Future" campaign. We are proud to be partnering with groups like the American Soybean Association and a number of your state organizations. Together, we are calling on Congress to craft an effective farm bill this year, and we're inviting more to join us.

When we lock arms across agriculture and beyond, lawmakers take notice. Finding common ground with a diverse group of stakeholders is truly powerful in showing how important the farm bill is for our nation. Currently, 260 members of Congress have never voted on a farm bill, and our research shows that 71% of adults don't know much, if anything, about the bill. Now is the time to engage with consumers, leaders and lawmakers alike. We need all Americans to understand why the farm bill matters-and to urge their members of Congress do their job and pass the bill.

I like to remind folks that the farm bill could really be called a food and farm bill because of its far-reaching impact. Farmers know firsthand how important farm bill programs like crop insurance are to keeping farms running through tough times like weather disasters, high inflation and supply chain disruptions. But the farm bill covers a lot more than crop insurance. That's why Farm Bill for America's Families is highlighting how the farm bill is critical not only to risk management but also to food security, job creation, conservation and addressing hunger.

We want everyone to see the critical role the farm bill plays in investing in the future of our food system and the health of our natural resources-from voluntary conservation programs to advancing agricultural research. Thanks to the farm bill, U.S. farmers are leading the way in sustainability and have enrolled 140 million acres (a land mass the size of New York and California combined) in conservation programs. Through farm bill nutrition programs, farmers also play a role in providing 9 billion meals every year to those facing hunger. Farmers and ranchers aren't just growing food either:



Zippy Duvall, President, American Farm Bureau Federation

We're growing jobs in rural, suburban and urban communities alike-46 million jobs, in fact. When you consider there are just over 2 million farms in this country, these yields are amazing.

This all just skims the surface, but we hope this campaign will help more people see how the farm bill impacts their families and communities by promoting the wellbeing of all Americans and securing our supply of safe, sustainable food, fiber and fuel. Congress needs to hear from all of us, loud and clear, about how important the farm bill is for our families.

You can learn more about the campaign and join in the effort at FarmBillForAmericasFamilies.com.





WISHH Partners Around the Globe Find Success with Program Support

This issue of American Soybean, we look at some of the "soy faces" engaged with ASA's WISHH program, their successes, and in turn, the successes of ASA's hardworking development arm.

Cambodia's Rady Chea projects 10-20% sales growth for aqua feed

Rady Chea is a driving force for growth in Cambodia's feed and aquaculture industries. When AgriMaster, a Cambodian feed mill, recently underwent a multimillion-dollar expansion, Chea—the company's general manager—was there overseeing the project. AgriMaster now runs two work shifts per day, producing a variety of animal feeds ranging from fish and swine to chickens and duck. The company's innovation is on the rise.

"We have a new project to produce feeds for poultry laying hens as well as sows," says Chea, who recognizes U.S. soy's benefits in these feeds. "The U.S. soybean meal quality is more stable compared to other sources. That is why we will continue to buy U.S. soybeans and soybean meal for our feed production."

Chea projects a 10-20% increase in demand for the company's aquaculture feeds in 2023-2024. The Cambodian feed manufacturer and WISHH strategic partner is a U.S. soybean meal buyer for its feeds, which are sold throughout the Southeast Asian country.



AgriMaster's Rady Chea has overseen a multi-million-dollar expansion of the company's feed mill in Cambodia. In a country that is one of the largest freshwater fish consumers in the world, Chea counts on U.S. soybeans and meal for aquaculture and other animal feeds.

Cambodians are among the highest consumers of freshwater fish in the world, with annual per capita fish consumption estimated at 52.4kg. More than 80% of the total animal protein in the Cambodian diet comes from fish and other aquatic animals, most of which come from inland water bodies.

Chea and AgriMaster are key partners in WISHH's U.S.
Department of Agriculture Food for Progress Commercialization of Aquaculture for Sustainability Trade (CAST) - Cambodia project (focused on developing a lasting aquaculture industry in Cambodia). He is also a board member of the Cambodian Aquaculturalist Association that CAST helped launch in 2020. The association now includes approximately 1,000 members and has established a network of trade

relationships among Cambodians and with U.S. sov.

WISHH began working with Chea prior to CAST when it sent technical consultants from Kansas State University and the Fargobased Northern Crops Institute to advise AgriMaster and other Cambodian enterprises. These foundational trainings included feed formulation, best production practices, feed safety and benefits of using U.S. soybean meal.

The ongoing journey of Chea and WISHH continues, and the company is looking to further expand with U.S. soy. WISHH and Chea are in discussions regarding additional technical expertise that would boost its aquaculture feed formulation and production.

Mathew Bonso's EGGcellent protein progress in Africa

Ghanaian poultry farmer Mathew Bonso remembers tough times as his company weathered the COVID-19 pandemic, including disruptions to Ghana's poultry and egg market and its overall economy. Despite these hardships, Bonso's company, Harimat Farms, continues making progress with its flock, which produces 8 million eggs a year.

A partnership with WISHH has helped Bonso develop stronger poultry production skills-and a preference for U.S. soy protein. "I have benefited a lot the past four years," he says of his partnership with WISHH, which began in 2018. "I am able to feed very good quality feed to my birds."

The company's results are rooted in WISHH's USDA Food for Progress Poultry project, which concluded its activities in Ghana in 2019. Although the project is finished, the positive results of Bonso's partnership with WISHH keep growing and are wins for both Ghana and the United States.

Evans Danso grows aguaculture in sub-Saharan Africa

When the Ghanaian government honored Flosell Farms CEO Evans Danso as "Ghana's Best Fish Farmer," he credited his partnership with WISHH for supporting him along the way. Evans first met with WISHH when his operation was just a budding farm near the banks of the Volta River. Through about five years of technical support, training and various trade trips to the United States with WISHH, Danso now runs one of the largest fish farms in the West African country.

"WISHH has been very supportive and very impactful to Flosell," says Danso. "With the



After weathering the COVID-19 pandemic, Harimat Farms CEO Matthew Bonso continues to prefer U.S. soy protein for his growing flock, which now produces 8 million eggs a year. He learned about the quality of U.S. soybean meal from WISHH.

program's support, we've been able to train a lot of our staff, a lot of staff from other farms and also students from various universities."

The relationship began when WISHH used USDA Agricultural Trade Promotion funds to bring Danso to the United States. where he learned innovative new techniques for aquaculture management and development. Danso also learned how U.S.

soy is used to raise better fingerlings, creating a larger yield and healthier fish. He was so impressed with what he learned that he called his staff and directed them to adopt the practices before he even returned to Ghana.

Danso is a leading example of why sub-Saharan African aquaculture has grown by 11% annually on average since 2,000-



From Left: Ghanaian fish farmers John Domozoro and Evans Danso work closely with Jeff Terhune, a global aquaculture expert and WISHH consultant who offers practical training to strengthen aquaculture in sub-Saharan Africa.

(continued on page 20)

almost twice as fast compared with the rest of the world.

Five years later, Danso continues trainings with WISHHaffiliated partners in Ghana, hosts regional management trainings, and importantly, supports Ghana's next generation of aquaculture entrepreneurs. WISHH's USBsupported, 16-week internship program is held at Flosell Farms. The program supports WISHH's strategy of helping fill growing demand for more aquaculture professionals who can improve and expand aquaculture in sub-Saharan Africa. The internship offers real-world, hands-on experience that will serve the interns when they take the reins as the next generation of aquaculture leaders.

Danso knows this will strengthen the overall aquaculture sector in his country and can lead to increased use of U.S. soy for fish feed.

Elsy Alvarez and Jose Saban grow soy's impact in Latin America

While millions rely on her company for products served on their dinner tables, Elsy Alvarez sees U.S. soy protein as more than just a food ingredient. By supplying protein to populations across Latin America and strengthening the region's businesses, soy could have an even greater, more widespread impact, she says. Through her partnership with WISHH, she hopes to continue increasing soy's prevalence in the area.

"We know that our products could impact over 20 million people," says Alvarez, technical sales manager for Dominican Republic-based CTC Group. "We can't afford to waste time looking at other sources. Thankfully, WISHH has already connected us to the best experts as we explore incorporating more soy protein."



Elsy Alvarez, technical sales manager for a Dominican Republic-based food distribution company, discusses soy with Northern Crops Institute Program Manager Brian Sorenson during WISHH's U.S.-based training on how to use soy protein in foods.

Alvarez recently represented her company on a WISHH-led trade team to the United States, where participants learned about incorporating an increased amount of soy protein in CTC's products. Alvarez, whose company already distributes U.S. soy-based products from an lowa-based company, expressed her thanks to WISHH for gaining more in-depth knowledge to take back to her company. Alvarez is iust one of multiple distributors from Latin America interested in carrying even more soy products in their markets.

Also attending WISHH's 2023 U.S.-based training was WISHH strategic partner Jose Saban, who represents Guatemalan-based Concadal. His company distributes to multiple countries in Central America. Saban explained that seeing how soy is sustainably grown, combined with learning from top experts, provided key tools he could then take back to his team, which can use the knowledge to unlock local protein solutions.

"I work closely with producers and our research and development team," Saban explained. "The type of experience offered by WISHH was always a goal for us. The quality of education offered by these experts through WISHH was top-notch and gives me information to support my team's work."

Like many other trade team members, Saban was impressed with the ways soy protein can be used to increase the nutritional value of his products. Concadal is also exploring ways to use more soy protein, he says, and soy protein will eventually make its way to people across Central America. With the support of WISHH, Saban is excited about the future.

"The information and nutritional training received from WISHH have been invaluable to us. It has been a gamechanger. We hope to get U.S. soy as a nutritional supplement even in schools and other institutions!"



You're where the rubber meets the road. And the engine. And the interior.

All soybean farmers, including you, are busy replacing petroleum with your soy oil. How? By pooling your resources through your soy checkoff. Learn how your soy checkoff is bringing tangible returns back to you and your operation at unitedsoybean.org/hopper.



Moving Soy Forward. Moving You Forward.



Global Food Security Challenge Accepted and Met by U.S. Soy

U.S. farmers produce a safe, reliable and consistent supply of food for our country and, through U.S. exports, for many countries globally. While there may be food deserts in the United States where pockets of citizens need periodic food assistance, there are no vast underserved or malnourished populations like those existing in countries where access to quality food and protein is unavailable or limited, at best.

In many parts of Africa, Asia and Latin America, thousands of children are not just going to bed hungry: Severe malnutrition is widespread and frequently a precursor to life-threatening diseases. The statistics are staggering and hard to fathom. According to the UN World Food Programme, over 30 million children across 15 countries are severely hungry, meaning they suffer from extreme weight loss due to lack of nourishment. Global food security is a crisis of unimaginable magnitude in which America's 515,000 soybean farmers are playing a vital role to address.

For 15 years, Edesia, a nonprofit social enterprise, has been manufacturing protein-rich food products fortified with U.S. soy flour at their production facility in North Kingstown, Rhode Island. The packets are shipped around the world and deliver nourishment to millions of malnourished children. Through the World Initiative for Soy in Human Health (WISHH) program, the soy checkoff funds research to verify the advantages of increasing the



es that will be packed with ready-to-use food products enriched with nutrient-rich U.S. soy travel down an assembly line at Edesia's manufacturing facility. Photo Credit: WISHH/United Soybean Board

content of soy in formulations of Edesia's life-saving products.

These packets are helping build a nutritional bridge to improved health for children in these developing and emerging market countries. It takes almost 170,000 bushels of soybeans to meet Edesia's annual demand for soy flour in their food products.

Gena Perry, WISHH executive director, has witnessed the increase in demand for U.S. sov as Edesia's efforts to address food security expanded globally.

"Edesia's research and development team understands soy offers their nutritional product line competitive advantages," said Perry. "Those advantages include soy's ability to deliver excellent nutrition and good taste at a competitive price."

A compelling YouTube video, The Power of Protein: U.S. Soybean Growers Take Action for Global Food Security, highlights how the partnership among U.S. soybean growers, WISHH and Edesia is addressing the

global food insecurity issue. The video also provides a look inside Edesia's manufacturing process and how soybean growers are supporting that effort.

"U.S. soy is an essential ingredient in these packets and so important in this food aid assistance effort. Edesia expects to use 7.5 million pounds of soy flour this year alone. That equates to 170,000 bushels of soybeans," said Perry. "Public Law 480, signed into law by President Dwight D. Eisenhower after World War II. created the Food and Peace program and laid the groundwork for export of U.S. agricultural products benefiting the United States and people worldwide."

Because of U.S. soy's high nutritional content, it holds great potential to improve the health of malnourished children around the world, leading to increased food security. Through WISHH, that effort to provide food security also extends to helping farmers around the world.

Therein lies the inherent value and flexibility of soy. Whether it is adding value to soy's No. 1 customer-animal agriculture- or being a vital nutrient ingredient

in human food products, the work being done through the soy checkoff, WISHH and its many partnering organizations is improving the health and lives of people around the world while solidifying long-term demand for U.S. soy.

Source: United Sovbean Board

Cities Roll on Eight Lines of Tires with Soy

As a result of USB's partnership with Goodyear Tire & Rubber Company, four of the nation's fleets have switched to tires made with soy: New York City; Cobb County, Georgia; Washington, D.C.; and Madison, Wisconsin. Soy checkoff funds are instrumental in supporting Goodyear's research and development and in educating major fleets about the benefits of U.S. soy

City transit buses are one of the eight choices that Goodvear offers with a sustainable soybean oil compound. The majority of Goodyear

in tires.

Metro Miler™ G152 and G652 tires now use soybean oil to displace petroleum while delivering the same performance benefits.

"The use of sovbean oil in the majority of the Metro Miler G152 and G652 tires in production today is a significant Goodyear innovation that reduces the amount of petroleum-based materials needed for production," said Dustin Lancy, commercial product marketing manager, Goodyear North America.

"U.S. soybean farmers, as well as cities and the people who ride their buses, benefit from Goodyear's introduction of these first city transit tires made with soy," said USB Director Susan Watkins, a sovbean farmer from Sutherland, Virginia. "The availability of these tires responds to what we have heard from fleet leaders from across the nation: They want more tires with soy for sustainability and performance."

The change is an important step in Goodyear's journey to replace petroleum-derived oils by 2040.

Goodyear offers the following tires with soybean oil in their compounds:

 Assurance WeatherReady® Goodyear's Grand Touring all-season tire designed for the drivers of family sedans, coupes, crossovers, SUVs and minivans.

> Assurance **ComfortDrive**® All-season tires offer

comfort, performance and sustainability with ComfortFlex Technology, designed for smoother transitions and impact absorption.

- Eagle Enforcer All Weather™ Police tires provide year-round, responsive performance for police vehicles that handle demanding operating conditions.
- Eagle Exhilarate® This line is aimed at ultra-highperformance market drivers and is designed to offer better traction and handling for faster acceleration and more precise control, especially in wet weather.

- Endurance® WHA® Designed to keep waste haul fleets on the road longer with a duallaver tread compound that helps optimize treadwear. The Endurance WHA comes with optional built-in DuraSeal Technology® that instantly seals tread punctures.
- · Two lines of Metro Miler's G152 and G652 lines for transit buses feature technology designed to resist sidewall damage, enhance toughness and provide long tread life.
- Wrangler® Workhorse® HT tires. These tires are a good choice for a number of allterrain vehicles, including the Ford Explorer, Escape and F-Series; the Chevrolet Silverado, Traverse and Tahoe; the Toyota Tundra, Tacoma and 4Runner; the GMC Acadia, Yukon and Sierra; and the Honda CR-V, Odyssey and Pilot.

The soy checkoff is supported entirely by soybean farmers with individual contributions of 0.5% of the market price per bushel sold each season. The efforts of the checkoff are directed by the United Soybean Board, composed of 77 volunteer farmer-leaders. Source: United Soybean Board

How Much Soybean Oil is in a Tire?

According to the Goodyear.com website, "Every tire on the road uses some proportion of oil in the tread rubber compound formulation. Goodyear Chief Engineer of Polymer Science and Technology Robert A. Woloszynek notes that 'in a typical tire, the amount of petroleum oil is around 8% by weight. In the Assurance WeatherReady, we were able to replace about 60% of that oil with soybean oil."

The Assurance WeatherReady tire, launched in 2017, was Goodyear's first tire containing the company's patented soybean oil polymer. Goodyear now offers eight lines of tires with soybean oil in their compounds.



Check out what's trending in U.S. soy on social media

Sen. Chuck Grassley (IA) and several other lawmakers took to social media to share photos and information about their visits with U.S. soy growers on Capitol Hill in July.





Rep. Frank Lucas (OK) gave ASA Director Pam Snelson (OK) a shoutout in a post detailing his meeting with soy growers.





ASA took its unequivocal support of the soy checkoff to social media this fall, urging soy growers to contact their lawmakers and tell them to reject any anti-checkoff amendments introduced.



Rep. Gabe Vasquez (NM) tweeted about his meeting with ASA Chairman Brad Doyle (AR) and other soy leaders to discuss top policy priorities.



Joining us in the meeting were the Leonards, Oklahomans who will be s's Young Leaders Program!



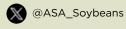
Foreign Ag Service @USDAForeignAg - Aug 1 NEWS ALERT: Partnering with programs like #WISHH is integral to the FAS's work to foster agricultural #sustainability, boost #foodsecurity, and ote U.S. products worldwide. Read more at:



fas.usda.gov WISHH and FAS Work Together to Ensure Food Sec., The U.S. Department of Agriculture's Foreign Agricultural Service partners with World Initiative f.,

USDA's Foreign Ag Service tweeted about its work with ASA's WISHH program to boost food security

Follow the American Soybean Association on:







WISHH Team Keeps Projects Moving Globally and from St. Louis!

It takes a true village to keep the wheels moving within ASA's WISHH program. WISHH has team members stationed throughout the countries in which its projects are brought to life, but there are plenty of "WISHH'ers" who work full time in ASA's St. Louis headquarters. We'd like to introduce you to our domestic team:



Gena **PERRY**

As WISHH's executive director, Gena leads the strategic trajectory of WISHH's market development and longterm trade opportunities for U.S. soy. She also works to build and maintain relationships with USDA, the U.S. soybean organizations and others working in global agriculture trade and development. Gena enjoys taking the farmers who are brand ambassadors for U.S. soy around the world to see WISHH's global work on the ground and meet the strategic partners who are current and future customers of U.S. soy. Perry began her WISHH journey in 2019 as project director for WISHH's USDA Food for Progress poultry project and was promoted to executive director in 2022.



Vickie WILKS

Vickie is in her 17th year with ASA/WISHH. She is responsible for administrative supervision, program management, and budgetary and financial oversight. Vickie handles client and stakeholder needs, supervises the compilation and submission of various reports, reviews contracts, monitors funding regulation compliance, and creates and monitors the budget.



Eric **DEMERIT**

Eric has been with ASA/WISHH for 13 years. He is responsible for compliance, logistics and other organizational matters for WISHH programming. Eric administers activities related to consultant contracting and payments, travel logistics for staff, consultants and trade teams, expense reconciliations, QSSB (Qualified State Soybean Board/state soy checkoff) contracting and invoicing, government and non-government project agreement processing, government agreements, and other program related activities. His role also includes oversight of WISHH's program coordinator.



James **BERNHARDT**

James is responsible for managing WISHH's monitoring and evaluation plans. He works with regional directors to distribute surveys that collect data about the organization's key performance indicators. James supervises five staff in Cambodia and works closely with project leadership to design and implement strategies for success. He also conducts research about the impact of WISHH programming in developing and emerging markets.



Marypat **CORBETT**

Marypat oversees the building of new U.S. soy protein trade within the Central American and Dominican Republic food and beverage industries. She also serves as the ASA/WISHH liaison to QSSBs and represents WISHH on the Soy Nutrition Institute Global board of directors. Marypat coordinates special projects with internal and external teams



Chris **SLEMP**

Chris, along with colleague Josh Neiderman, manages WISHH's Africa Division. He leads the portfolio of market development projects throughout sub-Saharan Africa. Chris works to build demand for soy through the implementation of value chain projects targeting the food, poultry and aquaculture sectors across 16 countries.



As the Asia division director, Alan promotes U.S. soy in developing and emerging Asian markets in the animal feed, aquaculture and human food sectors. With more than 20 years of experience working in Asia, Alan often works in markets where he witnesses global trade from the ground up.



Josh, along with Chris Slemp, leads WISHH's Africa Division. He works with partners throughout sub-Saharan Africa to raise awareness of the competitive advantages of U.S. soy products in human diets and as a functional feed ingredient for the poultry and aquaculture sectors. Josh acts as a liaison to U.S. government officials at foreign posts as well as several U.S.-based commodity cooperator groups implementing similar programming, and he is a key contact for monetization programs related to the Africa Division. Josh also monitors trends and developments on the continent.



Leila PAYER

Leila is one of our newest team members, joining in 2022. She communicates with WISHH staff, consultants and partners overseas to assist with domestic and international administrative and programmatic activities. Leila coordinates with WISHH regional directors to plan and implement trade teams, oversees production of quarterly donor reports and manages the preparation and implementation of WISHH committee meetings.



Jim is so invested in the WISHH mission that he's now well into his "second career" with the program, working abroad after first serving as executive director in St. Louis from 2001-2018. As the chief of party in Cambodia Jim leads WISHH'S Commercialization for Aquaculture for Sustainable Trade (CAST-Cambodia), which is a USDA Food for Progress-funded program. CAST aims to strengthen the Cambodian freshwater aquaculture industry, helping medium and large-scale fish farms there increase their productivity, partly through the exclusive use of soy- based floating feed and good aquaculture practices. CAST also works with the post-harvest market systems to recognize high-quality Cambodian fish production.



Liz **HARE**

Another former executive director who remains devoted to WISHH. Liz is now strategic advisor to the WISHH program. She has worked for more than 15 years in policy, agriculture, international development, global food security and trade. In her previous roles at WISHH, Liz worked on projects in Pakistan and Central America. She has lived and worked in over 20 countries but still finds parenting to be her greatest adventure!



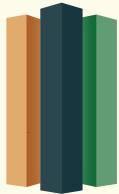
As WISHH senior advisor, Karen brings nearly 30 years of international trade and agricultural development experience to WISHH's marketing, branding and promotion efforts. Karen is founder of KCF Public Affairs. Associates in Washington, D.C. KCE team members Charlie Townsend and Katharine Lucas also play important roles in making sure WISHH's successes are widely recognized in the United States and abroad.



Make Moves with U.S. Soy

WISHH connects Trade, Development & Food Security in Cambodia where **fish account for 61% of households' animal protein** intake. We cultivate trade with Cambodian feed mills that are buying U.S. soybean meal for the growing aquaculture industry that WISHH is developing. Our trade and development work makes protein more available in the country where **45% of Cambodians live in moderate or severe food insecurity.**

Find out how WISHH's three pillars of trade, development and food security cultivate new markets for U.S. Soy protein.



Trade. Development. Food Security.





SOYPAWARD

WISHH Innovates for Cambodia's Climate Concerns

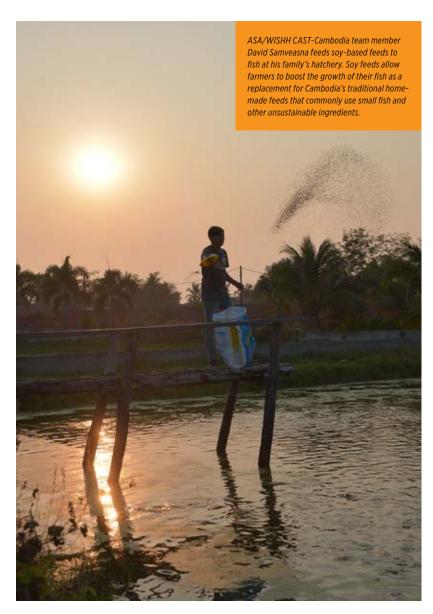
By Charlie Townsend

David Samveasna applied to work for WISHH due to his concern over Cambodia's declining populations of wild-caught fish. Twenty-three years old at the time, David also saw the job as an opportunity to gain expertise critical to helping fish-farming families similar to his own.

For centuries. Cambodians have counted on fish for protein. Cambodians are among the greatest consumers of freshwater fish in the world, with annual per capita fish consumption estimated at 52.4kg. More than 80% of the total animal protein in the Cambodian diet comes from fish and other aquatic animals, primarily from inland bodies of water like the Tonle Sap. Cambodia's growing population and changes to the lake's seasonal rise and fall are contributing to a decline in the fish catch.

Now 28, David recently attained his Doctor of Veterinary Medicine degree from the Royal University of Agriculture in Phnom Penh. He also plays a key role as an aquaculture specialist in two major provinces where WISHH implements its USDA Food for Progress Commercialization of Aquaculture for Sustainable Trade-Cambodia project. David's job includes meeting and advising fish farmers, offering practical solutions to their individual needs.

ASA Director and WISHH Vice Chair Morey Hill, an Iowa soybean grower, sees youth in agriculture as key to global food security and trade. "We need this younger generation to feed the world now



and in the future," says Hill, who appreciated the opportunity to meet David during a series of trips in which U.S. soy farmers traveled to Cambodia. "WISHH is helping build young leaders who will be key to improving protein consumption around the world."

David depends on academic and real-world knowledge, including insights gained by working alongside the global aquaculture experts who advise the CAST project. His DVM degree has given David great understanding of the root causes

(continued on page 30)

(continued from page 29)



From left: WISHH Chair/ASA Director Roberta Simpson-Dolbeare, WISHH Treasurer Bob Haselwood and poultry farmer Mathew Ronso discuss the moisture meter WISHH introduced to Ronso. The meter reduces feed waste that cuts into poultry farmers' profits and also curbs release of methane, a greenhouse gas.

of fish disease-knowledge he uses to help farmers prevent diseases that, if present, can quickly devastate both the fish in ponds and farmers' profits.

David has contributed to the introduction of high-quality. soy-based aquaculture feeds in Cambodia. When used as a replacement for traditional homemade feeds, soy feeds allow farmers to boost the growth of their fish: traditional homemade feeds commonly use small fish and other unsustainable ingredients as opposed to soy.

The Cambodian Aquaculturist Association that CAST helped launch is important to the future, according to David. "The association is a very powerful force to push this industry," he says. "Farmers in Cambodia are mostly small, and they repeat the same processes they have used the past 10 years. The association is vital in encouraging them to work together and share information and new technology."

WISHH is also leveraging USB soy checkoff funding to develop

career pathways for youth in aquaculture in Cambodia. CAST created aquaculture training opportunities for students at the Royal University of Agriculture. A local Cambodian organization recognized their real-world knowledge and hired three students to offer USB-supported technical assistance to fish farmers, including those who adopt in-pond raceway systems, which WISHH developed using Missouri soy checkoff funding. As a result, the youth are contributing to the success of Cambodian fish farmers, who are using these new systems to make their operations more efficient and climate resilient. When faced with Cambodia's extreme wet and dry seasons, farmers can easily move the unique systems to different ponds as needed.

WISHH's climate work cuts food and feed losses

Ghanaian poultry farmer Mathew Bonso (See our Soy Faces feature on page 22) continues to use

the GrainMate moisture meter that WISHH introduced to him in 2019. He recognizes the value of quality soy protein in the diets of his Harimat Farms flock, which lays 8 million eggs per year. Another WISHH strategic partner, Isaac Sesi, developed the GrainMate meter, which measures the moisture content of seven different commodities, including soybeans, corn, rice, sorghum, millet, groundnut and wheat.

Bonso and the other entrepreneurs who partner with WISHH face climate challenges, including feed and food waste that releases methane at the same time it cuts their profits. According to the Food and Agriculture Organization of the United Nations, around 14% of the world's food (valued at \$400 billion per vear) continues to be lost after it is harvested. At the same time. food loss and waste account for 8-10% of global greenhouse gas emissions.

ASA Director and WISHH Chair Roberta Simpson-Dolbeare says, "WISHH's work with Harimat Farms is an example of how WISHH helps businesses expand and grow and further benefit others in their country by providing more protein in their diets."

WISHH also has introduced farmers and feed industry representatives to improved feed storage practices and hermetic bags that allow them to protect feed from rodents and other pests. In multiple countries, WISHH has offered lean management training so food and feed companies can pinpoint equipment or practices that contribute to product losses.

WISHH's technical training for African aquaculture partners offers new insights into how to reduce fish losses both throughout their production cycle and during and after harvest.





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- Fighting against burdensome EPA regulations
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