



# HARVEST OF LETTERS



## Be a voice for ending global hunger!

Despite important progress on hunger over the last few decades, climate change, conflict and now the ripple effects of COVID-19 around the world, are causing the number of people facing hunger to rise. At the same time, the amount of Canadian aid for food producers living on the margins has been decreasing!

Climate change is a particular threat to small-scale farmers. They face increased droughts, more extreme weather and new pests. They lack the training and support needed to address these challenges. This is particularly true for women.

Our values affect how we respond to the needs of the more than 690 million people who go to bed hungry each night, whether here at home or abroad. Values of compassion and generosity are needed for a global community where poverty and hunger are no longer acceptable. But values alone do not create change.

Our government has an important role in providing assistance. And voices from civil society, including individuals like you, help hold governments to account. The commitment and actions of non-governmental organizations, business leaders, academics, and individuals like you have contributed significantly to a real improvement in people's access to basic rights, like food.

The Intergovernmental Panel on Climate Change has estimated that globally up to

**180 million**



**additional people are at risk of hunger by 2050.<sup>1</sup>**

If decision makers don't hear from their constituents, they may assume people don't care about global hunger. When we come together and speak up, our voices make a difference.

We need to invest more. Both because it aligns with Canadian values such as compassion and generosity, but also because it is in all our interest. Together we can work towards global health, peace and stability, and a more prosperous future for everyone.

<sup>1</sup> Source: IPCC, Special Report on Climate Change and Land, Chapter Five, Food Security, January 2020.

Canada should **respond** to **COVID-19** and **climate change** by **increasing support** to help **small-scale farmers adapt** to the impacts and **build more resilient food systems**.



## INCREASING SUPPORT FOR CLIMATE ADAPTATION MEANS HELPING FARMERS TO

Sustainably boost farm production and income

&

Increase resilience to climate variability and extreme weather

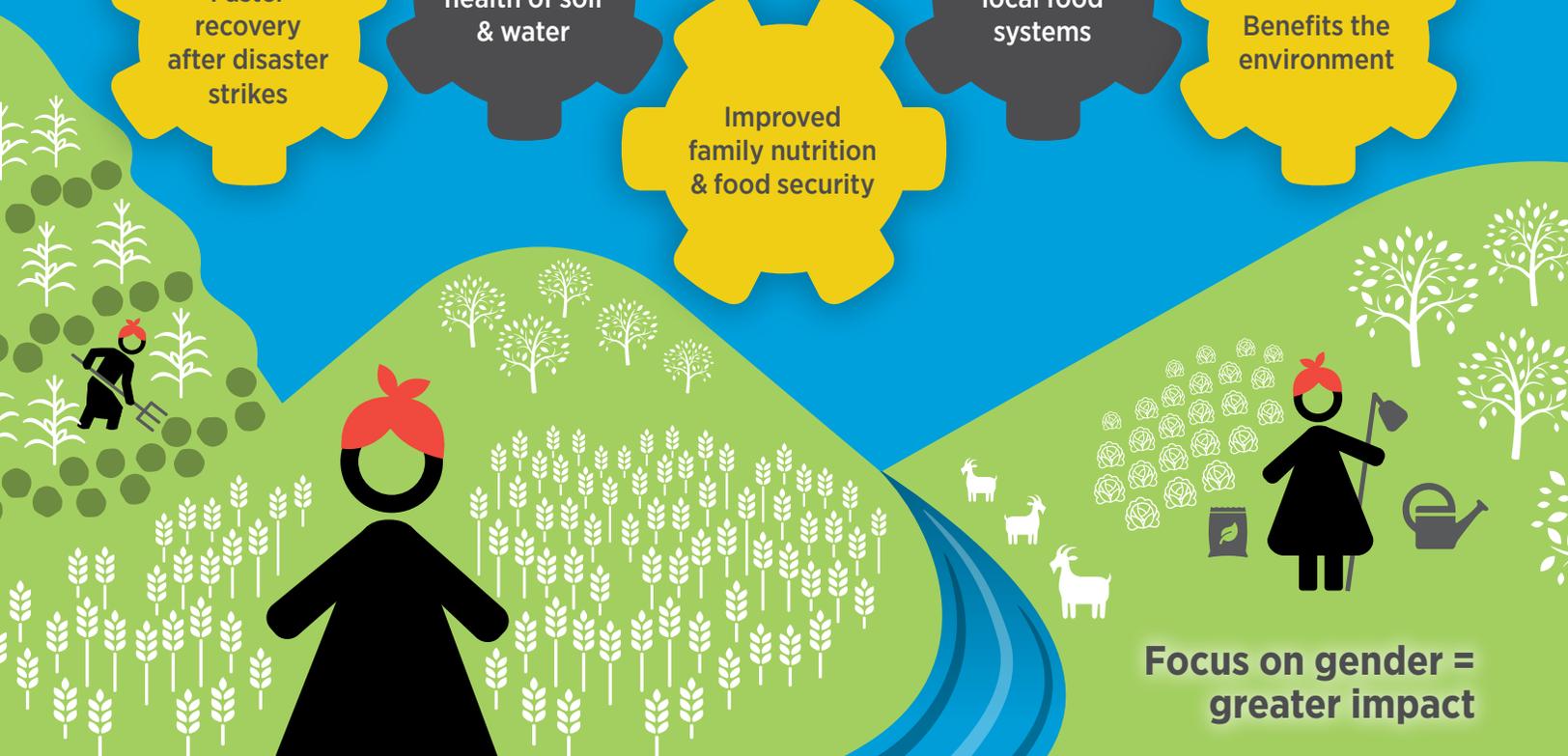
Faster recovery after disaster strikes

Improved health of soil & water

Improved family nutrition & food security

More resilient local food systems

Benefits the environment



Focus on gender = greater impact

### INTERNATIONAL CLIMATE FINANCE

This is a way in which greater support could be given. It includes the commitment Canada and other developed countries have made to support developing countries in adapting to and mitigating climate change.

# Write a letter to your MP!

Let your member of Parliament know that you care about global hunger, and that you want Canada to increase its effort to overcome it.

Letters may be sent postage-free to any member of Parliament:

**MP NAME (with title)  
HOUSE OF COMMONS  
PARLIAMENT BUILDINGS  
OTTAWA ON K1A 0A6**

Or you can look up their email address at [www.ourcommons.ca](http://www.ourcommons.ca)

Be sure to let Canadian Foodgrains Bank know when you've sent a letter so it can be counted with others sent from around the country, to show cumulatively that Canadians do care!

**MP Official Title  
MP Address  
YYYY-MM-DD**

*I am pleased that Canada is committed to strong support for the world's poorest and most vulnerable, especially for women and girls.*

*While the COVID-19 pandemic is leading to untold hardship for many millions of people, climate change is also causing increased hunger and suffering around the globe. Small-scale farmers, who rely on predictable weather to feed their families and communities, are particularly vulnerable to a changing climate.*

*By increasing support to help small-scale farmers, and especially women, adapt to climate change and build more resilient food systems Canada can respond to both crises.*

*I care about this issue because...*

***I am aware Canada must make a new commitment to climate finance in 2021.***

*This is part of an international agreement Canada and other developed countries have made to support developing countries in adapting to, and mitigating, climate change. This means Canada has the opportunity right now to increase support for those most vulnerable, especially small-scale farmers.*

*Canada should:*

- *Scale-up the amount of money it puts toward helping developing countries address climate change and ensure at least half of it targets adaptation.*
- *Prioritize support for the most vulnerable, including small-scale farmers, and especially women.*
- *Continue to grow its overall aid budget, so that climate finance doesn't divert money from other important development initiatives.*

*Building more resilient food systems will help small-scale farmers respond to immediate crises, such as the health pandemic, and the longer-term crisis of climate change. This will help build a healthier, more prosperous and resilient world for all of us.*

*Please voice this important message to the Minister of International Development and Minister of Finance.*

*Sincerely,*

*It's a good idea to start with something positive.*

*Be clear about what you are asking for.*

*Don't assume your MP knows about this issue. Some context will help him/her to take the appropriate action.*

*Make sure your return address is somewhere on the letter so that your MP can reply.*



Canadian Foodgrains Bank is a partnership of 15 churches and church-based agencies working together to end hunger



## Other ways to show you care

- Meet your member of Parliament to discuss this issue (it's easier than you think!)
- Invite friends and family to write letters – contact us for help!
- Double your impact: Take a photo of yourself, your letter, or your letter writing group and share it on social media
- Learn more and spread awareness about why Canadian aid is important

Find out how to do this and more at [foodgrainsbank.ca/letters](http://foodgrainsbank.ca/letters)

Not sure who your MP is? Search by entering your postal code at the House of Commons website [www.ourcommons.ca](http://www.ourcommons.ca)

## We need to hear from you!

Thank you for writing your letter! Let us know in one of the ways below:

**Email** [foodjustice@foodgrainsbank.ca](mailto:foodjustice@foodgrainsbank.ca)  
**Tweet** @foodgrains (or mention us on Facebook)  
**Phone** 1-800-665-0377

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[foodgrainsbank.ca/advocate](http://foodgrainsbank.ca/advocate)