



NGO/COMPANY GUIDE



2019 AMWHO AT UNC REGIONAL CONFERENCE

SUMMARY

In the theme of the Global Food Predicament, the roles that non-governmental organizations (NGOs) and companies play in addressing the four sub-themes are imperative. A significant way companies and NGOs address food security is through the subsidization of agricultural initiatives. Furthermore, as the global population grows and food security becomes compromised, sustainability becomes a crucial value when NGOs and companies decide which initiatives to fund and support. The globalization of food is yet another arena in which companies are exploring the spread of cuisine, as they branch internationally and bridge different cultures together. Last but not least, the mission statements of many of our NGOs reveal passions in addressing healthcare and nutrition-related illnesses. In particular, NGOs have the power to make sustainable changes in increasing access to proper nutrition and healthcare in underserved areas.

The primary goal of this conference is to turn organizational values into reality through global health policy. Companies should seek to fund projects and initiatives that embody their values, whereas NGOs are more likely to provide support through volunteers and strategies. As NGO representatives, you must grant seals of approvals to committees who embody the core values of your organization. As a representative of a multinational company, you have the capacity to give out \$10,000 each. When granting money to the different committees, you must make sure they align with your company's interests and have the capacity to produce sustainable and effective results. It may be hard for countries to implement health policies targeting chronic disease, considering that certain companies you may be representing provide food options that are not the most nutritious. In summary, representatives must push the values of their organization or company by collaborating with delegates from different regions of the world. This experience puts representatives at the center of creating health policy on a global level.

COMPANIES/DUTIES

DELIVERABLES

Each NGO Representative will be expected to submit a short powerpoint presentation on your NGO's work in the Global Food Predicament that will be due 11:59 pm EST on January 22nd, 2019. The purpose of this task is for representatives to become comfortable with the ideals of your NGO in order for you to best represent them during the conference. You will present your finished product to your fellow NGO representatives, allowing all to have common ground on the work each of your organizations will be working towards, and backing with seals of approval, during the conference. Presentations will also be accessible by delegates during the conference, so a general understanding of the NGOs represented at the conference can be gained even if the NGO's specific representative is not in the room. The presentation should include the following information about your organization: the mission, a brief history, the areas they work in, and any relevant work they are doing in global health innovation. Once you have completed the presentation, the preferable mode being on Google Slides, please email sharing access to amira@live.unc.edu.

LIST OF COMPANIES

BAYER

Bayer has a goal of creating a more sustainable future by promoting the intersection of agriculture and innovation. Bayer has partnered with Genedata, a software research and development company to digitize crops and map out genomes. In doing so, Bayer hopes to ultimately optimize agricultural output by proposing alternative and sustainable farming methods that can adapt to the growing global population.¹ One specific initiative the CEO launched recently is vertical farming, a form of farming designed for urban centers where limited space and limited water often hinders agricultural production.¹ Bayer recognizes that although this "agrilution" method does not solve the entire problem of food insecurity, vertical farming is a significant contributor to health and is an innovative and sustainable way grow usable plants.¹

CARGILL

In an effort to increase food security across the world, Cargill seeks to promote the sustainable growth of the agricultural industry by partnering with both the public and private sectors. Cargill has partnered with CARE and developed the CARE-Cargill Rural Development Initiative.³ As a result of dry environmental conditions that have plagued Egypt, the country has implemented the CARE-Cargill Initiative. While farmers would typically plant rice near the Nile, this initiative introduced the soybean crop in the region, which ultimately leads to an increase in food source. The soybean crop requires much less water than rice,³ allowing for diversification of crops and minimization of resource use. This initiative has led to an increase in profits and food sources; With the success in Egypt, Cargill is continuing to work with Egyptian farmers to provide them with the resources and skills necessary to continue this sort of agricultural innovation.³

COMPANIES

MCDONALDS

McDonald's is a corporation that has been at the forefront of the globalization of food. Throughout the world, they have adapted their menus to cultural foods and languages all over the world. Sustainability is also another priority for McDonald's. The McDonald's Beef Sustainability Program works with farmers and beef suppliers globally to develop resources and better agricultural methods.⁸ A part of this initiative is the Flagship Farmers Program, which as a platform for large suppliers all over the world to share more sustainable practices.⁸ It was first established in Europe and is now spreading to 10 other regions.⁸ McDonalds has adopted a more general and globalized approach as opposed to focusing on each country specifically.⁸

NESTLE

Nestle has launched a global initiative called Nestle for Healthier Kids to equip parents with knowledge and resources to lead their children towards healthier lifestyles.⁹ This program aims to address malnutrition on both ends of the spectrum, especially malnutrition that contributes to non-communicable and preventable diseases. This program implements small-scale initiatives to impact the local community. For example, a cooking studio established in Germany teaches kids simple recipes and provides resources for families to keep a home-cooking routine every day.⁹

COCA-COLA

Coca-Cola values sustainable agriculture. One initiative they recently launched was a partnership between Coca-Cola Morocco and UN Women to empower entrepreneurial women to adopt more climate-resilient agricultural practices.⁴ This program seeks to address climate change in order to provide a more sustainable food source. Women are more susceptible to poverty and malnourishment, and this program has provided women with more autonomy by helping them establish climate-resilient business models, with the hopes of women passing on these sustainable practices onto the next generation.⁴

NGOs

OXFAM INTERNATIONAL

Oxfam has been at the forefront in responding to the hunger crises inflicted by political conflicts. One region they have established a significant presence in is Yemen. The current situation in Yemen is considered to be one of the worst humanitarian crises. Approximately 60% of the population are affected by food insecurity and malnutrition, and some even on the brink of famine.¹⁰ As a result, Yemenis are suffering from fatal disease outbreaks.¹⁰ Oxfam has been aiding this region by attempting to rectify water systems and establishing latrines to curb food-related illnesses.¹⁰ Furthermore, they give direct aid in the form of cash payments or cash for work programs in an attempt to obtain food sources from local markets.¹⁰

GREENPEACE

Greenpeace is an enthusiastic proponent for eco-farming and safe agricultural practices as forms of promoting sustainable food.⁶ Furthermore, because the environment impacts agriculture, the company works to address issues pertaining to climate change. More specifically, Greenpeace has released a statement about China's high level of greenhouse gas emissions.⁶ By 2030, China may not be able to produce food because climate change is affecting important factors such as temperature, water, and soil conditions.⁶ Within China, Greenpeace is currently advocating for eco-farming and green lifestyles.⁶ Eco-farming entails using biodiversity to maintain crops.⁶ For example, in China, some farmers raise ducks on their rice fields to eat pests and weeds. Instead of using harmful chemical pesticides and fertilizers, some farmers change up the soil.⁶

CARE INTERNATIONAL

CARE International has been an active force towards establishing food security globally. Malnutrition is a food-related illness that CARE has been trying to address through nontraditional methods. One example of this is the organization's work in Bangladesh. In 2010, they launched the Shouhardo project, with the main goal of empowering women to make healthier decisions for their children.² More specifically, they coached women to become entrepreneurs and to become more involved in decisions based on education, mobility, and marriage.² This autonomy led to more educated nutritional decision-making, and led to a decrease in malnourishment by approximately 30%.²

WORLD FOOD PROGRAMME

The World Food Programme addresses food insecurity by supporting emergency responses to natural disasters and climate change. This NGO also works with local governments to implement social safety nets and to promote local agricultural economies.¹¹ More specifically, the conflict in Syria has led to the destruction of the country's agricultural output.¹¹ The World Food Programme has been providing food assistance to about 3 million people; however, they are also establishing a market-based system in Syria in an effort to rehabilitate local economies.¹¹

DOCTORS WITHOUT BORDERS

Doctors Without Borders is heavily involved with the subtheme of food-related illnesses. They work in malnourished regions such as the Sahel, the Horn of Africa, and parts of South Asia.⁵ For instance, Doctors Without Borders has established ambulatory therapeutic feeding centers in Chad with an effort to combat the hunger crisis as a part of the "One Shot" initiative.⁵ In these centers, workers screen for malnutrition, provide vaccinations, supply medications and distribute specialized therapeutic foods in order to reach as many lives as possible.⁵ They also utilize ready-to-use therapeutic food (RUTFs), which is a treatment option to reverse deficiencies and help people, especially kids, gain weight.⁵

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