AGree: Identifying Key Challenges and Opportunities for Partnership and Transformative Change in Food and Agriculture

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17th Annual Farmer Cooperatives Conference
November 6, 2014 | Minneapolis, Minnesota
AGree’s Mission

AGree seeks to drive positive change in the food and agriculture system by connecting and challenging leaders from diverse communities to catalyze action and elevate food and agriculture policy as a national priority.
AGree’s Key Challenges

- Meet future demand for food
- Strengthen farms and communities to improve livelihoods
- Improve nutrition and public health
- Conserve and enhance water, soil, and habitat
AGree Advisory Committee

• Rudy Arredondo
• Ousmane Badiane
• Tres Bailey
• Dave Baudler
• Chuck Benbrook
• Jim Borel
• Craig Cox
• Kristin Weeks
• Duncanson
• Bev Eggleston
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• Nancy Straw
• Elizabeth Thompson
• Robert Thompson
• Johanna Nesseth Tuttle
• Connie Veillette
• Claire Wang
• Greg Watson
• Elaine Waxman
• Shonda Warner
• Fred Yoder
AGree’s Co-Chairs, Research Committee, and Foundations

Co-Chairs
• Dan Glickman
• Gary Hirshberg
• Jim Moseley
• Emmy Simmons

Research Committee
• Chris Barrett
• Douglas Jackson-Smith
• Philip Martin
• John Reganold
• Beatrice Rogers
• Katherine Smith
• Tom Tomich

Foundations
• Bill & Melinda Gates Foundation
• Ford Foundation
• Rockefeller Foundation
• Surdna Foundation
• David and Lucile Packard Foundation
• McKnight Foundation
• The Robert Wood Johnson Foundation
• The Walton Family Foundation
• W.K. Kellogg Foundation
Three Phases of AGree

1. Establish a unique voice and trusted platform for dialogue

2. Develop consensus recommendations
   - Identify advocacy and action priorities
   - Identify implementation partners, funders, and coalitions

3. Support and build out coalitions, and advocate for policy change
   - Catalyze and advance “proof of concept” projects
   - Serve as a platform for dialogue, collaboration, and innovative thinking
AGree Initiatives

- **Immigration Reform:** Achieving a Stable, Legal Workforce
- **Working Landscapes:** Achieving Productivity, Profitability, and Environmental Outcomes
- **Food & Nutrition:** Cultivating Healthy Communities
- **International Development:** Promoting Development through Food and Agriculture
- **Research & Innovation:** Strengthening Agricultural Research, Education, and Extension
- **Local Food:** Revitalizing Community-Based Food Systems
- **Risk Management:** Protecting Farmers, Conserving Resources
- **Next Generation:** Attracting Young People to Food and Agriculture
AGree’s Path Forward: Building Partnerships to Implement Consensus Recommendations
Immigration Reform: Achieving a Stable, Legal Workforce

Recommendations:

• Build a legal, more stable workforce in agriculture
• Develop a practical and economically viable guest worker program that allows employers to hire legal foreign workers and protects foreign and U.S. farm workers
• Ensure quality of life, good working conditions, and opportunities for food and agriculture workers
• Provide more opportunities for farm workers to develop skills and advance their careers within the food and agriculture sector

Implementation:

• Convenings and advocacy to support immigration reform
Working Landscapes: Achieving Productivity, Profitability, and Environmental Outcomes

Recommendations:

- Embrace diverse system in U.S. agriculture
- Expand producer-led cooperative conservation
- Improve soil health and water quality, and expand water supplies
- Increase understanding of the overall benefits, costs, health, and safety of agricultural inputs, practices, and systems
- Foster collaboration across the supply chain

Implementation:

- Testing cooperative conservation on the ground
- Working with USDA on data integration
Food & Nutrition: Cultivating Healthy Communities

Recommendations:
• Shift how we approach health and its relationship to food and nutrition
• Commit to a long-term effort to improve children’s health
• Strengthen the “N” in SNAP and other federal programs
• Invest in basic and behavioral research to improve diets and ultimately health

Implementation:
• Integrating hunger, nutrition, and health in local, state, and federal programming
• Linking community innovators with federal and state policy makers and private sector leaders to identify best practices, better align programs, and develop a road map for change
International Development: Promoting Development through Food and Agriculture

Recommendations:

• Establish food security as an enduring goal of U.S. foreign development assistance
• Reform food and disaster assistance legislation
• Facilitate the creation of an expanded food security and agricultural development “tool box”
• Create partnerships and incentives that support smallholder agriculture
• Reinvigorate investments in food and ag research

Implementation:

• Building a new coalition of diverse interests to support permanent legislation for U.S. agricultural development programs
Recommendations and Implementation Plans
Forthcoming

- **Research & Innovation**: Strengthening Agricultural Research, Education, and Extension
- **Local Food**: Revitalizing Community-Based Food Systems
- **Risk Management**: Protecting Farmers, Conserving Resources
- **Next Generation**: Attracting Young People to Food and Agriculture
NewsFeed

For the latest news about AGree, please visit www.foodandagpolicy.org. Read our five new papers on Achieving Productivity, Profitability, and Environmental Outcomes in U.S. Agriculture commissioned by AGree to inform and stimulate dialogue about policy reform.

Headlines for October 27, 2014

- The GMO Debate: 5 Things to Stop Arguing — The Washington Post
- Janet Napolitano Throws Her Support behind Executive Action on Immigration — The Washington Post
- Food Scores, a New Web Service, Ranks Grocery Items on Ingredients and Nutrition — The New York Times
- Revised Nutrition Labels Still Won’t Tell Whole Story — The New York Times
- Sustainable Fertilizer Work Supply Chain Goals Connect Corporate Sustainability Goals, IRAs — DTN The Progressive Farmer
- New Clean Water Rule Goes into Effect — The Des Moines Register
- Food Tank and the James Beard Foundation Present the 2014 Good Food Org Guide — Food Tank

Website

Visit www.foodandagpolicy.org to find publications, papers, and reports.

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Upcoming Events