

The International Fertilizer Industry Association (IFA) represents the global fertilizer industry which produces **170 million tonnes of crop nutrients annually** that are used in every corner of the globe to grow the crops that feed a growing population. Fertilizers therefore represent an **essential ingredient in the drive towards world food security.**

Given the inextricable link between crop nutrients and food and nutrition security, IFA leadership has taken up the Zero Hunger Challenge and actively promotes it among its 560 member companies in 84 countries. IFA encourages its business leaders to adopt the Zero Hunger Challenge and use its goals as a score card to keep track of and enhance their companies' contribution to eradicating hunger and malnutrition in our lifetime. The initiative provides guidance and a platform to exchange best practices and know-how. Under it, companies are able to enhance their corporate social responsibility, sustainability, community, employee and international development programmes.

Most importantly, the five pillars of the Zero Hunger Challenge perfectly complement the fertilizer industry's contribution to food and nutrition security in the following ways:

- The fertilizer industry contributes to better nutrition for all through micronutrient fertilization which yields spectacular results and benefits children under the age of two and women in the early stages of pregnancy.
- Fertilizers contribute to better nutrition for all, improving the nutrient quality of food through micronutrient fertilization. They increase food production and yields facilitating all-year round access to food worldwide.
- Using extension services and nutrient stewardship the fertilizer industry promotes the efficient use of fertilizer, mitigating nutrient losses, reducing carbon footprint, preserving water quality and thus rendering food systems more sustainable.
- Fertilizers also help increase smallholder productivity and income by providing the proper crop nutrients and advisory services through public-private partnerships.
- Lastly, the fertilizer industry develops products that extend the lifecycle of food such as calcium-based and boron-supplemented fertilizers which improve post-harvest integrity of crops.

ZERO HUNGER CHALLENGE

The fertilizer industry contributes to meeting the goals of the Zero Hunger Challenge

ZERO	100%	ALL	100%	ZERO
stunted children less than two years	access to adequate food all year round	food systems are sustainable	increase in smallholder productivity and income	loss or waste of food
The fertilizer industry contributes to better nutrition for all, improving the nutrient quality of food through micronutrient fertilization. This benefits children under the age of two, as well as women from the beginning of pregnancy. ¹	The products supplied by the fertilizer industry help increase food production and provide nutrients essential for human health.	The fertilizer industry promotes agricultural best practices and nutrient use efficiency. Using extension services, it helps provide products and knowledge to farmers around the world to reduce their environmental impact. Through efficient use of fertilizers and the mitigation of nutrient losses, the carbon footprint of agriculture is reduced and the quality of water, oceans, soil and air is protected.	The fertilizer industry puts the needs of smallholder farmers at the centre of its activities. Through public-private partnerships, and extension and rural advisory services, the industry helps smallholder farmers increase their productivity and incomes.	The fertilizer industry develops products and systems to extend the life cycle of food, particularly through the use of calcium-based and boron-supplemented fertilizers to improve the post-harvest integrity and nutritional quality of most crops.

Fertilizing Crops to Improve Human Health: A Scientific Review, IFA/IPNI, 2012.



For more information, please visit:
www.fertilizer.org/ifa/HomePage/SUSTAINABILITY/Nutrition

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