

# The Peace Post



Dear Friends,

As we move deeper into 2025, the world stands at a crossroads: one path leads toward increasing division, scarcity, and crisis, and the other toward collaboration, innovation, and a future where no one goes without. In this month's edition of the Peace Post, we focus our discussion on collectively achieving Sustainable Development Goal 2: Zero Hunger. Food insecurity remains one of the most urgent and solvable challenges of our time, and at PII we believe that facing this challenge is not only a call to nourish bodies but a foundation for actively constructing the DNA of Peace in our world today. When people have equitable access to food, they gain the stability needed to build prosperous, peaceful communities.

But achieving this vision demands bold and immediate action. Rising food production demands, climate shocks, and ongoing conflict are pushing millions toward the brink of famine. In countries already vulnerable to instability, these crises don't just threaten lives—they fuel cycles of violence and displacement. Addressing this requires more than humanitarian aid. It calls for innovation and international funding that prioritizes resilience, sustainability, and long-term peace.

Innovation in agricultural practices is essential for both feeding a growing population and protecting our planet. Conservation techniques that reduce emissions and restore ecosystems must become standard practice. Clean energy solutions, like solar-powered irrigation systems and climate-smart supply chains, can transform food production while cutting carbon footprints. By investing in sustainable industry solutions, we address hunger and climate change in tandem—two of the greatest threats to global stability.

Equally important is the role of cross-sector partnerships and corporate responsibility. Companies have the power to leverage resources, supply chains, and employee engagement to combat hunger at scale. By working together, industries can create systems of production and distribution that prioritize equity and sustainability—ensuring that food reaches those who need it most without depleting the environment for future generations.

At PII, we envision a world where these efforts come together to form the “internet of peace”—a global, unified voice for the advocacy of virtuous peace. This network of brilliant minds, collaborating across sectors and borders, is the key to ending hunger and building a future of dignity and abundance. But this vision cannot be realized alone. As we continue to scale our fellowship program and expand our global impact, we're calling for partners who share our commitment to peace and innovation. Whether you're a corporation ready to align your supply chains with sustainability, a foundation eager to support peace innovation, or an individual with a passion for creating change—we invite you to join us as part of our Cooperative for Humanity. Together, we can harness our collective power to drive measurable outcomes and create lasting impact.

The time to act is now. Let's unite our voices and our efforts to end preventable issues like hunger and cultivate peace—because when we nourish the world, we nourish the future.

In the spirit of peace and unity,  
Barbara Winston, President and Founder  
Gordon Winston, Co-Founder

[Become a Member](#)



## Nobel prize winners call for urgent 'moonshot' effort to avert global hunger

In January, over 150 Nobel and World Food Prize laureates signed an open letter urging immediate, large-scale efforts to prevent a global hunger crisis. They advocate for a “moonshot” initiative to significantly increase food production, emphasizing the need for innovative solutions and international collaboration. The letter highlights the urgency of addressing food insecurity exacerbated by climate change, conflicts, and economic instability. The signatories call on governments, private sectors, and civil society to prioritize sustainable agricultural practices, invest in research and development, and implement policies that ensure equitable food distribution to avert impending famine conditions.

[Read more >](#)



## UN launches \$6 billion Sudan appeal, as famine takes hold

The UN has warned of an escalating humanitarian catastrophe in Sudan, where ongoing conflict has displaced 12 million people and created the world's largest hunger crisis. Famine has been confirmed in 10 locations, with 17 more on the brink. UN officials condemned both warring factions for prioritizing military gains over humanitarian needs, while widespread sexual violence and forced recruitment persist. Aid organizations struggle with access constraints, inflation, and funding shortages. Despite reaching 15.6 million people in 2024, relief efforts remain insufficient. The UN calls for increased international support, urgent funding, and diplomatic action to prevent further devastation and famine.

[Read more >](#)



## Who else can help with lowering global food insecurity rates?

Addressing issues like global food insecurity requires collaborative efforts across sectors. Food and beverage companies like Nestlé have taken their commitment to SDG 2 seriously by partnering with local communities and food banks to develop innovative food programs that support sustainability efforts. In 2023 alone, Nestlé contributed over 140 million servings of food through food banks, and their ongoing efforts also include supporting nutrition education and developing products specifically for food banks, like the Maggi Hearty One Pot Casserole. This healthy and nutritious recipe base alone has enabled 1.2 million meals yearly. U.S. partnerships with Feeding America and urban farms have also aimed to strengthen local food systems. Collective action from corporations, nonprofits, governments, and citizens is essential to alleviate hunger worldwide. Individuals can contribute by supporting these initiatives, reducing food waste, and advocating for policies that promote equitable food distribution.

[Read more >](#)



## Farmers Say Climate-Smart Commodities Projects Are Crumbling

American farmers dedicated to improving land stewardship through climate-smart commodity projects are currently navigating financial hurdles due to pauses in USDA funding. These farmers have proactively invested in agricultural practices to reduce the likelihood of drought and famine: both of which have become real threats to our food system in recent years. Recent policy changes from DC, however, have caused a temporary funding freeze and contract reviews, leading to serious concerns about project continuity. Developing innovative fiscal solutions that include alternative funding partners like philanthropists, corporate entities, and venture funds will be essential to maintain momentum in these vital food security efforts and to uphold the very programs designed for the progression of American agriculture and the health of the American people. When farmers, policymakers, and private sector stakeholders work together to forge resilient, diversified funding pathways, we can foster a sustainable and secure food future for today and for generations to come.

[Read more >](#)

# In Memoriam: James Madison France



It is with heavy hearts that we share the news of the unexpected passing of our dear friend and Board Treasurer, James Madison France. James was a distinguished member of the Peace Innovation Initiative and the Commission for Peace, and his loss leaves an immeasurable void in our community. We extend our deepest condolences to his beloved family, including his dear wife, Laila, and his son, Kyle. Our thoughts and prayers are with them during this difficult time.

James was a man of great vision and generosity, a true champion for peace and progress. As an accomplished innovator in business, James brought a rare blend of strategic brilliance and heartfelt passion to everything he did. His ability to inspire those around him and his commitment to creating lasting impact made him a powerful driver of our work. At PII, we strive to harness innovation in service of peace, and James embodied that mission deeply. His insight, kindness, and dedication will remain a guiding light for all of us who had the privilege of working alongside him. His legacy lives on through the ideas he championed and the countless lives he touched.

As we move forward, we do so with gratitude for his invaluable contributions and a renewed commitment to the vision he held so dearly. In honoring his memory, we continue in this critical work of building a more peaceful and united world. Rest in peace, dear James. You will be deeply missed and forever remembered.



**Thank you for being a part of the Peace Innovation Initiative community.**

Your support and engagement drive us to continue our mission of fostering innovation for a more harmonious world. Whether you're reading, sharing, or contributing, you're playing a vital role in this journey toward global peace. If you have stories, insights, or feedback, please don't hesitate to reach out. Together, we're making a difference.

[Donate Now](#)



Copyright © 2025 Peace Innovation Initiative. All rights reserved.

Our mailing address is:  
Peace Innovation Initiative,  
269 S. Beverly Drive, #338,  
Beverly Hills, CA 90212 USA

Add us to your address book  
to help avoid our emails ending up in spam, promotions, or other email boxes.

Want to change how you receive these emails? You can [unsubscribe](#) from this list here.