GLOBAL ALLIANCE AGAINST HUNGER AND POVERTY

Institute of Development Studies
Statements of Commitment to the Global Alliance Against Hunger and Poverty

General section

1. The Institute of Development Studies (IDS) hereby voluntarily *joins the Global Alliance Against Hunger and Poverty* and states its dedication to pursue the Alliance's mission, objectives and principles, as *expressed* in the Global Alliance's Terms of Reference and Governance Framework, and to collaborate with other members to achieve lasting solutions to poverty and hunger worldwide, as expressed below.

   IDS:

2. *Recognizes* that hunger and malnutrition are the perverse manifestations of persistent, structural poverty and inequality, and recognizes the need to end poverty and hunger in all their forms and dimensions and to fully and effectively implement the 2030 Agenda.

3. *Acknowledges* the alarming growth in the number of people facing food insecurity and poverty in recent years, noting that, despite all significant past and current efforts, the world is not on track to meet SDG 1 and 2 targets, inequality is also on the rise (SDG 10), and a significant increase in collective ambition, as well as improvement in collective alignment and coordination for the fight against hunger and poverty, is urgently needed.

4. To that effect, *endorses* the Global Alliance Against Hunger and Poverty and its mission to *support and accelerate efforts to eradicate hunger and poverty (SDGs 1 and 2) while reducing inequalities (SDG 10), contributing to revitalize global partnerships for sustainable development (SDG 17) and to the achievement of other interlinked SDGs, and championing sustainable, inclusive and just transitions.*

5. *Notes* that it is crucial for the world to unite behind large-scale, integrated approaches combining international, regional, national, and local levels, that recognize the interconnected nature of challenges and solutions to hunger and poverty and pair social protection with access to goods and services that can help the poor and vulnerable populations to overcome structural barriers and drive responsible investment in their productive capacity. These complementary services include but are not limited to interventions for poverty reduction, food security and nutrition, early childhood support, education and skills development, employment services, health and care services, as well as family farmers and smallholders' access to finance, extension services, research and/or agricultural inputs, in line with international commitments and obligations.

6. *Particularly recognizes* the high value and positive impact of quality implementation of national and local country-owned, inclusive policy instruments and programmes,

focused on the poorest and most vulnerable, in the fields of poverty reduction, social protection, food security and nutrition, gender equality, decent work in the agri-food sector, skills development, family farming and smallholder agriculture, food systems transformation, health and care services and resilience building.

7. Also *acknowledges* the Global Alliance's reference basket of such policies as a collectively built, ongoing collection of examples with robust evidence to reduce hunger and poverty, and as a useful basis to guide joint action and increase alignment of the international community at country level. This acknowledgement is applicable to the policy basket approach as a general guide to action and does not imply endorsement of any specific policy instrument or programme contained in the basket.

8. Therefore, by joining the Global Alliance Against Hunger and Poverty, *commits* to do its best efforts, in its own field of action, and according to its own mandate, capacities, priorities, preferences, procedures, and legal arrangements and framework, to support the implementation of policy instruments and programmes at country level as appropriate, including by the promotion of shared learning and the mobilization of resources, public and private, at scale.

In particular:

Knowledge support commitments

IDS:

Commits to make its best efforts to co-create and provide technical assistance, capacity building and strengthening, training and/or knowledge-sharing on voluntary and mutually agreed terms in response to requests by Global Alliance member countries that choose to implement policy instruments and programmes in the Alliance's policy basket that are compatible with its areas of expertise.

Commits to make its best efforts to improve the alignment of its actions, including through the Global Alliance's coordination mechanisms, leveraging, and partnering with other actors to better support large scale, country-owned implementation of policies and programmes in the reference basket by Global Alliance member countries, aiming at enhancing country-level outcomes.

Commits to collaborate with other Alliance members to develop innovative solutions and share good practices in learning and knowledge exchange and dissemination on voluntary and mutually agreed terms, data collection and analysis, including by leveraging existing local, national, and international knowledge networks, coalitions, communities and other fora related to aspects relevant to the fight against hunger and poverty.

Informs and commits to implementing the following actions, programmes, and other activities in support of the Global Alliance´s objectives where this aligns with institutional priorities and resource support:

First, IDS will leverage its existing evidence related to drivers of poverty reduction, equitable food systems, adaptive social protection and policy analysis of these, generating syntheses or summaries of its existing evidence base where relevant to support countries in developing innovative solutions and good practices to reduce hunger and poverty. These may include comparative evidence on what works in strengthening social protection systems and adaptive safety nets, improving food security and nutrition equity, improving agroecological practices, multi-sectoral interventions, equitable governance mechanisms, and evidence on political and policymaking processes that can support tackling food insecurity, malnutrition, hunger and chronic poverty, preventing impoverishment and sustaining poverty escapes in different contexts. This evidence would also draw on the design and implementation of pilot actions and local experimentation by civil society actors.

Supporting this, the Chronic Poverty Advisory Network and the Centre for Social Protection will facilitate peer-learning exchanges on multi-sectoral anti-poverty programming, adaptive social protection systems, shock-responsive safety nets, and inclusive targeting mechanisms. The Food Equity Centre will support exchanges on designing and governing equitable food systems, guided by principles of inclusion and participation to ensure that the evidence base is diverse and reflects the experiences of the most marginalised groups of the population, including those with lived experience of hunger.

Second, IDS commits to strengthening evidence-to-policy pathways by embedding rapid learning and evaluation components into ongoing programmes supported by the Global Alliance Against Hunger and Poverty at national, regional and international levels. This includes iterative policy/program feedback loops and mixed methods implementation research and evaluations across contexts, including those affected by climate change, conflict, and economic volatility. It will also include support for survey design, data collection strategies, quantitative and qualitative analysis, and interpretation of findings to inform policy and programming, where resources or co-fundraising permits.

Furthermore, under this commitment, IDS will create spaces to share evidence from local practice and lived experience, building on successful participatory approaches to policy dialogue and knowledge exchange, and IDS' strong track-record in action-research and participatory methodologies. It will also contribute to knowledge exchange activities with other Global Alliance members, including sharing experiences from country-level research, policy engagement, South-South cooperation, and contributing to learning in support of adaptation and scaling effective policy approaches. IDS will bring a non-extractive, ethical, and decolonial approach to knowledge exchange practices, prioritising reciprocal relationships, equitable partnerships, and the co-creation of knowledge. This approach values local expertise, fosters mutual learning and ensures that research processes and outcomes are meaningful and beneficial to participating communities.

Third, IDS will co-convene global and regional dialogues with strong participation and leadership from the Global South, with particular attention to providing a platform for marginalised and underrepresented groups. The purpose of this will be to share lessons learned, including policy successes, South-South cooperation experiences, and good practices on synergistic poverty and hunger reduction, as well as barriers to this. This will extend to participation in relevant advisory groups or coordination mechanisms to support country-led implementation of policies aimed at the reduction of poverty and/or hunger.

This commitment relatedly includes support for capacity bridging and strengthening for governments, regional organisations, local institutions, and civil society organisations, through training programmes, professional courses, technical advisory support, and policy toolkits or practitioner-focused handbooks, and where possible co-developed with national stakeholders and civil society organisations. These could focus on, for example, systems for poverty monitoring, social protection design and delivery, or integrated food security and food systems analysis with an equity lens. These capacity building efforts will also strengthen links between research, policy and practice by promoting the use of diverse forms of evidence, including lived experience, to inform policies on hunger and poverty.

General acknowledgments

Recognizes the possibility to, including through the mechanisms available to Global Alliance members, coordinate, partner with and/or seek support from the Global Alliance's other members, within their respective capacities, availability, and fields of activity, to carry out the present commitments with greater effectiveness.

While recognizing that the above commitments are voluntary and non-legally binding, being subject to and carried out under its own capacities, regulations, priorities, and modalities, as well as to the availability of appropriate resourcing, *strives* to seriously consider, as appropriate, and according to its own legal frameworks and governance process, to review its procedures and priorities as found necessary to better deliver on the present commitments, enhance synergies and joint efforts with other entities and initiatives, and improve outcomes on the collective fight against hunger and poverty.