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BRAC founder named 2015 World Food Prize Laureate

Sir Fazle Hasan Abed, founder of agricultural advancement organization BRAC, wins prize for facilitating enhanced food security in 11 countries

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The World Food Prize Foundation on Wednesday announced Sir Fazle Hasan Abed of Bangladesh as its 2015 recipient of the World Food Prize, a global award for individuals whose breakthrough achievements alleviate hunger and promote global food security.

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The announcement was made at a ceremony at the U.S. State Department, where USDA Secretary Tom Vilsack offered a keynote address and Assistant Secretary of State for Economic and Business Affairs Charles Rivkin and WFPF Foundation President Ambassador Kenneth Quinn announced the newest recipient's name.



Sir Fazle Hasan Abed, founder of agricultural advancement organization BRAC, wins prize for facilitating enhanced food security in 11 countries (WFP photo)

"I offer my sincerest congratulations to Sir Fazle and appreciation for the progress he has made in improving people's lives, alleviating hunger, and providing pathways out of poverty. Sir Fazle's and his organization's recognition that engaging women in STEAM fields—science, technology, engineering, agriculture, and math—benefits our local and global communities is a vision that

we share at USDA," Vilsack said.

Awarded by the World Food Prize Foundation, the \$250,000 prize honors Sir Fazle's achievement in building the unique, integrated development organization Bangladesh Rural Advancement Committee, which is headquartered in Bangladesh and operates programs in 10 other countries around the globe.

Since he created it more than 40 years ago, Sir Fazle's organization has provided the opportunity for nearly 150 million people worldwide to improve their lives, see improved food security and get out of poverty.

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Today, BRAC operates 18 financially and socially profitable enterprises, across health, agriculture, livestock, fisheries, education, green energy, printing and retail sectors, and has been responsible for extraordinary advancements in the poultry, seed, and dairy industries in Bangladesh and other countries in which it operates in Africa.

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