WASHINGTON (April 17, 2012) — Today Cornell University and the global humanitarian organization CARE launched a partnership to advance sustainable food systems to improve food security, stimulate economic growth and adapt to climate change by merging Cornell’s cutting-edge research in economic development and sustainability with CARE’s experience fighting poverty around the world.

Spearheaded by Cornell’s Atkinson Center for a Sustainable Future, the partnership’s Impact through Innovation Fund matches Cornell researchers with CARE development professionals on specific projects, creating a delivery system for research-based solutions to challenges facing chronically food insecure women and families.

“Today marks an important milestone in bringing the impacts of research to our human family, especially its most vulnerable members,” said Cornell President David J. Skorton. “By meshing the expertise of Cornell faculty and students with that of CARE professionals on the ground, we are speeding the delivery of sustainable solutions to those who need them most.”

For example, in the first round of funded projects, a CARE-Cornell team is fostering business opportunities and increasing crop yields in Ethiopia by providing alternatives to costly imported chemical fertilizers by creating value chains for less expensive, indigenous biofertilizers made from local waste products. The project helps farmers – especially women - grow produce more sustainably. Another newly funded project in Mozambique addresses a chronic challenge of inadequate health care for HIV-infected women and their infants, which exacerbates food insecurity and threatens their path out of poverty. The project uses novel performance-based incentives for health care workers on the frontlines to focus treatment where it is most needed and to prevent mother-to-child transmission of the disease.

“The partnership promotes face-to-face, real-time collaboration between Cornell researchers and CARE field workers that will foster the innovation we need for game-changing approaches,” said CARE President and CEO Helene Gayle. “Having top researchers in the communities where CARE works will help us quickly develop and refine innovative solutions to chronic problems faced by marginalized women and their families.”

See www.acsf.cornell.edu/CARE-CU for more details
The partnership launch will be hosted by the Center for Strategic and International Studies (CSIS), a leading think tank and convener that provides strategic insights and bipartisan policy solutions to help decision-makers chart a course toward a better world.

The partnership was established with generous gifts to Cornell and CARE from David and Pat Atkinson.

**About CARE:** Founded in 1945, CARE is a leading humanitarian organization fighting global poverty. CARE places special focus on working alongside poor girls and women because, equipped with the proper resources, they have the power to lift whole families and entire communities. Last year CARE worked in 84 countries and reached 122 million people around the world. To learn more, visit www.care.org.

**Cornell’s David R. Atkinson Center for a Sustainable Future (ACSF)** is a bold initiative to focus the brightest minds from all disciplines—from the humanities to engineering—on creating new approaches, techniques, and technologies to advance solutions to some of society’s most complex challenges and pressing problems.

**Cornell University**, founded in 1865, is the largest and youngest university in the Ivy League. Its campus includes 14 colleges and schools: seven undergraduate units and four graduate and professional units in Ithaca, N.Y.; two medical graduate and professional units in New York City, and one in Doha, Qatar. As a land-grant institution, Cornell applies research findings to improve the lives of the people of New York State and the world.

See [www.acsf.cornell.edu/CARE-CU](http://www.acsf.cornell.edu/CARE-CU) for more details