



**Askinosie**<sup>TM</sup>  
chocolate

NEWS RELEASE

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**Askinosie Chocolate Announces Clinton Global Initiative Membership**

Springfield, Mo.- In July, Askinosie Chocolate was invited and thus joined the Clinton Global Initiative (CGI).

CGI brings together global leaders to create and implement solutions to the world's most pressing challenges. Askinosie Chocolate's role, under the CGI Food Systems track, will be to work together with global leaders to help solve a specific food-related problem.

Shawn Askinosie, Founder and CEO of Askinosie Chocolate, says: "We're honored to be part of CGI and the great work they are facilitating around the world. We're diligently working on a Commitment to Action related to our sustainable nutrition program in the Philippines as part of our membership. Clinton Global Initiative membership validates our company's community development work around the world, which proves that really small companies can have impact. I look forward to the Annual Meeting in New York this Fall where I will have the chance to learn from experts around the world."

Askinosie is currently the only chocolate maker practicing Direct Trade on four continents. In two of their cocoa origin communities, they've established several development projects, in addition to their standard of paying a premium for cocoa beans and visiting the farmers yearly to share profits and open their books.

--Page 1 of 2--





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### **About Askinosie Chocolate**

Askinosie Chocolate is a small batch chocolate manufacturer with 15 employees located in Springfield, Mo., sourcing 100% of their beans directly from farmers and founded at the forefront of the American craft chocolate movement. Shawn Askinosie, founder and CEO, travels to Ecuador, Honduras, Tanzania and the Philippines to work directly with farmers and source cocoa beans. This allows the chocolate to be traced to the source and labeled Authentic Single Origin Chocolate. It also enables Askinosie Chocolate to profit share with the farmers, giving them a Stake In the Outcome<sup>™</sup>. The Askinosie Chocolate mission is to craft exceptional chocolate and serve their farmers, their customers, their community and each other, striving in all they do to leave whatever part of the world they touch better for the encounter.

### **About Clinton Global Initiative**

Established in 2005 by President Bill Clinton, the Clinton Global Initiative (CGI), an initiative of the Clinton Foundation, convenes global leaders to create and implement solutions to the world's most pressing challenges. CGI Annual Meetings have brought together 190 sitting and former heads of state, more than 20 Nobel Prize laureates, and hundreds of leading CEOs, heads of foundations and NGOs, major philanthropists, and members of the media. To date, members of the CGI community have made more than 3,200 Commitments to Action, which have improved the lives of over 430 million people in more than 180 countries.

In addition to the Annual Meeting, CGI convenes CGI America, a meeting focused on collaborative solutions to economic recovery in the United States; and CGI University (CGI U), which brings together undergraduate and graduate students to address pressing challenges in their community or around the world. This year, CGI also convened CGI Middle East & Africa, which brought together leaders across sectors to take action on pressing social, economic, and environmental challenges.

For more information, visit [clintonglobalinitiative.org](http://clintonglobalinitiative.org) and follow us on Twitter @ClintonGlobal and Facebook at [facebook.com/clintonglobalinitiative](http://facebook.com/clintonglobalinitiative).

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