

Future S.E.T (Science, Education, Technology)

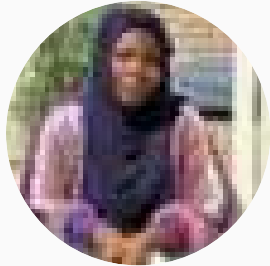
# S.E.T to Gro

**An initiative towards economic empowerment of STEM youth through  
sustainable food cultivation**

Innovate. Cultivate. Educate.

[www.setfuture.org](http://www.setfuture.org)

# Our Team



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**President**

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**Aisha Aderinto**  
**Vice-President**

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**Co-Executive Director**

**BSc. Computer Science**



**Amina Adama**

**Co-Executive Director**

**BSc. (PhD Candidate LMP)**



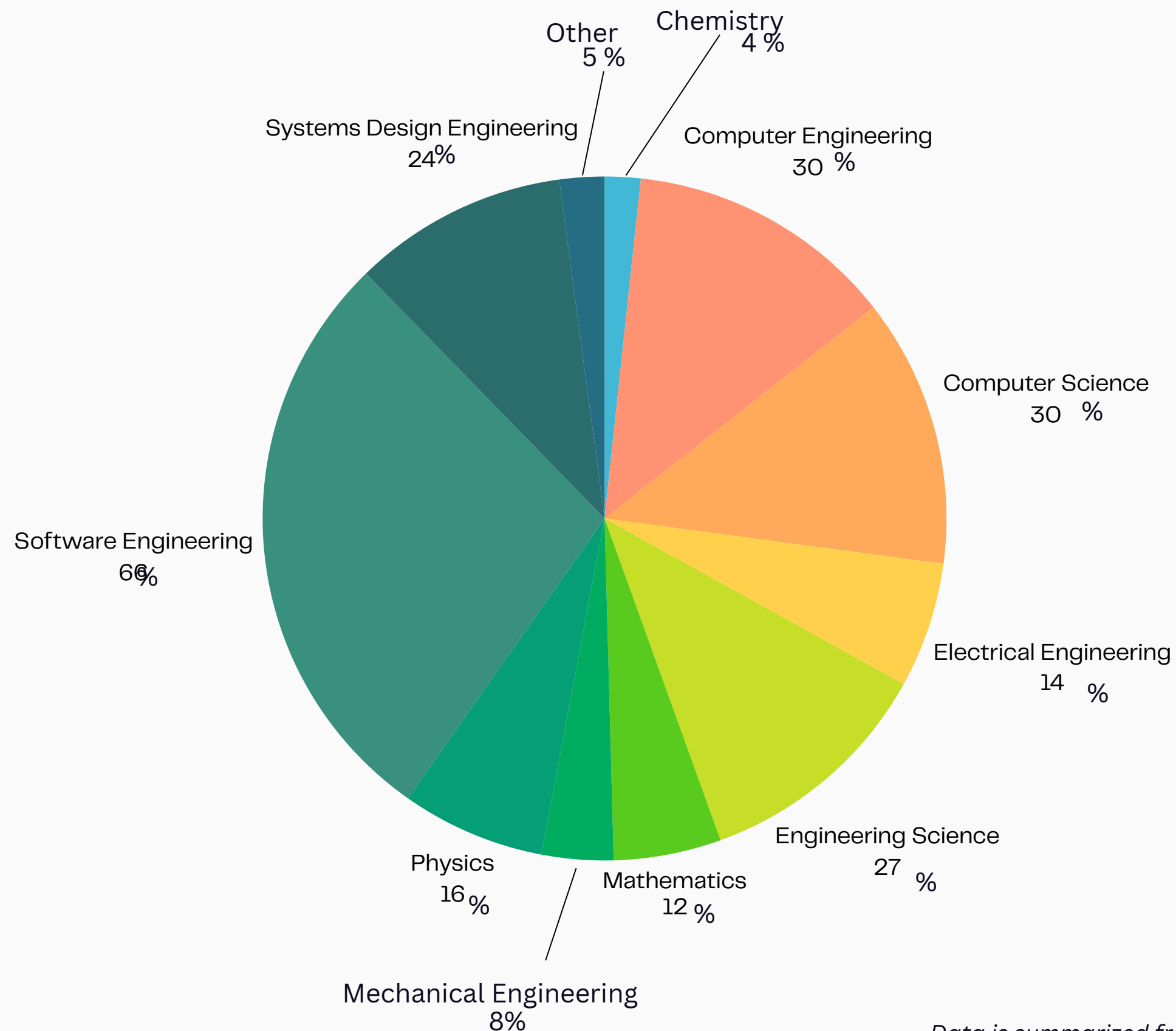
**Beverly Obodaifio**

**Treasurer**

**BSc. Psychology**

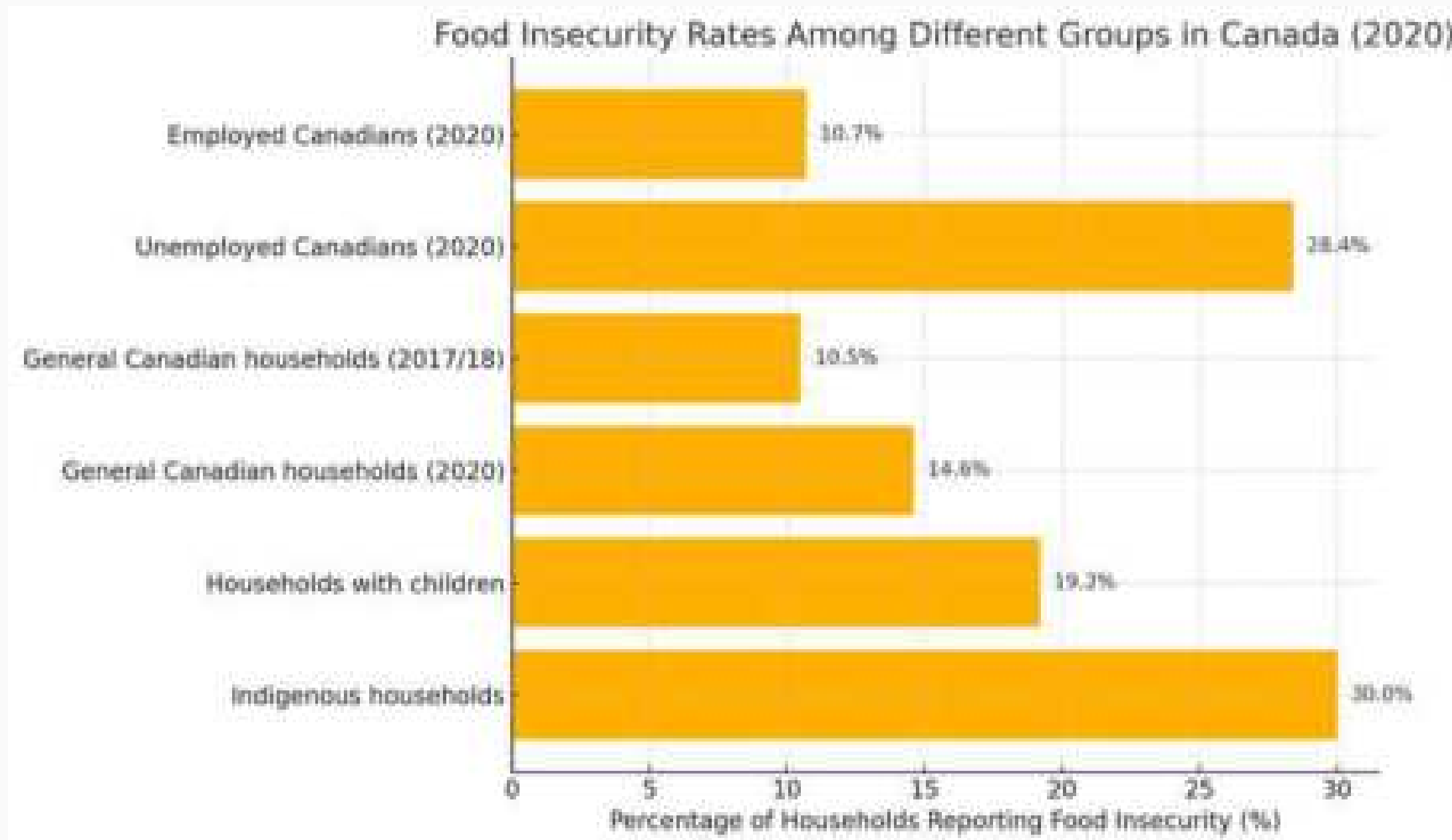
- We are a collective of like-minded STEM youth working to change the narrative and create pathways to opportunity
- Despite Canada's investment in STEM education, many skilled graduates from Black and marginalized communities still face unemployment or underemployment
- The issue isn't talent... it's access. A lack of industry connections and insider networks means that "who you know" often matters more than what you know.
- These barriers disproportionately impact Black Canadians, limiting their chances to apply their skills and thrive in the STEM workforce

# The Problem: Canada's Growing Brain Drain

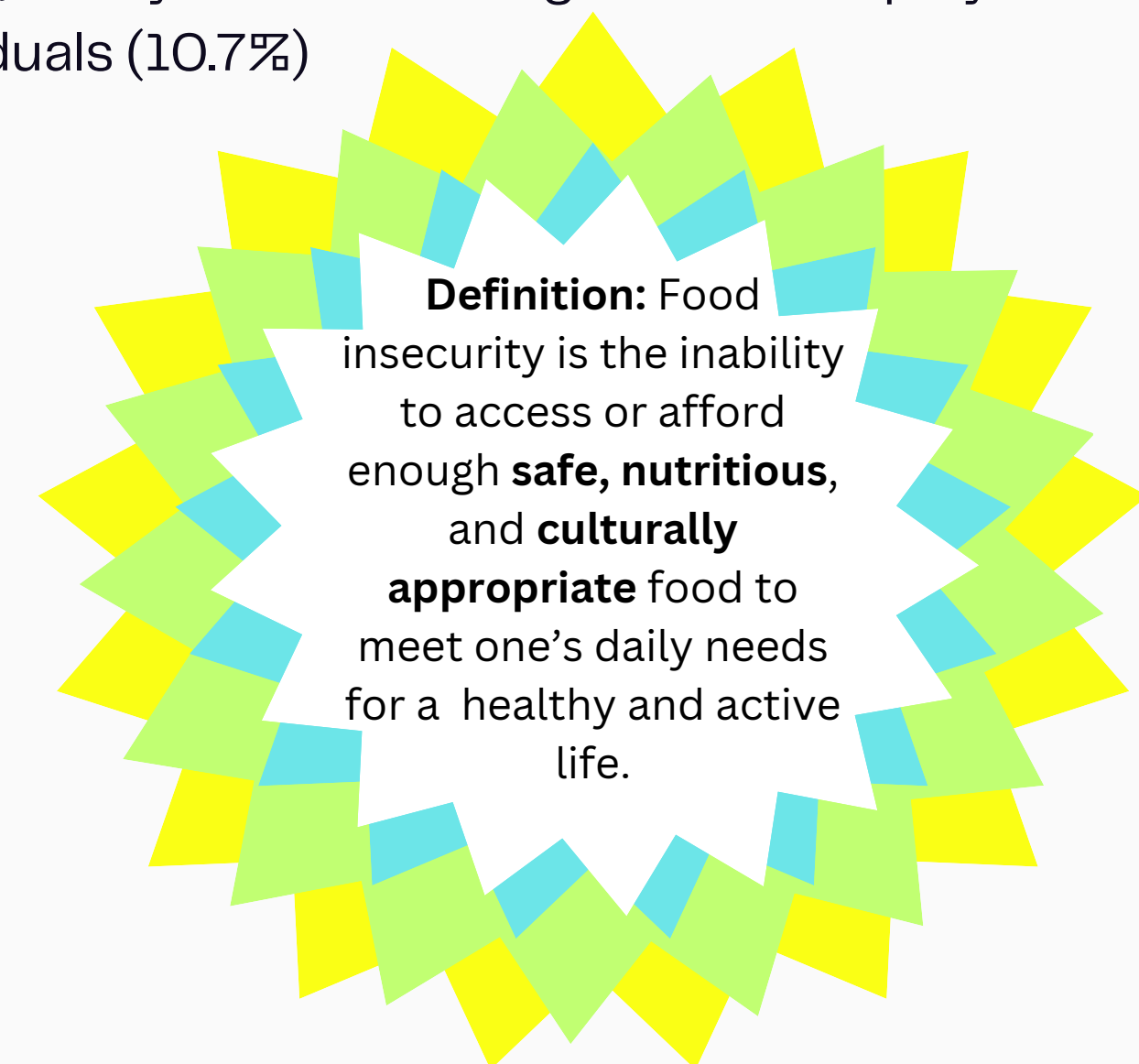


- A 2018 study into the employment motivated migration of Canada's STEM graduates revealed 1 in 4 STEM graduates leave Canada to find work
  - Of these, the innovation sectors i.e. computer science, software engineering, were among the highest percentages
- This revealed Canada's growing brain drain problem
  - From over 3'000 graduates, many reported being unable to find adequate work despite having highly successful academic careers to boost their chances of employment

# The Problem: Who's Going Hungry? The Unequal Face of Food Insecurity in Canada



- In May 2020, 14.6% of Canadian households were food insecure — up from 10.5% in 2017/18, highlighting the pandemic's impact
- Unemployed Canadians reported food insecurity at 28.4%, nearly three times higher than employed individuals (10.7%)





# Our Solution

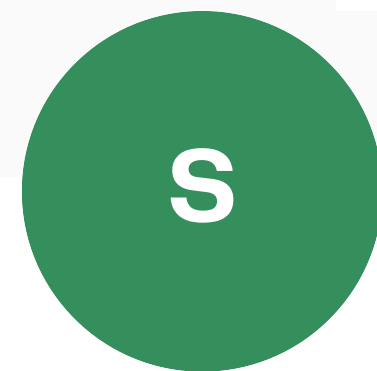
- We are bridging the youth STEM unemployment gap by marrying the skills of STEM youth with the increasing demand for innovation in the Agri-Tech and sustainability sector, to address climate change and food insecurity
- We aim to establish the first **youth-led AgriTech research centre in North America**
- We are achieving this through the following action plan:



**ECONOMIC  
EMPOWERMENT**



**COMMUNITY**



**SUSTAINABILITY**



**RESEARCH  
& INNOVATION**



By the youth, for the youth

## Our Solution: Economic Empowerment



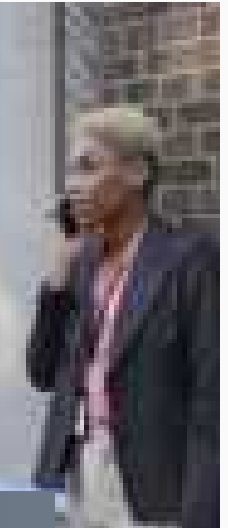
**Priority access to partnerships  
with leading STEM employers  
nationwide**

### SDG 8: Decent Work Economic Growth

- Creating career pathways for STEM graduates in the Agri-Tech sector
- Providing meaningful job opportunities for students
- Partnering with top employers nationwide to boost placement in leading STEM companies
- Hosting webinars on economic empowerment and employment readiness
- Building an inclusive community dedicated to sustainability and youth economic advancement



**Interactive webinars focused  
on economic empowerment**





# Our Solution: Community

*By the youth, for the youth*

## • SDG 1 (No Poverty)

- Engaging STEM youth in real-world solutions to food security using hydroponic and aeroponic technologies
- Expanding co-ops and internships to bridge STEM education with Agri-Tech innovation
- Empowering youth to implement tech-driven food systems in schools and communities

## SDG 2 (Zero Hunger)

- Fostering community-based food models led by trained youth in underserved areas
- Creating sustainability ambassadors through STEM education and outreach
- Providing hands-on experience in teaching, leadership, and mentorship through community workshops
- Fostering STEM and Agri-Tech entrepreneurship through skill-training



## Mentorship and community building opportunities





# Our Solution: Sustainability

**SDG 2 (Zero Hunger)**

**SDG 13 (Climate Action)**

*By the youth, for the youth*

- Training STEM youth to advocate for sustainable agriculture and environmental impact reduction
- Advancing hydroponic system development and manufacturing through STEM innovation
- Establishing domestic hydroponic production of culturally relevant foods for vulnerable communities
- Engineering cost-effective, tech-driven hydroponic models for scalable, sustainable food production
- Applying the scientific method and analytical skills to improve hydroponic system design
- Using data-driven problem-solving to enhance impact and performance of hydroponic systems
- Creating public-private partnerships to scale Agri-Tech innovation across Ontario and Canada







# Our Solution: Research & Innovation

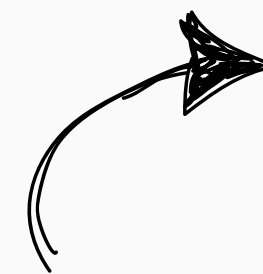
## • SDG 4 (Quality Education)

*By the youth, for the youth*

- Empowering STEM youth to solve real-world global challenges
- Building cross-sector partnerships with universities, industry leaders, and research institutions across North America
- Developing interdisciplinary training programs combining hydroponics, food security, and climate resilience
- Integrating AI and data-driven solutions into Agri-Tech innovation to enhance system efficiency and scalability
- Creating direct employment, volunteer, and mentorship opportunities with leading agricultural experts



Cangro S.E.T youth win 2<sup>nd</sup> place at Urban Health AI Challenge 2023



**The HydroZen: A Hydroponic tower enhanced by Cangro S.E.T youth for growing tropical foods**



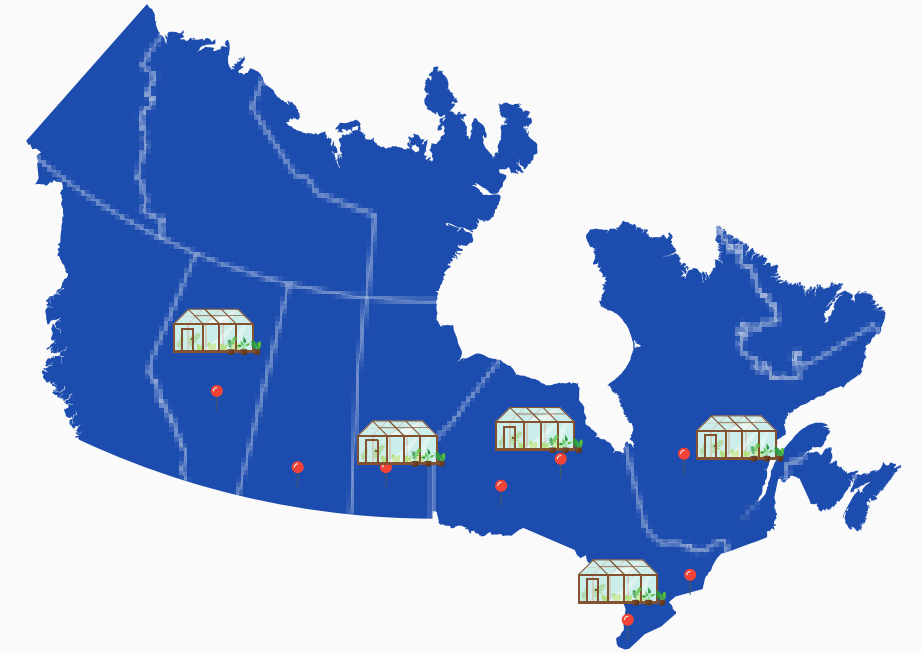
# | What's Next?

“Dream the impossible because dreams do come true”

— Elijah McCoy

- Launch Agri-Tech incubators across Ontario as the first phase toward a provincial research and innovation centre
- Combating Canada's brain drain by retaining top STEM talent and positioning youth as global agri-tech innovators
- Cultivating a province-wide community of STEM leaders committed to solving global food challenges
- Providing fresh, locally grown produce to underserved and minority communities
- Establish greenhouse hubs as hands-on STEM training centers for sustainable agriculture and food technology
- Creating employment and research opportunities for STEM youth passionate about sustainability
- Fostering innovation through real-world projects in hydroponics, agri-tech, and climate-smart farming

## | Province-Wide Expansion



**Let's Connect.**

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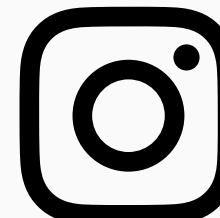
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**226-246-3007**



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