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FAMINE EARLY WARNING SYSTEMS NETWORK (FEWS NET III)

**QUARTERLY PERFORMANCE REPORT
JANUARY 2012 – MARCH 2012**

MAY 2012

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DISCLAIMER

The author's views expressed in this publication do not necessarily reflect the views of the United States Agency for International Development or the United States Government.

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LIST OF ACRONYMS

ACF	Action Against Hunger/Action Contre la Faim
ACTESA	Alliance for Commodity Trade in Eastern and Southern Africa
ADMARC	Agricultural Development and Marketing Corporation, Malawi
ANTM	Assistant National Technical Manager
CFSVA	Comprehensive Food Security & Vulnerability Analysis
CGIS	Centre for GIS of the National University of Rwanda
CHB	Cadre Harmonisé Bonifié
CILSS	Comité Inter-Etats de Lutte contre la Sécheresse au Sahel
CNSA	Coordination nationale de la sécurité alimentaire de Haiti
DCHA	Bureau of Democracy, Conflict and Humanitarian Assistance
DISK	Data and Information Sub-committee of the Kenya Food Security Steering Group
DRRU	Disaster Reduction Unit
EfD	Evidence for Development
EFSA	Emergency Food Security Assessment
FACT	Field Accounting and Compliance Team of Chemonics
FANR	Food Agriculture and Natural Resources Directorate
FAO	Food and Agriculture Organization of the United Nations
FEWS NET	Famine Early Warning Systems Network
FFP	Food for Peace
FSIN	Food Security Information Network
FSNAU	Food Security and Nutrition Analysis Unit – Somalia
FSNWG	Food Security and Nutrition Working Group, East Africa region
FSTS	Food Security Technical Secretariat
GTPA	Grain Traders and Producers Association, Malawi
HO	Home Office (Washington-based FEWS NET Chemonics team)
INGC	National Disasters Management Institute, Mozambique
IPC	Integrated Phase Classification
IQC	Indefinite Quantity Contract
IR	Intermediate Result
KFSSG	Kenya Food Security Steering Group
KFSTWG	Kenya Food Security Technical Working Group
MOU	Memorandum of Understanding
NASA	National Aeronautics and Space Administration
NOAA	National Oceanic and Atmospheric Administration
NTM	National Technical Manager
NVAC	National Vulnerability Assessment Committee
OSC	Overseas Strategic Consulting, Ltd.
PMU	Project Management Unit of Chemonics
RIACSO	Regional Interagency Coordination and Support Group
RF	Results Framework
RFSS	Regional Food Security Specialist
RFSS - MT	Regional Food Security Specialist for Markets and Trade
RTM	Regional Technical Manager
RVAA	Regional Vulnerability, Assessment and Analysis Program
RVAC	Regional Vulnerability Assessment Committee
SADC	Southern Africa Development Community
SETSAN	Technical Secretariat for Food Security and Nutrition, Mozambique

LIST OF ACRONYMS (continued)

SIFSIA	Sudan Institutional Capacity Programme: Food Security Information for Action
SO	Strategic Objective
SOAG	Strategic Objective Grant Agreement
STTA	Short-term Technical Assistant (consultant)
SWALIM	Somalia Water and Land Information Management
UNHCR	United Nations High Commissioner for Refugees
UNICEF	United Nations Children's Fund
UNOCHA	United Nations Office for the Coordination of Humanitarian Affairs
USAID	United States Agency for International Development
USDA	United States Department of Agriculture
USGS	United States Geological Survey
VAC	Vulnerability Assessment Committee
WFP	United Nations World Food Programme

SECTION I

INTRODUCTION TO FEWS NET

A. Background

The United States Agency for International Development's (USAID) Famine Early Warning Systems Network (FEWS NET) is the world's premier provider of high quality food security analysis and early warning. Created in response to the 1984 famines in East and West Africa, FEWS NET comprises a 27-year old set of integrated activities that monitors, assesses, predicts, and informs about environmental, socio-economic and humanitarian hazards and conditions, and their present or future impacts on food security and vulnerability across the globe. The goal of FEWS NET is to help sustainably prevent food insecurity and famine.

In December 2011, USAID awarded the FEWS NET IQC to Chemonics International Inc. and its subcontracting partners: Evidence for Development (EfD), Action Against Hunger-UK (ACF), and Overseas Strategic Consulting, Inc. (OSC). FEWS NET is coordinated by USAID's Bureau of Democracy, Conflict and Humanitarian Assistance, Office of Food for Peace, Policy and Technical Division (DCHA/FFP/PTD). The FEWS NET Implementing Team is comprised of the USAID Management Unit, the IQC Contractor, National Aeronautics and Space Administration (NASA), National Oceanic and Atmospheric Administration (NOAA), United States Geological Survey (USGS), United States Department of Agriculture (USDA), and a Technology Support Contractor—Kimetrica Inc.

B. Results Framework

The FEWS NET Results Framework (RF) is a planning, communications, and management tool (Figure 1). It conveys the development hypothesis implicit in project goal and objectives, as well as the cause-effect relationships between Intermediate Results (IR) and Strategy Objectives (SO). Hence the RF provides a foundation for work-planning and performance monitoring.

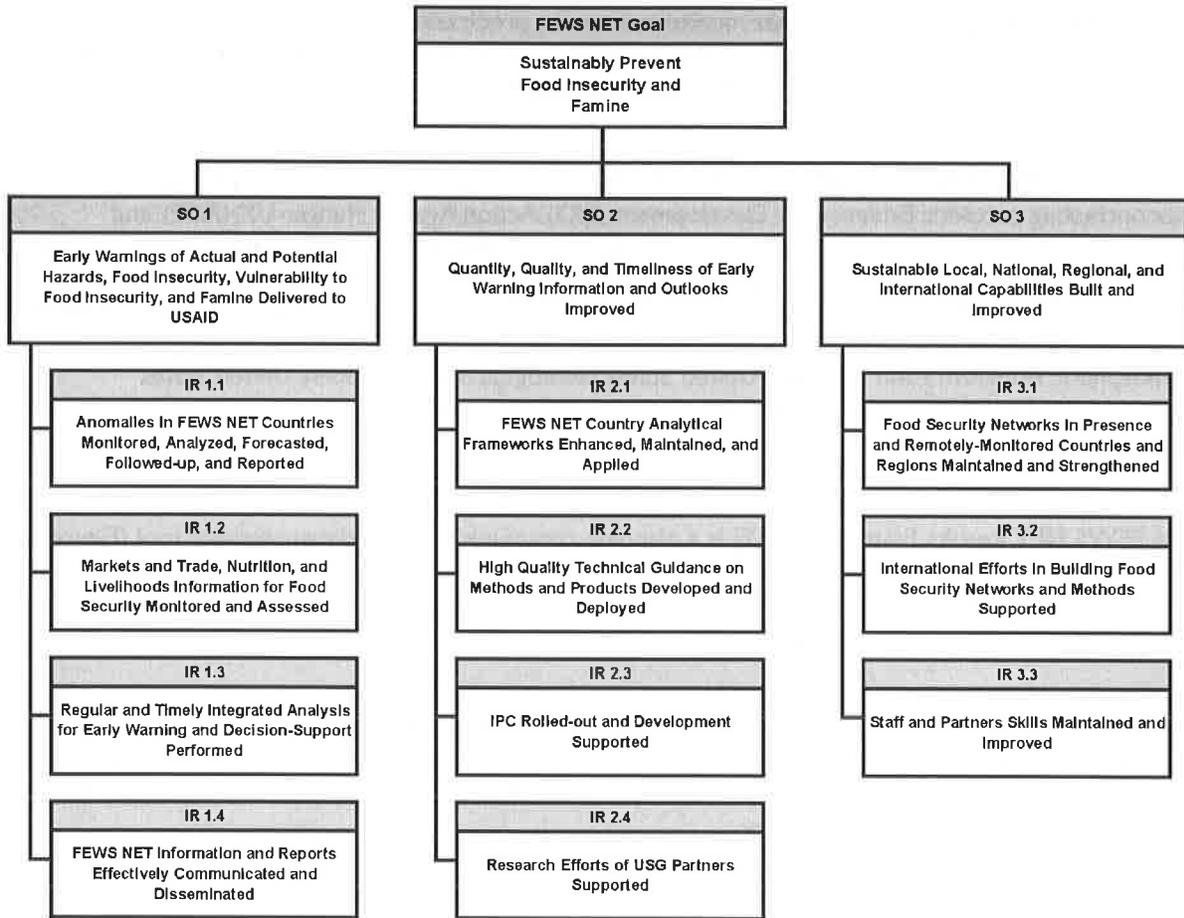
FEWS NET will work towards its goal of sustainably preventing food insecurity and famine through the three project strategic objectives of providing early warning, improving the quantity, quality and timeliness of early warning, and building capacity of partners in food security assessment, monitoring, and analysis. The three SOs represent the main concepts of what we do, how we will do it better, and how we will help our partners to do it better.

Under SO 1, FEWS NET will carry out its core activities of early warning. The four IRs represent 1) identifying, monitoring and assessing anomalies that can impact on food security outcomes; 2) monitoring the livelihoods, markets and trade, nutrition and other sectoral context; 3) performing food security analysis and outlook using scenario development, IPC and other relevant methods; and 4) effectively communicating early warning information to decision-makers and partners via the FEWS NET website, publications, briefings, and other means of information dissemination.

Under SO 2, FEWS NET works to improve its methods and products. The project will maintain and update the national knowledge bases and monitoring plans (IR 2.1) and improve and refine the various tools and methods that are essential to food security analysis (IR 2.2). FEWS NET supports the continuing development of the Integrated Phase Classification (IPC) and IR 2.3 covers activities that we will undertake to roll-out and support the use of IPC in FEWS NET. The Chemonics team will also work with other implementation partners to support the overall goal of FEWS NET in areas such as climate change, remote sensing applications, etc.

SO 3 represents the networking, capacity development and institutional strengthening components of FEWS NET. In addition to working with national, regional, and global food security networks on monitoring and early warning (IR 3.1), FEWS NET will also participate in global efforts in developing methods and systems such as the IPC and the FSIN (IR 3.2). Recognizing that the strength of FEWS NET is in its cadre of field-based analysts and technicians, we also plan to devote considerable efforts to support, maintain, and improve staff skill (IR 3.3).

Figure I. FEWS NET Results Framework



SECTION II

QUARTERLY PERFORMANCE REPORT

A. Developing the Quarterly Report

The Quarterly Performance Report process began with each FEWS NET office compiling a list of key activities that were started or completed during the reporting period. For each activity reported, the technical managers and advisor also provided, where appropriate, a brief description of the results and impact of the activity. The quarterly inputs from country offices were then reviewed by the regional managers. This review served two purposes: it allows the regional technical managers to be informed of key activities in the region and it allows the regional managers to discuss the progress to date with national managers and identify if corrective actions or change in implementation approach may be required. After this review process, the national and regional inputs were forwarded to the Washington-based office for review and compilation. Inputs from Washington-based advisors and managers are incorporated into the final report.

B. Project Startup

This first quarter represented a startup period for FEWS NET III and it had proven to be challenging. As USAID awarded the FEWS NET III contract to Chemonics International during the final days of 2011, Chemonics switched gears rapidly from full project closeout by December 29, 2011 to project startup effective January 3, 2012. Some offices that had closed weeks before were reopened while others had to find new facilities; some staff members who had received termination notices were re-contracted as they were identified for FEWS NET III positions; registrations and Memorandum of Understanding (MOU) that lapsed with the end of the FEWS NET II period were initiated and pursued; and numerous professional positions at the home office and field offices were recruited for. In addition, partners and counterparts were reassured that FEWS NET would indeed continue as much the same project as before but with important changes and new directions. Among the more important deliverables during this quarter was the organization and execution of the Transition Conference in Cape Town, South Africa. Startup of the FEWS NET III project was facilitated by the Chemonics Project Management Unit (PMU) that worked tirelessly with the home office and the field offices to address the numerous operational issues that are essential to a fully functioning project.

Registration

A key management challenge for the first quarter was following through on a Chemonics International policy commitment to register the entity in all FEWS NET countries where it is legally required. In general, Chemonics makes the business decision of how to register in each country based on a number of factors including how each registration option effects our ability to remain a party, to the extent possible as a contractor; to the US government agreement (bilateral/SOAG) with the host country government and tax and other legal liability issues for the project and the company. The different registration options and implications of those options are thoroughly vetted through local legal representatives. The following table shows the registration status in 21 countries and the different approaches taken:

Table I. Registration Status

Country	Registration Status	Type of Registration
Afghanistan	Registered	Registered as a company with the Afghanistan Investment Support Agency (AISA)
Burkina Faso	Registration Pending	Intend to register as a project with the Ministry of Agriculture for the duration of the project

Country	Registration Status	Type of Registration
Chad	Registration Pending	Intend to register as an NGO with the Ministry of Economy and Planning for the duration of the project
Djibouti	Registration Pending	Awaiting letter from USAID/Djibouti to facilitate registration process
Ethiopia	Registered	As Chemonics International Inc, Ethiopia Branch, issued under commercial registration and business license
Guatemala	Registered	Registered as a branch office of Chemonics International Inc.
Haiti	Registered	Registered as a foundation
Kenya	Registered	Registered with the Kenyan government under the umbrella of Chemonics Kenya Limited; registered as a Company Limited by shares
Malawi	Registration Pending	Intend to register as an External Company, following the approach used by other Chemonics USAID-funded projects in Malawi
Mali	Registration Pending	Intend to register as a foreign entity with authorization from the Ministry of Territorial Administration, renewable annually
Mauritania	Registration Pending	In discussions with local lawyers and USAID/Mauritania on best option
Mozambique	Registration Pending	Re-registering as a branch of a foreign company (process almost complete)
Niger	Registration Pending	Intend to register as a project with the Ministry of Agriculture for the duration of the project
Nigeria	Registered	Registered as a commercial entity
Rwanda	Registered	Registered as a project
South Africa	Registered	Registered as a branch of a foreign company
South Sudan	Registered	Registered as FEWS NET Southern Sudan NGO through September of 2012, will need to extend in September
Sudan	Registration Pending	Working on 5-year extension of Implementation Protocol with MIC and other related ministries
Uganda	Registered	Registered as Chemonics International Inc., as a foreign incorporated company
Zambia	Registered	Registered as a branch of a foreign company
Zimbabwe	Not registered	Registered with the tax authorities (ZRA) only

Office Leases

The FEWS NET III IQC was awarded to Chemonics on December 15, 2011. By this time, some office leases had expired or were denied renewal by landlords who sought a secure commitment for the future. The result is that FEWS NET offices in a number of countries were relocated and staff members were forced to work from home or from temporary offices for different periods of time. The PMU immediately identified new offices where needed and negotiated new leases. During this reporting period, new offices were secured in the following countries: Afghanistan, Burkina Faso, Djibouti, Ethiopia, Guatemala, Kenya, Niger, South Africa, South Sudan, and Zambia.

Sub-Contractors

Chemonics has selected new subcontracting partners to implement FEWS NET III. They are Action Against Hunger (ACF), Evidence for Development (Efd), and Overseas Strategic Communications (OSC). Representatives from all three subcontracts attended the transition conference in Cape Town and participated in planning for the first fiscal year period. Individually, each sub-contractor engaged in dialogue with Chemonics senior management on their respective scopes of work.

In the case of OSC, the Strategic Communications Specialist, Erin Martin, initiated her work in the Chemonics office in Washington. OSC actively recruited for the Information, Communications and Technology Manager. Both ACF and Efd are based in London and meetings with them occurred after this quarter concluded. Gary Sawdon of Efd will function as the Livelihoods Coordinator based in Washington and the point of contact for his organization. ACF is recruiting for a technical coordinator and regional nutrition specialists for East and West Africa.

MOUs and Implementation Protocols

With the conclusion of phase II of FEWS NET on December 29, 2011, all memorandums of understanding and implementation protocols with partners and host governments expired. In some countries these agreements are essential to the successful work of FEWS NET and it was necessary to update and renew them. During the quarter, the home office technical team took responsibility for working with the FSNAU Director to update and renew the MOU. This was signed by the FSNAU Chief Technical Advisor, Grainne Moloney, FAO Somalia Officer-in-charge, Luca Alinovi, FEWS NET COP, Curtis Schaeffer and FEWS NET Somalia NTM, Abdullahi Khalif. In Sudan, NTM Abdul Rahim Norein took the lead for developing and negotiating the Implementation Protocol with various government ministries. In both cases, Chemonics' Contract department reviewed and made recommendations for these agreements.

FEWS NET is pursuing new MOU agreements in South Sudan, Mozambique and Kenya. These are still in draft or discussion form. In Haiti, an MOU exists between USAID/Haiti and CNSA that dates back to 2004. The FEWS NET NTM is working with both entities to update this agreement.

In the Sahel of West Africa, FEWS NET started discussions with CILSS to establish an MOU between FEWS NET and the regional organization that will define our working relations and provide targeted technical assistance to CILSS.

PMU and Chemonics Field Accounting Support

Underlying the startup effort was a concerted PMU program to visit field offices to work directly with field technical and administrative staff to address the various issues of startup and operations. PMU staff members travelled to all FEWS NET countries and their responsibilities included identifying new office space, negotiating registration agreements, recruiting new staff, addressing various operational issues, and training field administrative staff. The following table summarizes this PMU field support program. In addition to PMU visits, the Chemonics finance and accounting group also sent representatives to the different regions to train office managers and accountants. This is now been completed in all regions with the exception of LAC.

Table 2. PMU and FACT Startup Program

Country	PMU Travel	FACT Training
Afghanistan	New office set-up and security	Completed
Burkina Faso	Registration, recruitment, taxes, administrative and labor law reviews	Regional Training in Bamako
Chad	Registration, recruitment, taxes, administrative and labor law reviews	Regional Training in Bamako
Djibouti	Registration, recruitment, taxes, financial administration, administrative and labor law review	Regional training in Nairobi
Ethiopia	Registration, new office, recruitment, bank account	Regional training in Nairobi
Guatemala	Registration, recruitment, office space, administrative training, legal review	Will occur in May 2012
Haiti	ongoing	Completed
Kenya/Somalia/GHA	Recruitment, bank account, administrative and labor law review	Regional training in Nairobi
Malawi	Registration, taxes, administrative and labor law reviews	Regional training in Johannesburg
Mali	Registration, recruitment, taxes, office space, administrative and labor law reviews	Regional Training in Bamako
Mauritania	Registration, recruitment, taxes, administrative and labor law reviews	Regional Training in Bamako
Mozambique	Registration, recruitment, taxes, administrative and labor law review	Regional training in Johannesburg
Niger	Registration, recruitment, taxes, administrative and labor law reviews	Regional Training in Bamako
Nigeria	Recruitment, administrative and labor law reviews	Regional Training in Bamako

Country	PMU Travel	FACT Training
Rwanda	Registration, recruitment, financial administration and labor law reviews	Regional training in Nairobi
South Africa	Registration, recruitment, administrative and labor law review	Regional training in Johannesburg
South Sudan	Registration, recruitment, financial administration and labor law review	Regional training in Nairobi
Sudan	None	Regional training in Nairobi
Uganda	Registration, recruitment, bank account, administrative and labor law review	No accountant, recruit ongoing
Zambia	Registration, administrative and labor law review	Regional training in Johannesburg
Zimbabwe	Registration, recruitment, taxes, administrative and labor law review	Regional training in Johannesburg

C. Staffing

Field Offices

The transition from FEWS NET II to FEWS NET III allowed Chemonics to carefully review staff performance and make decisions about future staffing. The strategy was to identify where improvements in performance are needed and replace those posts with new staff. At the same time, some FEWS NET II staff elected to move on with their careers and did not re-contract with the new phase of the project. Overall, 27 positions were open for recruitment. They include:

- West Africa: 2 regional positions and 6 national positions
- East Africa: 4 regional positions and 7 national positions
- Southern Africa: 2 regional positions and 4 national positions
- LAC: 1 regional position and 1 national position

The table below indicates what positions have been hired for and which remain outstanding, as of the end of March 2012:

Table 3. Field Staff Recruitment Status

Country	Name and Title of Recently-hired Employees	Outstanding Recruitment
Afghanistan	N/A	N/A
Burkina Faso	N/A	ANTM
Chad	N/A	ANTM, Administrative Assistant
Djibouti	Fozia Nouh, Accountant/OM	Beydane Miyir, NTM, Office Cleaner, Driver
Ethiopia	Fanuel Nigatu Teklegiorgis, Driver	National Technical Manager (in interview process) Food Security Specialist (in negotiation process)
Guatemala	Sarahí Morales, remote monitoring coordinator Hector Valladares, driver Betulio Dominguez, Honduras remote monitor Maritza Rivera, Nicaragua remote monitor Karin Carrillo, temporary admin assistant	Gabriela Rosas, assistant national technical manager (USAID approval request submitted) Marie Dermont, regional and logistical assistant (USAID approval request submitted)
Haiti	N/A	ANTM
Kenya/Somalia/GHA	Richard Omwega, Regional Field Accountant Mebal Muhonja Lwane, Office Cleaner Nancy Mutunga, Regional Food Security Specialist	Regional Food Security Specialist – Markets & Trade (in interview process) Regional Food Security Specialist – Livelihoods (in interview process) Regional Nutrition Specialist (ACF)
Malawi	N/A	N/A
Mali	N/A	NTM, ANTM
Mauritania	N/A	ANTM
Mozambique	Zacarias Zandamela, Office Manager/Accountant	N/A
Niger	N/A	Regional Food Security Specialist – Markets & Trade, Regional Food Security Specialist – Livelihoods, Nutrition Specialist (ACF), Driver, Administrative Assistant

Country	Name and Title of Recently-hired Employees	Outstanding Recruitment
Nigeria	N/A	ANTM
Rwanda	Jean Claude Bucumi, TA	Driver
South Africa	Juliet Garande, Regional Field Accountant; Patricia Rwasoka-Masanganise, Regional Food Security Specialist	RFSS - MT
South Sudan	Justine Lokeno Lopir, Kapoeta Enumerator	John Yuga, NTM Chan Chuol Lam, ANTM Office Cleaner
Sudan	N/A	N/A
Uganda	Nigist Biru, Regional Technical Manager	Office Manager/Accountant (in negotiation) National Technical Manager (in negotiation)
Zambia	N/A	N/A
Zimbabwe	N/A	NTM, ANTM

Home Office Technical Team

The HO Technical Team experienced little staff turnover from Phase II to Phase III with the key personnel of COP Curt Schaeffer, DCOP Felix Lee, Decision Support Advisor Christopher Hillbruner and Remote Monitoring Advisor Brian Kriz all remaining in their positions. The Decision Support Group was strengthened for the new phase with Markets and Trade Analyst, Blake Stabler moving into a Food Security Analyst position and the addition of Meredith Sisa and Tiffany Imes as Food Security Analysts.

During the quarter, Brian Kriz announced his departure and Chemonics immediately filled the Remote Monitoring Advisor position with Deputy DSG Advisor Jenny Coneff. As this is a key personnel position, USAID formalized this change through Task Order 1 Contract Modification No. 1 on May 1. Following the promotion of Jenny Coneff, Chemonics promoted Anne Speca to the position of Deputy Decision Support Advisor. As a result of these changes, Chemonics is now recruiting for a Food Security Analyst to fill the opening in the DSG.

The Markets and Trade Advisor, Fabien Tondel, began this phase of FEWS NET working from his home of record in Nice, France on a short-term contract while awaiting a visa to formally work in the United States. When it became apparent that the process would require more time than expected, Mr. Tondel decided to resign from his position. His short-term contract will remain through June 2012. Chemonics recruited for the position and have since identified a successor after the end of this quarter.

D. Project Deliverables

Transition Conference

The FEWS NET HO Technical Team and PMU worked closely with USAID/Washington to organize and carry out the transition conference in Cape Town, South Africa from February 13 to 17, 2012. The objectives were to:

- achieve a clear and mutual understanding among all contractor staff of all contract requirements;
- identify staff and operational issues in need of further resolution; and
- begin the process of finalizing field work plans to update the budget.

The Transition Conference included 80 participants from most of the FEWS NET countries. Staff members from Somalia were unable to attend due to difficulties with obtaining entry visas for South Africa. Djibouti, Uganda, and Zimbabwe were not represented as those offices were transitioning to new staff. Other participants included the Washington-based FEWS NET technical team, USG science

partners (USGS, USDA, NOAA), the new sub-contractors from Overseas Strategic Consulting (OSC), Evidence for Development (EfD) and Action Against Hunger (ACF), representatives from USAID/Washington and the USAID Southern Africa regional office, project management staff from Chemonics International, and partners from Kimetrica and the World Food Program. The conference was five full days with USAID organizing and facilitating the first two days and Chemonics taking the lead for the final three days.

This was a rare opportunity to bring the entire FEWS NET family together to better understand the new phase, clarify goals and objectives, discuss and define roles and responsibilities and to begin to plan for the remainder of the USAID fiscal year and beyond. The event was not designed for formal training; instead, participants learn about the new phase of the project and the technical strategies that USAID and the HO Technical Team defined in the RFP and the technical proposal. The transition conference concluded successfully and set the stage for launching the new five year phase.

Team Implementation Meeting

This meeting was held on the afternoon of Tuesday February 14 at the Transition Conference. Team leaders from USAID, USG partners, Chemonics, and Kimetrica met to discuss and agree upon future strategies for working together, focusing on issues of mutual interest and shared responsibilities. It was agreed that Chemonics will take the lead on key issues like the website re-design. There was consensus too that there is a real need for regular communication between the different partners. The team leaders will use an online collaboration tool to proactively maintain communications and collaboration in between face-to-face meetings.

Workplan and Updated Budget for Field Operations

During the transition conference, national, regional, and Washington-based staff met to examine the proposed approach to monitoring and analysis, and each office presented their vision and commitment to the new phase of the project. These form the basis for the work planning process that continued after the conference, resulting in a consolidated first year work plan that was submitted to USAID in March. This work plan covers the period through September 2012. The work planning process also provided the needed information for the PMU to update the project budget, resulting in the submission of a two-year budget to USAID that informs the contracting process.

In the following sections, we present the highlights of technical activities carried out or in progress during this reporting period.

E. SO I—Early Warning of Actual and Potential Hazards and Food Insecurity

IR 1.1 Anomalies in FEWS NET Countries Monitored, Analyzed, Forecasted, Followed-up, and Reported

Activities under this IR generally concern seasonal monitoring and assessments. In West Africa, field staff joined partners in field assessments in Burkina Faso, Mali and Mauritania. In eastern Africa, the project carried out rapid assessments in Ethiopia, conducted *Jilaal* (dry) season impact assessment in Somalia jointly with the FSNAU, and participated in the WFP-led CFSVA in Rwanda. The NTM in Zambia went on a joint mid-season crop assessment mission, and the NTM in Afghanistan visited the northern part of the country with USAID mission staff.

Other activities carried out in the context of this IR include regular analysis of remote sensing products such as RFE, eMODIS NDVI, and WRSI. The USGS regional scientists also provided support to field

offices by performing analysis with geoWRSI using field-observed parameters. Table 4 shows the list of activities carried out by country under IR 1.1 during this reporting period.

Table 4. Activities performed by each FEWS NET office under IR 1.1

Office	Activity
Home Office	DSG supported monitoring efforts by providing input on field assessment tools for the Afghanistan crop assessment, a rapid field assessment to southern Chad, a rapid field assessment to LHZ 9 in Burkina Faso, and the Sahel Market assessment
Afghanistan	Traveling with USAID mission to northern Afghanistan
Afghanistan	Assessing wheat market dynamic led by FAO
Burkina Faso	Field assessment at end of March in Tapoa province with ACF and National Agricultural Office at Diapaga
Central America	Coordination with PROMEFRUT to present the results of the consultancy on labor and production maps of fruits of CA started last phase
Ethiopia	Rapid food security monitoring to sweet potato growing zones of Southern Nations Nationalities and People's Region (SNNPR) - Hadiya, Kembata and Wolayita zone
Ethiopia	Rapid food security monitoring to Borena and Guji
Mali	Participate in Mali joint (FEWS NET, CILSS, FAO, WFP, Mali/CSA) food security and market assessment to draft January Mali OL mapping and February Mali FSOU report and
Mauritania	Joint food security and markets assessment mission to Brakna-Gorgol
Mauritania	FEWS NET assessment to update situations concerning refugees from Mali
Nigeria	Participation in stakeholders Meeting for rainy season prediction
Rwanda	CFSVA participation (questionnaire review, sampling, training of enumerators, field data collection)
Somalia	Jilaal Impact field assessment
Zambia	Mid season joint crop and food security monitoring trip to Southern Nad, Western Province

IR 1.2 Markets and Trade, Nutrition, and Livelihoods Information for Food Security Monitored and Assessed

While IR 1.1 is designed to focus attention on monitoring anomalies, IR 1.2 is designed to provide sectoral context in markets and trade, health and nutrition and livelihoods. In general various FEWS NET offices restarted price data collection and carried out seasonal activities. Eastern Africa participated in the GHA Climate Outlook Forum, which lead to a number of alerts on the upcoming season. Offices in western Africa carried out markets assessment missions to monitor markets and trade conditions after the mediocre 2011 season, while the home office team took the lead in the publication of price bulletins and published monthly Price Watch. Table 5 shows the list of activities carried out by country under IR 1.2 during this reporting period.

Table 5. Activities performed by each FEWS NET office under IR 1.2

Office	Activity
Home Office	West Africa grain market outlook (with Regional Technical Manager and DSG)
Home Office	Produce report, in collaboration with CILSS, on a common understanding of cereals market dynamics in 2011/12 and a consensus about the market outlook through the 2012 lean season
Burkina Faso	Market field assessment on January with CILSS, WFP, FAO, CRS, ACF, DGPSE (Direction Générale de la Prévision et des Statistiques de l'Elevage) and DGPPE (Direction Générale de la Promotion de l'Economie Rural)
Chad	Food Security and Markets Assessments in southern Chad (Kelo, Pont-Carol, Fianga, Peni, Koumra & Gang). Gather updated data and information on food stocks – households and commercial, household's access to food, sources of income, market behavior, prices, the lean season, and coping strategies.
Chad	Food Security and Markets Assessments in Sahel Chad (Guera, Ouaddai, Wadi Fira, Batha, Sila). Assess the current and likely future food security conditions and likely food security outcomes in the "Est Céréales pluviales et maraichage" zone
Malawi	Participated in an Evidence for Development (EFD) organized Integrated Household Model (IHM) training for assessing food and income security
Mauritania	Re-establish the FEWS NET price data collection system
Nigeria	Markets assessment trip to Kebbi, Sokoto, Jigawa and Katsina states in the North
Nigeria	Markets assessment trip to Kaduna, Katsina and Jigawa states in the North

Office	Activity
Nigeria	Monthly price watch analysis
Rwanda	Review of Trade Flow Map
Somalia	Participated in Greater Horn of Africa Climate Outlook Forum (GHACOF 30)
Somalia	Produced monthly price bulletins
Somalia	Completed mapping of reference and cross border markets and rain gauge stations
South Sudan	Recruiting of Enumerator for collection and reporting of weekly prices in the Pastoral Zone of Kapoeta
Sudan	Produced 3 Market Bulletins
West Africa	Market and food security annual assessment in Niger and West Africa

IR 1.3 Regular and Timely Integrated Analysis for Early Warning and Decision-Support Performed

IR 1.3 is where food security analysis and early warning happens. With anomalies assessed under IR 1.1 and the sectoral context of IR 1.2, this intermediate result is the outcome of integrated analysis.

In January, FEWS NET convened a workshop in Dakar, Senegal that grouped together the national technical managers of Chad, Mali, Mauritania, Niger and the regional manager. The Deputy DSG Advisor from Washington, Jenny Coneff, and the Markets and Trade Advisor, Fabien Tondel, also attended. The group performed a special scenario develop exercise that look at the likely comes of food security conditions in the Sahel from January through September 2012. This was done in response to the mediocre harvest of 2011, subsequent increases in commodity prices, and perceived high levels of food insecurity. The group concluded that while parts of the Sahel will face high levels of food insecurity as severe as IPC Phase 3, there is no immediate thread of famine in the Sahel.

In other regions, FEWS NET staff prepared regular food security outlook updates and other analytic products, including monthly input to the Washington food assistance outlook briefing. In Somalia, FEWS NET and FSNAU conducts post *deyr* analysis in Hargeisa. In Kenya, FEWS NET worked with the Food Security Technical Working Group to analyze the outcome of the short rains and conducted a response planning exercise.

During this period, FEWS NET published four special reports:

- East Africa: Livestock exports from northern ports
- East Africa: Interpretation of early March-May forecasts
- East Africa: Mediocre season likely in the eastern Horn,
- West Africa: Avis conjoint sur la situation alimentaire

Table 6 shows the list of activities carried out by country under IR 1.3 during this reporting period.

Table 6. Activities performed by each FEWS NET office under IR 1.3

Office	Activity
Home Office	Jenny Coneff travelled to Dakar in January to support field staff in a regional food security analysis meeting
Home Office	42 presence country monthly reports published, including 19 Outlooks
Home Office	Alerts published: February 2012: Famine ends, yet 31% of the population remain; March 2012: Sahelian food security Crisis to peak Jul-Sep
Home Office	Published four special Reports: East Africa: Livestock exports from northern ports, East Africa: Interpretation of early March-May forecasts, East Africa: Mediocre season likely in the eastern Horn, West Africa: Avis conjoint sur la situation alimentaire
Home Office	Three FAOB briefings (Jan, Feb, Mar) and two FAOB products (Feb, Mar) were delivered
Home Office	Internal USAID briefings on Sudan

Office	Activity
Chad	Regional Meeting in Dakar
Eastern Africa	Prepared four key information products, from January to March 2012: Regional food security outlook and outlook updates, Regional markets report, Regional rain watch report, Regional Alert for March
Ethiopia	Published food security outlook light in February
Ethiopia	Provided inputs to HO and RO products: FAOB, price watch, etc
Haiti	Two-day meeting with the CNSA Agent liaisons and Technical secretary to gather information on food security
Kenya	Participated in the 2011 short rains assessments district, cluster and national report writing and response planning based on outcomes of the assessments, in collaboration with the KFSTVWG
Mozambique	Rapid food security qualitative assessment to southern zone of the country following significant rainfall deficits and long dry spells that have resulted in a rapid expansion of moisture deficits which have affected crops in the field since the beginning of the 2011/12 cropping season
Niger	Rapid assessment of food security and nutrition
Nigeria	Technical assistance to SCUK on food security situation in the extreme north prelude to field assessment in the area
Nigeria	Food security outlook update
Nigeria	Food assistance outlook brief
Rwanda	Monthly Food Security Reporting and monthly price watch
Somalia	Post deyr 2011/2012 seasonal food security analysis at Hargeisa
South Sudan	FEWS NET conducted an assessment of food security conditions of Abyei population in Twic County and in Agok
South Sudan	FEWS NET conducted an assessment of food security conditions in Kapoeta Pastoral Zone
Sudan	Produced Food Security Outlook in February and March
West Africa	West Africa FEWS NET Scenario development and outlook preparation workshop in Dakar
West Africa	Market behavior and outlook in West Africa report
Zimbabwe	Participated in the design, analysis and reporting on the peak-lean season joint Agriculture and Food Security Monitoring System (AFSMS)-Zimbabwe Vulnerability Assessment Committee (ZimVAc) food security monitoring assessment over the period January-February 2012
Zimbabwe	Participated with the design of the Ministry of Agriculture 2011/12 1st and 2nd round crop and livestock assessments

IR 1.4 FEWS NET Information and Reports Effectively Communicated and Disseminated

During the reporting period, FEWS NET national and regional technical managers provided briefings to USAID missions, US embassies, UN clusters and partners to keep them up-to-date on FEWS NET food security outlook analyses. In west Africa, FEWS NET presented the regional food security outlook to the regional food security cluster in Dakar and at the CILSS-partners meeting in Abidjan.

Four home office staff and the regional technical manager from eastern Africa attended the International Scientific Symposium on Food and Nutrition Security in Rome, Italy in January. Three papers authored by FEWS NET were accepted for presentation at the symposium, covering the topics of scenario development, remote monitoring, and the Somalia famine determination.

Through this transition period, Chemonics engaged WebFirst Inc., the FEWS NET II Information Technology subcontractor, on a stop-gap contract to assure a smooth transition to a new phase. The [fews.net](http://www.fews.net) website continued to function smoothly through the period without any interruptions other than short planned maintenance stops. The FEWS NET team continued to post up-to-date information on the website. Readership increased steadily during the reporting period, reached a high of 11,966 visitors in March 2012 with 39,523 pages viewed.

FEWS NET also provided a special briefing at the Center for Strategic and International Studies on the series of analyses and decisions that led up to the declaration of famine for Somalia in 2011. Details of other activities undertaken in the context of IR 1.4 are shown in Table 7.

Table 7. Activities performed by each FEWS NET office under IR 1.4

Office	Activity
Home Office	Anne Specia, in partnership with OSC, initiated the review of current reporting formats and approach
Home Office	Chris Hillbruner developed a new proposal for seasonal monitoring products and initiated related discussions with key stakeholders
Home Office	CSIS briefing for Bill Garvalink on the Somalia Famine
Home Office	Represented FEWS NET at the FAO ISS Conference in Rome, presenting papers on Scenario development, remote monitoring, and early warning of the Somalia famine
Burkina Faso	Briefing for Nancy Lindsborg, the USAID Administrator Assistant for Democracy, conflict and humanitarian assistance
Burkina Faso	Briefing at National Early System monthly meeting in March
Chad	Presentation of findings from field trip to the south to partners
Chad	Briefing on the food security situation to the US Embassy
Chad	Food security briefing to the Ministry of Agriculture (at his request)
Chad	Presented the food security situation to the Oxfam Internom in Mongo
Ethiopia	Published food security outlook update for March
Ethiopia	Presentations to the Mission and UN Cluster Leads on the major finding of rapid food security monitoring in parts of SNNPR, Borena and Guji zones of Oromia region
Haiti	Early warning meeting with USAID,ACDI-VOCA, Catholic Relief Service, and World Vision representatives
Haiti	Meeting at the USAID Mission to present the food security status throughout the country and to discuss issues related to FEWS NET/CNSA relationships
Kenya	Briefed about 30 members of the KFSSG, on the findings of the 2011 short rains assessments
Kenya	Briefed about 70 members of the Kenya Food Security Meeting (KFSM), on the national food security situation after the 2011 short rains assessments
Malawi	USAID Briefing: Summary of the Food security Situation. Presented to USAID and partners in a synergy meeting, Feb 10, 2012
Malawi	Food Security briefing for USAID FFP Officer from DC: Summary of the Food security Situation-FEB 10, 2012, FEWSNET Malawi
Malawi	Current and projected food security situation for Malawi presented to the UN Humanitarian Country Team
Mauritania	Workplan presentation to partners
Mozambique	Briefed Country Mission and Regional OFDA on the status of food security in the country, especially the impacts following the tropical cyclones/storms "Dando" and "Funso", the flooding and the long term dryness in the much of the south and parts of the central zones of the country
Niger	Ongoing meeting on food security with security cluster
Niger	Food security meeting with World Bank
Niger	Roundtable Meeting with USAID and US Agency Heads in Niger
Nigeria	Current food security situation in Nigeria presentation at the food security theme group meeting
Nigeria	Joint presentation on Sahel food Crisis: FEWS NET/FAO/WFP
Nigeria	Technical briefing on Sahel food crisis and impacts on Nigeria to DFID
Nigeria	Briefing to USAID on the current food security condition across the country and in the Sahel
Nigeria	Market assessment brief
Rwanda	Regular update to USAID on activity progress and current food security situation and other emerging issues
Somalia	Provided regular and ad hoc briefings and presentations to USAID and other partners
South Sudan	Conducted two briefings with USAID. One briefing was in February and focused on key priorities during February – September (work plan). The second briefing was also in early March and was mainly on office start up activities.
South Sudan	Conducted a food security briefing for the East Africa Food security Specialist and Food security Advisor at the end of March
Southern Africa	Two briefings/ meetings with USAID regional FFP officers to discuss FEWS NET Phase III focus, the FFP Office's areas/ countries of focus currently and expectations for the Regional Office of FEWS NET to continue to provide food security information regularly
Sudan	Provided two briefings to FFP/USAID Sudan, the theme of the presentation is the evolving food security issues in Sudan and FSOL
West Africa	Presentation of the West Africa FEWS NET Scenario development and outlook to Dakar food security networking group
West Africa	Presentation of the West Africa FEWS NET Scenario development and outlook to USAID, including regional FFP
West Africa	Food security situation update and market operation in Niger for USAID and FFP Niger
Zambia	Briefing of USAID on Kabwe flooding
Zambia	Following report by UN on flood situation in Mambwe and deterioration of situation in Kabwe, provided the USAID FS advisor a detailed brief on the situation in both areas.
Zimbabwe	A season quality presentation was made in March 2012 to the agriculture and livestock monitoring working group, chaired by Ministry of Agriculture with memberships from FAO, Departments of Agricultural extension, Meteorological services, Animal production, the Zimbabwe Statistics Agency, the National Early Warning unity and some NGOs
Zimbabwe	The February and March 2012 outlook reports were shared with the local USAID Mission for review and comments

F. SO 2—Improved Quantity, Quality and Timeliness of Early Warning Information and Outlook

IR 2.1 FEWS NET Country Analytical Frameworks Enhanced, Maintained, and Applied

FEWS NET is planning to update all country analytical frameworks during the first year of operations. There were no significant activities under this IR during the reporting period as the implementation team placed priority on restarting the project and recruiting for a number of unfilled post. The technical team at the home office held three meetings to discuss the approach to updating the country analytical framework and what guidance would be required to assist field offices in this activity. In the field, FEWS NET Ethiopia worked with partners to develop criteria for identifying “hot spots” and FEWS NET Afghanistan completed the draft commodity flow map for wheat, both activities contribute to the analytical framework for the countries. Table 8 captures these two main activities for the IR.

Table 8. Activities performed by each FEWS NET office under IR 2.1

Office	Activity
Afghanistan	Afghanistan wheat production and trade flow map
Ethiopia	Participated in the development of criteria for hotspot woreda identification

IR 2.2 High Quality Technical Guidance on Methods and Products Developed and Deployed

FEWS NET Home Office staff has the responsibility of providing written technical guidance to technical managers in the field to help them stay current with assessment and analytic methods. During this quarter, the Decision Support Group began the revision of the scenario development guidance. The Markets and Trade advisor provided guidance on making assumptions on market prices and on the use of price indices. Table 9 captures these activities under IR 2.2.

Table 9. Activities performed by each FEWS NET office under IR 2.2

Office	Activity
Home Office	Began the revision of the scenario building guidance
Home Office	Technical assistance during the Dakar scenario development workshop and for the preparation of the February food security reports
Home Office	Formulation of hypotheses concerning staple food prices and cereal availability on markets through the 2012 lean season following food crop losses and market turbulences in the West Africa region in 2011
Home Office	Publication of a paper on regional food price indices with NASA
Home Office	Prepare paper explaining how regional indices for staple food prices were constructed and examines the properties of these indices

IR 2.3 IPC Rolled-out and Development Supported

FEWS NET has adopted the IPC as a classification scale for acute food insecurity. With the official launch of IPC version 2.0 in May 2012, FEWS NET is committed to support the roll out of IPC in all countries where it has staff. During this quarter, FEWS NET continues to work with the IPC Global Support Unit to finalize the IPC manual. All technical staff in southern Africa attended IPC training in February and participated in roll-out activities in the region. The NTM from Malawi accompanied members of the MVAC in an IPC analysis in Tanzania as a learning event. Table 10 shows the activities performed in this quarter.

Table 10. Activities performed by each FEWS NET office under IR 2.3

Office	Activity
Home Office	Provided continued support to the finalization of the IPC manual
Malawi	Supported the MVAC in the process of developing the IPC analysis budget to the Regional VAC
Malawi	Participated in the IPCV2 Acute analysis for Tanzania as part of preparation for the Malawi VAC
Malawi	Initiated discussions and supporting the preparation for the Malawi IPC training and analysis
Southern Africa Offices	Participation in IPC Version 2 Level I and Level II training (Feb 28 – March 6)
Southern Africa	Actively participated in the SADC Regional Vulnerability Assessment Committee (RVAC) Technical Working Group on IPC
Southern Africa	Identified a regional IPC coordinator
Southern Africa	Identified pilot countries to benefit from available GSU funds and agreed on scheduling of IPC events
Southern Africa	Identified analysts who qualify for cross country exchanges
Southern Africa	Identified needed resources for IPC activities and identified exchange opportunities

IR 2.4 Research Efforts of USG Partners Supported

FEWS NET Southern Africa participated in a Feed the Future Regional workshop with the USGS regional scientist and served on a panel discussing climate change. A group of home office analysts and the deputy chief-of-party visited USGS in Sioux Falls, South Dakota for training and discussed ways to improve collaboration and coordination between and amongst USG partners and Chemonics in the implementation of FEWS NET.

G. SO 3—Sustainable Local, National, Regional and International Capacity Strengthening

IR 3.1 Food Security Networks Maintained and Strengthened

An important aspect of FEWS NET is collaboration and coordination of network partners. During the reporting quarter, FEWS NET renewed relations with national, regional, and international partners. A number of MOUs and implementation protocols were drafted or established with key partners across FEWS NET countries, including an MOU in progress with the FANTA project at the Washington level. A number of national managers participated in joint assessments and joint analyses. FEWS NET also worked with partners to develop and review methods and tools for food security and early warning. For example in Kenya, the NTM worked with KFSTWG partners to review assessment methods; in Guatemala, FEWS NET worked with the ministry of agriculture to update the land use map; and in Mali, FEWS NET helped form a Food Security Cluster to address the crisis in the northern part of the country. Details of other activities undertaken in the context of IR 3.1 are shown in Table 11.

Table 11. Activities performed by each FEWS NET office under IR 3.1

Office	Activity
Afghanistan	Drafting MOU which need to be sign between USAID and Ministry of Agriculture, Irrigation and Livestock
Central America	Start the coordination with Regional WFP about the regional prices database they are constructing with CAC
Central America	Coordination with the PAPA project in the Training and support activities that will be carried out in Central America by this project
Central America	Start the coordination with CRRH to continue the support to Meteorological Surveys and support the training activities
Chad	Reinforce partner relationships
El Salvador	In El Salvador start the reestablishment of the Crop Monitoring System by coordination with WFP, Ministry of Agriculture and CENTA
Ethiopia	Provided technical support to the national methodology sub-group
Guatemala	Coordination with the Food Security Secretariat, FAO and ACF to implement the IPC pilot in a department
Guatemala	Supporting the Ministry of Agriculture for the update of the Land Use Map
Guatemala	Supporting the Food Security Secretariat in the making of the first food security outlook of the year

Office	Activity
Kenya	Food security assessments methodology review briefing workshop, in collaboration with KFSTWG
Kenya	Participated in the technical review of the Africa RiskView software tool
Mali	Contribute to the creation of Mali Food Security Cluster Group to address the north and humanitarian assistance interruption.
Mozambique	Active participation in the preparation phase of the SETSAN's Baseline technical retreat which will discuss organizational and methodological aspects of the FS and Nutrition Baseline
Niger	Participation in meetings of the Restricted Committee of Dialogue (CRC)
Rwanda	Establishing partnership with CGIS-NUR (drafting of MOU and discussion)
Rwanda	Joint Crop Assessment (questionnaire review)
Somalia	FEWS NET Somalia and FSNAU Technical collaboration agreement completed
Southern Africa	Southern Africa Informal Cross Border Monitoring - Consolidated, processed and analyzed regional data, from the informal cross border monitoring system; continued discussions with ACTESA CEO on the handover of the activity to COMESA for sustainability; commenced discussions with HO on drafting the Letter of Agreement with ACTESA on the proposed handover
Southern Africa	RVAC support to National Vulnerability Assessment Committees (NVACs) - as a member of the SADC RVAC, participated in the monthly meetings (physical (March) and teleconferences (February). Identify NVAC support needs in the current year work plan and decide how and by which RVAC partner these needs will be supported/ Identify areas of regional collaboration and cooperation (methodologies, training events)/ follow up on Centre of Excellence (CoE) VAA capacity building program
Southern Africa	As member of the Regional Interagency Coordination and Support Office (RIACSO) group, participated in, gave regional food security briefings to; and prepared the joint food security update shared at the bi monthly meetings at the RIACSO
Southern Africa	Participated (as core member) in meetings of the technical working group on the Nutrition and Food Security (NFSWG) tasked to provide technical guidance and leadership on issues relating to food and nutrition security
Sudan	Started process of renewal of implementation protocol with government partners
Sudan	Attended 4 Nutrition Coordination forums and 1 Food Security Livelihood meetings
West Africa	Re-established contact and information flow with partners in Liberia, Senegal, and Sierra Leone
West Africa	CILSS and Partners market assessment meeting in Dakar
West Africa	Meeting with ECHO West Africa Regional Office in Dakar
West Africa	Meeting with Save the Children West Africa Regional Office in Dakar
West Africa	Dakar Food Security Networking Group workshop in Dakar
West Africa	CILSS/PREGEC Food security meeting in Abidjan
West Africa	Partners Meeting in Abidjan on FEWS NET analysis and food insecurity Maps
West Africa	Cadre Harmonisé meeting in Abidjan
Zambia	Meeting of the Farming Season Watch group held. Joint Geo-WRSI analysis undertaken. Informal discussions with Meteorology on rainfall progression concerns.
Zambia	Follow up with ACTESA on need to provide status of hand over of XBT activity
Zambia	Participation in preparation of the annual VAC vulnerability assessment
Zimbabwe	Co-facilitated and participated in the ZimVac livelihoods methodology review workshop in March 2012

IR 3.2 International Efforts in Building Food Security Networks and Methods Supported

While FEWS NET is committed to supporting international methods and standards, there were no significant activities in this area during the startup period aside from participating in IPC activities and home office support to the IPC Global Support Unit that resulted in refinement of the IPC reference tables.

IR 3.3 Staff and Partners Skills Maintained and Improved

The main event for this IR was the FEWS NET transition workshop in Cape Town, South Africa where USAID and FEWS NET Washington presented the vision for FEWS NET III and the strategic approach to monitoring, assessment, and analysis. Although not a formal training event, it was an important meeting for all FEWS NET staff to have a clear and shared vision for the project. Other activities for this IR are detailed in Table 12.

Table 12. Activities performed by each FEWS NET office under IR 3.3

Office	Activity
All Offices	FEWS NET transition workshop in Cape Town
Home Office	Visited USGS Sioux Falls to receive training on remote sensing products and to workplan for the coming phase
Home Office	Ad hoc technical assistance to East Africa, Southern Africa, and West Africa country and regional teams
Afghanistan	Attending leadership workshop in DC
Niger	Partner Training on the HEA Approach organized by Save The Children and WFP
Chad	Orientation and training for FEWS NET field enumerators