

## PEPFAR Ethiopia In-Country Reporting System (IRS) Semi-Annual Reporting Template

### Reporting Period

01 October 2009 – 31 March 2010

### Activity

Activity ID	USAID Urban Gardens Program for HIV-affected women and Children	Program Area
		OVC

### Prime Partner

DAI

Did your organization support the production of publications, reports, guidelines or assessments during the reporting period?

No/Not Applicable   
 Yes  Please list below:

Publications/Reports/Assessments/Curriculums

Title	Author	Year

**If Yes, Please attach an electronic copy of each document as part of your submission.**

Did your organization utilize short-term technical assistance during the reporting period?

No/Not Applicable   
 Yes  Please list below:

Consultants/TDYers

Name	Arrival	Departure	Organization
Kate Ogarzaly	Nov. 2, 2009	Dec. 15, 2009	DAI
Tsige Haile	Nov. 1, 2009	Nov. 30, 2009	WISE
Andy Adam Branford	Nov 13, 2009	Nov 24, 2009	ECI
Thomas Cole	March 08, 2010	March 22, 2010	

**If Yes, Please attach an electronic copy of the TA report as part of your submission.**

Did your organization support international travel during the reporting period?

No/Not Applicable   
 Yes  Please list below:

International Travel (All international travel to conference, workshops, trainings, HQ or meetings).

Name	Destination	Departure from Ethiopia	Arrival	Host Organization
Nancy Russell	USA	Oct. 03, 2009	Nov. 12, 2009	Presentation

## Semi-Annual Accomplishments

### Quarter One

#### **I. Staffing Changes**

Mulat Yimam was hired as the DCOP and started in November, 2009. He played a major role in IP recruitment and planning for the annual conference. His experience contributed to the smooth recruitment process and the attendance at the conference of many government and NGO leaders. He also initiated a steering committee to support the government efforts to initiate an urban agriculture policy.

#### **II. Annual Meeting/conference**

A conference called "Beyond Urban Gardens" was held from November 16-17 – reaching 300 people. 8 champions were honored and the state minister of Agriculture and the director of the USAID mission. The mayors of the six program cities were also honored. A video conference call was arranged by the US Embassy between the champions and school gardeners. in Detroit Michigan. The USAID Urban Gardens Program is the largest urban agriculture project in the world and has an opportunity to provide lessons learned for taking urban agriculture to scale.

#### **III. Urban Agriculture Policy**

The annual conference resulted in the participants agreeing to the need for an urban agriculture policy. Meetings were held with the state agriculture minister who asked that a policy be developed for Addis Ababa. A meeting of 25 interested NGOs followed the annual meeting with a steering committee formed. Dr. Abera requested that Dr. Mandefro lead the work on the research needed for a policy. The COP of USAID Urban Gardens Program presented the need for an urban agriculture policy to the BEAT office on January 5. Randy Chester suggested that PEPFAR continue the work we have begun on policy. A meeting with Dr. Abera was organized and attended by representatives of USAID BEAT and PEPFAR reA request to use current funds for policy work was submitted to USAID along with a justification for additional funds for the work on policy.

#### **IV. Recruitment of new Implementing Partners**

Following the conference a grants solicitation meeting was held using an open advertising process. All NGOs interested in applying for a grant attended a half day meeting on November 18. An open advertisement was placed in local papers. Applicants were screened by an independent committee in each program area, with 32 implementing partners selected in December. Most of the current partners were accepted. Those who were not approved for a grant, were continued in the transition category. The 32 implementing partners were approved by USAID, and the grants process began with registration of new beneficiaries.

#### **V. Transition Beneficiaries**

Transition beneficiaries are all beneficiaries from year one. Since there was no graduation or transition plan in year one, it was decided to carry these beneficiaries over for six months to ensure that they are prepared to become sustainable. All implementing partners for year one are carried over into year two. Those implementing partners that did not receive a year two grant will also continue for six months. An assessment will be conducted to indicate how prepared the beneficiaries feel to continue on their own.

#### **VI. New Beneficiaries and IPs**

The more than 15,000 transition beneficiaries continued to work during year 2 quarter 1.

The focus on quarter one was recruitment of implementing partners and beneficiaries will be registered and start gardens in quarter 2.

**VII. MOU with JHU and WFP, Food by Prescription**

The USAID Urban Gardens Program drafted an MOU to work with JHU in Assosa. A garden will be developed on the grounds of Assosa hospital to be used by the mothers support group organized by JHU. The USAID Urban Gardens Program will be responsible for the garden training and JHU will measure changes in nutritional status.

The MOU and USAID Urban Gardens continues – with mixed results. A meeting with WFP will be held to address the fact that there are few referrals from WFP to UGP. Most of the UGP referrals to WFP are rejected due to the strict criteria of WFP.

A meeting was held with Save the Children to discuss the future possibility of an MOU with the Food by Prescription program. It is too early in the development of Food by Prescription to develop an MOU>

**VIII. Field Fairs and Vegetable days were conducted in three of the operational areas. It is one of the processes in promotion of the program.**

Field fairs are most successful in cities outside of Addis Ababa. In other cities mayors are involved and take the lead, allowing these days to be very visible to the public, with beneficiaries selling their vegetables in the center of town. Vegetable days are held in Addis, allowing individual IPs and beneficiaries to invite people to see their gardens. These are smaller but also draw attention to the gardens and the program.

**IX. CBOs like “Edirs” were communicated to mobilize local resources and in creating awareness in support of OVC and OVC caretakers**

Working with existing CBOs in the community along with the Kebele leaders are a critical part of the program to ensure sustainability and ownership of the program by the community.

**X. Beneficiaries have started specializing in producing vegetables which have more nutritional content and market values.**

There has been an effort to help beneficiaries select a variety of crops. These are also selected based on whether they can be grown in contaminated soil, where soil or water may be contaminated it is encouraged not to grow leafy vegetables which are more absorptive.

**XI. Environmental Management Report written and implementation begun**

Dr. Andy Adam-Bradford developed an environmental management plan based on our IEE. This plan will assist staff to assess land and water and ensure that the vegetables are grown in the safest environment possible. This report includes guides to assist staff and beneficiaries to work together to assess the appropriate settings for gardens and to encourage testing when appropriate.

**XII. Chickens were distributed for some selected beneficiaries**

Criteria was set to establish joint ownership between the beneficiaries and the project. Each beneficiary was required to build a chicken house and make a commitment to supporting the chickens through purchase of feed. A consultant will be brought out in the future to assess the poultry program, for efficiency and health factors. Many chickens die and there is no understanding of the reasons or the long term benefit to beneficiaries.

**XIII. Transition beneficiaries**

Transition beneficiaries from year one have been carried over for six months to initiate a transition strategy that will prepare them to be sustainable gardeners. Their numbers are reported in the report but they are not new beneficiaries.

**I. Recruitment of beneficiaries**

**Household Numbers Over achievement. OVC Numbers take longer to achieve**

The target number of beneficiaries for year two is 26,250 OVC with 7,500 households. USAID Urban Gardens Program has learned that the recruitment of households is much more certain than the total numbers of OVC reached. In year one the target was 15,750 OVC and, 4,500 households. Last year 15, 563OVC were reached – 99 % of the target and 5, 107 households were reached,. Each implementing partner must target the number they will reach. The NGOs can guarantee the direct number of individuals. It is not possible to restrict beneficiaries based on the number of OVC in their home – the beneficiaries being reached by the garden.

**II. New Plan being developed to reach targets in Year 3. –improving achievement**

A home office staff person is in Addis in April to help design new recruitment strategy. Currently, new implementing partners are recruited in October – December and beneficiaries start in January. This means that there are no new beneficiaries in the first quarter. This year grants will be extended allowing for a seamless transition to the new PEPFAR year. Each new beneficiary will get a year of experience – 9 months intensive inputs and 3 months of small amount of LOE. The years may overlap into year three. By October of year 3 at least 12,000 households will be in gardens with 45,000 OVC being reached.

The extension of the expat COP has been proposed to ensure that the role out and acceleration of activities can occur while the capacity of the DCOP is being built to become COP in year.

**III. Environmental management plan implemented.**

The environmental management tools were reviewed and implemented. The new environmental adviser will review and assess the implementation to ensure quality of program.

**IV. Commitment from DAI to Meet goals**

The DAI home office considers this program a priority. Jerry Martin, the health team manager and Colleen Green, the manager of the USAID Urban Gardens Program for the home office, came to Ethiopia in March to ensure good communication with USAID and to ensure that the program will meet its objectives.

**V. Transition assessment –Improving quality of graduates**

15,177 OVC are being reached during the transition period, with 2,372 OVC gardeners directly participating in the implementation of gardens. At total 4,912 households are involved in transition.

The transition beneficiaries are those gardeners who started in year one, and are extending for six months. An assessment was made and the report indicates that at least half of the beneficiaries do not feel able to sustain their gardens, or discussion groups on their own. A workshop is being held with key field staff to determine interventions needed.

A consultant, Tom Cole, assessed our transition plan. His report equates transition with graduation. All beneficiaries should be prepared for graduating during the year they are with the program. Clear indicators need to be developed, with a side by side training process developed for on the job learning. According to his report the current training materials need to be assessed and adapted to the needs of the field. Side by side training allows the program to reach large numbers as traditional training methods are too academic and cannot reach all beneficiaries easily. A follow up to this report will be a training package for side by side learning to ensure that beneficiaries are prepared to graduate to sustainable gardeners.

## **VI. Hiring of technical Staff**

Senior technical, environmental, and savings and loan advisers were hired to ensure that quality sustainable gardens are developed.

## **VII. Improved training/orientation to total program for field staff- improving quality**

- Five days orientation meeting was conducted for all Operational Area Coordinators (OAC) and Extension Officers (EO) based on the following objectives ,
  - To ensure that OACs and EOs are equipped with the required information, knowledge and skills to implement the USAID UGP in their respective areas
  - Improve quality of work and coordination within and outside with relevant stakeholders
  - To identify training needs of OACs and EOs for future planning
  - To reinforce use of environmental management plan.
- Increased implementing partners -Grant Agreement was signed between USAID UGP and 32 Implementing Partners in six different regions, Amhara, Tigray, Oromia, SNNP, Benishangul Gumuz and Addis Ababa city Administration, reaching 12 cities.
- Beneficiary selection and registration was also conducted in all IPs.
- 45 group gardens, 59 in school gardens, 25 household gardens and 17 institutional gardens were established.
- Strengthening the network with MSH, WFP and Peace Corps – with plans made for outreach to these programs to establish good relationships in each city..
  - Dessie has particularly strong relationship with Peace Corps Volunteer on training and health care and psychosocial support for the beneficiaries.
  - WFP held its regional annual meeting in Bahir Dar. Representatives from regional HAPCO and all implementing partners of WFP in all operational areas were participating in the meeting. Bahir Dar OAC was representing USAID UGP and present the program implementing strategies, accomplishments and challenges especially in referral linkages.
  - MSH regional meeting with KOOWs supervisors was held in Bahir Dar. Bahir Dar OAC attended the meeting and introduce the USAID UGP to the participants.
  - USAID UGP become a member of Community based Care and Support Networking in Bahir Dar, which was established by FHI and has 15 members.
  - Resource mapping has been done by each EO in their respective areas to develop and strengthen networks with PEPFAR partners and other agencies.
  - Sensitization workshop was organized in program sites with relevant GO, NGOs CBOs, FBOs , School administrators, and other stakeholders.

## **VIII. Improved links to Nutrition**

- MOU signed with JHU for pilot project in Assosa to reach 110 women in mothers support group – establishing a garden within the grounds of Assosa Hospital. This is a collaborative effort to provide nutrition training and develop income source.
- Plan to develop MOY with IYCN project with PATH to measure improved nutrition of beneficiaries in Oromia
- Provided field visit to Nutrition team from Washington – to develop future links to research for link to improved nutrition.

**IX. Leveraging of Resources for sustainability**

- Corvallis Sister City Program providing wells with 3 schools in Gondar in partnership with the local government'

**X. Follow on Survey in July –used for planning and adjusting program**

- The follow on survey planned for July will give first opportunity to look at issues related to program success – and provide some guidance for future.

**Semi-Annual Constraints**

**I. Lack of Urban Agriculture Policy impacts accessing land and water**

Without policies there is no framework for each city to determine where gardens are needed or possible. Government agencies often disagree and delay the start up of gardens. Water points are often too far away and require government interventions. Turn over of government officials means that there is no consistency in rules and regulations as there is no policy to guide decisions. Currently road and housing construction impacts on land. There are also no policies related to raising animals in cities.

**II. Sustainable gardens require multiple water sources**

- In many cases municipal water is the only water source, and is limited.
- Securing land and water is time consuming and involves use of environmental management plan.
- Turnover in government officials and school principals affects access to municipal and other water sources

**III. Sustainability of Drip Kits – Abandoned drip kits difficult to reclaim**

- A total of 30 drip kits with full accessories were collected from beneficiaries who are not using properly and redistributed to the new implementing partners in Bahir Dar.
- Drip kits are best for conserving water but not always practical for certain areas and require much individual attention. Irrigation now being reevaluated to use other methods as well as drip kits.

**IV. Reaching Target Numbers challenged**

- Households cannot guarantee numbers of OVC in household –reaching household numbers far easier than reaching OVC numbers.
- Schools can be best place to reach most numbers of OVC. However, in schools where PC3 or other PEPFAR programs work principles divide kids between programs rather than build on the services received from each program. If child is getting PC3 uniforms – he/she will not be allowed in garden program. Only those who need uniforms are allowed to garden in many cases.

**V. Developing gardeners to be self sufficient and sustainable.**

From the assessment of transition beneficiaries it is learned that a dependence on the program is a factor. The new approach of encouraging cost sharing and training to grow seedlings has to compete with expectations to receive materials for free as initiated under the previous project, where a graduation strategy was not part of the program.

**VI. Reaching all indicators – such as training in care of OVC – as program relies on referral and does not train directly.**

This training is not offered by the USAID Urban gardens Program directly. The NGOs provide this service – but if it is reported by USAID UGP it is double counting. This is a challenge for the program.

**VII. Integration of poultry and fruit trees are problematic as the cost has increased making it impossible to distribute these to all beneficiaries. These also require special care and attention that is not possible for most beneficiaries.**

Poultry and fruit trees were distributed under the previous project without a management plan. Currently, chickens are dying and fruit trees are not properly cared for. A plan will be put in place to implement assess the needs to ensure quality production.

**VIII. Review contract and ensure that numbers with support services will be reached**

### Semi-Annual Data Quality Challenges

- I. Beneficiary registration couldn't be completed in the quarter. The number reported for this quarter could be underestimated because of continuous registration of beneficiaries.
- II. Consistency of data from all operational areas. More training is required to establish consistent reporting.
- III. Measurement of Vegetable production and consumption was based on the estimate of the Extension Officers/different types of estimation were used in each operational areas.

#### WHAT IS CURRENTLY BEING DONE TO ADDRESS THE PROBLEMS

- I. Continuous data updating will be done on the beneficiary registration, for additional, replacements and drop outs
- II. Tracking the data in two or more ways
- III. Checking every detail of the data
- IV. Communication with the field data collectors to improve understanding of data collection for data consistency
- V. Training field staff to understand importance of accurate data.
- VI. Developing better tracking tools – and improving record keeping.

#### WHAT'S PLANNED IN THE FUTURE?

- Working with FHI to ensure that data is collected properly and follow up strategies planned to capture impact.
- Meeting with Tufts University to explore a participatory impact assessment.
- Developing better recording mechanisms for field staff to ensure accurate reporting.

## Major Activities in the coming Semi-Annun

### UPCOMING ACTIVITIES SHOULD HIGHLIGHT PLANNED ACTIVITIES + SOLUTIONS TO IDENTIFIED CONSTRAINTS

#### Planned Activities + solutions

#### **I. Plan for reaching targets developed in April—to be presented April 27 to USAID-The plan activities will begin in May – and occur simultaneously to current program implementation.**

- Grants process reviewed and adapted and streamlined to meet the needs for reaching targets
- Regular quarterly meetings will be held with all program staff to address problems related to reaching targets.
- Orientation of implementing partners held
- New technical staff hired
- Need for additional staff reviewed
- New cities and new IPs recruited
- New beneficiaries recruited

#### **II. Extension of COP proposed and Capacity building plan for DCOP initiated by DAI and presented to USAID**

It is planned that the DCOP will begin training in DC in June with DAI. It is also proposed that he will attend the AIDS conference in Vienna in July. The COP and DCOP will work closely to ensure program acceleration occurs during the absence of the DCOP.

The DCOP is currently taking on increased supervisory duties and leading the planned implementation of efforts to reach the target numbers.

#### **III. Research started on urban agriculture policy – consultant hired**

USAID approved the use of current funds to start work on policy with a consultant designated by the state minister of agriculture. An application has been submitted to add on funds to continue and finalize the work.

#### **IV. Strengthening and adapting of training materials to be appropriate to program needs**

A request has been submitted to hire Tom Cole to refine and adapt our current training materials to meet the training needs of the program. In the meantime, staff will implement mentoring exchanges – bringing experienced gardeners to sites to offer support and on the job training.

#### **V. Transition beneficiaries will graduate**

All transition beneficiaries will graduate in June – with on going informal support in place from the IP and USAID Urban Gardens Program. Discussion groups

will continue.

**VI. Environmental management plan review and implemented – New technical staff hired**

A staff person will be designated to ensure that the program implements the environmental management plan and ensure environmental compliance.

**VII. Annual Outcome and Impact Evaluation – FHI responsible**

- Work with FHI to develop follow on survey to be conducted in July
- Development of tools and process
- Review of PMP

**VIII. Meetings with Tufts to discuss participatory impact assessment**

This assessment will be key to pulling out some qualitative data not currently included in reporting. However, due to the multiple responsibilities of staff this may have to be postponed to year three.

**IX. Develop Savings program – Hire staff – and bring consultant**

The savings and loan staff person will work with a consultant to assess the gaps in savings and marketing and develop a plan to train staff and beneficiaries.

**X. Plan for Annual meeting – hire consultant**

A theme will be selected and goals and objectives developed in partnership with USAID.

**XI. Start up MOU with JHU – in Assosa**

Regular visits will be established by USAID Urban Garden staff. Land will be cultivated and JHU will begin nutrition orientation. Crops will be planted to address nutrition needs.

**XII. Plan developed for training in OVC care.**

Currently, USAID UGP does not offer training in OVC care. This is provided by implementing partners. It was not recorded this year as registration only began in January. This is a priority for the next quarter and numbers will be reported.

**XIII. New policies and approaches will be implemented related to poultry, fruit trees and small ruminants based on technical evidence.**

Poultry, small ruminants and fruit trees require special care and considerations and policies along with an implementation plan will be developed.

## Indicator Data

### 1. PEPFAR Indicators

Number of providers/caretakers trained in caring for OVC <sup>1</sup> (reporting carry over transition beneficiaries)					
	Male	Female	Total	SAPR08	SAPR09
Addis Ababa					
Afar					
Amhara					
Benishangul					
Dire Dawa					
Gambela					
Harari					
Oromiya					
SNNPR					
Somali					
Tigray					
<b>TOTAL</b>					
<b>Remark: If SAPR09 result is less than SAPR08 and/or APR08 results, please provide explanation</b>					

Target for the reporting period	Total achieved (this is equal to the TOTAL in the above table)	Remark:
<u>3,000</u>	0	In the narrative this is listed as a challenge. All of the IPs provide this training but as the beneficiaries are only registered in January this training has not begun. A full assessment will be conducted this quarter and numbers reported. It is expected that the target will be reached.

Number of OVC served by OVC programs					
	Male	Female	Total	SAPR08	SAPR09
Addis Ababa					
Afar	1,295	1,391	2,686		
Amhara	5,799	6,003	11,802		
Benishangul	82	99	181		
Dire Dawa					
Gambela					
Harari					
Oromiya	2,300	2,401	4,701		
SNNPR	1,094	1,075	2,169		
Somali					
Tigray	273	239	512		
<b>TOTAL</b>	<b>10,843</b>	<b>11,208</b>	<b>22,051</b>		
<b>Remark: If SAPR09 result is less than SAPR08 and/or APR08 results, please provide explanation</b>					

<sup>1</sup> Indicate collaboration/s with other PEPFAR partners for co-sponsored training activities.

<b>Target for the reporting period</b>	<b>Total achieved (this is equal to the TOTAL in the above table)</b>	<b>Remark:</b> The recruitment of beneficiaries is linked to securing of land. Government offices have delayed approvals in Awassa and other areas delaying start up of gardens. In other cases new mayors or principles have disapproved previously approved land. The recruitment of beneficiaries continues but this quarter is the last quarter new beneficiaries can be brought on and still get a years' worth of experience. It is planned to add 3,000 on to the target for next year to make up for possibility of not reaching this target this year.
26,250	22,051	84%

Number of OVC who received primary direct support <sup>2</sup> (subset of Number of OVC served) [3 or more services]			
	<b>Male</b>	<b>Female</b>	<b>Total</b>

Number of OVC who received supplemental direct support (subset of Number of OVC served) [1 or 2 services either PEPFAR funded or leveraged]			
	<b>Male</b>	<b>Female</b>	<b>Total</b>

Number of OVC receiving food and nutritional supplementation through OVC programs			
	<b>Male</b>	<b>Female</b>	<b>Total</b>

Number of OVC served by OVC programs by core program area:

<b>Core Program Areas</b>	<b>Number supported</b>
Food and Nutritional Support	
Shelter and Care	
Protection	
Health Care	
Psychosocial support	
Education and Vocational Training	
Economic Opportunity/Strengthening	3,942

Number of OVC supported by age:

<b>Age</b>	<b>Number supported</b>
Under 2 years	1,412
2-4	3,321
5-11	7,531
12-17	9,787
<b>Total</b>	<b>22,051</b>

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## 2. Non-PEPFAR Indicators

Please report on the following indicators or other key non-PEPFAR indicators that are used to track the program. (Optional)

- # of Implementing partners involved in USAID/UGP = **32**
- # of towns where urban gardening activities are operating = **12**
- # of households participating in USAID/UGP = **8,360**
- # of HIV affected women who are participating in USAID/UGP = **5,352**
- # of OVC caretakers who are participating in USAID/UGP = **4,418**
- # of OVC under the beneficiaries = **18,109 (M = 8,888; F = 9,221)**
- # of child-headed households participating in USAID/UGP = 1,034
- # of women-headed households participating in USAID/UGP = 3,347