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FAMINE EARLY WARNING SYSTEMS NETWORK (FEWS NET III)

**QUARTERLY PERFORMANCE REPORT
OCTOBER 2013 – DECEMBER 2013**

JANUARY 2014

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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
CSA	Food Security Commission (Mauritania)
DCHA	Bureau of Democracy, Conflict and Humanitarian Assistance
DFID-UK	Department for International Development-United Kingdom
DISK	Data and Information Sub-committee of the Kenya Food Security Steering Group
DRRU	Disaster Reduction Unit
DSG	Decision Support Group
EfD	Evidence for Development
EFSA	Emergency Food Security Assessment
EGTE	Ethiopian Grain Trade Enterprise
EU	European Union
FACT	Field Accounting and Compliance Team of Chemonics
FAMIS	Farmers and Agriculture Market Information System
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
HDDS	Household Dietary Diversity Score
HO	Home Office (Washington-based FEWS NET Chemonics team)
IDP	Internally Displaced Persons
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
LAC	Latin America and the Caribbean
MOU	Memorandum of Understanding
NASA	National Aeronautics and Space Administration
NDVI	Normalized Difference Vegetative Index
NOAA	National Oceanic and Atmospheric Administration
NTM	National Technical Manager
NUR	National University of Rwanda

LIST OF ACRONYMS (continued)

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
RFE	Rainfall Estimation
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
SIMA	System for Agricultural Market Information
SIFSIA	Sudan Institutional Capacity Programme: Food Security Information for Action
SNNPR	Southern Nations Nationalities and People's Region, Ethiopia
SO	Strategic Objective
SOAG	Strategic Objective Grant Agreement
SOS	Start-of-Season
STTA	Short-term Technical Assistant (consultant)
SWALIM	Somalia Water and Land Information Management
UN	United Nations
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
USG	United States Government
USGS	United States Geological Survey
VAC	Vulnerability Assessment Committee
WFP	United Nations World Food Programme
WRSI	Water Requirements Satisfaction Index

SECTION 1

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.

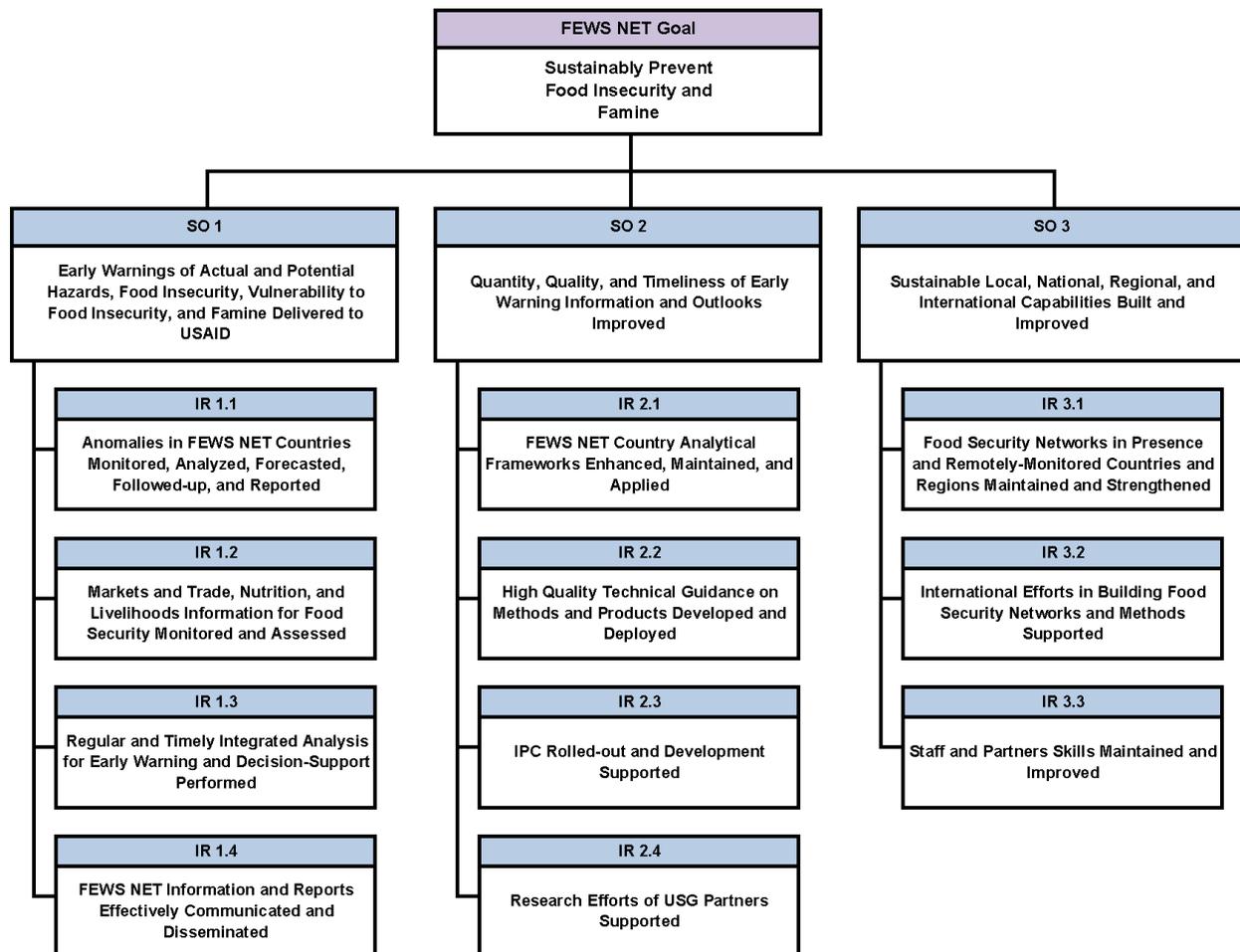
Under SO 1, FEWS NET will carry out its core activities of early warning. The four IRs represent 1) identifying, monitoring and assessing anomalies that can impact on food security outcomes; 2) monitoring the livelihoods, markets and trade, nutrition and other sectoral context; 3) performing food security 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 1. 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, organized by results, that were either started or completed during the reporting period; and a list of planned activities that were not carried out or completed along with explanations where applicable. 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 reviewed and commented on by the regional managers. This review served two purposes: it allowed the regional technical managers to be informed of key activities in the region and it allowed the regional managers to discuss the progress to date with national managers and to 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 office for review and compilation. Inputs from Washington-based advisors and managers are incorporated into the final report.

B. Management

The first quarter of fiscal year 2014 was slow due to the need to finalize work initiated earlier before the holidays, the different holidays celebrated in many FEWS NET countries, and the fact that staff typically take leave during this time. The FEWS NET III project completed its second full year of implementation during this period and while many field offices slowed down, a considerable amount of work was accomplished.

A project of this size and scope is never fully staffed. The recruitment and hiring process is a constant because of normal turnover and in some cases because of performance. The following positions were hired during the period.

New Hires

- Home office: Dr. Christine McDonald , Nutrition Advisor
- Burkina Faso: Kadiatou Sanogo, Regional Food Security Specialist-Markets and Trade
- Kenya: Geophrey Sikei, Assistant National Technical Manager
- Guatemala: Gabriela Juarez Rodriguez, Assistant National Technical Manager
- Nigeria: Akeem Ajibola, Assistant National Technical Manager
- Nigeria: Ismail Muhammad, Field Monitor Coordinator
- South Africa: Yahaye Tahirou, short-term consultant to support the Southern Africa regional office
- South Sudan: Gama Patrick Anthony, Ladu David Lemi, and Nyarakajo Daniel, Food Security Monitors

Registration and Memorandum of Understanding

FEWS NET South Sudan renewed its registration with the Ministry of Justice in November 2013.

In Sudan, FEWS NET signed an MOU with the Ministry of Agriculture and Irrigation's Food Security Technical Secretariat to coordinate resources and activities for the Food and Agriculture Market Information System (FAMIS).

Significant events

The following list of trainings, assessments, and audits took place during the quarter and is a reflection of stepped-up regional technical and operational support for field offices:

- Haiti: Office received visit from USAID COR's office (Romaine Williams and Michele McNabb) and FEWS NET DCOP Felix Lee (December 2013); conducted enumerator training (December 2013).
- Kenya: Juliet Garande, FEWS NET South Regional Financial Accountant conducted a financial review of the East Africa Regional office.
- Malawi: Began preparing their end of year financial statements as required by the government with the assistance of auditors.
- Mali: Held a regional nutrition training workshop in Bamako, led by Moussa Moctar, West Africa Regional Nutrition Specialist, and Dr. Christine McDonald, HO Nutrition Advisor.
- Mozambique: Held livelihoods rezoning workshops in November, covering both the north with a workshop in Nampula and the south with a workshop in Maputo.
- Rwanda: Conducted crop assessment (October 2013), pre-harvest assessment (November 2013), and harvest assessment (December 2013) with representatives of National University of Rwanda (NUR).
- South Africa: Held a regional nutrition training workshop in November that was led by HO Nutrition Advisor Dr. Christine McDonald.
- South Sudan: Participated in state-level IPC activity (December 2013); conducted food security monitoring (December 2013); participated in Crop and Food Supply Assessment (CFSAM) activity (October–November 2013).
- Sudan: Crop and Food Supply Assessment with FAO and government counterparts (November–December 2013); visit by Sonja Perakis, Tom Awuor, and Nancy Mutunga, to support Markets and Trade data collection/strengthen and understanding of food security scenario development (December 2013).

Approvals

During the reporting quarter, Chemonics submitted a total of 50 approval requests to USAID of which 35 were technical approvals and 15 were contracting office action requests. Through the end of the quarter in December 2013, the project, including all tasks orders, submitted a total of 536 official requests of which 369 were COR actions and 167 required CO action.

Special Situation—South Sudan

FEWS NET South Sudan closed its office in Juba on December 16, 2013 as a result of the internal conflict in South Sudan and widespread violence. The management team helped ANTM Chan Chuol to escape the country and temporarily relocate in Nairobi. This was a team effort led by the PMU with support from many including USAID. The FEWS NET South Sudan office remains closed as of the date

of this report. Staff members continue to provide basic monitoring and early warning from remote locations.

C. Decision-Support

During the reporting quarter, FEWS NET posted 276 reports and briefs on its public website, 59 of which are foreign language products. Table 1 shows the detail of these decision-support products.

Table 1. Summary of FEWS NET Decision-Support Products between 10/01/2013 and 12/31/2013

	East Africa	West Africa	Southern Africa	Latin America/ Caribbean	Asia	Global	Total
Food Security Outlook	11(1)	12(5)	6(1)	3(1)	1		33(8)
Food Security Outlook Update	13(1)	18(7)	7(1)	4(3)	2		44(12)
Remote Monitoring Web Report	6	10	6	2	2		26
Food Security Alert	1	2(1)	-	-	-	-	3(1)
FAOB						3	3
Special Report	-	3	1	-	1	-	5
Price Watch/Annex						2	2
Price Bulletin	37(5)	38(14)	18(3)	38(16)	7		138(38)
Cross border trade bulletin	-	-	-	-	-		-
Global Weather Hazard Report						10	10
Rain Watch	5						5
Seasonal Monitor	1	1	3	2			7

(*) indicates the number of reports that are translations

D. SO 1—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

This IR relates to seasonal monitoring and assessment activities, which is a core part of FEWS NET. During this reporting period, field offices followed their respective work plans and participated in various FEWS NET initiated or joint agricultural and food security assessments.

Notable assessment missions included:

- Heart IDP livelihoods assessment in Afghanistan,
- Rapid assessment on the impact of drought in southeastern and coastal marginal cropping areas of Kenya,
- Multi-agency 2013 Meher seasonal assessment in Ethiopia,
- End-of-season assessment in western Guatemala to evaluate coffee rust damage,
- Post-flood recovery assessment in the Lower Limpopo Basin of Mozambique,
- Post *Deyr* 2013 seasonal food security assessment in Somalia,
- Crop assessment in Niger to evaluate impact of a late start-of-season coupled with an early end of rains,

- Crop and Food Security Assessment Mission (CFSAM) in Sudan and South Sudan, and
- Joint CILSS/FEWS NET/Partners harvest assessments in all presence countries in West Africa.

Other activities carried out in the context of this IR include regular analysis of remote sensing products such as RFE, eMODIS NDVI, and WRSI, participation in climate outlook forums, and sharing of data and analyses with partners. Table 2 shows the list of activities carried out by country under IR 1.1 during this reporting period.

Table 2. Activities performed by each FEWS NET office under IR 1.1

Office	Activity
All Offices	Monitored remote sensing products
All Offices	Carried out seasonal monitoring
All Offices	Reviewed, collected, and followed available climate information
Afghanistan	Participated in the Herat IDP Livelihoods Assessment
HO Decision Support	Organized and supported a rapid drought effects assessment in southeastern and coastal marginal cropping areas in Kenya
East Africa	Reviewed various SSTs and provided input to the DSG advisors
Ethiopia	Participated in Meher 2013 multi-agency seasonal assessment
Guatemala	Conducted field assessment in the west on end of season performance and coffee rust damage
Haiti	Gathered information from CNSA (National Food Security Coordination) Liaison Agents on crop and food conditions.
Kenya	Conducted rapid food security assessment in the Southeastern and Coastal marginal mixed farming livelihood zones.
Malawi	Participated in the MVAC Update Assessment
Malawi	Participated in annual crop estimates by the MoAFS
Mauritania	Conducted qualitative analysis of pastoral conditions, harvest evolution and rain fed crops
Mozambique	Assessed post-flood recovery in Lower Limpopo Basin
Mozambique	Assessed the start of the season (rainfall and planting) in the 2013 flood-affected areas in the south
Niger	Assessed impacts of onset delays and early end of rains on crops production
RM - Tanzania	Monitored, analyzed Vuli season performance and reported poor performance
Somalia	Participated in joint Post Deyr 2013 seasonal food security assessment
South Sudan	Conducted a field assessment mission in Abyei
South Sudan	Participated in Crop and Food Security Assessment Mission (CFSAM)
Southern Africa	Conducted seasonal monitoring and reporting of hazards (Region, RM and presence countries)
Southern Africa	Shared partner updates and information shared with relevant presence countries and Angola
Southern Africa	Supported field assessments for Zimbabwe Outlook
Sudan	Participated in the annual Crop and Food Security Assessment Mission
West Africa	Participated in joint CILSS/FEWS NET/partners harvest assessments
Zambia	Conducted food security monitoring in view of reduced harvest in southern half of the country in the last production season

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. Regular activities include regular price monitoring, monthly price database update and cross-border trade monitoring in eastern and southern Africa. Additional key activities this quarter included:

- Finalizing Angola markets and trade knowledge base and providing guidance for the establishment of a light market monitoring system in Angola,
- Setting up new Price Bulletin for Madagascar,

- Implementing a labor monitoring system in Central America,
- Reviewing the Sudan Market Monitor and working with the Communications Advisor to redesign it,
- Preparing a strategy for nutrition activities of the project, and
- Drafting a concept paper on nutrition causality with food security.

Table 3 shows the list of activities carried out by country under IR 1.2 during this reporting period.

Table 3. Activities performed by each FEWS NET office under IR 1.2

Office	Activity
All Offices	Produced monthly price watch and price bulletin
All Offices	Reviewed, collected, and followed available market, trade, and price data
All Offices	Updated commodities price data and information on a monthly basis
HO Markets and Trade	Compiled and edited Price Watch and Annex
HO Markets and Trade	Provided review for East and Southern Africa Cross border trade bulletins
HO Markets and Trade	Reviewed Sudan Market Monitor
HO Markets and Trade	Established price bulletin for Madagascar
HO Markets and Trade	Finalized Angola M&T Knowledge Base and provided guidance for the establishment of a light market monitoring system in Angola
Burkina Faso	Participated in joint markets and livelihoods assessment mission
Chad	Monitored cereals and livestock price data by field enumerators on a dekadal basis
Chad	Provided Cadre Harmonisé workshop with updated data on different result indicators and contributive factors
East Africa	Monitored agricultural commodity markets in White Nile State of Sudan with respect to food flows to northern states of South Sudan
East Africa	Managed cross-border monitoring program and monitored cross-border trade
Guatemala	Implemented a Labor Monitoring System
Malawi	Monitored trends in nutrition
Malawi	Conducted HEA Outcome analysis for areas of concern for Food Security Outlook
Malawi	Monitored and reviewed marketing price drivers for staple products
Mali	Monitored food assessment market in south and northern Mali
Mali	Conducted Mali northern market update
Mozambique	Projected food prices for the acute food insecurity focus area (Chókwé market) using the new integrated approach
Niger	Participated in HEA-based analysis and reporting
Niger	Participated in the SAP annual meeting on vulnerability assessment
Nigeria	Assessed markets, trade and dry spell impacts in the South-western zone of the country
Nigeria	Assessed markets, trade and dry spell impacts in the North-central zone of the country
Nutrition	Drafted concept note for nutrition causal analysis research
RM - Tanzania	Conducted Market cost margin of Food crops in Tanzania and Kenya
RM - Tanzania	Facilitated price analysis during MUCHALI food security assessment
Rwanda	Participated in preparing the national nutrition summit
South Sudan	Completed South Sudan Market Assessment field work and drafted the report through a consultant
Southern Africa	Analyzed Informal cross border trade and reported in regular reports and updates
Southern Africa	Conducted HEA Outcome Analysis for Zimbabwe
Southern Africa	Monitored cross-border trade
Sudan	Conducted rapid market assessment to inform FEWS NET market assumptions
Sudan	Established 3 cross-border trade monitoring sites in Sudan
West Africa	Participated in Cadre Harmonisé workshops
West Africa	Supported NTMs and ANTM in HEA Outcome Analysis
West Africa	Supported country staff with monitoring and using nutritional information in analysis
West Africa	Provided Price projection support for Food Security Outlook analysis
Zambia	Monitored formal exports of maize

Office	Activity
Zimbabwe	Produced the Second Price Projection Report for Zimbabwe
Zimbabwe	Consolidated cereal import data from the Zimbabwe Revenue Authority (ZIMRA)
Zimbabwe	Conducted an HEA outcome analysis for the Betbridge South Western Lowveld Communal and Western Kalahali Sandveld Communal Livelihood Zones

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 all regions, FEWS NET staff produced food security outlook reports in October and prepared regular food security outlook update and other analytic products, including monthly input to the Washington food assistance outlook briefing.

The decision support group at the home office continued its role in assuring high-quality information products for FEWS NET clients and users. During this period, the project published 103 monthly reports, including 33 Outlooks and 26 remote monitoring reports. FEWS NET also issued:

- 2 Alerts
 - November 27, 2013: Somalia – *Delayed planting and floods threaten Deyr crops*
 - December 30, 2013: Central African Republic – *Conflict provokes a deterioration of food security for poor households and IDPs*
- 5 special Reports
 - November 2013: Afghanistan Special Report – *Livelihood Assessment of Internally Displaced Persons in Herat Province*
 - October 2013: Angola Drought Assessment Special Report
 - October-December 2013: Three (3) Joint CILSS/FEWS NET West Africa Food Security Situation Reports

The home office-based Decision Support Group, the Markets and Trade Advisor, and the West Africa Livelihoods Specialist also provided substantial technical guidance to West Africa NTMs to support outcome analysis in select livelihoods zones.

Table 4 shows the list of activities carried out by country under IR 1.3 during this reporting period.

Table 4. Activities performed by each FEWS NET office under IR 1.3

Office	Activity
All Offices	Collected data and information for the Scenario Summary Table (SST)
All Offices	Prepared Scenario Summary Tables and food security classification mapping data
All Offices	Produced food security outlook report
All Offices	Produced food security outlook update reports
All Offices	Provided inputs for FAOB
Regional Offices	Reviewed and provided feedback on country scenario summary tables, outlooks and outlook updates
Regional Offices	Developed food security assumptions and projections for the region
HO Decision Support	Organized and published an early Somalia Outlook due to changes in food security in southern Somalia
HO Decision Support	Conducted HEA outcome analyses in seven areas of concern in West Africa to help inform FEWS NET Outlooks

Office	Activity
HO Decision Support	Conducted HEA outcome analyses in southern and western areas of concern in Zimbabwe for October to March Outlook reports
HO Decision Support	Rolled out the Global Weather Hazards product and published ten times during Q1, FY2014
HO Markets and Trade	Generated Price Bulletins
HO Markets and Trade	Drafted internal note on the potential impacts of SE Asia typhoon on global rice markets
East Africa	Completed the monthly Seasonal Monitor for East Africa
East Africa	Completed the cross-border report for East Africa
LAC	Produced the first draft of the coffee special report
Somalia	Produced Food Security Alert on flood, cyclone and drought affected areas in Somalia
Somalia	Contributed to FSNAU Food Security Nutrition Brief (FSNB)
South Sudan	Finalized recruitment of Food Security Monitors and conducted training for new staff
Southern Africa	Produced the Lesotho RM report and provided Lesotho FAOB information
Southern Africa	Produced Southern Africa Seasonal Monitor
Sudan	Assessed the impact of recent South Sudan crisis on food security in Sudan
West Africa	Drafted the monthly joint CILSS/FEWS NET food security bulletin
Zimbabwe	Carried out HEA Outcome Analysis in 2 Livelihood Zones in Matebeleland North and South Provinces

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 and updates.

During this quarter, the project wrapped up design work with Forum One to launch a new website for www.fews.net. Project staff, especially the Communications Advisor and the IT Specialist spent substantial efforts on testing the new website and overseeing the conversion of contents. By mid-December, all English language contents since 2005 and most translated contents were ready. On December 23, 2013 the project performed a *soft launch* of the new website. Over the coming months project staff will focus on testing the new website and making adjustments where needed before a public launch in early 2014. The new website includes these improved features:

- Optimized for mobile
- Faceted search and archive
- Interactive food security maps
- Web-based reports
- Search engine optimization
- Improved navigation
- Improved subscription and notification systems
- Social media integration

For information dissemination, all FEWS NET field staff remained active in their food security network, distributing reports and information pro-actively and on requests; and also providing special briefings on FEWS NET approach and methods to improve the transparency of FEWS NET analysis. All offices also actively engaged the USAID and/or US missions, key partners and decision-makers and provided them with briefings on food security outlook and updates. The markets and trade team released the monthly Price Watch and price bulletins, and the DSG provided the following briefings in Washington to support decision-making:

- 3 FAOB briefings and three FAOB products (October, November, December)
- October 21: Findings from Madagascar and Angola food security assessments
- November 21: West Africa food security outlook, October 2013 to the end of the 2014 consumption year
- December 11: Recent changes in food security in Somalia
- December 11: (Internal Briefing) Results of Ethiopia ETa evaluation and harvest assessment in Amhara Region, Ethiopia

The DSG also fielded the following special requests from USAID:

- November 12: Review of the June 2013 IPC analysis in DRC
- December 9: Briefing materials on CAR, Chad, and Nigeria to support official trip to the region

Details of other activities undertaken in the context of IR 1.4 are shown in Table 5.

Table 5. Activities performed by each FEWS NET office under IR 1.4

Office	Activity
All Offices	Communicated monthly food security information electronically to USAID and partners
All Offices	Distributed FEWS NET information and analysis products to partners
All Offices	Briefed USAID/US Embassy and key partners on food security outlook and updates
Regional Offices	Reviewed FO Quarterly progress reports, and prepared and submitted the RO report
Information Technology	Managed website redesign, content migration, and managed soft launch of www.fews.net
Information Technology	Managed GIS optimization work
Information Technology	Posted to social media
Communications	Supported finalization of content/images and testing of new fews.net website
Communications	Initiated review and design proposal for Sudan Monthly Market update
Communications	Reviewed, commented and/or edited key reports and other documents
Communications	Oversaw conduct of FEWS NET side panel at the 2013 World Food Prize
Communications	Managed media calls related to Somalia famine study and Kenya food security issues
East Africa	Supported the presentation of food security & projected outcomes to the Food Security and Nutrition Working Group (FSNWG)
Ethiopia	Presented Meher 2013 Situation in selected livelihoods zones to USAID mission
Ethiopia	Presented food price dynamics in pastoral areas of Somali Region to USAID
LAC	Briefed USAID Honduras on livelihoods activities
LAC	Updated the regional contact database (Guatemala, El Salvador, Honduras, Nicaragua)
LAC	Conducted presentation on the effects of climate change in Central America at the World Food Prize Conference
Mali	Met with Food for Peace Advisor
Mozambique	Participated in the weekly Technical Meetings of Disaster Management
Mozambique	Contributed actively to the completion and submission of the Angola Drought Assessment Special Report
Niger	Briefed USAID/Niger Office, USAID/Dakar Regional Office, and USAID/Washington
Nigeria	Shared and discussed weather data for dry spell-affected areas with stakeholders
Somalia	Reported and disseminated Dekadal rainfall performances and weekly precipitation forecasts
South Sudan	Briefed USAID on the preliminary findings of the Market Structure Assessment
Sudan	Briefed KAFOD's consultant planning for community based early warning system in Sudan
Uganda	Supported HO staff by providing responses to inquiries in preparation for briefing at Food for Peace (FFP).
Uganda	Updated email distribution list for FEWS NET's reports
West Africa	Participated in monthly briefing call for FFP/Dakar on the 2012/13 production prospects, current food security situation and outlook
West Africa	Briefed USAID/West Africa on FEWS NET efforts within Cadre Harmonisé, network strengthening and partnership with CILSS
West Africa	Briefed key government services in Mali: the national food security authority (CSA) and UN agencies FAO and WFP
West Africa	Briefed USAID/Dakar on the 2013/14 current food security situation and outlook and the Cadre Harmonisé maps

Office	Activity
Zambia	Briefed USAID on food security and maize market situation
Zimbabwe	Briefed USAID/Food For Peace
Zimbabwe	Briefed the Agriculture Coordination Working Group
Zimbabwe	Briefed the Nutrition Cluster
Zimbabwe	Contributed to the ZIM VAC monthly food security newsletter

E. 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

The FEWS NET approach to monitoring, analysis, and early warning includes the establishment of basic knowledge products that provide baseline information for the various contributing disciplines of food security, including livelihoods zoning and profiling, markets commodity trade flow, markets context, and nutrition database. IR 2.1 captures the results of creating and maintaining these knowledge base products.

During this quarter, FEWS NET made significant progress and finalized the livelihoods zoning plus products for Angola, Karamoja (Uganda), Mauritania, and South Sudan. The project also organized and carried out livelihoods activities in Honduras and Mozambique.

The Markets and Trade team worked closely with partner Kimetrica in the Data Warehouse project. During this quarter, the M&T team helped resolved final coding and design issues in the price database system, allowing the project to move forward into its final stage.

The Nutrition team also adopted a basic structure for collecting secondary nutrition survey results and continue to build up a database of nutrition context for west and east Africa.

Table 6 captures the main activities for IR 2.1.

Table 6. Activities performed by each FEWS NET office under IR 2.1

Office	Activity
All Offices	Updated food security databases
Livelihoods	Finalized South Sudan Livelihood Zoning Plus product
Livelihoods	Finalized Sudan Livelihood Profiles for North Kordofan
Livelihoods	Finalized Mauritania Livelihood Zoning Plus product
Livelihoods	Finalized Angola Livelihoods Zoning Plus product
Livelihoods	Finalized Uganda Desk Review for Karamoja Livelihoods Zones
Livelihoods	Finalized Uganda Livelihoods Zoning Plus product for Karamoja Region
Livelihoods	Organized Honduras Livelihood Zoning Plus Workshop
Livelihoods	Organized Mozambique Livelihood Zoning Desk Review and two Livelihood Zoning Plus regional workshops
Livelihoods	Organized Uganda (Karamoja) Livelihood Zoning Plus Workshop
Livelihoods	Provided technical support to Somalia Outcome Analysis for 2014 Gu Harvest Assessment
Livelihoods	Organized Zambia Livelihood Zoning Plus activity to be completed in January-February 2014
Markets and Trade	Reviewed and updated country and regional M&T market descriptions published in Price Bulletin
Markets and Trade	Reviewed/updated the choice of markets and commodities in the Price Bulletins, Price Watch Annex, and the main price database
Markets and Trade	Worked with Kimetrica to establish Markets and Trade database, starting with price data
Burkina Faso	Updated nutrition database

Office	Activity
Chad	Updated food prices, production, population and rainfall database
East Africa	Facilitated access to vital nutrition data and information through participation in the Somalia and Kenya Nutrition Cluster meetings
East Africa	Developed and disseminated a survey data repository database to NTMs
Guatemala	Maintained and updated the regional technical archive
Kenya	Updated food security databases
Kenya	Participated in discussions of updating Livelihood zones
LAC	Updated the Livelihood Zoning Plus activity in Honduras
Malawi	Supported MVAC with completion of livelihoods baselines
Malawi	Updated and maintained Agriculture Marketing Information System database
Mali	Participated in workshop on validation of data for outcome analysis
Mali	Participated in HEA Outcome Analysis workshop
Mozambique	Contributed to drafting the Angola Livelihood Zone report
Mozambique	Contributed to finalization of the Angola production and market flow map
Mozambique	Assisted in the desk review and logistical issues for the national livelihood zoning and description
Mozambique	Reviewed and re-defined national livelihood zone map and descriptions for Mozambique
Mozambique	Participated in the Food Security and Nutrition Baseline Study
Nutrition	Edited and finalized templates for the nutrition database
Remote Monitoring	Published Madagascar Livelihood zone maps and Descriptions (Plus) in English and French
Remote Monitoring	Published Guinea Desk review in English
Rwanda	Conducted Market visits to compare reliability of price data with e-SOKO (the Minagri web-based database)
Southern Africa	Contributed to the food security brief for Zimbabwe
Zambia	Conducted initial preparation for the January/February Household Economy Approach (HEA) Livelihood Rezoning workshop
Zambia	Reviewed and contributed to the Zambia Food Security Brief
Zimbabwe	Updated the Agriculture Food Security Monitoring Systems database
Zimbabwe	Updated M&T information with data from Zimbabwe Statistics Agent (ZIM STAT) and ZIMRA

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

FEWS NET has been working on defining a network development / capacity strengthening strategy to guide this important component of the project. During this quarter, the home office Communications Advisor worked with senior management, advisors, and regional technical manager to produce a final draft of this document, which incorporates comments from USAID.

Another important activity during this period was the continuing work by the Decision Support Group to define and create data collection tools for research on humanitarian assistance flow and their incorporation into scenario development. The DSG also continued work on finalizing the herd dynamics guidance. These activities are captured in Table 7.

Table 7. Activities performed by each FEWS NET office under IR 2.2

Office	Activity
HO Decision Support	Drafted data collection tools for research on humanitarian assistance flows and their incorporation into scenario development
HO Decision Support	Reviewed and concluded FEG work on herd dynamics guidance review
HO Decision Support	Conducted HEA outcome analysis in Belg-dominant area in South Wollo, Amhara Region, Ethiopia to support better understanding of seasonality
HO Decision Support	Initiated special review of Ethiopia key messages and writing with assistance of Communications Advisor
East Africa	Supported development of nutrition training curriculum for Southern and West Africa regional training workshops
Ethiopia	Prepared one-page step-by-step guide for updating data in order to run the heard dynamic model
Ethiopia	Compiled Regional Seasonal Calendars from HEA baseline data
LAC	Provided input on the FEWS NET Network Development Framework

Office	Activity
LAC	Provided input on the Price Warehouse Commodity Coding
M&T	Developed guidance on making price assumptions for the Scenario Building process
Remote Monitoring	Reviewed herd dynamics guidance, and reviewed/concluded FEG work
Somalia	Reviewed and updated seasonal food security data collection tools

IR 2.3 IPC Rolled-out and Development Supported

FEWS NET continues to support IPC and related methods such as the Cadre Harmonisé. During this quarter, the main activities continued to be those related to the development and testing of a chronic food security scale, including pilots in Bangladesh, Guatemala, and Malawi.

In the field, FEWS NET staff attended a number of IPC event including IPC training and analysis. Table 8 summarized the activities carried out to achieve IR 2.3.

Table 8. Activities performed by each FEWS NET office under IR 2.3

Office	Activity
HO Decision Support	Continued to participate in the IPC Technical Working Group on Chronic classification.
HO Decision Support	Participated in the Bangladesh Chronic IPC pilot
HO Decision Support	Participated in post-pilot Chronic IPC Synthesis meeting
HO Decision Support	Attended national IPC analysis in Uganda
HO Decision Support	Continued work on IPC indicators study in partnership with FANTA
East Africa	Participated in an IPC analysis workshop in Uganda
East Africa	Completed IPC Level 1 Certification in September
Guatemala	Participated in an introduction of IPC to decision-makers
Guatemala	Participated in IPC Chronic Scale pilot
Haiti	Participated in the planning of a IPC training session held for health workers
LAC	Supported the IPC Chronic Pilot exercise in Guatemala
LAC	Supported the special training to USAID and partners conducted in Guatemala
M&T	Supported DSG with input to IPC Chronic pilots
Malawi	Completed online course towards IPC Level 2 Certification
Malawi	Supported IPC analysis for MVAC
Remote Monitoring	Supported Guatemala IPC Chronic pilot
Remote Monitoring	Participated in London IPC Chronic Working Group meeting
Rwanda	Continued discussion with Ministry of Agriculture and FAO on the roll out of IPC in Rwanda
Southern Africa	Attended Level 1 and 2 Regional IPC Training
Southern Africa	Attended IPC Chronic Pilot for Malawi
Uganda	Collaborated with the IPC working group in training, preparations and implementation of IPC at national level
Zimbabwe	Participated in IPC Level 1 and 2 Training

IR 2.4 Research Efforts of USG Partners Supported

During this quarter, FEWS NET launched the new Global Weather Hazards product in collaboration with NOAA and USGS. The Decision Support group also worked with science partners, in particular the USGS and UCSB, to begin preparation for the 2014 regional training workshops that will focus on improved methods for formulating agro-climatological assumptions for scenario development. Table 9 provides a summary of activities related to this IR.

Table 9. Activities performed by each FEWS NET office under IR 2.4

Office	Activity
All Offices	Supported and participated in the global climate teleconference
DSG	Participated in the evaluation of the Evapotranspiration Anomaly (ETa) product in Amhara Region of Ethiopia with USGS and USDA/FAS
DSG	Attended briefing on recent work by UC-Santa Barbara and USGS in using new WRSI projection programs
DSG	Participated in Drought Metric discussion with science partners
Ethiopia	Conducted field test exercise on Eta outputs with USGS and DSG, and conducted a rapid HEA analysis
Somalia	Supported USGS on rainfall and precipitation performance through ground truthing
Southern Africa	Assisted USGS Scientist in his research on assessing seasonal performance in 2013/14 based on the SARCOF and other seasonal forecasts.
Zambia	Linked USGS to Department of Meteorology for the upcoming climate change study

F. 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 continued to actively engage with national, regional, and international partners. FEWS NET also participates in various national and regional clusters and contributes actively.

Of special notes are:

- Participation in reviewing the Kenya National Drought Management Authority (NDMA) Early Warning System indicators,
- Participation in Central America regional workshop on climate and coffee rust,
- Establishing partnerships with local governments in Karamoja and Kampala (Uganda).

Other activities undertaken in the context of IR 3.1 are shown in Table 10.

Table 10. Activities performed by each FEWS NET office under IR 3.1

Office	Activity
All Offices	Participated in Food Security Cluster and Nutrition Cluster Meetings
Burkina Faso	Participated in World Food Programme (WFP) study on food security
Burkina Faso	Participated in developing government food security response plan for 2014
Burkina Faso	Conducted presentation on the FEWS NET remote sensing product during the CLIM-WARN project workshop
Chad	Provided WFP with cereals price data on a monthly basis
Guatemala	Participated in monthly crop monitoring system meetings
Kenya	Participated in reviewing the National Drought Management Authority (NDMA) Early Warning System indicators
LAC	Participated in the regional meeting on climate and coffee rust
Malawi	Attended UN Humanitarian Country Team (UNHCT) meetings
Niger	Participated in performing food insecurity joint survey analysis and reporting
Regional Offices	Reviewed and provided comments/inputs into the Network Development Framework
Somalia	Participated in a technical meeting with Somalia Resilience Program (SomRep) with FSNAU
Somalia	Met and briefed members from Tufts University on food security in Somalia
Somalia	Discussed network building with FAO/FSNAU backstopping officer based in Rome
South Sudan	Attended the World Food Day organized by the State Ministry of Agriculture - Central Equatoria

Office	Activity
Southern Africa	Attended briefings with Regional Inter Agency Coordination and Support Office (RIACSO) partners and the Food and Nutrition Security Working Group
Southern Africa	Assumed the chair of the Regional Vulnerability Assessment Committee (RVAC) IPC Technical Working Group (TWG) in December
Southern Africa	Participated in Regional (RVAC and FSNWG) Nutrition integration consultative meetings
Southern Africa	Participated in Regional (RVAC) Urban Vulnerability Tool Development Consultations and workshop
Southern Africa	Attended Regional Vulnerability Assessment Committee (RVAC) monthly meetings
Southern Africa	Attended Regional IPC Technical Working Group monthly meetings
Southern Africa	Attended the RIACSO Food Security and Nutrition Working Group (FSNWG) monthly meetings
Southern Africa	Attended the SADC DRR Unit Pre-season Preparedness Meeting
Sudan	Attended the presentation of livestock study in Sudan by TUFTS/UBEP
Uganda	Established partnerships at district local government level in Karamoja and Kampala
Zambia	Participated in the VAC core meetings to review the draft Zambia VAC Strategic Plan
Zambia	Participated in the USAID Feed the Future partner meeting to present FEWS NET Zambia activities and information
Zimbabwe	Held discussions with WFP on how to complement efforts in food security monitoring based on each organization's strength

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

FEWS NET is committed to supporting international methods and standards including the FSIN, IPC, and Cadre Harmonisé. With most organizations wrapping up end-of-year activities and the holidays, there were few activities in this area for the reporting quarter. Table 11 shows the few activities achieved.

Table 11. Activities performed by each FEWS NET office under IR 3.2

Office	Activity
East Africa	Met with the Market Analysis Sub-Group (MAS) of FSNWG on sustainable cross-border data collection and enhanced regional analysis of markets and trade
Somalia	Published research paper on The African Farmer and the Challenge of Food Security in Africa
West Africa	Met with the PASANAO/ECOWAS mission on FEWS NET commodity maps and regional grain reserve management
Zimbabwe	Participated in the RVAA Urban Assessment Workshop

IR 3.3 Staff and Partners Skills Maintained and Improved

FEWS NET is committed to building the skills and capacities of its staff and those of network partners. During this quarter, FEWS NET held nutrition training for all technical staff in West Africa, Southern Africa, and Haiti in two workshops (Haiti staff attended the West Africa workshop). The Regional Nutrition Specialist spearheaded the development of the training and the Nutrition Advisor led the training workshops.

In West Africa, NTMs from Burkina Faso, Mali, and Niger attended HEA Outcome Analysis training in their respective countries. These trainings were financed by SCF/UK and delivered through their subcontractor FEG.

The home office decision support group also arranged for FEG livelihoods expert Mark Lawrence to deliver an advance outcome analysis training in Washington, DC in early December. This training was attended by all Washington-based technical staff as well as select staff from the field who are already skilled in HEA / livelihoods analysis.

Other activities for achieving IR 3.3 are detailed in Table 12.

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

Office	Activity
Regional Offices	Held Monthly teleconference with the HO senior management
Burkina Faso	Participated in the HEA training workshop organized by Oxfam
Communications	Reviewed and proposed new approach to streamline and strengthen Ethiopia reporting
Djibouti	Participated in Regional Nutrition Training Workshop
DSG	Organized HEA Outcome Analysis training for home office staff
East Africa	Trained Sudan FAMIS and FEWS NET partners on price projections for food security analysis
East Africa	Conducted agroclimatic, livelihoods, markets, IPC and scenario development training for new staff
Ethiopia	Trained one staff member on the application of LEAP
Guatemala	Provided orientation for new Guatemala ANTM
Haiti	Provided training in market data collection method to enumerators
Haiti	NTM and ANTM attended training in Nutrition (in West Africa)
LAC	Provided Training to the ANTM of Guatemala on field assessments
Livelihoods	Participated in HEA LIAS Outcome Analysis Training
Malawi	Attended regional workshops for staff on nutrition integration and SD/IPC
Malawi	Conducted an induction of the Ministry of Agriculture informal cross border trade monitoring focal point persons
Malawi	Conducted HEA orientation for the new USAID Malawi Food Security Specialist
Malawi	Participated in the IPC level 2 training
Malawi	Participated in the Regional IPC Chronic Analysis Pilot
Mali	Attended training on outcome analysis provided by SCF
Mali	Participated in HEA Outcome Analysis Training Workshop
Mozambique	Attended the Home Office HEA Outcome Analysis training
Niger	Participated in HEA Outcome Analysis Training Workshop
Niger	Participated in West Africa Regional Nutrition Training Workshop
Niger	Trained enumerators and supervisors on tools and process of household food insecurity and vulnerability survey
Nutrition	Facilitated and led three 3-day nutrition training workshops for all FEWS NET technical staff in Southern Africa and West Africa
Remote Monitoring	Trained Madagascar and Angola monitors
Remote Monitoring	Participated in HEA Outcome Analysis Training Workshop
Rwanda	Participated in in-house training for National University of Rwanda (NUR)
Somalia	Participated in HEA Outcome Analysis Training Workshop
South Sudan	Presented step-by-step Scenario Development process to enhance analysis of current and projected food security outcomes
Southern Africa	Participated in the FEWS NET Regional Nutrition Training
Southern Africa	Attended IPC Level 2 Regional Training
Southern Africa	Delivered a Scenario Development training for Zambia VAC
Sudan	Facilitated the visit of the regional food security specialist to Sudan to assist with SST development
Sudan	Facilitated the visit of the HO/RO M&T specialists to Sudan to assist with market assumptions
Sudan	Organized one-day training for partners about technical market price projections
Uganda	Participated in IPC training for workshop participants at the National IPC meeting
West Africa	Participated in West Africa Regional Nutrition Training Workshop
West Africa	Supported Outcome Analysis orientation in Niger
West Africa	Participated in the HEA Outcome Analysis Training Workshop in Washington
Zambia	Attended RVAC IPC TWG-led Level 2 Regional Training
Zambia	Participated in the IPC Level 2 training
Zimbabwe	Attended IPC Level 1&2 trainings in Swaziland and South Africa
Zimbabwe	Supported drafting the ZIM VAC HEA proposal for mid-season analysis
Zimbabwe	Participated in the Southern Africa Regional Nutrition Training Workshop
Zimbabwe	Attended the HEA training (NTM)

G. Review of Actual and Planned Activities according to the Work Plan

A review of the FY 2014 work plan indicates that the majority of activities planned for the October to December 2013 period were completed as planned. The few notable exceptions, with explanations, follow:

- *Conducting field assessments with partners in Burkina Faso to review livelihoods profiles:* This activity is postponed to the following quarter due to the large amount of regional activities taking place in the original time slot.
- *Training partners in Burkina Faso on scenario development:* This activity is postponed awaiting completion and translation of training materials.
- *Carrying out livelihoods rezoning of Djibouti:* Partners in Djibouti has requested a delay in this activity to allow more time to organize needed resources.
- *Remote sensing training for partners in Ethiopia:* Originally planned for August to be delivered by FEWS NET Ethiopia staff, we have re-designed the activity to be delivered by the regional USGS scientist with new dates to be determined. This change is desirable as we have now planned to launch a series of agroclimatology assumption workshops in 2014, with refresher training in remote sensing for each country as a pre-requisite. Therefore the USGS regional scientist is better suited to deliver this training for both FEWS NET Ethiopia staff and partners.
- *Retrospective HEA analysis as part of the FEWS NET/FANTA HFCI study:* This activity is delayed one quarter due to delay in completing administrative procedures by FANTA to engage the independent consultant.
- *Staff recruitment in Yemen:* This activity is postponed to late January 2014 to allow more time to obtain a visa.
- *IPC Level 2 training in eastern Africa:* This activity is postponed pending availability from the IPC Global Support Unit.
- *Pilot new trade flow maps and documentation in Kenya:* This activity is cancelled in Kenya due to insufficient time to properly organize the activity and lack of consensus on the approach. The pilot is now moved to Burkina Faso for the following quarter.
- *Creating Labor flow map for Honduras.* This activity is postponed to the EFSA to complete, which will provide additional information for this activity.
- *Field verification of livelihoods profiles in Honduras:* This activity was supposed to be done together with the Government of Honduras, WFP, and FAO on November. Due to the change of the government, this activity has being postpone since the government is doing an internal restructure.