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Food Aid Quality Review Phase II: Technical Report No.12

July 2014- September 2014

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Acronyms

BCC	Behavioral Change Communication
BMC	Beneficiary's Mother/Caretaker
CHV	Community Health Volunteer
CSB	Corn Soy Blend
CSB+	Corn Soy Blend Plus/Supercereal
CSB++	Corn Soy Blend Plus Plus/Supercereal Plus
CSWB/CSB14	Corn Soy Whey Blend/Corn Soy Blend 14
DMAP	Data Management and Analysis Plan
FAQR	Food Aid Quality Review
FBF	Fortified Blended Food
FGD	Focus Group Discussion
FDPs	Food Distribution Points
FFP	Office of Food for Peace (USAID)
GF&N	Global Food & Nutrition, Inc.
HNP	Health and Nutrition Promoter
IRSS	Institut De Recherche En Sciences De Sante
LNS	Lipid-based Nutrition Supplement
M&E	Monitoring and Evaluation
MAM	Moderate Acute Malnutrition
MCHN	Maternal Child Health and Nutrition
MUAC	Mid-Upper Arm Circumference
NGO	Non-Governmental Organization
PI	Principal Investigator
PPB	Project Peanut Butter
PIHDC	Pakachere Institute of Health and Development Communication
PL 480	Public Law 480 (Agricultural Trade Development and Assistance Act)
PLW	Pregnant or Lactating Women
PM	Program Manager
PM2A	Preventing Malnutrition in Children Under 2 Approach
PVO	Private Voluntary Organization
RA	Research Assistant
REFINE	Research Engagement on Food Innovation for Nutritional Effectiveness
RUSF	Ready to Use Supplementary Food
SBC	Social Behavior Change
SOW	Statement of Work
TOPS	Technical and Operational Performance Support
USAID	United States Agency for International Development
USDA	United States Department of Agriculture
WALA	Wellness and Agriculture for Life Advancement
WFP	World Food Programme (United Nations)
WHO	World Health Organization

Background Information

The United States Agency for International Development's (USAID) Office of Food for Peace awarded a two-year extension contract (FAQR Phase II) to Tufts University's Friedman School of Nutrition Science and Policy in October 2011 and a third-year extension in 2013 for a total of five years. FAQR Phase I, conducted from 2009 to 2011, examined the nutritional needs of beneficiary populations across the developing world and the nutritional quality of commodities currently available to meet those needs, with the objective of improving the quality of Title II food aid commodities and programming. The findings of FAQR Phase I were published as a report, *Delivering Improved Nutrition: Recommendations for Changes to U.S. Food Aid Products and Programs* (USAID, April 2011), which is available at www.foodaidquality.org and at <http://www.usaid.gov/what-we-do/agriculture-and-food-security/food-assistance/resources/research-and-policy-papers>.

The FAQR is part of a series USAID and United States Department of Agriculture (USDA) activities aimed at enhancing product choice under Title II of Public Law 480 (PL480), improving quality control and assurance (of both processes and products), and updating technical guidance and the evidence base for programming approaches. The present contract builds on work performed under the original FAQR and will focus on implementing recommendations made in Phase I for changes in food aid products, programming, and processes.

FAQR Phase II activities include advancing the evidence base through production and testing of improved food products, their packaging and delivery methods, and comparative studies of products' nutritional effectiveness and cost-effectiveness, implementation research and pilot projects, and facilitation of interagency and multi-sectoral coordination. FAQR Phase II continues its consultative process to interact with and solicit input from a wide range of stakeholders.

The work of the FAQR Phase II continues to address three areas of focus: products (development and testing of new or modified nutritionally enhanced food aid commodities); programs (the uses of such foods to meet nutritional goals in the context of Title II programs); and processes (e.g., safety and quality assurance in the supply chain, harmonization of processes among donor agencies, and coordination among agencies within the US Government). Specific areas of concentration include the following.

Products

Phase II is focusing on: the development of specifications of the updated Fortified Blended Foods (FBF) including Corn Soy Blend 14 (CSB14), recommended in the Phase I report, as well as milled flours, enhanced vegetable oil, and the micronutrient premix(es); CSB laboratory and pilot production testing; acceptability trials; assessments and recommendations for supply chain and related issues.

Programs

Activities include strengthening the evidence base for food assistance programming through expert consultations and workshops on key topics and issues with representatives of the various Title II implementing agencies and other stakeholders. Multiple activities are being undertaken which include the review of food programming guidance provided to Title II implementing agencies and a review of the data collected from Title II implementing agencies as part of required reporting, and how the data are used and could be better used to inform programming. Several field studies are also underway. In Malawi, a field study that finished at the end of FY14 sought to assess the feasibility of ensuring that when CSB is programmed with oil, beneficiaries use the oil as instructed to prepare CSB porridge for beneficiary children. The study also assessed the impact of package changes (providing CSB in 2-kg packages rather than in bulk), in conjunction with appropriate behavior change messages, on correct use, and other aspects such as intrahousehold sharing. Analysis of this field study will be completed in FY15. The study in Burkina Faso is assessing the effectiveness and cost effectiveness of the new CSB14, delivered with oil, as compared with alternatives such as lipid-based nutrition supplement (LNS) products and other fortified blended foods (including CSB+ and oil and WFP's formulation of Supercereal Plus (SC+) with skim milk powder and oil incorporated into the matrix), in the prevention of moderate wasting (moderate acute malnutrition or MAM), the prevention of stunting, and the promotion of adequate growth in children 6-23 months. The study in Sierra Leone assessed the effectiveness and cost-effectiveness of these same foods in the treatment of MAM in children under age five. Due to the Ebola Virus Disease Outbreak, FAQR suspended permanently the treatment study in Sierra Leone, and began scoping new countries to restart this study.

Processes

FAQR II focuses on the formation of an Interagency Food Aid Technical Committee as well as implementing regular meetings with major food aid agencies (WFP, UNICEF, USAID, USDA, and others) to address the need for harmonization of food products and related procurement and quality assurance processes used in Title II food aid.

Activities for the period July 1, 2014 – September 30, 2014**Implementation of Phase II**

During this quarter, the following activities were undertaken.

A. Products

Overview: Accelerated shelf life studies on FAQR products; recommendation development on the supply chain process; review and documentation of products upgrade, introduction, harmonization and rollout issues.

1. Accelerated Shelf Life Study

The FAQR team continues to receive and monitor results of the accelerated shelf life and stability studies of CSWB (CSB14), SC+, CSB+, RUSF, and fortified vegetable oil. During this quarter, the team received Certificates of Analyses with test results for the products, and entered them into the tracking database for monitoring and reporting graphically. The team received results on the endline analysis of three minerals and vitamin C as well as the fortified vegetable oil. The 26-week analysis of the CSWBs, SC+, CSB+ and RUSF are now complete. The final analysis of the fortified vegetable oil will be complete next quarter.

2. Product Introduction, Rollout and Supply Chain Quality Assurance

The FAQR team updated and expanded the product rollout interim report through the quarter. The report analyzes the experience of USAID during the period of FAQR Phase II and makes recommendations for future product rollouts.

3. Technical Assistance – Future Product Rollout

The FAQR team continues to provide technical assistance to USAID/FFP and to work on documents, specifications and templates related to future product introduction and rollouts. The templates include a streamlined specification for food aid products template and a new commodity proposal template. The new commodity proposal template explains the screening process that USAID and USDA will use for considering and approving new products and the information to be presented by suppliers to introduce new products. The streamlined specifications template is being tried for the first time in the harmonization of RUT/SF products with WFP, UNICEF, and MSF (Doctors without Borders) as a unified specification to be adopted across agencies.

4. Product Guidance – New Commodity Fact Sheets & Quarterly Updates

The FAQR team continues its work on the Commodity Reference Guide Fact Sheet preparation and quarterly updates. The team prepared a draft Fact Sheet on Fortified Milled Rice. The team also continues its work on a document comparing USAID's emergency food product, the A-28 and A-29 rice and wheat based cereal bars, against the WFP's high energy biscuit (HEB).

B. Programs

Overview: Phase II data collection, entry and cleaning, and field exit process in Malawi; recruitment and training of “back-up” enumerators and refresher training, finalized data collection instruments, beneficiary enrollment, data collection, study logistics and material procurement, and porridge sample analysis in Burkina Faso; Ebola virus disease outbreak, beneficiary enrollment, data collection, and data entry in Sierra Leone; relocation of the Four Foods Research Study.

I. FAQR Field Studies

a. Feasibility and Acceptability Study-Malawi

1. Phase II Data Collection

This quarter, the team completed Malawi Phase II data collection. Phase II data collection includes 600 interviews with porridge sample collection, 7 FGDs, 45 in-home observations, and 600 interviews with BMCs; 210 interviews and 6 FGDs with lead mothers; 93 interviews and 120 interviews with health care workers; 88 market observations; 96 FDP distribution observations; 17 interviews with PVO staff; and 12 ride along observations. Annex I details the Phase II sample totals.

2. Data Entry and Cleaning

This quarter, the team continued the data entry and data cleaning process for Phase II data. The team will complete this process early next quarter. The full database of all costing data and other data is expected to be available next quarter.

The team completed entering baseline, Phase I and Phase II qualitative data collected from lead mothers and beneficiary mothers/caretakers in a qualitative data analysis system, NVIVO. The team will enter the remaining qualitative data from PVOs staff next quarter.

Annex II shows the full, expected data set.

3. Field Exit Process

This quarter, the team began the field exit process. The following program closure activities are pending at the end of this quarter:

- Final results and feedback meetings with local mission team and other partners
- Packing equipment to be shipped to USA
- Reconciliation for Phase II
- Collection of field equipment from study partners
- Inventory for all FAQR equipment and disposition documentation

b. Effectiveness and Cost-Effectiveness Study – Prevention - Burkina Faso**1. Recruitment and Training of “Back-up” Enumerators**

This quarter, the in-country collaborating research partner, IRSS, selected and trained 35 additional enumerators, employed on a need-only basis, with the potential for full-time work as workloads increase at the distribution points due to more child inclusions in the study. The specific training subjects included anthropometric measurement techniques and standardization of measurements, new beneficiary enrollment, and follow-up of previously enrolled beneficiaries.

2. Enumerator Refresher Training

This quarter, the field team held refresher training for the 31 existing enumerators. The specific review subjects included data collection instruments, use of GPS devices and cameras, water testing and porridge collection, standardization of measurements, study logistics and reporting mechanisms, and data entry staff training. The team also trained 10 supervisors. Each supervisor is in charge of a team of two other enumerators.

3. Finalized Data Collection Instruments and Data Entry Templates

The team reviewed and finalized the data entry templates for enrollment and community questionnaires.

4. Beneficiary Enrollment

Food distribution began in March, 2014 for pregnant and lactating mothers as the ACDI/VOCA and Save the Children program design specifies for the preventive nutrition component of the development program. In this quarter, the team began enrolling study participants as the infants reached the age of six months and began receiving complementary foods. As of the end of the quarter, the field team had enrolled 1,009 children into the study. Annex III shows the number of beneficiary children enrolled by study arm. If enrollment continues at the same rate, all study children should be enrolled by the second quarter of FY15 and the 6 month follow-up would be completed by the second quarter of FY17 which would allow for a follow-up measurement of each infant at 30 months of age.

5. Data Collection

The team completed 100% (199) of community questionnaires.

6. Study Logistics and Material Procurement

This quarter, the team prepared for in-depth interviews and in-home observations. The field team continues to fine-tune study logistics, transport and reporting mechanisms. The team continued preparing the Kaya office for data collection.

7. Porridge Samples

This quarter, the team worked with the Institut de Recherche en Sciences Appliquées et Technologies (IRSAT) to verify the porridge testing procedures. The team reviewed the initial results from the test samples, and compared the results with the Certificates of Analysis for the products and the known preparation. The results revealed discrepancies, and the team decided to re-analyze the porridge test samples early next quarter before finalizing a contract with IRSAT for porridge sample analysis.

c. Effectiveness and Cost-Effectiveness Study – Treatment - Sierra Leone

1. Ebola Virus Disease Outbreak

This quarter, the FAQR team decided to permanently suspend the Four Foods Research Study in Sierra Leone due to the continued health crisis, attendant security threat, and the likelihood of blanket food distribution within the district of Kenema. The team suspended enrollment, clinic treatment and anthropometric data collection at all 20 study sites. Effective July 30, 2014, the clinic team informed all beneficiaries and PHU staff of the suspension, and provided a modest supply of food to each site based on current SFP enrollment. All contracts of local FAQR field staff ended as of August 31, 2014. The FAQR team notified all partners and stakeholders involved of the team's decision to suspend permanently the study in Sierra Leone.

2. Beneficiary Enrollment

At the close of the study, the clinic team had enrolled 1,339 beneficiary children into the Four Foods Research Study.

3. Data Collection

At the close of the study, enumerators had completed a total of 237 in-depth interviews, 23 in-home observations, and 28 community questionnaires.

4. Data Entry

This quarter, the FAQR field research director, Jamie Green, and the clinic manager, Bethany Marron, returned to Boston, MA to complete data entry for Sierra Leone.

5. Restarting the Four Foods Research Study

This quarter, the FAQR team began identifying potential countries to relocate the four foods treatment study. The team is currently exploring Burundi and the Karamoja region of Uganda as potential locations for restating the four foods study.

2. Cost Effectiveness

The team prepared costing tables for all countries. The team began entering data for Malawi, and performed data cleaning and analysis on Phase I data for Malawi.

3. Data Management

This quarter, the FAQR Data Manager continued updating the Data Management and Analysis Plans (DMAPs) for Malawi, Sierra Leone and Burkina Faso field studies with FAQR members. The team revised the Sierra Leone DMAP based on the collected data prior to study suspension.

C. Processes

Overview: Harmonization process with WFP and USAID; Interagency meeting

1. Harmonization process with WFP and USAID

This quarter, FAQR principal investigator, Dr. Patrick Webb, worked with the CMAM forum on a technical brief and FAQ on management of MAM, which was posted at the quarter. See: <http://www.cmamforum.org/Pool/Resources/MAM-management-CMAM-Forum-Technical-Brief-Sept-2014.pdf>

2. Ninth Interagency Meeting

The FAQR team held an interagency meeting to share FAQR updates and interagency updates. The meeting focused on technical issues that require input and solutions from several agencies and offices, and informal working groups were set up to take up discussion of the issues. FAQR Phase II Principal Investigator, Dr. Patrick Webb provided the introduction and an update on harmonization; Dr. Rufino Perez of USAID/FFP led the discussion on technical elements; and USDA offices provided updates. This productive meeting concluded with participants identifying the following high priority topics: Best-Use-By-Date protocol, fortified rice technology, and independent third party sampling and testing. The Interagency Meeting agenda is detailed in Annex IV.

Meetings and Events during the period July 1- September 30, 2014

The team continued to hold working group meetings throughout the quarter to plan FAQR Phase II activities. Selected specific meetings included the following:

- **Shelley Marcus in Washington DC**

- TOPS/FSN Network Knowledge Sharing Meeting**

- July 10-July 11, 2014**

- Shelley Marcus, Senior Research Coordinator, attended the TOPS/FSN Network Knowledge Sharing Meeting where she represented the FAQR team in asking questions and reporting back on relevant panels and presentations.

- **USDA/USAID Interagency Working Group Meeting in Washington DC**
July 15, 2014
The FAQR team organized an interagency meeting to share FAQR updates and interagency updates. This productive meeting concluded with participants identifying the following high priority topics: Best-Use-By-Date protocol, fortified rice technology, and independent third party sampling and testing. Annex IV detailed the Interagency Meeting agenda and list of participants.
- **Jamie Green in Sierra Leone**
Ebola Task force Meetings
July 2014 (daily)
Jamie Green, Field Research Director, attended daily meetings to discuss the progression of the Ebola virus in Kenema District during the time she was based in Kenema.
- **FAQR Team Meeting in Boston, MA**
August 28-September 4, 2014
The FAQR team met in Boston to discuss the progress of the three FAQR research studies with all three Field Researchers present. See meeting agenda in Annex V.
- **Shelley Marcus and Irv Rosenberg in Washington DC**
Anti parasitical Food Technology Meeting with USAID and Mondelez
September 10, 2014
Shelley Marcus, FAQR Senior Research Coordinator, and Dr. Irv Rosenberg, FAQR Nutrition Specialist, met with representatives from Mondelez to discuss with USAID anti parasitical food technology. Annex VI provides a summary of the meeting minutes.
- **FAQR Costing Meeting in Boston, MA**
September 16-September 17, 2014
Dr. Steve Vosti, Costing specialist, and Devika Suri, FAQR Data Manager, met with the FAQR Tufts team to discuss the cost-effectiveness methodology for each country study. Annex VII details the FAQR Costing Meeting agenda.
- **USAID/WFP Scoping Meetings**
September 2014
The FAQR team held a series of discussions among Tufts University, Washington University, USAID and WFP to discuss details of closing down study operations in Sierra Leone, and country options for the relocation of the Four Foods Treatment Study.
- **Informational Meetings for Relocation**
September 2014
The FAQR team held a series of Skype/phone meetings with key contacts in Uganda and Burundi to

gather information on the feasibility of conducting research in each country.

Administration and Budget

During this quarter, the following activities were undertaken.

A. Budget

Because of the suspension of the treatment study as well as completion of a five-year contract period, USAID decided to rebid the contract that will cover the rest of Phase II activities. In order to allow ongoing activities to continue while this competitive process takes place, USAID put in place an 8 month costed extension of the current contract. During this quarter, the FAQR team monitored the current budget and presented an interim budget for the costed extension period, which was approved by USAID.

B. Staffing

The FAQR team hired a new research assistant to work with REFINE, to assist with database updating and website maintenance.

Kristine Caiafa is a current student of the Friedman School's Food Policy and Nutrition master's program. She holds a BS in Nutrition and Food Science from University of Maryland, College Park, and a dietetic certificate from the University of Medicine and Dentistry of New Jersey. Before coming to Tufts, she was in clinical practice as a Registered Dietitian, specializing in pediatrics and neonatology. Prior to that she worked with an NGO on health capacity building in Sierra Leone, and has been involved in a number of development projects in Burkina Faso and Brazil as a member of Engineers Without Borders.

Plans for the coming quarter (October-December 2014)

October-December 2014 represents the thirteenth quarter of implementation for FAQR Phase II and the first quarter of the costed extension until end of May, 2015.

A. Products

a. Product Introduction and Rollout Activities

- i. Continue to work with Specifications Working Group on harmonization among USAID, WFP and UNICEF technical documents and conduct stakeholder consultations on product rollout issues. Assist with designing the framework.
- ii. Update report through FY14, and submit early next quarter
- iii. Refine the report and develop related presentation materials based on feedback

b. Shelf Life and Stability Studies

- i. Continue with accelerated shelf life studies of vegetable oil, and monitor updates received from Covance Labs

- ii. Final data point expected early next quarter
- iii. Continue to update final results and complete final report on this activity
- iv. Report to be submitted next quarter with revisions as needed
- c. Commodity Reference Guide (CRG) Quarterly Updates**
 - i. Continue to work with USAID FFP to update the Commodity Reference Guide Fact Sheets, and complete Fact Sheets as specifications for new products are approved
- d. Product Technology and Innovation**
 - i. Organize and plan visit to the Natick Labs for next quarter.

B. Programs

- a. Feasibility/Acceptability Study (Malawi)**
 - i. Hold an exit presentation for USAID mission in Malawi, and for WFP, MoH and UNICEF and for the agencies collaborating on the research
 - ii. Continue analysis of Phase II data
 - iii. Continue analysis of cost data
 - iv. Complete program closure activities
 - v. Plan dissemination activities (reports, presentations, publications) for Malawi findings
- b. Prevention Effectiveness Study (Burkina Faso)**
 - i. Continue training of “back-up” enumerators
 - ii. Start conducting in-home observations
 - iii. Start conducting focus groups
 - iv. Start conducting distribution observations
 - v. Continue verification of lab for porridge testing and conclude a contract with the selected lab
- c. Treatment Effectiveness Study (Sierra Leone and New Country)**
 - i. Complete data entry for clinic and field based data from Sierra Leone
 - ii. Begin data analysis for existing data gathered from Sierra Leone
 - iii. Plan dissemination activities (reports, presentations, publications) for Sierra Leone findings
 - iv. Continue to gather information and make contacts with individuals from countries of interest to determine viable options for the relocation of the Four Foods Treatment Study
 - v. Conduct a scoping trip to countries of interest to make local contacts, to identify potential implementing and research partners, and to assess feasibility of conducting research in each location
 - vi. Modify study components (as needed) and re-submit Tufts University IRB and submit to chosen country IRB
- d. Cost Analysis**
 - i. Create new DMAP for Sierra Leone replacement country for the four foods study

- ii. Continue to edit costing model for all effectiveness study products and product comparisons based on feedback from FAQR team

C. Process

a. REFINE

- i. Update the REFINE website

b. Harmonization Meeting

- i. Host follow-up Harmonization meeting of USAID, WFP and UNICEF

c. Interagency Work

- i. Continue to follow up activities and next steps from this quarter's meeting and progress on technical issues.
- ii. Discuss and plan FY15 Interagency Meeting

Annex I. Phase II Sample Total for CSB & FVP Feasibility/Acceptability Study in Malawi

PHASE 2 SAMPLE GOALS FOR CSB & FVO FEASIBILITY/ACCEPTABILITY STUDY IN MALAWI		
Category - Questionnaire No.	Study Subjects and Participants	Totals
PVO Staff Members	M&E – PM Interview guide	3
	MCHN Coordinator – PM interview guide	4
	Logistics and Commodity person – Costing tool	4
	Program Manager – PM Interview guide	3
	Health facilitator – PM interview guide	3
Health Care Workers	Health promoter – Form I6	36
	Health Surveillance Agents – Form I6	44
	Resource person – Form I6	40
Care Group Lead Mothers	Care Group Lead mothers (Individual Interviews) – Form I4	210
	Care Group Lead mothers (3 FGDs - treat, 3 FGD - control) – Form I5	108
Beneficiary Mothers/Caretakers	Beneficiary Mothers/Caretakers (Individual Interviews) – Form I2	600
	Beneficiary Mothers/Caretakers (4 FGDs intervention, 3 FGDs control) – Form	108
	Beneficiary Mothers/Caretakers (in home observations)	45
Market Observations – (no vendor interviews done)	Observation for market	88
FDP Observations	Beneficiary Mothers/Caretakers (FDP observations)	96
Intervention Costs – Ride along observations		12

Annex II. Malawi Full Data Set Outline

Study Subjects and Participants	
Baseline	
Observations at the FDPs (& FDP distribution timing)	6 random women at FDP during distribution
PVO Staff Members	M&E
	MCHN Coordinator
	Logistics and Commodity person
	Program Manager
	Health facilitator
Health Care Workers	Health promoter
	Health Surveillance Agents
	Resource person
Care Group Lead Mothers	Care Group Lead mothers (Ind)
	Care Group Lead mothers (FGD)
Beneficiary Mothers/Caretakers	Beneficiary Mothers/Caretakers (Ind)
	Beneficiary Mothers/Caretakers (FGD)
In Home observations	Beneficiary Mothers/Caretakers
Market	Store Owner/Market Vendor
	TOTAL
Phase I	
PVO Staff Members	M&E
	MCHN Coordinator
	Logistics and Commodity person
	Program Manager
	Health facilitator
Beneficiary Children	Beneficiary Children
Health Care Workers	Health promoter
	Health Surveillance Agents
	Resource person
Care Group Lead Mothers	Care Group Lead mothers (Ind)
	Care Group Lead mothers (FGD)
Beneficiary Mothers/Caretakers	
	Beneficiary Mothers/Caretakers (Ind)
	Beneficiary Mothers/Caretakers (FGD)
	Beneficiary Mothers/Caretakers (in home observations)
	TOTAL
Phase II	
PVO Staff Members	M&E
	MCHN Coordinator
	Logistics and Commodity person
	Program Manager
	Health facilitator

Beneficiary Children	Beneficiary Children
Health Care Workers	Health promoter
	Health Surveillance Agents
	Resource person
Care Group Lead Mothers	Care Group Lead mothers (Ind)
	Care Group Lead mothers (FGD)
Beneficiary Mothers/Caretakers	Beneficiary Mothers/Caretakers (Ind)
	Beneficiary Mothers/Caretakers (FGD)
	Beneficiary Mothers/Caretakers (in home obs)
Market	Store Owner/Market Vendor
Costing Data	Records and staff interviews

Annex III. Prevention Study Enrollment (1.5 months of inclusion)

Prevention Study Beneficiary Enrollment (1.5 months of inclusion)	
Study Arm	Number of Children Enrolled
1	370
2	288
3	175
4	176
Total	1,009

Annex IV. Agenda for Interagency Meeting in Washington, DC**USDA/USAID Interagency Working Group Meeting**

Tuesday, July 15, 2014 - 9:00am - 1:30pm
1300 L St NW, Washington DC, 2nd floor conference room

Dial-in number: 760-569-7171
Participant access code: 214133698

- 8:45 am** Coffee and setup
- 9:00 am** Introduction and FAQR updates – Patrick Webb, FAQR/Tufts
- 9:15 am** USDA updates — FAS - Paul Alberghine; NIFA - Hiram Larew; FSA - TBD
- 9:45 am** Interagency technical issues and updates - Rufino Perez, USAID/FFP:
- Best Used By Dates and shelf life
 - *USDA/FFP update on status of discussion*
 - Independent 3rd party testing
 - *For Section 11 funding, can we justify narrowing the scope (items) tested but widening the list of products?*
 - *Would a policy similar to what we are doing with the RUTF/SF foods be worth adopting across the specialized foods: i.e. comprehensive yearly testing by USG (either AMS or FGIS or 3rd party ISO certified lab contracted by government) on all premix/proximate analysis parameters and then lot testing for specific, limited chemical and microbiological/food safety testing on routine basis?*
 - Updates on relevant regulations and policies on GMO
 - Updates from WFP-UNICEF harmonization and IAEA Vienna meetings – Patrick Webb
- 10:55 am** USAID specification template – Rufino Perez
(*See attachment*)
- 11:25 am** New food aid product introduction process – Rufino Perez, Judy Canahuati
(*See attachments: 1) New Commodity & Supplier Qualification Policy and 2) New Commodity Proposal Checklist*)
- 11:55 am** HACCP-Based Food Safety and Quality Audits and Inspections – Rufino Perez
- 12:30 pm** Break to serve lunch
- 12:45 pm** Working lunch - Interagency working group framework and next steps – Judy Canahuati, Rufino Perez
- 1:30 pm** Meeting adjourned

Annex V. Agenda for FAQR Team Meeting in Boston, MA**FAQR Team Meetings
August 28, 2014– September 4, 2014
Boston, MA****Burkina Faso Study Meeting
Thursday, August 28th 2014
9AM-1PM**

- **Updates from Ilana**
 - Refresher training and beginning of data collection
- **Contracting and Budgets**
 - Extension of ViM Program
 - Purchasing additional commodities (?)
 - Extending IRSS and ACDI/VOCA subcontracts
 - MOU with IRSS
 - Reports to the ViM program about study progress
 - What is expected in terms of reporting to ViM?
 - To what extent should we/can we share observations about things going on in the field?
 - Save the Children budget issues (transportation of new foods is much more expensive than transportation of CSB+)
- **Data Collection**
 - Inclusion criteria
 - Manpower issues
 - Too many distributions happening simultaneously for the number of teams we currently have
 - Training additional teams for use on these occasions
 - Save the Children distribution schedule reliability (issues with rainy season, and general issues with following the prescribed schedule)
 - Strategies to avoid rupture of stock
 - Market observations
 - Who will do it?
 - When will it be done/at what frequency?
 - Definition of a market?
 - Where are we most likely to see leakage of foods into the market?
 - In-home observations
 - Experiences in other countries
 - Truck riding tool
 - Lab protocol (porridge analysis)

Malawi Study Meeting**Thursday, August 28th 2014****2PM-5PM**

- **Updates from Gray**
 - Phase II data collection progress
 - Exit logistics
- **Logistics**
 - Gray in Boston
 - Bringing data back to Tufts (?)
- **Reporting and Publications**
 - Report expected from CSR (?)
 - Timeline
 - Structure
 - Final Report for USAID
 - Timeline
 - Outline of report
 - Designate responsibilities
 - Publications
 - Timeline
 - Type and number of publications
- **Data Collection**
 - In home observation experiences
 - Truck riding experiences
 - FDP observation experiences
- **Cost-Effectiveness (Cont. on Aug 29th if needed)**
 - Costing Matrix
 - Especially filling out table for PCI and making sure we know all the data that we'll need
- **Data Management and Analysis(Cont. on Aug 29th if needed)**
 - Confirm CSB+/CSB13 timing and oil content
 - Data analysis next steps, and costing table data needs (when to merge data)
 - Cost-effectiveness data analysis (?)
 - GIS plan
 - Outstanding data issues/needs for the Phase 1 data analysis
 - Plan for which comparisons to do between baseline vs. Phase 1/baseline vs. Phase 2/Phase 1 vs. Phase 2
 - Create a timeline for activities of what Simone will do to wrap up and where Lauren will take over

Malawi Data Study Meeting**Friday, August 29th 2014****12PM-3PM**

- **Cost-Effectiveness**
 - Costing Matrix
 - Especially filling out table for PCI and making sure we know all the data that we'll need

- **Data Management and Analysis**
 - Confirm CSB+/CSB13 timing and oil content
 - Data analysis next steps, and costing table data needs (when to merge data)
 - Cost-effectiveness data analysis (?)
 - GIS plan
 - Outstanding data issues/needs for the Phase 1 data analysis
 - Plan for which comparisons to do between baseline vs. Phase 1/baseline vs. Phase 2/Phase 1 vs. Phase 2
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FAQR Team Meeting
Tuesday, September 2th 2014
11:30 AM-5:30 PM
Lunch will be provided

11:30 AM-11:45 AM	Introductions
11:45-12 PM	FAQR Contracting Updates
12 PM-1 PM	Ebola virus in Sierra Leone
1 PM-1:45 PM	Malawi Presentation
1:45 PM-2:15 PM	Malawi Data Presentation
2:15 PM-3 PM	Burkina Faso Presentation
3 PM-4 PM	Sierra Leone Presentation
4 PM-4:30 PM	DMAP Presentation
4:30 PM-5:30 PM	Other Items <ul style="list-style-type: none"> ○ Meta-analysis ○ Supply chain logistics <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • “Final mile of commodity” • Warehouse checklist ○ Anti-parasitic Technology

Field Study FAQR Team Meeting
Wednesday, September 3rd 2014
9 AM-5 PM

- **Malawi DMAP (9AM-11AM)**
 - Market observations (review templates)
 - Publications/2 pagers
 - Costing Matrix
 - Time variables
 - Cost Effectiveness equations & analysis (fill in the DMAP section)
 - Finalize Timeline

- GIS relates to DMAP
- **Sierra Leone DMAP (11:30 AM-1:30PM)**
 - GIS plan
 - Data management: Ways to get involved during break/plans for interim
 - Discuss templates: Are they efficient for data entry and analysis?
 - Final Instruments
 - Costing Matrix explanation (what is involved, give example of Malawi work)
 - Data issues with stopping and starting of study
 - Review outcomes and clinic data with Bethany
 - Review some actual data and discuss variable codebook
 - Ebola proposal: sample size issues, etc
- **Burkina Faso DMAP (2PM-4PM)**
 - Costing Matrix explanation (what is involved, give example of Malawi work)
 - Template and Instrument review
 - Non-matching variable name issue
 - GIS plan
 - Preliminary data analysis steps and directions
 - Sample size (is 1250/arm enough)
- **Debrief with Ken (4PM-5PM)**

Field Study FAQR Team Meeting

Thursday, September 4th 2014

Sakler Rm. #219

10 AM-3 PM

10AM-12PM Team Discussion

- Costing Matrix (Devika will share what we are doing with the rest of the team)
- Dietary Diversity experiences
- Market observations (Burkina & Malawi)
- In-home observation experiences
- Ride along technique
- Lab protocol (porridge analysis)
- Data collection logistics (supervisor role, scheduling, sampling, locating HHs)
- Reporting to your partners (how frequently, what is your responsibility)
- Structure of reports (to funders, to partners)

12PM-1PM Sierra Leone

- Relapse (what to do with this data and how to enter it)
- Plan for Jamie-next several weeks

1PM-2PM Data Analysis (we discussed several important items with Ken yesterday and want to brief the full team)

- Sierra Leone data analysis
- Burkina Faso sample size

2PM-3PM Other

Annex VI. Summary of Parasite Protection Food Technology Meeting in Washington DC

A very fruitful discussion on the status of the anthelmintic technology, and its potential to be used by USAID in its food aid programs, took place as planned. Sixteen participants were part of the discussion, including Mr. Matt Nims, Deputy Director of USAID/FFP; Dr. Todd Abraham, Sr. Vice president for Mondelēz; Dr. Irwin Rosenberg, former Dean of the Tufts University School of Nutrition and Professor Bruno Jactel, CEO of TyraTech, as well as other experts from each participating organization (USAID, Mondelēz, Tyratech, Tufts University, and the National Institute of Health). USAID/FFP shared its interest in the technology as it might fit well into agency's effort to use food assistance beyond just alleviating symptoms of moderate and chronic health conditions in vulnerable settings. The technology would allow the agency to address the issue of intestinal parasites in targeted areas and groups where existing deworming and sanitation programs may not provide effective coverage, potentially including children under two and pregnant women, in an attempt to overcome some of the barriers that may limit the effectiveness of nutrition-specific programs targeting these groups. Mondelēz and Tyratech presented a significant amount of details on safety of the technology, mode of action of ingredient, delivery system both in terms of protection pre-ingestion and throughout the digestion system for a proper targeted release of bioactive compounds at an enteric level for high effectiveness. Similarly, efficacy study data was presented, potential applications and state of the technology. The case was made by Mondelēz -Tyratech that the anthelmintic bioactive can indeed serve as a suitable complement to drug interventions, as these treatments would only temporarily reduce parasite infections in the absence of changes in water and sanitation infrastructure. The use of antiparasitical natural bioactive compounds would sustainably prevent soil transmitted helminth reinfection after drug treatments.

With further understanding of the technology by both parties, at the end of the meeting there was a great deal of optimism, agreement among the parties that this indeed may provide a unique opportunity for a partnership which would enable joint exploitation of the anthelmintic technology. Although no specific agreement was reached as to what would be the most suitable model to move forward, the parties agreed on identifying appropriate commodities which would serve as utilization vehicles as a first step. These commodities should be selected based on: a) achieving the broadest and highest impact possible and targeting most relevant vulnerable groups in regions where help is needed the most; b) that it would allow USAID to improve food utilization by using anthelmintic ingredients concurrently with the feeding programs, addressing parasitic intestinal infections and thus improving food utilization and nutrition; c) commodities which would offer Mondelēz-Tyratech the opportunity to accomplish their objective of putting in practice a solution to the issue of intestinal parasite in developing countries, with the possibility of doing capacity building in the targeted regions, and thus permitting them to have presence in these regions beyond USAID food aid intervention timeframe. In order to jointly explore this model, both sides agreed on internally re-grouping to identify which commodities would serve best to accomplish these shared objectives. From USAID side, potential products include meal replacement energy bars, medium and small quantity lipid-based nutritional supplements, both of which are of interest to the parties. It was also agreed that it would not have to be current commodities in their present forms. Mondelēz offered the possibility of using its research and development capabilities for eventual reformulation (if needed) of suitable commodities such as USAID meal

replacement energy and nutrition-dense bars. From Mondelez side, a range of products, from sandwich cookies to powder beverage, have been tested with positive results. After internal consultation, the parties agreed on a joint follow-up meeting on October 1st, once there has been time for the two groups to re-group internally and assess which commodities, which could be different from the abovementioned ones, would fit best.

Annex VII. Agenda for FAQR Cost-Effectiveness Meetings in Boston, MA

**Cost-Effectiveness Meetings
September 16-17, 2014
Boston, MA
Jaharis Room 135**

9:30 AM-4PM, Tuesday, September 16**9:30AM -10:30AM Updates**

- Malawi Study Updates
- Burkina Faso Study Updates
- Status of the FAQR research
 - Share proposal
 - Plan for what we intend to do with data collected in Salone

10:30AM-11:45AM Malawi Cost-effectiveness analysis

Attendees: Ken, Lauren, Devika, Bea, Jocelyn, Steve, Shelley, Patrick (11-11:45)

- Next steps for analysis
- Indicators
- Table shells

12:15PM-1:30PM Steve Seminar**1:30PM-4PM Malawi Costing Matrix****9AM-4PM, Wednesday, September 17****9AM-12PM Malawi cost-effectiveness plan**

Attendees: Ken, Lauren, Devika, Bea, Jocelyn, Steve, Shelley

- Next steps for analysis
- Indicators
- Table shells

1PM-3:30PM Sierra Leone and Burkina Faso

- Sierra Leone-what can we do with our current cost data
- Burkina-discuss needed cost data and frequency of collection
- Burkina-market observations

3:30PM-4PM Other