



FEED THE FUTURE

The U.S. Government's Global Hunger & Food Security Initiative

FEED THE FUTURE ENABLING ENVIRONMENT FOR FOOD SECURITY

PERFORMANCE MONITORING AND EVALUATION PLAN

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I. INTRODUCTION

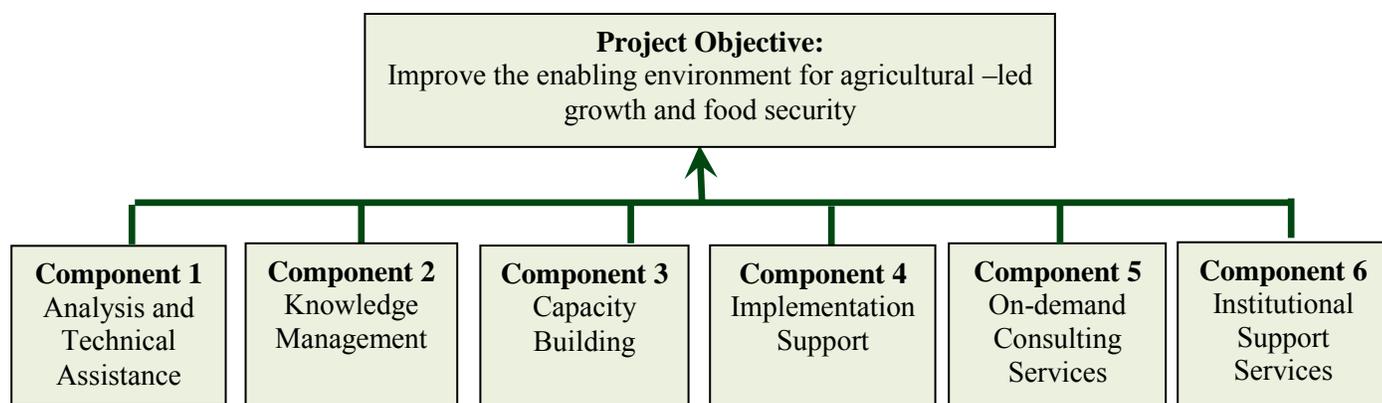
The Feed the Future Enabling Environment for Food Security project is a global support mechanism for USAID Missions in Feed the Future Focus Countries and aligned countries, and other Washington-based USAID offices to address policies as well as legal, institutional, and regulatory factors affecting food security outcomes. The project offers a highly flexible and responsive design across 6 distinct Components that represent types of services that USAID may access through this mechanism.

The project is structured as a Blanket Purchase Agreement, with the majority of the project’s estimated value reserved for future technical service requests built into standalone Call Order procurements. The scope, scale, and technical area of each individual Call Order will directly influence the extent to which any prospective indicator can be achieved. Indicators at the Call Order level may be clearly captured and defined, however any BPA-level indicator is necessarily illustrative and non-binding, because the scope of the project is undefined by design.

This Project Management and Evaluation Plan (PMEP Plan) provides annual and life-of-project indicators across the 6 technical components. The indicators serve as measurable, if imperfect proxies for priorities in service delivery across each component. To facilitate project planning and to inform plausible performance monitoring indicators, we have taken certain assumptions regarding future agency demand for project services based upon the course of performance of previous global support projects similar to the Feed the Future Enabling Environment for Food Security project. Nevertheless, control of the level of utilization of project services remains fully vested within USAID, thus these estimates are subject to realignment based upon actual demand.

2. RESULTS FRAMEWORK

The results framework provides the conceptual basis upon which project interventions and activities are designed. Requests for project support will flow through one or multiple components, any combination of which will feed up toward the Project Objective.



Within that context, this project will work to contribute to the following broader Objectives, Intermediate Results (IRs), and Sub-IRs of USAID’s Office of Market and Partnership Innovations within the Bureau for Food Security (BFS):

Development Objective: To increase adoption of innovative tools, technologies and approaches to encourage investments that enhance food security.

IR 3. Improved Agriculture and Nutrition Enabling Environment

Sub-IR 3.1 Increased Use of Analytical Tools and Data Analyses

Sub-IR 3.2 Enhanced Private Sector Engagement in Public Policy Dialogue

The project objective and primary results have been established based on the following development hypothesis as stipulated in the RFQ for the Blanket Purchase Agreement:

“When Missions are equipped with the right information, they can design more strategic programs, target identified enabling environment factors and act on them with concrete, practical actions that increase innovation, accountability and inclusive agriculture sector growth.”

3. PERFORMANCE INDICATORS

Performance indicators have been selected to measure results across the 6 components of the project, as detailed in the results framework above. Indicators were chosen from a combination of contractually-required indicators and custom indicators tailored to measure interventions specific to the project’s implementation approach. All proposed indicators meet USAID data quality standards for validity, integrity, precision, reliability, and timeliness described in ADS 203.3.5.1 and are included in the table below.

Achievement against targets will be reported on a quarterly, semi-annual, or annual basis in accordance with each indicator’s Performance Indicator Reference Sheet (PIRS). Due to the unique nature of a Blanket Purchase Agreement, wherein control over the distribution of support services vests within USAID based upon changing demand, indicator targets will be reviewed and revised semi-annually to refine approximations of likely future demand by USAID.

4. QUALITATIVE AND CUSTOM DATA MANAGEMENT

As there are relatively few quantitative FTF indicators that focus on enabling environment, the PMEP Plan includes a number of custom indicators to measure the impacts of specific interventions targeted by EEFS. These indicators along with information derived from qualitative client satisfaction surveys (described below), will be used to provide context to the data reported into the Feed the Future Monitoring System (FTFMS). Qualitative data will supplement our quantitative “how much” analysis with “why” analysis.

Activity Questionnaires

In addition to measuring agreed-upon indicators with USAID, Fintrac believes that it is important to go beyond monitoring of traditional output indicators to ascertain broader project outcomes. Therefore, in conjunction with USAID, Fintrac will propose conducting surveys as part of each Call Order under the BPA to identify:

1. The purpose that led to the utilization of the mechanism,
2. How analysis/support was utilized,
3. Any developments directly or indirectly resulting from the project support, and
4. Level of success of the activity in accomplishing the stated objectives as listed in the Call Order.

The results of these surveys will inform project implementation and allow for adapting services based on empirical findings. This is consistent with the project’s approach to integrating KM, placing emphasis on

using all different types of information to support the projects ability to continuously learn and adapt to be responsive and effective. Utilization of these surveys will be subject to USAID concurrence.

5. DATA QUALITY ASSESSMENT (DQA) PROCEDURES

To uphold Fintrac and USAID's quality standards, all FTF-EEFS data will undergo rigorous internal procedures to ensure validity, integrity, precision, reliability, and timeliness. The main purpose of a DQA is to identify and raise awareness on the strength and weakness of data to be used for decision-making as determined by applying the five data quality standards (ADS 203, Assessing and Learning, p.40). Data must fulfill the known data quality standards of validity, integrity, precision, reliability, and timeliness (ADS Chapter 203, P.39). A DQA also aims to improve the quality of data through internal data quality control (data quality assurance) system and implementation and follow-up of the implementation of recommendations from the DQA. A DQA supports efficient use of resources and credibly addresses information needs by reporting legitimate data.

Based on these data quality standards and in line with Data Quality Assessment Checklist (ADS Chapter 597, P.12) a simplified version of the DQA checklist for auditing will be developed that allows the project to assess the quality of its data and strengthen the data management and reporting systems. This internal tool helps to ensure that standards are harmonized with expected data quality standards cited above. Fintrac will conduct an initial internal DQA self-assessment at the end of year one of the BPA. Follow-up DQA assessments will be conducted at the end of the first and third option years (years 2 and 4 of the BPA).

ANNEX I – PERFORMANCE INDICATOR TABLE

Indicator Title		Source	Y1	Y2	Y3	Y4	Y5	LOP	Units
Project Objective: Improve the enabling environment for agricultural growth and food security									
1	Strategies utilizing findings and recommendations	RFQ	2	8	8	8	8	34	Strategies
Component 1: Analysis and Technical Assistance									
2	Technical analyses conducted for Missions	RFQ	3	8	8	8	8	35	Technical analyses
3	Technical briefs developed and disseminated	RFQ	4	5	5	5	4	24	Technical briefs
4	Number of policies / regulations / administrative procedures in each of the following stages of development as a result of USG assistance in each case: Stage 1: Analyzed	FTF 4.5.1-24	150	250	350	350	300	1,400	Policies
Component 2: Knowledge Management									
5	Knowledge management plan designed and implemented	Custom	1	0	0	0	0	1	KM Plan
6	Webinars or other learning engagement conducted	RFQ, customized	1	2	2	2	2	9	Engagements
7	Number of public events with project participation	Custom	3	5	5	5	3	21	Public events
Component 3: Capacity Building									
8	Number of capacity building plans developed and implemented	Custom	0	2	2	2	1	7	Capacity building plans
9	Seminars and training courses and/or training materials developed	RFQ, customized	2	5	5	5	3	20	Seminars/materials
10	USAID staff trained	RFQ	30	60	60	60	45	255	Training participants
Component 4: Implementation Support									
11	Technical consultants provided to Missions to support implementation of actionable recommendations	RFQ	1	8	8	8	8	33	Technical consultants
12	Number of Missions provided implementation support	Custom	1	2	2	2	1	8	Missions
Component 5: On-demand Consulting Services									
13	On-demand service requests resolved	Custom	5	8	8	8	8	37	Requests resolved
Component 6: Institutional Support Services									
14	Institutional support service requests resolved	Custom	5	8	8	8	8	37	Requests resolved

ANNEX 2 – MONITORING AND EVALUATION WORK PLAN

Activity	Year 1				Year 2				Year 3				Year 4				Year 5			
	Q1	Q2	Q3	Q4																
Establishing and Adapting Monitoring and Evaluation Framework																				
Finalize BPA PMEP Plan																				
Develop Call Order-specific PMEP plans (timing TBD)																				
Semi-annual indicator review to validate/adjust indicators and targets																				
Data Reporting																				
Semi-annual reports																				
Mid-term project evaluation																				
Final project evaluation																				
Additional M&E Tasks																				
Conduct initial internal DQA self-assessment																				
Conduct follow-up DQA assessments																				
Conduct client satisfaction surveys following call order assignments (timing TBD)																				