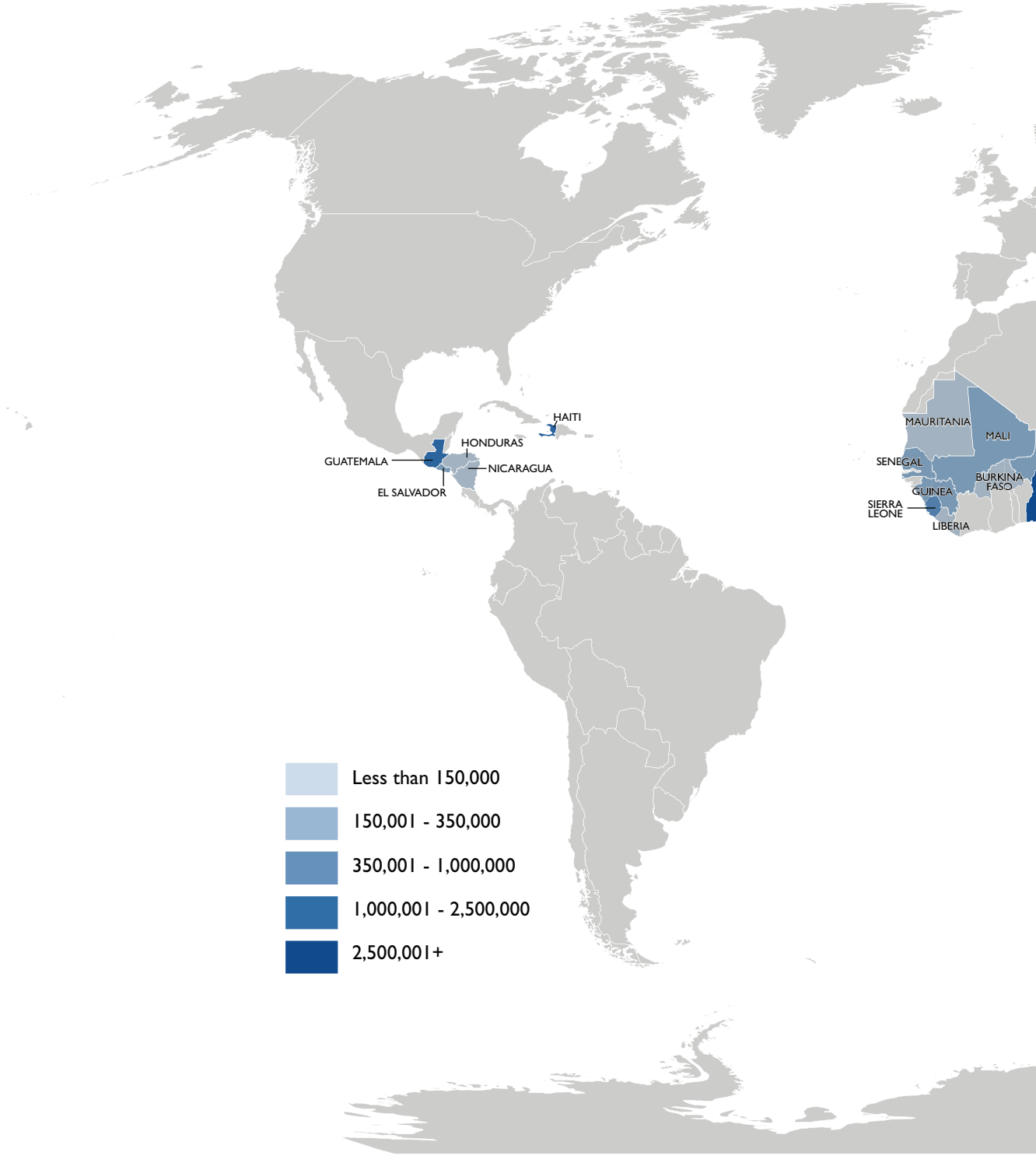




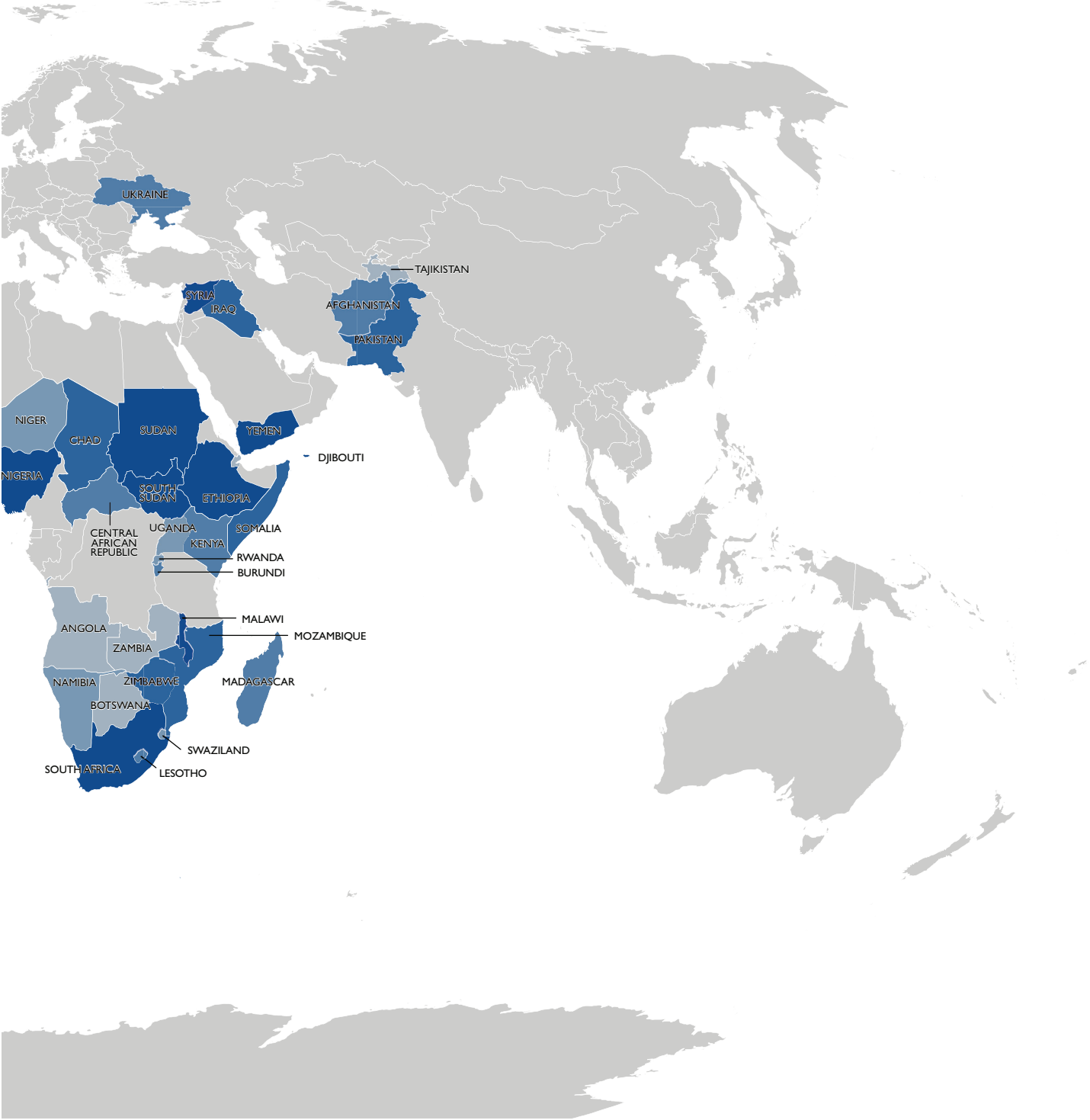
# FOOD FOR PEACE YEAR IN REVIEW

# POPULATION IN NEED OF EMERG



# ENCY FOOD ASSISTANCE FY 2016

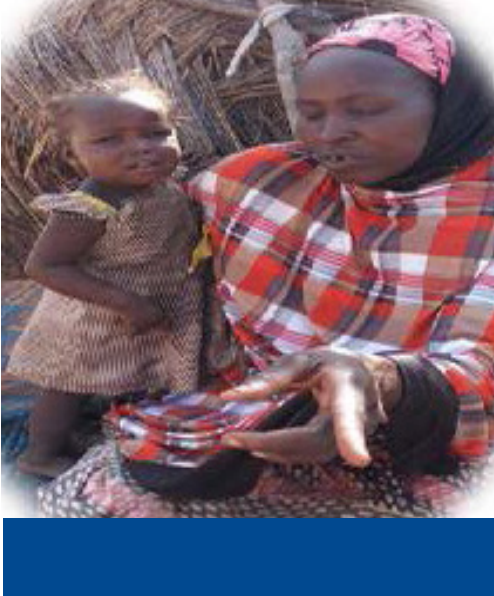
*in countries monitored by FEWS NET*





## Introduction

Jennetie Asheber Ali, a widow in Dendegura village in Ethiopia, has struggled to provide for herself and her three children. With only a small plot of land, an ox, and six goats, when the latest drought hit Jennetie and others in her village were devastated. On the verge of selling her land to provide food for the family, critical food assistance from USAID through partner Catholic Relief Services enabled her to keep her land, keep her son in school and save money for the future.



Aicha Magagi, a 23-month old living in Rouwana Chabara village in Niger, was malnourished in the early months of her life. Orphaned five days after birth, her grandmother Alia took her under her care, but without the benefit of her mother's milk, she became malnourished. At six months her grandmother enrolled Aicha in Mercy Corps' USAID-funded child monitoring and growth activities in her village. Early treatment at the local health center, combined with advice for Alia on continued growth monitoring and nutritious foods to cook, has helped Aicha turn the corner towards a happy and healthy life.



Ahmed Ali, an out of work taxi driver in Yemen's Hodeida city, has been struggling since the conflict in Yemen began. Even before the war, Yemen had one of the highest rates of malnutrition in the world. But when his two-year old daughter Lila was recently diagnosed with moderate acute malnutrition, he was dismayed. Support from USAID through partner the UN World Food Program meant Ahmed could begin treating his daughter's malnutrition right away with ready to use supplementary food. His wife noticed a difference quickly — Lila responded well to the additional nutrition, showing more energy and wanting to play like a healthy toddler.

These beneficiaries of USAID Office of Food for Peace (FFP) projects, as well as Alkama in Syria, Abore in Uganda and Mariah from Zimbabwe, who you'll hear about later, exemplify the daily struggles in both emergency and development contexts that Food for Peace works to address.

Reflecting the compassion and goodwill of the American people, FFP is the largest provider of food assistance in the world. In Fiscal Year (FY) 2016, FFP faced the challenge of responding to numerous large scale food crises around the world, including complex crises in countries like Syria, South Sudan, Yemen and Iraq, and natural disasters such as the impacts of El Niño-related drought. Responses in Ethiopia, Syria, South Sudan, Yemen, Sudan, Iraq, Malawi, Somalia, Kenya and the Democratic Republic of the Congo were the bulk of FFP's emergency response in 2016, and in many cases knew no borders. For example, El Niño-affected ten of the countries in which FFP already provided assistance, including Ethiopia and countries in Southern Africa and Central America.

In FY 2016, FFP reached more than 60 million people in 52 countries through emergency relief and long term development food security activities to achieve its overarching objective: *to improve and sustain food and nutrition security for vulnerable groups around the world*. FFP development activities, valued at \$452 million, reached more than 8.1 million people in 15 countries. FFP emergency activities, valued at \$2.35 billion, reached 56.1 million people in 54 countries.

This Year-in-Review Annual Report is a new publication for FFP. It aims to provide the reader with highlights and trends from a number of our development projects and emergency responses, drawing on our improved data collection and analysis.

## I. Inside FFP

FY 2016 was a milestone year for FFP. In fall 2016, FFP launched a new ten-year food assistance and food security strategy, to improve and sustain food and nutrition security for vulnerable groups around the world.

The new strategy captures the best of what we currently do, but challenges FFP and our partners to strive for greater impact with greater efficiency and sustainability. Building on our 2006-2010 strategy, this one focuses more deeply on strengthening systems and institutions to sustain success, elevating governance, social cohesion and conflict sensitivity. It places a central emphasis on understanding local context and adapting to changing circumstances to remain relevant and effective. It re-embraces our long commitment to gender equity and acknowledges the importance of engaging youth to advance sustained food and nutrition security.

It maintains the vision of the last FFP Strategic Plan, "A world free from hunger and poverty, where people live in dignity, peace, and security," but broadens the previous goal of reducing food insecurity to one that envisions improving food security and sustaining it. It also embraces "nutrition security"—deliberately signaling the importance of a wide range of nutrition, sanitation and health factors that, together with the stable availability of and access to nutritious food, contribute to improved food security outcomes.

As a part of the strategy, FFP has three corporate objectives: Leadership, Coordination & Partnerships Strengthened; Efficient & Accountable Resource Management Enhanced; and Monitoring, Evaluation Analysis & Applied Learning Improved. Latest steps taken by FFP in FY 2016 under each of these objectives are as follows:



# Leadership, Coordination & Partnerships Strengthened

With an expanding programming toolkit, and an increasingly robust body of evidence about what works, FFP has an unprecedented opportunity to lead, influence and strengthen efforts to end global hunger. FFP has engaged with partners in a variety of ways in FY 2016:

- A. *Here in the U.S. the Global Food Security Act was signed into law***, marking an historic moment toward ending global hunger and malnutrition. The act highlighted the U.S. Government's commitment to sustained investments in agriculture and nutrition to empower smallholder farmers and strengthen communities and economies through agricultural development. In addition, Section Seven of the 2016 Global Food Security Act codified FFP's Emergency Food Security Program<sup>1</sup>. Food for Peace has played an active role in the development of the Global Food Security Strategy, and our development activities often lay the groundwork for Feed the Future's long-term, market-led efforts
- B. *In Turkey, thousands gathered at the World Humanitarian Summit, heeding the UN Secretary General's Call to embrace "One Humanity"*** and acknowledge that the scope and scale of human suffering, generated largely by conflict, is unprecedented and requires new ways of doing business. The 2016 World Humanitarian Summit called for greater alignment between humanitarian and development investments, deeper engagement of the Global South, sharper focus on broadening access to game-changing science and technology, increased efficiency in the delivery of assistance, and leverage of private sector investments. The United States committed to establish an internal process to ensure better collaboration between USAID's own humanitarian and development assistance efforts, and to expand USAID's work in building resilience in fragile communities.
- C. *FFP co-hosted the International Food Assistance and Food Security conference alongside USAID's Bureau for Food Security and the U.S. Department of Agriculture***. The conference, held in conjunction with World Food Prize events, brought together public- and private-sector partners to discuss issues related to delivering programs to alleviate hunger and promote long-term food security throughout the world.
- D. *FFP supported the Cash and Learning Partnership (CaLP) Community of Practice in North America***. FFP continued to support CaLP's path towards building a global community of practice comprising more than 150 organizations. FFP now sits on CaLP's Technical Advisory Group representing USAID, and has provided grant support to deliver capacity building trainings, develop new training content on monitoring and evaluation, maintain a library of tools, evaluations, and other resources for organizations implementing cash and voucher programming, and to facilitate the establishment of the new U.S. and Canada Cash Working Group.

<sup>1</sup> FFP receives emergency resources through the International Disaster Assistance (IDA) account, authorized in the Foreign Assistance Act. FFP uses these funds for local and regional procurement of food, cash transfers and food vouchers. These resources are also called FFP's Emergency Food Security Program (EFSP).

# Efficient & Accountable Resource Management Enhanced

FFP has undertaken a number of steps and participated in studies in FY 2016 to ensure efficient and accountable resource management.

- A. FFP released its *Modality Decision Tool***, which provides humanitarian partners with a logical framework for evaluating and building consensus around modality choice. FFP presented the tool to partners and staff through training and knowledge sharing sessions in fall 2016. Elements of the tool have also been incorporated into FFP's emergency application guidance and shared with FFP partners.
- B. FFP began a review of its *Market-Based Emergency Food Security Program***, to look at how the program has evolved since 2010, assess program design and implementation processes, analyze program cost-efficiency trends, and assess the effects of the projects on local economies and market actors.
- C. Over the course of 2016, FFP worked with the GAO both on ongoing engagements and to implement recommendations for new and recent reports.** Ongoing engagements focused on FFP-specific processes, such as implementation costs of Title II programs and market assessments of in-kind food aid, as well as overall U.S. Government assistance for refugees in the Syria Response, the counter-ISIL effort, and Ebola recovery. There were no recommendations in the Syria or Ebola reports specific to FFP. GAO completed the study "International Cash-Based Food Assistance: USAID Has Established Processes to Monitor Cash and Voucher Projects, but Data Limitations Impede Evaluation," finding that FFP had strong systems in place to monitor cash-based food assistance. The two recommendations contained in the report, together with programmatic learning and best practices in monitoring and evaluation of cash-based food assistance programming, are guiding FFP's efforts to improve standard practices and ensure efficient and accountable emergency food assistance programming. FFP has been working with GAO on several ongoing reports:

  - a. A Section 202(e)/ITSH report looking at Title II implementation costs.
  - b. A market assessment of in-kind food aid, looking at both USAID and USDA.
  - c. Three reports that we are part of but not the focus of including U.S. Government assistance for refugees in the Syria response, counter ISIL effort, and Ebola recovery.

# Monitoring, Evaluation Analysis & Applied Learning Improved

For the past six years FFP has been working to improve its data collection and evidence based learning. In FY 2012 it made the decision to support independent population based surveys for all new development programs to ensure consistency of approach, comparability and quality of data. Those baseline and endline surveys help refine the project design, establish realistic yet ambitious targets and better judge our programs' effect on chronic malnutrition (stunting and underweight), poverty (prevalence of poverty and poverty gap) and food security (household dietary diversity score and household hunger scale). The first round of development projects with BOTH an independent baseline and final evaluation are coming to completion this year, the results of which will be shared in FY 2017. While we can only learn of the results on stunting, poverty and other measures upon completion of the final evaluation, FFP regularly collects annual results reporting data to ensure intermediate steps known to achieve strong results are being taken.

M&E milestones for the year included:

- A. **Launching the Refine and Implement approach for development food security activities.** This approach gives partners and FFP a year to refine the implementation of their activity. This could include changes to communities and geographic areas, and building better relationships with the host government or community leaders.
- B. **Changing the development activity solicitation to require strong focus on sustainability and resilience.** Based on the recommendations from the study *Sustaining Development: Results from a Four-Country Study of Sustainability and Exit Strategies* among Development Food Assistance Projects, and the findings from mid-term evaluations, in FY 2016 FFP added sustainability as a scoring criterion to assess the development food assistance program applications.
- C. **Updating Technical Reference Chapters** for development food security activities to strengthen guidance provided to partners on designing program interventions.
- D. **Issuing the Policy and Guidance for Monitoring, Evaluation and Reporting for Development Food Security Activities.** The policy and guidance explains the essential components of an M&E plan, such as theory of change, LogFrame, annual monitoring, indicator performance tracking table, baseline study and midterm evaluations. The policy and guidance presents FFP's M&E requirements and expectations of the applicants and awardees of FFP development food security activities.
- E. **Procuring Third Party Monitoring** to facilitate monitoring of FFP investments in the countries where mobility of U.S. Government staff is limited. Jointly with the Office of Foreign Disaster Assistance (OFDA), FFP procured a third-party monitoring contract to improve accountability as well as monitoring activities in Somalia and Yemen.
- F. **Completing a joint FFP and partner mid-term review of the Guatemala development program.** To improve learning and the quality of program implementation, FFP carried out a mid-term evaluation of two Guatemala activities in 2015 and recommended substantial changes in their targeting approach.



and social and behavior change strategies. This was the first time FFP led a mid-term evaluation with members of the FFP Washington technical team and participation from Mission and implementing partners' technical staff. FFP learned valuable lessons from the midterm evaluation that were used to revise the Request for Application (RFA) and other guidance. FFP plans to continue the joint mid-term evaluations in the coming years.

- G. Developing indicators to measure the timeliness, cost effectiveness and appropriateness of emergency food assistance interventions.** These updated indicators have been incorporated into FFP's FY 2017 Annual Program Statement for International Emergency Food Assistance.
- H. Adding a resilience module** to track households' vulnerability to shocks, and capacities to manage shocks, for the Nepal, Bangladesh and Mali baseline surveys. The data will allow FFP awardees to refine their theories of change and enable FFP to assess the resilience of target households.
- I. Working on an Evaluation and Learning Mechanism** to provide a better understanding of how FFP activities are functioning, whether the projects are achieving targeted results, how the projects are perceived by the primary stakeholders, and whether approaches, methods and interventions promoted by FFP are efficient and effective. There will be various studies and evaluations (initially in West, East and Central Africa) including population-based baseline surveys, end-line studies, evaluations (primarily performance evaluations) and thematic studies. The knowledge gained from these evaluations is intended to be communicated and applied throughout the program cycle.
- J. Revising the Annual Results Report Guidance** to improve the overall quality and consistency of activity reporting on progress towards achieving results while fostering gender integration, and taking climate and environment into account. The guidance also required reporting on the use of cash, voucher and/or local and regional procurement because a large number of emergency and development activities started to use these modalities. Finally, the guidance requested an analysis of direct participants who benefit from multi-sectoral approaches integrated at the household or individual level, because evidence suggested that individuals and households achieve a higher level of food and nutritional outcomes when they participate in multiple interventions that address availability, access and utilization.
- K. Continuing Focus on articulating the theory of change** to improve program design, monitoring and evaluation. Since 2014, FFP has been requiring development food security activity applicants to



articulate Theory of Change and submit with the application. FFP has also used its TOPS Program to develop capacity of implementing partners on theory of change.

## II. Country Highlights

FFP works in many different contexts around the world to address global hunger. It responds to natural disasters, helping people to recover from shocks such as drought, flood or earthquakes; it provides food assistance in conflict settings for those whose livelihoods are disrupted and have difficulty accessing food; and it provides food for refugees who have fled to the safety of a neighboring country, often arriving with little to no possessions. FFP also works to tackle

the root causes of chronic hunger and poverty through its development food activities. This section highlights examples of FFP's work in each of these settings.



### A. Spotlight on Natural Disaster

El Niño is a naturally occurring weather phenomenon that takes place every two to seven years. During an El Niño event, the Pacific Ocean warms up more than usual. This, in turn, affects wind circulation, air temperature and precipitation patterns, impacting the weather around the world. In March 2015, the Famine Early Warning System (FEWS NET) predicted that an El Niño weather event would fuel both extreme drought conditions and heavy rains in many parts of the world and contribute to the food insecurity of four million people. In the face of one of the worst El Niño events on record, the U.S. Congress acted, appropriating an additional \$250 million in Title II food assistance in FY 2016, helping to ensure a robust U.S. response.



#### I. Ethiopia

The 2015-2016 El Niño hit Ethiopia hard; the country experienced its worst drought in fifty years. It surpassed in scope and scale the historic drought of 1984, during which some estimate more than a million lives were lost. To worsen matters, consecutive prior poor seasonal rains and harvests compounded the impact of El Niño.

Ethiopians such as Jennetie Asheber Ali, whose story was included earlier, were devastated. In some cases forced to sell off their land and livestock to put food on the table, many lost their means of earning an income.

Yet effective early warning, improved health and other systems, and the Government of Ethiopia's (GOE) decision to acknowledge the crisis early on meant this latest drought did not lead to famine for families like Jennetie's. In the face of one of the worst El Niño events on record, the GOE and donor community, including the United States, mounted what was perhaps one of the largest drought-relief efforts in the world.

FFP tripled the amount of U.S. in-kind relief food assistance it provided in Ethiopia from the previous year, and expanded both its relief efforts and its four development activities implemented in support of the GOE-led Productive Safety Net Program (PSNP). In FY 2016 alone, FFP mobilized more than 1.7 million metric tons of food, including 11,000 tons of specialized nutritious food to prevent and treat malnutrition, feeding more than

4 million people in similar circumstances to Jennetie. U.S. food was critical to this response, given the limited amount of food available in local markets.

A Catholic Relief Services (CRS)-led consortium responded decisively in the highland areas of Ethiopia with our support, expanding food distributions from 700,000 beneficiaries at the beginning of 2015 to more than 2.9 million by spring/summer 2016.

One person assisted was Mulu Dawit. A 39-year old widow with two children, Mrs. Mulu has led her household since the death of her husband. The food assistance she got through CRS was a lifeline, stabilizing her family. “Once I have received my first monthly food ration from the program, my hopes and energy to work returned and I replanted my small plot of land with seasonal vegetable crops.” She is no longer worried about being able to feed her children.



With FFP resources, WFP concentrated emergency relief in the lowland areas of the Somali region, reaching some 1.5 million additional beneficiaries. WFP also played a pivotal role in scaling up a massive logistics operation, taking on supply chain management for most relief distributions.

On the development side, the PSNP, established in the aftermath of previous famines to mitigate loss of life, also played a crucial role. It allowed an additional 8 million chronically food insecure people to benefit from predictable, seasonal food and cash transfers provided in exchange for participants’ support in the creation of community assets and social infrastructure (e.g. schools, health posts). FFP development programs supporting the PSNP reached 2.6 million people, injecting approximately \$100 million annually for conditional food transfers and development activities that mitigated the impact of the drought and other shocks.

In addition, FFP used the development program platform to ensure farmers had the seeds needed to plant their fields once the rains began, ensuring their recovery after the drought subsided. This seed distribution was part of larger U.S. Government efforts to get 1.5 million farming families back on their feet.

FFP programs were complemented by investments in water, health, nutrition and livelihood recovery programs supported by OFDA, the USAID Mission, and other donors. As part of USAID’s growing focus on better building the resilience of vulnerable communities, the USAID/Ethiopia Mission invoked “crisis modifiers” to inject emergency dollars into existing development awards, and also redirected development programs, adjusting planned activities to better reflect the changed circumstances on the ground. USAID used its full range of tools to help Ethiopia face down the worst drought in decades and pave the way for recovery

## 2. Zimbabwe



Further south on the African continent, the 2015/2016 El Niño weather event exacerbated drought conditions across much of Southern Africa. After two, or in some cases three, consecutive years of poor rains and failed harvests, families were left with little to eat and very few ways of coping with the harsh drought. The drought was the worst in 35 years for the region and seriously affected Madagascar, Malawi, Mozambique, Lesotho, Swaziland and Zimbabwe. Even South Africa — normally a breadbasket for the region — had significant production deficits, creating a large regional shortfall. By the end of 2016, approximately 21.3 million people in Southern Africa required emergency assistance, according to the Regional Inter-Agency Standing Committee (RIASCO).

The impacts of the 2015/2016 El Niño both exposed and expanded the rationale for USAID investments in resilience. With the impacts of the El Niño-induced drought pushing households beyond their abilities to cope, the challenge of finding seeds for planting meant that the situation was unlikely to improve unless seed interventions took place.

Given the existing food assistance architecture in place and the complex economic markets in Southern

Africa, FFP used a range of tools -- including mobilizing U.S. commodities, providing funds for local and regional procurement of cereals and pulses, supporting agricultural activities and funding vulnerability assessments -- to provide the appropriate response. In FY 2016, FFP provided over \$236 million toward the Southern Africa drought response, reaching 4 million vulnerable people with critical food assistance and livelihoods support.

Cultivating New Frontiers in Agriculture (CNFA)'s development food security activity, a five-year program in Zimbabwe that was launched in 2013, proactively responded to the drought forecasts by shifting activities. Rather than beginning to graduate beneficiaries as originally planned, USAID and CNFA decided to add a family ration to ensure that pregnant and lactating women and children under two years of age would not



have to share their specialized foods meant to prevent malnutrition. At the suggestion of the USAID Mission in Zimbabwe, CNFA also temporarily shifted Cash for Assets activities so that individuals working on community projects were compensated with food rather than money, a decision made based on markets analysis and discussions with affected communities. This project reached more than 284,000 people, with the goal of engaging communities in priority activities that helped mitigate the impacts of drought, increased their agricultural productivity, increased their incomes and enhanced nutrition practices. FFP's other development partner World Vision, implemented similar activities to shift to drought response and ensure the continued success of families.

One person benefiting from these activities is Susan Madendeya, a 54 year old mother of five from Chivi district in Zimbabwe. Susan is currently the sole breadwinner for her family. Despite the drought resulting in 70 percent crop failure in her district, Susan got high yields of groundnuts on her land, as a result of some of the new agricultural techniques she learned. She has also diversified her income sources, now raising chickens and bees to produce eggs and honey for sale.

Donors, NGOs and international financial institutions are coming together now to identify the lessons learned from the 2015/2016 El Niño weather event to help inform future programming and ensure that they are designed to be more shock responsive.

## B. Spotlight on Conflict Response



The protracted nature of conflict-driven crises, very different from the shorter commitments of natural disasters, has huge implications for everyone providing humanitarian assistance. As a result, 80 percent of the world's humanitarian funding addresses conflict, while just 20 percent addresses natural disasters — a reversal from a decade prior according to the UN. In FY 2016, conflicts in three countries in the Middle East — Syria, Iraq and Yemen — alone comprise almost 30 percent of Food for Peace's emergency relief budget. Today, people who leave their homes due to conflict remain

displaced for an average of 26 years<sup>2</sup>. Compounding the strain on resources, conflicts not only last longer but are occurring more frequently.

### I. Yemen



For over a decade, conflict between the Republic of Yemen Government (RoYG) and Al Houthi opposition forces in the north and between Al Qaeda-affiliated groups and RoYG forces in the south have disrupted and displaced populations in Yemen. An escalation in conflict in 2015, coupled with protracted political instability, the resulting economic crisis, rising fuel and food prices, and high unemployment, has left more than half of Yemen's 27.4 million people food-insecure and more than 7 million people in need of emergency food assistance in FY 2016.

<sup>2</sup> <https://www.state.gov/j/prm/policyissues/issues/protracted/>

One such family was Ahmed Ali's family, who we met earlier. Until the latest fighting started in 2015, Ahmed was able to provide for his family by driving a taxi. But the conflict has meant relying on friends and family to share what little they have, since he has no income.

In response, FFP provided more than \$200 million for the ongoing humanitarian crisis in Yemen, using a variety of interventions and partnering with several organizations to meet the immediate food needs of the most vulnerable Yemenis. Through WFP, FFP provided nearly 154,000 tons of U.S. in-kind commodities, helping WFP to feed an average of 3 million beneficiaries a month in 2016, as well as Title II Section 202(e) funding for the milling and local purchase of wheat flour.



Ahmed's daughter Lila benefited from this food. Ahmed was given packets of Ready-to-Use Supplementary food to give his daughter for two weeks to treat her malnutrition. Lila responded immediately, and is on the road to recovery.

FFP also used part of its total Title II funding in Yemen, as well as \$35 million in IDA funds, for market-based assistance to WFP and three NGOs for food vouchers, enabling vulnerable communities to access food in local markets. This ensured that recipients have consistent access to basic food commodities while supporting local vendors and stimulating local markets, crucial in crisis-affected communities.

To meet critical nutrition needs, FFP provided nearly \$1.8 million to UNICEF for ready-to-use therapeutic foods to treat severe acute malnutrition among 27,000 children under age five. Even before the conflict, 47 percent of children under the age of five were suffering from chronic malnutrition, and over 12 percent from global acute malnutrition. The conflict has continued to negatively affect malnutrition rates, so FFP nutrition support through UNICEF and WFP is vital to reach children like Lila.

In addition to providing food assistance directly to vulnerable populations, FFP also supported an unusual project for an emergency humanitarian food assistance effort: large-scale infrastructure. The ongoing conflict damaged the Hudaydah port, reducing imports to a fraction of the levels required to sustain the Yemeni population, which relies on imports for 90 percent of its grain and other food sources. Food for Peace and OFDA contributed \$2 million each to WFP's efforts to repair the port in order to improve the port's capacity to swiftly import essential supplies, including food. This effort has been critical for getting both humanitarian food aid and commercial food into the country, to reach people in need and restock markets.

## 2. Syria



Six years of ongoing conflict in Syria has left 13.5 million Syrians internally displaced -- roughly 73 percent of the population inside Syria -- and 4.9 million Syrians displaced in neighboring countries in need of humanitarian assistance. In FY 2016, USAID provided more than \$322 million to continue its efforts to provide food assistance to the most vulnerable populations both inside Syria and to Syrian refugees in surrounding countries. The flexibility of EFSP funds enabled USAID to provide life-saving assistance to five million Syrians every month including four million beneficiaries inside Syria and one million refugees in Egypt, Iraq, Jordan, Lebanon and Turkey.

USAID, through implementing partners including WFP and nongovernmental organizations (NGOs), has been providing families across Syria with locally and regionally procured food or food vouchers where markets are functioning. The conflict has driven record levels of displacement within Syria and throughout the region. In 2016 alone, there were 900,000 rapid onset IDPs. Partners rapidly responded to newly displaced persons as the battle lines moved - providing families without homes or the utensils to cook, food baskets that were lighter, easier to carry and ready to eat.



Alkama Mohammad and his family in Aleppo Governate are some of the Syrians receiving food vouchers. Because of the ongoing conflict, Alkama's wife cannot get her cancer treatment, and his children have dropped out of school. Before receiving vouchers, the family was sometimes forced to collect wood, garbage and plastic bags to use for cooking. Now their situation has changed for the better. His wife said, "This kind of assistance helped us more, and covered most of our family's food needs, and it prevents us from needing to borrow money from relatives or the markets."

USAID sponsored innovative programs to provide bread - the staple food of the Syrian diet - to food insecure populations throughout the country. By providing wheat flour and yeast through partners, local bakeries are able to increase the production of bread and sell it at a stable and affordable price to the community, mitigating the high price inflation that has affected many other items inside the country. As a result, millions of food insecure Syrians have access to bread and bakeries are able to stay in business, pay workers and purchase additional supplies in local markets. This has encouraged stability, and provided sustenance and a sense of community to the victims of war.

Over the course of FY 2016, USAID provided NGOs with \$29.7 million to support its food voucher program, enabling Syrian refugees to buy familiar grocery items in local supermarkets and prepare meals with nutritious ingredients, including fresh foods. In addition, the food voucher program has a secondary, crucial benefit of injecting more than \$1.7 billion into the economies of Syria's neighboring countries and has created employment, with more than 1,300 new jobs since it began.

### C. Spotlight on Refugees



Abore Oliga, 28, is a South Sudanese woman recently arrived in Uganda. She left her Eastern Equatoria home because of hunger.

"In South Sudan, if you have no money you will not find food. I almost died," she said. Four of her children, including twins, died in South Sudan due to illness. Her remaining child, a two and a half year old, came with her to Uganda.

According to the UN Refugee Agency,<sup>3</sup> more than 65 million people like Abore worldwide were refugees, asylum seekers or internally displaced at the end of 2015. This was the largest displacement of people from their homes ever recorded. Nearly a third of those displaced in 2015 — 21.3 million — were refugees. For those living in the top four refugee source countries — Syria, Afghanistan, Somalia and South Sudan — trends of conflict, displacement and flight to neighboring countries continued in 2016.

Rising to the challenge of providing life-saving emergency food assistance to refugees such as Abore around the world, FFP contributed 16 percent of its FY 2016 emergency resources - \$387 million - to feed refugees, including those from hotspots like Syria, South Sudan and Nigeria.

In September 2016, the three-year conflict in South Sudan reached a grim milestone – more than one million people have now fled the country, landing in neighboring countries like Ethiopia, Kenya, Sudan and Uganda. The vast majority of these refugees have been under the age of 18, and 80 percent of refugee households from South Sudan have been headed by women like Abore.

Uganda in particular saw a massive influx of South Sudanese refugees. Between July and December 2016, over 400,000 South Sudanese crossed the border, swelling the populations of Ugandan towns.

Once a small town in northern Uganda, by the end of 2016 Bidi Bidi has become the fourth largest refugee camp in the world<sup>4</sup>.

<sup>3</sup> <http://www.unhcr.org/576408cd7.pdf>

<sup>4</sup> [https://www.washingtonpost.com/news/worldviews/wp/2016/10/28/three-months-ago-it-was-a-tiny-ugandan-village-now-its-the-worlds-fourth-largest-refugee-camp/?utm\\_term=.840004d7cda1](https://www.washingtonpost.com/news/worldviews/wp/2016/10/28/three-months-ago-it-was-a-tiny-ugandan-village-now-its-the-worlds-fourth-largest-refugee-camp/?utm_term=.840004d7cda1)

After leaving her home, Abore used all the money she had for transportation to the Elegu border post. She sold her second bedsheet to buy soap to wash her baby. Upon arriving in Pagirinya village in Northern Uganda, she got supplies from the UN and NGOs working there, except for the bedsheet and plates and pans that she carried from South Sudan. “When I arrived in Uganda and ate, I felt strong again. It is comforting to know that the UN provides us with food,” she said.

In FY 2016, FFP contributed more than \$229.5 million to partners, including the U.N. World Food Program (WFP), to provide emergency food assistance to refugees in Ethiopia, Sudan, Kenya, and Uganda, including South Sudanese refugees who have recently arrived. FFP funding to WFP supports general food distributions to those in need as well as targeted food assistance to vulnerable groups, such as pregnant and lactating women and young children.

FFP also partners with UNICEF to purchase Ready-to-Use Therapeutic Foods (RUTF) to treat severe acute malnutrition in children under five. In FY 2016 in Sudan, for example, FFP contributed \$1.4 million to UNICEF for the purchase of 250 metric tons of RUTF, a portion of which reaches South Sudanese refugees.

## D. Spotlight on Development Food Security Activities



Each year, approximately 20 percent of FFP resources go towards tackling chronic hunger and poverty among vulnerable populations<sup>5</sup> through its development food security activities. These efforts work predominantly with households which regularly face food shortages during the course of the year and many of the communities in which FFP works have, at some point, received emergency food assistance. Lasting approximately five years, FFP’s non-emergency activities address food and nutrition insecurity by strengthening

household resilience to social, economic, and climate shocks while simultaneously increasing access to economic opportunities. In designing these activities, partners look at the situation holistically, asking questions such as how families earn incomes to put food on the table, how much food families produce on their land, and whether or not mothers and their children are able to access health services.

In FY 2016, FFP had development programs ongoing in Bangladesh, Burundi, Burkina Faso, Democratic Republic of Congo, Ethiopia, Guatemala, Haiti, Madagascar, Malawi, Mali, Niger, Uganda and Zimbabwe.

This section presents selected FFP results in agriculture sector productivity and child health and nutrition from development food security activities in Niger, Guatemala, Zimbabwe and Haiti, where activities have been underway for 3-4 years and FFP has sufficient data from partners to analyze trends over time. FFP awarded Guatemala and Niger activities at the end of FY 2012 and Zimbabwe and Haiti activities at the end of FY 2013.

### I. Agriculture Sector Productivity



As stated in FFP’s 2016-2025 Food Assistance and Food Security Strategy, “With the majority of the world’s poor still dependent on agriculture for their livelihoods, the importance of enhancing the productivity and incomes of smallholder family producers is key to inclusive growth. This does not mean “tying” the poor to agriculture, rather it means assisting rural households to take advantage of the on- and/or off-farm opportunities most likely to sustainably increase their productivity, food security, and economic well-being.”

<sup>5</sup> FFP defines vulnerable people or households as “people/households who are at risk of food insecurity because of their physiological status, socioeconomic status or physical security; or whose ability to cope has been temporarily overcome by a shock.” An individual is a direct participant if s/he comes into direct contact with the set of interventions (goods or services) provided by the development food security activity. Individuals who receive training or benefit from project-supported technical assistance or service provision are considered direct beneficiaries, as are those who receive a ration or another type of good.

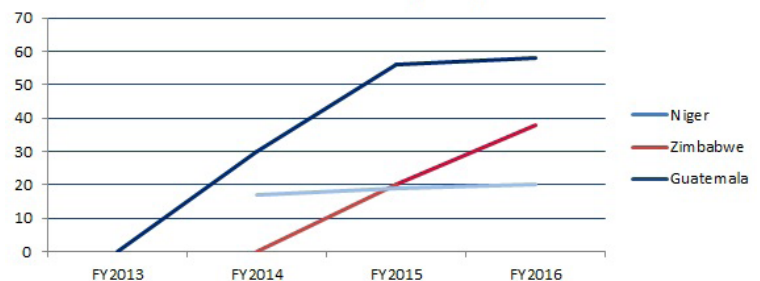
One such individual benefiting from FFP agricultural interventions is Mariah Sibanda. Mariah is an 85-year old widow in Mpilo Village of Zimbabwe. Mariah, her family and community have had little agricultural experience to date because by tradition her San community is a nomadic one. For most of her life, she has relied on odd jobs and the sale of handicrafts to earn enough money to feed her family.

A FFP-funded activity in Zimbabwe is changing that. Using the field next to her home, and the training in conservation agriculture learned through USAID partner CNFA, Mariah is now regularly planting small grains. She and other community members who took the training support each other in preparing their plots for planting, weeding, and sharing advice on how to further improve their practices. Mariah is one of 31,838 farmers in Zimbabwe trained in land preparation methods, pest management, and post-harvesting handling, among other conservation agricultural techniques. A total of 36,775 Zimbabwean farmers (including additional household members/farmers) have applied these practices on 51,121 hectares. Seventy-seven percent of those who applied the practices are women. Why is this important? Because training and application of new technologies is demonstrated to have major impact on boosting productivity and therefore household income and access to food.

Zimbabweans are not the only ones benefiting. In Guatemala (see figure below), FFP projects have trained 26,676 farmers in agricultural sector productivity and about 75 percent of these farmers have applied new technologies and management practices such as crop genetics, soil fertility and conservation, and pest and disease management techniques, on 363 hectares. Ninety-one percent of those who have applied the practices are female.

*The trend line for Guatemala is not as steep as the other countries, because FFP carried out a midterm evaluation of two Guatemala programs in 2015 and recommended substantial changes in their targeting approach. Throughout much of 2015 and part of 2016, the two activities worked on reorienting their targeting.*

**Figure 1 Number of Farmers who applied Improved Technologies/Management Practices (000)**



In Niger, FFP projects trained 30,269 farmers in agricultural sector productivity and 57,145 (including additional household members/farmers) applied new technologies and management practices on 11,662 hectares. Almost 40 percent of those who applied the practices are women.

Why is focusing on women farmers like Mariah in Zimbabwe so important? According to the Food and Agriculture Organization, if women farmers have the same access as men to productive resources such as land and fertilizers, agricultural output in developing countries could increase by as much as 2.5 to 4 percent, and could lift 100-150 million people out of hunger<sup>6</sup>. In addition, women tend to select more nutritious crops, which contribute to increased consumption of nutritious food and improved nutrition. For farmers like Mariah, using improved seeds and conservation agriculture techniques has enabled her to produce 150 kg of millet on her land, despite the 2016 drought.

Data from FFP's partners in these countries show very encouraging results and indicates that application of practices in farmer field increases over time.

<sup>6</sup> Food and Agriculture Organization, The State of Food and Agriculture 2010-2011: Women and Agriculture, Closing the Gender Gap for Development. Available at: <http://www.fao.org/docrep/013/i2050e/i2050e.pdf>.



## 2. Child Health and Nutrition



FFP's strategy and the work of its partners focus on maternal and child health and nutrition during the critical first 1,000 days between pregnancy and a child's second birthday, the most critical time for positive impact on a child's cognitive and physical development.

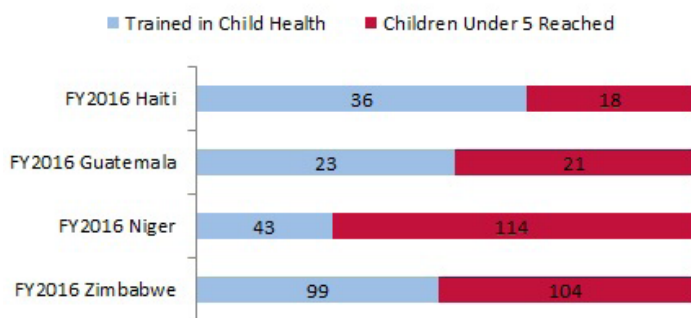
Aicha Magagi and her grandmother Alia are two people in Niger benefiting from child health and nutrition interventions as a part of FFP development food security activities.

More than 43,000 health professionals, primary health care workers, community health workers, volunteers, mothers/caregivers, policy-makers, researchers, and other non-health personnel in Niger received training in child health care and child nutrition through FFP-supported programs in FY 2016.

Grandmothers like Alia learned about essential nutrition actions, while community health workers and promoters improved their facilitation skills and screening protocol for acutely malnourished children. Because of these trainings, many more mothers in these countries reported that their children were eating better, and more children such as Aicha in Niger can be properly diagnosed and treated.

This is evidenced in the more than 114,000 children under five reached by the Niger activities. The project's social behavior change sessions provided children growth monitoring and promotion sessions, Vitamin A or Zinc supplementation, and/or treatment of severe acute malnutrition or direct food assistance of fortified or specialized food products.

**Figure 2 Child Health and Nutrition (000)**



In Niger, one of the three FFP supported projects reported screening of approximately 60,000 children for severe acute malnutrition (SAM) and identified 10 percent of these children as having SAM. By finding children with SAM, the project could then provide Corn Soy Blend+ and locally available fortified foods to treat their malnutrition. The project continued with a monitoring system for post-referral activities facilitated by leader mothers and health promoters, with the aim to ensure children did not become malnourished again once they had completed the treatment.

Our work with women and children such as Aicha and Alia exemplifies our efforts to reduce chronic malnutrition by 20 percent in areas in which Global Health, Feed the Future and Food for Peace development activities work. FFP's new 10-year strategy sets this ambitious vision for reducing chronic malnutrition and is showing promising results on the ground in FFP development contexts.

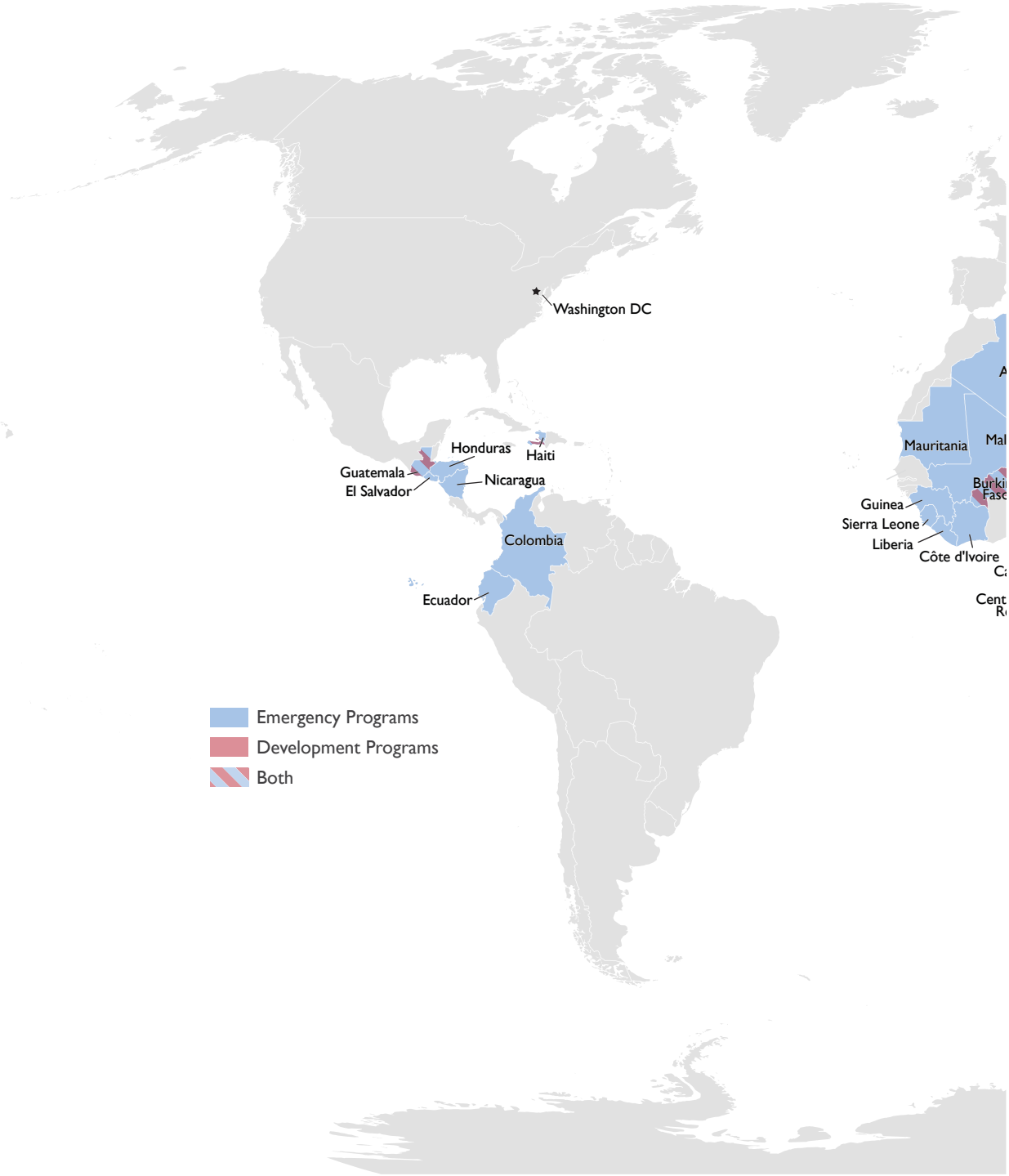
## III. Looking ahead

Heading into FY 2017, the global food security outlook is grim. The combined magnitude, severity and geographic scope of anticipated emergency food assistance needs during 2017 is unprecedented. Given persistent conflict, severe drought and economic instability, FEWS NET estimates that 70 million people across 45 countries will require emergency food assistance this year. Four countries – Nigeria, Somalia, South Sudan and Yemen – face a credible risk of Famine (Integrated Phase Classification 5<sup>7</sup>).

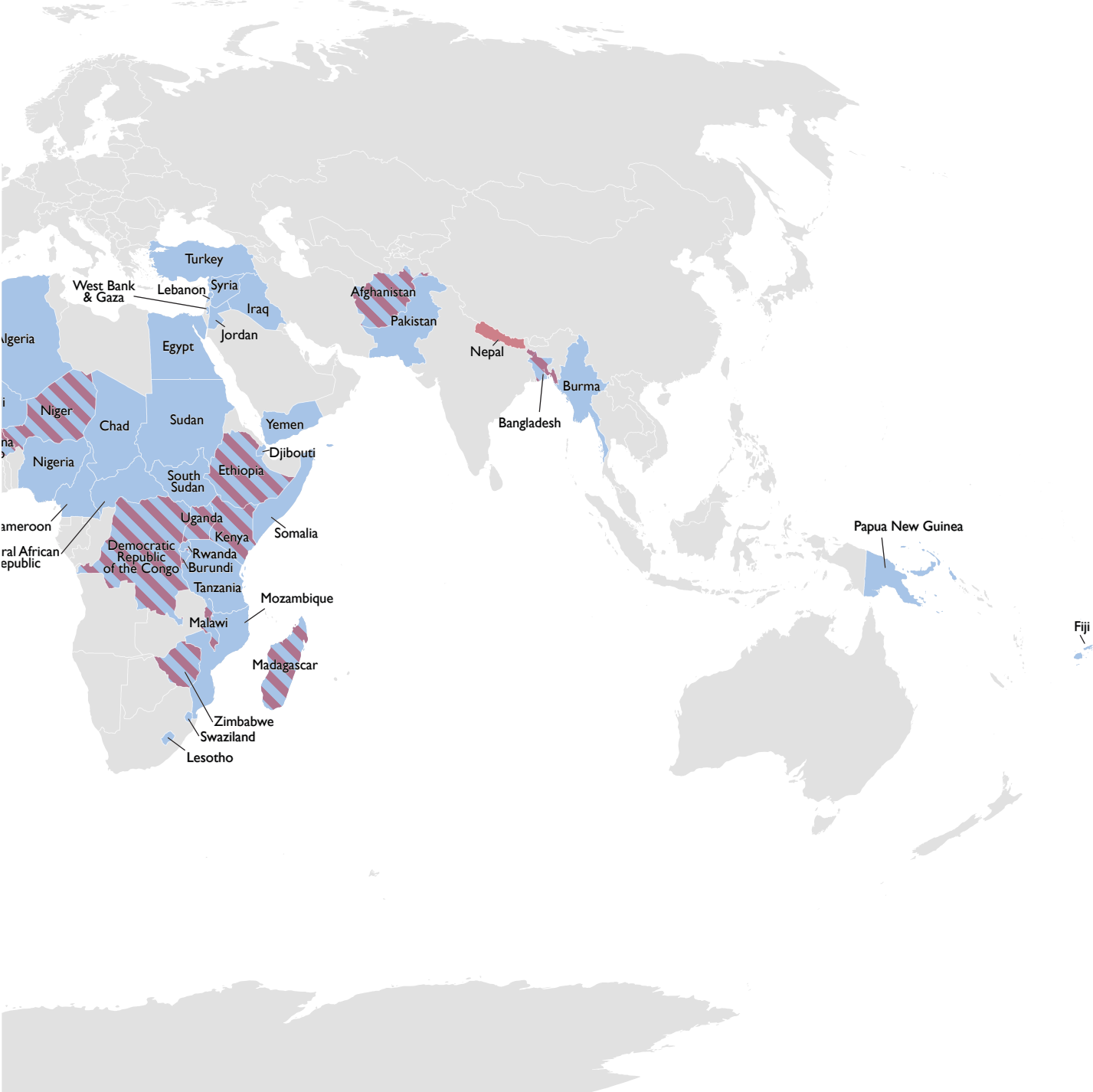
FFP remains committed to helping people like Jennetie, Aicha, Ahmed, Mariah, Mulu, Susan and Abore, saving lives and sowing the seeds to break the cycle of chronic hunger and poverty.

<sup>7</sup> The Integrated Food Security Phase Classification (IPC) is a standardized tool that aims to classify the severity and magnitude of food insecurity. The IPC scale, which is comparable across countries, ranges from Minimal--IPC 1--to Famine--IPC 5.

# FY 2016 FOOD FOR PEACE



# PEACE PROGRAMS



Country	Title II Emergency*	International Disaster Assistance	Title II Development**	Community Development Funds	International Food Relief Partnership	Total
Afghanistan	\$26,651,031	\$17,000,000				\$43,651,031
Algeria		\$2,000,000				\$2,000,000
Bangladesh			\$40,720,035			\$40,720,035
Burkina Faso	\$1,996,985	\$3,399,540	\$4,847,446	\$14,054,448		\$24,298,419
Burma	\$901,747	\$7,500,000				\$8,401,747
Burundi	\$5,221,355	\$8,000,000	\$4,559,967			\$17,781,322
Cameroon	\$28,599,253	\$2,000,000			\$149,946	\$30,749,199
CAR	\$26,096,669					\$26,096,669
Central America Regional		\$10,000,000				\$10,000,000
Chad	\$43,853,316	\$7,400,000				\$51,523,316
Colombia	\$6,352,800					\$6,352,800
Congo	\$823,437					\$823,437
Cote d'Ivoire		\$3,300,000				\$3,300,000
Democratic Republic of Congo	\$35,669,124	\$37,738,951	\$16,170,862			\$89,578,937
Djibouti	\$4,154,234					\$4,154,234
Dominican Republic					\$426,155	\$426,155
Ecuador		\$2,599,974				\$2,599,974
El Salvador	\$979,596	\$400,000				\$1,379,596
Ethiopia	\$381,763,457		\$126,576,385			\$508,339,842
Fiji		\$1,000,000				\$1,000,000
Georgia					\$150,000	\$150,000
Guatemala	\$1,170,073	\$10,670,877	\$5,400,100	\$10,000,000	\$299,656	\$27,540,706
Guinea		\$1,927,693				\$1,927,693
Haiti	\$1,315,500	\$19,979,600	\$6,346,421	\$12,000,000	\$299,824	\$39,941,345
Honduras	\$571,431	\$5,723,508			\$150,000	\$6,444,939
Iraq		\$86,000,000				\$86,000,000
Kenya	\$40,800,107		\$23,510,316			\$64,310,423
Kyrgystan					\$150,000	\$150,000
Lesotho	\$7,950,705					\$7,950,705
Liberia		\$4,668,089				\$4,668,089
Madagascar	\$14,448,074		\$32,122,271			\$46,570,345
Malawi	\$63,348,094	\$24,072,834	\$10,190,285	\$11,999,981		\$109,611,194
Mali	\$7,750,164	\$17,999,878	\$6,000,000		\$149,998	\$31,900,040
Mauritania	\$3,916,961	\$1,837,097				\$5,754,058
Mozambique	\$14,080,593	\$4,000,000				\$18,080,593
Nepal		\$1,000,000		\$6,325,000		\$7,325,000
Niger	\$9,410,771	\$21,193,615	\$28,642,569	\$16,102,553	\$150,000	\$75,499,508
Nigeria	\$7,808,501	\$42,986,476				\$50,794,977
Pakistan	\$2,348,843	\$41,975,650				\$44,324,493

Country	Title II Emergency*	International Disaster Assistance	Title II Development**	Community Development Funds	International Food Relief Partnership	Total
Papau New Guinea		\$3,100,000				\$3,100,000
Peru					\$150,000	\$150,000
Phillipines					\$149,689	\$149,689
Rwanda		\$9,300,002				\$9,300,002
Sierra Leone		\$3,192,877				\$3,192,877
Sierra Leone & Liberia		\$694,028				\$694,028
Somalia	\$45,932,291	\$32,214,134			\$150,000	\$78,296,425
South Sudan	\$292,180,542	\$64,000,000			\$150,000	\$356,330,542
Sudan	\$126,776,933	\$35,930,656				\$162,707,589
Swaziland	\$4,627,326	\$2,000,000				\$6,627,326
Syria		\$319,614,511			\$2,565,679	\$322,180,190
Tanzania	\$14,215,200					\$14,215,200
Uganda	\$11,538,400	\$16,000,000	\$4,312,741	\$9,518,018		\$41,369,159
Ukraine		\$5,000,000				\$5,000,000
Uzbekistan					\$150,000	\$150,000
West Africa Regional	\$272,100	\$694,028				\$966,128
West Bank and Gaza		\$4,000,000				\$4,000,000
Yemen	\$159,316,787	\$41,499,999				\$200,816,786
Zimbabwe	\$10,985,986	\$17,000,000	\$63,311,350			\$91,297,336
Totals	\$1,403,828,385	\$937,120,019	\$372,710,748	\$80,000,000	\$5,240,947	\$2,802,900,099

\*This Title II emergency total includes approximately \$75,920,398 in Food and Program Section 202(e) funds.

\*\*This Title II development total includes approximately \$48,536,812 in Food and Program Section 202(e) funds.

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