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NUTRITION
TECHNICAL
ASSISTANCE

WORKPLAN

Project Year Four

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List of Abbreviations

ACC/SCN	United Nations Administrative Committee on Coordination/Subcommittee on Nutrition
ADRA	Adventist Development and Relief Agency
AED	Academy for Educational Development
AFR/SD	USAID Africa Bureau Office of Sustainable Development
BASICS	Basic Support for Institutionalizing Child Survival Project
BCC	Behavior Change Communications
BGH	Bureau for Global Health (formerly G Bureau or Bureau for Global Programs, Field Support and Research))
BHR	USAID Bureau for Humanitarian Response (renamed to Bureau for Democracy, Conflict, and Humanitarian Assistance)
BHR/FFP	BHR Office of Food for Peace
PPC	Bureau of Policy and Program Coordination
BHR/PPM	BHR Office of Program, Policy, and Management
BHR/PVC	BHR Office of Private and Voluntary Cooperation
CA	G/PHN Cooperative Agency
CARE	Cooperative for Assistance and Relief Everywhere
CBO	Country Backstop Officer (BHR/FFP)
CORE	Child Survival Collaboration and Resources
CRHCS	Commonwealth Regional Health Community Secretariat
CRG	Commodity Reference Guide
CRS	Catholic Relief Services
CS	Cooperating Sponsor (includes Private Voluntary Organizations)
CSA	Center for Statistical Analysis
CSTS	Child Survival Technical Support Project
CTO	Cognizant Technical Officer
CWE	Credit With Education
DA	Development Assistance
DAP	Title II Development Activity Proposal
DCHA	Democracy, Conflict and Humanitarian Assistance Bureau (formerly Bureau for Humanitarian Assistance (BHR))
DHS	Demographic and Health Surveys
EFS	USAID/Port-au-Prince's Enhancing Food Security Project (Numbers I, II, and III)
ERB	Emergency Ration Bar
FACG	Food Aid Consultative Group
FAM	Food Aid Management
FANTA	Food and Nutrition Technical Assistance Project
FAO	Food and Agriculture Organization
FFH	Freedom from Hunger
FFP	BHR Office of Food for Peace
FFP/DP	Office of Food for Peace, Development Programs Division
FFP/EP	Office of Food for Peace, Emergency Program Division (formerly FFP/ER)

FFW	Food for Work
GHAI	Greater Horn of Africa Initiative
G/PHN/HN/NMH	USAID Bureau for Global Programs, Field Support and Research, Center for Population, Health and Nutrition/Office of Health and Nutrition/ Division of Nutrition and Maternal Health
HIV/AIDS	Human Immunodeficiency Virus/Acquired Immune Deficiency Syndrome
IDP	Internally Displaced Persons
IFA	Iron and Folic Acid
IFPRI	International Food Policy Research Institute
IR	Intermediate Result
KPC	Knowledge, Practice and Coverage Survey
M&E	Monitoring and Evaluation
MEASURE	Monitoring and Evaluation to Assess and Use Results Project
MCHN	Maternal and Child Health and Nutrition
MOST	Micronutrient Operational Strategies and Technologies
MTIE	Monitoring, Targeting, Information and Evaluation Units
NGO	Non-Governmental Organization
OHID	Office of Health and Infectious Diseases (formerly Office of Health and Nutrition in the Global Bureau)
PAA	Title II Previously Approved Activity
PMEP	Performance Monitoring and Evaluation Plan
PPC	USAID Bureau for Policy and Program Coordination
PPM	BHR Office of Program, Policy, and Management
PROFILES	A Process for Nutrition Policy Analysis and Advocacy
PVC	BHR Office of Private and Voluntary Cooperation
PVO	Private Voluntary Organization (also used for Cooperating Sponsor)
REDSO/ESA	USAID Regional Economic Development Services Office/East and Southern Africa
RNIS	Refugee Nutrition Information System
SARA	Support for Analysis and Research in Africa
SO	Strategic Objective (e.g., SO2)
SOW	Scope of Work
SOW/TOR	Scope of Work/Terms of Reference
SSO	Strategic Support Objective
TAG	Technical Advisory Group
UNICEF	United Nations' Children Fund
UNHCR	United Nations High Commissioner for Refugees
USAID	United States Agency for International Development (also referred to as the Agency)
USDA	United States Department of Agriculture
WFP	World Food Program
WHO	World Health Organization

I. PRIORITY TECHNICAL ACTION AREAS

During the first three years of the Food and Nutrition Technical Assistance Project (FANTA), activities have been undertaken in several technical areas with direct relevance to household nutrition and food security that were identified as priorities through a consultative process with USAID and private voluntary organization (PVO) stakeholders. During Project Year Four, FANTA will intensify its activities in the following areas:

- Strengthen Maternal and Child Health and Nutrition (MCHN) programs, with emphasis on improving infant and early childhood feeding behaviors and the use of food rations;
- Strengthen programs to improve women's nutrition and survival; and
- Implement guidelines for addressing nutrition care and support needs of families and people living with HIV/AIDS, develop guidelines and programming options for mitigating the impact of HIV/AIDS on food security, and for demonstrating the results achieved.

FANTA will continue on-going activities in the following areas:

- Link programs to improve women's access to income (microenterprise) with behavior change approaches;
- Strengthen monitoring and evaluation of programs through indicator and measurement guide development and training;
- Identify and test indicators of food access/income for evaluation of programs; and
- Develop guidance for strengthening and transitioning emergency programs into long-term development.

II. STRATEGIC FRAMEWORK

FANTA's Strategic Objective is improved food and nutrition policy, strategy, and program development. The priority action areas are considered critical to the attainment of this Strategic Objective and represent themes that cut across FANTA's Intermediate Results (IRs):

IR1: USAID's and Cooperating Sponsors' (CS) nutrition and food security-related program development, analysis, monitoring, and evaluation improved;

IR2: USAID, host country governments, and Cooperating Sponsors establish improved, integrated nutrition and food security-related strategies and policies; and

IR3: Best practices and acceptable standards in nutrition and food security-related policy and programming adopted by USAID, Cooperating Sponsors, and other key stakeholders.

III. THE CONSULTATIVE PROCESS

FANTA uses a consultative process with our stakeholders to provide updates on technical advances and project activities and to solicit suggestions and feedback. Quarterly meetings are held with FANTA's Technical Advisory Group (TAG).¹

IV. FANTA's INTERMEDIATE RESULTS

FANTA's Strategic Objective will be reached through the achievement of its three Intermediate Results. A discussion of each IR and the activities proposed for implementation during Project Year Four are listed by IR.

IR 1: USAID's and Cooperating Sponsors' nutrition and food security-related program development, analysis, monitoring, and evaluation improved.

FANTA collaborates with Title II food aid programs because they represent approximately one-third of USAID's total annual budget and are therefore an important resource and platform to reach undernourished women and children throughout the developing world. Food aid programs represent an important opportunity not only because of the provision of direct nutritional inputs but also because the food inputs in food aid programs, particularly non-emergency programs, are designed to complement other health and nutrition activities. Food rations provide a nutritional supplement and help create an environment for increased demand and utilization of services.

By continuing the successful collaborative process established with USAID's Bureau for Humanitarian Response (BHR) Office of Food for Peace (FFP), Field Missions, and Bureau for Global Programs/Center for Population, Health, and Nutrition (G/PHN), as well as with Title II implementing agencies (Cooperating Sponsors), FANTA will further strengthen the capacities of BHR/FFP staff, USAID Field Mission staff, Cooperating Sponsors, and other stakeholders in food and nutrition security problem analysis, design, and progress reporting. In addition, FANTA is working closely with the BHR Office of Private and Voluntary Cooperation (BHR/PVC) and its partners—the child survival PVOs—to ensure technical improvements are shared with the wider development community.

¹The current TAG membership consists of representatives from Food Aid Management (FAM), Cooperative for Assistance and Relief Everywhere (CARE), Counterpart International, Catholic Relief Services (CRS), World Vision, Save the Children, OICI, ACDI/VOCA, Africare, American Red Cross, Technoserve, Food for the Hungry, and the Adventist Development and Relief Agency (ADRA). PVOs working on child survival activities and members of the Child Survival Collaboration and Resources (CORE) consortium are also included. USAID representatives also participate in TAG meetings.

1. ACTIVITIES IN SUPPORT OF IR 1

During Project Year Four, FANTA will continue its broad support to BHR/FFP, BHR/PVC, USAID Regional Offices, Field Missions, and Cooperating Sponsors; will continue its technical assistance programs in five existing priority countries (Ethiopia, Madagascar, India, Haiti, Honduras) and will complete activities in one priority country (Nicaragua). Discussions have begun with the Mission in Mozambique on technical assistance to strengthen agriculture-nutrition linkages. Discussions are also underway with the Mission in Bolivia to strengthen the design, monitoring, and evaluation of women's nutrition interventions and to support the harmonization of data collection and reporting methodologies for Cooperating Sponsors.

1.1. Support to improve development programming

1.1.1. Technical support to BHR/FFP/DP (development)

1.1.1.a. Improve guidelines on nutrition and food security

FANTA will continue to be active in various Agency and PVO working groups in revising and updating nutrition and food security related-guidance for child survival and Title II development programming and for the Agency's internal reporting reflected in Results Reporting. Food Aid Management (FAM) and the Child Survival Collaboration and Resources (CORE) group will be important mechanisms for engaging PVOs in this process of refinement.

- In collaboration with the Child Survival Technical Support Project (CSTS) and other Cooperating Agencies (MOST, LINKAGES), FANTA will continue to provide technical feedback on the Knowledge, Practice and Coverage Survey (KPC) 2000 modules and guidance materials, with a focus on women's nutrition, infant and child feeding, and adult and child anthropometry. FANTA will also collaborate with CSTS and other G/PHN Cooperative Agencies (CAs) to provide technical input to the PVO Child Survival Grants Program Technical Reference Materials with a focus on cross-cutting strategies (including behavior change interventions, capacity building, sustainability, and monitoring and evaluation) and specific technical interventions (including women and child nutrition and HIV/AIDS).
- FANTA will provide technical input for enhancing specific nutrition-related programming areas in the Title II emergency, transitions, and development guidance. This input will draw from recommendations and guidelines contained in policy, programming and monitoring and evaluation documents produced by FANTA. The areas include nutrition, care and support for people affected by HIV/AIDS, mitigating the impacts of HIV/AIDS on food security, women's nutrition, use of rations in MCHN programs, vitamin A in food aid programs, and emergency and therapeutic feeding. Details on FANTA publications planned for Project Year Four may be found in Section IV.3 and in Table 1 (page 28).

- FANTA will provide technical input and support for technical revisions of the updated web-based *Commodity Reference Guide* (CRG). The guide is used by Cooperating Agencies, Cooperating Sponsors, and the United Nations to determine the composition and size of food rations for various development and emergency program purposes.
- FANTA will assist in training sessions on FFP development program and results reporting; Title II development program reporting requirements; and problem assessment, design, monitoring, and evaluation at selected venues (e.g., the Agency's annual Food Aid Manager's Course, the annual Development Activity Proposal (DAP)/CS Results Report and Resource Request (CSR4) Guideline Workshop, the annual Institutional Support Agreement (ISA) Managers' Meeting, and at headquarters and field offices of FAM and CORE members).

1.1.1.b. Review Title II development proposals, results reports, and concept papers

FANTA will provide written technical reviews for approximately 20-30 proposed and 75 on-going Title II development programs. The reviews focus on the food security problem analysis, program implementation strategy, and relevance of the design and monitoring and evaluation plan to address issues identified in the problem analysis and program design. FANTA will participate in Washington-based review meetings for FY 2003 DAP/CSR4 approvals and in field proposal reviews in selected countries. FANTA will consult with BHR/FFP on the selection of field reviews, with one possible in Ethiopia.

1.1.1.c. Assist in development of BHR/FFP Strategic Objective 2 (FFP/DP) FY 2003–2007 Strategic Plan and Results Framework

During FY 2001, the Strategic Objective 2 (SO2) team requested a one-year extension in their Strategic Plan (SP), so that the new SP could reflect the assessments currently underway and the legislative and operational realities of the program as the new Farm Bill is debated and completed in late 2001/early 2002. The SO2 team plans to have a new draft framework in the next Results Report submission (early 2002) and to have completed the framework after the new Farm Bill is in place. The exact dates for the revision are to be determined, and FANTA will work with FFP to ensure input is provided.

During Project Year Four, FANTA will complete an assessment of the results achieved under the 1995 Food Aid and Food Security Policy Paper (see Section 2.1.3). The results of the assessment will contribute to the development of the new SP. The new SP will likely increase the focus on the food security results achieved by Title II development partners, with equal attention to building the capacity of FFP's partners and food aid managers. FANTA will assist the SO2 team in developing the FY 2003-2007 Strategic Plan and Results Framework.

FANTA will assist with the production of the FY 2001 Results Report for the FFP/DP annual report submission.

1.1.1.d. Provide technical assistance to Institutional Support Agreements

During Project Year Four, FANTA will continue to assist institutional support agreement (ISA) recipients and USAID to report on and demonstrate the results of investments in institutional strengthening and improved capacity. ISAs are granted to Cooperating Sponsors by BHR/FFP to support technical initiatives in food security and nutrition at CS headquarters. Currently there are 12 recipients representing a wide range of Cooperating Sponsors engaged in development and emergency programming. Current activities continue through to September 2003. The grantees completed mid-term reviews for twelve of the programs (and final evaluations for two) and were reviewed by FANTA. FANTA will assist the ISA recipients in identifying the shared lessons learned (or the key individual ones) in order to present the key elements from the evaluations (process and outcomes, as well as strategy) to FFP. The results of the evaluations will help the Cooperating Sponsors refine the implementation of existing ISAs and will inform strategies for the next round of ISAs, should BHR/FFP choose to continue the program. FANTA will also review Detailed Implementation Plans and Annual Reports of the ISAs to determine progress to date and assess future plans.

1.1.2. Technical support to Cooperating Sponsors and USAID Field Missions

To target technical assistance in this diverse and extensive arena, care must be taken to offer the assistance judiciously. Requests for assistance continue to outnumber the resources to respond. As has been the case during the first three years of the project, prioritization and response to requests are determined in consultation with USAID. The criteria are as follows:

- Countries designated as high impact or where joint USAID programming exists will be considered first;
- Larger food security programs will be given priority as will requests for technical assistance on problems of more general relevance;
- Cooperating Sponsors with strong interest in the technical assistance will be considered ahead of those with less interest; and
- Assistance will be offered where the lessons learned will be relevant to USAID's larger development audience, as well as where an opportunity exists for a multiplier effect with other Title II Cooperating Sponsors, PVOs implementing non-Title II funded programs such as child survival programs, host government initiatives, and local non-governmental organizations (NGOs).

1.1.2.a. Provide technical assistance to CSs and USAID Field Missions

- FANTA will continue to provide feedback to Cooperating Sponsors and USAID Field Missions on Title II programs and related nutrition and food security activities on technical issues related to food security and nutrition monitoring and evaluation.
- FANTA will provide feedback to Cooperating Sponsors on food security problem analysis, program design, and monitoring and evaluation issues identified in the review of proposals and will provide targeted technical input for the revision of development activity submissions.
- FANTA will provide a technical review in collaboration with other Cooperating Agencies (e.g., CSTS, LINKAGES, MOST) to provide input to the annual Child Survival Grant's Program Guidance and Technical Resource Materials issued by BHR/PVC.
- FANTA will collaborate with CSTS, the CORE group and FAM to facilitate the exchange of information. This will specifically include follow-up to the FANTA-sponsored and -coordinated CORE/FAM three-day "nutrition works" workshop, which was held in September, 2001. Areas of follow-up will include:
 - A workshop report;
 - Identifying areas that require follow-up training or workshops;
 - Supporting the exchange of information through support of FAM's nutrition listserv; and
 - Promoting good practice and standardization through exchange of articles and Technical Notes.
- With CORE's CS partners, FANTA will seek opportunities in Washington and in the field to promote promising practices and exchange of information through ongoing workshops and training courses that will mutually strengthen Child Survival and Title II programs. For example, FANTA attended the CORE Annual Meeting in April, 2001 to present the role of FANTA and to exchange information particularly on HIV/AIDS and nutrition and women's nutrition and identified areas for follow-up. Such connections with the CORE USAID child survival and CSTS will continue, as FANTA has been invited to participate in CORE's annual meeting in 2002. FANTA will participate in the CORE Nutrition Working Group.
- FANTA will continue to work with CORE and FAM members to identify specific technical areas requiring further study or the development of tools, materials, or training. This might include:
 - KPC 2000 Appropriate Complementary Feeding Indicator;
 - Monitoring tools;
 - Training in anthropometry, survey tools, and sampling;
 - Setting targets for food-assisted MCHN programs;
 - Women's nutrition;
 - HIV/AIDS nutrition, care, and support; and

- Management of severe malnutrition.
- During Project Year Four, FANTA will provide on-site technical assistance at selected CS workshops that demonstrate maximum potential benefit to the Title II community. Responses to technical queries using email, phone, and meetings in Washington will be continued.
- FANTA will develop a series of Technical Notes providing guidance and recommendations for improving the design and implementation of Title II food security and nutrition programs. For example, these Technical Notes will address: different aspects of food security – availability, access, and utilization; monitoring and evaluation; analysis for better program management; and/or proposal development. Examples include a Technical Note on targeting under twos and the approach to setting nutritional targets in MCHN programs. Technical Notes on nutrition will address frequently asked questions and common mistakes in program design, implementation, and management. These Technical Notes will be shared with Cooperating Sponsors and placed on the FANTA website.
- FANTA will work with Teaching Aids at Low Cost (TALC) to revise current guidelines for therapeutic feeding and issue a publication. TALC will develop a short, easy-to read illustrated book and CD-ROM for nurses and other staff who care for severely undernourished children in in-patient facilities. Titled *Caring for severely undernourished children: Manual and CD-ROM on the management of severe under-nutrition for nurses and middle-level health workers*, Macmillan Publishers Limited will publish the book, and TALC will distribute it. The authors will be Professor Ann Ashworth, who helped develop the management guidelines and prepared several publications on the topic, and Ann Burgess, author of other nutrition books including *Nutrition for Developing Countries*.

1.1.2.b. Improve/strengthen existing program design

FANTA provides in-country technical assistance to selected Title II programs in countries and/or programs where the lessons learned from the targeted technical assistance will help strengthen the activities of other food security programs in the same country; will strengthen nutrition and food security strategy design in that country, or will inform and enrich guidelines on better practices for use by the wider food security and nutrition community. A description of current and proposed countries with programs of in-country technical assistance is in Section 1.3 (page 11).

1.1.2.c. Participate in mid-term/final year evaluations of Title II development activities

- FANTA will provide technical assistance for the planning and implementation of mid-term and final year evaluations of Title II development programs. FANTA will provide Washington-based desk reviews of evaluation Scopes of Work (SOW) and assist in the identification of evaluation team members. In-country support may be

provided in Madagascar and/or other locations determined in consultation with USAID.

- FANTA and USAID will identify evaluations of well-implemented programs with good probabilities of achieving impact, so that USAID and its partners can demonstrate the value and impact of Title II food security programs and share lessons learned on the components and characteristics of a successful Title II program. Participation in mid-term and final evaluations will be followed by support for the incorporation of evaluation findings in existing and new programs and strengthening of CS monitoring and evaluation units, if deemed necessary.

1.2. Support to improve emergency and transition programming

Emergency response continues to be an important function of USAID and its partners. Nutrition in emergencies is critical and often neglected. Adequate response during the emergency phases lays the foundation for effective programming in transition and development. Indeed many emergencies are cyclical in nature so that intervention, prevention, and mitigation are all critical strategies. Emergencies also occur in the context of ongoing development programs. There is an unmet need for innovative projects that link relief and development concepts. FANTA is working with the FFP Emergency Program Division (FFP/EP) and its two teams—disaster response, and disaster mitigation and program results—to ensure technical excellence and applicability.

1.2.1. Technical support to BHR/FFP/EP, BHR/PPM, and PPC

1.2.1.a. Improve guidelines on nutrition and food security for emergency and transition programming

- FANTA will continue to be active in various USAID and CS working groups in revising and updating nutrition and food security related-guidance for Title II emergency programming and for the Agency's internal Results Report submissions. In addition, FANTA will support the development of guidelines and seek out and promote innovative promising practices that link relief and development programming. Transition (or short-term development) activities will continue to be supported under the development program.
- FANTA will conduct training sessions on FFP Emergency Program (Strategic Objective 1) and results reporting; emergency Title II reporting requirements, and problem assessment, design, monitoring, and evaluation at selected venues (e.g., the Agency's annual Food Aid Manager's Course).
- FANTA will provide technical input on the web-based version of the CRG. Technical updating of the CRG will be carried out to ensure consistency with better practices and USAID policy. The CRG is used widely in the design and selection of commodities for emergency situations. Specifically FANTA will seek out existing and new reports on micronutrient deficiencies in emergencies and will develop

information pertinent to addressing micronutrient deficiencies in emergency and non-emergency situations. FANTA will develop a Promising Practice guide for using U.S. commodities to address micronutrient deficiencies—especially Vitamin A—in emergency and non-emergency situations.

- FANTA will link to the BHR Office of Foreign Disaster Assistance to improve emergency programming. For example, FANTA was involved in the Non-Fat Dried Milk task force that resulted in guidelines and policy on the use of non-fat dried milk in Title II commodity programming. FANTA will coordinate with the LINKAGES project to ensure the promotion of best practice and operational guidance of infant feeding in emergencies.
- FANTA will continue to provide technical input to BHR on the development of specifications for a USAID Emergency Ration Bar (ERB) with funding from BHR's Office of Program, Policy, and Management (BHR/PPM). FANTA developed two technical papers on the ERB that are under review by the National Academy of Sciences Committee. FANTA will provide technical assistance to the National Academy of Sciences Committee on the ERB as requested. Specifically FANTA will be involved in the field-testing of the ERB once specifications are final. Once reviews are finalized, FANTA will also develop field notes on the ERB that will be widely disseminated and placed on the FANTA website.

1.2.1.b. Review Title II emergency and short-term development proposals, results reports, and concept papers

- FANTA will provide written technical reviews of selected FY 2001 Title II emergency and transition or short-term development proposals, concept papers, and Results Reports. The reviews will focus on monitoring and evaluation (M&E) plans and appropriateness of indicators for emergency and transition programs.

1.2.1.c. Assist results reporting for BHR/FFP Strategic Objective 1 (FFP/EP)

- FANTA will assist with the production of the FY 2001 Results Report for FFP/EP's FY 2003 R4.
- FANTA will support FFP's Emergency Program Strategic Objective 1 team in the review and revision of the results-reporting indicators and annual targets for the Strategic Plan.
- With funding from the BHR/PPM and the USAID Bureau for Policy and Program Coordination (PPC), FANTA will collaborate with the United Nation's Administrative Coordinating Committee/Subcommittee on Nutrition (ACC/SCN) in the production of the Refugee Nutrition Information System (RNIS) reports. FANTA will also work with the RNIS and the Health Information Network for Advanced Planning of the World Health Organization to coordinate the analysis and reporting of

USAID's humanitarian assistance goals in monitoring the nutritional status of children under five years of age in complex emergencies in selected pilot sites (Angola, Kenya, Uganda, Sudan, Nepal, and Kosovo), and crude mortality rates in Angola, Kenya, Sudan and Nepal. This effort is coordinated with the collection of data by Cooperating Sponsors undertaking Title II emergency food aid, which supports the results reporting of BHR/FFP/EP.

- FANTA will continue to provide orientation to new emergency Cooperating Sponsors on FFP/EP's results framework and reporting requirements. Emphasis will be given to building capacity around tools and approaches to emergency programming.

1.2.1.d. Develop and revise database system for FFP/EP

On request, FANTA will assist the continued refinement of the database for Title II emergency program results. FFP/EP has agreed that the maintenance of the database would eventually be the responsibility of FFP's institutional support contractor and the respective FFP officer.

1.2.2. Technical support to Cooperating Sponsors and USAID Field Missions

1.2.2.a. Provide technical assistance to CSs and Field Missions

- FANTA will continue to provide technical inputs in responses to inquiries from Cooperating Sponsors, BHR offices, bureaus, and other agencies on nutrition, health, and performance measurement issues related to Title II emergency food aid.
- FANTA will continue to monitor and report on the use and relevance of crude mortality rates in regular reporting on emergency programs by PVOs.
- FANTA will provide general technical assistance to BHR offices and Missions and other agencies in assessment and evaluations where requested. This may involve identification of consultants, field visits, and writing reports.

1.2.2.b. Improve existing emergency and transition program design

FANTA will provide technical assistance to develop a common monitoring and evaluation plan for Title II emergency food aid. It will provide technical support in other areas of need, such as concept paper and proposal preparation and reporting guidelines on nutrition issues. Illustrative countries where technical assistance might be provided include Liberia, where Catholic Relief Services (CRS) is helping communities rebuild the human and physical infrastructure necessary for post-war social and economic recovery and supports food for work (FFW) activities for agricultural and rural rehabilitation, education programs, and basic health and welfare services.

FANTA will provide support to innovative program design that focuses on community

capacity in emergency and transition activities. FANTA is considering supporting field efficacy trials on Community-Based Therapeutic Care, an innovative approach to the management of severe malnutrition linking relief and development concepts and empowering communities. FANTA will organize a seminar on Community-Based Therapeutic Care as a promising approach to linking relief and development. By bringing together experiences in development programming around approaches such as the Hearth method, this activity will assist PVOs to develop cost-effective programming.

1.3. Country-specific activities

During Project Year Four, FANTA will continue the long-term programs of technical support in five priority countries (Ethiopia, Madagascar, India, Haiti, and Honduras). FANTA may initiate activities in Mozambique, Uganda, and Rwanda. Activities in Guatemala will be discontinued due to a shift in Mission priorities. The technical assistance program in Nicaragua using Hurricane Mitch funding will be phased out when the in-country technical specialist completes his work at the end of March, 2002.

These programs of sustained technical support to a country by FANTA staff and consultants help ensure continuity and follow-up on technical recommendations and are targeted based on criteria identified above. Where appropriate, FANTA receives field support funds from USAID Field Missions to carry out the activities. FANTA ensures complementarity between in-country activities and activities under the other two IRs.

1.3.1. Ethiopia

The large Title II program in Ethiopia (valued at approximately \$34 million in FY 2001, representing approximately 40% of the Mission's portfolio) is implemented by Cooperative for Assistance and Relief Everywhere (CARE), Catholic Relief Services (CRS), Food for the Hungry International, Ethiopian Orthodox Church, Relief Society of Tigre, SCF, Africare, and World Vision International. The activities of the eight Cooperating Sponsors cover a variety of food security program interventions: agriculture, natural resource management, microenterprise, water and sanitation, maternal and child health and nutrition, and other child feeding/humanitarian assistance. In addition, the Mission has a development assistance portfolio focused on maternal and child health, and HIV/AIDS.

The overall goal of the Ethiopia Mission's Integrated Strategic Plan (ISP) for 2002-2006 is "Reduction in Chronic Food Insecurity" against a backdrop of increasing vulnerability and destitution. Under the previous country strategy, the Mission focused on the availability (production) and access (income) aspects of food security. The third food security aspect, nutrition (utilization), received less attention. However, malnutrition remains pervasive in Ethiopia: according to the recently released Ethiopia Demographic and Health Survey (DHS) 2000, the prevalence of stunting in Ethiopia is the highest in Sub-Saharan Africa at 49 percent. The Mission recognizes that, in order to achieve its food security goal, it must give increased attention to nutrition. The combination of the new Mission focus and the mandate of FANTA to develop and implement nutrition and

food security strategies and programs led to the development of an enhanced program for maternal and child nutrition. A series of activities was undertaken by FANTA during Project Years Two and Three to initiate this program, including two PROFILES workshops, a thorough review of Title II CS activities, support in the preparation of the 2003-2007 proposals (particularly with regard to the inclusion of nutrition interventions), technical assistance in the final evaluation of the food aid program and in the coordination of food security interventions between the Mission and its Cooperating Sponsors, and enhanced analysis of the nutrition information offered by DHS 2000, with a goal to improve the design of nutrition programs in the country.

Project Year Four: In-Country Technical Support Activities

- Following the two FANTA-assisted PROFILES workshops, government officials in the country have begun adopting the programming recommendations advocated by USAID and its partners. FANTA will continue to support this process by:
 - Undertaking a policy gap analysis to identify deficiencies in the current nutrition strategy at various government levels;
 - Providing technical assistance to regional health authorities that have an interest in implementing the PROFILES recommendations; and
 - Providing improved understanding of the factors associated with malnutrition by funding continued analysis of the DHS 2000 data, in collaboration with DHS+ and the International Food Policy Research Institute (IFPRI).
- FANTA will continue to support individual Cooperating Sponsors in the preparation of their future proposals, particularly in relation to the inclusion of nutrition activities.
- FANTA will continue working with USAID/Addis Ababa on creating a forum to harmonize the nutrition messages disseminated by the various agencies operating in the country. This harmonization is a key step in creating synergy among various institutions engaged in maternal and child health and nutrition (MCHN) activities in the country.
- Subject to Mission funding, FANTA will work with local institutions to better understand trends in nutrition, based particularly on an analysis of trends over the last decade.

1.3.2. Madagascar

The Title II program in Madagascar (approximately \$6.5 million in FY 2001) is implemented by the Adventist Development and Relief Agency (ADRA), CARE, and CRS. The activities of the three Cooperating Sponsors cover interventions in agriculture, maternal and child health, water and sanitation, food for education, and other child feeding/humanitarian assistance. The Title II program also includes disaster mitigation and urban development activity in the capital city, Antananarivo.

FANTA support to USAID/Antananarivo initially concentrated on desk reviews of Title II programs. This role has evolved to include technical assistance in the area of nutrition and food security programming, covering not only the Title II program but also the Mission's food security portfolio. In Project Year Two, the Mission allocated Field support funds for the FANTA project. Under this funding, FANTA prepared a Food Security Situation Analysis for Madagascar. This document, which provides recommendations and explicit opportunities for integrating Mission resources (both development assistance (DA) and Title II) in its effort to address nutrition and food security, will serve as a keystone of the Mission's new ISP, to be discussed during FY 2002.

Project Year Four: In-Country Technical Support Activities

- Following on the FANTA-produced Madagascar Food Security Situation Analysis, FANTA will continue providing assistance to USAID in preparation of its Integrated Strategic Plan and to its partners (particularly the Title II Cooperating Sponsors) in the areas of food security and nutrition programming.
- FANTA will provide assistance in the design of the Mid-Term Evaluations to be undertaken by each of the three Cooperating Sponsors.
- FANTA will continue supporting the development of Monitoring and Evaluation systems for all three Cooperating Sponsors.
- Technical assistance will be provided on the development of the *Information for Action* network for in-country partners.

1.3.3. India

India has the largest program (valued at approximately \$108 million in FY 2001) in the Title II development portfolio. The program is implemented by CARE and CRS, and the bulk of interventions address maternal and child health and nutrition (MCHN). CARE/India's component is called the Integrated Nutrition and Health Project and reaches approximately 7 million women and children in seven states. In addition to a health and nutrition program, CRS/India's Title II food security program includes natural resource management, agriculture, food for education, and other child feeding/humanitarian assistance activities. Both Cooperating Sponsors completed their final evaluations in FY 2001 and will begin new five-year Title II programs in FY 2002.

During Project Year Three, FANTA provided technical support in the following areas:

- FANTA finalized and distributed the report *Enhancing Child Survival Impact of P.L.-480 Program in India* to USAID, Cooperating Sponsors, and Cooperating Agencies. Based on a Field and document review conducted in Project Year Two, the report recommends strategies to improve the child survival impact of India's Title II

program. The recommendations include increasing immunization and vitamin A coverage and on reducing neonatal mortality.

- FANTA provided support to the review of the Scopes of Work for final evaluations of CARE and CRS development programs, which were conducted in FY 2001.
- FANTA reviewed the Results Framework for USAID/India's SO3 (Improved Child Survival and Nutrition in Selected Areas of India). The Mission plans to revise the Framework and incorporate it into its new country strategy. FANTA provided suggestions to develop stronger linkages between program objectives, IRs, and indicators and to include indicators focused on behavior change in critical areas such as breastfeeding and diarrhea management.

Project Year Four: In-Country Technical Support Activities

- FANTA will provide technical assistance to strengthen the impact of food security programs implemented by CARE and CRS. In addition to support to the Title II program, FANTA may also support the child survival initiative that CARE will implement in the northern state of Uttar Pradesh. Through this initiative, the broad platform of CARE's Title II and other programs will be used to introduce interventions to strengthen child survival impact, with emphasis on neonatal care, breastfeeding, vitamin A supplementation, safe delivery, and immunization. FANTA's support will focus on strengthening the impact of interventions, particularly those related to nutrition.
- FANTA will provide ongoing technical support to the Mission and to Cooperating Sponsors in incorporating women's nutrition components into Title II program activities and in strengthening the nutritional impact of MCHN activities.

1.3.4. Haiti

The Title II program in Haiti (approximately \$28 million in FY 2001) is implemented by CARE and CRS. New programs will be initiated in FY 2002 by Save the Children and World Vision. The Title II Cooperating Sponsors implement activities in water and sanitation, maternal and child health and nutrition, food for education, microcredit, infrastructure development, and other child feeding/humanitarian assistance.

During Project Year Three, FANTA provided technical support in the following areas:

- FANTA provided technical input to the Mission to help standardize the Title II ration across programs.
- FANTA assisted the Mission in streamlining the indicators used by Title II programs when reporting on nutrition and other food security interventions.
- FANTA, in close collaboration with the Mission and World Vision, initiated and played a lead role in preparing a study of the effectiveness of targeting food

rations to malnourished children compared to universal targeting of all children under two. This study should begin in January, 2002.

- FANTA supported a study to evaluate Vitamin A status among pregnant women in Port au Prince. Findings of the study have been used to better plan nutrition programs and to improve the interventions of USAID partners that relate to vitamin A deficiency in the target population.
- FANTA was instrumental in bringing about a thorough evaluation of the Title II portfolio in Haiti (with groundwork on this starting in 1999). This study had a large impact on redirecting the content of the current portfolio of activities at the Mission level. The Mission and the Cooperating Sponsors took important steps to integrate the recommendations of the evaluation in the design of new programs. Other changes that have resulted from FANTA's technical support include an increased integration between the Cooperating Sponsors and the SO teams in Education, Agriculture, and Health, and a more standardized set of indicators.

Project Year Four: In-Country Technical Support Activities

- FANTA, USAID/Port au Prince and World Vision/Haiti will support a study of the effectiveness of targeting food rations to malnourished children compared to universal targeting of all children under two, to be conducted by IFPRI with input from Cornell University. In addition to promoting a better targeting of nutrition activities in Haiti, this research will constitute an important contribution to the study of effective interventions to prevent malnutrition, with implications beyond Haiti's situation.
- FANTA will continue to support the Mission and its partners in implementing their improved M&E system. FANTA already had extended discussions on this issue with the Cooperating Sponsors, who have agreed to harmonize their respective M&E systems using the recommended Title II generic indicators. Since the Cooperating Sponsors will be using those indicators for the first time in FY 2002, continued technical assistance from FANTA in this crucial area is requested.
- The USAID Mission requested that the Cooperating Sponsors develop and integrate an early warning system as part of their Title II development program. FANTA will provide technical input and help streamline and harmonize those systems among Cooperating Sponsors, the Mission, and the National Food Security Council, which maintains an Early Warning System (EWS) of its own.
- Subject to funding, FANTA will implement a multi-stage process to assist the Mission in adapting and using the PROFILES modeling tool to generate consensus on nutrition programming priorities, first among Mission staff and partners, then with the Government of Haiti. This prioritization process will come at a critical moment, as the Government of Haiti is putting in place a set of new nutrition programs and guidelines. FANTA will support the implementation of priority recommendations in CS, USAID and Government activities.

1.3.5. Honduras

During FY 2001, CARE/Honduras started implementing a follow-on Title II program (valued at approximately \$5.1 million annually) that focuses on expanding coverage of their integrated activities in agricultural productivity, health and nutrition, rural infrastructure development, and local government strengthening. USAID/Tegucigalpa has allocated Field support funds for the FANTA project to continue its support for the evaluation of CARE's current program and the baseline and evaluation strategy for the follow-on program.

The CARE/Honduras Title II program uses the qualitative and quantitative information generated by its monitoring and evaluation system to continually modify and improve program design, implementation, and evaluation. FANTA's work with CARE/Honduras has resulted in promising practices in evaluation design to maximize the possibility of attribution of food security impacts to program interventions. CARE has adopted programming recommendations to improve its focus on the prevention of moderate malnutrition in all children under two, as opposed to targeting only malnourished children under five, and to strengthen its focus on women's health and nutrition.

During Project Year Three, in-country technical support activities included technical input to CARE and the local firm performing data collection and analysis to finalize evaluation and baseline indicators and respective criteria definitions, reviewed survey instrument to make sure it was adequate to capture the required information, reviewed the study design and ensured that uncertainties are clarified and discussed and finalized the analysis plan and final report outline. FANTA also provided technical assistance and quality control during data entry/data cleaning and variable creation procedures, to ensure consistency with methods used with previous data collection and analyses. In addition, FANTA provided input on the terms of reference for the final evaluation team.

Project Year Four: In-Country Technical Support Activities

- Provide technical input and review of draft documents during the analysis and write-up of the final evaluation study results.
- Provide orientation and technical input to the final evaluation team.
- Participate in a workshop presenting final evaluation findings and programmatic modifications.
- Assist the Mission in updating its Food Security Strategy to provide analytic basis for further refining its food security interventions. Among other factors, the Strategy update will determine the extent to which natural disasters (Mitch, drought, floods) had an impact on food security in Honduras.

1.3.6. Nicaragua

During Project Year Three, FANTA posted a food security specialist in Nicaragua to provide technical assistance to the Mission and Cooperating Sponsors to help integrate Title II activities into the Mission's Mitch Relief and Rehabilitation Special Objectives,

to strengthen Mission and Cooperating Sponsors' ability to manage the Title II program and Mitch activities and to assist the Mission and the Cooperating Sponsors in designing and implementing longer-term development initiatives (DAPs). The food security specialist will remain in Nicaragua through March, 2002 to assist the Mission in the close-out of Mitch-funded activities. No additional in-country assistance to the Mission is anticipated during Project Year Four.

IR 2: USAID and its counterparts establish improved, integrated nutrition and food security-related strategies and policies.

Under IR2, FANTA seeks to strengthen the relationship between the Agency's health and nutrition, agriculture, and food security-related programs in order to maximize the nutritional impact of these programs on target populations, especially young children and women.

2. ACTIVITIES IN SUPPORT OF IR 2

2.1. In Washington

2.1.1. Implement strategies for improving women's nutrition

A number of USAID projects and partners are carrying out activities to improve women's nutritional status. As a USAID general nutrition project, FANTA takes a lead role in coordinating these efforts, encouraging increased collaboration and bringing better practices and program options to a wider development audience.

During Project Year Three, FANTA participated in a retreat organized by the G/PHN Maternal Health and Nutrition Strategic Objective 2 (SO2) team. The goal of the retreat was to strengthen the impact of USAID's program in maternal health and nutrition by refining strategic approaches through dialogue and collaboration with SO2 Cooperating Agencies. While the focus of the retreat was more health-related (Connecting Women with Services), FANTA considers several of the retreat's key conclusions, next steps, and priorities for G/PHN core funding to be equally as important to strengthening women's nutrition programming. Among these are:

- the need for statistical models of the health and economic impacts of investments in improving women's nutrition on maternal and peri-natal mortality;
- the importance of developing forums for partners engaged in women's nutrition to dialogue and share experiences; and
- the need for practical, feasible recommendations to design interventions.

FANTA will continue its focus on two priority areas to improve women's nutrition: advocacy and program strengthening. Activities to improve advocacy for women's nutrition will concentrate on the development of new evidence-based models that can be presented to audiences such as USAID, its Missions, and national-level policy makers. Program strengthening will be done through a number of activities, including identifying, assessing, and disseminating information on women's nutrition and better practices for use by FANTA's partners and PVOs. FANTA's women's nutrition activities will continue to be implemented in collaboration and coordination with USAID, other CAs, PVOs, and donors.

- FANTA will continue to support the development of statistical models of the

nutritional determinants of maternal mortality and disability and their consequences. A literature review will be completed to determine if acceptable coefficients of the relationships to be addressed exist. These relationships include maternal mortality and economic productivity as a function of anemia, and maternal mortality as a function of vitamin A deficiency (as measured by nightblindness). These statistical models will be incorporated in a stand-alone computer tool or as a new module for use with existing advocacy tools, such as PROFILES and REDUCE. An outline of the new statistical models will be presented at the Women's Nutrition Roundtable to other CAs, PVOs, and USAID staff working in the area of women's health and nutrition and child survival.

- FANTA will continue collaboration with the World Bank on the collection and analysis of low birth weight data for use in data-based modeling tools, such as PROFILES and REDUCE.
- FANTA will host a Women's Nutrition Roundtable (November, 2001) that will bring together CAs, donors (International Center for Research on Women, CARE, the Centers for Disease Control and Prevention, World Bank, USAID), and other organizations involved in women's nutrition advocacy and programming. The Roundtable will provide the opportunity for alliances to be created and for increased transparency and information exchange. Each participating agency will be asked to provide an overview of its work related to women's nutrition. A report on the Roundtable will be published in early 2002 and will include follow-up steps and actions.
- FANTA will initiate development of a package of materials that will focus on high priority areas for women's nutrition and food security and present better practices to address these challenges. The background information for this package will draw from women's nutrition activities that took place in Project Years Two and Three (review of women's nutrition, West African Nutrition Focal Points Meeting, informational interviews) and the on-going Project Year Four activities (Women's Nutrition Roundtable, PVO meetings, Field visits, literature reviews). A Women's Nutrition Indicator guide (see below) will be included in this package.

In addition, countries where women's nutrition can be integrated into existing maternal and child health and nutrition activities will be identified for implementation of the package recommendations, with FANTA providing the necessary technical assistance on program design, monitoring, and evaluation. For example, a review of potential areas of support to women's nutrition activities in CARE and CRS programs in India will be undertaken. The compilation of existing activities and potential actions to improve nutrition will form the basis for technical assistance to the Mission and the PVOs.

- FANTA will develop a Technical Note designed for practitioners that will cover issues such as addressing women's nutrition through agriculture-based initiatives and incorporating women's nutrition into broader food-security programs and projects.

- FANTA will continue to assist in developing the women's nutrition section of the Compendium for Evaluating Reproductive Health Programs being developed by the Measure Evaluation Project.
- Based on past collaborative efforts towards refining women's nutrition indicators and reviews of existing guides, the need for a standardized, clear resource on these indicators has been identified. FANTA will develop a Women's Nutrition Indicator guide for problem assessment, monitoring, and evaluation that will be based on field experience. The purpose of the guide will be to facilitate the consistent measurement of women's nutrition indicators and to standardize the data collection and analysis of these indicators. FANTA will also continue to collaborate with other organizations to move forward on the inclusion of indicators related to women's nutrition in existing monitoring and evaluation tools and guides.

2.1.2. Provide technical support to G/PHN and USAID initiatives

FANTA will continue to provide technical support to G/PHN in the area of nutrition and food security policy and programs to improve and strengthen the integration of nutrition into USAID programming.

FANTA will continue to provide timely and relevant inputs to on-going USAID efforts including the next phase of the Greater Horn of Africa Initiative funded by the USAID Regional Economic Development Services Office/East and Southern Africa (REDSO/ESA). A major component of this work will be on HIV/AIDS (see Section 2.2).

The Global Food for Education Initiative (GFFEI) has been implemented with technical input from FANTA. FANTA will continue to support the review of GFFEI proposals and progress reports. Of special interest to the U.S. Department of Agriculture (USDA) and the World Food Program (WFP) has been the development of the *Food for Education Indicators Guide*, which will be completed in November, 2001. The guide gives details on identification, collection, analysis, and reporting of education-based indicators focusing on enrollment and retention. The conceptual framework and the consultative process with stakeholders in the development of the *Food for Education Indicators Guide* have been instrumental for USDA and WFP colleagues to recognize that food alone (in the short term) will not improve nutritional status and that other complementary activities such as micronutrient supplementation, treatment and prevention of infectious diseases—especially parasitic diseases—and behavior modification are needed.

FANTA's most active support to USAID initiatives is in the Expanded Response to HIV/AIDS (see Section 2.2).

2.1.3. Improve the food security framework – Food Aid and Food Security Assessment (FAFSA)

In 1995 USAID issued the Food Aid and Food Security Policy Paper (FAFSPP) that defines the general purposes and use of Title II non-emergency (development) food aid resources in support of enhanced food security in developing countries. FAFSPP was an outgrowth of the 1990 Farm Bill, which mandated a focus on the achievement of food security for the use of Title II resources. FAFSPP represented the fruit of extensive consultations with the Cooperating Sponsors and among the various USAID Bureaus and Missions. Since its approval, the policy has served as the framework for approval of all Title II development program activities. The policy paper lays out types of objectives (in agriculture, natural resource management, rural infrastructure, mother and child health and nutrition, water and sanitation and microenterprise) whose achievement will contribute to enhancing food security.

During Project Year Three, FANTA initiated an assessment of the success of Cooperating Sponsors' Title II development program activities in achieving and reporting on the food security goals laid out in the FAFSPP. The main objective of the assessment, known as the Food Aid and Food Security Assessment (FAFSA), is to provide actionable and practical recommendations to help inform future directions for TIIDP programming, program operational guidelines, and the consultative discussions for the reauthorization of the Farm Bill in FY 2002. The assessment is looking at achievements by sector and exploring the endogenous and exogenous factors that have influenced outcomes. The assessment includes a review of Results Reports and evaluations and the development of country-based examples.

During Project Year Four, FANTA will finalize the FAFSA based on a consultative review process and present the findings to Food for Peace. The consultation will provide a forum for disseminating information and exchanging ideas about the future of Title II food aid.

2.1.4. Review health and nutrition in emergencies

Refugees and displaced people continue to claim large amounts of resources. Affected populations frequently experience serious nutritional and health problems (overcrowding, undernutrition, and vitamin deficiency including Vitamin A and niacin leading to pellagra). Yet little is known on how to address nutrition needs in an emergency situation.

- FANTA will produce Technical Notes on frequently asked issues and on case studies on improved design, management, and implementation of projects in emergency situations, but that are also relevant to food insecurity and transitional situations. This might include the following areas:
 - Follow up on the lessons learned from the Kenya Emergency Program review carried out in Project Year Three to assist REDSO/ESA and FFP/EP in

- implementing the recommendations;
 - Develop national protocols for emergency therapeutic feeding based on the recommendations made in the Burundi analysis carried out in Project Year Three;
 - Expand the analysis to improve programming to address the pellagra outbreak in Kuito Province in Angola;
 - Carry out assessments and evaluations identified by FFP/EP in a number of countries of emergency operations including Kosovo/Balkans, Sudan, Angola, Sierra Leone, Congo, and Afghanistan;
 - Evaluation of Community-Based Therapeutic Care activities for emergency programs in cooperation with Valid International;
 - Field testing of the emergency ration bar; and
 - Issuance of guidelines for therapeutic feeding in emergency situations with Teaching Aids at Low Cost.
- FANTA will provide technical support to FFP/EP in developing a paper on standardized protocols and reporting tools for emergency therapeutic feeding programs. An initial review of the use of protocols in Burundi was conducted by FANTA. Using national protocols is a relatively new concept that seeks to coordinate data for better management and decision making as well as ensuring best practice in the Field to reduce mortality. To date national protocols have been implemented in Burundi and Angola with UNICEF country offices but have not yet been documented. A Field visit to Angola will be necessary in order to document adequately the implementation experience of the protocols and to determine the applicability of this model to other countries, such as Ethiopia, Sierra Leone, and Liberia.
- FANTA will review the pellagra situation in Angola (Kuito, Bie province) to provide FFP/EP a better understanding of this micronutrient deficiency. The report will include findings on the cause (and contributing factors) of pellagra reported in the Kuito area, possible reasons for the confinement of this problem only to this area, and recommendations for appropriate intervention.
- FFP/EP is interested in better understanding the use of food in conflict situations, particularly where refugee camps have been in existence for long periods of time and the economy has evolved around the provision of food assistance. Outbreaks of nutritional deficiencies occur frequently in these situations, and donors are concerned about both an appropriate response and options for graduation from a dependency on external inputs.
- FANTA will assist in the identification of promising practices for key emergency-related conferences in Project Year Four. Specifically, the Global Health Council and the ACC/SCN meetings are both focused on emergencies.
- FANTA will continue to provide technical input to BHR on the development of specifications for a USAID Emergency Ration Bar (ERB). FANTA developed two technical papers on the ERB that are under review by the National Academy of

Sciences Committee. FANTA will provide technical assistance to the National Academy of Sciences Committee on the ERB as requested. Specifically FANTA will be involved in Field-testing the ERB once specifications are finalized.

2.2. With Field Missions

2.2.1. Support food security strategy development

In Project Years One through Three, FANTA provided technical assistance to several USAID Missions in the development and improvement of Mission strategies to integrate resources, including development assistance funds and Title II resources (both food and local currency). FANTA provided technical support and input for the design and review of Mission Strategic Plans and Performance Reporting Plans in Haiti, Madagascar, Ethiopia, and India. In Project Year Four, FANTA will direct its assistance to Field Missions that are both implementing and updating their food security strategies. For example, FANTA will help the Mission in Honduras update its Food Security Strategy and determine the extent to which natural disasters (Mitch, drought, floods) have impacted food security in Honduras.

2.2.2. Support the Greater Horn of Africa Initiative

With support from REDSO/ESA, FANTA works in partnership with regional institutions to improve nutrition and food security in the Greater Horn region. FANTA's work supports REDSO/ESA's SO7: *Enhanced Regional Capacity to Improve Health Systems*. FANTA technical assistance is focused on local adaptation of national guidelines to improve the nutritional care and support of people affected by HIV/AIDS and improved food aid management in emergency situations.

During Project Year Three FANTA completed the following:

- Through in-country consultations, FANTA identified areas for potential technical assistance to Nutrition Coalitions in Kenya, Tanzania, and Uganda. The Nutrition Coalitions (referred to as Uganda Action for Nutrition in Uganda, Kenya Coalition for Action in Nutrition in Kenya, and National Nutrition Consultative Group in Tanzania) are comprised of individuals representing the government, NGOs, and private sector groups working to advance the nutrition agenda in programming and policy arenas.
- In collaboration with REDSO/ESA and the Regional Center for Quality of Health Care (RCQHC), a regional partner of REDSO/ESA, FANTA assisted in planning a workshop on the adaptation and development of national guidelines for nutritional care and support of persons affected by HIV/AIDS.
- FANTA completed a draft of a resource for managers of emergency food aid programs titled *Checklist for Food Aid Managers Setting Up Emergency Food Distributions with References to Useful Resource Materials*.

- FANTA completed a field and desk review of the targeting of beneficiaries in complex emergencies that focused on the potential use of household food economy interviews. The report is titled *Household Food Economy Interviews: How Well Do They Monitor Food Security and Food Aid Use In Camps of Persons Displaced by Protracted Emergencies?*

During Project Year Four, FANTA will complete the following:

- Based on proposals received from the Nutrition Coalitions in Uganda, Kenya and Tanzania, FANTA will provide technical assistance to the Coalitions to strengthen their efforts to improve nutritional advocacy and programming. FANTA will focus support on nutritional responses to HIV/AIDS, particularly care and support, capacity building in information sharing, and possibly women's nutrition. In addition to work with the Nutrition Coalitions, FANTA will also collaborate with REDSO/ESA's regional partners, such as the Commonwealth Regional Health Community Secretariat, the Center for African Family Studies, or RCQHC to strengthen nutritional responses to HIV/AIDS in the region.
- In collaboration with RCQHC, FANTA will organize a workshop in Uganda on the adaptation and development of National Guidelines for Nutritional Care and Support of People Affected by HIV/AIDS in November, 2001. FANTA will co-facilitate the workshop and provide technical input into workshop materials, presentations, and products. A review of existing care and support guidelines and recommendations will serve as a key input to the workshop. Participants will consist of teams from four countries in the region. The workshop will help participating countries to develop locally appropriate guidelines for HIV/AIDS nutrition, care, and support. The main product of the workshop will be an outline of a handbook on how to adapt existing materials and use local information for national guideline development. The workshop's process and outputs may serve as a model that FANTA, RCQHC, or others adapt and replicate for use with other countries.
- As follow-up to the workshop, FANTA will provide technical input into the development of a handbook on national guideline preparation. Using this handbook, FANTA's guide, *HIV/AIDS: A Guide for Nutrition, Care and Support*, and other materials, FANTA will work with partners to develop and implement strategies to make nutritional care and support information accessible to a wider audience, particularly at the field level. This will involve identification of emerging and existing information and packaging this information in a form accessible and relevant to program managers and care givers. Based on feedback from the region, sections of FANTA's guide may be refined to reflect the needs and contextual issues of the region.
- Drawing on the checklist for food aid managers prepared during Project Year Three and on other existing materials, FANTA will discuss with REDSO/ESA the need to develop a handbook or other tools on emergency food aid management in collaboration with a regional institution in the Greater Horn region. The handbook

will offer promising practices and recommendations for managers of emergency food aid programs in the region. This work will support Greater Horn of Africa Initiative (GHA) Priority Area III: Improved Maternal and Child Nutritional Status in Emergency and Refugee Situations.

2.3. With Cooperating Sponsors

2.3.1. Develop credit with education program advocacy document and monitoring and evaluation measurement guide

During Project Year Four, FANTA will continue its collaboration with Freedom from Hunger (FFH) to support the dissemination of the *Credit with Education (CWE)* approach, which combines the incentive of credit provision, especially to women, with health and nutrition information sharing. A Technical Note will be published based on *Credit With Education: A Promising Title II Microfinance Strategy*. Among the key messages targeted to women borrowers are breastfeeding, infant and child feeding, diarrhea management, HIV/AIDS, and better business practices. The tools and approaches have relevance to the types of programs being implemented by both Title II food security Cooperating Sponsors and nutrition and child survival practitioners. The focus of the support will be to strengthening behavior change activities carried out by the field agents working with credit associations. Improved monitoring and results reporting will result from the development of tools and description of promising practices. During Project Year Three, FANTA and FFH began a set of activities to develop key monitoring and evaluation tools based on fieldwork and on-going monitoring and evaluation efforts in countries using CWE approaches.

During Project Year Four, the results from following two activities will be available:

- Group-based adult education (empowerment and critical thinking) is an essential aspect of community-based efforts to increase knowledge and catalyze behavior change. Effective methods to assess the quality of education and identify shortcomings requiring improvement are essential for ensuring the higher-quality performance necessary for results. Developing these methods responds to an expressed need of the broader universe of Title II Cooperating Sponsors, in addition to CWE providers.

FFH is working with FOCCAS, an NGO working in Uganda, to develop, test, and document a supervisory approach for assessing the quality of the group-based adult education provided within the context of CWE. This method is based on direct observation by supervisors using a checklist that assesses facilitation skills of field agents and their accurate and appropriate conveying of technical information. This approach will focus managers' and field agents' attention on the quality of services, particularly adult education services being provided at the credit associations' regular meetings. The tools and guidelines produced will provide CWE supervisors a methodology for "auditing" field agent performance and provide feedback for improvement.

- FFH is developing, testing, and documenting an approach for CWE practitioners that uses the qualitative methods of individual client case studies and participatory group assessments. The purpose of these qualitative methods is to provide the necessary client feedback and deeper understanding of program dynamics and impacts that are essential for program strengthening and improvement. This qualitative monitoring approach will be tested in the FOCCAS/Uganda CWE program.

FFH will document from the FOCCAS/Uganda experience lessons learned about key factors that contributed to the organization's ability to collect, interpret, and use qualitative information. This documentation will be more than a simple case study. It will include the specific individual interview and credit association group discussion qualitative tools with instructions for their use so that another organization could carry out these or similar interviews. The document will also include an outline of the critical steps or "how-to" guide with specific examples for:

- building staff capacity to implement the tools well;
- summarizing and compiling qualitative results into relatively succinct learning points; and
- showing how the findings were used for program strengthening.

Lot Quality Assurance Sampling (LQAS) approaches have been used to strengthen program monitoring and estimating of point prevalences for key impact evaluation indicators. LQAS is a sampling approach that relies on a relatively limited number of observations of elements in a supervision area to distinguish adequate and inadequate performance so that managers can take action to correct problems. Following a workshop held during Project Year Three, several potential applications of LQAS in progress monitoring systems of CWE programs were identified. FFH's partner organizations expressed interest in LQAS applications that would allow more systematic feedback on client outcomes (impact and satisfaction) and service quality. In particular, the CWE practitioners are interested in using LQAS to determine whether client knowledge and practice are improving in the topic areas addressed by the strategy's education component.

If the potential LQAS applications are considered to be of sufficient interest to the broader food security community, FANTA and FFH will discuss support for the development, testing, and documentation of the application of LQAS to progress tracking systems in CWE programs.

2.4. With Host Country Governments

The FANTA project strategy for influencing host country government policy and programming builds on our relationship with USAID Missions. The strategy recognizes that it is unlikely that a Washington-based project will be able to significantly change host country policies without the on-going and active involvement and support from USAID in-country staff. During Project Year Four, FANTA will continue to use

established technical relationships with Missions, Promising Practice guides, and Technical Notes to:

- Support USAID/Tegucigalpa and CARE/Honduras in their dialogue with the Ministry of Health (MOH) in Honduras to encourage a shift in focus to the under-two age group. During Project Year Two, CARE/Honduras redesigned the MCHN component of their Title II activities to focus on all children under two in the project area, rather than only malnourished children under five. Given the close collaboration between CARE and the MOH, this new design provides an important opportunity for influencing the targeting of MOH services, especially in the areas where CARE's Title II program is implemented.
- Support USAID/Addis Ababa in the multi-donor dialogue with the Government of Federal Democratic Republic of Ethiopia and regional government agencies to incorporate nutrition activities in the Government's Food Security Strategy. Refer to Section 1.3.1 (page 11) for details on FANTA's nutrition advocacy activities with the Government of Ethiopia during Project Years Two and Three.
- Support USAID/Port au Prince in its dialogue with the Government of Haiti (GOH) to update norms and guidelines in nutrition programs. For example, FANTA will advocate for a switch from using the Gomez classification of malnutrition to using the National Center for Health Statistics standards in the growth charts of growth promotion programs and the focus on all children under two rather than only malnourished children under five.

IR 3: Best practices and acceptable standards in nutrition and food security-related policy and programming adopted by USAID, Cooperating Sponsors, and other key stakeholders.

This third IR assists the pillar Bureau for Global Health in fulfilling one of its primary functions of Global Leadership. FANTA will focus on promoting the use of promising practices in women and child health and nutrition. While IRs 1 and 2 target a defined set of stakeholders (i.e., USAID, PVOs, and host country governments), under this IR, FANTA broadens the use of promising practices and acceptable standards in nutrition and food security programming. The primary approach is through research, analysis, documentation, and appropriate dissemination (including training and technical assistance) to a wide stakeholder audience.

Through this IR, FANTA is expected to support priority research in programmatic and operational issues and expand the capacity of key stakeholder groups (i.e., PVOs, USAID Field Missions, and U.N. Agencies (World Food Program, ACC/SCN, UNICEF)), to assess, design, implement, monitor, and evaluate effective food security and nutrition policies and programs.

3. ACTIVITIES IN SUPPORT OF IR 3

During Project Year Four, the FANTA project will produce a number of publications for key stakeholders. These publications will build on the work FANTA has done with the Title II Indicator guides. A new series of FANTA publications focusing on Promising Practices and Technical Notes will be developed. The purpose of these publications is to reach a wider nutrition and development audience. All FANTA publications will continue to be available in both print and electronic formats.

The technical foci of the Title II Indicator and Promising Practice guides have been determined through a consultative process with FANTA's stakeholders. They address key nutrition and food security programmatic and policy priorities of USAID and reflect the priority action areas identified by FANTA's Technical Advisory Group. Table 1 lists the Indicator and Promising Practice guides and publications that will be produced in draft, completed, or updated in Project Year Four.

Table 1. FANTA Publications Planned for Project Year Four and Beyond

Indicator and Technical Guides

1. Evaluation Design Guide
2. Food Security Indicators and Framework for Use in the Monitoring and Evaluation of Food Aid Programs (revised)
3. Data Pathways Guide (A Roadmap of Information/Data Requirements)
4. Women's Nutrition Indicator Guide
5. HIV/AIDS: A Guide For Nutrition, Care and Support (Updated with Additional Modules)
6. Indicators of Appropriate Feeding of Children 6-24 months from the KPC 2000

Promising Practices

1. Vitamin A Programming Guide for Food Security Interventions
2. Food for Education: Better Practice Guide
3. Update to "Improving the Use of Food Rations in Title II Maternal and Child Health and Nutrition (MCHN) Programs Guide"

Technical Reports

1. Food Security and Food Security Assessment (FAFSA)
2. Dietary Diversity and Measure of Food Security
3. Field Validation Studies in Bangladesh and Burkina Faso
4. Standardized National Protocols in Emergency Therapeutic Feeding Programs
5. Pellagra Situation in Angola
6. Estimating Changes in Child Mortality From Changes in Child Malnutrition
7. Caring for Severely Undernourished Children: Manual and CD-ROM on the Management of Severe Under-nutrition for Nurses and Middle-level Health Workers

Technical Notes

1. Credit with Education and Its Application for Title II Development Programs in Food Security Programming
2. Focusing Supplementation on All Children under Two Years of Age
3. Measuring Caring Behaviors
4. Impact of Nutrition Programs on Child Mortality
5. Program Implications for the Reduction in Child Malnutrition on Mortality
6. Setting Targets for Improvements in Nutritional Status

3.1. Develop Food Security Indicator and Promising Practice publications

Several publications are scheduled for Project Year Four. The publications are identified by category in Table 1.

3.1.1. Evaluation Design Guide

FANTA plans to complete an *Evaluation Design Guide* during Project Year Four. The guide will assist program implementers in the selection and implementation of appropriate evaluation design for demonstrating the household and individual level food security and nutrition impacts of programs. The guide illustrates designs that maximize attribution or plausible association of activities to impact while recognizing the technical and financial constraints faced by program implementers.

3.1.2. Food for Education Better Practice Guide

A guide summarizing Better Practices and Lessons Learned in the area of Food for Education will be prepared to complement the *Food for Education Indicators Measurement Guide* published in Project Year Three. It will be based on the same collaborative process used to develop the *Indicator Guide*, including close consultation with Title II Cooperating Sponsors and other USAID staff and partners. The Food for Education Indicators Measurement and Better Practice guides respond to expressed needs of stakeholders interested in programming Title II or USDA resources from the Global Food for Education Initiative. The guide will also help orient WFP programs active in school feeding.

3.1.3. Improving the Use of Food Rations in Title II Maternal and Child Health and Nutrition (MCHN) Programs Guide

FANTA reviewed promising practices in the implementation of supplementary feeding programs in the literature and two Title II programs in Bolivia and Peru. The program recommendations that resulted show promise for improving food security impact. The consultative and investigative process began with USAID, Cooperating Sponsors from Bolivia and Peru, and Tufts University in Project Year One and included a workshop in Bolivia in July, 1999. A draft document, issued in December, 1999, detailed a methodology for program designers to use for deciding the most appropriate use of food rations in MCHN programs. During Project Year Two, the draft was circulated for comments and suggestions. Cooperating Sponsors in Guatemala, Benin, and Honduras adopted some of the recommendations and included them in Title II development proposals.

During Project Year Three, FANTA continued stakeholder consultations. FANTA used the guide in Ethiopia for a PVO Community Nutrition Workshop held in November, 2000.

During Project Year Four, FANTA will document how the PVOs are using the guide and the results that are being achieved. If necessary, the guide will be updated to reflect the special needs of PVOs working in Sub-Saharan Africa. In addition, FANTA will closely monitor the nutrition impact in programs that adopt the recommendations through field visits and case studies.

3.1.4. Data Pathways Guide or Monitoring and Evaluation Systems Guide (A Roadmap of Information/Data Requirements)

Over the first three years of the project, FANTA initiated work on a guide to assist PVOs as they establish their M&E units for Title II development programs in the field. This M&E guide will provide a conceptual framework for M&E systems. The guide will show how information fits together and is used. The guide discusses the role of information from different sources and at different levels, and how information is compiled, analyzed, and used within this broader framework. It describes the relationship between monitoring and evaluation data and how the two types of information complement one another. It also discusses how the information generated by a M&E system can effectively be used by various stakeholders, from program managers to community members, to further their developmental goals. The M&E Systems guide will be completed during Project Year Four.

3.1.5. Vitamin A Programming Guide for Food Security Programs

USAID considers improved Vitamin A status to be a major priority over the next 5-10 years. Worldwide, more than 100 million young children and many of their mothers are Vitamin A deficient, increasing the severity of common illnesses and the risk of death by 25-30 percent. Refined vegetable oil and blended food commodities are purchased by USDA and distributed through the Title II program. The commodities are fortified with Vitamin A and other micronutrients (for blended cereal products). Following the launch of the web-based *Commodity Reference Guide* in December, 2000, FANTA has been encouraged by PVOs and USAID to provide more specific guidance for the programming of food to improve child and maternal micronutrient status. There is a need for a document that outlines the use of Title II commodities in addressing vitamin A deficiencies.

During Project Year Three, FANTA and Helen Keller International agreed on an outline for such a guide. In Project Year Four, a draft guide will be shared to solicit comments from stakeholders.

3.2. Improve agriculture - consumption - nutrition linkages

During Project Year Two, with support from the Africa Bureau Office of Sustainable Development (AFR/SD), FANTA carried out a study of agricultural and nutrition programs and policies operating in the region to document existing knowledge and present programming options to USAID's bilateral and regional programs. The focus was on identifying those agriculture-based activities that impact on consumption and

nutritional status and what USAID can do to 1) improve the consumption and nutritional impacts, and 2) adequately report on these impacts. The review was designed to support AFR/SD's Strategic Objective of "Improving Agricultural Policies, Programs and Strategies," particularly as it relates to its sub-intermediate result, "*improving our understanding of agricultural policies and programs that have the potential to impact on nutrition.*"

During Project Year Two, FANTA presented the results of the review at the USAID Greater Horn of Africa Regional Workshop on Agricultural Policy, Resource Access, and Human Nutrition in Addis Ababa, Ethiopia in November, 1999 and produced a draft strategy and program document that provides actionable recommendations for maximizing consumption and nutrition impacts of agricultural interventions. The document is aimed at USAID Mission staff generally and Mission Agricultural Officers specifically.

During Project Year Three, FANTA finalized and disseminated the document. The document was presented at the International Food and Nutrition Conference at Tuskegee University in October, 2000 and distributed to Agricultural Officers attending an all-Africa conference in Nairobi in November, 2000. The document was also disseminated to Title II Cooperating Sponsors that were designing new Development Assistance Program proposals and attempting to incorporate nutrition components into largely agricultural programs (Mozambique and Uganda). FANTA has provided technical assistance to AFR/SD in the design of specific country applications; in particular, the development of multi-institutional collaborative efforts to integrate nutrition into broader development programming in Uganda.

FANTA has also worked closely with the Partnership to Cut Hunger in Africa, providing comments and suggestions on how to improve the Partnership's conceptual framework as it pertains to linkages between hunger and agriculture-based development and how to identify priority agricultural strategies to best effect a reduction in hunger in Africa. This collaboration with the Partnership and the Africa Bureau will continue into Year Four of the project.

In Project Year Four, FANTA will produce a Technical Note outlining strategies for programs to increase the linkages between agriculture-based interventions and improved nutritional outcomes for women, populations in emergencies, and those living with or affected by HIV/AIDS. The critical analysis of the impact of HIV/AIDS will be important in developing an approach to mitigation.

3.3. Approaches to measuring household and individual access to and consumption of food

The access to and consumption of adequate and appropriate food by households and individuals are important components of food security. FANTA is carrying out a set of activities aimed at developing user-friendly, cost-effective approaches to measure changes in dietary quantity and quality and in feeding behaviors at the household and

individual level. USAID and PVO stakeholders have identified this work as a high priority. The results of the collection of technical assistance, facilitation, and operations research will enable USAID to use this information for program monitoring and evaluation as well as influence future data collection instruments such as the KPC and DHS surveys. FANTA conducts on-going indicator testing and field validation activities with Cornell, Tufts, and IFPRI.

3.3.1. Measuring improved household access to food

3.3.1.a. Dietary diversity

Obtaining detailed data on food consumption at the individual or household level through techniques such as 24-hour recall of food intake is time consuming. These data are expensive and require a high level of technical skill both in data collection and data analysis. For these reasons, an indicator of dietary diversity is accepted by Title II food security programs as a proxy indicator of household access. Furthermore, an understanding of household access to food as an important part of overall food security in a population is important to USAID Missions and partners.

Dietary diversity or the number of different foods or food groups consumed over a given reference period is a good proxy for several reasons. First, a more varied diet is a valid food security impact in its own right. Second, a more varied diet is typically associated with improved acquisition of micronutrients. Third, in many parts of the developing world, the income elasticity of demand for fruits, vegetables, and meats tends to be higher than for staples, indicating that as households become better-off, they purchase a greater variety of foods. Fourth, such questions can be asked at the household or individual level, making it possible to examine food security at the household and intra-household levels. Fifth, compared to the 24-hour recall method, it is relatively straightforward to train field staff to collect data on dietary diversity. Sixth, field experience indicates that respondents find such questions relatively straightforward to answer, not especially intrusive, and not especially burdensome.

During Project Year Three, FANTA subcontractor IFPRI completed the first draft report of an analysis of six out of the ten planned household data sets (collected in Bangladesh, Egypt, Ghana, India, Kenya, Malawi, Mali, Mexico, Mozambique, and the Philippines) to test the dietary diversity indicator as a measure of access (per capita expenditures) and a measure of consumption (caloric availability at the household level). Preliminary results show a consistently high correlation between dietary diversity and measures of household income, and between dietary diversity and the caloric contribution of non-staples in the diet. A correlation was also found between dietary diversity and overall household caloric adequacy, but the relationship is not consistent across all of the data sets.

During Project Year Four, IFPRI will extend the analysis to the remaining four country data sets and produce estimates of the association between dietary diversity and measures of food security that will provide a better means of assessing whether dietary diversity can be used as a tool in evaluating the efficacy of food security interventions. A research

paper reporting the results of the study and a short guide that outlines how such a measure could be implemented will be produced. The guide will include: methods for collecting data on dietary diversity, data use on dietary diversity to characterize target populations, and data use on dietary diversity to monitor and evaluate the impact of interventions. In addition, a seminar presenting the results will be held.

3.3.1.b. Adaptation of the U.S. Household Food Security Scale approaches in developing country contexts

This activity is designed to validate the USDA Household Food Security and Hunger Assessment Tool for use in developing countries and to test its usefulness as an impact indicator for the “access” component of food security in food and nutrition program evaluations. FANTA will produce its own tool, Household Food Security Measurement Tool (HFSMT). The concepts of food security and hunger measured using this tool will be validated against measures of household income and dietary caloric adequacy to see if it can be used in impact evaluations of nutrition and food security programs.

If the HFSMT proves to be closely correlated with income and diet, and if it is sensitive to changes in the economic situation of households achieved by project interventions, it will be recommended to USAID and the PVOs as an indicator for impact evaluation. This would be a great contribution because the HFSMT involves the administration of a simple questionnaire (12-18 questions) during a single household visit. Currently PVOs are faced with the challenge of complicated, burdensome, and costly data collection to assess household income and food consumption.

FANTA is implementing field validation studies with Cornell University and Africare in Burkina Faso and with Tufts University and World Vision in Bangladesh. One of the principal objectives of the field validation studies is the documentation for the PVO and USAID audience of a practical formative research process (protocol) that can be applied by local researchers and planners in a variety of settings to develop HFSMT measures of food security appropriate to their cultural, ecological, and economic contexts.

During Project Year Four, FANTA will continue the field validation studies in Burkina Faso and Bangladesh. Both field sites have data collected during Project year Three from a population-based, cross-section baseline survey implemented by the PVOs with technical support from Cornell and Tufts. A longitudinal study of a cohort of families is now being implemented in both sites and will continue during Project Year Four.

3.3.2. Measuring infant and child feeding behaviors

3.3.2.a. Knowledge, Practice and Coverage Survey (KPC) Infant and Child Feeding Indicator

The Knowledge, Practice and Coverage Survey (KPC) is used widely by PVOs implementing child survival and food security programs to undertake problem assessments, conduct baseline surveys, and to evaluate the impact of maternal and child

health and nutrition programs. Not only is the KPC used to examine results of MCHN activities; it is adapted by a PVO to provide an understanding of the local health and nutrition situation and to motivate action to address the key problems.

The recent revision of the KPC (KPC+ 2000) includes a module on infant and child feeding. With support from the Bureau for Global Health and BHR/PVC, FANTA has been collaborating with ORC Macro's CSTS, CORE and PVOs working on child survival activities to define and refine the definition of an appropriate infant and child feeding indicator and a method for analyzing and presenting KPC 2000 data.

During Project Year Four, FANTA, in collaboration with IFPRI and ORC Macro, will complete a study using DHS data from Ethiopia to document improved methods for analyzing and reporting infant/child feeding information. Since the DHS infant/child feeding questions have been included in the KPC+ 2000 questionnaire, this activity will support optimal use of the infant/child feeding data generated by the KPC+ 2000.

Through analysis of Ethiopia's DHS 2000 data on infant/child feeding, FANTA and its collaborators will develop a model for expanded use of DHS data on infant/child feeding and offer recommendations to USAID/Ethiopia and its partners for improved measurement of the impact of infant/child feeding components. Data will be used to:

- quantify the association between infant/child feeding and nutritional status;
- identify feeding practices that can be most effectively targeted by behavior change programs; and
- create an infant/child feeding practices index for improved assessment.

In Project Year Three, FANTA planned to follow-up on the infant and child feeding indicator issues related to the quality and diversity of the diet that need further clarification. This work was delayed.

During Project Year Four, FANTA will:

- conduct a systematic review of literature and further consultation to identify age-specific recommendations for appropriate feeding of children ages 6-24 months;
- use expert recommendations to refine indicators of individual components of appropriate child feeding, as well as a composite indicator of appropriate feeding; and
- prepare a report on generating indicators of appropriate feeding of children 6-24 months from the KPC 2000+, including field-testing of revised KPC 2000+ instructions.

3.3.2.b. Measuring caring behaviors

Appropriate infant and child feeding and childcare are increasingly recognized as key determinants of childhood health, nutrition, and development. However, measuring infant and child feeding and care behaviors and quantifying their relative importance for

specific health and nutrition outcomes remain a challenge. During Project Year Three, FANTA subcontractor IFPRI completed analysis of data collected in Accra, Ghana to:

- measure the importance of infant/child feeding and care as a determinant of nutritional status;
- identify the constraints to good feeding practices in this setting; and
- identify key feeding and childcare practices that could be promoted by nutrition education and behavior change interventions to improve care practices in this population.

During Project Year Four, a Technical Note will be produced drawing on the results of this work.

3.4. The use of food aid to strengthen household and community response to HIV/AIDS

During Project Year One, FANTA conducted an assessment of current and potential policies and programs for using food to mitigate the impacts of HIV/AIDS at the community and household level. This assessment consisted of a literature review and consultations with key stakeholders from donor agencies, host governments, PVOs, and NGOs working in the areas of food security and HIV/AIDS in Uganda and Kenya. The assessment was designed to make recommendations to BHR/FFP and G/PHN on enhancing the use of resources, specifically Title II food aid, to mitigate the impacts of HIV/AIDS at the household level.

Based on the recommendations from the initial assessment, FANTA carried out the following activities during Project Years Two and Three:

- Organized a roundtable discussion with representatives from USAID and PVOs to discuss the recommendations for incorporation of food into HIV/AIDS programs and policies including the guidance for submission of Title II proposals;
- Provided technical input to USAID on the development of guidelines for the Leadership and Investment in Fighting the Epidemic (LIFE) Initiative, which focuses on resources for children affected by HIV/AIDS;
- Participated in the technical review of PVO proposals including recommendations for monitoring and evaluation for use of Title II LIFE resources;
- Developed a draft guide for service providers on nutritional care and support of HIV/AIDS-affected persons and families of people living with HIV/AIDS;
- Completed a field test of the draft guide on nutritional care and support for persons living with HIV/AIDS and other affected household members with Title II PVOs in Malawi and produced the final version of the guide;
- Provided technical assistance in defining the monitoring and evaluation approaches including program design, implementation, and results reporting to PVOs and local NGOs specifically on the LIFE Initiative. Review and discussion with implementing partners including field visits and virtual communication were provided to ensure relevant and practical tools were developed.

- Produced a review of results reporting by PVOs using resources under the LIFE Initiative. The review of indicators in use was based on proposal review and dialogue with partners in Uganda, Rwanda, and Malawi. Recommendations on the use of the FFP/DP proposed indicators for LIFE plus those used by the PVOs informed the type and content of reporting on the activities by PVOs;
- Participated in PVO meetings discussing approaches to care and support and mitigation, including Save the Children/USA's Regional Program Learning Group on HIV/AIDS meeting in Uganda in November, 2000; and
- Provided training in HIV/AIDS and food security through the GHAI network (see Section 2.2.2).

In carrying out these activities, FANTA coordinated with other USAID Cooperating Agencies with expertise on HIV/AIDS such as Synergy, HORIZONS, and the IMPACT projects.

During Project Year Four, FANTA will launch *HIV/AIDS: A Guide for Nutrition, Care and Support* and expand it by including additional modules. The selection of the topics for additional modules will be in consultation with USAID and PVO partners. Suggestions include a module on food safety and foods households can grow or raise that improve overall nutrition. In addition, FANTA will develop guidelines on the adaptation of the guide to local conditions, working with local partners in Eastern and Southern Africa.

FANTA will also provide technical assistance to strengthen nutritional responses to HIV/AIDS in Eastern and Southern Africa (see Section 2.2.2). FANTA will continue to provide technical assistance to strengthen design, implementation, and monitoring and evaluation of Title II LIFE programs. FANTA will also participate in the Senegal workshop on monitoring and evaluation of the Expanded Response to HIV/AIDS. The FANTA publication *HIV/AIDS: A Guide for Nutrition, Care and Support* will be translated into French.

FANTA will develop an approach to HIV/AIDS mitigation that will guide FANTA's role in support of USAID's efforts.

3.5. Estimating changes in child mortality from changes in child malnutrition using secondary data

Enhancing child survival has long been a major health and development goal for USAID. This focus appears to have intensified in recent years, in part due to the current emphasis on performance-based management and evaluation strategies. Indicators of the nutritional status of populations are of interest in this regard for two reasons: 1) there is broad recognition of the powerful impact that malnutrition can have on child mortality as a result of its potentiating effect on infectious disease, with roughly half (56%) of all child deaths attributable to this effect; and 2) information on changes in population nutritional status may be more readily and frequently available than other demographic indicators. The availability of nutritional indicators makes it possible to evaluate the

extent of nutritional improvement in the population and has stimulated interest in using such data to estimate the corresponding changes in child mortality in specific populations indirectly.

During Project Year Three, FANTA subcontractor Cornell University completed a study to develop and validate alternative methods for estimating changes in child mortality from changes in child malnutrition. Preliminary results are encouraging and provide additional evidence of the importance of broad-based nutrition approaches with the objective of improving child growth in addition to specific interventions to improve health and the adequacy of Vitamin A and other micronutrients.

The results of the study were presented during Project Year Three, and a final research report will be produced during Project Year Four, after rigorous peer-review. The results will also be published in a refereed journal such as the Journal of Nutrition. FANTA will produce a Technical Note to explain the work and its implications for child survival and nutrition policy and programming.

3.6. Setting targets for improvements in nutritional status

Achieving improvements in child nutritional status is an important goal of nutrition and food security programs. However, program implementers are concerned that the three to five year period of typical child survival or nutrition activity is not enough time to achieve measurable reductions in the prevalence of malnutrition.

During Project Year Two, FANTA reviewed published and unpublished materials on the magnitude of change obtained in various contexts and to assist in setting targets. In Project Year Three, FANTA drafted a Technical Note focusing on targeting all children under age two (a shift from targeting malnourished children under age five) in Title II MCHN programs.

In Project Year Four, to assist in setting targets, a Technical Note will be prepared to present the likely magnitude of reductions in malnutrition given the types of programs implemented by PVOs.

3.7. Training workshops

Prioritization of FANTA training activities is made in consultation with the stakeholders. Preference is placed on training opportunities and venues where a number of PVOs would benefit.

FANTA implemented and/or participated in a variety of training workshops for CS and USAID staff during Project Year Three, including:

Table 2. Training Activities in Project Year Three

Title	Location	Date	Duration	Number of participants
USAID Food Aid Managers Course	Washington, DC	October 2000	5 days	45
Save the Children/USA Regional Program Learning Group on HIV/AIDS	Kampala, Uganda	October 2000	1 day	50
Community-Based Nutrition Programs Training Workshop	Addis Ababa, Ethiopia	November 2000	2.5 days	12
PROFILES Workshop II	Addis Ababa, Ethiopia	November 2000	5 days	18
Data Analysis: A Workshop for Title II Development Program Managers (with FAM)	Nairobi, Kenya	November 2000	5 days	27
Improving Child Feeding Behaviors with Guatemala Title II PVOs	Guatemala City, Guatemala	December 2000	2 days	20
Dietary Data Collection Lecture for Tufts University Nutrition Graduate Students	Waltham, Massachusetts	December 2000	1 day	15
USAID Conference on New Technologies for Disaster and Development Communications: MCHN Workshop	Washington, DC	January 2001	2 days	200
AFRICARE Regional Workshop on Monitoring and Evaluation	Bamako, Mali	March 2001	14 days	30
ACC/SCN Working Group on Emergencies: Adult Malnutrition	Nairobi, Kenya	April 2001	1 day	35
Seminar on Food Aid for Johns Hopkins University International Health Graduate Students	Baltimore, MD	April 2001	1 day	55
ADRA Monitoring and Evaluation Workshop for Title II Development Programs	Silver Spring, Maryland	August 2001	5 days	13
Nutrition Works: Measuring, Understanding, and Improving Nutritional Status Workshop with CORE/FAM	Millwood, Virginia	September 2001	3 days	55

West Africa Nutrition Focal Points Meeting: Technical Update on Maternal and Adolescent Nutrition	Accra, Ghana	September 2001	1 day	70
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During Project Year Four, the following training workshops are planned:

- Workshop(s) with stakeholders in East and Southern Africa on adapting the FANTA publication, *HIV/AIDS: A Guide for Nutrition, Care and Support*. First one scheduled for Eastern and Southern Africa in Uganda in November, 2001.
- FANTA will participate in the workshop on “Strengthening monitoring and evaluation of national AIDS programs in the context of expanded response” in Senegal in February, 2002.
- FANTA will continue to support FAM with technical content and trainers for FAM training courses. FANTA will provide technical and financial support to FAM in the design and implementation of a workshop on tools for program monitoring in Johannesburg in January, 2002. The FAM membership will prioritize four to six tools on which to be trained at the workshop. These tools will be drawn from the universe of monitoring tools identified and described in the Program Monitoring Tools Compilation, which the FAM M&E working group developed during FY 2001. FANTA provided technical input and review for the consultant scope of work and the drafts of the compilation document.
- Women’s Nutrition Roundtable in November, 2001 in Washington, DC.
- USAID Food Aid Managers Course.

3.8. Information sharing and communications

The project communications strategy has a number of goals: expand the knowledge base, foster policy dialogue, build linkages, and increase awareness of food security and nutrition issues.

During the first three years of the project, the publications were redesigned and additional print products were designed to reach the FANTA technical audience. The purpose was to create an identity for the project so that users would recognize FANTA as a trusted source of food security information. The FANTA project website was redesigned, expanded, and upgraded to make the site more interactive and the information more accessible. FANTA materials were repurposed so that they would be useful for a web audience.

The website is the main portal for all project information and FANTA continually updates and expands it. FANTA will continue to add content and features to the website to make it more interactive. Information produced with FANTA support such as the WHO Refugee Nutrition Information System (RNIS) and research papers produced by FANTA subcontractors are available on the website. Feedback on the usefulness of

project information and utilization is being collected to help identify information gaps and improve the development of other products.

Several databases were developed—one on key food security references and another on FANTA project documents and reports. Information is added to these databases regularly. Staff also maintains a database of FANTA contacts including mailing and email addresses. This database is coded so that the project can send updates and mailings to targeted groups.

During Project Year Three, FANTA produced a number of publications including the following Title II Indicator and Promising Practice guides: *Anthropometric Indicators Measurement Guide*, *Food For Education Measurement Guide*, and *HIV/AIDS: A Guide for Nutrition, Care and Support*. Spanish and French translations of the FANTA *Sampling Guide* were also produced. Table 1 (page 28) lists the Indicator and Promising Practice guides and publications that will be drafted, completed, or updated in Project Year Four.

During Project Year Four, the project will continue to reach its target audience with key technical information and to build a wider audience for nutrition and food security information. The strategy will continue to focus on both electronic and print publications. FANTA will conduct a stakeholder survey of PVOs will be conducted to determine the use of current materials, and respondents will be requested to suggest types of technical materials needed to improve nutrition and food security programming.

V. FANTA PROJECT YEAR FOUR BUDGET

Funding Source	Total Obligations as of 09/30/2001	Total Expenditures as of 09/30/2001	PY 4 Projected Expenses	Projected Balance at end of PY 4
GPHN Core	6,182,000	3,131,645	3,012,708	37,647
Non GPHN				
BHR	3,307,147	1,946,203	1,040,000	320,944
Africa Bureau	150,000	95,158	54,842	-
REDSO/ESA	682,000	191,350	245,636	245,014
Ethiopia	352,115	172,732	179,383	-
Madagascar	300,000	205,244	94,756	-
Guatemala	50,000	52,933	-	(2,933)
Haiti	158,850	79,285	79,565	-
Honduras	75,000	38,603	22,295	14,102
Nicaragua	221,050	141,892	79,158	-
India	550,000	55,543	50,000	444,457
Subtotal Non GPHN	5,846,162	2,978,943	1,845,635	1,021,584
GRANDTOTAL	12,028,162	6,110,588	4,858,343	1,059,231

VI. APPENDIX 1 – Title II Generic Indicators

Category	Level	Indicator
Health, nutrition, and MCH	Impact	% stunted children 24-60 months (height/age z-score)
		% underweight children (6-36 mo, 36-60 mos) (weight/age z-score)
		% infants breastfed w/in 8 hours of birth
		% infants under 6 months breastfed only
		% infants 6-10 months fed complementary foods
		% infants continuously fed during diarrhea
		% infants fed extra food for 2 weeks after diarrhea
	Annual monitoring	% eligible children in growth monitoring/promotion
		% children immunized for measles at 12 months
		% of communities with community health organization
% children in growth promotion program gaining weight in past 3 months by gender disag.		
Water and sanitation	Impact	% infants with diarrhea in last two weeks
		liters of household water use per person
		% population with proper hand washing behavior
		% households with access to adequate sanitation (also annual monitoring)
	Annual monitoring	% households with year-round access to safe water
		% water/sanitation facilities maintained by community
Household food consumption	Impact	% households consuming minimum daily food requirements
		number of meals/snacks eaten per day
		number of different food/food groups eaten
Agricultural productivity	Impact	annual yield of targeted crops
		yield gaps (actual vs. potential)
		yield variability under varying conditions
		value of agricultural production per vulnerable household
		months of household grain provisions
		% of crops lost to pests or environment
	Annual monitoring	annual yield of targeted crops
		number of hectares in which improved practices adopted
Natural resource management	Impact	imputed soil erosion
		imputed soil fertility
		yields or yield variability (also annual monitoring)
	Annual monitoring	number of hectares in which NRM practices used
		seedling/sapling survival rate
FFW/CFW roads	Impact	agriculture input price margins between areas
		availability of key agriculture inputs
		staple food transport costs by seasons
		volume of agriculture produce transported by households to markets
		volume of vehicle traffic by vehicle type
	Annual monitoring	kilometers of farm to market roads rehabilitated