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List of Acronyms

ACC/SCN	Administrative Committee on Coordination/Sub-Committee on Nutrition
ACDI/VOCA	Agricultural Cooperative Development International/Volunteers in Overseas Cooperative Assistance
ADRA	Adventist Development and Relief Agency
AER	Annual Estimate of Requirements
AFSI	Africa Food Security Initiative
ARC	American Red Cross
BHR	Bureau for Humanitarian Response
BHR/FFP	BHR's Office of Food for Peace
BHR/PPM	BHR's Programs, Policies, and Management
BHR/PVC	BHR's Private and Voluntary Cooperation
CARE	Cooperative for Assistance and Relief Everywhere, Inc.
CHANGE	Behavior Change Innovation/State-of-the-Art Activity
CMR	Crude Mortality Rate
CRS	Catholic Relief Services
CS	Cooperating Sponsor (Title II Implementing partner)
CTO	Cognizant Technical Officer
DA	Development Assistance
DAP	Development Activity Proposal
DCOF	Displaced Children and Orphans Fund
DIP	Detailed Implementation Plan (Child Survival)
DP	Development Programs (as in FFP/DP)
EDDI	Education for Development and Democracy in Africa Initiative
EFS-II	USAID/Haiti's Enhancing Food Security II Project
EHA	Department of Emergency and Humanitarian Action
EP	Emergency Program (as in FFP/EP)
FACG	Food Aid Consultative Group
FACS	Food Assisted Child Survival Program
FAM	Food Aid Management
FANTA	Food and Nutrition Technical Assistance Project
FFE	Food For Education
FFP	BHR's Office of Food For Peace
FFP/DP	Office of Food For Peace, Development Programs Division
FFP/ER	Office of Food For Peace, Emergency Relief Division
FFP/POD	Office of Food For Peace, Program Operations Division
FFW	Food For Work
FHI	Food for the Hungry International
GEM	Global Excellence in Management
GHAI	Greater Horn of Africa Initiative
G/PHN	USAID's Bureau for Global Programs, Field Support, and Research, Center for Population, Health and Nutrition
HFSMT	Household Food Security Measurement Tool
HINAP	Health Information Network Advanced Planning
HKI	Helen Keller International

HPN	Health, Population, and Nutrition (as in AED/HPN Programs)
IEE	Initial Environmental Examination
IFPRI	International Food and Policy Research Institute
IR	Intermediate Result
ISA	Institutional Support Assistance Grant
ITSH	Internal Transport, Shipping and Handling
KPC	Knowledge, Practice, Coverage
LDC	Less Developed Country
LIFDC	Low Income Food Deficit Country
LIFE	Leadership and Investment on Fighting an Epidemic
LINKAGES	Breastfeeding and Complementary Feeding and Maternal Nutrition Program
M&E	Monitoring and Evaluation
MCHN	Maternal Child Health/Nutrition
MSU	Michigan State University
MOST	Micronutrient Operational Strategies and Technologies
NICRA	Negotiated Indirect Cost Rate Agreement
NIH	National Institute of Health
NGO	Non-governmental Organization
OFDA	USAID's Office for Foreign Disaster Assistance
OICI	Opportunities Industrialization Centers International
PAA	Title II Previously Approved Activity
POD	Port of Delivery (as in BHR/FFP/POD)
PVC	Private Voluntary Cooperation
PVO	Private Voluntary Organization
R2	Result Report
R4	Results Review and Resource Request
REDSO	Regional Economic Development Service Office
REDSO/ESA	Regional Economic Development Service Office/East & Southern Africa
RFFPO	Regional Food For Peace Office
RNIS	Refugee Nutrition Information System
SANA	Sustainable Approaches for Nutrition in Africa
SARA	Support for Analysis and Research in Africa
SOW	Scope of Work
SO	Strategic Objective
STC	Save the Children
SUSTAIN	Sharing U.S. Technology to Aid in the Improvement of Nutrition
SWOT	Strengths, Weaknesses, Opportunities and Threats
TAP	Transitional Activity Proposal
VAM/EWS	Vulnerability Assessment and Mapping/Early Warning System
WFP	World Food Program
WHO	World Health Organization
WV	WorldVision

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1. Introduction

FANTA is a five-year Cooperative Agreement between AED and USAID, funded through USAID's Bureau of Global Programs Field Support and Research, Center for Population, Health and Nutrition (G/PHN). The project is designed to maximize the impact of the nutrition and food security-related programs implemented by USAID and its partners in developing countries. FANTA provides technical assistance in program design, implementation, monitoring, and evaluation of nutrition and food security-related programs to USAID, PVOs and Cooperating Sponsors (CS), and host country governments.

FANTA subcontractors, Cornell and Tufts Universities, two centers of excellence in food security and nutrition, focus on select policy and technical areas, operations research, and meta analysis. Food Aid Management (FAM), the consortium of Title II Private Voluntary Organizations (PVOs), assists FANTA in developing and maintaining a strong partnership with their member organizations.

The major focus of FANTA's efforts and resources are the areas of food consumption and utilization, with particular emphasis on access to food. In collaboration and partnership with the PVO community, host country governments, and local NGOs, the FANTA team assists USAID in:

- Adapting proven approaches to improve food security and nutrition of women and children;
- Supporting USAID strategic planning and program analyses;
- Improving program quality and impact;
- Delivering cost-effective and demand-driven assistance; and
- Supporting integrated food security and nutrition programs.

This report describes the activities undertaken by FANTA during the fourth quarter of the third year (July 1 - Sept 30, 2001). The first section summarizes this quarter's highlights followed by a more detailed narrative of FANTA ongoing activities grouped by Intermediate Results (IR).

2. Quarterly Highlights and Results

2.1 Advocacy for Women's Nutrition

During this quarter, FANTA made significant progress in advocating for improved women's nutrition and strengthening existing programs through technical assistance. Highlighting FANTA's work in this area was the Sixth Annual West African Nutrition Focal Points Meeting held in Accra, Ghana in September 2001. Participants included government health officials and researchers from around the region. FANTA's participation in this meeting represented FANTA's most recent efforts to collaborate and disseminate promising practices and program options in women's nutrition to audiences in Washington, D.C. and in the field.

FANTA developed key briefing papers and assembled information packages available in both English and French for the technical update session on women's and adolescent nutrition. In addition, FANTA disseminated a wide range of materials advocating a *lifecycle approach* to addressing women's nutrition issues based on stages of a woman's life.

The meeting produced an extensive series of recommendations and priority actions including: developing and adopting national nutrition policies in all Economic Community of West African States (ECOWAS) states; establishing a database on maternal and adolescent nutrition information in the region; and integrating essential actions for adolescent and maternal nutrition into routine health services and community-based activities.

2.2 Improving PVO Programming

During this quarter, FANTA published and disseminated two new guides as part of USAID's support to key program areas: the development of monitoring and evaluation systems for use in Title II programs; and HIV/AIDS. Specifically, these two guides provide important program support in two areas: 1) anthropometry and 2) nutritional care for people living with HIV/AIDS.

The *Anthropometric Indicators Measurement Guide* is a tool for assessing levels of food security based on key indicators. The guide provides information on the nutritional anthropometric indicators and the annual monitoring indicators for Maternal and Child Health/Child Survival (MCH/CS) and income related activities. The focus of the guide is on the collection and reporting of indicators to improve program management and document progress towards achieving results.

HIV/AIDS: A Guide for Nutritional Care and Support was developed to assist PVO program managers in making recommendations on food management and nutritional issues for HIV/AIDS-affected households. Field-tested in Malawi and Uganda, the guide focuses on providing guidelines for dietary and care practices for HIV/AIDS infected children and adults at the household and community level. The large demand for the guide suggests a great need for information on this issue to improve PVO and community programs addressing the pandemic.

2.3 Strengthening PVO Programs

At the request of Food for Peace (FFP), FANTA conducted a five-day Monitoring and Evaluation Training Workshop for ADRA's Title II development programs in August 2001. The workshop was designed to strengthen the M&E capacities of ADRA's programs and to address deficiencies identified in M&E components of ADRA's five FY02-06 Title II development programs.

Participants at the workshop included M&E Officers from all eight of ADRA's Title II development programs and other program staff from ADRA's field and headquarters offices. Through a combination of presentations and group exercises, FANTA presented newly developed M&E capacity-building materials for developing an effective M&E system for Title II development programs. FANTA plans to use this training package and workshop format more widely among Title II CSs as an effective tool to streamline M&E systems and improve performance and results.

2.4 Promoting Dialogue on Technical Issues

Child survival was one of the key themes of the CORE/FAM workshop, *Nutrition Works: Measuring, Understanding, and Improving Nutritional Status*, held in early September 2001 at the Ronald Reagan Building in Washington, DC. FANTA played a key role in developing the workshop agenda and FANTA staff served as technical resources during the workshop. The workshop was divided into three main themes: Anthropometric Measurement; the KPC 2000+ Rapid Catch and Survey Modules; and Programming Approaches to Improve Nutritional Status. The workshop provided an important venue for FANTA and Child Survival PVOs to meet and establish a dialogue for collaboration in this area.

In August 2001, Professor David Pelletier of Cornell University presented the findings from his FANTA-supported study on child survival in a presentation organized by FANTA at the Ronald Reagan Building. *Estimating Changes in Child Mortality from Changes in Child Malnutrition Using Secondary Data* makes the strongest argument to date linking rates of child survival with rates of malnutrition. His conclusions offer guidance in two main areas: conceptualizing the dynamic relationship between declining malnutrition and declining child mortality particularly in the severely malnourished regions and countries of Africa; and in designing appropriate complementary strategies to increase child survival. The event was well attended by USAID and local PVOs and served to renew interest in reviewing USAID. The research results serve to guide FANTA technical assistance in food security policy advocacy. The final paper "Child Survival in Developing Countries: Malnutrition Does Matter" is in the process of journal publication and has not yet been released for public distribution by FANTA.

3. Intermediate Result No. 1

Improved USAID's and Cooperating Sponsors' (CSs) nutrition and food security-related program development, analysis, monitoring, and evaluation

3.1 Technical Support to BHR/FFP

3.2.1 Strengthening PVO Programs/Title II Technical Reviews

As part of its efforts to improve Title II programs, FANTA reviews Title II development program proposals. This quarter, FANTA provided Title II technical reviews to ACDI/VOCA and ADRA.

ACDI/VOCA's Cape Verde DAP focused on working with the government's the Ministry of Health in Cape Verde to incorporate improved nutrition in the education sector. Food For Peace (FFP) requested FANTA technical assistance in reviewing and translating the World Bank poverty assessment used to identify target areas in Cape Verde and then summarizing the methods. ACDI/VOCA also requested FANTA to review and comment on a concept paper for Guinea-Bissau for FY2003 funding, as well as technical assistance for a potential DAP for Angola.

FANTA reviewed and revised the M&E plan and targets for ADRA/Bolivia's FY02 DAP. The revisions emerged out of the M&E workshop facilitated by FANTA for ADRA's Title II programs.

3.2.2 Institutional Support Agreements (ISA) Monitoring & Evaluation (M&E) Plans

Institutional Support Agreements are granted to Cooperating Sponsors (CS) by BHR/FFP to support technical initiatives in food security and nutrition at their headquarters. Throughout Project Year 3, FANTA has been providing support to ISA recipients and USAID to improve results reporting on institutional strengthening and improved capacity investments. There are currently fourteen recipients representing a wide range of PVOs carrying out development and emergency programs.

This quarter, FANTA provided technical assistance to review the programs of all fourteen PVO grantees. Twelve of the grantees undertook mid-term reviews of their programs and two, the American Red Cross and Counterpart International, conducted final evaluations. The grantees credited FANTA's key role in changing critical aspects of their corresponding ISAs. The following table is a list of the PVOs that underwent evaluations this quarter.

Table 1.

	PVO	Midterm	Final
ACDI/VOCA		X	
ADRA		X	
Africare		X	
American Red Cross			X
CARE		X	
Catholic Relief Services		X	
Concern International		X	
Counterpart International			X
Family Health International		X	
Food Aid Management		X	
OICI		X	
Population Council Int'l		X	
Save the Children		X	
TechnoServe		X	
World Vision		X	

The evaluation results indicated progress among the PVOs in meeting their objectives of improved Title II programming capacity. FANTA prepared a summary and analysis of the results from the mid-term and final evaluations of the ISA grants and provided them to Food For Peace.

In September, FANTA presented a summary of these evaluation results at the ISA Manager Meeting. In collaboration with Food Aid Management (FAM), ANTA planned the meeting and facilitated the discussion of key strategies and outcomes of ISA activities. At the meeting, ISA grantees reviewed the results of their recent evaluations, and planned a stakeholder meeting with FFP to present and discuss the future possibilities for ISAs.

FANTA provided technical assistance to FAM's Monitoring and Evaluation Working Group. A compendium of monitoring tools was completed and is available on FAM's website. The working group is planning a workshop to introduce the compendium in Johannesburg from January 21-25, 2002.

3.2.3 Technical Support to CSs and USAID Missions

Throughout Project Year 3, FANTA has been providing technical assistance to CSs and USAID Missions on a broad range of topics including: Title II program assessments; monitoring and evaluation activities; agricultural research interventions; gender; health; nutrition; and microenterprise.

FANTA's technical support to CSs and USAID Missions area is summarized here by country.

Bolivia

FANTA reviewed and revised the M&E targets for ADRA/La Paz FY02 Title II proposal. These revisions were based on the ADRA Title II M&E workshop facilitated by FANTA in August 2001. FANTA also provided technical advice on evaluation design, sample size and sample methodology to the consultant in charge of ADRA/La Paz's final evaluation.

FANTA continues to assist USAID/La Paz and the Title II PVOs standardize indicators for the Title II development programs. The objectives of this activity are to: standardize methods and instruments for collecting baseline data; clarify remaining conceptual questions about the Bolivia Title II program common indicators; and provide assistance on standardizing data analysis and interpretation after the baseline data has been collected. The first indicator workshop under the proposed activity will likely be held in January or February 2002.

Burkina Faso

Africare/Burkina Faso requested FANTA technical assistance to review SOWs for both their mid-term and final reviews.

Guinea

At BHR's request, FANTA provided the technical assistance to Opportunities for Industrialization Centers International (OICI)/Guinea required for their DAP approval.

Mauritania

FANTA provided technical assistance to World Vision/Mauritania in sampling for a baseline survey of a Title II project for urban squatter populations surrounding project health clinics and water points.

Mozambique

FANTA reviewed and commented on the scopes of work for the Title II final evaluations of PVOs working in Mozambique (Save the Children, ADRA, FHI, CARE and World Vision).

Niger

In response to a request from Niger's Food Security Initiatives Unit (a consortium of Africare, CARE, CRS, HKI), FANTA provided information on the selection of indicator targets to support the development of a program M&E plan.

Uganda

FANTA provided technical assistance to Africare headquarters staff in Washington, DC. FANTA assisted Africare in target-setting for stunting and under-nutrition, as well as in refining a small set of nutrition and access indicators for a new food security program.

3.2.4 Emergency Programs

Pellagra is a dietary-deficiency disease resulting from inadequate intake or absorption of niacin, one of the components of the vitamin B complex. Reports of pellagra have been a serious concern for public health and emergency interventions in the Kuito area of the Bie Province in Angola.

At the request of USAID/FFP, FANTA conducted a review and prepared a report on the recurrent outbreak in Kuito. The report is a significant contribution to USAID's policy and practices in the areas of prevention and treatment of pellagra. FANTA is waiting for the review from Food For Peace in order to finalize and distribute the report.

In response to a request from USAID, FANTA participated in a multi-disciplinary, multi-donor team assessment of the impact of WFP's drought response emergency operation (EMOP) in Kenya. Because the EMOP covers a large population and geographic area--3.3 million people in 22 districts--and uses new food aid methods, the results of the impact assessment may be used to inform future food aid activities in Kenya. The final report entitled "Impact Assessment of EMOP Kenya: Food Aid and Food Security" was submitted to FANTA this quarter. Subsequently, FANTA discussed the next steps with the (REDSO/ESA) office and also prepared a synopsis of the findings and lessons learned. These conclusions will be distributed in the next quarter.

During this quarter, FANTA met with Brian Jones of the Refugee Nutrition Information System (RNIS) to explore ways to collaborate with the US PVO community in collecting and analyzing data to improve the health of refugee communities. FANTA has received funding from BHR/PHN to support RNIS research, focusing on improved data analysis and implications for programming.

FANTA provided technical assistance to a World Food Program (WFP) nutritionist in Sudan on FANTA's Household Food Consumption Indicators Measurement Guide.

FANTA also assisted World Vision in setting targets, rations and nutrition indicators for their drought program in Zimbabwe.

3.2.5 Priority-Country Activities

Ethiopia

USAID/Ethiopia has a development assistance portfolio focused on food security, maternal and child health, nutrition and HIV/AIDS. The Title II Program in Ethiopia is implemented by eight PVOs and covers a broad range food security program interventions.

This quarter, FANTA completed a TDY focussing on four key tasks: 1) reviewing the global final evaluation (quantitative) of the Title II portfolio in Ethiopia; 2) reviewing the individual (qualitative) CSs final evaluations; 3) strengthening the capacity of Title II CSs in

nutrition programming for their new proposals currently in preparation for the next phase of Title II support; and 4) ensuring the adequacy of the CSs' M&E systems for the new programs . FANTA continues to support the Mission's work in nutrition advocacy and strengthening the capacity of partners in Ethiopia.

India

India's Title II programs, implemented by CARE and CRS, support maternal and child health and nutrition (MCHN) activities. During Project Year 3, FANTA provided technical assistance in reviewing the scope of work for the final evaluations of CARE and CRS.

FANTA also provided technical assistance to the USAID Mission in incorporating women's nutrition programming and strengthening Vitamin A activities.

Haiti

FANTA provides technical assistance to the USAID Mission for its food aid and food security portfolio. FANTA is playing a key role in assisting the Mission and its partners to design the next phase of the Enhancing Food Security (EFS) Program 2002-06.

During this quarter, FANTA staff traveled to Haiti and reviewed each of the four CSs' M&E plans for their new programs, reaching agreement on the standardization of indicators. The agreement includes an informal commitment by the USAID Mission to use the same indicators for their reporting, where appropriate. FANTA also met with Haiti's National Council for Food Security (CNSA) to explore possibilities for using similar approaches in Early Warning between CNSA, the CSs and USAID.

FANTA began discussions with the Mission and its partners to conduct a study that will compare the nutritional benefits of targeting all children under two years of age versus targeting children under five years of age who are malnourished. FANTA reached basic agreements on the outline and general design of the study. FANTA's two main subcontractors, Cornell and Tufts Universities, were invited to submit proposals to undertake this study. FANTA identified and prepared scopes of work for additional technical experts to review the proposals. Results of this study will assist USAID and its partners to make informed decisions on the most effective and efficient approach for food-assisted MCH programming.

Honduras

FANTA has been providing technical assistance in program design, and monitoring and evaluation to CARE Honduras' Title II program since 1995, with funding from USAID/Tegucigalpa. CARE/Honduras is implementing a follow-on Title II program valued at approximately \$5.1 million a year, focusing on expanding coverage of their integrated activities in agricultural productivity, health and nutrition, rural infrastructure development and local government strengthening. The Mission has allocated field support resources for FANTA to continue its support for both the evaluation of CARE's current Title II program and the baseline and evaluation strategy for the follow-on program.

During this quarter, FANTA provided comments on the first set of socio-economic and agriculture data tables submitted by the local firm contracted to collect and analyze CARE/Honduras' final evaluation and baseline survey data. FANTA also provided CARE/Honduras with examples of 'Promising Practice' evaluation scopes of work from Africare/Mali and Africare/Chad. FANTA offered extensive technical input for these SOWs and recommended a MCHN specialist to serve as team leader for CARE/Honduras' final evaluation.

4. Intermediate Result No. 2

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

4.1 Support G/PHN and USAID Initiatives

4.1.1 Women's Nutrition (WN)

A number of USAID projects and partners are carrying out activities to improve women's nutritional status. As a USAID-general nutrition project, FANTA is taking the lead in coordinating these efforts, encouraging increased collaboration and bringing promising practices and program options to the widest possible audience. Efforts focus on two complementary approaches to improve women's nutrition: advocacy and program strengthening. Improving advocacy for women's nutrition concentrates on the development of new data-based models that can be presented to audiences such as USAID, its Missions and national-level policy-makers. Program strengthening is accomplished through a number of activities that provide information and technical assistance on better practices for FANTA's partners and PVOs. Highlights during this quarter in women's nutrition include:

- The West African Nutrition Focal Points Meeting - Technical sessions;
- The Women's Nutrition indicators in the Compendium on Reproductive Health Indicators;
- The World Bank Proposal on Girls' and Women's Nutrition; and
- The Women's Nutrition Roundtable

West African Nutrition Focal Points

The Sixth Annual West African Nutrition Focal Points Meeting was held in Accra, Ghana in September. FANTA coordinated the technical update session on women's and adolescent nutrition. FANTA also produced briefs on key technical topics and compiled relevant nutrition and health materials in technical packets in French and English for all of the meeting participants.

Women's Nutrition Indicators

Last quarter FANTA hosted a working group for revising the Women's Nutrition section of the MEASURE II Compendium on Reproductive Health Indicators. Work on the section continued throughout this quarter. FANTA is involved in an on-going dialogue about standardizing the definitions of individual indicators and the challenges of evaluating women's nutrition. The guide will be reviewed by an external team of technical experts and will be completed next quarter.

World Bank Proposal for Girls' and Women's Nutrition

FANTA staff met with staff from the World Bank (WB) Health, Nutrition and Population (HNP) section, to discuss the submission of a proposal to the WB for a Development Grant Facility (DGF) for Girls' and Women's Nutrition. The grant will be used to support the creation of a consortium of interested partner agencies to facilitate the implementation, documentation and rapid dissemination of programming experience and impact results to address poor nutrition among girls and women, including the preventable causes of low birth weight and anemia. A decision on the status of this proposal is expected by February or March 2002. FANTA briefed USAID/G on the contents of this discussion and suggested that another meeting be scheduled so that USAID/G and the WB/HNP section could discuss the possibilities for partnering further. This meeting will be held in FY 2002. Should the proposal be funded, FANTA will have an important partner in this technical area.

Women's Nutrition Roundtable

Planning is underway for the November 8, 2001 Women's Nutrition Roundtable to be facilitated by FANTA. The objectives of the Roundtable include: sharing current program strategies and materials related to women's health and nutrition; providing a forum to discuss the key issues/opportunities that have an impact on women's nutrition programming; and building on-going partnerships among interested stakeholders.

4.2 Nutrition Policies, Programs and Initiatives

Throughout Project Year 3, FANTA has been conducting an assessment of the success of Title II Development Programs activities in achieving and reporting the food security goals of the Food Aid and Food Security Policy Paper (FAFSPP). The assessment looks at achievements by sector and examines the factors that have influenced the outcomes. The assessment also includes a review of result reports, evaluations and the development of country-based case studies, and will culminate in a high-level review meeting to raise the profile of this important resource.

During this quarter, FANTA drafted its contributions to the FAFSA paper. As a comprehensive document, the FAFSA policy paper required input and feedback from various contributors and food aid stakeholders. FANTA's agronomist took a leading role in preparing the paper, with assistance from a microenterprise/microfinance consultant and other FANTA staff. Feedback on various chapters came from the USAID Advisory Group, Food For Peace, commodity representatives, PVOs and external reviewers. The next draft will be developed next quarter for USAID review.

4.3 Support to USAID Missions and Regional Offices

Greater Horn of Africa Initiative (GHAI)

As part of an ongoing effort to enhance regional capacity to improve health systems, FANTA provides technical support to partners in the region working in nutrition. This quarter, FANTA has been working closely with the Regional Center for Quality of Health Care (RCQHC), based in Uganda, to plan a workshop on the development and adaptation of guidelines for HIV/AIDS nutritional care and support. FANTA has also been working with Nutrition Coalitions in Tanzania, Kenya and Uganda to plan technical assistance in their development of proposals to be funded under this initiative.

Early in the quarter, the RCQHC (a regional partner of REDSO/ESA) drafted a proposal for a workshop on developing national guidelines for nutritional care and support of people infected and affected by HIV/AIDS in the region to be held in November 2001. FANTA's technical assistance was central in: finalizing the workshop's objectives, technical content and concept paper; identifying participating countries; and allocating the roles and funding responsibilities among the collaborating agencies. The workshop will be funded by REDSO/ESA (through FANTA) and organized by RCQHC with FANTA technical assistance. FANTA team members, together with Country teams from Uganda, Kenya, Tanzania, Malawi, and Eritrea, will deliver technical presentations.

The workshop is for government representatives and CSs in the region to develop national guidelines. Using the workshop products -- including a handbook on national guideline development -- country teams are expected to follow up by developing and disseminating guidelines to improve nutritional care and support activities in their respective countries.

Nutrition Coalitions in Tanzania, Kenya and Uganda -- comprised of government and non-government representatives working to advance the nutrition agenda and improve nutritional status in their countries -- have been preparing proposals for technical assistance from FANTA with funding from REDSO/ESA. FANTA spoke with a REDSO/ESA PHN Officer to discuss: 1) the status of the three Nutrition Coalitions; 2) the development of Coalitions' proposals for FANTA's technical assistance; and 3) strategies for FANTA's technical support of REDSO/ESA's regional partners.

Tanzania's Nutrition Coalition, the National Nutrition Consultative Group, submitted a proposal for FANTA technical assistance supported by REDSO/ESA. The focus of activities proposed for FANTA support was the enhancement of capacity within Tanzania for nutritional responses to HIV/AIDS, including development of guidelines, a dissemination seminar, an inventory of institutions and resource persons and training of trainers.

A FANTA consultant participated in the Strategic Planning Meeting of the Kenya Coalition for Action in Nutrition (KCAN) to discuss the possibilities of FANTA technical assistance. The primary topic area identified by the coalition members was nutrition and HIV/AIDS. FANTA reviewed the KCAN Strategic Planning Report as well as a draft proposal

for technical support for a one-year pilot project to address HIV/AIDS through improved nutritional interventions. The proposed project focuses on education, training and networking.

A FANTA consultant met with members of UGAN, Uganda's Nutrition Coalition. The consultant facilitated the coalition's planning of its operations and strategic issues, and advised them on proposal development for FANTA and LINKAGES, a process the coalition has recently begun. Draft proposals should be prepared during next quarter.

4.4 Technical Assistance to Cooperating Sponsors

4.4.1 Private Voluntary Organizations

A FANTA intern, supported by USAID's Global and Humanitarian Assistance Bureau, gave two presentations on "HIV/AIDS, Food and Nutrition – Assessment Findings on PVO Experiences, Interests and Programmatic Needs". The presentations were based on a needs assessment of PVOs designed to document current experiences and needs (including tools, products, and training) in improving or implementing food and nutrition components of HIV/AIDS programs. The presentations were made to FANTA TAG members, USAID staff, CSs and PVOs.

4.4.2 Host Country Governments

FANTA's strategy for working with USAID Missions and PVOs as entry points for influencing host country government policies and programs has resulted in improved design of Ministry of Health (MOH) programs in Honduras. Based on FANTA recommendations, 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, it is anticipated that this new design would provide an important opportunity for influencing the Honduran government targeting of MOH services. In fact, the MOH has reacted very positively to the new under-two focus. CARE is working closely with the decentralized MOH Health Areas in CARE's program area, which has resulted in a revision of the MOH's Integrated Basic Services approach to target the under-twos rather than under-fives.

5. Intermediate Result No. 3

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

5.1 Indicator Guides and Promising Practices Series

FANTA has developed a number of guides on key technical issues related to Food Security and Nutrition. There are three new additions and new translations. Current guides in the series include: *Agricultural Productivity Indicators Measurement Guide*; *Food Security Indicators and Framework For Use In the Monitoring and Evaluation of Food Aid Programs*; *Infant and Child Feeding Indicators Measurement Guide*; *Measuring Household Food Consumption: A Technical Guide*; *Sampling Guide*; and *Water and Sanitation Indicators Measurement Guide*.

Anthropometric Indicators Measurement Guide

This guide provides information on nutritional anthropometry indicators and annual monitoring indicators for Maternal and Child Health/Child Survival (MCH/CS) and income-related activities. The focus of the guide is on the collection, analysis and reporting of child and adult anthropometric indicators to improve program management and document progress towards achieving results. The printing of this guide was completed this quarter and distributed at the CORE/FAM workshop, where PVOs representatives reiterated the need for such a guide to improve programming. It was also disseminated to the various FANTA mailing groups.

FFE Indicators Measurement Guide

This guide was developed to monitor and evaluate the impact of Food for Education (FFE) programs on educational progress and educational achievement. During this quarter, FANTA presented the FFE Guide to USDA, which is considering recommending its use by the recipients of its Global Food for Education Initiative (GFFEI) resources. In addition to the Title II Cooperating Sponsors and USDA, FANTA presented the Guide earlier to officials of the World Food Program. The WFP is also considering using it for their own needs. By reaching out to the larger community, this Guide helps food aid operators become more effective through better reporting of the FFE approach.

HIV/AIDS: A Guide for Nutrition, Care and Support

This guide was developed for PVOs and community organizations and field-tested in Malawi and Uganda. The guide is intended to help program managers make recommendations on food management and nutritional issues for HIV/AIDS-affected households. The information focuses on dietary and care practices for adults and children, and also provides suggestions for all household and community members coping with the infection. The guide was published during the fourth quarter and distribution of the guide is ongoing due to the tremendous demand for information on the subject.

Sampling Guide

This is a guide for PVOs on the fundamentals of sampling, and is the most frequently requested FANTA document. Based on requests from CSs, FANTA translated this guide into French and Spanish this quarter. The French translation is available both online as well as in print. Print copies were distributed among those being all participants at the West Africa Monitoring and Evaluation Workshop in September 2001 in West Africa. Final work on the Spanish translation is now in progress.

5.2 HIV/AIDS Activities

Orphans and vulnerable children (OVC) have become an important target group recognized by USAID and FANTA. The report of activities of USAID/OVC, in which FANTA has been included, is intended to provide information to USAID-funded organizations and partners, other OVC stakeholders and policy makers. The objective is to facilitate information exchanges and networking, guide the provision of technical support, establish an OVC project database, and track activities for future reports. FANTA prepared a profile of its HIV/AIDS activities for the USAID/OVC Project Profiles (Orphans and Vulnerable Children). FANTA's profile described its recent work in nutritional care and support for those affected by HIV/AIDS, FANTA's technical assistance to strengthen M&E systems of food security interventions used to address HIV/AIDS, and FANTA's planned HIV/AIDS activities for the year ahead.

In the area of mitigation, FANTA provided information on uses and monitoring of food in schools and in other activities targeting OVCs in projects of Axios International. Both Axios and the Abbot Fund have begun work on incorporating FANTA's FFE Indicator Guide and the HIV/AIDS Guide into their programming.

FANTA staff gave a presentation on FANTA's HIV/AIDS work to 30 representatives of government and non-governmental institutions from South and Central America and Mexico visiting through the State Department's International Visitor Program.

While on assignment in Uganda, FANTA staff carried out needs assessments for five PVOs working in nutrition care and support for people living with HIV/AIDS (PLWHAs). These assessments focussed on monitoring and evaluation tools for assessing the effectiveness of counseling in nutrition care and support for the PLWHA target group. The PVOs included Minnesota International Health Volunteers, TASO, Africare, World Vision and CRS in Uganda. FANTA is considering participation in a needs assessment with the Ministry of Health to develop a viable M&E tool to determine the impact and effectiveness of such counseling. In developing a curriculum for its Uganda program, the PVO Minnesota International Health Volunteers (MIHV) used material from FANTA's *HIV/AIDS: A Guide for Nutrition, Care, and Support* as a foundation piece for offering nutritional and other counseling for persons living with HIV. Based on the information provided by the Guide, MIHV now plans to develop an evaluation tool to assess the impact of the program's care and support activities.

5.3 Strengthening Health and Nutrition Programs: Focusing on Children under Two

Increasingly, there is a consensus to revise the age focus of children in maternal child health and nutrition (MCHN) programs when the main development objective is growth of the child. The proposed shift is from targeting malnourished children under the age of five to including all children under the age of two in communities with high prevalence rates of malnutrition and food insecurity. Successful advocacy for this shift can be seen in Honduras where FANTA's strategy of working with USAID Missions and PVOs as entry points for influencing host country government policies and programs has resulted in improved program design. Based on FANTA recommendations, CARE Honduras redesigned the MCHN component of their Title II activities to focus on all children under two in the project area. FANTA has prepared a paper that presents the scientific and programmatic arguments for changing the target group. During this quarter the draft was commented by other FANTA staff and will be revised and shared with USAID and PVO partners for further comments during the fourth quarter.

5.4 Improve Agriculture/Consumption/Nutrition Linkages

For the Partnership to Cut Hunger in Africa, FANTA provided comments and suggestions on strengthening the linkages between the proposed revitalization agriculture and hunger alleviation in Africa and measurable impacts on nutrition. FANTA staff participated in a two-day conference workshop to introduce the Partnership, share views and strengthen the Plan of Action, making a significant contribution to the refinement of the Plan. FANTA's contribution to strengthening the partnership's approach to linking efforts in agriculture, hunger and nutrition has extended beyond the conference.

5.5 Information and Dissemination

This quarter, two publications were finalized, printed and released: the *Anthropometric Indicators Measurement Guide* and *HIV/AIDS: A Guide for Nutrition, Care and Support*. These Guides were in process for some time. The French translation of the Sampling Guide was also completed and copies were distributed to all participants of the West Africa Title II Monitoring and Evaluation Workshop held last year.

At the end of the quarter, attention focused on the preparation of information notebooks for the West African Nutritional Focal Points Meeting in Accra, Ghana. Various related materials were included from FANTA as well as from LINKAGES and SARA/SANA. Since FANTA was responsible for organizing the day of technical sessions, a booklet of technical articles on the theme of Women and Adolescent Nutrition was prepared in French and English. The new HIV/AIDS Guide for Nutrition, Care and Support in both languages was also included in the conference technical notebooks.

This quarter FANTA hired a new Information Associate, responsible for providing information support to the FANTA project, assisting in the production of FANTA materials and responsible for website management. The responsibilities of the position were also expanded to take over the preparation of project reporting deliverables.

Tables 2 and 3 summarize the requests for information and documents FANTA received in the Fourth Quarter. Table 4 is a list of FANTA deliverables produced during the quarter.

Table 2.

Information Dissemination Summary	
Technical Assistance and Referrals	5
Information Requests	475
New FANTA Documents	8

Table 3.

Document Request Summary	
Agricultural Productivity Indicators Measurement Guide	6
Anthropometric Indicators Measurement Guide	162
Building Household Food Security Measurement tools From the Ground Up	10
Credit With Education: A Promising Title II Microfinance Strategy	15
Data Analysis Workshop Materials	0
FANTA Brochure	25
Infant and Child Feeding Indicators Measurement Guide	35
Food for Education Indicators Guide	11
Food Security Indicators and Framework for Use in the Monitoring and Evaluation of Food Aid Programs	25
HIV/AIDS: A Guide for Nutrition, Care and Support	14
Improving the Nutrition Impacts of Agriculture Interventions: Strategy and Policy Brief	10
Improving the Use of Food Rations in Title II Maternal/ Child Health and Nutrition Programs	2
Measuring Household Food Consumption: A Technical Guide	15
Mejoramiento del Uso de Raciones de Alimentos en los Programas de Salud y Nutrición Materno-Infantil del Título II	0
Potential Uses of Food Aid to Support HIV/AIDS Mitigation Activities in Sub-Saharan Africa	9
Sampling Guide	20
Towards the Development of a Child Feeding Index	5
Water and Sanitation Indicators Measurement Guide	6
West Africa Workshop Title II Monitoring and Evaluation Materials	105
TOTAL PUBLICATIONS DISTRIBUTED	475

Table 4.

Title	Author(s)	Date	Section in Report	Status
Indicator Guides				
Anthropometric Indicators Measurement Guide	Bruce Cogill	Aug 01	3.2.1.	Final
Food for Education Indicator Guide	Gilles Bergeron Joy Miller Del Rosso	Sept 01	3.2.3.	Draft
Sampling Guide – in French	Robert Magnani	Aug 01	3.1.	Final
Sampling Guide – in Spanish	Robert Magnani	Sept 01	3.1.	Draft
Periodicals				
<i>African Journal of Food and Nutritional Sciences (AJFNS)</i> , Issue 2	Ruth Oniang'o	July 01	3.10.	Final
Refugee Nutrition Information System (RNIS) Quarterly Reports (Nos. 32, 33, 34)	Brian Jones	Apr 01 Jul 01	1.2.1.c.	Final
Promising Practices Guides				
Data Pathways: A Guide to Monitoring Systems	Mary Arimond Gilles Bergeron Beth Dunford	Sept 01	3.2.6.	Draft
Evaluation Design Guide	Frank Riley	Sept 01	3.2.2.	Draft
Reports				
Considering the Applicability of Lot Quality Assurance Sampling (LQAS) to Credit with Education	Barbara McNelly Joeseeph Valadez Jeanette Treiber Robb Davis	Aug 01	2.3.1.	Draft
Food Aid and Food Security Assessment (FAFSA): A Review of the Title II Food Aid Program	Patricia Bonnard Patricia Haggerty Gilles Bergeron James Dempsey Anne Swindale	Sept 01	2.1.3.	Draft
Food Insecurity Measurement & Validation Study: A Proposal for Field Work In Bangladesh	Patrick Webb	Aug 01	3.5.1.b	Final
Kenya Drought Emergency Operation Food Aid and Nutrition: Key Findings and Lessons Learned	Caroline Tanner	Aug 01	1.2.2.b.	Draft
Malnutrition & Child Mortality: Findings from Longitudinal & Cross-Sectional Analyses at Population Level	David Pelletier Edward Frongillo, Jr. Maïke Rahn	Sept 01	3.7.	Final
Report on an Investigation into Recurrent Epidemics of Pellagra in Kuito, Angola	Michael Golden Caroline Tanner	Sept 01	1.2.2.a.	Draft

Technical Guides				
HIV/AIDS: A Guide for Nutrition, Care & Support – in English	Serena Rajabiun Bruce Cogill	Sept 01	3.6.	Draft
HIV/AIDS: A Guide for Nutrition, Care & Support - in French	Serena Rajabiun Bruce Cogill	Sept 01	3.6.	Draft
Workshop Materials				
M&E Workshop for ADRA – Report & Materials	Tony Castleman	Aug 01	3.9.	Final
Nutrition Works (CSTS, FAM, CORE, FANTA) – Report & Materials	Bruce Cogill Paige Harrigan	Sept 01	3.9.	Final
West Africa Focal Points Meeting – Technical Update Booklet & Materials	Sandra Remancus	Sept 01	2.1.1.	Final