

FOOD AND
NUTRITION
TECHNICAL
ASSISTANCE

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Supporting
integrated food
security and
nutrition programs
to improve health
and well-being of
women and
children

PD-ABW-467

FOOD AND
NUTRITION
TECHNICAL
ASSISTANCE

QUARTERLY PROGRAM REPORT

PROJECT YEAR FOUR

January 1 – March 31, 2002

**Cooperating Agency:
Academy for Educational Development**

**Subcontractors:
Cornell University
Tufts University**

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LIST OF ACRONYMS

| | |
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| 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 |
| SCN | Standing Committee on Nutrition (formerly Sub-Committee on Nutrition) |
| 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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INTRODUCTION

FANTA is a five-year Cooperative Agreement between AED and USAID, funded through USAID's Bureau for Global Health, Office of Health and Nutrition. 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), as well as to 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. 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.

In collaboration and partnership with the PVO community, host country governments, and local NGOs, the FANTA team assists USAID in the following ways:

- 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 first quarter of the fourth project year (January 1 - March 31, 2002). The first section summarizes the highlights of this quarter followed by a more detailed narrative of FANTA's ongoing activities grouped by Intermediate Results (IR). A chart of deliverables is attached (Table 1).

HIGHLIGHTS

FANTA highlights for this quarter include the completion of the Food Aid and Food Security Assessment (FAFSA) report, preparation for the Nutrition in Crisis and Conflict Symposium to take place in Berlin, and finalization of the Scope of Work for the Women's Nutrition Indicator Guide.

Commissioned by USAID's Office of Food for Peace (FFP), the FAFSA reported on the evolution of Title II development (non-emergency) food aid programs since the Food Aid and Food Security Policy Paper was issued in 1995. The report concluded that, overall, food aid programs made significant progress in meeting the goals laid out by the Policy Paper including: greater focus of Title II programs on the food insecure regions, especially sub-Saharan Africa; increased emphasis on improving agricultural productivity and household nutrition; improved results and results reporting; and increased collaboration among partners. The FAFSA concluded with twenty-two recommendations to FFP, Cooperating Sponsors, Missions and other stakeholders. FANTA presented the findings to the Food Aid Consultative Group (FACG), focusing on issues concerning monetization. At the presentation, FFP Office Director Lauren

Landis noted in her opening remarks that the FAFSA will be used to improve the agency's food aid programming and management of those programs.

FANTA, a member of the United Nations Sub-Committee on Nutrition (SCN), played an active role on the planning task force for the Berlin Symposium, the 29th Session of the Administrative Committee on Coordination, Sub-Committee on Nutrition (ACC/SCN). FANTA supported, with funds from USAID/PPM, and contributed substantively to a paper for the symposium entitled, "Achievements and Challenges in Nutrition over Twenty Years." Authored by SCF-UK and Action Contre la Faim, the paper outlines advances made in nutrition over the past twenty years and identifies priority areas for future work. FANTA provided support to Tufts University to present its paper on "Nutrition and Livelihood in Situations of Conflict." FANTA also supported the development of a third paper, "Nutrition in the Context of Crisis and Conflict, which looks at the nutritional needs of people in emergency situations. At the request FFP/EP, FANTA will prepare a briefing to be presented at the symposium on some key nutrition issues relevant to USAID's emergency programming, reporting and strategic planning.

FANTA continues to play an important role in promoting women's nutrition within USAID and among its PVO partners. Early this quarter, FANTA finalized the Scope of Work to develop the Women's Nutrition Indicator Guide. The purpose of the guide is to facilitate the consistent measurement of women's nutrition indicators and standardize the data collection and analysis to measure performance. The main audience for this guide is USAID Mission staff and PVO Child Survival and Title II grantees, but it is expected that this guide will reach an even broader audience of health and nutrition program managers.

I. ACTIVITIES IN SUPPORT OF IR 1

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

1.1. Support to improve development programming

1.1.1. Technical support to BHR/FFP/DP

1.1.1.a. Improve guidelines on nutrition and food security

FANTA actively participates in PVO and USAID working groups to improve food security related-guidance for Child Survival and Title II development programming. This quarter, FANTA assisted the Office of Food for Peace (FFP) in thinking through the proposed scope of the revised Global Food for Education Initiative (GFFEI). FANTA also began revising the Commodity Reference Guide, an essential reference for Cooperating Agencies, Cooperating Sponsors and the United Nations in determining the composition and size of food rations for development and emergency programming.

The ongoing congressional debates around the new Farm Bill has significant implications for how the US government supports the education sector in developing countries. Specifically, the GFFEI program, currently administered by USDA, is expected to become a USAID program administered by FFP. FFP requested FANTA's participation in a series of discussions between USAID and USDA on the proposed scope of the revised GFFEI initiative. In addition to participating in the discussions, FANTA contributed several portions of the legislative text that will be submitted to the Hill for consideration in the proposed agency transfer.

This quarter, FANTA s began revising the Commodity Reference Guide (CRG). FANTA is reviewing the CRG for overall technical accuracy. In addition, USAID requested that FANTA prepare fact sheets on Corn Soy Milk (CSM) and Instant Corn Soy Milk (ICSM)—blended food products that contain non-fat dried milk (NFDM)—on the nutritional content and recommended use of these products. Last year, FANTA participated in the task force on non fat dried milk (NFDM) to determine policies and guidelines on use of this product given the current large surplus. A key recommendation was to incorporate NFDM into a blended food. As a result, CSM and ICSM are now available as Title II commodities.

As an indicator of FANTA's leadership in nutrition and food security, the Development Gateway, an internationally prominent web site on development information, named www.fantaproject.org as one of the most five popular links on food security.

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

FANTA provides written technical reviews for 85 proposed and on-going Title II Food for Peace development programs. The reviews focus on the analysis of the food security situation, the program implementation strategy, and the appropriateness of the design and monitoring and evaluation plan. FANTA provides reviews for Development Assistance Program (DAP) proposals, CSR4s, DAP concept papers, DAP proposals and DAP amendments. Table 1 shows reviews by program, country and PVO.

Table 1. Title II DAP Reviews by Type and Country

| Program reviewed | Country | PVO |
|-------------------------|--------------------------|--|
| DAP proposal | Bolivia | CAN, PCI |
| | Malawi | World Vision |
| | Ethiopia | Africare, CARE, CRS, EOC-DICAC, REST, SAVE, World Vision |
| | Senegal | Technoserve |
| | Honduras | World Vision |
| CSR4 | Angola | World Vision, CARE, CRS, SCF |
| | Burkina Faso | Africare |
| | Cape Verde | ACDI/VOCA |
| | Chad | Africare |
| | Ghana | ADRA, OIC |
| | Guinea | Africare |
| | Mali | Africare |
| | Niger | Africare |
| | Mozambique | Africare, SCF, FHI, WV |
| | Uganda | ACDI/VOCA, WV, CRS, TNS, Africare |
| | DAP concept paper | |
| TAP proposal | | |
| DAP amendment | Mauritania | World Vision |

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

During the quarter, reviewed forty-seven CSR4s for success stories, percentage of results achieved, baseline surveys implemented and performance targets set in a timely manner and incorporated this information in the performance narrative. FANTA drafted the SO2 Annual Report Performance Narrative and cover memo. This report forms the basis for the Office's

annual resource request and also represents an opportunity to educate new Bureau management on the objectives and achievements of the Title II Development Program.

1.1.1.d. Provide technical assistance to Institutional Support Agreements

FANTA assists twelve Cooperating Sponsors--recipients of institutional support agreements (ISAs)—in strengthening and improving technical initiatives in food security and nutrition. At the end of the quarter, FANTA met with ISA Grants Manager at FFP to discuss the upcoming evaluations of the five-year ISA grants and to address a number of issues raised by PVO ISA Managers. FANTA provided information to ISA Managers on final evaluation requirements and facilitated discussions on lessons learned from the mid-term reviews and strategies for the final evaluations. Next steps include the ISAs' submission of scopes of work for the final evaluation. FANTA will review these scopes of work for FFP and final evaluations will be completed by December 2002.

An illustration of successful implementation of an ISA and FANTA's sustained technical assistance was in Africare's improved reporting. All of Africare's CSR4s were submitted on time, and an initial review of the reports suggests that the quality has significantly improved over previous years.

1.1.2. Technical support to Cooperating Sponsors and USAID Field Missions

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

FANTA provides technical assistance to USAID Missions on their Title II programs and related nutrition and food security initiatives. Assisting Missions and PVOs in improving and harmonizing monitoring and evaluation tools is a key activity that contributes significantly to better results reporting.

This quarter, FANTA provided extensive technical assistance in developing SOWs for a USAID/Maputo and PVO joint activity to create harmonized indicators, a joint baseline and a sampling procedure.

FANTA is also working to help strengthen USAID Missions and PVOs' food aid and nutritional response to HIV/AIDS. In November 2001, USAID/Kampala expressed an interest in FANTA developing a concept paper on food aid and HIV/AIDS. As a first step, FANTA proposed an analysis of baseline data from the Uganda Title II HIV/AIDS program. Results of the analysis are expected to provide key information that will determine areas for further attention and assessment.

Cooperating Sponsors

This quarter, FANTA provided a great deal of technical assistance to CRS in selecting indicators to improve performance measurement, including selecting indicators for their new DAP in Uganda. FANTA's technical assistance on measuring income by using income proxy indicators

resulted in CRS's decision to use more simple generic indicators for agriculture and concentrate on developing tools (rapid appraisal, case studies) for measuring the adoption of improved practices and food security impacts of their activities.

ACDI/VOCA required assistance on refining indicators to improve the definition and measurement of agricultural practice adoption, one of the Food for Peace generic indicators for Title II programs.

FANTA also provided technical assistance to ACDI/VOCA on conducting a food security assessment in Guinea Bissau as part of the pre-DAP proposal for problem definition in their coverage area.

1.1.2.b. Improve/strengthen existing program design

FANTA continues its work with the FAM Monitoring and Evaluation Working Group, which assists PVO members improve their outreach and assessment of field programming. The working group finalized the SOW for the activity to define issues of "access" in a Title II food security context and identify appropriate indicators to measure it. The objective of this activity is to assess how Title II PVOs currently address and monitor food access, identify good practices in monitoring food access and develop a Food Access M&E Guide for PVO field staff. This quarter, the working group solicited a financial commitment for this activity from five PVO members and FAM, with FANTA contributing the remaining one-third of the financial requirement for the activity. The group also outlined the qualifications of the consultant who will conduct the activity. A core group--one FANTA member and two or three PVO representatives--will work closely with the consultant during this activity.

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

FANTA provides technical assistance in the planning and implementation of mid-term and final evaluations of Title II development programs. FANTA also provides Washington-based desk reviews of evaluation scopes of work and assists in identifying evaluation team members.

In this quarter, FANTA provided technical input to Africare on sample design issues for the baseline survey for the follow-on DAP in Uganda. Since Africare will be exiting out of 9 of the 12 sub-districts where they are currently working, FANTA's proposed sample design will enable Africare to document the sustainability of the food security impacts in these exited communities when the final evaluation is conducted in 2005. FANTA also provided suggestions of indicators for monitoring the impact of Africare's activities on the nutritional status of women.

FANTA also reviewed TNS/Uganda's mid-term and provided comments to the debate over whether they should extend their current DAP for another year or submit a new proposal.

1.2. Support to improve emergency and transition programming

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 continued its review of the Commodity Reference Guide (CRG) frequently utilized by donors and implementing partners involved in emergency programming. (See section 1.1.1.a. for more information.)

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

FANTA continued to provide comments on Title II emergency proposals, concept papers and reports. These requests are ad hoc but continue to increase as FANTA enhances its reputation in providing technical responses to issues related to food and nutrition in emergencies. For example, FANTA has been asked to comment on ration levels for program planning purposes, the use of therapeutic formulas, micronutrient deficiencies and nutrition monitoring and reporting. FANTA is also actively involved in discussions related to the use of compact foods in emergencies, in particular, the development of the Emergency Ration Bar (ERB).

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

The Annual Report for Food for Peace-Emergency Programs (FFP-EP), often referred to as Strategic Objective 1 (SO1), was completed in March. This year, the process for performance reporting differed from previous years. The time frame for receiving reports from implementing partners was much shorter. Operational units were requested to report on a specific set of indicators that could theoretically be rolled up to agency level performance reports. The completed report was much shorter in length. This posed some challenges. In previous years FANTA has managed a database of data collected from the implementing partners' performance questionnaires. This year the database was transferred to the new FFP contract partner - AMEX. Partly due to tight deadlines and lack of forewarning to implementing partners, some questionnaires were incomplete and some not received at all. This led to difficulties in analyzing the data.

FFP-EP requested that FANTA take the technical lead on the annual report. This quarter, FANTA wrote the narrative, specific case studies and analyzed the data, with assistance from AMEX staff. Case studies included lessons learned from the Kenya emergency operation, protecting livelihoods in Afghanistan through food for asset creation and social assistance programs in Kosovo and Afghanistan. Several key issues arose from this experience that warrant follow up. Areas of program success were identified that would benefit from further follow up and documentation of lessons learned. Areas that should be highlighted in the next round of strategic planning were also identified. For example, it is clear that current indicators will need to be revised both in terms of being in line with agency performance indicators and to be more appropriate for program management as well as meeting reporting requirements. Many of these issues will be tackled over the next few months with FFP-EP and with the agency as a whole. A

review of the annual reporting experience will be held at FFP in April, drawing out the key lessons learned.

FANTA has also been involved in discussions on critical performance indicators for humanitarian assistance. (See section 3.8 Information sharing & communications.)

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

As noted in section 1.2.1.c., the database has now been moved to AMEX in accordance with a previous agreement that FANTA would hand over this responsibility once a suitable home for the database had been agreed upon. AMEX will now oversee the maintenance of the database. It is clear that the database should be simplified and be more user friendly. Until then, considerable work must be done in order to both enter and analyze the data.

1.3. Country-specific activities

FANTA provides long-term technical support in five priority countries (Ethiopia, Madagascar, India, Haiti and Honduras and Nicaragua). These programs of sustained technical support to a country by FANTA staff and consultants help ensure continuity and follow-up on technical recommendations.

1.3.1. Ethiopia

The large Title II program in Ethiopia represents approximately forty percent of the Mission's portfolio and is implemented by eight Cooperating Sponsors (CSs): CARE, Catholic Relief Services (CRS), Food for the Hungry International (FHI), the Ethiopian Orthodox Church, the Relief Society of Tigray (REST), Save the Children (SCF), Africare and World Vision. These eight CSs carry out a variety of food security activities in the following sectors: agriculture, natural resource management, microenterprise, water and sanitation, maternal and child health and nutrition, and child feeding/humanitarian assistance. In addition, the Mission has a development assistance portfolio that focuses on maternal and child health and nutrition, and HIV/AIDS.

In January, IFPRI submitted to FANTA the first deliverable under Task Order 3. This draft report summarized the findings on infant and child feeding practices in Ethiopia based on data collected as part of the Ethiopia Demographic and Health Survey 2000. Analysis from the survey, including data on over 4,600 households with children less than 3 years of age, shows that both malnutrition and sub-optimal feeding are still widespread in Ethiopia. The paper concludes that the promotion of optimal infant and child feeding practices should be a priority area to address in future nutrition, communication and behavior change programs in the country. These activities could be incorporated within a broader nutrition strategy that aims for increased food accessibility and availability. From this document, a short report was written on infant and child feeding behavior in Ethiopia to assist the Mission and its partners in identifying priority areas for intervention. This report was disseminated by FANTA staff in Ethiopia to the Mission and each of its eight Title II partners.

IFPRI is nearing completion of the second deliverable under Task Order 3: *Recommended Tabulation Guidelines for Complementary Feeding Data in the Demographic and Health Surveys: MEASURE DHS + series*. The remaining tasks for the deliverable include: 1) simulations to assess whether the infant and child feeding index (ICFI) could be used to detect overall changes in feeding practices over time; and 2) tabulation guidelines for Macro DHS including the development of a set of SPSS programs to reproduce each ICFI component. The latter is need to construct the index and present the data graphically. IFPRI will consult closely with Macro to insure that the latter deliverable is as useful as possible. The completed report is due in early April.

1.3.2. Madagascar

The Title II program in Madagascar is implemented by the Adventist Development and Relief Agency (ADRA), CARE and CRS. The activities of the three CSs include interventions in agriculture, maternal and child health, water and sanitation, food for education and child feeding/humanitarian assistance. The Title II program also includes disaster mitigation and urban development in the capital city, Antananarivo.

FANTA facilitated discussions between FFP and the Title II CSs on the newly mandated policies for final evaluations of the DAPs in Madagascar. FFP's most recent DAP Guideline states that final evaluations should be held during the fourth year of the DAP, so that the results can be used in the preparation of follow-up proposals. This caused concern for the CSs, who reported problems of timing and funding due to the change. FANTA's provided information to both parties (CSs and FFP) on the relevant issues and logistics for the prepararion of the final evaluations. The final evaluation now will be conducted in FY2003.

FANTA received positive feedback for technical assistance carried out in Madagascar this quarter. In the FY2003 CSR4, ADRA/Madagascar acknowledged how useful FANTA assistance has been in strengthening their M&E system: "The monitoring and evaluation team continues to refine the system that is already used and which has already given proof of its effectiveness. The assistance of FANTA in the design of this system has been crucial because the project has greatly benefited from the experience that FANTA's experts brought to the system".

FANTA also worked with CRS in refining its agricultural monitoring methodology to better capture the to better capture the adoption by target farmers of extension messages. When finalized, this work will improve the aggregate reporting of results at the program level.

1.3.3. India

India has the largest program in the Title II development portfolio. The program is implemented by CARE and CRS, and the majority of interventions address maternal and child health and nutrition. CARE/India implements the Integrated Nutrition and Health Project and reaches approximately seven million women and children in seven states. In addition to a health and nutrition program, CRS/India's Title II program includes natural resource management, agriculture, food for education, and other child feeding/humanitarian assistance.

This quarter, FANTA staff met with USAID staff in New Delhi to discuss areas for FANTA technical assistance to the Mission and its partners. The Mission identified two priority areas in which FANTA technical assistance is required: 1) replicating successful models from CARE's Title II Integrated Nutrition and Health Project into non-assisted areas of the Government's Integrated Child Development Services (ICDS) program; and 2) developing effective Title II graduation options and exit strategies.

FANTA prepared a concept paper describing the content and process for technical assistance to the mission and its Title II partners, and sent it to the mission in New Delhi. Feedback on the concept paper is expected next quarter. This document may then serve as the basis of a work plan. Once agreement is reached on the workplan, FANTA can then begin providing technical assistance.

1.3.4. Haiti

The Title II program in Haiti is implemented by four Cooperating Sponsors: CARE, CRS, World Vision and Save the Children. The Title II CSs undertake projects in water and sanitation, maternal and child health and nutrition, food for education, microcredit, infrastructure development, and other child feeding/humanitarian assistance.

In January, the four CSs in Haiti began their new DAP cycle. One of the first tasks was to conduct a baseline survey *jointly* in their areas of intervention. FANTA developed a Request for Application (RFA) to identify the team leader of the baseline survey, assisted in evaluating the applications, and briefed the winning applicant.

The FFP CBO, David Garms, requested FANTA support for his TDY to Haiti. This TDY had two objectives: i) examine the consequences of the withdrawal of the School Feeding program from a large number of schools in the country; and ii) assess the Mission's management of the Title II portfolio. FANTA helped the CBO design a set of instruments to guide the key informant interviews undertaken to accomplish those tasks. FANTA also provided suggestions on with whom the CBO should meet to adequately address the issues.

FANTA staff traveled to Haiti March 13-25 to provide technical support in six general areas: i) CSs' Baseline Surveys; ii) the national early warning system; iii) the withdrawal of the school feeding program iv) the monitoring of CS field activities by the Mission; v) USAID/PaP Performance Monitoring Plan; and vi) the study of recuperative versus preventative models in nutrition.

- i) CSs' Baseline Survey: Since the four Haiti CSs have similar programs, FANTA has been providing technical assistance to prepare for a joint baseline study carried out by the four CSs. FANTA played a particularly active role in standardizing the outcome indicators across CSs; developing a framework that explains the determinants of success or failure of those programs; devising a sampling strategy; and developing the field instruments needed to collect the data.

- ii) National early warning system: FANTA assisted USAID/PaP FFP in implementing an early warning and emergency preparedness model based on CARE's NEWS (Northwest Early Warning System) to other CS areas.
- iii) Withdrawal of the school feeding program: The final evaluation that was carried out at the conclusion of the previous DAP cycle (1996-2001) found that no positive impacts (nutritional or educational) could be associated with school feeding (SF) programs as traditionally implemented in Haiti. Food for Education (FFE) programs, by contrast, were found to have quite positive impacts on educational outcomes. Based on these findings, the CSs, FFP/Washington and the USAID Mission decided to phase out completely from all SF activities, and concentrate instead on FFE. FANTA was asked to develop an RFP to analyze why SF programs failed and why FFE programs succeeded. This presents an excellent opportunity to explore several issues that are not currently well understood, such as the impact of large quantities of food may have not only on schools, but on households, communities and the local economy.
- iv) Monitoring of CS field activities by the Mission: The Mission requested FANTA to conduct an in-depth review of the work of the Food Monitors. FANTA was also asked to develop a new model, accompanied by a training module, to streamline the visits of the Food Monitors. The FANTA mandate goes beyond simply developing a sampling strategy. The Mission would like to see its Food Monitors review not only food-related aspects, such as storage, but also the activities developed by the CSs using the Title II resources (health, education, food for work, etc). This model is expected to have applications for all Missions supporting a Title II program.
- v) Mission Performance Monitoring Plan: USAID/PaP's FFP officer requested that FANTA review the Mission's reporting system to identify ways to more accurately reflect the Title II program's contribution to Mission objectives. FANTA was also asked to provide a list of key indicators used by CSs that could be incorporated in the Mission's Annual. Follow up work will be done during the third quarter.
- vi) Study of recuperative versus preventative models in nutrition: FANTA staff used this opportunity review progress, share study protocols and facilitate the channeling of the various resources needed to undertake the study with its partners in this activity.

1.3.5. Honduras

FANTA is working with USAID/Tegucigalpa to update its food security strategy with a particular emphasis on the impact of natural disasters (hurricanes, droughts and floods) on the food security situation. FANTA also provides technical assistance to CARE, the only Title II Cooperating Sponsor in Honduras, focusing on agricultural productivity, health and nutrition, and local infrastructure development.

This quarter, FANTA revised the scope of work for a food security update that will help the Mission revise their Food Security Strategy and prioritize regions and interventions for their current and future food aid program. FANTA staff traveled to Honduras in February to meet with the FFP office and mission to discuss updating FFP's food security strategy and improving

integration between FFP and Mission activities. FANTA met with numerous representatives working on food security issues (both short-term or emergency related and chronic) to determine the new parameters of Honduras Title II programming in terms of geographic and programmatic priorities.

The objectives of the trip were threefold:

- Conclude discussions with USAID/Tegucigalpa on the scope of work for conducting an update of the Title II Food Security Strategy, which will orient the program for the next five years and be integrated into the Strategic Plan.
- Determine the availability of data for use in the immediate setting of strategy parameters and follow-on analysis (following the parameter setting exercise but prior to completing a final draft of the strategy).
- Begin interviewing key informants on the food security situation and priorities in Honduras, taking account of recent food security-related developments, such as natural disasters, and market changes underlying current and future food security situation in Honduras.

FANTA met with the Title II staff as well as the Deputy Mission Director and several Strategic Objective Team leaders. FANTA also met with numerous individuals from different governmental, non-governmental and international agencies to discuss food security in Honduras. Some of the key organizations include the Secretary of Agriculture, Weather Service, Emergency Response, WFP, EU, FAO, international PVOs. These meetings provided local informed perspectives on chronic and short-term food security in Honduras, including issues relating to recent natural disasters. The new strategy of the Secretary of Agriculture will focus on improved watershed management and hillside agricultural practices.

FANTA submitted the second draft of the Food Security Update. This paper should form the basis of the Title II Honduras' food security strategy and should feed into the Mission's five-year country strategy. This paper incorporated data and conclusions from a series of publications from UNDP, WB and IFPRI and other key institutions working on food insecurity and poverty in Honduras. The paper identified priority regions, primary causes of food insecurity and key interventions for the Title II program (e.g. improved practices for hillside agriculture, increasing remote communities access to basic health services.)

The paper also recommends means of increasing the integration of mission programming.

1.3.6. Nicaragua

As a result of Hurricane Mitch, food aid programs in Nicaragua increased in size and complexity. A FANTA-funded Food Security Specialist was dispatched to Nicaragua to provide longer-term technical assistance to the USAID Mission as well as the Title II Cooperating Sponsors. The Food Security Specialist works to ensure that food programs are not merely "food handouts" but to combine hurricane relief efforts with "development oriented interventions.

FANTA's resident Food Security Specialist in Nicaragua completed his fifteen month assignment this quarter. Specific accomplishments include the following:

- Working with and providing guidance to USAID/Nicaragua's Food Security Officer in developing the Mission priorities for incorporation into the design of the new 2002-2006 Title II Development Assistance Programs.
- Working with the Food Security Officer to encourage the four Cooperating Sponsors PVOs (ADRA, CRS, PCI, and SCF) to work together toward a common goal to reduce rural malnutrition and improve health and economic well-being. This continued and strengthened the Mission's focus on collaboration among implementing entities, which had been a key element of the large and comprehensive program to assist Nicaragua recover from the effects of Hurricane Mitch.
- Convincing USAID/W that the Nicaraguan situation merited a Title II program larger than the pre-Mitch level, and to include four Cooperating Sponsors (Previously, three CSs were implementing Title II activities.) An excellent food security analysis along with the demonstrated CSs' success in ameliorating this situation via the Transition Activity Proposals (TAPs) and Mitch-related funding, convinced USAID/W that a Title II program involving four CSs and funded at about US\$2.75million/CS/year was justified.
- Providing evidence that USAID/Nicaragua had the staff resources and expertise to provide adequate oversight. Again, a combination of the strong support of the USAID/Nicaragua Director and Deputy Director, combined with the information provided in the USAID/Nicaragua Food Aid Self Assessment, clearly demonstrated that the Mission had conducted a serious review of the current staff assigned to the Title II program. And in response to that review, had hired or arranged for additional staff or for staff training, to ensure capacity for a successful program at the requested level. Hiring a short term person experienced in food aid, the long-term assignment of the FANTA Food Security Specialist, and arranging for the Food Security Officer to take the Food Aid Management and the Environmental Management courses were examples of the commitment by USAID/Nicaragua.
- Providing assistance to the Food Security Officer in facilitating the implementation of the TAPs, and responding to the drought conditions that resulted in significant (and sometimes total) crop losses by a large number of small-scale producers. This included work with the Cooperating Sponsors to develop a simple and reliable system to get accurate and timely information about a very dynamic situation, due to the disperse and localized nature of the effects of the drought. The response to the drought involved reprogramming Title II TAP resources, reprogramming Mitch-funding resources, obtaining additional Office of Foreign Disaster Assistance, Title II, and Section 416(b) funding. It also involved a major coordination effort with the World Food Programme, and incorporating other U.S. NGOs that had not, heretofore, been involved in food aid programs.
- Designing an emergency program to assist workers in the coffee sector who had their source of income disappear due to the sudden collapse of world market coffee prices. The program proposal has not yet received approval from USAID/W. During 2002 the Mission will try again to convince USAID/W of the merit and urgency of the request.

2. ACTIVITIES IN SUPPORT OF IR 2

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

2.1. In Washington

2.1.1. Implement strategies for improving women's nutrition

As a USAID general nutrition project, FANTA takes a lead role in coordinating efforts to improve women's nutrition among USAID and its PVO partners by encouraging collaboration and disseminating better practices and program options to the wider development community. Early this quarter, FANTA finalized the Scope of Work for work on the Women's Nutrition Indicator Guide. The objectives of the guide are to: 1) provide comprehensive, standardized and useful information on select Women's Nutrition (WN) indicators; 2) provide information on the types of WN interventions currently being implemented and link this discussion with the appropriate indicators; 3) address the primary methodological challenges with problem assessment and monitoring and evaluating WN interventions; and 4) provide guidelines on the recommended methods for data collection and analysis of these indicators. The audience for this Guide is comprised of PVO managers of Title II and Child Survival (CS) programs, USAID Mission staff and other program managers involved in monitoring and evaluation of WN activities. The purpose of the guide will be to facilitate the consistent measurement of WN indicators and to standardize the data collection and analysis of these indicators.

FANTA finalized the Women's Nutrition Roundtable Report and disseminated it to the participants of the Roundtable and other women's nutrition stakeholders. Dissemination of the report was accompanied by an announcement of a Women's Nutrition Task Force to meet later this year. The Task Force will identify priority focus areas (e.g. anemia, chronic energy deficiency) for Women's Nutrition and develop an action plan that provides concrete steps on how to address these areas through improved advocacy, program implementation and monitoring and evaluation. Other objectives for the Task Force will be decided when the group meets.

FANTA addressed the objective of improving and expanding interventions that focus on women's nutrition in India by submitting concept papers to the USAID Mission/New Delhi, CARE/India and CRS/India. Some of the areas and activities identified for FANTA technical assistance in the concept papers included:

- strengthening behavioral change strategies to effect key maternal and child survival practices;
- promoting the extension of micronutrient supplementation;
- reaching adolescent girls with health and nutrition interventions;
- developing simpler mid-term evaluation techniques; and
- improving graduation strategies for program areas.

The areas for program strengthening outlined in the concept paper were discussed during the meeting with the Mission in New Delhi and were modified. The Mission indicated its preference for FANTA assistance with the final two concept paper activities outlined in the concept paper – developing simpler mid-term evaluation techniques and improving graduation strategies – for the time being. (See section 1.3.3. for more information.)

Outreach on and dissemination of issues related to Women's Nutrition continues. FANTA made a presentation on Women's Nutrition for USDA Foreign Agriculture Service staff. (See section 3.8 for more information.)

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

This quarter, FANTA completed the report of an assessment, commissioned by U.S. Agency for International Development's (USAID) Office of Food for Peace (FFP), of the evolution of the Title II development (non-emergency) food aid program since the Food Aid and Food Security Policy Paper was issued in 1995. The main findings of the assessment include: greater focus of the Title II development program on the most food insecure regions and countries, especially in sub-Saharan Africa; increased programmatic emphasis on improving agricultural productivity and household nutrition, including a dramatic improvement in the design of Title II agricultural and nutrition programs with the integration of complementary activities such as technical assistance and training, largely funded by monetization, the sale of food aid commodities to generate local currencies for logistic and other program costs; better results and results reporting; and better collaboration among partners. Recognizing this progress, this assessment report identifies program weaknesses and makes recommendations to FFP, Cooperating Sponsors (CSs), Missions and other stakeholders for strengthening the program over the coming years. The importance of transparency, consistency, flexibility and communication in the management of the program by FFP is emphasized.

The FAFSA included:

- A review of how Title II non-emergency program changed its sectoral and regional priorities to conform to the Policy Paper.
- An assessment of how well planning and management improvements outlined in the Policy Paper have worked out in practice, such as management by results and resource integration.
- A determination on the degree to which results have been achieved in the principal programming sectors, using qualitative assessment and the best readily available quantitative data. Results should be viewed in terms of both the success in carrying out interventions and achieving intermediate results, and how good implementation and intermediate results actually translated into desired impacts.
- Promising practices, lessons learned and constraints to results achievements.
- Recommendations future program and legislative directions in light of the results, constraints and changes in the organizational and development environment.

FANTA staff presented the findings of FAFSA to the Food Aid Consultative Group (FACG) meeting, focusing on monetization issues. The presentation was combined with one from

Michigan State University (MSU) covering market issues related to monetization. The two presentations set the stage for FACG membership discussions on the complexity of monetization and its contribution to the achievement of sustainable food security results.

2.1.4. Review health and nutrition in emergencies

Refugees and internally displaced persons (IDPs) continue to claim a large portion of USAID's resources. There are large gaps in our knowledge about how to address nutrition needs of already distressed populations in emergency situations. This quarter, FANTA took part in the UN Sub Committee on Nutrition's (SCN) Symposium on Nutrition in the Context of Crisis and Conflict. FANTA also contributed to the advancement of the relief to development continuum through its work on community therapeutic care.

The Symposium on Nutrition in the Context of Crisis and Conflict: FANTA supported (via funds from PPM) and was actively involved in developing a paper for the Symposium (Nutrition in the Context of Crisis and Conflict) held in Berlin. The paper "Achievements and Challenges in Nutrition over 20 Years," authored by SCF-UK and Action Contre la Faim, outlined advances and achievements made over the past twenty years and identified priority areas for future work. The paper and presentation will be available on the FANTA web site and will be disseminated by the SCN. Recommendations from the paper will be followed up by the UN Sub Committee on Nutrition - Working Group in Emergencies in 2002-2003. The recommendations from this paper will also form part of a statement from the Symposium which will be prepared for the UN Secretary General. (See section 3.8. for more information.)

Support for the Community Therapeutic Care (CTC) approach: In November 2001, following several publications including an article in the *Lancet*, FANTA asked Dr. Steve Collins to present at USAID on the community management of severe malnutrition as part of the Global Bureau technical series of presentations. The concept of community therapeutic care (CTC) seeks to link relief and development concepts. The presentation was well attended and participants expressed their support for the work. Since then the CTC approach has gained momentum. There is tremendous interest and support for in this approach both within USAID and the wider humanitarian and development communities. The approach is currently being researched and field tested by Valid International and partner NGOs, before it can be more widely applied. FANTA has been very supportive of this promising practice and will seek to provide funding to support operational research at field level (probably in Afghanistan). This will serve several critical purposes:

- enable further valuable field research, trials, documentation and dissemination of CTC;
- increase knowledge about the links between relief and development;
- keep FANTA and USAID at the cutting edge of innovations in nutrition programming to improve practice and response in the field; and
- increase FANTA's visibility in the emergency nutrition community.

A thematic group (part of the SCN Working group on Emergencies) has been organized recently to assess the management and care of severe malnutrition. FANTA will play an active role in this group. A draft concept paper on this subject, prepared by Valid International, is currently being reviewed by USAID.

2.2. With Field Missions

2.2.2. Support the Greater Horn of Africa Initiative

REDSO/ESA provides funding for FANTA's technical assistance in the Greater Horn of Africa region to support their Strategic Objective 7, "Enhanced Regional Capacity to Improve Health Systems. FANTA works with various regional institutions and coalitions, such as the Regional Center for Quality of Health Care (RCQHC), providing technical and material support to build regional capacity for improving health systems. A key area of collaboration with these regional institutions is developing national guidelines for the nutritional care and support of people and communities affected by HIV/AIDS.

Early in the quarter, FANTA submitted a workplan to REDSO/ESA describing proposed activities for the upcoming year. Ongoing commitments include completion of the handbook for developing national guidelines for the nutritional care and support of people affected by HIV/AIDS, as well as assisting three regional nutrition coalitions in developing proposals. Proposed additional activities include: i) supporting the nutrition coalitions in developing national guidelines on HIV/AIDS nutritional care and support; ii) developing an M&E tool for assessing the impact of nutritional care and support interventions; and iii) technical input to one or two workshops for southern African countries on development of national guidelines. Other possible activities include strengthening emergency response in the region, field testing the Emergency Ration Bar, and assisting in developing a module to train health professionals in nutrition and HIV/AIDS. Based on feedback from REDSO, a final workplan will be agreed upon and FANTA will begin planning activities.

Proposals for FANTA support

Uganda Action for Nutrition Society (UGANS): FANTA provided feedback on the proposal submitted by the Coalition, UGANS, for financial and technical support from FANTA for developing national guidelines on HIV/AIDS nutritional care and support. This proposal is the result of FANTA's efforts to facilitate a process for adapting FANTA's HIV/AIDS Guide and other materials for use in national guidelines, as well as build the capacity of these coalitions. The quality of UGANS's proposal was illustrative of the increased institutional capacity of the coalition. The next step is for UGANS to submit the proposal to REDSO/ESA for review.

UGANS has since moved forward on their national guidelines process by mobilizing in-country resources. In response to advocacy by the coalition and participation in the November workshop, the Ministry of Health agreed to fund stakeholder meetings to begin developing the guidelines. Contingent upon interest by REDSO/ESA, FANTA plans to provide further technical and financial support to Uganda's national guideline development process.

Kenya Nutrition Coalition (KCAN): FANTA reviewed a proposal from KCAN for support for their development of national guidelines. KCAN was strongly represented at the regional workshop in November, and this proposal demonstrates their strengthened institutional capacity.

Tanzania Nutrition Coalition (TANCO): TANCO also submitted a proposal for support for their guidelines. FANTA provided them with feedback, including suggestions for providing greater detail on the process of guideline development. FANTA's regional consultant has been working with TANCO on proposal development and planning as part of FANTA's ongoing effort to strengthen regional capacity in nutrition. TANCO is currently revising their proposal. Support for the activity will depend on the results of an assessment by a REDSO consultant on the progress of the coalitions.

Regional Centre for Quality of Health Care (RCQHC): FANTA provided feedback on the concept paper for work proposed by the RCQHC, "Integrating HIV/AIDS: Nutrition in Nutrition, Nursing and Medical Training in the Greater Horn of Africa". The proposed activity involves the development of a module on nutrition and HIV/AIDS to be integrated into the training of health workers. This represents a possible activity for collaboration between the RCQHC and FANTA.

Centre for African Family Studies (CAFS)

FANTA's regional consultant prepared a report, "CAFS in Coalitions Work" outlining the regional partnership opportunities between the CAFS, a regional partner of REDSO/ESA, and the three Nutrition Coalitions. This report describes CAFS work in the region, the relationship it has with each coalition, its facilitation of strategic planning for each of the coalitions, and the opportunities and limitations for working with the coalitions. The report suggest that there is a strong opportunity for CAFS to create a regional approach to coalition strengthening, as each of the three coalitions face similar issues. This report will help to guide FANTA's work with the coalitions, particularly with supporting the development of national guidelines for nutritional care and support in the context of HIV/AIDS. While in Nairobi, FANTA met with the deputy director of CAFS to discuss possible CAFS support to KCAN to strengthen their organizational capacity and build members' skills in advocacy and proposal development.

Kenya

In Kenya, FANTA met with the regional consultant in charge of providing the technical assistance to the three nutrition coalitions (Kenya, Uganda and Tanzania) to discuss the status and progress of her work. Each of the coalitions has prepared proposals for FANTA's technical and financial support for developing national guidelines in HIV/AIDS nutritional care and support. The consultant facilitated this process and FANTA provided feedback and recommendations on these proposals. FANTA proposed to use REDSO/ESA funds for these activities and REDSO is presently conducting an assessment of the coalitions' institutional capacity to determine the next steps for supporting technical activities. FANTA, LINKAGES, and the regional consultant agreed that the consultant should focus her efforts over the next quarter on the following:

- i) broadening the Tanzania Coalition's base;
- ii) strengthening its proposals and activity plan;
- iii) helping the Kenya Coalition's to firm up its institutional base and follow its strategic plan;
- iv) and facilitate the finalization of proposals.

REDSO/ESA PHN Partners Meeting

In preparation for the upcoming REDSO/ESA PHN Partners Meeting, FANTA provided REDSO with suggested topics, objectives, outputs, and agenda items for the meeting. FANTA suggested the meeting focus on an assessment of progress made toward REDSO's SO 7, *Enhanced Regional Capacity to Improve Health Systems*. This would involve identification of successes, constraints, and areas requiring greater attention and discussion of systems for results reporting by partners. FANTA will be participating in the Partners Meeting, to be held in Nairobi from April 22-24.

2.3. With Cooperating Sponsors

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

FANTA continues to work with Freedom from Hunger (FFH) to support the dissemination of the Credit with Education (CWE) approach that combines credit incentives, especially to women, with health and nutrition education. Last quarter, FANTA supported Freedom from Hunger (FFH) to work with several local partners, in particular with FOCCAS Uganda, in the development and testing of specific progress tracking approaches such as the learning session observation checklist. FFH documented the experience with *Credit with Education* practitioners in the Philippines, Uganda and Bolivia in developing and applying a learning session observation checklist approach. A draft report entitled *Supervision and Support of High-Quality Group-Based Nonformal Education Services: The Use of Observation Checklists* was completed during that quarter.

This quarter, Freedom From Hunger sent the draft report for Task Order 3, "Supervision and Support of High-Quality Group-Based Non-formal Education Services: The Use of Observation Checklists." FANTA provided comments to incorporate. The final report is expected early next quarter.

2.4. With Host Country Governments

FANTA supports USAID/Addis Ababa in the multi-donor dialogue with the Government of Ethiopia and regional government institutions to incorporate nutrition activities in the government's food security strategy. This quarter, FANTA provided extensive comments to the USAID/Addis Ababa mission about the evaluation to be done on the impact of food aid in the country over the last ten years. This review was initiated at the request of the FFP office in Ethiopia. FANTA had already provided comments on the SOW for this evaluation at an earlier date, recommending that the Mission reduce the scope of inquiry to a more manageable task. A new set of comments suggested a more systematic approach to defining the information system for monitoring emergency needs in the country.

3. ACTIVITIES IN SUPPORT OF IR 3

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

3.1. Develop Food Security Indicator and Promising Practice publications

3.1.2. Food for Education Better Practice Guide

To support IR 3, FANTA produces and disseminates Indicator and Promising Practices guides that address USAID's priorities in nutrition and food security as well as the priority action areas identified by FANTA's Technical Advisory Group (TAG). These publications are disseminated to a wide audience of PVOs and USAID Field Missions, as well as international development partners such as the World Food Program (WFP).

Following the publication of the Food for Education Measurement Guide, FANTA committed to the preparation of a Promising Practices Guide. Two representatives from the PVO sector will collaborate with FANTA in preparing this Guide. A first meeting was held between authors to prepare the document's outline and determine a production timetable.

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. 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. FANTA has agreed to develop a publication outlining the use of Title II commodities in addressing Vitamin A deficiency.

This quarter, FANTA and Helen Keller International (HKI) have reached agreement on: the terms of reference, the scope of work, and the timeline. Work on the guide will begin in April 2002, with the first draft expected by end of the summer. The final document is scheduled to be completed January 2003. Translations into French and Portuguese will follow.

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

3.3.1. Measuring improved household access to 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, as well as feeding behaviors at the household and individual level. The results of the technical assistance, facilitation and operations research will enable USAID to use this

information for program monitoring and evaluation, as well as advance future data collection instruments, such as the KPC and DHS surveys.

Cornell University, a FANTA subcontractor, has a task order to: 1) develop an improved measure of the access component of household food security in Burkina Faso based on an in-depth understanding of food insecurity at the household level; 2) demonstrate how such a measure can be developed; and 3) contribute to the development of a generic protocol to guide similar work elsewhere.

This quarter, FANTA received Cornell's Annual Report for 2000-2001 for this task order, as well as the Quarterly Progress Report for October - December 2001. Another deliverable, "Completion of Generic Protocol for Developing Measure of the Access Component of Food Security," will now be delayed until next quarter to incorporate text that integrates Cornell's experience with developing measures in Indonesia, Bangladesh, and Burkina Faso, as well as feedback from about the approaches FANTA used. Also included will be an overview of what a generic protocol should look like.

3.3.1.a. Dietary diversity

An understanding of household access to food is an important part of overall food security. Dietary diversity, or the number of different foods or food groups consumed over a given reference period is a good proxy indicator of household access. During this quarter, FANTA provided comments on the first draft of the paper "Dietary Diversity as a Food Security Indicator," submitted by IFPRI, a FANTA subcontractor, in December 2001. IFPRI will also draft a concept note on validating the strong relationships found between dietary diversity and nutritional status using other DHS data sets.

At the International Scientific Symposium to be held in Rome this June, FANTA plans to present the findings of its work with IFPRI that validates dietary diversity as a measure of the access component of food security. (See section 3.8. on the ISS)

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. During this quarter, IFPRI revised the SOW for the KPC Indicator and sent it to FANTA for review. In March, FANTA's CTO accepted the suggested updates. Finalization of the SOW is still in progress. The second draft is expected in September 2002. Through a collaborative process, involving IFPRI, CSTS, CORE, FAM, USAID/PVC and FANTA, this product will update Module 2 of the KPC 2000 instrument.

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

FANTA supports the development and implementation of strategies and interventions to mitigate the impact of HIV/AIDS on food security. FANTA provides technical assistance to USAID and its partners on the design and monitoring and evaluation of HIV/AIDS food aid programs to improve the effectiveness of the interventions.

During the first two quarters of Project Year Four, FANTA disseminated its publication, *HIV/AIDS: A Guide for Nutrition, Care and Support*, to USAID Missions, PVOs and NGOs, multilateral organizations, health care providers and other stakeholders working in HIV/AIDS affected communities. Almost one thousand copies have been distributed globally during the past six months. In congressional testimony presented to the Senate Foreign Relations Committee on February 14, 2002, USAID's Assistant Administrator for the Global Health Bureau, Dr. Anne Peterson, mentions the FANTA's HIV/AIDS Guide and its impact on programming. She stated that: "USAID produced *HIV/AIDS: A Guide for Nutrition, Care and Support* which shows that, compared with the average adult, a person with HIV requires ten to fifteen percent more energy a day, and 50 to 100 percent more protein a day. We are now incorporating food security activities into our care and support activities."

Revisions to HIV/AIDS guide

Efforts are currently underway to revise and update FANTA's HIV/AIDS Guide. While on assignment in Senegal, FANTA met with BASICS staff and the Fann Hospital administrator in charge of services to People Living With AIDSs in Dakar to collect feedback on the French version of *HIV/AIDS: A Guide for Nutrition, Care and Support*. The French version of the guide will be published and disseminated in the next quarter.

Modifications are also underway for the revision of the English HIV/AIDS guide. A new module will be included on nutritional care and support for pregnant and lactating mothers. Given LINKAGES' experience from their Prevention of Mother To Child Transmission (PMTCT) program in Ndola, Zambia, FANTA requested to use their recommended nutritional practices for infants and maternal practices based on their program in Zambia. FANTA met with the SARA project's Technical Advisor to decide on a role for SARA's nutritionist in the revision of the guide. Primarily, the nutritionist will assist in the necessary additional research gathering and in reviewing the drafts of the guide. SARA has already completed a review of the literature on nutritional care and support for pregnant and lactating women living with HIV/AIDS.

Handbook for developing national guidelines

FANTA provided technical feedback and suggested enhancements to the outline of the *Handbook on the Development of National Guidelines for HIV/AIDS Nutritional Care and Support*. This handbook, being produced by the Regional Center for Quality of Health Care (RCQHC) under a purchase order with FANTA, is a product of the November workshop in Uganda on national guideline development. The handbook is intended to provide countries with guidance on the process of developing national nutritional guidelines in the context of the HIV/AIDS pandemic.

FANTA has played a significant role in developing the handbook by providing feedback on the outline of the content of each draft. FANTA's major comments highlighted the need for the dissemination strategy to expand beyond the conventional IEC communication process to include advocacy and capacity building. The upcoming Southern Africa Regional Workshop in Lusaka, Zambia on national guideline development will be an opportunity to test the handbook and gather additional information and comments.

Southern Africa Regional Workshop on National Guidelines Development

In coordination with RCQHC, REDSO/ESA, and UNICEF, FANTA drafted the agenda and provided the technical content and materials for the Southern Africa Regional Workshop on the Development of National Guidelines to be held May 6-9 in Lusaka, Zambia. Country teams from Zambia, Zimbabwe, Namibia, Lesotho, Botswana, and Swaziland will be participating, and representatives from South Africa will share their experiences in guideline development. The workshop is intended to equip country teams to develop and apply national nutrition guidelines for people infected or affected by HIV/AIDS. FANTA is providing financial support for the workshop and for participants through RCQHC. FANTA is also providing technical inputs through assistance in developing workshop content and materials, preparing technical presentations, and facilitating during the workshop. Additional support and collaboration on the workshop is from various USAID Missions, FAO, SARA/SANA, and the Commonwealth Regional Health Community Secretariat.

This activity is an important complementary activity to FANTA's HIV/AIDS guide, which provides information to program managers on nutritional care support. While this guide meets a critical need, national guidelines are also required that provide recommendations based on country-specific conditions, needs and constraints. The regional workshops that FANTA supports (this is the second of three such workshops planned) equip country teams with the skills and knowledge to develop and use relevant national guidelines.

M&E tool

FANTA staff began work on the development of a monitoring and evaluation tool to assess the impact of nutritional care and support for HIV/AIDS affected people. Since nutritional care and support is a new and growing intervention and because the nature of HIV/AIDS makes the use of standard nutritional measures problematic, there has been strong demand for more effective M&E tools. The group is considering the possibility of using an index, and proposed ideas for various indicators and measurement approaches. The next steps include gathering more information on determining various stages of HIV infection and drafting indicators. During the upcoming trip to Uganda, FANTA will collect information from The AIDS Service Organization (TASO). A concept paper will be developed for this work in the next quarter.

Strengthening monitoring and evaluation of AIDS control programs in Africa

In Senegal, FANTA participated in the workshop on Strengthening the Monitoring of HIV/AIDS Control Programs in Africa, attended by representatives from sixteen African French and English speaking countries. This workshop represented a major effort by the major donors in HIV/AIDS programs in Africa (USAID/CDC, UNAIDS and World Bank) to strengthen the M&E component of programs in Africa. The main outcome of the workshop was the development of a

twelve-month country workplan to strengthen M&E systems. FANTA worked closely with the Rwanda team in the situation analysis and the identification of priorities for Rwanda's country workplan.

In the workshop, staff made a presentation on FANTA's HIV/AIDS activities and Title II HIV/AIDS programs in Rwanda and Uganda to the USAID/Nairobi and Title II partners in Nairobi, including CRS, Food for the Hungry, World Vision and ADRA/Kenya. The program in Kenya is facing some of the same challenges as other programs in Africa, including targeting, impact indicators, food aid and sustainable development. The program in Kenya appreciates FANTA's support and requests to get more guidance in the future including long term strategies to improve access to food.

In-country networking

While on a short-term assignment in Senegal, FANTA met with stakeholders (PVOs, NGOs, CBOs and government officers) from different French-speaking countries in Africa (Benin, Ivory Coast, Senegal, Burkina Faso, Madagascar, Guinea) to discuss FANTA's HIV/AIDS activities and the HIV/AIDS guide. Discussion centered on the status of nutritional care and support activities, which are almost nonexistent in francophone Africa. All the country teams expressed interest in the French HIV/AIDS guide.

Local Networking

In January, FANTA took an active role in preparing, facilitating and revising the report notes for a meeting with the International center Research on Women (ICRW) and Horizon on food security and HIV/AIDS. The participants included representatives of NGOs, CAs and USAID. The objective of the meeting was to identify the operational research questions for the Horizon project. FANTA made two presentations:

- 1) "HIV/AIDS Mitigation: Using What We Already Know": This covered both national and community-based assessment approaches and addressing program designs to deal with the effects of HIV/AIDS on livelihoods.
- 2) "Engaging or Disengaging Communities in Program Design: Is There a Choice?": This highlighted the importance of participatory assessments and utilizing the existing networks and resources for identifying the right entry point for mitigation interventions and strategies.

FANTA also participated in the 2nd *Consultative Meeting on Rethinking HIV/AIDS and Development: A Review of USAID's Progress in Africa* supported by the Africa Bureau at AED. The agricultural sector breakout group discussed current activities related to agriculture and HIV/AIDS. FANTA's presentation on HIV Mitigation: Using What We Already Know was highlighted including reference to several of the tables. Participants requested copies of the presentation and it was proposed that FANTA be included in an informal working group on food security and HIV/AIDS. FANTA also participated in the natural resource management and conflict and crisis breakout groups.

FANTA's communications cluster and technical staff met with three representatives of Development Alternatives Inc (DAI)—a private sector consulting firm—to discuss ways in which FANTA and DAI can work together to produce technical and policy notes on HIV/AIDS.

The group decided that DAI would review how they could contribute to the update of the FANTA publication, "*Using Food Aid in HIV/AIDS Mitigation*," probably in the area of microfinance and microenterprise. DAI also expressed interest in producing lessons learned from agribusiness. FANTA and DAI will continue to discuss opportunities to jointly produce food security related HIV/AIDS notes.

In January, FANTA participated in the PVO Steering Committee quarterly meeting on Food Security and HIV/AIDS. FANTA reviewed the first draft of the objectives and agenda for the May conference on US PVOs and HIV/AIDS, and assisted the group in developing the agenda. The goal of this conference is to expand and support US PVO participation in the prevention and mitigation of HIV/AIDS in Africa.

FANTA met with Land O'Lake's consultant to share information about FANTA's activities in nutritional care and support and the potential of uses of food aid in mitigating the impact of HIV/AIDS. Land O' Lakes currently has a program for distributing a fortified biscuit in Zimbabwe and FANTA provided technical assistance on addressing some of the challenges of food aid-related interventions.

Future HIV/AIDS publications

Technical Note: The purpose of the technical note for nutritional care and support will be to provide information on nutritional care and support to a broader audience, including program managers and directors of PVOs and host country midlevel managers. The objective of this technical note is to provide the essential information about nutritional care and support for incorporation into program design and implementation. The technical note will be designed and produced after the HIV/AIDS guide has been revised.

3.7. Training workshops

Monitoring tools

FANTA collaborated with the Food Aid Management (FAM) Monitoring and Evaluation Working Group to implement a Monitoring Tools Workshop for program staff of Cooperating Sponsors (CS) with Title II food security development programs. The workshop was held January 21-25, 2002 in Johannesburg, South Africa and was hosted locally by World Vision.

The content of the workshop was based on the methodologies described in the FAM monitoring toolkit: *Health and Agriculture Project Monitoring Tools for Title II Funded PVOs*. The workshop focused on a subset of these tools that the CSs identified as most relevant and wanted to learn more about to increase their experience and apply them in their programs. The tools selected, based on feedback from the field, were 1) Quality Improvement and Verification Checklists; 2) Focus Groups; 3) Key Informant Interviews and 4) Lot Quality Assurance Sampling.

Monitoring and Evaluation and Reporting Workshops

In March 2001, FANTA participated in two Africare workshops: 1) an all-Africa workshop on effective reporting and 2) a regional West Africa workshop on monitoring and evaluation. One of the expected outputs of these workshops was a template for the Cooperating Sponsor Results Report and Resource Request (CSR4), which could then be shared with other Cooperating Sponsors to create a spread effect for the original technical assistance beyond Africare. This quarter, FANTA received the final version of the CSR4 paper from the former FANTA M&E staff and the consultant working with Africare. The title of the paper is *Walking the Walk, Talking the Talk: Developing a Participatory Report Writing Process for Africare's USAID Title II Programs* and its objective is to improve improving the overall quality of Africare's Title II reporting. FANTA will review the paper and work with Africare to identify multiple methods of dissemination.

Baseline surveys

FANTA played a major role in the planning and facilitation of a highly successful Baseline training workshop hosted by Save the Children (SCF) in Guatemala. The purpose of the workshop was to improve the quality of baseline surveys and to institutionalize a set of common indicators and sampling methods that SCF program staff will use in their Title II programs. The workshop has implications beyond SCF for Title II programming and monitoring and evaluation standards, therefore workshop materials will be posted on the FANTA website and made available for all Title II PVOs to use.

3.8. Information sharing and communications

Collaborations

CORE, CSTS and FAM: This quarter, the Office of Private and Voluntary Cooperation (PVC) transferred more funds to FANTA to fulfill a variety of tasks in FY2002. These include: 1) facilitating collaboration among CORE, CSTS and FAM of an exchange of information; 2) identifying specific technical areas requiring further studies and development of tools, materials and training; 3) reviewing nutrition relevant sections of the PVC child survival grants program; 4) reviewing Technical Reference Materials (TRM's) and KPC 2000 instruments and providing technical feedback; 5) providing on-going technical assistance, review and input into child survival guidance.

The three main activities suggested for collaboration between CORE and FANTA are: 1) Reviewing tools to improve dietary counseling methods; 2) Supporting the update of Module 2 of the KPC 2000+ infant and child feeding module with the FANTA project; and 3) Presenting technical sessions at the CORE Annual Meeting.

Food Security and HIV/AIDS: FANTA met with Horizons and ICRW to discuss collaborations and to identify two operations research (OR) topics relating to Food Security and HIV/AIDS. For OR on the use of food aid, specifically comparing interventions of food aid alone with food aid and additional interventions, FANTA identified Title II programs that could partner with Horizons. Kenya was considered the best country candidate for OR for the following reasons: 1) the high incidence of HIV/AIDS; 2) interest on the part of the Title II PVOs and USAID

Mission; 3) CRS's approach to using HIV/AIDS assessment tools in the Kenyan context; and 4) the particular timing of the programs. Malawi was considered as a second possibility. Horizons will likely define an OR topic related to youth knowledge and livelihoods and HIV/AIDS and are considering conducting the OR on tools that FANTA develops for HIV/AIDS M&E and assessment.

Conferences

CORE Annual Meeting: This meeting/conference is scheduled for next quarter, April 22-26, hosted by Project HOPE in Millwood, Virginia. FANTA will lead sessions on the management of severe malnutrition and infant and child feeding. At the annual meeting, collaborative opportunities for the coming year between CORE and FANTA will be discussed, such as FANTA's current work in infant and child feeding (e.g. the update to the KPC) and related work on improving nutritional counseling messages. The management of severe malnutrition in relief and development settings, and those in transition, was identified as a key area for follow-up during the *Nutrition Works* workshop in September 2001. Given FANTA's support to the community therapeutic care (CTC), this meeting presents an opportunity to bring the CTC approach to the attention of the child survival community where appears to be great interest.

Standing Committee for Nutrition (SCN, Berlin): FANTA participated in the annual meeting hosted by the Government of Germany in Berlin. The meeting saw the participation of over 150 people from nutrition and related fields working in the UN, academia, the donor community and civil society. The focus of the meeting was on crisis and conflict but sessions were held on HIV/AIDS, food security, infant and child feeding and capacity development. FANTA team members participated in various working groups as part of the larger USAID delegation. The former name (Sub-Committee for Nutrition) has gone through a name change to the Standing Committee on Nutrition maintaining the same letters.

Nutrition in Crisis and Conflict Symposium, Berlin: FANTA was a member of the planning task force for the Berlin Symposium, part of the 29th Session of the SCN. The papers and panel sessions were specifically designed and discussed by the task force in a SCN meeting FANTA attended in Dublin in December. Many participants attended specifically for this and included representatives of governments, UN and donor agencies and NGOs. Three papers were designed for the symposium by the task force. One paper, "*A Review of the Advances and Challenges in Nutrition in Conflicts and Crisis over 20 Years,*" was authored by Save the Children-UK and Action Contre la Faim, with input from the task force members. FANTA funded and provided significant input into this paper. The second paper, *Nutrition and Livelihood in Situations of Conflict* focused on the critical importance of livelihoods to nutrition and was presented by Tufts. FANTA also supported the presentation of this paper. The third paper, *The Right to Nutrition in Conflict Situation* was prepared by the SCN Working Group on Nutrition and Ethics. FANTA will prepare a briefing on the Symposium for FFP/EP at their request, focussing on how some of the key themes and issues raised during the symposium relate to EP's programming and reporting and strategic planning.

Working Group activities

FANTA is a member of the SCN Working Group on Emergencies, Food Security and HIV/AIDS. FANTA is also assisting the preparation of the Fifth World Nutrition Report put out

by the SCN. Activities of the Emergency Working Group: the Group met in Berlin in March. During this meeting, Valid International and Save the Children UK presented recent work and findings in the area of community-based care (the management of severe malnutrition in the community). Given the tremendous interest in this area, a thematic group on the management and care of severe malnutrition was established. FANTA will be an active member of this group and proposes to support the continued operational research into community-based care. These efforts in supporting, coordinating and raising awareness of this cutting-edge initiative has helped to bring FANTA to the center stage.

The Working Group also discussed the USAID draft proposal for discussion on monitoring progress of relief assistance: nutritional status and crude mortality rate (CMR). FANTA involvement in the development of these key indicators presents the opportunity for improved program management and reporting. FANTA will remain involved in the process in a technical advisory role.

Women's Nutrition presentation to USDA

In March, FANTA made a presentation on Women's Nutrition and showed the Women's Nutrition powerpoint slide show to the USDA Foreign Agriculture Service staff. The audience was interested in the information related to the nutritional status of women around the world. While it is not expected that any short term activities between FANTA and USDA will develop out of this activity, it was an opportunity to promote Women's Nutrition to a broader government audience.

Teaching Nutrition in Emergencies

FANTA was requested to teach a class on Managing Disasters and Complex Humanitarian Emergencies at the Boston University Center for International Health. For the second year, FANTA has spearheaded the food and nutrition module. Participants included MPH students, medical doctors, heads of governments disaster response units and HQ and field based NGO staff. The nutrition and food aid module was three days duration and provided an overview in understanding the basic types of malnutrition and underlying causes, assessment and interpreting and analyzing data to inform program response and planning, a major issues in designing, implementing and monitoring effective and appropriate interventions. The module incorporates simulated case studies and exercises to instill understanding and challenge thinking. Attention was also given to the challenges and current trends in emergency response.

Global Health Conference: This year's conference is on the theme of *Health in Times of Crisis* and will be held in Washington May 28-31. FANTA will be involved in this conference and will moderate a key session on Monitoring Nutrition in Conflict Situations.

FAO International Scientific Symposium (ISS)

As part of its contributions to the Inter-Agency FIVIMS (Food Insecurity and Vulnerability Information and Mapping Systems) initiative, the FAO will be sponsoring the ISS this year in Rome, June 26-28, 2002. The chosen theme is Measurement and Assessment of Food Deprivation and Undernutrition. The purpose of the Symposium is to provide guidance on how methodologies for the measurement of undernutrition and food deprivation and uses of these

measures can be improved. This will be accomplished by systematically comparing and contrasting a number of alternative measurement and estimation methods and their applications.

FANTA's participation in the symposium will provide an important forum for disseminating the results of FANTA's work to a broader international audience. There will be a session on qualitative and self-assessment measures of food security, where FANTA plans to present papers on its work with Cornell and Tufts to adapt the U.S. Food Insecurity Measure to developing country contexts. In addition, FANTA plans to present the findings of its work with IFPRI that validates dietary diversity as a measure of the access component of food security. Dietary diversity is not currently being considered by FIVIMS as a possible food security measure.

Meetings with WFP and FAO

FANTA met with representatives of the food security and nutrition related staff in Rome after the SCN meeting in Berlin. Specific topics included HIV/AIDS mitigation, emergency programming and the participation of FANTA at the June UN and donors meeting in Rome.

Website

In response to a request from CORE, FANTA made the NCHS/WHO anthropometric reference tables available through the project website. PVOs have commented that they found this reference data very useful. Sandra Bertoli of Child Survival Technical Services (CSTS) commented that: *We [child survival PVOs] certainly appreciate having the Anthropometric Measurement section on the FANTA website so readily accessible with both the new Anthropometric Indicators Measurement Guide and the WHO/NCHS Reference Tables for Children!*

Technical Notes

FANTA's first in the Technical Notes series, *Credit with Education and Title II Programs* was published and disseminated this quarter. The second and third in this series, *Title II Evaluation Scopes of Work* and *Prevention vs. Recuperation: Focusing on all the Under-twos* are in process for publication.

Table 2. FANTA Deliverables for PY4 Q2

| Title | Author(s) | Date | Section in Report | Status |
|--|--|-------------|--------------------------|---------------|
| Technical Reports | | | | |
| Food Aid and Food Security Assessment (FAFSA): A Review of the Title II Food Aid Program | Patricia Bonnard Patricia Haggerty Anne Swindale Gilles Bergeron James Dempsey | Mar 02 | 2.1.3. | Final |
| IFPRI Task Order 3: Summary Indicators for Infant and Child Feeding Practices: An Example from the Ethiopia Demographic and Health Survey 2000 | Mary Arimond Marie Ruel | Jan 02 | 1.3.1. | Final |
| IFPRI Task Order 3: Recommended Tabulation Guidelines for Complementary Feeding Data in the Demographic and Health Surveys: MEASURE DHS + series | Mary Arimond Marie Ruel | Mar 02 | 1.3.1. | In progress |
| Infant and Child Feeding Practices in Ethiopia (A summary) | Megan Deitchler | Mar 02 | 1.3.1. | Draft |
| Supervision and Support of High-Quality Group-Based Nonformal Education Services: The Use of Observation Checklists | Ann Brownlee Barbara MKNelly Regina Nakayenga | Feb 02 | 2.3.1. | Final |
| Task Order Reports | | | | |
| Annual Report for Task Order 5 (Oct 2000 - Sept 2001) Development of an Improved Measure of the Access Component of Household Food Security in Burkina Faso | Edward Frongillo | Feb 02 | 3.3.1 | Final |
| Quarterly Progress Report for Task Order 5 (Oct - Dec 2001) Development of an Improved Measure of the Access Component of Household Food Security in Burkina Faso | Edward Frongillo | Jan 02 | 3.3.1. | Final |

| Technical Guides | | | | |
|--|---|--------|------|-------|
| HIV/AIDS: A Guide for Nutrition, Care & Support – French translation | Serena Rajabium Bruce Cogill Eleonore Seumo | Mar 02 | 3.4. | Draft |
| Technical Notes | | | | |
| Credit with Education and Title II Programs | Helen Reid | Mar 02 | 3.8. | Final |
| Making a Case for Focusing on All the Under Twos | Paige Harrigan | Mar 02 | 3.8. | Draft |
| Title II Evaluation Scopes of Work | Patricia Bonnard | Mar 02 | 3.8. | Draft |
| Training/Workshop Materials | | | | |
| CSR4 template for Africare: Walking the Walk, Talking the Talk: Developing a Participatory Report Writing Process for Africare's USAID Title II Programs | Alice Walker | Jan 02 | 3.7. | Final |
| Course curriculum & training materials for: Managing Disasters and Complex Humanitarian Emergencies | Caroline Tanner | Mar 02 | 3.8. | Final |
| Training materials for Baseline Survey Training | Beth Dunford Paige Harrigan | Mar 02 | 3.7. | Final |