



## **WORKPLAN**

**Project Year Eight**

**October 1, 2005 to  
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**Food and Nutrition Technical Assistance Project (FANTA)**

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## LIST OF ACRONYMS

ACDI/VOCA	Agricultural Cooperative Department International/Volunteers in Overseas Cooperative Assistance
ADRA	Adventist Development and Relief Agency
AED	Academy for Educational Development
AFR/SD	USAID Bureau for Africa Office of Sustainable Development
AIN-C	Community-based Atención Integral al Niño (Integrated Child Care)
ART	Antiretroviral Therapy
BASICS	Basic Support for Institutionalizing Child Survival Project
CA	Cooperative Agency
CARE	Cooperative for Assistance and Relief Everywhere
CORE	Child Survival Collaboration and Resources Group
CRED	Collaborating Center for Research on Epidemiology of Disasters
CRG	Commodity Reference Guide
CRHCS	Commonwealth Regional Health Community Secretariat
CRS	Catholic Relief Services
CS	Cooperating Sponsor (includes Private Voluntary Organizations)
CSHGP	Child Survival and Health Grant Program
CSTS	Child Survival Technical Support Project
CTC	Community-Based Therapeutic Care
DA	Development Assistance
DCHA	USAID Bureau for Democracy, Conflict and Humanitarian Assistance
DHS	Demographic and Health Surveys
DIP	Detailed Implementation Plans
DRP	Developmental Relief Program
EFP	Emergency Food Product
FAFSPP	Food Aid and Food Security Policy Paper
FAMC	Food Aid Managers' Course
FANTA	Food and Nutrition Technical Assistance Project
FAO	Food and Agriculture Organization
FFE	Food for Education
FFP	Office of Food for Peace
FFW	Food for Work
GAM	Global Acute Malnutrition
G-CAP	Guatemala-Central American Program
GH	USAID Bureau for Global Health
GMP	Growth Monitoring and Promotion
HDDS	Household Dietary Diversity Score
HFSS	Household Food Security Scale
HFIS	Household Food Insecurity Scale
HIV/AIDS	Human Immunodeficiency Virus/Acquired Immune Deficiency Syndrome
ICB	Institutional Capacity Building
ICDS	Integrated Child Development Services
IFPRI	International Food Policy Research Institute
INHP	Integrated Nutrition and Health Program

IR	Intermediate Result
ISA	Institutional Support Agreement
ISP	Integrated Strategic Plan
KPC	Knowledge, Practice and Coverage Survey
LQAS	Lot Quality Assurance Sampling
M&E	Monitoring and Evaluation
MCHN	Maternal and Child Health and Nutrition
MED	Mitigating Emergency and Disaster
MOH	Ministry of Health
MT	Metric Ton
MYAP	Multi Year Assistance Program
NEWS	CARE/Haiti's Northwest Early Warning System
NICS	Nutrition Information in Crisis Situations
NGO	Non-Governmental Organization
OFDA	USAID Office of U.S. Foreign Disaster Assistance
PDA	Personal Data Assistant
PLWHA	People Living with HIV/AIDS
PMP	Performance Management Plan
PPC	USAID Bureau for Policy and Program Coordination
PPM	USAID DCHA Office of Program, Policy, and Management
PROFILES	A Process for Nutrition Policy Analysis and Advocacy
PRRO	Protracted Relief and Recovery Operations
PVO	Private Voluntary Organization (also used for Cooperating Sponsor)
RCQHC	Regional Centre for Quality of Health Care
REDSO/ESA	USAID Regional Economic Development Services Office/East and Southern Africa
RFP	Request for Proposal
RUSF	Ready-to-Use Supplementary Foods
RUTF	Ready-to-Use Therapeutic Foods
SAM	Severe Acute Malnutrition
SARA	Support for Analysis and Research in Africa Project
SCN	United Nations Standing Committee on Nutrition
SMART	Standardized Monitoring and Assessment of Relief and Transitions
TAG	Technical Advisory Group
TANGO	Technical Assistance to NGOs
TAP	Transition Assistance Program
TOST	Training of Survey Trainers
USAID	United States Agency for International Development (also referred to as the Agency)
USDA	United States Department of Agriculture
WFP	World Food Program

## **I. PRIORITY TECHNICAL AREAS**

The Food and Nutrition Technical Assistance Project (FANTA) provides technical assistance to the United States Agency for International Development's (USAID's) nutrition, food security, and maternal and child survival and health activities across a range of technical areas. USAID and private voluntary organization (PVO) stakeholders have identified these technical areas as priorities through an iterative, consultative process. During Project Year Eight, FANTA will continue its focus on the following priority technical areas:

- Strengthen Maternal and Child Health and Nutrition (MCHN) programs, with emphasis on improving infant and early childhood feeding indicators and measurement;
- Strengthen programming to improve women's nutrition and survival, including broadening the evidence-base on dietary diversity as an indicator of the adequacy of women's diets;
- Update guidelines for addressing nutritional care and support needs of families and people living with Human Immunodeficiency Virus/Acquired Immune Deficiency Syndrome (HIV/AIDS). Develop guidelines and programming options for integrating food and nutrition interventions with antiretroviral therapy (ART) services, for mitigating the impact of HIV/AIDS on food security, and for demonstrating the results achieved;
- Strengthen the guidelines for the management of acute malnutrition, including Community Therapeutic Care (CTC) approach;
- Develop guidelines for the design, implementation, and monitoring and evaluation (M&E) of developmental relief programs;
- Identify and validate indicators of food access, income, and vulnerability for problem assessment, targeting, and M&E of programs; and
- Strengthen program management through improved use of information generated by M&E systems.

## **II. STRATEGIC FRAMEWORK**

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

- IR1: USAID's and Cooperating Sponsors' (CSs') nutrition and food security-related program development, analysis, monitoring, and evaluation improved;
- IR2: USAID, host country governments, and CSs establish improved, integrated nutrition and food security-related strategies and policies; and
- IR3: Best practices and acceptable standards in nutrition and food security-related policy and programming adopted by USAID, CSs, and other key stakeholders.

FANTA works in a number of focus or priority countries and regions including Eastern and Southern Africa Region, Ethiopia, Kenya, Madagascar, Rwanda, Zambia, India, Central America Region, Haiti, Honduras and Nicaragua.

### III. THE CONSULTATIVE PROCESS

FANTA uses a consultative process with its stakeholders to provide updates on technical advances and project activities and to solicit suggestions and feedback. Meetings are held with FANTA's Technical Advisory Group (TAG).<sup>1</sup> FANTA also works closely with the Child Survival Collaboration and Resources Group (CORE) and participates at technical venues, which serves as an important source of information on the priority technical assistance needs of some of FANTA's key PVO stakeholders.

### IV. FANTA's INTERMEDIATE RESULTS (IR)

FANTA's SO will be met through the achievement of its three IR. The following is a presentation of each IR and its associated activities for Project Year Eight.

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

FANTA assists USAID's Bureau for Democracy, Conflict and Humanitarian Assistance (DCHA) Office of Food for Peace (FFP) and its partners strengthen implementation of and reporting on the \$1.7 billion Title II program, which is the Agency's largest program related to food security and nutrition in both emergency and development settings. The Title II program directly supports a number of key goals iterated in the recently issued Fiscal Year (FY) 2004–2008 U.S. Department of State/USAID Joint Strategic Plan. These goals include:

- Enhanced food security and agricultural development;
- Improved global health, including child, maternal, and reproductive health, and the reduction of abortion and disease, especially HIV/AIDS, malaria, and tuberculosis;
- Broader access to quality education with an emphasis on primary school completion;
- Effective protection, assistance, and durable solutions for refugees, internally displaced persons, and conflict victims; and
- Improved capacity of host countries and the international community to reduce vulnerability to disasters and anticipate and respond to humanitarian emergencies.

By continuing the successful collaborative process established among the Bureau for Global Health (GH), DCHA, and USAID Regional Offices and Field Missions, as well as with Title II implementing partners, FANTA will further strengthen the capacities of GH, DCHA, USAID Field Missions, CS staff, and other stakeholders in food and nutrition security problem analysis, design, and performance reporting. In addition, FANTA is working closely with the GH Child Survival and Health Grant Program (CSHGP) and its partners to support food security and nutrition interventions in maternal and child survival and health programs and to foster increased

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<sup>1</sup>The TAG membership consists of representatives from the PVO, academic, research, and USAID communities. The PVOs come from the food security and child survival and health implementing agencies and include representatives from Agricultural Cooperative Department International/Volunteers in Overseas Cooperative Assistance (ACDI/VOCA), Adventist Development and Relief Agency (ADRA), Africare, American Red Cross (ARC), Catholic Relief Services (CRS), Cooperative for Assistance and Relief Everywhere (CARE), Counterpart International, Food for the Hungry, Opportunities Industrialization Centers International (OICI), Save the Children Fund (SCF), Technoserve, and World Vision International.

collaboration and exchange among child survival and health PVOs and Title II development and emergency PVOs.

## **1. ACTIVITIES IN SUPPORT OF IR 1**

During Project Year Eight, FANTA will continue its broad support to GH, DCHA, USAID Regional Offices, Field Missions, and PVOs, as well as provide key technical assistance to the USAID Missions and CSs in priority countries and regions.

### **1.1. Support to improve Title II food aid programming**

#### **1.1.1. Technical support to DCHA and PPC**

##### **1.1.1.a. Improve guidelines on nutrition and food security**

FFP's FY 2006–2010 Strategic Plan was approved during FY 2005. During Project Year Eight, FANTA will participate in selected Agency and CS working groups to support the integration of FFP's new strategic approaches into nutrition and food security-related guidance for Title II food aid programming and USAID's results reporting.

- ❑ FANTA will provide technical input for specific food security and nutrition-related programming areas within Title II single and multi-year assistance program (MYAP) guidance. Focus areas include food security and nutrition programming in high HIV/AIDS prevalence contexts, increasing community and livelihood resilience in risky environments, women's nutrition, infant and child feeding, emergency and therapeutic feeding, agriculture-access-nutrition linkages, and the best use of food distribution to support programming in these areas.
- ❑ Central to FFP's FY 2006–2010 Strategy is the development-relief approach. FANTA will provide technical support in developing appropriate guidelines and identify and promote innovative promising practices for implementing programs using this approach. FANTA will work with FFP to strengthen the design and implementation of targeted interventions that enhance household resiliency to overcome shocks, build capacity to transcend food insecurity with a more durable and diverse livelihood, and increase human capital (see 2.2.1.).
- ❑ FANTA will continue to provide technical assistance and support for updating USAID's *Commodity Reference Guide* (CRG) which is both web based and distributed in hard copy. The CRG is used widely by USAID, Cooperating Agencies (CAs), CSs, United Nations (UN) agencies, and the private sector to understand the food aid commodity list and determine the composition and size of food rations for food aid programming purposes. During Project Year Eight, FANTA will continue to update the CRG in the areas identified by the CRG working group.
- ❑ FANTA will provide FFP with technical review of candidate foods for the USAID's Title II food aid commodity list including the review of Ready-to-Use Therapeutic Foods (RUTF), Ready-to-Use Supplementary Foods (RUSF), nutrient spreads, nutrient sprinkles and other specialized foods. The review will assist USAID in determining the suitability and potential challenges in the use of the food in the treatment and prevention of poor nutrition including

in situations where HIV is prevalent. As requested, FANTA will support FFP in responding to problems encountered in the use of Title II commodities such as over fortification of Corn Soy Blend.

The Standardized Monitoring and Assessment of Relief and Transitions (SMART) Initiative is improving the monitoring, reporting, and evaluation of humanitarian assistance. SMART is piloting an approach to routinely collect, analyze, and disseminate information on nutrition and death. With funding from FFP, GH, and the Department of State, FANTA worked with the USAID Bureau for Policy and Program Coordination (PPC), and key technical consultants to support a TAG and to organize a workshop on SMART in July 2002. Follow up meetings in 2004 and 2005 resulted in a draft methodology for assessing wasting, crude death rate and some contextual information about food insecurity. FANTA provided extensive comments on the methodology in Project Year Seven. During Project Year Eight, FANTA will continue to collaborate with PPC and the SMART TAG on the next steps identified at the workshops conducted in 2002, 2004 and 2005. A SMART Methodology (Version 1, June 2005), including software for the application, has been developed and is being tested in various locations with international partners. The next phase of SMART requires broadening the engagement by technical specialists to share experiences and work towards enhancements to the protocol. FANTA continues to be active in support of the SMART development and follow up with the network will facilitate capacity strengthening among PVO partners. FANTA support will include:

- Assisting the Refugee Nutrition Information in Crisis Situations (NICS) to track nutrition and crude death indicators in emergency situations including reporting on results from the use of the SMART Methodology; and
- Technical assistance provided to the SMART Initiative.

#### **1.1.1.b. Improve Title II food aid program design**

- ❑ FANTA will conduct training sessions on problem assessment, design, monitoring, evaluation, and performance reporting for the Title II programs and FFP's Strategic Plan. These training sessions will be carried out at selected venues, including the Agency's Food Aid Manager's Courses, the annual Institutional Capacity Building (ICB) Managers' Meeting, and headquarter and field offices of PVOs.
- ❑ FANTA will assist DCHA in finalizing specifications for a United States Department of Agriculture (USDA)-procured F100 therapeutic milk product to be used in emergency programming for the treatment of severe acute malnutrition in children. The product is produced under the provision of the International Food Relief Partnership Act of the 2002 Farm Bill for procurements from small manufacturers. FANTA will provide technical assistance to ensure the nutritional composition is comparable to WHO's F100 product. FANTA will provide guidance to FFP to ensure the product does not contravene international standards on marketing and use of breast milk substitutes and will provide technical assistance on the testing, packaging, labeling, and pilot-testing of the final product. Product acceptability will be assessed through a PVO administered questionnaire on the initial pilot quantity of 2 MT. Assessment of the use of the product will guide FFP on adjustments

required for the remaining 318 MT of the production. Where requested, FANTA will assist in developing appropriate guidance for implementing partners on product use in the field.

- ❑ During Project Year Seven, FANTA managed a field assessment the three Emergency Food Product (EFP) prototypes, together with WFP and an internationally known product testing company, in the three selected countries (Nicaragua, Ethiopia and Bangladesh). A report was submitted to DCHA making specific recommendations on the choice, packaging and presentation of the EFP product. FANTA will continue to provide technical input to DCHA on the development of specifications for a U.S.-manufactured Emergency Food Product (EFP).

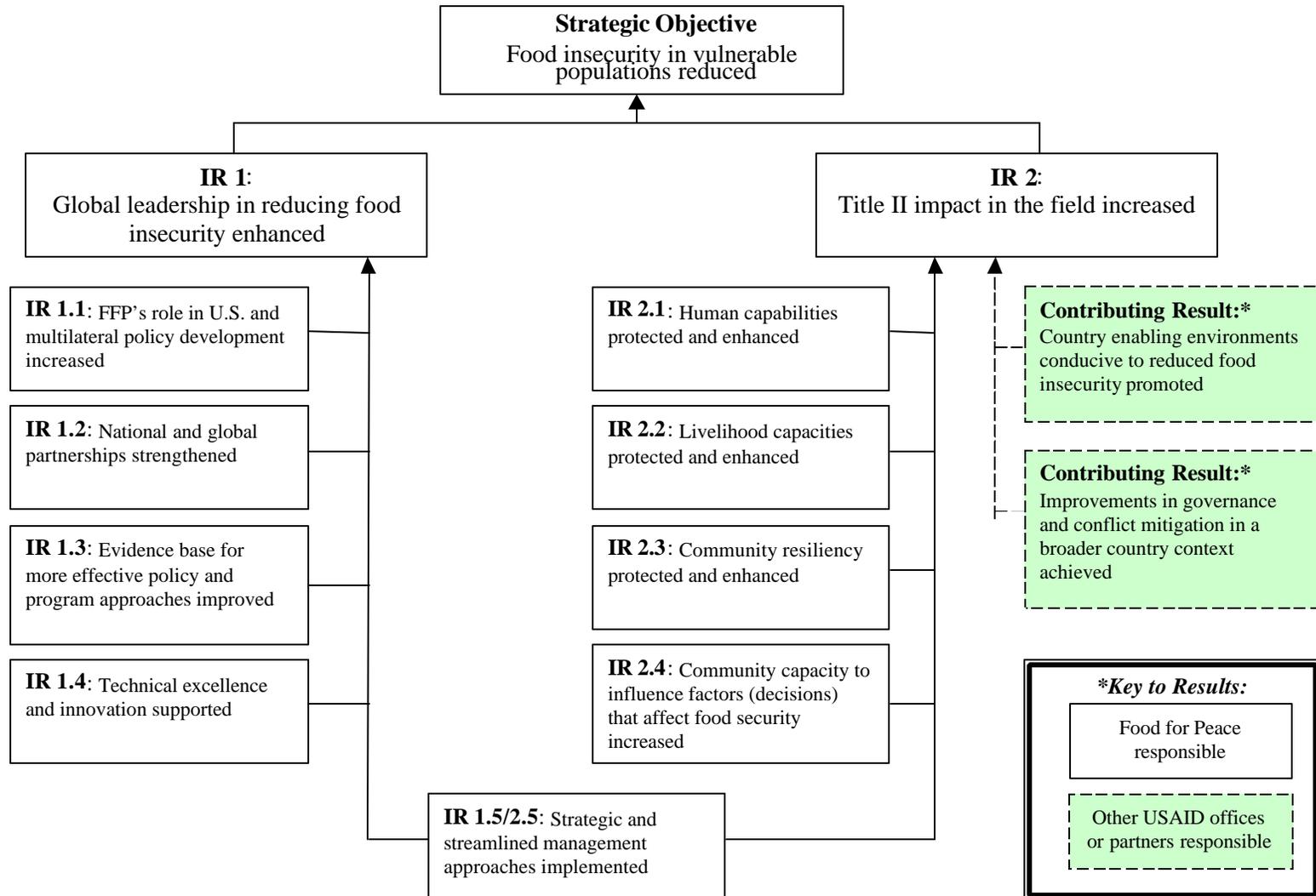
**1.1.1.c. Review Title II single and multi-year assistance program proposals, results reports, and concept papers**

- ❑ FANTA will provide written technical reviews for all new Title II Multi-Year Assistance Program (MYAP) proposals (which are replacing the former designation of Development Activity Program (DAP) and Developmental Relief Program (DRP) proposals). FANTA will also review selected CS Results Reports and Single-Year Assistance Program proposals, upon request. The reviews will focus on food security problem analysis, program implementation strategy, and relevance of the design and M&E plan to address issues identified in the problem analysis and program design context.

**1.1.1.d. Assist in annual results reporting and development of DCHA/FFP FY 2006–2010 Strategic Plan and Results Framework**

- ❑ With the approval of FFP’s new Strategic Plan ( see Figure 1), FFP has one year to prepare a complete Performance Management Plan (PMP). During Project Year Eight, FANTA will provide technical support to FFP in the development of the PMP and assist the office to:
  - Refine the definitions, baselines, and targets for the performance indicators;
  - Identify the source, method, and schedule of data collection for the indicators;
  - Identify data collection requirements that could be incorporated into the obligation agreements with FFP partner organizations;
  - Collect performance indicator data and review partner reports;
  - Assess and document data quality and known data limitations and define steps to address limitations;
  - Draft aggregate data and a narrative for Agency reporting purposes, such as the Annual Report and the Office of Management and Budget (OMB) Program Assessment Rating Tool (PART) exercise; and
  - Identify, design, and implement “gold standard” evaluations and special studies that complement the performance management effort, and identify the circumstance requiring their implementation.

**Figure 1: Office of FFP’s Strategic Framework**



- With funding from DCHA/OFDA and PPC, FANTA will continue to collaborate with the UN Standing Committee on Nutrition (SCN) in the production of the reports: Nutrition Information in Crisis Situations (NICS) (formerly RNIS reports). FANTA will work with the SCN to coordinate the analysis and reporting of USAID's humanitarian assistance goals in monitoring the weight-for-height (prevalence of wasting) of children under five years of age in complex emergencies and crude death rates. These data are important contributors to USAID and the Department of State's efforts to report on the impact of emergencies and the response of the US government. The emergence of the SMART initiative to promote the use of nutrition and mortality information will contribute to the ability of the SCN to respond to information requests. This effort is coordinated with the collection of data by CSs undertaking Title II single-year assistance programs, which supports the results reporting of FFP and USAID. In Project Year Eight, FANTA, with funding from DCHA/OFDA will support the publication NICS Reports Nos. 7, 8 and 9. In addition, a Nutrition and Mortality Report for the USAID Annual Performance Report will be produced with funding from PPC.

#### **1.1.1.e. Provide technical assistance to Institutional Capacity Building Agreements**

During Project Year Eight, FANTA will continue to assist Institutional Capacity Building (ICB) Agreement recipients and USAID demonstrate improvement in and report on the results of their investments in institutional capacity in food security and nutrition. USAID awarded fifteen recipients, representing a wide range of CSs, with five-year (i.e., 2004-2008) ICB agreements.

#### **1.1.2. Technical support to CSs and USAID Field Missions**

##### **1.1.2.a. Participate in problem assessments for and baseline/mid-term/final evaluations of Title II food aid programs**

FANTA will provide technical assistance to DCHA offices, Field Missions, and other agencies in planning and conducting problem assessments for and evaluations of Title II food aid programs. This technical assistance may involve Washington-based desk reviews of evaluation scopes of work (SOWs), identifying consultants, arranging field visits, and completing reports. It may also include support to CSs for developing their capacity in emergency nutrition programming and in adapting their programming and strategies to reflect community-based treatment of severe acute malnutrition (e.g., using the CTC approach).

#### *Bolivia Title II Development Program Final Evaluation*

- The Bolivian Title II Program is implemented through four CSs: The Adventist Development and Relief Agency (ADRA), CARE, Food for the Hungry International (FHI) and Save the Children, with a total value of nearly \$18 million in 2005, comprising almost 18% of the Mission budget. All four CSs have five-year DAPs that were approved by USAID in Washington in 2001 and run from 2002 through 2006. During Project Year Seven, FANTA served as the lead agency in the mid-term evaluation of the Bolivia Title II program. Recently FFP has proposed a one-year extension for the Title II DAPs in Bolivia. If the extension is approved, it is expected that a final evaluation of the program will occur in FY

2006. FANTA will provide advice and feedback to the Bolivia Mission in preparation for the final evaluation.

## **1.2. Support to improve Child Survival and Health Programming (CSHGP) Portfolio**

### **1.2.1 Technical support to the CSHGP**

#### **1.2.1.a. Provide technical assistance to PVOs and GH**

FANTA will continue to engage in activities to improve the design, implementation, and M&E of maternal and child survival and health programs, with a focus on nutrition. In collaboration with the Child Survival Technical Support (CSTS) Project, other CAs, and CORE, FANTA will continue to provide technical feedback on the Knowledge, Practice and Coverage (KPC) 2000+ Survey modules and guidance materials, including training the CORE Nutrition and M/E Working Groups on the recently finalized draft KPC module on Household Food Security. In Project Year Seven, FANTA coordinated the complete revision of the Nutrition Module of the Technical Reference Materials (TRM) for the Child Survival and Health Grants Program. FANTA re-organized the document, updated all technical content, and added sections on program planning, intervention/contact point options, cross-cutting issues, and linking nutrition with other sectors. The document is based on the Essential Nutrition Actions (ENA), a set of affordable and highly effective nutrition interventions delivered at health facilities in communities to improve the nutrition of women and children. The Nutrition Module of the TRM is a practical guide for PVO end-users that provides information on what needs to be done in nutrition programming and how to do it. Document contributors and reviewers included representatives from CSTS+, CORE, several PVOs, and other CAs. In project Year Eight, FANTA will:

- ❑ Provide technical assistance to CSHGP partners in the use of the new Nutrition module for the TRM. FANTA will present on specific technical areas from the revised Nutrition module during the GH CSHGP Request for Applications (RFA) conference as well as continue to elicit feedback on the Nutrition module from end-users. Recommendations for additional technical content, new case studies, or inclusion of new materials will be incorporated into the Nutrition module.
- ❑ CSHGP programs have become increasingly aware of the necessity of understanding the implications of food insecurity for their activities. In order to assist programs in this, CORE requested that FANTA create a Household Food Access Module for use in the KPC. A draft KPC module, based on the indicators of Months of Inadequate Household Food Provisioning (MIHFP) and Household Dietary Diversity Score (HDDS) already developed for Title II programs, was completed in Project Year Seven. In Project Year Eight, FANTA will continue to seek feedback from CSHGP programs in order to refine the KPC module (see 3.2.1.b.).

- ❑ Update the technical guide: “Generating indicators for appropriate feeding of children aged 6 through 23 months from the KPC 2000+” (November 2003) (see 3.2.2.a.).
- ❑ FANTA will continue to participate in the Child Survival Mini-University and the review of the Child Survival and Health Detailed Implementation Plans (DIP), with the objective of strengthening the individual PVO projects under review and the broader PVO community through synthesis and wider dissemination of FANTA’s technical input.
- ❑ FANTA will continue to actively support the work of CORE and its members through participation in the CORE Annual Meetings and the CORE Nutrition and M&E Working Groups. FANTA has taken responsibility for compiling a bi-annual nutrition newsletter with inputs from Nutrition Working Group members, and for forging stronger ties with Title II recipient agencies. Additionally, FANTA has agreed to review the infant feeding and HIV section of the HIV/AIDS module of the TRM.

### **1.3. Country-specific activities**

During Project Year Eight, FANTA will continue long-term technical support programs in the following countries and regions: Ethiopia, Kenya, Madagascar, Rwanda, Zambia, REDSO/ESA, India, Guatemala-Central American Programs, Haiti, Honduras and Nicaragua. FANTA will ensure continuity and complementarity among in-country activities and activities under FANTA’s other IRs.

#### **1.3.1. Ethiopia**

The Title II program in Ethiopia is currently implemented by CARE, Community, Habitat and Finance International (CHF), CRS, FHI, the Relief Society of Tigray (REST), SCF/US, SCF/UK, and World Vision International. The activities of the eight CSs cover a variety of food security program interventions including: agriculture, natural resource management, microenterprise development, water and sanitation, MCHN, and humanitarian assistance. In addition, the Mission has a Development Assistance (DA)-funded bilateral portfolio focused on maternal and child health, HIV/AIDS, agriculture and natural resource management, education, and democracy and governance.

Ethiopia’s chronic food insecurity and high rates of malnutrition required the Mission to incorporate utilization of food in its focus on access to food. The FY 2001-2006 Integrated Strategic Plan (ISP) shifted the earlier Mission plan from an emphasis on access to food to an approach where the utilization of food also was considered. This responded to the realization that, notwithstanding efforts to reduce food insecurity, malnutrition rates in Ethiopia remained among the worst in the world. Accordingly this new strategy called for the development and implementation of an enhanced program for maternal and child nutrition in the context of the Mission’s overall food security programs. However, this plan was overtaken by events as the country was hit in 2002 and 2003 by one of the worst droughts in history, leaving up to thirteen million people dependent on food aid for most of 2003. This drought, coming on the heels of another drought (2000) and followed again by reduced rainfall in 2005, convinced the Mission that a major readjustment in its strategy towards Ethiopia was needed and a new approach,

entitled “Productive Safety Net Program” was designed with the aim to protect and build household and community assets, so they would be better able to respond to food security challenges on their own. The multi-donor sponsored Productive Safety Net Program, adopted in FY 2005, targets 5-7 million chronically food insecure individuals in 242 *woredas* (districts) in 8 regions; promotes development assistance to areas that are marginally food secure; and promotes the construction of a robust economy in more favored zones.

The Mission has requested FANTA to provide technical assistance in a number of areas under the new Productive Safety Net Program. During Project Year Eight, FANTA will provide support to USAID/Addis Ababa, the CSs, and other stakeholders, including the Government of Ethiopia, in the following ways:

*Technical assistance to the USAID Mission*

- ❑ FANTA will work with the Mitigating Emergency and Disaster (MED) SO team on the Southern Tier Initiative to do the following: 1) implementation of the resiliency model; 2) adaptation of the Layers software which is a computerized monitoring system that combines the data collection by Lot Quality Assurance Sampling and an automated analysis and report production module based on the MSAccess engine to efficiently monitor operational qualities of Title II programs including food storage and MCH programs; and 3) continue to provide support to emergency situations as they unfold.
- ❑ FANTA will work with the Health, AIDS, Population, and Nutrition team, particularly in relation to the incorporation of nutrition as a cross-cutting theme in the Mission framework for the new strategy. This new strategy would include the implementation of a new series of PROFILES workshops and support advocacy efforts for increased emphasis on the nutrition component of Title II MYAPs.
- ❑ FANTA will work with the Mission Nutrition Crosscutting Working Group to support the Ministry of Agriculture and Rural Development (MoARD) develop Ethiopia National Nutrition Strategy.

*Technical assistance to the Title II CS*

- ❑ FANTA will support individual CSs in the implementation of their new MYAPs. This support will consist of regular technical assistance and include the finalization of the second joint baseline survey titled the 2005 Productive Safety Net Program joint baseline survey, as well as the implementation of the recommendations that emerge from this study.

*Technical Assistance to other stakeholders, including the Government of Ethiopia*

- ❑ FANTA will support the implementation of a series of “mini-PROFILES” workshops, aimed at providing regional states (particularly, Amhara, Oromia, SNNPR and Tigray) with a platform to advocate their investment in nutrition and health.

- ❑ FANTA will continue to promote the harmonization of nutrition messages disseminated by the various agencies operating in the country- a key step in creating synergy among various institutions engaged in MCHN activities in the country.

### 1.3.2. Kenya

Kenya is one of the 15 focus countries under the President's Emergency Plan for AIDS Relief and has scaled up its HIV/AIDS prevention, treatment, and care and support interventions. Recognizing the important role nutrition plays in effective HIV/AIDS treatment, care and support, USAID/Nairobi has provided funds to FANTA to strengthen the integration of nutrition into HIV/AIDS strategies and programs. During Project Year Seven, FANTA provided technical assistance to the National AIDS and STD Control Program (NASCO) to develop national guidelines on nutrition and HIV/AIDS, conducted formative research on the food and nutrition needs of ART clients, developed counseling materials on nutrition and HIV/AIDS, and designed and planned a study of the impact of food supplementation on malnourished PLWHA.

During Project Year Eight, FANTA will provide the following in-country technical assistance:

- ❑ FANTA will work with NASCO and UNICEF to support the launching of the national guidelines on nutrition and HIV/AIDS at a meeting of line ministries, NGOs, donors, private sector groups, and other stakeholders.
- ❑ FANTA will work with NASCO to produce and disseminate a flip chart of counseling cards and a wall chart on nutrition and HIV/AIDS with particular focus on the food and nutrition needs of PLWHA receiving treatment services. These materials were developed during Project Year Seven, and final production and dissemination will occur during Project Year Eight.
- ❑ FANTA will work in partnership with the Kenya Medical Research Institute (KEMRI) and other local partners to conduct a targeted evaluation of the impacts of food supplementation on disease outcomes and ART adherence of PLWHA who are taking ART and those who are pre-ART. The study will compare the nutritional and clinical outcomes of clients who receive nutrition counseling alone with those who receive nutrition counseling and supplementation with a nutrient dense food product.
- ❑ FANTA will work with NASCO and UNICEF to strengthen the capacity of nutritionists at provincial and private hospitals to provide nutritional care and support for PLWHA. FANTA and partners will develop a training curriculum for hospital nutritionists, support the training of trainers, orient service providers in the use of counseling materials, and work with hospitals to strengthen systems for provision of nutritional care. The training curriculum and materials will target hospitals and service providers throughout Kenya, and system strengthening interventions will focus initially on approximately 15 hospitals.

### 1.3.3. Madagascar

In Project Year Eight FANTA will expand its technical support to the HPN Office of USAID/Antananarivo; while continuing to provide technical assistance to the Title II Cooperating Sponsors and the FFP office in Antananarivo.

#### *Support to HPN Office*

- Following the implementation of the Layers methodology with the FFP Office in USAID/Antananarivo, the HPN Office expressed interest in using a similar approach to monitor its extensive program. HPN has oversight responsibilities over a large number of partners operating health, population and nutrition interventions in several regions of the country, and the monitoring system should be capable of providing actionable information to USAID and its partners on the implementation of their activities in Madagascar; and of providing the information needed to document yearly the key indicators required to track SO5 performance, including its four IRs. During Project Year Seven, FANTA examined the feasibility of such a system, and developed a blueprint for its implementation. During Year Eight, the full system will be developed and implemented. It is expected that the results from this adapted Layers will provide the data needed by the HPN office to report on its activities in its Annual Report for FY 2006.

#### *Support to the Title II CS*

- The Title II program in Madagascar—approximately \$16 million in FY 2005—is implemented by ADRA, CARE, and CRS. The activities of the three CSs cover interventions in agriculture, maternal and child health, water and sanitation, food for education, and other child feeding/humanitarian assistance. The program also includes disaster mitigation and urban development activity in the capital city and in some secondary cities such as Fort Dauphin and Tamatave. During Year Seven, FANTA contributed an exhaustive analysis of the Baseline Survey, conducted locally with FANTA technical support. During Year Eight, FANTA's technical assistance to the Title II CSs will focus on the implementation of the recommendations emanating from the analysis of that Baseline Survey.

#### *Support to the Office of FFP*

- FANTA support to FFP/Antananarivo in Project Year Eight will focus mainly on the implementation of the Layers methodology in Madagascar. In addition to the usual modules of agriculture, nutrition, health and education, the Madagascar version of Layers allows USAID to assess the quality of infrastructure built with Food for Work, using technical standards developed by FANTA and agreed upon among USAID, the Title II CSs and the Government of Madagascar. The first Layers round, completed in September 2005, will be analyzed in Project Year Eight. It is expected that this will offer important recommendations for the adjustment of CS programs in the field. FANTA will support USAID/Antananarivo in implementing those recommendations, while continuing to provide maintenance and technical assistance to the Mission's Food Monitors in the use of Layers.

### 1.3.4. Rwanda

Rwanda is one of the 15 focus countries under the President's Emergency Plan for AIDs Relief. In Rwanda, food and nutrition programming play critical roles for the overall nutrition of the population and in particular for effective care and support of PLWHA and ART clients. Under the President's Emergency Plan, there is an increased focus on care and support for PLWHA and orphans and vulnerable children (OVCs). In response, USAID/Kigali is seeking to strengthen the integration of nutritional components in order to improve the effectiveness of care and support interventions. FANTA will build on experiences in the region and on activities initiated in Project Year Six and Seven in Rwanda to meet these needs and to contribute to USAID/Kigali's Strategic Objective (SO) 6: Increased Use of Community Health Services including HIV/AIDS.

During Project Year Eight, FANTA will carry out the following activities in Rwanda:

- ❑ FANTA will provide technical assistance to strengthen the focus on nutrition throughout the Ministry of Health (MINISANTE) and the health system, particularly at the district level. This will include providing technical support and capacity building for personnel in the new Nutrition Unit in the MINISANTE and facilitating the screening and placement of civil service candidates for graduate training in nutrition at the University of Nairobi. FANTA will also support a HIV/AIDS and Nutrition Program Assistant to be based at the Treatment and Research AIDS Center (TRAC). The Program Assistant will be the primary nutrition specialist at TRAC.
- ❑ FANTA will continue to disseminate counseling materials developed during Project Year Seven strengthening messages provided on HIV/AIDS and nutrition. This includes a wall chart promoting good nutrition and positive living for PLWHA and ART clients that will be distributed through the Rwandan Commission Nationale de Lutte contra la SIDA (CNLS) and TRAC to health facilities and ART sites. FANTA will also work with NGOs and PLWHA Associations to get the wall chart to appropriate sites.
- ❑ As part of the Nutrition Working Group, FANTA participated in the revision of the Rwanda National Nutrition Policy in Project Year Seven. In Project Year Eight, FANTA will continue to provide technical support until the Policy has been approved and adopted by the MINISANTE. FANTA will also support translation of the policy and production of a maximum of 500 copies of the final product. The revision of the National Nutrition Policy is intended to ensure that Rwanda is able to support the nutrition-related objectives outlined in the Millennium Development Goals (MDG) and the Rwanda Poverty Reduction Strategy Paper (PRSP).
- ❑ FANTA started the adaptation of the regional counseling cards on HIV/AIDS and nutrition for Rwanda in Project Year Seven. These counseling cards are targeted for use by groups implementing Home Based Care (HBC) in Rwanda, including those linked to private-voluntary organizations (e.g. Catholic Relief Services, World Relief Rwanda), community and faith-based organizations and PLWHA Associations. The cards will be finalized by the end of Project Year Seven and will be disseminated in Project Year Eight. In order to ensure

optimal use of the cards, FANTA will provide training on their use to organizations overseeing HBC.

- ❑ In Project Year Seven, FANTA worked on adaptation of the concepts and approaches reflected in the Essential Nutrition Actions (ENA) Training Manual for use at the university level in Rwanda. This adaptation included incorporating national protocols and data on nutrition indicators obtained through PROFILES. A first draft of the ENA curriculum (e.g. PowerPoint presentations and lecture notes) was shared with the National University of Rwanda/School of Public Health (SPH) and feedback from the SPH faculty will be incorporated. In Project Year Eight, the focus will be on finalizing the Training Manual, providing training and identifying opportunities for use of the Training Manual in other schools (e.g., medical, nursing) or for NGO staff.
- ❑ In Project Year Seven, FANTA developed a Training Manual on Nutrition and HIV/AIDS. The Training Manual is a comprehensive source of information on nutrition and HIV/AIDS and provides instructors with presentations, practical exercises, case studies and handout materials that can be used for planning and facilitating courses and lectures. In Project Year Eight, FANTA will support workshops for the primary trainers of district level health professionals following a Training of Trainers (TOT) format.

### **1.3.5. Zambia**

Zambia is one of the 15 focus countries under the President's Emergency Plan for AIDS Relief. Zambia is one of the hardest hit countries in the worldwide HIV/AIDS pandemic, with an estimated one million individuals (10 percent of the population) currently HIV-infected. The activities carried out in Zambia during Project Year Seven built on FANTA's regional activities and materials in nutrition, food security and HIV/AIDS. By strengthening HIV/AIDS-related care and support services in Zambia, improving the quality of life of individuals receiving the services, and building community capacity to manage the negative impacts of HIV/AIDS, these activities contribute to the goals/objectives of the President's Emergency Plan in Zambia and USAID/Lusaka's SO 9: Reduced HIV/AIDS Impact Through Multisectoral Response.

During Project Year Eight, FANTA will carry out the following activities in Zambia:

- ❑ FANTA will develop counseling materials on nutritional care and support based on interviews with stakeholders working with health facility level personnel and community caregivers during Project Year Six. These materials include a flipchart for use in HBC and wall charts (posters) for the health facility level. To guide the development of the nutrition counseling materials, FANTA will build on regional materials developed in Uganda. Draft materials pretested in Project Year Seven will be finalized, printed, and disseminated. FANTA will be responsible for managing the production and national-level dissemination of the flipchart and wall charts to government and private programs, services, and institutions working with PLWHA.

- ❑ FANTA will develop a wall chart(s) on the identification and management of acute malnutrition among children (and adults, if requested). Information on screening criteria, anthropometric measurements, and treatment protocols for moderate and severe acute malnutrition will be included in the wall chart to educate healthcare providers in how to identify and treat acute malnutrition.
- ❑ FANTA will assist in organizing trainings on use of the various counseling materials if requested. The possibility of developing additional counseling materials, such as FAQ sheets and job aids was discussed in Project Year Seven with stakeholders in Zambia. FANTA has also had dialogue with the National Food and Nutrition Commission about the possibility of updating the National Guidelines on the Nutritional Care and Support of PLWHA, completed by FANTA in Project Year Seven.
- ❑ FANTA will work with Catholic Relief Services (CRS)/Zambia to refine community capacity assessment methods and monitoring tools, based on two complementary components: 1) Analysis of existing Consortium for the Southern African Food Emergency (C-SAFE) and WFP community and household livelihoods surveillance (CHLS) datasets for Zambia in order to better characterize Zambian household vulnerabilities, coping capacities and response to HIV/AIDS; and 2) development of monitoring tools for assessing Zambian household and community food security status, resilience to food security shocks and capacity to address persistent or recurrent food security shocks. A workshop to develop an M&E plan for community action was carried out in Project Year Seven. Analysis of the CHLS data sets will be completed with a written report in Project Year Eight.
- ❑ FANTA completed and disseminated a draft report on the use of specialized food products to address the nutritional needs of PLWHA and ART clients in Zambia in Project Year Seven. This report will be finalized and disseminated in Project Year Eight.

### **1.3.6. India**

India's Title II development program, valued at approximately \$47 million in FY 2005, is the largest country program in the Title II development portfolio. CARE and CRS are responsible for implementing the five-year program from 2002 to 2006, and the bulk of interventions address MCHN. CARE/India's Integrated Nutrition and Health Project (INHP) reach over six million women and children in nine northern states and combines Title II resources with USAID bilateral support and other resources including funding and in-kind support from the state and central governments. In addition to maternal and child health and nutrition, CRS/India's Title II food security program includes natural resource management and agriculture, food for education, and other humanitarian assistance activities.

The India Title II program has faced a changing environment due to reduced commodity levels and efforts to accelerate program phase-over to full Indian State and Central government support. During Project Year Seven, FANTA worked with its subcontractor, the International Food Policy Research Institute (IFPRI), to conduct a study of the transition of CARE's Title II program from donated Title II food to increased reliance on food procured by the State Governments of India (GOI). Preliminary study findings were disseminated and discussed with government

stakeholders. During Project Year Seven, FANTA also participated in the mid-term review of CARE's broader Reproductive and Child Health, Nutrition and AIDS (RACHNA) Program, which is comprised of both the Title II INHP project and an HIV/AIDS and reproductive health project called Chayan.

During Project Year Eight, FANTA will provide the following in-country technical assistance:

- FANTA will work with IFPRI to complete Phase I of the food transition study, produce and disseminate a final study report, and hold a workshop with key policy stakeholders to identify options to apply study recommendations for strengthening the government's Integrated Child Development Services (ICDS) program. FANTA will also work with IFPRI to begin Phase II of the study to extend the scope of research to other food safety net programs beyond ICDS and assess and identify opportunities to strengthen the larger social safety net system in India.
- FANTA will support the replication of successful approaches and practices from INHP that can be applied to the broader GOI ICDS program. FANTA will work with CARE and government partners to identify effective and replicable practices from INHP areas, identify mechanisms for replication in non-INHP areas, facilitate the replication process, and support the monitoring of replication.
- FANTA will conduct an assessment of the extent of the need for continued provision of direct distribution of refined soy oil (RSO) in the CARE Title II program during the next program cycle (2007-2011). The findings of the assessment can be used by the Mission in its review and recommendations for the proposed next phase of the CARE Title II program.
- Depending on the request from the Mission, FANTA may support a general review and descriptive report of the India Title II program and its impacts to contribute to the review of new Title II program proposals from CARE and CRS.
- FANTA will provide technical support to the Mission and its partners in other food security and nutrition programming areas as needed.

### **1.3.7. Guatemala**

Guatemala's Title II Program was valued at \$18 million in FY 2005 and represents approximately 39% of the Mission budget. The program is implemented by four CSs, CARE, CRS, SHARE and Save the Children, who work in MCHN, water and sanitation, agricultural production, marketing, credit, natural resource management and strengthening local government. The programs were amended to include a one-year extension and now run from 2001-2006.

As part of FANTA's efforts in Project Year Seven to strengthen the MCHN component, and community-based growth promotion activities, of Title II development assistance programs in the Central American region, FANTA formed MCHN Working Groups in Guatemala, Honduras and Nicaragua. Participants include representatives from the Ministry of Health, USAID, Title II implementing partners, cooperating agencies, international organizations and universities. The

working groups identified common limitations and obstacles they have encountered in implementing community-based growth promotion programs (AIN-C), prioritized their technical assistance needs, proposed strategies to address these needs, and began to receive technical assistance in their identified priority areas. This has included identifying MOH standards and norms for AIN-C implementation and ensuring that Title II CS incorporate standards and norms in current and new programs, and developing strategies for behavior change incorporating improved health and nutrition education and counseling and negotiation

During Project Year Eight FANTA will continue to provide support to the Title II CSs in the three countries through activities to ensure implementation of community-based growth promotion according to MOH norms and standards and effective implementation of behavior change and communication strategies. Specifically:

- ❑ FANTA will work together with USAID/Guatemala City, the Guatemalan MOH, University Research Centers's Calidad en Salud, and the Title II CSs to identify and agree on standards and norms for the implementation of a basic package for the Community-based Integrated Child and Maternal Care (Atención Integral al Niño y Madre - AINM-C) and will provide recommendations for proper implementation through field visits that emphasize quality control. FANTA will also assist the Title II CSs to develop behavior change and communication strategies focusing on improved infant and young child feeding, with a particular emphasis on improving training and supervision for volunteers to improve counseling for behavior change.
- ❑ FANTA will work with USAID/Tegucigalpa, the Honduran Secretariat of Health, and the Community-based Integrated Child Care (Atención Integral al Niño - AIN-C) Interagency Committee, which includes the Title II CSs, to ensure Title II CSs in Honduras implement AIN-C according to Secretariat of Health norms and standards, will work to harmonize messages, training and supervision through shared protocols and materials, and will strengthen Title II CS capacity to develop and implement effective behavior change strategies.
- ❑ FANTA will work with USAID/Managua, the Nicaraguan Ministry of Health, NicaSalud and the Title II CSs to ensure the Title II CSs in Nicaragua implement the MOH's community based growth promotion program, PROCOSAN, according to MOH norms and standards. FANTA will also provide technical assistance to improve volunteer training and volunteer capacity to effectively counselor for behavior change.

### **1.3.8. Haiti**

The Title II program in Haiti, valued at approximately \$30 million in FY 2005, is implemented by CARE, CRS, SCF/US, and World Vision. All four five-year DAPs began simultaneously in January 2002. The CSs implement programs in water and sanitation, MCHN, food for education, microcredit, infrastructure development, and humanitarian assistance. FANTA provides technical support to the Mission in various areas related to nutrition and food security, to the CSs to strengthen the implementation of their Title II development programs, and to the Haitian government in the development of a national early warning system.

Haiti continues to suffer political turmoil. This affected the whole of FY 2005, hindering FANTA's capacity to provide the technical assistance it had planned. Nevertheless the main activities have been accomplished and several tasks are already planned for Project Year Eight. Below is a description of where the FANTA team concentrated its efforts in past years and how this will continue in the coming year.

*Technical assistance to USAID Mission*

- ❑ FANTA initially developed its Layers methodology upon a request from USAID/Port au Prince. The unstable situation in country has however impeded the full deployment of this activity and Haiti now stands as the least advanced of other countries where Layers is used. The Layers software is a computerized monitoring system that combines the data collection by Lot Quality Assurance Sampling and an automated analysis and report production module based on the MSAccess engine to efficiently monitor operational qualities of aspects of Title II programs including food storage and MCH programs. FANTA will continue to assist the Mission and its Food Monitors in implementing and analyzing the results provided by Layers as they become available in Project Year Eight.
- ❑ FANTA, in close collaboration with the Mission, IFPRI, Cornell University, and World Vision/Haiti, continued to support the study of targeting food rations to malnourished children under five (i.e., recuperative approach), compared to universal targeting of all children under two (i.e., preventative approach). Several outputs were generated by this study in Project Year Seven, including the first phase of a cost effectiveness study comparing recuperative vs. preventative models; the second phase of an operations research activity, to examine how the messages implemented after recommendations from the initial study were adopted by participants; and the initiation of the final impact evaluation study. During Project Year Eight, the final evaluation data will be analyzed and publications are expected that will highlight the main lessons learned from this five year research activity. This activity is expected to be completed in Project Year Eight (see 3.4.).
- ❑ FANTA decided in Project Year Seven to discontinue the analysis of the information collected by the Haitian Health Foundation (HHF), which had been requested by the Mission two years earlier. The HHF datasets was found to be fraught with problems, rendering further investment in this activity unwise. The decision was taken in consultation with HHF and the Mission.

*Technical assistance to the CS*

- ❑ During Project Year Seven, FANTA supported the CSs in undertaking their Mid Term Evaluation by providing extensive advice to all four CSs in the conduct of this exercise, and in representing Mission interests in this regard by providing reviews and comments to the CSs and their consultants on their submissions. Of particular note was a fruitful collaboration with CRS/Haiti in piloting a FANTA-designed methodology to test a mid term evaluation model based on LQAS principles. The report of this evaluation, under joint preparation by FANTA and CRS/Haiti, will be finalized in Project Year Eight. This effort will also allow FANTA to produce a M&E Technical Note on the issue of Mid Term Evaluations, also planned for publication during Project Year Eight.
  
- ❑ FANTA also facilitated a workshop in Year Seven to plan the remaining two years of the current DAPs, their final evaluation (to be conducted in FY 2006) and the preparation of a new set of proposals for MYAPs, to be submitted during FY 2006. Those activities will be a main focus of FANTA support during Project Year Eight, with the expressed intent of the Mission Title II program to re-align its portfolio in a way that puts greater emphasis on Income Generating Activities (IGAs), Food for Education, and natural resources management. FANTA is requested to continue to play its facilitating role for the Mission and the CSs as those discussions take place.

*Technical assistance to other stakeholders, including the Government of Haiti*

- ❑ In past years, Mission requested FANTA's support in developing a national early warning system in collaboration with the Government's National Food Security Council (CNSA). FANTA led the discussions to develop such a system and implement it across Title II intervention areas, using CARE's Northwest Early Warning System (NEWS) as a model, with a goal to provide a nearly complete national early warning system coverage. A consultancy commissioned by FANTA provided the basis for this initiative, which has proven useful to the CSs in many situations, for instance when disastrous floods affected the central part of the country in spring of 2004. USAID's FEWSNET project, which opened an office in Haiti during FY 2004, also used these recommendations when designing its satellite-based country-wide early warning model, integrating closely with the CSs as it unfolded. Unfortunately, in-country instability has slowed down the FEWSNET initiative; also, FY 2005 was the last year of the Chemonics-led FEWSNET contract, and uncertainties existed as to the future focus of this activity thus also reducing the pace of development on this front. However, during Project Year Eight, a new FEWSNET contractor will be selected and the Mission, advised by FANTA, will examine how to strengthen the link between its own office, its Title II partners, the CNSA (National Food Security Council) and FEWSNET. FANTA plans to continue playing its advisory role and to provide technical assistance to the Mission, its partners and the GOH in the implementation of this critical tool.

### 1.3.9. Honduras

For activities related to Honduras, refer to 1.3.7. Guatemala.

### 1.3.10. Nicaragua

In Project Year Five, FANTA developed a collaborative relationship with NicaSalud, a federation of 29 NGOs originally established to coordinate a systematic, rapid response to restore health services following Hurricane Mitch. Since September of 2003, FANTA has been providing assistance to Nicaragua through a sub-agreement with NicaSalud. Under the sub-agreement, NicaSalud is working to strengthen national programs in infant and maternal health, reproductive health for youth, and hygiene and environmental sanitation. FANTA technical assistance is helping NicaSalud better integrate nutrition into strategic planning in child survival and maternal health in order to improve food security and nutrition programs in Nicaragua.

As a part of its work in maternal and child health, NicaSalud is playing a key role in improving the quality of implementation, monitoring and evaluation (M&E) of Nicaragua's PROCOSAN program (Promoción Comunitaria de Salud y Nutrición). NicaSalud, with technical support from international and regional experts, has coordinated with the MOH to develop uniform materials, indicators and implementation of PROCOSAN in Nicaragua. The expanded PROCOSAN program will include a morbidity component for integrated care of childhood illnesses (AIEPI, Atención Integral de Enfermedades Prevalentes en la Niñez) and a component for community level planning for births and obstetric emergencies.

During Project Year Seven the FANTA-NicaSalud sub-agreement focused on the sub-grant baseline survey and final report and training for effective implementation of the sub-grants program. During the year, the Mission finalized a decision to change the nature of its relationship with NicaSalud. It is anticipated that in FY 2006 NicaSalud will enter into a direct bilateral agreement with USAID/Managua. Therefore, the FANTA NicaSalud sub-agreement has entered into a no-cost extension period until June of 2006. During the no-cost extension period, NicaSalud will bring closure to its activities under the FANTA NicaSalud sub-agreement. In Project Year Eight FANTA will provide NicaSalud technical assistance in the following areas:

- FANTA will assist NicaSalud during the qualitative evaluation of the final year of sub-grant implementation.
- FANTA will provide technical assistance and feedback regarding the Innovative Projects under the FANTA NicaSalud sub-agreement. The Innovative Projects are four small grants of approximately \$25,000 each provided for a six month period to four NGOs: Acción Contra el Hambre, ALISTAR, CEPS and FUNDEMUNI for projects in environmental health and reproductive health.
- FANTA will work with NicaSalud to ensure timely completion of all deliverables under the remaining period of the sub-agreement.

- ❑ The Title II Program in Nicaragua was valued at almost \$9 million in FY 2005 and comprised 19% of the Mission budget. The four CSs, ADRA, CRS, PCI and Save the Children, implement activities in agricultural production, income generation, natural resource management and health, nutrition and sanitation. FANTA will also work with NicaSalud to provide technical assistance to the Title II CSs in Nicaragua. This activity forms part of a regional initiative to strengthen the MCHN component of Title II programs and is described in 1.3.7. above.

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

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

## **2. ACTIVITIES IN SUPPORT OF IR 2**

### **2.1. In Washington**

#### **2.1.1. Implement strategies for improving women's nutrition**

FANTA takes a lead role in coordinating efforts to improve women's nutrition among USAID and its PVO partners by facilitating collaboration and by disseminating better practices and program options to the wider development community. During Project Year Eight, FANTA will continue to implement women's and adolescent girls' nutrition activities in collaboration and coordination with USAID, other CA, PVOs, and donors.

- ❑ With funding from REDSO SO7 for Project Year Eight, FANTA will provide technical assistance to the Regional Center for Quality of Health Care (RCQHC) and the regional offices of the African Regional Office of the World Association of Girl Guides (WAGG) for an innovative approach to problems of anemia among women of reproductive age. The project will design interventions for implementation by Girl Guides to 1) increase girls' and women's knowledge about the determinants of anemia, and 2) increase women's ability to effectively consume iron/folic acid supplements during pregnancy. FANTA will assist RCQHC to implement and evaluate these interventions in three countries in east and southern Africa over a one-year period.
- ❑ During Project Year Seven, FANTA supported the development of a new women's nutrition module under PROFILES. Based on a recent paper by Alderman and Behrman<sup>2</sup> that quantifies the economic benefits of reducing low birth weight (mainly by improving the nutritional status of women prior to conception and during pregnancy) in low-income countries, the module focuses on seven different functional outcomes with economic

<sup>2</sup> Alderman H, Behrman JR. Estimated Economic Benefits of Reducing LBW in Low-Income Countries. Manuscript. June 28, 2003.

consequences. It was applied during a PROFILES workshop in Rwanda, funded in part by FANTA. It is anticipated that additional PROFILES workshops will apply the model in Project Year Eight.

- ❑ The need for standardized, clear guidance on women’s nutrition indicators was identified based upon past collaborative efforts towards refining these indicators and reviews of existing guides. In response, FANTA has developed the *Women’s Nutrition Indicator Guide*. The purpose of the guide is to foster the consistent measurement of women’s nutrition indicators and to standardize the data collection and analysis of these indicators. The guide, which focuses on problem assessment, monitoring, and evaluation, will be finalized and disseminated in Project Year Eight.
- ❑ During Project Year Seven, FANTA collaborated with USAID, IFPRI, and ORC/Macro in the review and revision of the nutrition sections of the Demographic and Health Survey (DHS) survey and tabulation plan. One important result of this collaboration is that the DHS 2005 revised questionnaire will include, for the first time, a 24-hour recall question on food group consumption of the mothers of the last-born child under 3. Inclusion of this question represents a significant opportunity to advocate for an increased emphasis on women’s nutrition. To support the use and interpretation of the data collected using the new questionnaire, FANTA will strengthen the evidence-base on dietary diversity as a proxy of the adequacy of women’s diets through technical consultations and support for analysis of extant data. This activity builds on and complements FANTA’s past activities on the use of dietary diversity as an indicator of food access and dietary adequacy at the household and individual child level (see 3.2.3.).

### **2.1.2. Provide technical support to GH and USAID initiatives**

FANTA will continue to provide technical support to GH and other USAID Bureaus in the area of nutrition and food security policy and programs to improve and strengthen the integration of nutrition into USAID programming. FANTA will advocate for and facilitate the incorporation of promising practices and food security and nutrition program approaches aimed at food insecure and more vulnerable populations into USAID’s new business model and strategic planning processes, and initiatives for famine prevention, agriculture and rural development.

### **2.1.3. Improve the food security framework**

FFP’s new FY 2006–2010 Strategic Plan places increased emphasis on problem assessment to identify sources of risk and vulnerability; the design of interventions to increase community, household and individual resilience to shock and chronic stress; and monitoring and evaluation systems that warn of increased food security stress and demonstrate the impact of Title II programs on reduced food insecurity through increased resilience.

- ❑ FANTA will work with FFP, field Missions and implementing partners to identify and validate best practices in development relief programming, which will likely include the use of food resources for immediate impact, such as protecting lives and smoothing consumption, while addressing long-term objectives by enhancing community and household resilience to shocks, helping people build more durable and diverse livelihood bases (i.e., restoring and enhancing assets, resources, services, and infrastructure), and enhancing the capabilities of individuals through focus on health, nutrition, and education. FANTA will seek opportunities to directly assist USAID and CSs to tailor basic development tools to development relief contexts (see 2.2.1.).

#### **2.1.4. Improve health and nutrition programming in emergencies**

Refugees and displaced people continue to claim large amounts of resources. Affected populations frequently experience serious nutrition and health problems. During Project Year Eight, FANTA will continue to advocate for improved design, management, and implementation of projects in emergency situations.

USAID is interested in better understanding the use of food in conflict situations and in evaluating and documenting innovative programming that seeks to link relief and development. FANTA will conduct reviews and evaluations upon request. FANTA is also undertaking a review of the uses of food aid for HIV/AIDS mitigation, which includes programming in natural and manmade emergencies and transition settings (see 3.2.). To improve the response to emergencies by international agencies and implementing partners, FANTA works with technical, implementation, and UN agencies in testing new approaches, developing and updating guidelines and promoting new technologies aimed at treating (and preventing) severe and moderate acute malnutrition. The work has focused on innovative approaches at the implementation level that is also supported by improvements in the development of standard protocols and guidelines for the wider emergency community.

FANTA has been working with its partners since 2002 to promote innovative approaches to the treatment of severe acute malnutrition. It has partnered with Valid International, a United Kingdom-based NGO, to support the dissemination of lessons learned from the evaluation of the scaling-up and expansion of Community-Based Therapeutic Care (CTC) with support from GH, OFDA and Field Missions. CTC is as an innovative and promising approach to the management of moderate and severe acute malnutrition that links relief and development concepts and empowers communities. During Project Year Six and Seven, FANTA worked with Valid International, to monitor effectiveness of the CTC approach, supporting three studies as part of the overall CTC program. Two of these studies are ongoing in Malawi and Ethiopia. The third looked at the feasibility of local production of Ready-to-Use-Therapeutic-Foods (RUTF), nutrient-dense pastes, and alternative formulations that do not use milk powder or peanuts. These studies have already informed USAID and its partners about the merits and limitations of CTC prior to advocating replication and scaling up. In addition, alternative local formulations of the RUTF have been tested in Malawi, Zambia, and Ethiopia. The CTC has proven to be very effective and PVO partners, such as CARE and Save US, have already begun to adopt this approach.

In Project Year Seven, FANTA was active in bringing the experience of CTC to US-based PVOs and others. FANTA worked with Concern International, Save US, to hold a workshop to cover the issues and challenges in CTC implementation (February 28 - March 2, 2005, Washington, DC). The draft of the synthesis report for the workshop has been written and will be finalized in Project Year Eight and published by the widely distributed ENN Field Exchange.

The World Health Organization (WHO), together with international experts, has developed two manuals and updated these for the management of severe acute malnutrition. The existing manuals are “Management of severe malnutrition: a manual for physicians and other senior health workers” (WHO, 1999), and its abbreviated form in Chapter 7 of IMCI “Management of the child with a serious infection or severe malnutrition: guidelines for care at the first-referral level in developing countries” have been the main reference for many years but have become outdated due to new technologies and the emergence of HIV/AIDS. During Project Year Seven, FANTA worked with WHO to reexamine the guidelines for hospital-based care in view of increasing problems of severe acute malnutrition among HIV positive children and for care of severely acutely malnourished infants under 6 months of age.

Based on the consultation, a report has been issued by WHO and revision of the guidelines are underway. An informal consultation to review current literature on management of severe Malnutrition in hospitals was held in Geneva, Switzerland, September 6-7, 2004. The report of the meeting was published by WHO in 2005 and is titled: “Severe Malnutrition: a Report of a consultation to review current literature 6-7 September 2004”.

The process to update WHO international guidelines for hospital based care is complemented by a process that has begun to develop guidelines for home-based or community based care approaches to the management of severe acute malnutrition. As part of the contribution to WHO, FANTA will provide technical and financial support. Significant among this support is the development a CTC manual for use by field workers. In Project Year Eight, FANTA will undertake the following:

- FANTA will work with WHO, UNICEF, and the SCN to hold an informal consultation on the community based treatment of management of Severe Acute Malnutrition. The consultation will be spearheaded by WHO and will involve UN agencies, technical institutions, PVOs and others and will result in key recommendations on scaling up medical and dietary approaches in the community based management of severe acute malnutrition in children. The report from the consultation will be an important step in ensuring widespread adoption the CTC approach.
- FANTA will continue the documentation and dissemination of the management of community/home based care of severe acute malnutrition including the finalization of the CTC manual, publication of the synthesis report from the 2005 meeting on CTC and report on the replication of CTC in Malawi and Ethiopia.
- Mid-Upper Arm Circumference (MUAC) is often used in emergencies for identifying at risk children and adults. MUAC has also been proposed to monitor individuals and as a measure to assess the impact of nutrition programs. The use of MUAC has led controversy, debate

and confusion. Proponents of MUAC find themselves faced with emergency protocols by donor, implementers and country agencies that do not allow the use of MUAC. A review of the literature and field experiences is needed to define the benefits and limitations of MUAC for different purposes. FANTA will produce a report on the application of MUAC for adult and child screening, problem analysis, monitoring and evaluation.

- ❑ **Standardized Monitoring and Assessment of Relief and Transitions (SMART).** There is considerable momentum surrounding the work for a standardized protocol for the measurement and reporting of emergency related nutrition, mortality, and food security related information. In Project Year Seven, with FANTA technical input, a useful software application was developed and there are applications of the protocol in Ethiopia and Somalia. The next phase of SMART requires broadening the engagement by technical specialists to share experiences and work towards enhancements to the protocol. FANTA continues to be active in support of the SMART development and follow up with the network will facilitate capacity strengthening among PVO partners (see 1.1.1 a.).

## **2.2. With Missions**

### **2.2.1. Support food security strategy development**

Central to FFP's new strategy is the concept of development relief. FANTA helped FFP develop a theoretical approach and define programming mechanisms for development relief for incorporation in the FY 2006 Title II assistance program proposal guidelines. CSs have asked FFP for more explicit technical programming guidance on how to implement the new approach under the new mechanisms. In order to inform this guidance, FANTA will work with FFP to identify a country to serve as a case study. The case study country should be one where the new development relief approach would be appropriate. It should also have a significant Title II DAP portfolio due to end in FY 2007 and a Mission interested and involved with food security issues. In the case study country, FANTA and FFP will work with the Mission during Project Years Eight and Nine in all phases of the design process for a new set of development relief programs, including food security problem assessments, program design, monitoring and evaluation systems that include early warning indicators and triggers, contingency planning, and resource integration.

### **2.2.2. Support the Regional Economic Development Services Office/East and Southern Africa (REDSO/ESA)**

With support from REDSO/ESA, FANTA works in partnership with regional institutions to improve nutrition and food security programming in the east and southern Africa region. FANTA's work supports REDSO/ESA's SO7: Enhanced Regional Capacity to Improve Health Systems, and SO8: Strengthened Programs for HIV/AIDS in the Region. FANTA's technical assistance focuses largely on building capacity to strengthen food and nutrition responses to the HIV/AIDS pandemic, in particular through improved nutritional care and support for PLWHA and the uses of food aid to mitigate the impacts of HIV/AIDS.

During Project Year Seven, FANTA worked in partnership with the Regional Centre for Quality of Health Care (RCQHC) and the GH-funded LINKAGES project to produce and disseminate a set of six counseling materials for nutritional care and support of PLWHA and held a regional workshop to support countries in adapting the materials. FANTA also reviewed specialized food products available in the region that target PLWHA and compiled and disseminated a list with information about these products. FANTA organized a regional workshop for REDSO partners on food aid and HIV/AIDS programming and assessing the need for food interventions in HIV/AIDS programs. FANTA supported national nutrition coalitions in Kenya, Uganda, and Tanzania to participate in the East Africa Nutrition Congress in Nairobi in February 2005, and to hold a satellite meeting on nutrition and HIV/AIDS advocacy and implementation. Through a regional workshop and dissemination of guidance materials, FANTA supported advocacy and technical updates for ART program managers in the region on incorporating nutrition interventions into ART services.

During Project Year Eight FANTA will provide the following technical assistance with REDSO support:

- FANTA will work with RCQHC and with Girl Guide Associations in three countries to increase girls' and women's knowledge about the determinants of anemia, and to increase women's ability to effectively consume iron/folic acid supplements during pregnancy.
- FANTA will work in partnership with RCQHC to develop training materials on nutrition and HIV/AIDS for community-based and home-based care providers in the region.
- FANTA will work in partnership with the World Food Program (WFP) and FANTA's subcontractor Technical Assistance to NGOs (TANGO) to develop a handbook on food aid programming to mitigate the impact of HIV and AIDS. The handbook will provide guidance to program managers and implementers on a range of technical and operational issues related to the use of food aid in high HIV prevalence contexts.
- FANTA will provide technical assistance to REDSO and its partners to support integration of food and nutrition components into regional HIV/AIDS programs, with particular focus on REDSO's Transport Corridor Initiative (TCI) activities. Initial work will focus on integrating nutrition counseling into HIV/AIDS activities along the TCI using national guidelines and materials. Based on assessed need and capacities, FANTA may also support REDSO partners in integrating interventions to increase access to food by HIV-affected households and communities. This may involve livelihood strengthening activities, food assistance using local foods, or other interventions.
- In partnership with RCQHC, FANTA will support resource persons in the region to review ongoing field implementation of nutritional care and support activities and identify promising practices. The results of the review will be drawn up into a compendium of implementation practices for nutritional care and support to help inform and improve programming. It is expected that the process will also strengthen the capacities of the resource persons and help establish a pool of technical resource persons in the region who can support nutrition and HIV/AIDS initiatives.

- ❑ In partnership with LINKAGES and the Commonwealth Health Secretariat for East, Southern and Central Africa (CHS-ECSA), FANTA will complete and disseminate the training manual for nursing schools on nutrition and HIV/AIDS.
- ❑ FANTA will work with implementing partners in the region, such as the African Medical Research Foundation (AMREF), The AIDS Support Organization (TASO) and CRS, to provide technical assistance to refine existing M&E systems and adapt and design materials to monitor and evaluate the progress and outcomes of food and nutrition interventions for people living with HIV/AIDS (PLWHA). Materials may include suggested indicators, data collection and analysis tools, and guidance for applying them in programs.
- ❑ Depending on whether feasible areas of mutual interest are identified, FANTA may work in partnership with the Association for Strengthening Agricultural Research in Eastern and Central Africa (ASARECA), providing technical assistance on issues related to agriculture and HIV/AIDS.

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

IR3 supports GH in fulfilling one of its primary functions of global leadership. FANTA will focus on promoting promising practices to improve food security, targeting women's, adolescents', and children's health and nutrition. While IRs 1 and 2 concentrate on a defined set of stakeholders (i.e., USAID, PVOs, host country governments), under IR3, FANTA synthesizes promising practices and acceptable standards in nutrition and food security programming for wider development community. The primary approach is through research, analysis, documentation, and appropriate dissemination (e.g., training, technical assistance) to a wide stakeholder audience.

Through IR3, FANTA supports priority research in programmatic and operational issues and expands the institutional capacity of key stakeholder groups (e.g., PVOs, USAID Field Missions, UN Agencies such as WFP, SCN, UNICEF) to assess, design, implement, monitor, and evaluate food security and nutrition policies and programs. Examples of technical areas for supplying policy and programming include the expansion of Community Therapeutic Care approaches to the management of severe acute malnutrition with PVOs and the UN agencies. Results from IR3 are incorporated in FANTA support to USAID in the development of guidelines for the review of proposals and the directions for its development and emergency efforts.

Opportunities afforded by the President's Emergency Plan for HIV/AIDS Relief has enabled FANTA to work with Missions, Regional and Washington offices to integrate lessons learned and promising practices.

FANTA has partnered with the Regional Centre for Quality of Health Care (RCQHC), based at Makerere University in Kampala, which is one of REDSO/ESA's three regional partners for most of its REDSO-supported work on nutrition and HIV. FANTA's partnership has meant that RCQHC has become a strong and recognized center for technical and networking support on issues of nutrition and HIV. Its training courses and network of health care institutions in the region have offered rich channels for strengthening nutrition and HIV. The biggest challenge of this approach has been that some of the activities have been constrained by the institutional and staff/time limits that RCQHC faces.

REDSO's support to FANTA on nutrition and HIV/AIDS began in early Project Year Five, with activities to strengthen countries' capacity to develop and apply national guidelines on nutrition and HIV. This was in response to demand from countries articulated at the 2001 SCN meeting and other forums. National guideline development was supported through regional workshops, development of a handbook, and some direct technical assistance to countries. Several countries have produced or are finalizing national guidelines, including a number in southern Africa and including four with USAID Mission funding (Uganda, Rwanda, Kenya, Zambia).

The process of support to REDSO/ESA has been reflected in a number of key actions by FANTA including capacity strengthening in a number of areas including counseling and materials development. By using regional workshops with follow-up with participants and/or products, FANTA and RCQHC were able to assist countries to implement and expand nutrition and HIV/AIDS interventions as well as identifying promising practices in field implementation.

### **3. ACTIVITIES IN SUPPORT OF IR 3**

During Project Year Eight, FANTA will produce a set of key publications as well as organize targeted seminars and training workshops for stakeholders. These materials and venues will prioritize critical opportunities to consolidate and expand the work FANTA has done in identifying, field-testing, and documenting promising practices and approaches. All FANTA publications are available in both print and electronic formats and the focus is on using the FANTA website ([www.fantaproject.org](http://www.fantaproject.org)) for cost-effective dissemination.

The FANTA guides and related publications address key nutrition and food security program and policy priorities of USAID and reflect the priority action areas identified by FANTA's Technical Advisory Group. Table 1 lists Guides and Technical Notes that will be produced in Project Year Eight.

**Table 1: FANTA Publications in Project Year Eight**

<b>Guides</b>
1. Food Aid Programming in an Era of HIV and AIDS (with WFP)
<b>Technical Notes</b>
1. Monitoring and evaluation framework for Title II programs
2. Indicator selection for Title II Programs
3. Evaluation design for association and attribution
4. Design and implementation of baseline and final evaluations
5. Design and implementation of mid term evaluations
6. Use of qualitative methods in Title II programs
7. Guide for using LQAS to assess the prevalence of acute malnutrition

### **3.1. Develop Food Security Indicator and Promising Practice publications**

#### **3.1.1 Indicator and monitoring and evaluation guides**

- FANTA compiled field experience during the first seven years of the project that will feed into guidance to assist PVOs as they establish and carry out results reporting and evaluations for Title II development programs and child survival and health activities. During Project Year Seven , a M&E Cluster was created within FANTA to spearhead this effort, which will include the preparation of a “Monitoring and Evaluation Technical Notes Series,” composed of a limited series of short publications covering specific, key M&E concepts, skills and topics. A list of the topics to be produced under the series during Project Year Eight is provided in Table 1 above.
- To complement the Monitoring and Evaluation Technical Note Series, specific workshop materials will be developed to disseminate of these concepts and skills (through Power Point Presentations, exercises, trainee manuals, TAG Meetings, etc), which will be released along with the Monitoring and Evaluation Technical Notes, and made available through FANTA’s website.
- In addition, the M&E Cluster will incorporate innovative M&E topics (such as a “Do and Don’ts for LQAS”; or techniques to make use of handheld computers (PDAs) in the context of specific instruments such as the KPC, FANTA's Sampling Guide, SMART Methodology).

#### **3.2. Approaches to measuring household and individual access to and consumption of food**

The access to and consumption of adequate and appropriate food by households and individuals are important components of food security. FANTA is carrying out a set of activities aimed at developing user-friendly, cost-effective approaches to measure changes in food access, dietary quantity and quality, and feeding behaviors at the household and individual levels. USAID and PVO stakeholders have identified this work as a high priority. The results from technical

assistance, facilitation, and operations research will inform USAID and its partners to better address program M&E in this area as well as influence the design of data collection instruments for and analysis of data from key sources of information on nutrition and food security, such as the KPC and DHS.

### **3.2.1. Measuring improved household access to food**

#### **3.2.1.a. Adaptation of the U.S. Household Food Security Scale (HFSS) approaches in developing country contexts**

There is great demand for measures of the access component of food security. During FY 2003, FANTA and its partners at Cornell, Tufts and Freedom from Hunger (FFH), completed two studies, in Bangladesh and Burkina Faso, to validate the US Household Food Security Scale (HFSS) approach for use in developing countries. The Household Food Insecurity Scales (HFIS) that were developed during the field validation proved to be closely correlated with income and food consumption, and sensitive to changes in the economic situation of households achieved by project interventions. FANTA has thus recommended the HFIS to USAID and the PVOs as an indicator for impact evaluation. The HFIS has proved to be an important contribution to the measurement of household food access because it involves the administration of a simple questionnaire of 14 questions during a single household visit. Currently, PVOs are often faced with the challenge of complicated, burdensome, and costly data collection to assess household income and food consumption.

- ❑ FANTA held a workshop in April 2004 to present the findings of the field validation. The workshop resulted in a first draft of a standardized questionnaire to collect data for the HFIS. During Project Year Seven, a draft guide with a standardized questionnaire and data collection and analysis instructions was completed and feedback requested from a variety of stakeholders. In Project Year Eight, FANTA will continue to engage stakeholders by holding the HFIS Workshops II in October 2005, and other means to resolve outstanding issues in the creation of a universal HFIS instrument. Based on workshop conclusions, the HFIS guide will be completed and provided to Title II CSs. Further feedback on its use will be gathered, and opportunities for field testing may be sought.
- ❑ In Project Year Eight, a supplement for the Journal of Nutrition which outlines the results of field validation studies, the process of developing the HFIS instrument, and future steps will be authored by FANTA and its academic partners at Tufts and Cornell Universities.

#### **3.2.1.b. Food Access Indicator Measurement Instrument and Manual**

In Project Year Seven, FANTA completed guides for two access indicators: Months of Inadequate Household Food Provisioning (MIHFP) and Household Dietary Diversity Score (HDDS). FANTA designed a Household Food Insecurity module to be included in the standard Knowledge, Practice, and Coverage (KPC) survey instrument used extensively by the Child Survival and Title II PVOs. The module includes both the MIHFP and HDDS indicators. In addition, the food access indicators were adopted in the preliminary draft of the Office of Food for Peace Performance Monitoring Plan (PMP) that is being developed with FANTA assistance

in Project Year Eight. The adoption of the indicators represents a significant step forward for the development and use of valid, easy-to-use and adaptable measures of food insecurity by partners in different sectors.

- In Project Year Eight, FANTA will continue to promote the use of these indicators for all Title II projects with access activities (see also 1.2.1.a.) as well as further support the use of the indicator in the Office of Food for Peace Performance Monitoring Plan (PMP).

### **3.2.2. Measuring infant and young child feeding (IYCF) practices**

#### **3.2.2.a. Infant and young child feeding (IYCF) indicators**

Optimal infant and young child feeding is a critical aspect of care to improved nutrition, health, and development of the child. Improving the definition and measurement of IYCF practices in the 6 to 23 month period will help advocate for increased focus on this important determinant of infant and young child nutrition, in addition to improving the ability of program implementers to define the magnitude of the problem in their program context and monitor and report on improvements in IYCF practices.

With support from GH, FANTA has been collaborating with ORC Macro (i.e., DHS+, CSTS), CORE, and PVOs working on child survival and health activities to improve the use and interpretation of infant and child feeding data available from KPC surveys. In Project Year Five, FANTA finalized the technical report, *Generating Indicators of Complementary Feeding Practices for Children 6-23 months from the KPC 2000+*, which contributed to the revision of the KPC 2000+ survey (see 1.2.1.a.) and has been circulated widely.

- During Project Year Eight, FANTA will update both the technical report, *Generating Indicators of Complementary Feeding Practices for Children 6-23 months from the KPC 2000+* and the KPC 2000+ survey module on IYCF practices to reflect the recent WHO guidance on recommended feeding practices for the non-breastfed child. Based on this new guidance, the revisions will take into account the recommended differences in dietary diversity and meal frequency for the breastfed and non-breastfed child 6 through 23 months of age. FANTA will continue to promote the use of the technical report and the KPC 2000+ survey module to both Title II and CSHGP partners.

#### **3.2.2.b. Developing and Validating Indicators of Feeding Frequency and Nutrient Density of Complementary Foods for the Breastfed Child In Developing Countries**

Clear guidance for the international community on optimal infant and young child feeding practices has been achieved with the publication of the *Guiding Principles for Complementary Feeding of the Breastfed Child* (PAHO/WHO 2003) and *Guiding Principles for the Non-Breastfed Child 6-24 Months of Age* (WHO 2005). Over the past several years, FANTA has implemented a multi-stage initiative to develop a set of indicators to assess complementary feeding practices and to monitor and evaluate progress on improving IYCF practices worldwide. During Project Year Seven, FANTA participated in and supported the workshop on Dietary

Diversity, Dietary Quality and Child Growth, jointly convened by FAO, IFPRI and WHO in Rome on October 11-13, 2005.

- ❑ During Project Year Eight, FANTA will continue collaboration with IFPRI, University of California at Davis, WHO, and collaborating researchers from several developing countries to develop and validate indicators of complementary feeding practices, specifically related to the frequency of feeding and nutrient density of complementary foods, for infants and young children 6 through 23 months of age in developing countries. A final report will be produced that summarizes results across the ten data sets analyzed and includes recommendations regarding use of the indicators developed and validated and further field-testing and field validation of these indicators.

### **3.2.3. Validating dietary diversity as a measure of the adequacy of women's diets**

The DHS 2005 revised questionnaire will include, for the first time, a 24-hour recall question on food group consumption of the mothers of the last-born child under 3. Inclusion of this question represents a significant opportunity to advocate for an increased emphasis on women's diet quality.

- ❑ To support the use and interpretation of the data collected using the new DHS 2005 questionnaire, FANTA will validate the evidence-base on dietary diversity as a proxy of the adequacy of women's diets through technical consultations and support for analysis of extant data. During Project Year Eight, FANTA will carry out a study to test whether dietary diversity indicators that can be constructed from the set of food groups included in the DHS 2005 questionnaires to predict:

- 1) The consumption and adequacy of specific macro- and micro-nutrients in the woman's diet; and
- 2) The overall adequacy of the diet, as captured in appropriate summary indicators.

The study will use extant data sets containing adult female individual-level dietary intake data from several developing country and/or resource limited settings, and will involve collaborating investigators from one to three academic or research institutions. A lead Principal Investigator will work with collaborating investigators to define a common analytic strategy and set of responsibilities for data analysis, interpretation, reports and publications dissemination.

### **3.3. Strengthening food and nutrition responses to HIV/AIDS**

FANTA will continue to provide technical support to GH, DCHA, other USAID Bureaus and REDSO/ESA to integrate food security objectives and outcomes into USG's HIV/AIDS strategies and provide technical assistance to improve and strengthen the integration of food security into USG HIV/AIDS programming.

### 3.3.1. HIV/AIDS nutritional care and support

During the past five years of the project, FANTA has provided technical assistance at multiple levels to strengthen nutritional care and support for PLWHA. FANTA developed programming guidance at the global level through *HIV/AIDS: A Guide for Nutrition, Care and Support* (2001, 2004), *Food and Nutrition Implications of Antiretroviral Therapy in Resource Limited Settings* (2003), recommendations of the nutrient requirements for HIV-infected individuals, and technical presentations and input to various forums on nutrition and HIV/AIDS. FANTA assists regional institutions, country teams, and programs in adapting the global guidance to develop locally appropriate nutritional care and support guidelines. Working with regional partners, FANTA developed training and counseling materials to strengthen the capacity of service providers to offer nutritional care and support.

During Project Year Eight, FANTA will continue this process through the following activities:

- ❑ FANTA will continue to assist the Office of Global AIDS Coordinator (O/GAC) in the refinement and development of guidance on the integration of nutrition and food interventions in HIV/AIDS programming including the use of multivitamin supplements for PLWHA.
- ❑ FANTA will continue a series of in-country activities to strengthen nutritional care and support in Rwanda, Kenya, and Zambia (see 1.3.2., 1.3.4., and 1.3.5.). Activities include: development of national guidelines, training materials, and counseling tools on nutrition and HIV/AIDS, research on food and nutrition needs of ART clients, and incorporation of nutrition into national HIV/AIDS strategies.
- ❑ FANTA will continue a number of regional activities supported by REDSO/ESA to strengthen nutritional care and support in the region, including development of training materials, strengthening resource persons in the implementation of nutritional care and support, and the compilation of promising practices in the implementation of nutritional care and support (see 2.2.2.)
- ❑ During Project Year Seven, FANTA worked with the WHO Technical Advisory Group (TAG) on HIV and Nutrition. A pre-consultation TAG meeting was held in Washington in November 2004, and consultation was held in April 2005 in Durban, South Africa. The consultations reviewed scientific evidence for nutrient needs of PLWHA, review programming experience, identify research gaps and priorities, mobilize partners and stakeholders in a coordinated effort to incorporate nutrition into HIV interventions. An important input into the WHO meeting was the presentations by FANTA of the development of national guidelines for nutrition care and support. The description of the process included national programs for nutritional guideline development which was facilitated by FANTA. During Project Year Eight, FANTA will continue to work with WHO to review, update and disseminate technical and operational guidelines to effectively integrate nutrition into HIV prevention, treatment (e.g., ART scale-up) and care (e.g., home-based care including use of RUTF and other specialized foods). As requested by USAID, FANTA will assist WHO Headquarters, WHO Regional Offices and USAID partners to strengthen capacity and

provide technical assistance on policies and programs for nutrition and HIV/AIDS. FANTA will participate in selected international meetings including the SCN where FANTA has a role as co-chair of the SCN nutrition and HIV/AIDS subcommittee. A SCN meeting is scheduled for March 2006 at WHO Headquarters in Geneva, Switzerland.

- ❑ To expand evidence of the role of food supplements in HIV/AIDS treatment and care programming, FANTA in collaboration with the University of Washington, St. Louis and the Queen Elizabeth Hospital in Blantyre, Malawi will undertake a targeted evaluation to compare the impact of nutrition counseling alone with supplemental RUTF nutrient dense paste (Plumpy'Nut®) or corn soy blend (CSB) with nutritional counseling on nutritional/clinical outcomes, ARV adherence and overall quality of life among wasted adult antiretroviral therapy (ART) clients (see description of targeted evaluation in Kenya 1.3.2.).

### **3.3.2. Food security and food aid interventions to mitigate the impact of HIV/AIDS**

Over the past year, FANTA has expanded its activities focused on mitigating the impact of HIV/AIDS on food security. Using interviews, consultation and experience sharing with food aid stakeholders, FANTA began developing programming guidance on uses of food aid to mitigate the impacts of HIV/AIDS. FANTA also provided technical assistance to WFP in the design of WFP Protracted Relief and Recovery Operations (PRRO) proposals, country action plans, and implementation guidelines.

During Project Year Eight, FANTA will undertake the following activities:

- ❑ FANTA will provide technical assistance to REDSO/ESA and its partners in integrating food and nutrition considerations into the regional HIV/AIDS program along transport corridors in east and central Africa, with a focus on building capacity for REDSO/ESA HIV/AIDS partners in assessing food insecurity and incorporating food and nutrition interventions in TCI sites (see 2.2.2.).
- ❑ FANTA will develop a handbook entitled *Food Aid Programming in an Era of HIV and AIDS* and programming notes about uses of food aid to mitigate the impact of HIV/AIDS on food security and livelihoods of the most vulnerable groups. FANTA will work closely with WFP and TANGO in the development of the handbook and the programming notes. The notes will focus on key technical areas, such as ration content, targeting, and monitoring and evaluation (see 2.2.2.).
- ❑ In partnership with CRS/Zambia, FANTA developed tools for assessing and monitoring community capacity to cope with the impacts of the HIV pandemic. These tools will be shared with other programs to strengthen programs' ability to understand and build on existing capacities and gaps within HIV-affected communities (see 1.3.5.).

- ❑ FANTA will continue to provide technical assistance to FFP and its PVO partners in the design, implementation, and monitoring of food aid programs in areas with a high prevalence of HIV/AIDS. The primary channel for this technical assistance is through review of proposals, results reports, and evaluations and the utilization of operational research results and technical guides to enhance program management.

### **3.4. Preventive vs. recuperative approaches in nutrition interventions**

The design of the food component of food-assisted MCHN interventions is a critical determinant of the eventual impact the intervention will have on the nutritional status of the population of interest. Currently, two main approaches exist: recuperative and preventive.

In the traditional recuperative approach, children under a certain age (typically five years old) are targeted to receive food supplements, based on their nutritional status as measured during growth monitoring activities. Children identified as having a weight-for-age below the -2SD from the median cutoff point are eligible to receive food rations for periods of varying length.

In the preventative approach, by contrast, food supplements are targeted to all children under a certain age irrespective of their nutritional status. In this case, targeting of the food supplements is based on age only and is expected to prevent growth faltering and malnutrition.

There is strong scientific evidence to suggest that a preventative approach can have a greater public health impact over the long term. To provide evidence to determine the best approach, FANTA, with technical support from IFPRI and Cornell University and in collaboration with World Vision/Haiti, is supporting a field study in Haiti comparing, in an operational context, the difference in impact and cost-effectiveness of the two models for delivering MCHN programs with a food supplementation component.

Several reports have been produced by the IFPRI-Cornell University FANTA team (Table 2), including a review of the existing nutrition and health education approaches currently used in Haiti, a qualitative study of dietary practices by Haitian mothers, a report of the baseline survey, a report on the design of the preventive model, a report on first round of field research, a qualitative study of intrahousehold use of food supplements, two Operations Research reports detailing the implementation of the program and suggesting best practices for both models, and the first phase of a two-step cost effectiveness analysis comparing the preventive to the recuperative approaches. In addition, field work for the final survey was carried out in Project Year Seven to evaluate the impacts of this four-year intervention.

**Table 2: List of Haiti Reports Produced in Project Year Seven**

1. *A Qualitative Study of the Patterns of Infant Feeding and Care in the Hinche Area of Plateau Central, Haiti (2005)*
2. *Behavior Change Communication to Improve Infant and Young Child Feeding Practices in Rural Haiti: Training and Communication Materials (2005)*
3. *Development of a LQAS-based Model for Mid Term Evaluations in Title II Programs: The CRS/Haiti Experience (draft 2005)*

- ❑ During Project Year Eight, the main lessons from the comparative analysis will be drawn and a series of publications will be produced to disseminate the main findings, what was learned, and to help PVOs implement practices that help maximize the effectiveness of food-assisted MCHN activities.

### **3.5. Innovations to improve monitoring and evaluation of food security programming**

USAID and PVO partners continue to support the development of innovative tools for problem assessment and commodity monitoring. Based on previous work, FANTA will focus its efforts on two most promising applications in Project Year Eight: the use of Layers for commodity monitoring and the LQAS applications for assessing the prevalence of severe acute malnutrition in emergency situations.

#### *Layers Application*

- ❑ Missions have oversight responsibilities for Title II PVO management of commodities and grant funds. In most countries, however, the sites visited by Mission staff (i.e., food monitors) are not randomly selected, hence their visits do not allow Missions to make program-wide judgments of the overall quality of their PVO programs. Also important, food monitors generally observe only the operations associated with the management of the food commodities; only rarely can they make rigorous assessments of the activities that surround the distribution of food (e.g. immunizations).
- ❑ To address these issues, FANTA developed the Layers software. Layers is a computerized monitoring system that combines the data collection by Lot Quality Assurance Sampling (LQAS) and an automated analysis and report production module (based on the MSAccess engine). Layers offers to USAID Missions the capacity to characterize, with statistical accuracy, the operation of their Title II programs, from the management of food to the quality of other services being delivered. LQAS is a sampling methodology that permits statistically valid conclusions about particular outcomes (e.g., program coverage, service quality) using the smallest sample possible.
- ❑ The use of PDAs with Layers software permits the entry and verification of the information (data) collected in each site, while reducing the costs of data entry and maximizing the potential use of program data. Moreover, the automated report production modules enable

frequent and objective feedback by the Mission to its various partners. Because of its handy features, FFP has introduced Layers as a regular topic to be covered at the Food Aid Managers' Course (FAMC) held twice annually in Washington for Title II program managers. Also, a FANTA TAG meeting was organized in December 2003 to present the approach to PVOs and other interested parties.

- ❑ In Project Year Seven, expansion of Layers modules were requested by USAID Missions in Madagascar and Ethiopia, that includes non-Title II program areas (for instance, assessing the availability the quality of service delivery in health posts and remote health stations of Madagascar). Work on this area will continue in Project Year Eight.

#### *Field Validation of LQAS Approaches to Measure Nutrition and Health Status of Children*

- ❑ FANTA has provided technical assistance to validate the LQAS (Lot Quality Assurance Sampling) designs to provide more timely and cost effective nutrition and health results comparable to those of a traditional 30 by 30 cluster survey. With OFDA and GH support, field testing of the sampling approach coupled with innovative handheld data entry, verification and processing using Dell PDAs has been carried out in Ethiopia in 2003 and is planned in Darfur Sudan in September/October 2005.
- ❑ The LQAS offers USAID and its partners more cost effective and time efficient survey methodology to apply when assessing the severity of an emergency situation. Following the Darfur field validation, a report documenting LQAS statistical methodology for assessing nutrition and health status of children will be prepared. In Project Year Eight FANTA will develop LQAS field manual, training materials and lessons learned on LQAS sampling using PDAs to assess the prevalence of acute malnutrition

### **3.6. Promotion of information sharing and coordination**

With support from DCHA and PPC, FANTA has provided funding for greater outreach for technical innovations and global leadership with the UN Standing Committee for Nutrition (SCN) based at WHO. The SCN provides an active forum for information exchange through its publications (SCN News, NICS bulletins, SCN Policy Series), its website and its annual technical meetings. In Project Year Seven, FANTA has supported participation at its annual meetings of representatives from developing countries and a wide range of key documents. The 32<sup>nd</sup> session was held on 14-18 March 2005 in Brasilia and was hosted by the Government of Brazil. The Symposium topic was *Realizing the Right to Adequate Food to help achieve the Millennium Development Goals*. The next meeting of the SCN will be held in Geneva, March 13-17, 2006, and will be hosted by the World Health Organization. The topic for the Symposium will be *Nutrition and the Double Burden of Disease: a Global Challenge*. In Project Year Eight, FANTA will support the SCN to publish:

- Three NICS Reports Nos. 7, 8 and 9.
- Nutrition and Mortality Report for the USAID Annual Performance Report.
- Community Based Approaches for the Treatment of Severe Acute Malnutrition in Children (see 2.1.4.).

### 3.7. Training workshops

FANTA's training activities are developed and carried out in consultation with the stakeholders, and preference is given to venues where a large number of PVOs can benefit. During Project Year Eight, FANTA plans the following training activities:

**Table 3: Training Workshops in Project Year Eight**

<b>Title</b>	<b>Location</b>	<b>Date</b>	<b>Duration</b>	<b>Staff</b>
Measuring Household Food Insecurity Workshop II	Washington, DC	October 2005	1 day	Swindale, Bilinsky
Workshop on study of food aid transition in USAID/CARE-assisted Integrated Child Development Services program areas	New Delhi, India	November 2005	1 day	Castleman Cogill
Launch of Kenya national guidelines on nutritional care and support for PLWHA	Nairobi, Kenya	November 2005	1 day	Castleman Mwadime
Training of Transport Corridor Initiative implementing partners (Family Health International and others) in nutritional counseling for PLWHA (series of 4 training sessions)	Kenya and Rwanda	December 2005, January & February 2006	TBD	Castleman Mwadime
West Africa Regional Training	Dakar, Senegal	January 2006	5 days	TBD
Validation of IYCF indicators: Review of Individual Country Results	Washington, DC	February 2006	2 days	Swindale
Training of trainers in nutritional care and support curriculum for hospital health care workers (series of 4 training sessions)	Kenya	February, March, April 2006	TBD	Castleman Mwadime
Development of BCC strategies to improve infant and young child feeding in Title II Programs	Guatemala	February 2006	5 days	Woldt
Workshop on HIV-nutrition training materials for community and home-based care providers	TBD	March 2006	TBD	Castleman Mwadime
Technical Advisory Group (TAG) Meeting on the results of Haiti field study comparing the effectiveness of preventative vs. recuperative approaches in nutrition intervention	Washington, DC	April 2006	1 day	Bergeron
	Port-au-Prince Haiti	April 2006	1 day	Bergeron
Workshop on promising practices in field implementation of nutritional care and support	East Africa	June 2006	TBD	Castleman Mwadime
Overview and Update on Nutrition and TRM	TBD	TBD	1 day	Elder Cashin
Girl Guides and the Reduction of Maternal Anemia in the REDSO Region	TBD	TBD	3 days	Elder Cashin

### 3.8. Information sharing and communications

FANTA’s communication and dissemination strategy is based on the following objectives:

- expand the knowledge base on nutrition and food security through published reports, electronic media, training, and meetings;
- foster dialogue and discussion among development partners on key issues related to nutrition and food security;
- inform policy on nutrition and food security; and
- create linkages between FANTA and the nutrition and food security community of researchers and practitioners.

*Expand the knowledge base on nutrition and food security.* FANTA is uniquely positioned to expand the knowledge/evidence base on nutrition and food security through its indicator and technical guides and promising practice series. These guides and reports are demand-driven products that provide technical guidance and information on program design, implementation and evaluation. FANTA will continue to develop, produce and disseminate indicator measurement guides, technical guides, and the promising practices series to improve nutrition and food security related policy and programming.

During Project Year Seven, FANTA produced a number of publications including new Title II Indicator and Promising Practice guides: *Household Dietary Diversity Score (HDDS) for Measurement of Household Food Access* and *Months of Inadequate Household Food Provisioning (MIHFP) for Measurement of Household Food Access*. Several guides produced during the earlier years of the project were also updated and include the Technical Note Series No. 4, *Dietary Diversity as a Household Food Security Indicator* and the popular *Sampling Guide*. A French translation of the *FANTA Anthropometric Indicators Measurement Guide* was also produced.

During Project Year Eight, the project will continue to reach its target audience with key technical information and to build a wider audience for nutrition and food security information. The strategy will continue to focus on both electronic and print publications. Specifically, FANTA will produce a “Monitoring and Evaluation Technical Notes Series” that utilizes compiled field experience from the first seven years of the project to provide guidance to PVOs in results reporting and evaluations for Title II development programs and child survival and health activities. The series of short publications will cover specific, key M&E concepts, skills and topics. A list of the topics to be produced under the series during Project Year Eight is provided in Table 1.

*Foster dialogue among development partners on key issues related to nutrition and food security.* The shifting operational landscape of nutrition and food security programs requires an on-going dialogue among development partners. FANTA will continue to produce and disseminate field validations, impact assessments and evaluations for dissemination throughout the nutrition and food security community.

*Inform policy on nutrition and food security.* FANTA provides technical support to USAID/Washington, Missions in developing food security strategies and integrating development food aid programs into USAID Mission and host country government's strategic plans. FANTA also will develop nutrition and food security advocacy tools to target decision-makers in the USAID Missions and host country government institutions.

*Create linkages between FANTA and the nutrition and food security community.* FANTA is an active participant in the larger nutrition and food security community of practitioners and researchers. FANTA regularly contributes articles, field reports and program highlights to a number of print and electronic media. Using the electronic media as an important communications tool, FANTA will continue to refine and add content to its website, as well as improve the interactiveness and accessibility.

**APPENDIX 1: Document Management Workplan Supplemental**

Title	Product Category	Purpose	Target Audience	Production			Output		
				Task	Staff	LOE (days)	Size (pages)	Print	Electronic medium
Advances in Measurement of Household Food Insecurity: Supplement to the Journal of Nutrition	Publication	To disseminate the results of the field validation of the HFIS and status of work in developing universal measurement tool	Program managers, government policy makers and technicians, academics	Writing	Tech various	10	60	all JN subscribers	Y
				Editing/Formatting	JN staff	n/a			
Final report - Preventive versus recuperative targeting of food aid in Haiti	Publication	To summarize the findings of the 5 year study on preventive vs. recuperative targeting of food aid.	Senior Program managers (PVOs and WFP), USAID, government policy makers and technicians, academics	Writing	Tech various	30	120	100	Y
				Editing/Formatting	Edit	2			
Workplan PY8	Administrative report (contractual)	To plan next project year's activities	USAID CTO [Primary] Senior Management, PVO Partners	Writing	Tech various	10	50	30	Y
				Editing/Formatting	Edit	2			
Annual Report PY7	Administrative report (contractual)	To report progress and achievements	USAID CTO [Primary]	Writing	Manager	3	30	10	Y
				Editing/Formatting	Edit	1			

**APPENDIX 2: Event Management Workplan Supplemental**

<b>Title</b>	<b>Type of Event</b>	<b>Purpose</b>	<b>Target Audience</b>	<b>Type of Participation</b>	<b>Number of Participants</b>	<b>Hand-outs</b>	<b>Length</b>
Measuring Household Food Insecurity Workshop II	Workshop	Follow-on to April 2004 workshop on measuring household food insecurity, this workshop will address outstanding concerns related to the draft HFIS scale and guide.	PVOs, USAID	Sponsor	30	Y	1 day
Validation of IYCF indicators: Review of Individual Country Results	Workshop	Review individual country reports with collaborating researchers and agree on next steps for summary report.	Principal investigators, Technical advisors of IYCF indicator validation study	Sponsor	12	Y	2 days
Overview and Update on Nutrition and TRM	Workshop	Inform partners about important new topics such as zinc supplementation in the clinical management of acute diarrhea and the ramifications, and of next steps needed to better address and prevent iron deficiency and anemia in target populations.	PVOs, Partners, USAID	Sponsor	30	Y	1 day
Technical Advisory Group (TAG) Meeting (Washington DC); Stakeholders Meeting (Haiti)	Meeting	To present the results of Haiti field study comparing the effectiveness of preventative vs. recuperative approaches in nutrition interventions	PVOs, USAID	Sponsor	60	Y	1 day each