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FOOD AND
NUTRITION
TECHNICAL
ASSISTANCE

QUARTERLY PROGRAM REPORT

PROJECT YEAR 3

OCT. 1 — DEC. 31, 2000

**COOPERATING AGENCY
ACADEMY FOR EDUCATIONAL DEVELOPMENT**

**SUBCONTRACTORS
CORNELL UNIVERSITY
TUFTS UNIVERSITY**

**COOPERATIVE AGREEMENT No. HRN-A-00-98-00046-00
AED PROJECT No. 21-2620**

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LIST OF ACRONYMS

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

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

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INTRODUCTION

FANTA is a five-year Cooperative Agreement between AED and USAID, funded through the USAID's Bureau of Global Programs Field Support and Research, Center for Population, Health and Nutrition (G/PHN). The project is designed to maximize the impact of the nutrition and food security-related programs implemented by USAID and its partners in developing countries. FANTA's effort to meet this goal is through nutrition and food security policy and strategy development, and the provision of technical assistance in the areas of program design, implementation, monitoring, and evaluation of nutrition and food security-related programs.

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

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

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

This report describes the activities undertaken by the project during the first quarter of the third year of FANTA, from October 1 to December 31, 2000. The Quarterly Highlights section describes key results for the quarter and is followed by a summary of ongoing activities grouped by Intermediate Results (IR). Much of FANTA's work is ongoing and results will be highlighted in future reports.

QUARTERLY HIGHLIGHTS

In-Country Technical Support

Ethiopia

- Since 1999, FANTA has been providing technical assistance to USAID/Addis Ababa and Title II PVOs to help integrate nutrition programming in their Integrated Strategic Plan and maximize the impact of these nutritional activities on target populations. The request for FANTA assistance was initially motivated by the Mission's concern over the country's worsening nutrition situation. An initial fact-finding FANTA visit to Ethiopia in November 1999 laid out the general approach for FANTA technical assistance. Subsequently, a workshop was held in February of 2000 using the nutrition advocacy tool PROFILES. This activity led to a consensus among key stakeholders about the nutritional strategy to pursue and to a set of recommendations specifying key areas for nutrition intervention. The next step is to strengthen the capacity of PVOs to conduct these interventions.
- During this quarter, FANTA staff supported a second workshop on nutrition advocacy using PROFILES. This workshop was part of FANTA's efforts to develop a nutrition strategy for USAID with federal and regional government staff. The workshop provided training and information about advocacy to the development community in Ethiopia, including staff from the central and regional governments, the UN system, the World Bank and other multilateral organizations. FANTA also organized a training session for PVOs about community-based nutrition programs. The recommendations from this workshop were presented to government officials, multilateral and bilateral development agencies and donors and USAID staff. Next steps will include follow up with regional governments on the implementation of the various recommendations by the PROFILES workshop participants and technical assistance to the Mission and its partners.

Guatemala

- The Title II program in Guatemala, approximately \$18 million in FY 1999, is implemented by CARE, CRS, Save the Children and World Share and covers activities in agriculture, water and sanitation, maternal and child health and nutrition (MCHN) and institutional child feeding. The approximate value of the FY 2000 activities was \$18 million. CARE, and World Share developed new five-year proposals during 2000. CRS will develop a new proposal in 2001. During this quarter, FANTA conducted a workshop on strengthening MCHN Programs and met with CRS staff to provide additional guidance for improving the design of the MCHN component of their proposal.

The Title II programs are designed to assist USAID/Guatemala achieve its strategic objective of *increased rural household income and food security and are measured by increased annual household income and reduced chronic malnutrition in children under the age of five in selected geographic areas*. FANTA provided technical assistance in achieving this strategic objective working with MCHN programs to improve practices for family health and nutrition. FANTA

facilitated a meeting between the four PVOs CSs (Save the Children, CARE, CRS and SHARE) on better practices for Title II health and nutrition programs. FANTA is collaborating with the Mission's Local Income Generation Activities (Actividad de Generación de Ingresos Locales – AGIL) project to develop monitoring and evaluation systems for Title II PVOs to report on achievement of these objectives.

Workshops

Data Analysis Workshop

A major focus of FANTA technical assistance is strengthening the results reporting of PVOs working on nutrition and food security activities funded by USAID. FANTA staff works face-to-face and "electronically" with PVOs and responds to questions on a range of issues related to monitoring and evaluation. FANTA works closely with Food Aid Management (FAM), a consortium of PVOs working to make Title II food aid more efficient and effective (www.foodaid.org). This collaboration has led to a series of technical consultations between FANTA and FAM members on program evaluation design and results reporting.

In November, FANTA and FAM sponsored a technical workshop on approaches and practical guidance on data analysis. PVO technical and program managers improved their basic skills in analyzing population-based survey data with special attention on nutrition and agriculture evaluation data. Twenty-seven participants from Ethiopia, Gambia, Ghana, Kenya, Madagascar, Mozambique, Sudan and Uganda attended the workshop in Nairobi. The workshop was timely because the majority of the participants will be collecting and analyzing data from baseline surveys, mid-term and final evaluations in the next year.

The 5-day workshop was participatory and included breakout sessions where participants analyzed data using either Epi Info or SPSS software. Sessions covered:

- Introduction to data analysis
- Defining variables
- Understanding weighted means
- Descriptive statistics
- Analysis of nutrition indicators

Funding for the training and materials development was provided by USAID's Office of Food for Peace (FFP) in the Bureau for Humanitarian Response (BHR).

Priority Areas

Food Aid and Food Security Assessment (FAFSA)

After an extensive consultation among stakeholders, USAID issued the Food Aid and Food Security Policy Paper in 1995 and this policy remains as the only policy approved for addressing food insecurity. Since the adoption of the policy in 1995 much has happened. The portfolio has grown larger and covers a larger number of PVOs in more locations and

more complementary resources including contributions from the PVOs and the communities where they work. In addition, concerns on environmental, economic and the burden of HIV/AIDS have meant that some food security determinants have changed. USAID's Bureau of Humanitarian Response, which administers the emergency and development food aid resource, asked FANTA to undertake a review of the policy

In October, FANTA began on an assessment of Title II PVOs development activities since the adoption of the policy. The objective of the assessment is to provide recommendations to inform future food security programming. The assessment team will draw on the extensive documentation and experiences of the PVO partners, evaluations and the development literature. The resulting report will provide USAID with a perspective to help inform the dialogue on the objectives and use of food aid prior to the reauthorization of the Farm Bill in 2001.

The team will also undertake a multi-disciplinary desk and field review of the wide-ranging food security programs. The team will identify promising practices and program achievements by sector and the factors that have influenced outcomes will be identified. Health, education and agricultural specialists will travel to representative program countries (Benin, Bolivia, Ghana, and Mozambique) and draw heavily on USAID's and FANTA's extensive documentation of the Title II portfolio. Their report will be reviewed by stakeholders and external reviewers and will be available in June 2001 from USAID. (www.usaid.gov/bhr)

HIV/AIDS: Nutrition, Care and Support Guide

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

During this quarter FANTA staff traveled to Malawi and Zimbabwe to work with CRS, Save the Children and other AIDS Service Organizations on field testing the guide. Information was gathered on criteria for use of local foods; feeding and care practices for persons living with HIV/AIDS, including children; selecting households for food distribution programs; and traditional therapies for persons with AIDS-related symptoms. The next steps will be to incorporate field comments and circulate the revised guide for external review in the next quarter.

In addition, FANTA examined current field activities for monitoring and evaluation of LIFE (Leadership and Investment on Fighting an Epidemic) supported activities with Title II food resources and looked at other program opportunities for mitigating the impact of HIV/AIDS through home-based care and income generating activities.

During this visit, FANTA staff also met with USAID mission staff in Uganda and Malawi to discuss potential areas for FANTA support. These include integrating nutrition across the Uganda Mission's food security portfolio and improving linking of Strategic Objectives to increase rural incomes and behaviors adopted to reduce fertility and HIV/AIDS and improve child health through food security interventions in Malawi.

Appropriate Child Feeding Indicators

The Knowledge, Practice and Coverage Survey (KPC) is used by PVOs implementing child survival activities using child survival funds and food security programs and is the basis for many of the baseline surveys used by PVOs to evaluate the impact of maternal and child health and nutrition (MCHN) programs throughout the world. Not only is the KPC used to examine results of MCHN activities, it is adapted by the PVO to provide an understanding of the local health and nutrition situation and to motivate action to address the key problems.

The most recent revision of the KPC (KPC 2000) includes a module on infant and child feeding. FANTA has been collaborating with the Child Survival Technical Support (CSTS) Project and PVOs working on child survival activities to help reach a consensus on the definition of an appropriate infant and child feeding indicator and a method for analyzing and presenting KPC 2000 data. In order to obtain expert input on indicator criteria, FANTA hosted a meeting with participants from USAID, CSTS, CORE, MACRO/DHS, Linkages, MOST, BASICS, SARA, Johns Hopkins University and IFPRI.

Meeting participants reached in a consensus on the age-specific recommendations for two of the components of an indicator of appropriate feeding: continued breastfeeding and the appropriate frequency of feeding semi-solid and solid foods. Other indicator components pertaining mainly to the quality and diversity of the diet need further clarification. Once a consensus is reached, the recommendations will be shared among the stakeholders and a decision will be made on how this indicator should be reported. A meeting summary is available from fanta@aed.org.

INTERMEDIATE RESULT NO. 1
IMPROVED USAID'S AND COOPERATING SPONSORS' (CSS) NUTRITION AND FOOD
SECURITY-RELATED PROGRAM DEVELOPMENT, ANALYSIS, MONITORING, AND
EVALUATION

Technical Support to BHR/FFP

Development Programs (DP)

- **Global Food for Education Initiative (GFEI):** This initiative was launched in July 2000 to increase school enrollment in developing countries. FANTA reviewed 61 PVO proposals for the first year of GFEI pilot programs. These programs will be implemented in countries with high rates of malnutrition and/or regions with high rates of malnutrition. The proposals advocate a well balanced ration (often supplemented with locally purchased commodities) and address student health needs, such as through a de-worming program and/or micronutrient supplementation.
- **FFP ISA portfolio:** Provided information about technical requirements for final evaluations to ARC and Counterpart. FANTA will be reviewing the scope of work for these two programs. Their final evaluations are due in June 2001, along with the mid-term evaluations of the other twelve recipients of the ISA.
- Reviewed ISA mid-term scopes of work for CARE, CRS, World Vision, FHI, TechnoServe and FAM.
- Met with FFP staff to finalize agenda for the ISA Managers' Annual Meeting in December. One recommendation from this meeting was to refine the evaluation guidance for the next ISA proposals, which will be drafted during this fiscal year for circulation to the ISA managers and FFP for comments.
- FANTA staff outlined the review process for mid-term scopes of work to ISA recipients at ISA Managers' Annual Meeting in December 2000.
- Provided reviews on ISA DIPs (Detailed Implementation Plans) and participated in grants committee meetings with senior FFP managers.
- **West Africa Title II Portfolio Review:** Participated in a meeting with FFP to discuss the status of West Africa Title II portfolio. Two of twenty programs have approved funding for FY01; pending actions from FFP and/or the appropriate PVOs remain. In some cases, PVOs have not provided sufficient information to obligate funds (that is, the PAA includes all the elements necessary, but the level of detail is inadequate). In other cases, the information is simply incomplete. In response to this situation, FANTA staff is working with PVOs to respond quickly to FFP information requests for existing programs (including CRS/Ghana, Africare West Africa programs, and CRS/Burkina). This may be a potential area for future technical assistance. FANTA has concentrated on

DAP assistance, but the routine reporting requirements may also need additional guidance, especially given that new reporting requirements are now in place. FANTA, MEA and FFP staff should develop a more systematic method for reviewing CSR4s to ensure completion and adequacy of key elements in PVO submissions so that future funding can proceed more rapidly. FANTA staff could also develop more detailed cookbooks on preparing the CSR4; this would help PVOs prepare more effectively and FFP to review more efficiently.

Technical Reviews

During this quarter, FANTA provided written reviews and participated in Washington-based review meetings for Title II Development Activity Proposals (DAPs) and for on-going CSR4. FANTA also reviewed Transition Activity Proposals (TAPs) and other relevant documents as follows:

TAPs

Region	Program	Country	PVO
Africa	Development Activity Proposal (DAP)	Guinea	Africare
		Senegal	Counterpart
Asia	Transitional Activity Proposal (TAP)	Indonesia	CRS
N/A	Commodity Reference Guide (MCHN Section)		SUSTAIN
N/A	Concept Paper for new activities	Ethiopia	CRS
		Ethiopia	CARE
		Peru	ADRA
		Peru	CARE
		Peru	CRS
		Peru	Prisma
		Peru	TNS
		Peru	Winrock
		Peru	WV

In addition, FANTA provided a comprehensive review of the Section two of the BHR-funded Commodity Reference Guide (CRG) before it is released in December 2000 for PVO and other comments. Section two is a technical “*How to*” guide for PVOs on the use of US-donated food aid commodities and includes five sections: Maternal Child Health and Nutrition, Food for Work, Food for Education, Non-Emergency Humanitarian assistance and Emergency. Section two will complement the first section already on the web that includes the list of commodities, fact sheets, storage specifications and controlling damage to food commodities. The Commodity Reference Guide can be found at http://www.usaid.gov/hum_response/crg

Emergency Programs (EP)

- FANTA continued working with a team at USAID in developing a compact ration bar for use in the early stages of an emergency. Based on outcomes from meetings with

USAID personnel and extensive communications with experts and field staff, a background paper has been developed and reviewed by the USAID team. Mike Golden was engaged to write a paper on the macro and micronutrient specifications for the ration bar. Meetings between USAID and the US military nutrition team will be an opportunity to share experiences and knowledge in developing compact rations.

- FANTA was part of the 1999 Annual Performance Report Team that received the Superior Unit Citation Award at the awards ceremony for outstanding performance.
- Prepared revised draft guidelines for Short-term Development Programs (previously called Transition programs)
- Reviewed Somalia Integrated Strategic Plan for REDSO staff.
- Reviewed and provided input on Sierra Leone M&E plan.
- Met with REDSO team to discuss Somalia Integrated Strategic Plan, specifically, the IR dealing with food aid and indicators. Provided explanation on nutrition indicator, and how this could be undertaken in the Somalia ISP. As they develop a performance monitoring plan, they would like to receive input from FANTA as part of virtual team. USAID/Nairobi may also ask for TDY via PPC.

Technical Support to Cooperating Sponsors (CSs) and USAID Missions

Food Aid Management (FAM) is a consortium of private voluntary organizations (PVOs) working to make Title II food aid more efficient and effective for improved food security. FANTA collaborates with FAM by providing technical assistance on key food security and nutrition issues identified by its members.

- FANTA staff presented three lectures on emergency and development reporting and information systems needs to 45 USAID and PVO managers at the annual Food Aid Managers' course. The discussion focused on food security, reporting requirements and technical challenges in monitoring and evaluation.
- FANTA staff provided comments on the "Review of Health and Nutrition Project Baseline Research Methods of Title II-funded PVOs" prepared for FAM. The author found FANTA's *Infant and Child Feeding Indicators Measurement Guide* to be "... concise and user-friendly, and is recommended reading for all PVOs implementing Title II HN projects." FANTA's draft Anthropometry Indicator Measurement Guide was also reviewed. The author found it to be "... comprehensive and appropriate for a technical audience. It may be too complex for field staff in some situations, but is an excellent resource for PVO managers."

- FANTA participated in the FAM M&E Working Group meeting at the FAM annual meetings. The M&E working group agreed on a work plan for FY 2001 that includes two components:
 - Compilation of monitoring tools, and
 - Workshop on the three monitoring tools prioritized by the FAM membership.

FANTA will support the first activity by participating in the development of the scope of work and reviewing drafts of the compilation. FANTA will provide financial and technical support for the monitoring tools workshop scheduled for late October 2001.

FAM/FANTA Data Analysis Workshop – A major focus of FANTA technical assistance is strengthening the results reporting of PVOs working with Title II programs. FANTA recently provided technical support for a data analysis workshop focusing on health and agriculture evaluation data for Title II PVOs. This workshop was a follow on to a workshop on sampling held in 1999. The workshop held in Nairobi was coordinated by Food Aid Management (FAM) and hosted by ADRA/Kenya. Twenty-seven participants attended from Ethiopia, The Gambia, Ghana, Kenya, Madagascar, Mozambique, Sudan and Uganda. The workshop was timely since most of the participants will be collecting and analyzing data from baseline surveys and evaluations during the next quarter.

Bureau of Humanitarian Response/Private and Voluntary Cooperation (BHR/PVC): FANTA provided comments on the Child Survival Technical Support Project (CSTS) nutrition guidance to PVOs implementing Child Survival activities. This review was conducted with the support from, and coordination with, BHR/PVC.

CARE/Honduras: FANTA provided a copy of the questionnaire for CARE Honduras' upcoming final evaluation and baseline survey to SHARE Guatemala. FANTA staff spent a week in Honduras working with CARE to refine and improve the instrument. CARE will share the results with PVOs in the region to help them in designing better questionnaires and encouraging greater consistency in the collection and reporting of indicators across programs.

CARE/India: FANTA was asked to participate via e-mail on the development of the next development activity proposal (DAP) and final evaluation review.

CRS/Burkina Faso: FANTA responded to a request for information on nutrient composition of Title II commodities for CRS to develop a proposal to address dietary needs of HIV/AIDS affected families.

CRS/Ghana: FANTA staff responded to a request from CRS Ghana on access indicator for microfinance programs.

CRS/India and Guatemala: FANTA met with CRS staff in charge of the proposal development process for seven countries, including India and Guatemala, to respond to questions on program design, M&E and FFP policy directions.

OICI/Guinea: FANTA provided preliminary guidance on development of final evaluation SOW for program, timeframe, key activities and team composition. FANTA will review revised SOW and provide comments to OICI, and will assist in identifying consultants for microfinance and agriculture components of program.

World Food Programme (WFP): FANTA met with a WFP representative to discuss FANTA activities on HIV/AIDS especially the use of food for mitigation. FANTA will collaborate with WFP in organizing sessions at the Nairobi ACC/SCN meeting in April 2001.

WFP/India: FANTA staff provided comments on the development of an M&E component for the WFP food security programming in three districts. This request complements the food security M&E issues included with USAID's partners, CARE and CRS.

In-Country- Activities

AFRICA

Ethiopia

- FANTA supported a second workshop on nutrition advocacy using PROFILES. This workshop was part of FANTA's efforts to develop a nutrition strategy with federal and regional government staff. The workshop provided training and information about advocacy to the development community in Ethiopia, including staff from the central and regional governments, the UN system, World Bank and other multilateral organizations.
- During this quarter, FANTA also organized a training session for Title II Cooperating Sponsors about community-based nutrition programs. The recommendations from this workshop were presented to top-level government officials, multilateral and bilateral development agencies and donors and USAID staff. Next steps include, follow up with regional governments on the implementation of the various recommendations by the PROFILES workshop participants and continued technical assistance to the Mission and its partners.
- FANTA staff also reviewed concept notes for future CARE and CRS programs and the Integrated Strategic Plan (ISP) for the USAID Mission, with emphasis on the Health, Nutrition and Population component.

Madagascar

- FANTA was requested by the USAID Mission to help revise their food security strategy. The strategy will look at programming options to improve food availability, access and utilization in the country, starting from the current programmatic lineup. A critical

element of the strategy will be the close integration of activities around the population/health/environment nexus.

In addition, FANTA is providing ongoing support to the Title II Cooperating Sponsors in Madagascar on program design, integration with other Mission-funded programs and monitoring and evaluation.

- During this quarter, FANTA staff worked on the Food Security Strategy draft document. The outline and the conceptual framework were presented at a donor meeting attended by representatives of multilateral and bilateral institutions. Another presentation will be held in the next quarter to discuss the final draft of the strategy. In addition, FANTA staff provided technical assistance on the T2CS M&E plans (CARE, CRS and ADRA).

LATIN AMERICA

Guatemala

- As part of USAID/Guatemala's efforts to strengthen MCHN practices in Title II programs, FANTA is providing technical assistance and assessing the behavior change components of the PVO maternal child health programs.
- FANTA staff provided comments to CRS/Guatemala on draft Log Frame/Strategic Objectives (SOs) and Intermediate Results (IRs) for the follow-on FY2002 proposal.
- FANTA staff conducted a workshop on strengthening MCHN Programs and met with CRS to provide additional guidance for improving the design of the MCHN component of their proposal.
- FANTA staff also participated in designing a framework for the health and nutrition component for CRS's proposed new food security program beginning FY 2002. Staff provided technical support to SHARE on designing its monitoring and evaluation component for health and nutrition. Facilitated a meeting between the four CS (ADEJUC/Save, CARE, CRS and SHARE) on better practices for Title II health and nutrition programs. Met and participated in a meeting with AGIL and the Title II CSs on the indicators and reporting requirements at the IR and SO level for USAID/Guatemala. Worked with URC's Calidad en Salud and the Title II CSs to organize a series of workshops on child feeding practices. Next steps include organizing a series of discussions/meetings with the Title II CSs, Proyecto AGIL, and USAID/G on monitoring and evaluation issues.

Honduras

- FANTA staff provided recommendations to CARE Honduras on sample size requirements for upcoming final evaluation and the new baseline. FANTA recommended keeping the number of households per cluster constant to maintain the design effect and to implement the survey as simple as possible. The sample weights

CARE will need to use when analyzing the data from the total sample were also provided.

- FANTA worked with CARE and the local firm ADAI to conduct the fieldwork, data entry and basic analysis for the evaluation and baseline survey.

INTERMEDIATE RESULT NO. 2

USAID, HOST COUNTRY GOVERNMENTS, AND COOPERATING SPONSORS ESTABLISH IMPROVED, INTEGRATED NUTRITION AND FOOD SECURITY-RELATED STRATEGIES AND POLICIES

Support G/PHN and USAID Initiatives

- **Program Impact:** FANTA met with staff from the World Food Programme (WFP) Evaluation Unit/Rome on possible collaboration in developing guides and tools for WFP to report on program impact. WFP is looking to FANTA for technical support, an agreement was reached to assist WFP via e-mail including comments on the scopes of work.

- **Maternal Health and Nutrition:** FANTA staff attended the G/PHN retreat on SSO2-increased use of key maternal health and nutrition interventions. Approximately 80 participants from USAID Offices and Bureaus and about 30 CAs attended the two-day event. The focus of the retreat was on connecting women with services. There were also presentations on hot topics in maternal health: HIV/AIDS; Maternal Health and Maternal Health Services; Malaria and Maternal Survival; Vital Role of nutrition and micronutrients in Maternal Survival; and Seeking Neonatal Survival through Maternal Health and Maternal Health Services. Several themes emerged that have particular relevance for FANTA:
 1. The importance of providing strategic planning support to Missions on women's health and nutrition, using a health system approach and stressing the integration of activities at different levels and with different resources.
 2. The utility of a new approach to integrate women's health and nutrition considerations in activities in other sectors. One suggestion was to build on the current agriculture-nutrition work focusing on the impacts on women's time allocation.
 3. The importance of situational/operational analyses to define priority needs and foci for addressing women's health and nutrition.
 4. The need to improve advocacy for women's health and nutrition. Two mechanisms are suggested: a) Support development of statistical model that will predict the impacts on maternal mortality of improvements in intermediate indicators such as births with a trained attendant, family planning coverage; and b) Develop a women's health and nutrition module for PROFILES.

- **Vitamin A Status:** FANTA is supporting a study on Vitamin A deficiency among breastfeeding women in Haiti. Due to the high requirements of Vitamin A during pregnancy and breastfeeding, women are at high risk of Vitamin A deficiency. Currently, there are no data on Vitamin A deficiency among women in Haiti. This study will establish the Vitamin A status of women in Port-au-Prince and will establish cutoff values. Food frequency findings will be used to plan nutrition programs to improve women's Vitamin A status. The findings will be shared with USAID partners in Haiti. The findings will also be presented at the IVACG meeting in Hanoi, Vietnam, in February of 2001.

- **Food for Education:** FANTA attended a Food for Education meeting facilitated by USAID/AFR/SD with participants from USAID, USDA, the World Bank, WFP, UNICEF, CRS, and CARE. The meeting focused on: sharing common observations and experiences about best practices and lessons learned in the design and implementation of school feeding (food for education) programs, especially in Africa; and identifying ways food can benefit the education and learning of children.

Based on recommendations from the group, AFR/SD proposed more sharing of information and additional meetings of the group. CRS suggested using FANTA's forthcoming FFE guide as the basis for the next discussion. The guide will be an important tool for the development community in using available resources to improve education and learning.

- **Women's Nutrition:** FANTA attended a presentation about the REDUCE model. The REDUCE model is an advocacy tool to examine women's health and survival much along the lines of RAPID or PROFILES methodologies. The presentation included an analysis of the implications of maternal mortality. The model has recently been tested in Uganda.
- **Sustainable Agriculture Seminar.** FANTA participated in the Sustainable Agriculture Seminar sponsored by FAM. This seminar focused on geographically referencing agricultural documents and data. FANTA staff will be the technical advisor of this activity.

Support USAID Missions and Regional Offices

- **Greater Horn of Africa Initiative (GHAI):** During this quarter, FANTA received comments from REDSO on the proposed information and networking activities on nutrition HIV/AIDS and strengthening regional capacity on these issues.

During this quarter, FANTA staff met with representatives from the Center for African Family Studies (CAFS) and the Commonwealth Regional Health Secretariat about possible collaboration. Discussions were held with AED's Linkages Project about working together on this initiative and building on their work with nutrition coalitions in the region.

INTERMEDIATE RESULT NO. 3
BEST PRACTICES AND ACCEPTABLE STANDARDS IN NUTRITION AND FOOD SECURITY-RELATED POLICY AND PROGRAMMING ADOPTED BY USAID, COOPERATING SPONSORS, AND OTHER KEY STAKEHOLDERS

Title II Indicators and Best Practices Guides

Infant and Child Feeding Indicators

- The Knowledge, Practice and Coverage Survey (KPC) is used by PVOs implementing child survival and food security programs and is the basis for many of the baseline surveys used by PVOs to evaluate the impact of maternal and child health and nutrition (MCHN) programs throughout the world. Not only is the KPC used to examine results of MCHN activities, it is adapted by the PVO to provide an understanding of the local health and nutrition situation and to motivate action to address the key problems.

The most recent revision of the KPC (KPC 2000) includes a module on infant and child feeding. FANTA has been collaborating with the Child Survival Technical Support (CSTS) Project and PVOs working on child survival activities to help reach a consensus on the definition of an appropriate infant and child feeding indicator and a method for analyzing and presenting KPC 2000 data. In order to obtain expert input on indicator criteria, FANTA hosted a meeting with USAID, CSTS, CORE, MACRO/DHS, Linkages, MOST, BASICS, SARA, Johns Hopkins University and IFPRI.

The meeting resulted in a consensus on the age-specific recommendations for two of the components of an indicator of appropriate feeding: continued breastfeeding and the appropriate frequency of feeding semi-solid and solid foods. Other indicator components, mainly to do with the quality and diversity of the diet, need further clarification. Once a consensus is reached, the recommendations will be shared among the stakeholders and a decision made on how this important indicator should be reported. A meeting summary can be requested via e-mail at fanta@aed.org.

Commodity Reference Guide

- FANTA assisted in the revision and updating of the Commodity Reference Guide. This guide is available on the USAID website (www.usaid.gov) and contains programming information on the design, size determination and type of commodity for different Title II development and emergency programming.

Food for Education Indicators Guide

- The latest draft of the Food for Education Indicators Guide was prepared and circulated to the working group for additional comments.

Measuring Caring Behavior

This research project will analyze data collected by IFPRI in Ghana. The analysis will measure the importance of care for nutritional status; identify constraints to good care practices in this setting; and highlight practices that could improve nutrition education and behavior change interventions.

Agriculture/Consumption Linkages

Improving the Nutrition Impacts of Agricultural Interventions Brief

- A policy brief was developed with recommendations for improving consumption and nutrition impacts of agricultural interventions. The document uses a cross-sectoral approach to understand program and policy options and emphasizes opportunities for strengthening the complementarity between agriculture, health and nutrition program areas. It is based on the findings of a more detailed background paper produced for USAID's Office of Sustainable Development, Agriculture Division within the Africa Bureau. The primary audience for the brief is USAID Agricultural and Health Officers.

FANTA staff presented the brief at the International Food and Nutrition Conference at Tuskegee University. At the conference, FANTA staff also participated in the Food Security and Nutrition thematic group to develop an action plan that emphasizes small-scale food processing and improved storage, research and development of local foods and greater recognition of micronutrient deficiencies. The thematic group stressed the importance of government commitment to reducing malnutrition and suggested that countries adopt national, regional, and household food security strategies.

The brief was also distributed to the USAID Agricultural Officers meeting in Nairobi in November. Agricultural Officers were asked for their feedback on the brief and asked to share any examples of applications of the recommendations. Having this material in hand should help PVOs that are currently developing proposals for new agriculture development programs and want to include nutrition component.

Household Food Security Measurement Tool (HFSMT)

These field studies are a collaborative effort between Africare and FANTA and Cornell University on food security issues in West Africa. The project is developing a measure of the access component of household food security in Burkina Faso. The measure is based on an in-depth analysis of food insecurity at the household level. The project will contribute to the development of a generic protocol to guide similar research in other countries.

- Cornell University prepared a literature review looking at the cultural context of food security among the Mosse ethnic group in Burkina Faso. The qualitative questions for the field validation of the HFSMT were also developed. Both documents were reviewed by staff at Africare and FANTA.

Food Aid and Food Security Assessment (FAFSA)

The USAID Office of Food for Peace (FFP) asked FANTA to assess the success of Title II non-emergency PVO activities in achieving and reporting on the food security goals of the USAID's 1995 Food Aid and Food Security paper. Promising practices for future activities will be identified. The results will help inform program operational guidelines and negotiations and the discussions for the new Farm Bill in 2001. (The Farm Bill is the governing legislation for PL480 Title II food aid.)

The following activities were undertaken by FANTA during this quarter:

- FANTA met with the USAID Advisory Group about the scope of work and the country selection. The countries include Bolivia, Mozambique, Ghana (agriculture) and Benin (health/nutrition). Additionally, USAID approved the two external advisors and the agronomist position identified by FANTA. Discussions were held with USDA to clarify the scope of work of USDA's monetization study.
- FANTA compiled tables of PVO, Title II and Mission status with regard to financial size, sector composition and extent monetized. The tables will be used in selecting focus countries for the FAFSA activity. PVO documents (DAPs, R2s, and midterms) were also compiled.
- The scopes of work for each team member were also developed. The team agronomist traveled to Washington, DC to interview PVOs (WVI, ACDI/VOCA, CRS, Save the Children, and FHI) and USAID staff.
- The first of several group discussions with the PVO community was held. The topic was local environment and the impact on the performance of Title II activities. The PVO representatives responded positively and expressed interest in further interaction. The team also began their interviews with USAID staff.
- Contacted with the Monetization Technical Support Unit in South Africa. The staff is interested in meeting with the FAFSA team in early 2001.

Credit with Education (CWE)

- FANTA is collaborating with Freedom From Hunger (FFH) on possible ways CWE could be integrated in Title II development programs. Under this collaborative agreement, FFH prepared a draft: "The Care for Credit with Education: A Promising Title II Microfinance Strategy for Cost-Effective and Sustainable Impact on Chronic Food Insecurity and Malnutrition".

As part of this effort, FFH staff presented a overview of the CWE approach and its applicability to Title II development programs at the FANTA/FAM TAG meeting in November. The presentation highlighted the approach, experiences, health and nutrition

impacts and some of the data from Madagascar. The different types of institutions they work, including Title II development programs, were discussed. FFH concluded that CWE can be successfully combined with Title II resources if consideration is given to a number of issues including selecting partners, staff training, mediating between social and business objectives, obtaining external technical support and complementing Title II funding with private funds.

The paper will be published during the next quarter.

- FANTA staff provided detailed comments on the proposals submitted by FFH for the development of monitoring and evaluation tools. A meeting has been scheduled for next quarter to refine the proposed activities, deliverables and budget. These proposals will be reflected in FANTA 2000-2001 workplan.

Training/Workshops

- **FAM/FANTA Data Analysis Workshop** – A major focus of FANTA technical assistance is strengthening the results reporting of PVOs working with Title II programs. FANTA recently provided technical support for a data analysis workshop focusing on health and agriculture evaluation data for Title II PVOs. This workshop was a follow on to a workshop on sampling held in 1999. The workshop was held in November in Nairobi and was coordinated by Food Aid Management (FAM) and hosted by ADRA/Kenya. Twenty-seven participants attended from Ethiopia, The Gambia, Ghana, Kenya, Madagascar, Mozambique, Sudan and Uganda. The workshop was timely since most of the participants will be collecting and analyzing data from baseline surveys and evaluations during the next quarter. The trainers gave a pre- and post-test to the participants.
- FANTA staff gave a lecture on dietary data collection techniques to 15 graduate students at the Tufts University School of Nutrition Science and Policy.

HIV/AIDS

- FANTA staff met with WFP (and BHR and Global) on FANTA and WFP's interest in collaborating on mitigation assessments and development of promising practices. WFP and IFPRI will present their approach at the ACC/SCN meeting in April 2001 and include some country case studies (Zambia, Cambodia and Uganda). WFP will do a problem analysis and assess the role of food in mitigating the impact of HIV/AIDS. WFP is especially interested in women as a target for food.

FANTA staff traveled to Malawi and Zimbabwe to work with CRS, Save the Children and other AIDS Service Organizations on field testing the guide for nutritional care and support for people living with AIDS. During this visit, information was gathered on foods; feeding and care practices for persons living with HIV/AIDS, including children; selecting households for food distribution programs; and traditional therapies for

persons with AIDS-related symptoms. The next steps will be to incorporate field comments and disseminate the guide for external review.

In addition, FANTA examined current field activities for monitoring and evaluation LIFE supported activities and looked at other program opportunities for mitigating the impact of HIV/AIDS through home-based care and income generating activities. FANTA staff also met with USAID mission staff in Uganda and Malawi to discuss potential areas for FANTA support. These areas include integrating nutrition across the Uganda Mission's food security portfolio and improving linking of SOs to increase rural incomes and behaviors adopted to reduce fertility and HIV/AIDS and improve child health through food security interventions in Malawi.

- Attended an HIV/AIDS meeting on vulnerable children and orphans hosted by USAID HIV AIDS division and reported on FANTA activities in mitigation, care and support and M&E development. Learned about the Agency's activities including the work on M&E formats for the LIFE Initiative. Met and discussed the M&E plan for CRS Malawi and provided CRS with some recommendations.

Information and Dissemination

- As follow-up to the West Africa monitoring and evaluation workshop in June 2000, a series of questions and answers were prepared. The information is based on questions and feedback from the workshop participants. This document will be translated and shared with the workshop participants and will also be available on the FANTA website (www.fantaproject.org).
- Materials for the Data Analysis Workshop were prepared including production of forty binders. Further details about the workshop are provided under IR1, page 13.
- Prepared an article on FANTA activities for AED Program Highlights on the Data Analysis Workshop and the assessment of food aid for USAID.
- FANTA contributes articles for each issue of Food Aid Management's Food Forum. The latest article covered recent work with partners on the development of child feeding indicators.
- Convened FANTA/FAM Technical Advisory Group and updated members on FANTA activities. Freedom from Hunger provided an overview of the work they have undertaken for FANTA on applying credit with education in Title II programs.
- FANTA staff presented a policy brief linking agriculture and nutrition at an international food security conference at Tuskegee University. The brief was also shared at a meeting of USAID agriculture officers in Nairobi.
- FANTA staff met with potential partners on the GHAI networking project, including Center for African Family Studies (CAFS) and the Commonwealth Regional Health

Secretariat (CRCHS). In addition, staff met with other AED nutrition projects (LINKAGES and SARA) about leveraging resources on networking activities.

- Participated in planning sessions for the upcoming BHR conference "New Technologies for Disaster and Development Conference".
- During this quarter FANTA staff responded to 30 information requests. There were 37 names/organizations added to the mailing list and 41 new publications were added to the reference database. In addition, 544 FANTA publications were distributed.
- The FANTA Website user statistics for this quarter are:
 - Visitor sessions: 3,405
 - Page views: 25,421
 - Unique/distinct visitors: 1,605
 - Average visitor time: 12:22 (min)
 - Quantity of data downloaded: 1,754,838 (kbytes transferred)