

## **SARA II QUARTERLY PROGRESS REPORT**

**April 1 – June 30, 2001**

This report covers the third quarter of FY 2001, namely, the period April 1 – June 30, 2001. It follows the SARA FY 01 work plan for the period October 1, 2000 – September 30, 2001.

SARA II is a service project. As such, it is responsive to the Africa region's needs, and USAID and REDSO requests channeled through AFR/SD/HRD, so additional activities may gain priority from time to time as discussed in the Work Plan.

Activities as found in the work plan are listed in bold.

**SO 18: Adopt policies and strategies for increased sustainability, efficiency and equity of basic education services**

- 1. Assist the AFR/SD/HRD SO 18 team**
  - **Participate in SO 18 core team meetings;**
  - **Assist in the implementation of the analytic agenda;**
  - **Assist team in R4 and R4 wrap-up;**
  - **Assist team with dissemination and advocacy strategies.**

***Expected Outputs:***

- Weekly team meetings attended
- 2 analytic agenda items vetted and implementation begun
- Countries R4 reviews reviewed
- R4 wrap-up developed, formatted

***Progress toward outputs, problems encountered, proposed solutions:***

Dr. Yolande Miller-Grandvaux, SARA Basic Education Advisor, attended weekly team meetings. She also reviewed country programs for several countries, assisted in AFR/SD/ED R4 reporting and reported at the Mali R4 review.

Implementation of the analytic agenda is on-going with a study on the new role of NGOs in basic education in Africa in progress.

## **2. Support ERNWACA in the areas of;**

- **Research**
  - **Finalize translations of transnational research and produce synthesis of findings**
  - **Publish transnational research: Ghana, Cote-d'Ivoire, Mali, Togo, Cameroon, Benin, The Gambia**
  - **Support participation of 2 ERNWACA researchers at the HIV/AIDS and education conference in Ghana**
- **Advocacy and dissemination:**
  - **Disseminate transnational reports;**
  - **Present and disseminate transnational research findings;**
- **Leadership**
  - **Recruit and support regional ERNWACA Coordinator**
  - **Develop fundraising capacity for leadership, advocacy and research**
  - **Assist in establishing board of directors**
  - **Assist in establishing scientific committee.**

### ***Expected Outputs:***

- Syntheses and reports edited and translated
- Research studies produced and disseminated
- Findings presented at HIV/AIDS and education conference and made available to policy-makers and researchers
- Information disseminated to ed. networks and universities
- Coordinator recruited
- Funds raised by chapters
- Additional donors mobilized
- Scientific committee in place
- Bd. Of Directors in place

### ***Progress toward outputs, problems encountered, proposed solutions:***

Transnational research reports by ERNWACA are currently being laid out for publication.

The recruitment process for a regional coordinator for ERNWACA ended in the selection of 4 candidates who were interviewed in Bamako by Yolande Miller-Grandvaux, Joseph Coblentz, the SARA Operations Manager, an IDRC representative and 3 national ERNWACA coordinators. Negotiations with the selected coordinator are still on going for final hiring. Once the coordinator is in place, institutional capacity building issues will be addressed.

**3. Support ADEA working group**

- **Participate in ADEA teacher working group meetings**

***Expected Outputs:***

- Report on proceedings

***Progress toward outputs, problems encountered, proposed solutions:***

No activity this quarter.

**4. Promote knowledge and guidance of priority issues in research and analysis and professional settings:**

- **Participate in CIES, NGO conferences, etc.**
- **Support presentation of papers by African researchers, esp. findings of transnational studies at CIES and other venues**

***Expected Outputs:***

- Contacts established

***Progress toward outputs, problems encountered, proposed solutions:***

Yolande Miller-Grandvaux participated in the Africa Liaison Initiative Tripartite meeting with NGOs as part of the partnership strategy promoted by AFR/SD/ED.

She also assisted AFR/SD/ED in updating its knowledge base and position regarding countries in crisis and conflict prevention. Discussions were held and options identified.

**5. Provide knowledge and guidance on role and responsibilities of NGOs in education as part of the SD/Ed Analytic Agenda**

- **Conduct research in selected countries on the new NGO role in basic education**
- **Disseminate to missions, policy-makers, NGOs**
- **Prepare for consultative meeting and participation in other discussion for a.**

***Expected Outputs:***

- Research/issue identification papers and customized packages produced
- Findings disseminated

***Progress toward outputs, problems encountered, proposed solutions:***

The research study was launched in Mali in April. The data collection process took place. An advisory board was created with education stakeholders, donor representatives, education officials and NGOs to monitor and guide the study. The study was also started in Guinea and a local researcher was recruited to carry out the data collection. Preparations were made for the Guinea advisory board meeting in June.

- 6. Strengthen networks' organizational capacity in advocacy, fund raising and proposal development**
- **Conduct research in selected countries on the new NGO role in basic education through small grants**
  - **Disseminate to missions, policy-makers, NGOs**
  - **Prepare for consultative meeting**

***Expected Outputs:***

- FAWE, ERNESA and ERNWACA trained
- 2 or 3 countries model advocacy and fund raising activities
- 2 or 3 countries apply for grants

***Progress toward outputs, problems encountered, proposed solutions:***

No activity undertaken pending the arrival of the regional coordinator for ERNWACA, who is expected to provide leadership in this area.

- 7. Provide knowledge and guidance on mitigation of teacher management issues (absenteeism, attrition, etc.) due to HIV/AIDS, as part of the analytic agenda**

***Expected Outputs:***

- Synthesis of information, data and practices
- Dissemination plan produced
- Findings disseminated

***Progress toward outputs, problems encountered, proposed solutions:***

No activity this quarter. However, a study on life skills in the context of HIV/AIDS is currently being developed in collaboration with AFR/SD/ED, SARA and ACI in Dakar, and research will be conducted during the next quarter.

- 8. Gather resources and knowledge on youth and work force development**
- **Contact and visit work force development agencies**
  - **Collect information**

***Expected Outputs:***

- Meetings convened
- Briefs/memos on work force development findings related to basic education and SD objectives as appropriate.

***Progress toward outputs, problems encountered, proposed solutions:***

No activity this quarter.

**9. Assist AFR/SD/HRD in providing backstopping to Mali USAID mission:**

- **Follow-up education policy agenda**
- **Provide TA when needed**
- **Monitor activities and assist in developing strategies on a regular basis.**

***Expected Outputs:***

- Education policy strategy updated and monitored
- TA provided.

***Progress toward outputs, problems encountered, proposed solutions:***

On-going communication conducted. Assistance was provided in the development of the R4 and the country strategic plan for education in Mali.

**10. Assist AFR/SD/HRD in providing backstopping to Benin USAID mission:**

- **Assist in development of education portfolio**
- **Provide TA when needed**
- **Monitor activities on a regular basis.**

***Expected Outputs:***

- Education portfolio updated and monitored

***Progress toward outputs, problems encountered, proposed solutions:***

Review of Benin R4 conducted.

**11. Explore development of relationships with other African networks for the promotion of SD priority issues**

***Expected Outputs:***

- Visits to, contacts with ERNESA, FAWE, BOLESWA, OSSREA, completed or established

***Progress toward outputs, problems encountered, proposed solutions:***

No activity this quarter.

**12. Disseminate knowledge and guidance on policies and practices**

- **Develop and present papers at international education conferences: CIES**
- **Attend professional conferences and workshops**

***Expected Outputs:***

- Papers accepted and presented
- Information packets shared

***Progress toward outputs, problems encountered, proposed solutions:***

A literature review and inventory of community schools in Africa is underway following the panel organized and moderated by Yolande Miller-Grandvaux at the CIES conference in March 2001.

**SO 19: Adoption of policies and strategies for increased sustainability, quality, efficiency and equity of health services**

Technical Area: **Household and Community Approaches to Child Health**

**1. Dissemination and use of JHU description of qualitative research manuals (French version)**

***Expected Outputs:***

- Manual used by research institutions/projects/individuals in Francophone Africa

***Progress toward outputs, problems encountered, proposed solutions:***

The final French version is being proofread and formatted and will be published next quarter.

**2. Assistance to CERPOD and LSHTM for development of qualitative research capacity building in W. Africa and sustainability**

***Expected Outputs:***

- Technical assistance provided

***Progress toward outputs, problems encountered, proposed solutions:***

Steady progress is being made in planning this activity. Next quarter, it is expected that a draft curriculum will be ready, and planning for the first training will be finalized.

**3. Facilitate the design and implementation of consultant training for household/community IMCI**

***Expected Outputs:***

- TA for module development / revision
- Support for facilitation and / or participation in orientation meeting

***Progress toward outputs, problems encountered, proposed solutions:***

First draft of the manual has been developed and circulated for comments. SARA is in contact with WHO/AFRO, WHO/Geneva and BASICS to continue the development and field testing of the manual.

**4. Promote coordination between IMCI and Malaria (see malaria work plan)**

***Expected Outputs:***

- Participation in key meetings
- Linkages established

***Progress toward outputs, problems encountered, proposed solutions:***

SARA is collaborating with the CHANGE Project and RPM+ in developing and testing a tool to assess and improve availability and use of child survival and malaria essential drugs at the community level.

**5. Follow up with CHANGE on behavior change for household and community programs**

***Expected Outputs:***

- SARA input into CHANGE research and dissemination

***Progress toward outputs, problems encountered, proposed solutions:***

No activity this quarter.

**6. Facilitate improvements in IEC/community approach training in West Africa**

***Expected Outputs:***

- African institutions curriculum (IRSP, Public Health Schools, etc.) improved

***Progress toward outputs, problems encountered, proposed solutions:***

No activity this quarter.

**7. Promote appropriate costing of household and community programs**

***Expected Outputs:***

- Existing tools tested and used in Africa

***Progress toward outputs, problems encountered, proposed solutions:***

No activity this quarter.

**8. Identify and promote effective strategies to improve access of community to essential drugs.**

*Expected Outputs:*

- Strategy developed with RPM, BASICS and WHO/AFRO

*Progress toward outputs, problems encountered, proposed solutions:*

SARA has contributed to the development of a work plan for developing and testing a tool to promote the assessment and improvement of the availability of essential child survival drugs at community level. The tool will have two modules, one at the household level and another at drug selling outlets. It will be developed in collaboration with the RPM+ project.

**9. Conduct literature review and analysis on health care seeking for sick children in Africa.**

*Expected Outputs:*

- Paper on health care seeking behavior for childhood diarrhea, ARI & malaria developed

*Progress toward outputs, problems encountered, proposed solutions:*

Dr. Youssef Tawfik, SARA Senior Child Survival Advisor, assisted the IMCI national program in Uganda in conducting a situation analysis for health care seeking with respect to childhood illness. Results will be used to develop a strategy to improve the use of private practitioners for child health in the context of current data on care-seeking behavior.

**10. Participate in IAWG on household and community IMCI**

*Expected Outputs:*

- AFR/SD/HRD priorities promoted
- AFR/SD/HRD feedback provided on issues

*Progress toward outputs, problems encountered, proposed solutions:*

The SARA Project has followed up on three IAWG recommendations from the last meeting: 1) *developing a power point advocacy presentation for community child health programs* - A draft of the presentation was prepared and circulated for comments. A second draft has since been prepared; 2) *developing a training package for building the capacity of regional consultants in community IMCI* - A first draft has been prepared; 3) *developing terms of reference and participating in the joint DFID-USAID review of IMCI in Africa* – the terms of reference were developed and the review is scheduled for the next quarter.

**11. Support advocacy strategies on community programs, e.g., Community Child Health Secretariat Development.**

***Expected Outputs:***

- Technical assistance as required.

***Progress toward outputs, problems encountered, proposed solutions:***

SARA has developed a draft power point presentation to advocate for support to community child health activities. The presentation has been circulated for comments and a second draft has been prepared accordingly.

**12. Participate in WHO/AFRO, UNICEF, and/or BASICS meetings in Africa on household and community IMCI**

***Expected Outputs:***

- Trip reports submitted
- AFR/SD/HRD priorities promoted
- AFR/SD/HRD feedback provided on issues

***Progress toward outputs, problems encountered, proposed solutions:***

SARA has prepared for the joint DfID –USAID review of IMCI with WHO and UNICEF participation. The review will take place in August and September 2001 and is expected to describe the status of IMCI implementation and impact in Africa to date. Recommendations will guide DfID and USAID future contributions to IMCI.

### **13. Assist AFR/SD/HRD with issues identification, portfolio management, and evaluation**

#### ***Expected Outputs:***

- Core Group meetings organized
- M & E system functioning
- Technical Areas updated

#### ***Progress toward outputs, problems encountered, proposed solutions:***

Dr. Suzanne Prysor-Jones, SARA Project Director, and Youssef Tawfik have worked with AFR/SD/HRD to establish a schedule of regular weekly meetings for portfolio management. Holly Dempsey of AFR/SD/HRD will keep a file in which SARA will place meeting agendas and documents.

In addition, SARA identified a Francophone communications specialist to participate in the inter-agency IMCI evaluation team in August-September. The specialist, Clara Olaya, will be able to join the team after some preliminary discussions in Washington.

**SO 19: Adoption of policies and strategies for increased sustainability, quality, efficiency and equity of health services**

**Technical Area: Provider Performance**

**1. Facilitate the dissemination and use of QI tools and methods for child health in Africa:**

- COPE for child health and other
- QA for IMCI

***Expected Outputs:***

- Evaluation results reviewed and strategies for scaling up developed in coordination with AFRO UNICEF, BASICS, REDSO
- Strategies developed in coordination with URC, BASICS, AFRO, REDSO

***Progress toward outputs, problems encountered, proposed solutions:***

The SARA project had discussions with the Uganda's IMCI program manager, Dr. Jesca Sabiiti, who expressed interest in testing the COPE model to improve IMCI supervision in Uganda. Discussions will continue during the next quarter to facilitate the field testing and documentation of Uganda's experience.

The SARA Project has advised the Quality Assurance Project (QAP) on how to expand and advocate the Bongoma District shopkeepers' intervention. BASICS will assist the QAP to implement the intervention in Uganda.

## **2. Document and disseminate synergy between QA & IMCI.**

### *Expected Outputs:*

- Revision of existing paper summarizing synergy developed in a selected country (Niger) with URC & BASICS.

### *Progress toward outputs, problems encountered, proposed solutions:*

The paper on “Evaluating Niger’s experience in strengthening supervision, improving availability of child survival drugs through cost recovery, and initiating training in IMCI” has been published in the BioMed Central Journal. The paper had been written in collaboration with the QAP and BASICS.

## **3. Participate in WHO meetings on IMCI components 1 and 2**

### *Expected Outputs:*

- Trip reports submitted
- AFR/SD/HRD priorities promoted
- AFR/SD/HRD feedback provided on AFRO issues

### *Progress toward outputs, problems encountered, proposed solutions:*

No activity this quarter.

## **4. Facilitate the development of a strategy to scale up IMCI, e.g., through the private sector**

### *Expected Outputs:*

- Strategies developed in coordination with BASICS, AFRO, CORE to track bilateral activities, test alternative training methodologies and promote resource mobilization
- Experience on IMCI expansion in Latin America and Africa summarized and synthesized in collaboration with BASICS.

### *Progress toward outputs, problems encountered, proposed solutions:*

SARA has hired consultant Ken Heise of Management Sciences for Health to assist in documenting Uganda’s experience in scaling up IMCI. The documentation will include Uganda’s experience in contracting IMCI training and experimenting with a shorter IMCI training course.

**5. Maximize the potential of private practitioners in child survival:**

- a. Conduct analysis of strategies to improve private practitioners practices in child survival**
- b. Review & document current programs attempting to improve private practitioners practices in child survival**

*Expected Outputs:*

- Paper developed summarizing effective strategies to improve private practitioners practices in child survival
- Current programs to improve PP practices for management of child sickness reviewed, documented & disseminated in selected countries (e.g., Ghana, Uganda, Nigeria)

*Progress toward outputs, problems encountered, proposed solutions:*

The paper on “Utilizing the Potential of Formal and Informal Private Practitioners in Child Survival” has been completed and is ready for publication. It will promote and provide guidance for including private practitioners in child survival programs.

SARA is continuing the collaborative effort with the World Bank on involving the private sector in child survival. SARA has hired consultant Hugh Waters of the Johns Hopkins School of Public Health to develop an introduction paper describing the potential role of private sector in national child health programs.

**6. Facilitate the focusing of BASICS W. Africa attention on AFR/SD/HRD priorities, including:**

- **pre-service training**
- **improved in-service training**
- **supply systems**
- **problem-solving / supervision**

*Expected Outputs:*

- Participation in BASICS meetings
- Strategies developed and feedback to AFR/SD/HRD on issues received

*Progress toward outputs, problems encountered, proposed solutions:*

Suzanne Prysor-Jones has kept in contact with BASICS WARO, which is attempting to use QI tools in the IMCI follow-up visit process in Senegal. She also has assisted the WARO office to identify NGO networks in West Africa that may be able to play an increased role in child health and participate in the BASICS NGO workshop, now scheduled for October 2001 in Dakar.

## **7. Support advocacy for neonatal health in Africa**

### *Expected outputs:*

- Devt of advocacy model to reduce neonatal mortality
- Application of testing
- Application of neonatal advocacy model in conjunction with child health implementation partners

### *Progress toward outputs, problems encountered, proposed solutions:*

SAVE contributed \$30,800 to the development of the neonatal mortality advocacy model, called ALIVE. Consultant Dr. Elisabeth Sommerfelt finalized the first version of ALIVE, the neonatal mortality advocacy tool, in May. The SARA team made the first presentation to the interagency neonatal advocacy working group held in the SAVE/DC offices in mid-May. The presentation was well-received and suggested modifications of ALIVE are being implemented. Several agencies and projects have expressed interest in ALIVE, including UNICEF, BASICS and WHO headquarters in Geneva.

## **8. Assist AFR/SD/HRD with issues identification, portfolio management, and evaluation, including a review of USAID strategies and investments for child survival**

### *Expected Outputs:*

- Core group meetings organized
- M & E system functioning
- Technical areas updated
- Review document produced

### *Progress toward outputs, problems encountered, proposed solutions:*

Discussions this quarter have centered on the USAID-DfID evaluation, which is planned for August-September 2001.

**SO 19 :**        **Adoption of policies and strategies for increased sustainability, quality, efficiency and equity of health services.**

**Technical Area:**        **Malaria RP**

**1. M&E of the Joint WHO/AFRO and USAID support for malaria control programs in Africa**

*Expected Outputs:*

- TA provided by SARA staff and consultant

*Progress toward outputs, problems encountered, proposed solutions:*

Dr. Sambe Duale, SARA Senior Research Manager, joined USAID and WHO/AFRO colleagues for side meetings during the Global RBM Partners' Conference hosted by the World Bank, April 18-19, 2001.

**2. Production and dissemination of AFR/SD/HRD strategic framework for research, analysis and dissemination on malaria**

*Expected Outputs:*

- Strategic framework produced and disseminated

*Progress toward outputs, problems encountered, proposed solutions:*

No activity this quarter.

**3. Support for initiatives on the prevention of malaria in pregnancy in Africa**

*Expected Outputs:*

- Working group meetings held
- Advocacy briefs developed

*Progress toward outputs, problems encountered, proposed solutions:*

SARA staff provided technical and logistical support for the development of materials and presentations for a special session on malaria and pregnancy sponsored by AFR/SD/HRD and CDC during the Global Health Council Annual Conference, held May 30 - June1, 2001. The Malaria and Pregnancy Press Kit developed last quarter has been in great demand and many copies have been distributed this quarter.

**4. Joint planning and coordination of activities on priority areas such as IMCI, Malaria, IDS with other USAID projects and partners (e.g., BASICS, NetMark, CORE, UNICEF, CDC, WHO/AFRO, etc.)**

***Expected Outputs:***

- SARA staff & consultant involved in meetings, including IMCI/Malaria Task forces, and electronic exchanges with partners

***Progress toward outputs, problems encountered, proposed solutions:***

Dr. Duale joined the CORE Working Group on Malaria to plan a workshop on NGO support for malaria prevention and control in Africa. The workshop is to be held in Nairobi later this year.

**5. Support for the RBM Global partners' meeting jointly sponsored by USAID and World Bank**

***Expected Outputs:***

- Technical and logistic support provided

***Progress toward outputs, problems encountered, proposed solutions:***

SARA staff organized travel arrangements for 8 African participants from Nigeria, D.R. Congo, Uganda, Senegal, Tanzania and Ghana to attend the RBM Global Partners' Meeting, held April 18-19, 2001, here in Washington, DC.

**6. Consultative meeting on building capacity for vector control interventions for disease, especially malaria prevention in Africa**

***Expected Outputs:***

- Working group meeting organized
- Action plan developed and implemented, including plan for research mobilization

***Progress toward outputs, problems encountered, proposed solutions:***

Dr. Duale met with John Githure of ICIPE, Kenya and John Bieir of Tulane SPH&TM to discuss this activity as a follow-up to the WHO/AFRO Regional Consultation held in Harare in February. Dr. Githure was to contact Lucien Manga of WHO/AFRO to discuss how to move forward.

**SO 19 :** Adoption of policies and strategies for increased sustainability, quality, efficiency and equity of health services.

**Technical Area:** Infectious Diseases

**1. Technical support for the management of the AFR/SD/HRD technical area for infectious diseases**

***Expected Outputs:***

- Core team meetings held
- Portfolio reviews organized
- Peer reviews organized and expert advice provided

***Progress toward outputs, problems encountered, proposed solutions:***

Sambe Duale, Youssef Tawfik, Ms. Renuka Bery, SARA Dissemination and Advocacy Manager, &/or Ms. Antonia Wolff, SARA Dissemination Specialist, have attended AFR/SD/HRD ID Core Team meetings. SARA staff have also assisted AFR/SD/HRD colleagues in preparing a working group meeting to be held next quarter to develop new strategic directions for infectious diseases, especially malaria, in Africa.

**2. M&E of the joint WHO/AFRO and USAID support for integrated disease surveillance systems in Africa**

***Expected Outputs:***

- Technical assistance from SARA staff and consultant, including participation in USAID meetings with CDC and WHO on IDS

***Progress toward outputs, problems encountered, proposed solutions:***

Dr. Duale provided some input to colleagues at AFR/SD/HRD and WHO/AFRO for the preparation of the IDS Task Force held in May 2001 in Harare, Zimbabwe.

### **3. Pilot study of women access to TB control services in Africa**

#### ***Expected Outputs:***

- Study protocol and tools developed
- Expert review meeting organized
- Pilot study conducted in Tanzania
- Dissemination workshop organized

#### ***Progress toward outputs, problems encountered, proposed solutions:***

SARA supported the participation of Dr. Justin Nguma and Dr. Eliud Wandwalo in the Second Workshop on Gender and TB organized by the Nordic School of Public Health in Goteborg, Sweden. They used lessons learned from the workshop to finalize the protocol and tools for the pilot study on Women and TB in Tanzania. SARA has prepared a purchase order with HealthScope to fund the pilot study. It is expected that the pilot study will be initiated next quarter.

### **4. Production and dissemination of TB advocacy briefs and other documents requested by AFR/SD/HRD**

#### ***Expected Outputs:***

- Review materials developed, produced & disseminated

#### ***Progress toward outputs, problems encountered, proposed solutions:***

The protocol for the pilot study on women and TB finalized by the Tanzania team was shared with program managers for Kenya, Uganda and Zambia and also with other interested parties, such as WHO/AFRO, USAID and SOMA-Net.

### **5. Organize information sharing, including study tours, on the implementation of Community TB Care and Integrated Disease Surveillance (IDS) in African settings**

#### ***Expected Outputs:***

- Site visits, meetings and other information sharing activities planned and organized

#### ***Progress toward outputs, problems encountered, proposed solutions:***

No activity this quarter.

**SO 19: Adoption of policies and strategies for increased sustainability, quality, efficiency and equity of health services**

**Technical Area: Nutrition**

**1. Assist AFR/SD/HRD SO 19 team in managing the Nutrition technical area**

***Expected Outputs:***

- Core team meetings held
- SO 19 portfolio reviews conducted
- Performance monitoring plan drafted
- Peer reviews organized
- Expert advice provided

***Progress toward outputs, problems encountered, proposed solutions:***

The Nutrition Portfolio review was held in June. The meeting was not widely attended but it did offer an opportunity to reflect on progress. One recommendation to emerge from the meeting was the need for better communication between the Child Survival/Nutrition work and the Nutrition work being done under the Agriculture SO. The first point of follow-up will be to organize a second meeting for the Agriculture/Nutrition portfolio presentation. This will be held in July 2001.

A one-day consultation on MTCT was also organized this quarter for AFR/SD/HRD. The purpose of the meeting was to share information about the AFR/SD/HRD MTCT strategy and learn about what projects are doing in the field. It appears that there is growing interest in MTCT and several activities and projects engaged in this work. While the projects do appear to be following similar, comprehensive and integrated approaches, there may be some areas where messages are not consistent (e.g., on infant feeding issues) and other areas where USAID supported projects are duplicating efforts (e.g., modeling MTCT costs, benefits, etc.). Greater communication between organizations involved in MTCT programs is needed, perhaps through some type of MTCT task force or active working group. Constraints in the future are the human resources and effort that will be required to build capacity to introduce and expand programs, and to ensure that program costs, inputs and impact are monitored. Since MTCT is a relatively new field, there will also be future needs for operations research and there should be a forum for discussing MTCT OR priorities, designs, etc. Finally, the scientific knowledge base for MTCT is changing regularly. There must be a mechanism in place to track these new findings, disseminate them in a constructive way (so they enhance rather than confuse programs), and make recommendations for program adjustments, as appropriate. These conditions, again, argue for an active task force (multidisciplinary) on MTCT.

**2. Provide technical support to AFR Core Groups, G-PHN, and CA partners (e.g., MACRO, BASICS, LINKAGES, MOST) on nutrition issues in Africa**

***Expected Outputs:***

- Meetings attended
- Expert advice/input provided

***Progress toward outputs, problems encountered, proposed solutions:***

Technical support was provided, as noted above, to the Nutrition Core group for the organization of the Nutrition Portfolio review.

Technical assistance was provided to the FANTA project on the review of their modules on HIV/Nutrition, and also on the technical update agenda for the WAHO nutrition focal point meeting.

In addition, support was provided to the HIV/AIDS – MTCT Core Group for the organization of the MTCT consultative meeting. The Africa Bureau MTCT strategy was also updated based on the deliberations of this consultation.

**3. Provide technical support to African partner institutions for strategy development and planning related to nutrition policy/programming**

***Expected Outputs:***

- Meetings attended
- Expert advice/input provided

***Progress toward outputs, problems encountered, proposed solutions:***

Technical support was provided to the Commonwealth Regional Health Community Secretariat (CRHCS) to prepare a proposal for a regional meeting to update their nutrition strategy in light of HIV/AIDS issues.

In addition, support was provided to develop a work plan for implementation of the SOW under the SARA-CRHCS subcontract.

Two constraints exist with respect to these activities. CRHCS must identify additional donors to fund the proposed meeting. The meeting is tentatively planned for August 2001 and time is probably not sufficient to raise adequate funds to hold the meeting as planned. The solution will be for CRHCS to postpone the meeting until additional resources are located.

In addition, there have been delays in the final execution of the CRHCS sub-agreement. This delay has resulted in the postponement of some activities.

**4. Strengthen African partners' capacity for:**

- **nutrition policy analysis and advocacy**
- **information dissemination and sharing of better practices and lessons learned in nutrition**

*Expected Outputs:*

- Technical support provided
- Regional training organized
- Country advocacy strategies implemented
- Support provided for documentation of better practices

*Progress toward outputs, problems encountered, proposed solutions:*

AED has entered into an agreement with the WAHO, with funds provided from the World Bank, to organize the West Africa Nutrition Focal Points meeting. In addition, primarily through SANA, technical assistance has been provided to the international organizing committee to plan the meeting agenda and other technical aspects of the workshop. SANA will also provide WAHO with a meeting facilitator. No problems encountered to date.

**5. Review advocacy experience and future directions in Africa. Develop materials to facilitate and support nutrition advocacy activities (including West Africa Nutrition Briefs)**

*Expected Outputs:*

- English nutrition briefs updated and French/West Africa version developed
- Lessons learned paper written to tell story of PROFILES/Advocacy in Africa
  - Special bulletin or packet produced
  - Small document prepared.

*Progress toward outputs, problems encountered, proposed solutions:*

SARA participated in the internal evaluation of the impact of PROFILES-related nutrition policy analysis and advocacy in Africa. SARA assisted by conducting and analyzing key informant interviews, and assisting with the drafting of the evaluation report. This report will be completed in August 2001. The only constraint, to date, is the departure of the PROFILES Coordinator (to HKI/Mali). At present the team involved in writing up the evaluation findings only have limited experience with PROFILES applications and follow-up. The result is that the report is taking longer to complete than originally anticipated.

The nutrition and HIV/AIDS Nutrition Brief has been revised and will be adapted for West Africa. The brief will be available for the West Africa focal point meeting in Accra, Ghana, September 2000, as part of the package of documents for dissemination for the technical update

In addition, support was provided to CRHCS to develop a questionnaire to evaluate the use of the Nutrition Briefs within the East, Central and South African region. The evaluation is in progress and a report of the evaluation is expected to be completed in September 2001.

**6. Actively disseminate and ensure the use of existing nutrition tools, training packages, and related materials in pre-service and in-service training opportunities and NGO networks in Africa**

***Expected Outputs:***

- Materials disseminated at relevant meetings, workshops and conferences
- Meetings organized / attended to discuss the content / use of available tools

***Progress toward outputs, problems encountered, proposed solutions:***

SARA disseminated the paper on HIV/Nutrition at the ACC/SCN meeting symposium on HIV and nutrition.

SARA completed the repackaged version of the MTCT strategy this quarter. The electronic file was included in a CD-ROM on important articles on MTCT that will be distributed at the Global Strategies for the Prevention of MTCT meeting in Kampala, Uganda.

SARA also participated in a workshop at the University of Natal School of Medicine (with financial support from WHO) to discuss issues related to early breastfeeding cessation. A draft of the SARA paper with Ready to Learn on this subject was presented and discussed.

**7. Technical assistance on mother-to-child transmission, infant feeding options and nutrition provided to African partners and HIV/AIDS programs**

- **West Africa workshop on MTCT and HIV and infant feeding**

***Expected Outputs:***

- Technical support, expert advice provided
- Papers produced/published on findings
- Regional training workshop with technical update and dissemination of tools

***Progress toward outputs, problems encountered, proposed solutions:***

Technical assistance was provided to ZVITAMBO this quarter to analyze data on the impact of MTCT information on infant feeding, HIV testing and disclosure, and safer sex practices, as well as to analyze findings from the in-depth interviews on reasons why HIV positive women are choosing to breastfeed. Two abstracts were submitted and accepted for the Uganda Global Strategies meeting.

A paper on the findings from the ZVITAMBO counseling and education program's impact on mothers' knowledge was prepared and submitted to a peer-review journal. An abstract of these findings was accepted for presentation at the APHA meeting in October 2001.

Technical assistance was provided (with support from WHO) to the Africa Center, in Mtubatuba, South Africa for their study on exclusive breastfeeding and HIV transmission.

Technical assistance was provided to the ACC/SCN for their symposium on HIV/AIDS and nutrition in Africa. SARA acted as a rapporteur for the symposium and gave input into preparation of the symposium recommendations.

Feedback was given to the World Food Programme on the content and wording of their HIV and nutrition/food security fact sheets for staff.

**8. Field-test, finalize tools for:**

- **Monitoring and evaluating infant feeding practices in the context of MTCT research and programs**
- **Designing programs on nutrition and HIV/AIDS**

*Expected Outputs:*

- Feedback from field test sites obtained
- Guidelines produced (in collaboration with FANTA)

***Progress toward outputs, problems encountered, proposed solutions:***

The tool for measuring infant feeding in the context of MTCT was finalized by WHO this quarter. WHO will take responsibility for disseminating it widely.

A paper describing the tool was prepared by WHO/SARA for publication in the journal *Tools in Medicine*.

Technical assistance was given to FANTA to review the Nutrition/HIV guidelines. The final modules will be completed and disseminated in August 2001.

SARA has worked with the JPHIEGO Reproductive Health Training Program on the development of a CD-ROM tutorial program on HIV Care for Women. Two modules on nutrition issues have been drafted. These will be finalized next quarter. The target audience for the training program is health providers in East and Southern Africa.

SARA has been asked to give presentations on HIV and nutrition at the International Union of Nutritional Sciences meeting in Vienna in August, and at the WAHO focal point meeting in September.

**9. Develop tool and summary paper(s) on MTCT formative research methodology and findings**  
**- Conduct advocacy related to this approach to MTCT strategy selection and program design**

***Expected Outputs:***

- Lessons learned extracted
- Existing research instruments and experiences reviewed
- Tool and advocacy papers drafted, reviewed, finalized, disseminated
- Presentations on methodology/impact given

***Progress toward outputs, problems encountered, proposed solutions:***

Meetings were held with WHO/Geneva Child and Adolescent Health and MTCT units on collaboration to develop tools for counseling women on replacement feeding options. These tools would include the formative research methodology, as well as adapting the job aids already developed for use in the Zambia Exclusive Breastfeeding Study (based on the SARA paper on early breastfeeding cessation). A SOW for WHO/SARA collaboration on these activities will be formalized in July. A meeting is tentatively planned for September 2001 to discuss tool content.

The HIV and nutrition paper is currently being summarized and repackaged by the *Africa Health Journal*, and will be used as an 8-page editorial supplement in the July 2001 issue. This journal is disseminated to over 7000 health professionals across Africa.

**10. Finalize, translate and disseminate issues papers on:**

- **HIV and nutrition**
- **HIV and early weaning**
- **MTCT strategy**
- **Report to Congress on MTCT**

***Expected Outputs:***

- Issues papers finalized, translated and disseminated

***Progress toward outputs, problems encountered, proposed solutions:***

The French version of the HIV/Nutrition paper will be produced in July 2001.

Final edits were made to the early breastfeeding cessation paper and this will be produced in August 2001. The CTO letter to pay for production/dissemination has not yet been signed.

The MTCT strategy has been updated (USAID version) and produced (repackaged version). It will be broadly disseminated beginning next quarter.

The Report to Congress on MTCT was completed and disseminated. Unfortunately, SARA and AFR/SD/HRD's role in the production of this paper was not noted on the document (which was produced by Synergy Project).

## **11. Improve MTCT & nutrition training in Africa**

- **Review Curricula on Pre-Service Settings**
- **Review, finalize, disseminate training modules on MTCT for African institutions**

### ***Expected Outputs:***

- Chairpersons' workshop
- MTCT training guide

### ***Progress toward outputs, problems encountered, proposed solutions:***

Meetings were held with Larry Gelmon, RATN, to discuss how to move forward and accelerate training on MTCT issues in Africa. It was agreed that Larry would try to organize a meeting to discuss how this could be done with all the regional partners. This meeting was held in July 2000. Unfortunately, no one from SARA was able to attend.

**12. Continuous issues identification, information dissemination, and advocacy on issues of importance for nutrition in Africa (e.g., HIV/AIDS and nutrition; MTCT, women's nutrition, anemia and infectious diseases/malaria).**

*Expected Outputs:*

- Papers or tools disseminated
- Posters or oral presentations developed
- Consultative meetings organized
- Workshops/conferences with dissemination component attended

*Progress toward outputs, problems encountered, proposed solutions:*

A consultative meeting on MTCT was organized for USAID in June 2001.

No oral or poster presentations were given this quarter.

Other issues that may appear on the horizon for additional work include malaria and anemia, and malaria and micronutrients.

**13. Document impact of AFR/SD/HRD nutrition investments (e.g., capacity development through SARA/SANA; regional collaboration, etc.)**

*Expected Outputs:*

- Case studies and impact reviews completed
- Better practices disseminated
- SANA evaluation completed

*Progress toward outputs, problems encountered, proposed solutions:*

The SANA evaluation is ongoing. A draft report is due in July 2001.

**SO 19: Adoption of Policies and Strategies for Increased sustainability, Quality, Efficiency, and Equity of Health Services**

**Technical Area: Maternal Health/Essential Obstetrical Care (EOC)**

**1. Discuss and update strategy for EOC work in Francophone Africa**

***Expected Outputs:***

- Report produced
- Dissemination and advocacy (D&A) strategy developed for participating countries

***Progress toward outputs, problems encountered, proposed solutions:***

Little progress has been achieved on this activity yet, although isolated activities have been planned through JHPIEGO and REDUCE.

**2. In collaboration with partners, assist CEFOREP with advocacy in maternal health in the region**

***Expected Outputs:***

- Field test REDUCE in Senegal
- Introduce the model in the region on limited basis

***Progress toward outputs, problems encountered, proposed solutions:***

REDUCE tested in Senegal, and Senegal presentation given by CEFOREP to press corps at UNICEF Regional meeting of First Ladies on Maternal Mortality Reduction in May. CEFOREP has also presented REDUCE at a major UNFPA meeting and has entered into discussions with UNICEF/Chad on developing a country application. CEFOREP has also worked with USAID/Senegal's main RH Project (implemented by MSH and Futures) to develop a national dissemination plan.

### **3. Produce advocacy materials to maximize research results of EOC study in West Africa**

***Expected Outputs:***

- *Meres en Danger* booklet as an advocacy tool for EOC developed and disseminated
- Tool integrated into country plans

***Progress toward outputs, problems encountered, proposed solutions:***

Several drafts of the booklet (now renamed) reviewed by RH Advisor and final version currently being printed. A plan for disseminating findings and for continued advocacy is expected to be incorporated into a proposal CEFOREP will make by late summer.

### **4. Assist SAGO to monitor its EOC resolutions from 1998 and to input these into ongoing work**

***Expected Outputs:***

- Workshop on policy monitoring
- Report on progress made in implementing policy resolutions in member states

***Progress toward outputs, problems encountered, proposed solutions:***

No activity this quarter, with exception of ongoing discussions on developing a policy monitoring plan.

### **5. Participate in the expansion of REDUCE model**

***Expected Outputs:***

- 

***Progress toward outputs, problems encountered, proposed solutions:***

REDUCE application done in Senegal, plans ongoing for applications in Mozambique and Nigeria (largely funded by WHO). Job description detailing support needed to move REDUCE forward prepared, REDUCE presented at Global Health Council, and strategy for next steps developed. Presentations were also made at JHPIEGO, the World Bank and ACNM and to the RH Advisor to WHO/AFRO, whose one-day visit to AFR/SD/HRD was organized by the SARA Project.

**6. Develop a comprehensive dissemination strategy for results of 3-country EOC cost studies**

***Expected Outputs:***

- Dissemination plan developed
- Appropriate materials completed and disseminated

***Progress toward outputs, problems encountered, proposed solutions:***

In agreement with AFR/SD/HRD, this activity is no longer being pursued.

**7. Assist ACNM to reformat and disseminate its database on TBAs and to disseminate the findings of its meta-analysis;**

- **Organize consultative meeting in DC on role of TBAs in safe motherhood**

*Expected Outputs:*

- Database made available on CD-ROM
- Meta-analysis repackaged and disseminated
- Symposium held

*Progress toward outputs, problems encountered, proposed solutions:*

Scope of work for this activity developed and discussed, CTO Letter currently with AFR/SD/HRD for signature.

**8. Provide support to International Council of Midwives Africa Regional Conference to include session on malaria in pregnancy**

*Expected Outputs:*

- Participation by selected midwives and speakers at conference
- Advocacy materials shared at meeting

*Progress toward outputs, problems encountered, proposed solutions:*

A briefing kit on malaria and pregnancy was developed and produced in English and French. The kit is written in non-technical language intended for use by journalists and other non-medical persons interested in the subject. The kit was distributed at the Africa regional meeting of the International Council of Midwives and at UNICEF's Meeting of First Ladies in Bamako. Funding was provided for midwives and speakers as planned.

**9. Follow-up to MNH workshop by supporting dissemination and regional training on a curriculum and standards and guidelines for EOC clinical practice in West Africa**

*Expected Outputs:*

- Workshop held to establish norms and protocols based on those already available in draft

*Progress toward outputs, problems encountered, proposed solutions:*

Scope of work developed with JHPIEGO, the SARA sub-contractor that will work in partnership with SARA to implement this activity, and SOW agreed to by AFR/SD/HRD. Sub-contracting agreement has reached final stages.

**SO 20: Policies and strategies for increased sustainability and quality of reproductive health services adopted**

**Technical Area: None in particular – Related to overall SO**

**1. Assist AFR/SD/HRD SO 20 team with managing the RH technical areas**

***Expected Outputs:***

- Core team meetings held
- Technical areas completed and periodically updated
- R4 completed annually
- Technical advice provided

***Progress toward outputs, problems encountered, proposed solutions:***

This is an ongoing activity. The RH Core group meets regularly, and SARA provided significant support to the SO 20 team in organizing a portfolio review (reviewing and commenting on data collection tools, report drafts), assisting in answering mid-term review questions and drafting Congressional notifications, preparing "R4" drafts and power point presentations, etc.

**2. Conduct an SO 20 portfolio review of all or selected focus areas to re-examine strategic directions, mix of focus areas; best practices, and overall portfolio balance**

***Expected Outputs:***

- Review completed
- Findings discussed within and outside core group and posted on web
- Technical areas and work plans updated

***Progress toward outputs, problems encountered, proposed solutions:***

Portfolio review completed and finding incorporated into R4 process. Document will now be finalized, formatted and made available on RH publications list.

### **3. Assist AFR/SD/HRD with evaluating, tracking, and monitoring performance and results**

#### ***Expected Outputs:***

- Based on portfolio review and updated technical areas, revise indicators
- Simple data collection tables developed and applied

#### ***Progress toward outputs, problems encountered, proposed solutions:***

The portfolio review did not recommend major changes to the indicators. RH team assisted in the process of data collection table development, but others are leading the process within SARA. Caroline Blair, the SARA RH Advisor, has worked with the AFR/SD/HRD Program Assistant to develop a matrix on ongoing activities funded by AFR/SD/HRD.

### **4. Create stronger linkages with FHA and SFPS**

#### ***Expected Outputs:***

- At least two activities jointly organized or co-funded with SFPS (could include translation, repackaging of topical information, organization of meetings, etc.)

#### ***Progress toward outputs, problems encountered, proposed solutions:***

Discussions with SFPS continue on helping that project catalogue materials and tools developed during its first phase. A draft SOW is expected shortly. Antonia Wolff has worked with SFPS to develop a fact sheet on AFR/SD/HRD's contribution to SFPS. This fact sheet will be included in the RH briefing packet.

**SO 20: Policies and strategies for increased sustainability and quality of reproductive health services adopted**

**Technical Area: Male involvement (Addressing the reproductive health (RH) needs of underserved populations)**

**1. Assess the outcomes/results of the Male Involvement workshop in Francophone Africa with JHU/PCS, IPPF, AVSC, INTRAH, and SFPS**

***Expected Outputs:***

- Questionnaires collected, analyzed and summary report completed

***Progress toward outputs, problems encountered, proposed solutions:***

Activity completed. Since only 19 questionnaires were received, no formal report of the findings will be prepared, but indications of workshop outcomes included in R4 exercise for FY 99-00.

**2. Provide technical assistance and support to RESAR in the finalization and publication of a multi-country study on male involvement in RH**

***Expected Outputs:***

- Final study report prepared and repackaged
- Dissemination plan developed and implemented

***Progress toward outputs, problems encountered, proposed solutions:***

Draft reports received this quarter for Benin Togo, and Cameroon. They are currently being reviewed.

**3. Assess current program activities for males – participate on USAID IWG on male involvement, work with AVSC on finalizing and field testing male curriculum and define additional needs for dissemination and translation**

***Expected Outputs:***

- Male involvement curriculum translated, field-tested in both Anglophone and Francophone countries, and revised plans made for its use in different countries

***Progress toward outputs, problems encountered, proposed solutions:***

These activities are ongoing.

#### **4. Support AVSC to evaluate the Guinea male involvement program**

***Expected Outputs:***

- Report on pre- and post-test KAP study with control completed
- Lessons learned repackaged and disseminated

***Progress toward outputs, problems encountered, proposed solutions:***

This is ongoing.

**SO 20: Policies and strategies for increased sustainability and quality of reproductive health services adopted**

**Technical Area: Women's empowerment**

**1. Support the establishment of an East and South African women's media network hosted by S. African media org. in collaboration with the Freedom Forum and the S. Africa Department of Welfare**

*Expected Outputs:*

- One seminar completed
- Print articles and broadcast programs produced
- Changes in media strategies documented

*Progress toward outputs, problems encountered, proposed solutions:*

First planning mission and first workshop scheduled for the 4<sup>th</sup> quarter.

**2. Assist with documentation and dissemination of 3 case studies (Lessons learned) from Mali, Kenya and Nigeria**

*Expected Outputs:*

- Briefing sheets on these three studies produced and disseminated through RH briefing packet

*Progress toward outputs, problems encountered, proposed solutions:*

SARA gave guidance and recommendations for the final draft, and plans to assist in the electronic dissemination of the final publication.

**3. Support development of issues paper on emergency contraception**

*Expected Outputs:*

- Paper prepared in French and English
- Dissemination plan prepared and implemented

*Progress toward outputs, problems encountered, proposed solutions:*

This activity is expected to be included in the SOW for Advance Africa's allocation from AFR/SD/HRD. SARA will work with Advance to review paper.

#### **4. Explore possible support to documentation of lessons learned in FGC**

*Expected Outputs:*

- Lessons learned, advocacy and dissemination plans developed

*Progress toward outputs, problems encountered, proposed solutions:*

This activity is being done by PRB under the Measure Communication project. Document is being drafted and going through internal and external review.

#### **5. Provide support for FGC donors meeting and activities as requested**

*Expected Outputs:*

- Support provided

*Progress toward outputs, problems encountered, proposed solutions:*

This activity is ongoing. Antonia Wolff attended the meeting held this quarter and reported back to the core group.

**SO 20: Policies and strategies for increased sustainability and quality of reproductive health services adopted**

**Technical Area: Reproductive health policies / strategies promotion**

**1. Support CERPOD to update information on adolescent RH in the region by conducting an in-depth analysis of new DHS data from the region**

***Expected Outputs:***

- Up-to-date information provided on ARH in at least 4 CERPOD member countries where new DHS data is involved
- Wall chart or brochure presenting this new information in an accessible way produced

***Progress toward outputs, problems encountered, proposed solutions:***

Subcontract with CERPOD signed and first advance being processed. CERPOD staff will visit SARA in the 4<sup>th</sup> quarter and work plan will be finalized.

**2. Support CERPOD to design and conduct a course on qualitative research techniques targeted to RH professionals in Francophone Africa**

***Expected Outputs:***

- Curriculum, marketing plan for recruiting participants, training reports, including training evaluation produced

***Progress toward outputs, problems encountered, proposed solutions:***

This activity is being co-funded with the London School of Tropical Hygiene and is ongoing.

**3. Finalize and support a program of assistance for CRHCS**

***Expected Outputs:***

- Program of assistance finalized and initiated (will include compiling, analyzing and disseminating information on critical issues in RH, including safe motherhood and malaria in pregnancy, and the involvement of CRHCS in the expansion of the REDUCE model)

***Progress toward outputs, problems encountered, proposed solutions:***

Subcontract finalized and RH program due to start in the 4<sup>th</sup> quarter.

**4. Continue to support selected African institutions such as RESAR and link them with SFPS and other projects and organizations**

***Expected Outputs:***

- TBD

***Progress toward outputs, problems encountered, proposed solutions:***

Ongoing.

**5. Document lessons learned during phase I of FHA/SFPS**

***Expected Outputs:***

- Lessons learned documented in user-friendly manner

***Progress toward outputs, problems encountered, proposed solutions:***

Materials and tools developed will be catalogued. SARA working with SFPS to draw up scope of work and begin activity.

**6. PAC regional workshop to take stock of ongoing work and to assist West African countries to plan for PAC activities, including behavioral and community mobilization issues**

***Expected Outputs:***

- Workshop held in conjunction with SFPS and partners, including CEFOREP, SAGO, RESAR, CERPOD

***Progress toward outputs, problems encountered, proposed solutions:***

First meeting of PAC steering committee held in May, second one planned in September, with major regional conference being planned for February 2002. SARA working with CEFOREP to define its role, and support also being provided through JHPIEGO subcontract.

**SO 20: Policies and strategies for increased sustainability and quality of reproductive health services adopted**

**Technical Area: Effective Strategies for Integrating HIV/AIDS and FP**

**1. Support technical meetings of West African experts, program managers and policy-makers on topical and emerging issues in RH, including HIV/AIDS**

***Expected Outputs:***

- At least one policy brief and related meeting organized, with state of the art on integration of HIV/AIDS and FP as theme

***Progress toward outputs, problems encountered, proposed solutions:***

No activity this quarter.

**2. Provide support to WARP/FHA on RH activities**

***Expected Outputs:***

- TBD

***Progress toward outputs, problems encountered, proposed solutions:***

See items 5 and 6 in Reproductive health policies / strategies promotion section above.

**3. Francophone Quality of Care TA as needed from MAQ meeting**

***Expected Outputs:***

- TBD

***Progress toward outputs, problems encountered, proposed solutions:***

Ongoing.

#### **4. Support for PPT studies**

***Expected Outputs:***

- One-page briefers from the PSI documents produced

***Progress toward outputs, problems encountered, proposed solutions:***

Once PSI completes briefers, SARA plans to provide review and assist in the dissemination.

**SO 20: Policies and strategies for increased sustainability and quality of reproductive health services adopted**

**Technical Area:        Family Planning Financing**

**1. Define health care financing follow-up activities to September 1999 conference on RH health care reform**

***Expected Outputs:***

- TBD in consultation with AFR/SD/HRD and CAs

***Progress toward outputs, problems encountered, proposed solutions:***

No activity this quarter.

## SO 21: Adoption of Cost-effective Strategies to Prevent and Mitigate the Impact of HIV/AIDS

Technical Area: HIV/AIDS

### 1. Paper on best practices and experiences on linking prevention, care and support

***Expected Outputs:***

- Literature review completed

***Progress toward outputs, problems encountered, proposed solutions:***

SARA has held discussions with David Stanton on the role of the Care and Support Group in documenting best practices in the care and support of people living with HIV/AIDS (PLWHA), especially as the link with prevention has revealed that this mechanism may not be the best way to go. One of the problems is an apparent lack of any usable examples of programs linking prevention with care and support that could be considered best practices. It seems that what is needed is the findings of organizations working at the field level to review and document the best practices. In this regard, the latest development is the possibility of supporting NAP+ in their proposed assessment of care and support activities in five SSA countries. The information gathered in this exercises would be presented at the ICASA meeting.

David Stanton advises that NAP+ should be linked up with Horizons' Laelia Gilborn and C. Catle, who are involved in operations research in the care and support of PLWHA and who could add value to the NAP+ effort. SARA is currently supporting NAP+ in its efforts to strengthen the involvement of PLWHA in prevention, care and support issues.

### 2. Disseminate tool for monitoring and evaluating infant feeding practices in the context of research and programs on mother-to-child transmission of HIV

***Expected Outputs:***

- Tool disseminated

***Progress toward outputs, problems encountered, proposed solutions:***

See Nutrition section above.

### **3. Repackaging and dissemination of MTCT strategy**

***Expected Outputs:***

- Materials repackaged

***Progress toward outputs, problems encountered, proposed solutions:***

The MTCT USAID Guidance paper was repackaged into:

- *The Role of Regional Institutions and Networks in the prevention of MTCT of HIV/AIDS in Sub-Saharan Africa* paper which was presented by Stephen Kinoti at the Society for Women and AIDS in Africa (SWAA) 8th Conference, April 2-6, 2001.
- During the SWAA conference, special sessions on prevention of MTCT were held and their proceedings and recommendations synthesized into a report. This is being reviewed and edited by SARA for SWAA and will be disseminated widely through the web and other media.

### **4. Develop guidelines on HIV and nutrition**

***Expected Outputs:***

- Guidelines repackaged and disseminated

***Progress toward outputs, problems encountered, proposed solutions:***

See Nutrition section above.

## **5. Continuous issues identification, information dissemination and advocacy for comprehensive approaches to reducing mother-to-child transmission of HIV**

### ***Expected Outputs:***

- Consultations, etc., attended
- Information briefs developed and disseminated

### ***Progress toward outputs, problems encountered, proposed solutions:***

SARA supported the participation at the 8<sup>th</sup> SWAA International Conference April 2-6 of two SWAA Regional Coordinators, Dr. Elizabeth Madraa of Uganda and Ms Soukeye Dieng Diop of Senegal. Ms. Aimee Mwadi Kadi of the Democratic Republic of Congo and Ms Sheila Tlou of Botswana were unable to attend.

Dr. Stephen Kinoti, SARA HIV/AIDS Advisor, and the SWAA Consultant/ Facilitator supported by SARA met with the two coordinators and planned participation in the MTCT workshops, as well as preparation of outputs from these workshops that covered the areas. Among these were community experiences in the implementation of MTCT; PTCT clinical experiences; breastfeeding and MTCT; VCT and MTCT, and Nevirapine study results. It was intended that the consultant and the coordinators would retrieve all presentations and summarize them into a conference report on MTCT. This is under preparation.

Other material shared during this consultation is a summary of , “Experience with VCT in MTCT pilot programs”, which provided good information to guide the development of the regional strategy, particularly in linking VCT/MTCT and community uptake.

## **6. Dissemination of Youth livelihood best practices for the prevention of HIV/AIDS**

### ***Expected Outputs:***

- Paper finalized and disseminated

### ***Progress toward outputs, problems encountered, proposed solutions:***

SARA, represented by Stephen Kinoti, participated in discussions of the informal youth livelihood group coordinated by AFR/SD/HRD to further advance the youth livelihood and HIV/AIDS agenda. The members met a couple of times to discuss various possibilities for further action. The following is the outcome of these discussions.

- a. The new R4s indicate that a number of Missions have been supporting economic activities, mainly micro-enterprise and micro-finance. These are, in some cases, related to HIV/AIDS and/or youth and, in other cases, are not. Therefore, the first step could be to review these activities and obtain additional information from Missions or CAs associated with them. Four countries were identified for review - Zimbabwe, South Africa, Ethiopia and Uganda. The review should look at a number of issues such as the extent of focus on youth and orphans; sustainability; sources of funding; linkage with the growth sector; possibility of private sector involvement; feasibility of scaling up; and existence of a mechanism to evaluate and learn lessons.
- b. In addition, a review of economic activities not reported in R4s or outside USAID portfolio will be undertaken to draw out lessons learned based on the perspective described above.

The SARA project could organize the preparation of a brief paper by a short-term consultant on youth livelihood activities being undertaken by non-USAID groups, such as World Vision, that are linked to HIV/AIDS prevention, care, support and mitigation. This would be incorporated into the Economic Growth section of the OVC Program Assessment and Design Guide under preparation.

The above two ideas will be used by AFR/SD/HRD and Global to prepare a short note on the potential and prospects of expanding youth livelihood activities and linking them with HIV/AIDS. This note will be a guide and stimulus for action. It will be sent to Missions and will also be used for discussions with country officials, private sectors, youth groups and donors in regional meetings to prompt actions.

**7. Technical support for AFR/SD/HRD initiatives to address the impact of HIV/AIDS on educational systems**

***Expected Outputs:***

- Workshop organized
- Materials disseminated (included in the subcontract with CRHCS)
- Pre-service training curricula review and follow-up activities

***Progress toward outputs, problems encountered, proposed solutions:***

SARA staff held conversations with AFR/SD/ED education but no specific activities were conducted during this quarter.

## **8. Support assessment of the impact of HIV/AIDS on the health system**

### *Expected Outputs:*

- Background materials prepared
- Assessment tools completed
- Assessments conducted
- Dissemination of reports

### *Progress toward outputs, problems encountered, proposed solutions:*

The sixth draft of the background paper on the “Impact of HIV/AIDS on the Health Sector in Sub-Saharan Africa: The Issue of Human Resources” is still being prepared, accompanied by a matrix of previous assessments undertaken. This paper concludes that there is a need for further focused assessments that must be linked to the design of interventions and implementation of such interventions.

SARA plans to collaborate on country-level support for the assessments and development of actions with the Health Economics and AIDS Research Division of the University of Natal. This approach will utilize the Education HIV/AIDS Model adapted for the health sector. Funds are available for activities in two countries only.

The products of this activity will be the following:

- Locally adapted tool and process for assessing the health system and service needs developed and used;
- Priority activities to strengthen the health system developed;
- An advocacy plan for resource mobilization for the activities developed;
- A framework for the implementation of the activities developed and disseminated to stakeholders.

## **9. Assist AFR/SD/HRD SO 21 Team in managing the HIV/AIDS Technical Area**

### ***Expected Outputs:***

- Core team meetings held
- SO 21 portfolio reviews organized
- Performance monitoring plan updated
- Peer reviews organized and expert advice provided

### ***Progress toward outputs, problems encountered, proposed solutions:***

Regular core HIV/AIDS team meetings were held most Fridays involving Dr. Stephen Kinoti, Global and AFR/SD/HRD, and the broader group once a month.

AFR/SD/HRD HIV/AIDS strategy development is ongoing.

The SO 21 portfolio and peer review have not been done yet.

## **10. Support advocacy for multi-sectoral approaches to HIV/AIDS**

### ***Expected Outputs:***

- AIDS Briefs and AIDS packets collated

### ***Progress toward outputs, problems encountered, proposed solutions:***

Development of a user-friendly summary of the HIV/AIDS Toolkits was initiated with collaboration among SARA, AFR/SD/HRD and HEARD of the University of Natal.

Stephen Kinoti participated in the Public and Private Partnerships Initiative consultations organized by AFR/SD/HRD. Two meetings were held during this period.

The report of the IDRC Youth Livelihood study was released. The use of the report to move the issue forward is being discussed over the current quarter.

**11. Strengthen CERPOD capacity and involvement with M&E of HIV/AIDS programs in West Africa**

***Expected Outputs:***

- HIV/AIDS point person hired by CERPOD
- Action plan developed and implemented

***Progress toward outputs, problems encountered, proposed solutions:***

SARA staff provided input to CERPOD on the scope of work for the HIV/AIDS coordinator to be hired under the SARA subcontract. SARA has continued discussions with the FHI Regional Coordinator in West Africa and other interested stakeholders on assisting CERPOD to hire the coordinator. SARA and CERPOD have also exchanged e-mail messages and phone calls to plan a visit in DC later this Fall by CERPOD representatives.

**12. Strengthen CRHCS/ECSA capacity to support HIV/AIDS policy changes in eastern and southern Africa**

***Expected Outputs:***

- Action plan developed and implemented by multi-disciplinary task force
- Partial support for HIV/AIDS Coordinator position
- Support technical working meeting of HIV/AIDS task force to design training and monitoring strategy

***Progress toward outputs, problems encountered, proposed solutions:***

In-depth discussions of a process to identify individuals who would serve in the multi-disciplinary Task Force were discussed with the Regional Secretary, CRHCS.

Stephen Kinoti provided comments to strengthen the CRHCS HIV/AIDS strategy, in particular, the M&E component. The harmonized USAID/UNAIDS Indicator for National AIDS Control Program was shared at this meeting.

SARA participated in the post-interview discussions on the HIV/AIDS Policy Advisor/Coordinator at the CRHCS. Appointment of the person was made by the Conference of Health Ministers and the incumbent took office on the July 2, 2001. During the next quarter, energy will be spent is assisting the Coordinator in developing implementation plans for the CRHCS/SARA subcontract.

**13. Development and production of a discussion paper on HIV/AIDS prevention, care and support in West and Central Africa**

***Expected Outputs:***

- Paper developed, produced and disseminated

***Progress toward outputs, problems encountered, proposed solutions:***

This activity has been completed.

**14. HIV/AIDS advocacy and information dissemination through African institutions and networks**

***Expected Outputs:***

- Network meetings co-sponsored
- Information briefs produced and disseminated

***Progress toward outputs, problems encountered, proposed solutions:***

The following documents were disseminated at the CRHCS HIV/AIDS Regional Strategy development meeting involving 14 countries in the region and a number of Washington-based CAs:

- CRHCS/SARA Draft “Policy Development and Monitoring Guide”
- Draft “Impact of HIV/AIDS on the Health System: Human Resources Response”.
- The HIV/AIDS Toolkit for the Health Sector.

In addition, a number of African regional networks were approached this period to seek their interest in participating in a roundtable during the December ICASA in Ouagadougou on networking in support of community-based HIV/AIDS efforts.

**15. Participation in joint planning and coordination activities on international HIV/AIDS initiatives in Africa (World Bank, UNAIDS, WHO, LIFE, SADC etc.)**

***Expected Outputs:***

- SARA staff & consultant involved in meetings and electronic exchanges with partners
- Participation at ICASA 2001 in Ouagadougou

***Progress toward outputs, problems encountered, proposed solutions:***

Stephen Kinoti, SARA consultant Linda Tawfik and Maru O'Neil of MSH presented a seminar on "Impacts of HIV/AIDS on the Health Sector: Human Resources Issues," at which many Washington-based CAs were present.

SARA was represented by Dr. Kinoti and Sambe Duale at the IGW meeting organized by USAID/Global.

Dr. Kinoti attended the seminar presented by Allan Whiteside and T. Fantan of the Botswana-based Betswana and De Beers Diamond Mines on the company's response to the HIV/AIDS at the work place. This seminar was held at the Brookings Institute meeting on the private sector and HIV/AIDS, co-sponsored by AFR/SD/HRD.

SARA maintained electronic and telephone consultations with the Regional Center for Quality of Health Care in Uganda on issues relating to capacity building for information dissemination for HIV/AIDS. SARA also consulted in the same way with RATN on training in HIV/AIDS as a follow-up of the Nairobi interagency meeting on MTCT prevention, and with NARESA and RATN on pre-service training on HIV/AIDS and policy analysis and monitoring.

It was agreed that the assessment of training needs and capacities, including curricula, that is being undertaken by WHO should be completed and used to inform the proposed plan to strengthen not just nurses training, but also the relevant medical and allied professionals. This will ensure adequate capacity to support VCT and MTCT. Dr. Kinoti represented SARA in this activity.

Additionally, Sambe Duale has been working with colleagues at the West African Health Organization and USAID to mobilize resources from the DOD LIFE Project and UNAIDS to support a strategic planning initiative for addressing HIV/AIDS in Armed Forces of ECOWAS countries.

**SO 22: Improved Policies, Strategies and Programs for Preventing, Mitigating and Transition out of Crises**

**Technical Area: Epidemic preparedness**

**1. Technical support to update AFR/SD/HRD on Epidemic Preparedness and Response, and Transition Initiatives**

***Expected Outputs:***

- Review meetings held
- TA provided for the development and production of the technical area

***Progress toward outputs, problems encountered, proposed solutions:***

No activity this quarter.

**2. Production and dissemination of the report of the Review of the joint AFR/SD/HRD, WHO/AFRO & CDC initiative on epidemic preparedness and response, and support selected follow-up activities**

***Expected Outputs:***

- Lessons learned from the WCA block reviewed, documented in a report and disseminated
- TA provided by SARA staff and consultant for follow-up activities

***Progress toward outputs, problems encountered, proposed solutions:***

The summary report has been packaged, produced and disseminated to a wider audience to sensitize various parties to the need for a joint WHO/AFRO effort in building capacity for epidemic preparedness and support.

**SO:** Cross-cutting

**Technical Area:** Various areas – Monitoring and Evaluation Activities

**1. Organize and hold core monitoring & evaluation group meetings to discuss issues related to performance monitoring, reporting, evaluation and assessment**

***Expected Outputs:***

- Core M&E group meetings held regularly to discuss specific action items.

***Progress toward outputs, problems encountered, proposed solutions:***

No core team meeting were held this period. A replacement for Anne Inserra, SARA M&E Advisor who resigned last quarter, has not been found. By the end of the period, it was decided that this position would be abolished to help achieve economies in project implementation and that consultants would be hired as needed for specific tasks. Meanwhile, Joseph Coblenz assumed management responsibilities for the AFR/SD/HRD activity database.

**2. a) Design and test activity database**

***Expected Outputs:***

- Preliminary design finished
- Feedback from AFR/SD/HRD staff incorporated

***Progress toward outputs, problems encountered, proposed solutions:***

The SOFTEK consultant nearly completed the design of the database this quarter. An additional meeting with the CTO will be held in July to answer various lingering questions and the database should be ready to roll out in August.

**2.b) Input FY 2000 data into activity database**

***Expected Outputs:***

- Activity data for FY 2000 entered into database

***Progress toward outputs, problems encountered, proposed solutions:***

In process as the design is being completed.

## **2.C) Train AFR/SD/HRD staff in operation and maintenance of activity database**

### ***Expected Outputs:***

- AFR/SD/HRD staff trained
- Guide for operating database produced

### ***Progress toward outputs, problems encountered, proposed solutions:***

The AFR/SD/HRD staff assistant Felicia Few is participating in the FY 00 data loading into the database as it is being designed. By working with the SOFTEK consultant, she is learning database skills. Once the database is rolled out, it would be helpful for her to attend formal training in database design and management.

## **3.a) Finalize impact reviews for selected activities under SARA/SANA**

### ***Expected Outputs:***

- Final drafts of impact reviews produced for the following:
  - Male involvement (SO 20)
  - Integrated nutrition program (SO 19)
  - Early childhood care, survival, growth and development initiative (SO 20)
  - 2-page SO 20 impact reviews developed for distribution

### ***Progress toward outputs, problems encountered, proposed solutions:***

No activity this quarter.

## **3.b) Prepare 4-5 new impact reviews for selected activities under SARA/SANA (potential topics on page 45 of FY 01 work plan)**

### ***Expected Outputs:***

- Draft and final versions of impact reviews produced.

### ***Progress toward outputs, problems encountered, proposed solutions:***

Ms. Suzanne McLees, SARA consultant, with support from Sambe Duale, has been reviewing documents, organizing meetings and conducting interviews with a number of stakeholders as part of the impact review of selected activities under the AFR/SD/HRD and OIRH PASA. Because of the difficulties in contacting principal investigators and selected key individuals involved with OIRH PASA activities, the period of performance of the impact review has had to be extended until the end of August 2001.

**4. Finalize strategic planning tool for activities and work with SO teams to apply tool to new activities (Planning Arrow Tool)**

***Expected Outputs:***

- Draft tool vetted with M&E core group and experimented with by SO teams
- Tool applied to 3-4 new activities planned during FY 01

***Progress toward outputs, problems encountered, proposed solutions:***

No activity this quarter.

**5. Develop optional worksheet formats to record detailed notes for data totals and/or data sources for performance indicators. Test with SO 20 core team members**

***Expected Outputs:***

- Draft worksheet format revised based on feedback from SO 20 core team

***Progress toward outputs, problems encountered, proposed solutions:***

No activity this quarter.

**6. Support evaluation and assessment efforts across AFR/SD/HRD portfolio as requested (e.g., SANA final evaluation, work with African institutions under SARA I, reproductive health portfolio review)**

***Expected Outputs:***

- SOWs as required and evaluation reports, etc. (e.g., final SANA evaluation report produced)
- Report produced for assessment of SARA work with African institutions

***Progress toward outputs, problems encountered, proposed solutions:***

SARA has been tasked by AFR/SD/HRD to finalize the SOW and provide technical and logistical support for the planning and implementation of the proposed evaluation of UNICEF and WHO/AFRO programs on IMCI in collaboration with Dfid and other partners.

**7. Explore potential development of standardized activity monitoring report format**

***Expected Outputs:***

- Feasibility and utility of standardized activity monitoring report formats studied by M&E core group.

***Progress toward outputs, problems encountered, proposed solutions:***

No activity this quarter.

**SO:** Cross-cutting

**Technical Area:** Various areas

**1. Technical support for AFR/SD/HRD work in transition countries, including the development of a paper on USAID health sector experience**

*Expected Outputs:*

- TA provided
- Paper developed, produced and disseminated

*Progress toward outputs, problems encountered, proposed solutions:*

No activity this quarter.

**2. Technical support for the CRHCS/ECSA approach to monitoring and evaluation of PHN policy changes in Eastern and Southern Africa**

*Expected Outputs:*

- Policy M&E manual finalized and disseminated
- Selected CRHCS countries use manual for HIV/AIDS policy monitoring

*Progress toward outputs, problems encountered, proposed solutions:*

The Policy Manual is undergoing revisions to make it user-friendly. In the process, the document seems to need further direction and focus. This will be reviewed and a decision will be made next quarter on how to proceed on developing and implementing this manual.

**3. Finalization and dissemination of CERPOD self-evaluation guide**

*Expected Outputs:*

- TA provided
- Manual produced and disseminated

*Progress toward outputs, problems encountered, proposed solutions:*

The self-evaluation guide was formatted in French this quarter and will be printed and disseminated next quarter. The English version is being finalized and will be formatted and printed next quarter. An earlier version of a trainer's manual to accompany the guide will be reviewed next quarter to decide whether it is a valuable addition to this work.

#### **4. Support CESAG linkages with other institutions for dissemination and training in health management**

***Expected Outputs:***

- TBD

***Progress toward outputs, problems encountered, proposed solutions:***

Suzanne Prysor-Jones followed up on CESAG with Laurence Codjia this quarter. Laurence is carrying out research on human resources management in the health sector. The CESAG health economics unit is growing. Two more economists are being recruited, and the World Bank Institute is collaborating with CESAG on short-term training courses. MEASURE 2 will be carrying out a second course on evaluation with CESAG in the near future.

#### **5. Follow-up with CORE and others on education and health linkages**

***Expected Outputs:***

- TBD

***Progress toward outputs, problems encountered, proposed solutions:***

No activity this quarter.

#### **6. Development of capacity for health systems research in Francophone Africa**

***Expected Outputs:***

- Networking meetings held
- Materials translated and disseminated

***Progress toward outputs, problems encountered, proposed solutions:***

No activity this quarter.

**7. Production and dissemination of a CD-ROM with relevant literature on management of disasters and complex humanitarian emergencies (CHE)**

***Expected Outputs:***

- Relevant materials collected, reviewed and scanned
- CD-ROM produced and disseminated

***Progress toward outputs, problems encountered, proposed solutions:***

The CD-ROM copies are being disseminated. The materials are also posted on the CERTI website.

**8. Production of a training manual for NGOs working on management of disasters, complex humanitarian emergencies, and transition programs**

***Expected Outputs:***

- Manual developed, tested, produced and disseminated

***Progress toward outputs, problems encountered, proposed solutions:***

The manual entitled, *Public Health Guide for Emergencies* was finalized and produced by the Johns Hopkins University on a CD-ROM, and is being disseminated. The document is posted on the CERTI Website.

**9. Strengthen selected NAPHI member institutions in the area of training curricula, research and information sharing on management of disasters and CHE**

***Expected Outputs:***

- Working group meeting organized
- Action plan developed and implemented, including plan for resource mobilization

***Progress toward outputs, problems encountered, proposed solutions:***

Dr. Orach Garimoi of the Makerere University Institute of Public Health sent an e-mail this quarter indicating his interest in leading this activity. Dr. Orach has been busy finishing his Ph.D. work. Samba Duale will get back to him next quarter.

## **10. Technical support for the management and maintenance of the CERTI website**

### ***Expected Outputs:***

- Moderation and quality assurance of materials posted on website
- Site maintained

### ***Progress toward outputs, problems encountered, proposed solutions:***

More materials have been posted on the Website, including those related to the Durban Symposium on the Gender dimensions of HIV/AIDS prevention, care and support in conflict settings in Africa.

## **11. Support the development of an issues paper on public health work force crisis in Africa**

### ***Expected Outputs:***

- Paper drafted, reviewed and finalized
- Production and dissemination

### ***Progress toward outputs, problems encountered, proposed solutions:***

Ms. Jenny Huddart, SARA consultant, produced a first draft of the paper this quarter. Selected AFR/SD/HRD and SARA staff have reviewed the draft and provided comments. The second draft is expected during the next reporting period.

## **13. Documentation and dissemination of NGO/PVO promising practices in transition interventions**

### ***Expected Outputs:***

- Study report produced and disseminated
- Briefs on best practices prepared and disseminated

### ***Progress toward outputs, problems encountered, proposed solutions:***

This activity is stalled for the moment.

**SO:** Cross-cutting

**Technical Area:** Dissemination and advocacy

**Result ia: Capacity to Advocate**

**1. Train other regional African institutions in advocacy (CRHCS – health professionals and senior staff)**

*Expected Outputs:*

- Selected African institutions trained

*Progress toward outputs, problems encountered, proposed solutions:*

No activity this quarter.

**2. Provide the Advocacy Guide to groups to use it (African institutions, CAs etc.) on request**

*Expected Outputs:*

- Advocacy Guide provided to selected groups

*Progress toward outputs, problems encountered, proposed solutions:*

188 copies of the Advocacy Guide were disseminated to 9 countries, including 5 African countries.

**3. U.S.-based consultative meeting with organizations involved in advocacy in Africa +materials fair**

*Expected Outputs:*

- Consultative meeting and fair held

*Progress toward outputs, problems encountered, proposed solutions:*

This activity has been completed.

**4. Follow-up and systematically assess the advocacy training to see whether and how the participants have used their skills**

***Expected Outputs:***

- Follow-up completed
- Recommendations made for future

***Progress toward outputs, problems encountered, proposed solutions:***

After months of communication with CAFS, they have indicated that they are not interested in assessing the advocacy training. SARA has had some conversations with RATN about following up their trainees and will pursue these now that CAFS is no longer a viable option.

**5. Identify and explore partnerships with existing advocacy groups (US-based and Africa-based)**

***Expected Outputs:***

- Connections made

***Progress toward outputs, problems encountered, proposed solutions:***

Antonia Wolff has conducted some preliminary research into Africa-based advocacy groups. This will continue next quarter.

**6. Develop materials to improve the use of advocacy guide, e.g., one-day training guide**

***Expected Outputs:***

- Materials Developed

***Progress toward outputs, problems encountered, proposed solutions:***

No activity this quarter.

**Result ib: Capacity to Disseminate Information**

**7. Assist CRHCS in strengthening its info communication activities and staff, including providing monitoring and support to the IDCs.**

***Expected Outputs:***

- Program strengthened as needed

***Progress toward outputs, problems encountered, proposed solutions:***

SARA staff have been discussing ways to strengthen the capabilities and skills of the existing information specialist since it is unlikely that an information coordinator will be hired to move the program forward.

**8. Work with African institutions to build capacity in repackaging information. Possible activities include workshop, training, etc., through, e.g. CRHCS**

***Expected Outputs:***

- Increased capacity of African institutions to repackage information

***Progress toward outputs, problems encountered, proposed solutions:***

SARA is planning to conduct a workshop with USAID/Zambia and its partners to strengthen their capacity to repackage and disseminate information about their programs and activities. This is especially focused on HIV/AIDS, but will include all health technical areas of concern to the Mission in Zambia.

**9. Assist African institutions in repackaging information on an as needed basis.**

\$ **CRHCS**  
\$ **CERPOD**  
\$ **Others**

***Expected Outputs:***

- Information repackaged

***Progress toward outputs, problems encountered, proposed solutions:***

SARA has identified a training opportunity for the information specialists at CRHCS and RCQHC. A policy communication workshop is being offered in Kampala by PRB/Measure Communication in September. The specialists have applied and are waiting to find out whether they have been accepted into this program. The organizations will support their own staff at this workshop.

**10. Collaborate with other USAID Projects (e.g. BASICS, Horizons, Synergy, Measure, NGO networks, MSH) to improve their dissemination on priority AFR/SD/HRD issues on request**

***Expected Outputs:***

- Dissemination of priority issues improved for selected projects

***Progress toward outputs, problems encountered, proposed solutions:***

Renuka Bery has been working with Synergy to ensure that information for the PVO working group is posted on their website. Ms. Bery also has been coordinating with HEARD on the reprinting and dissemination of HIV/AIDS toolkits. SARA also coordinated IT initiatives of SANA and Helen Keller International around West African Nutrition Focal Points, bringing in FANTA to avoid duplication of efforts. Antonia Wolff provided guidance to NGO Networks and

FHI on AFR/SD/HRD-funded publications and provided input to PHNI on the design and development of the official G/PHN website.

**11. Support a supplement to the Africa Health journal on a specific topic (most likely related to MTCT or HIV and Nutrition)**

*Expected Outputs:*

- Publication of AFR/SD/HRD-funded materials circulated throughout Africa.

*Progress toward outputs, problems encountered, proposed solutions:*

With the material on HIV and Nutrition submitted to Africa Health editors, SARA staff technically reviewed the supplement, and gave guidance on formatting and attribution. The supplement is slated to appear in the July issue of *Africa Health Journal*.

**12. Collaborate with other African Institutions (e.g. RATN, RESAR, CESAG, WHO/AFRO, Makerere, AMREF, HST, FAWE, NARESA, ERNESA) to improve their dissemination on priority AFR/SD/HRD issues**

*Expected Outputs:*

- Dissemination of priority issues improved for selected institutions

*Progress toward outputs, problems encountered, proposed solutions:*

SARA has been communicating with the University of Natal's HEARD division to discuss distribution of the reprinted multisectoral AIDS toolkits and briefs. SARA has also met with RATN to discuss dissemination needs, but no proposal has yet been forthcoming. SARA received a proposal from RCQHC to strengthen the skills of the dissemination specialist and SARA has identified a training that he might attend.

**13. Develop series of Dissemination Briefs to assist projects and African institutions in developing and carrying out a dissemination strategy**

*Expected Outputs:*

- Dissemination briefs developed
- Dissemination strategy developed and implemented

*Progress toward outputs, problems encountered, proposed solutions:*

No activity this quarter.

**14. Organize a consultative meeting on dissemination for USAID and CAs based on SARA's experiences and those of other CAs**

***Expected Outputs:***

- Meeting held and experiences shared.

***Progress toward outputs, problems encountered, proposed solutions:***

No activity this quarter.

**Result ic: Capacity to Communicate Electronically**

**15. Provide connection fees and training to African institutions**

***Expected Outputs:***

- Selected African institutions on-line with e-mail and Internet access

***Progress toward outputs, problems encountered, proposed solutions:***

No activity this quarter.

**16. Link African institution personnel to e-communication opportunities**

\$ MOH ministers in ECSA region through CRHCS

***Expected Outputs:***

- Selected personnel linked to opportunities

***Progress toward outputs, problems encountered, proposed solutions:***

SARA shared a draft proposal with Lane Smith of USAID's Leland Initiative to link CRHCS focal points in 14 countries to each other and with the secretariat in Arusha. This proposal has merit, but no funds are currently available for such an activity.

**17. Explore innovative use of distance education for dissemination and use of information. If appropriate, develop a strategy for becoming involved in collaboration with an African institution (e.g., AMREF, African Virtual University, etc.)**

***Expected Outputs:***

- Innovative uses of distance education explored and a strategy developed, if warranted.

***Progress toward outputs, problems encountered, proposed solutions:***

Some preliminary research has been done to look at the organizations conducting distance education in Africa.

## Result iia: Materials Development and Production

### 18. Design and package information in appropriate formats (books, syntheses, executive summaries, e-notes, policy briefs/brochures, tools). Current documents in production include:

- \$ Policy manual for CRHCS
- \$ Self-evaluation Manual (English and French)
- \$ AFR/SD/HRD Country Briefs (printing)
- \$ Manual on Qualitative Manuals (French version)

#### *Expected Outputs:*

- Selected information designed and packaged

#### *Progress toward outputs, problems encountered, proposed solutions:*

The policy manual, as described above, is being evaluated to see how this activity should proceed. The Self-evaluation guide is being formatted and will be printed and distributed next quarter. The manual on qualitative manuals (French version) was proofread and formatted and will be printed and disseminated next quarter.

### 19. Dissemination of key cross-cutting products as requested, e.g.:

- \$ Introduction to Advocacy
- \$ Influencing Policies & Programs + trainers' guide
- \$ HIV and Nutrition
- \$ Malaria and Pregnancy Brochure

#### *Expected Outputs:*

- Products disseminated

#### *Progress toward outputs, problems encountered, proposed solutions:*

188 copies of Introduction to Advocacy disseminated  
127 copies of Influencing Policies & Programs + trainers' guide disseminated.  
259 copies of HIV & Nutrition disseminated.  
3102 copies (1374 English/1728 French) of the Malaria and Pregnancy brochures disseminated.

### 20. Assessments of Use of AFR/SD/HRD-SARA products (2 documents per year)

- Research Guide and AIDS Briefs
- Malaria document

#### *Expected Outputs:*

- Use of documents assessed & presentation given

#### *Progress toward outputs, problems encountered, proposed solutions:*

Dissemination reports were generated and a questionnaire developed to assess the use. The questionnaires will be sent out in the next quarter to those people/organizations who were sent 20 or more copies of the guide.

## **Result iib: Dissemination Channels**

### **21. Mail documents to targeted mailing list**

*Expected Outputs:*

- Documents mailed

*Progress toward outputs, problems encountered, proposed solutions:*

9365 documents (including requests) were mailed this quarter. In addition, 602 requests were fulfilled for 8140 documents. Thus, 87% of all documents disseminated were in fulfillment of requests.

### **22. Explore new opportunities to disseminate more information**

*Expected Outputs:*

- E-mail lists

*Progress toward outputs, problems encountered, proposed solutions:*

The quarterly electronic publication list continues to inform the missions, USAID/W and key NGOs about recent AFR/SD/HRD-funded documents. This quarter, the list expanded to 250 people, and has sparked interest in forming electronic lists around specific technical areas. SARA staff is currently developing a reproductive health electronic dissemination list.

### **23. Website maintenance + publications updates**

*Expected Outputs:*

- Website redesigned

*Progress toward outputs, problems encountered, proposed solutions:*

SARA attended several meetings with AFR/SD/HRD and The Mitchell Group to discuss where to house existing full-text documents. It was decided that these would be available on the SARA website with a link from the AFR/SD/HRD website. The SARA website is being updated and will be launched next quarter. Once the site is "live", SARA will discuss with ABIC how to direct people away from the old HHRAA site to the AFR/SD/HRD and SARA sites.

**24. Design and launch a SARA website**

*Expected Outputs:*

- SARA web page outline

*Progress toward outputs, problems encountered, proposed solutions:*

The SARA website is currently being finalized and will be launched next quarter.

**25. Promote information through various listservs (AFRONETS, ReproHlth, WB, AHILANet)**

*Expected Outputs:*

- Information promoted

*Progress toward outputs, problems encountered, proposed solutions:*

Information and publications are periodically announced on various listservs.

**26. Develop an electronic conference (with some SO Team)**

*Expected Outputs:*

- Electronic conference developed with selected team

*Progress toward outputs, problems encountered, proposed solutions:*

SARA has been discussing the development of a listserv/discussion group with the SANA field advisor in West Africa. She plans to launch an electronic discussion group at the nutrition focal points next quarter.

**27. Develop and send via e-mail quarterly announcement of AFR/SD/HRD publications/products**

***Expected Outputs:***

- Broadcast e-mail sent quarterly

***Progress toward outputs, problems encountered, proposed solutions:***

The quarterly electronic publication list continues to serve the missions, USAID/W and key NGOs about recent AFR/SD/HRD funded documents. This quarter, the list expanded to 250 people.

**28. Explore new activities such as CD-ROMS and listservs. Assess whether SARA should put something together for a CD-ROM. Explore whether a listserv like AFRO-NETS for health exists for education. Monitor CERTI CD-ROM activity**

***Expected Outputs:***

- New activities of this nature identified, including whether SARA should do CD-ROM
- AFRO-NETS-like listserv for education identified if one exists

***Progress toward outputs, problems encountered, proposed solutions:***

No activity this quarter.

**Result iic: User Needs**

**29. Identify information for decision makers**

***Expected Outputs:***

- Information identified

***Progress toward outputs, problems encountered, proposed solutions:***

No activity this quarter.

**30. Analyze tracking information on major SARA publications**

***Expected Outputs:***

- Information analyzed

***Progress toward outputs, problems encountered, proposed solutions:***

This is ongoing and supplied on an as-needed basis.

**31. Develop improved ways to communicate with missions; e.g., semi-annual summary report of AFR/SD/HRD activities every 6 months, elicit mission input into how AFR/SD/HRD can help them with dissemination, communication, etc.**

***Expected Outputs:***

- Information compiled, written and shared with missions

***Progress toward outputs, problems encountered, proposed solutions:***

No activity this quarter.

**Result 3: Dissemination and Advocacy Activities Incorporated into AFR/SD/HRD SOs**

**32. Provide TA to all AFR/SD/HRD teams to ensure that RPs have dissemination & advocacy built into activities**

***Expected Outputs:***

- TA given & dissemination & advocacy activities reviewed

***Progress toward outputs, problems encountered, proposed solutions:***

Renuka Bery and Antonia Wolff participate in the core team meetings to ensure that dissemination and advocacy issues are addressed for each technical area.

**33. SO Team Core Group Dissemination Activities (cross-referenced)**

**SO18- Education**

**Education Assessment folder**

**ERNWACA Transnational Study Document**

***Expected Outputs:***

- Folder disseminated
- Document produced and disseminated

***Progress toward outputs, problems encountered, proposed solutions:***

See information under SO 18 above.

**SO19- Malaria/Infectious Diseases**  
**Production, translation, and printing of Malaria docs**

*Expected Outputs:*

- Per Table

*Progress toward outputs, problems encountered, proposed solutions:*

See information under SO 19 above.

**SO 19 – Immunization**

**EPI reports**

**Lessons learned paper on grant to UNICEF and WHO for 4 countries**

**Advocacy activities for EPI using African institutions (e.g., CRHCS or others)**

*Expected Outputs:*

- TBD

*Progress toward outputs, problems encountered, proposed solutions:*

See information under SO 19 above.

**SO19- Nutrition/child survival**

**Production and printing of HIV and nutrition paper**

**MTCT strategy paper**

**HIV Risks and Realities**

**Modified Breastfeeding for HIV+ women**

**HIV and Breastfeeding Promotion review**

**Paper on Sources and effectiveness of care for Childhood illness in Africa**

**Maximizing the potential of private practitioners in child survival**

*Expected Outputs:*

- HIV and nutrition paper produced and printed
- Papers printed and disseminated. Likely co-funded with SANA and other projects.

*Progress toward outputs, problems encountered, proposed solutions:*

See information under SO 19 above.

**SO20-Population and Reproductive Health**

**RH Briefing Packet**

**Guidance given to CA partners on dissemination and advocacy as related to documentation of projects, etc.**

***Expected Outputs:***

- TBD

***Progress toward outputs, problems encountered, proposed solutions:***

See information under SO 20 above.

**SO9-HIV/AIDS**

**Reproduction & collation of Briefing packets**

**Other sectoral workshops**

**Targeted dissemination of AIDS Briefs**

**Discussions on production of AIDS Toolkits for French-system of govt.**

**BP paper on prevention, care and support**

**Development of advocacy documents for MTCT (cf. Nutrition)**

**Assistance in producing HIV/AIDS success stories from field**

**Dissemination from Religious Leaders conference**

**Contribution to HIV/AIDS electronic filing system as appropriate**

***Expected Outputs:***

- Briefing packets collated
- Sectoral workshops organized

***Progress toward outputs, problems encountered, proposed solutions:***

See information under SO 21 above.

**SO 24 - Polio Eradication**

**Continue assisting WHO/AFRO on dissemination and Advocacy**

**Finalize, print and disseminate:**

**Laboratory manual in French**

**Paper on health interventions in transition countries (cross-cutting area)**

***Expected Outputs:***

- Document produced and disseminated

***Progress toward outputs, problems encountered, proposed solutions:***

See information under SO 24 Polio above.

CTO Ltr.	Activity Name	Activity Manager	Submitted	Approved	Status
100	Piwoz TA on HIV and infant feeding, research in Zimbabwe and South Africa	Prysor-Jones	10/4/1999	10/12/1999	Trip completed
101	Pre-award financial review of CERPOD	Prysor-Jones	10/4/1999	10/12/1999	Review completed
102	Bringing D&A perspective to AFRO/EPI polio eradication unit	Bery	11/22/1999	11/23/1999	Trip completed
103	Participation in REDSO/PHN, RCQHC Conference	Piwoz	1/12/2000	1/12/2000	Trip completed
104	SARA TA to CRHCS DJCC, Arusha, 1/28/00, Steve Kinoti	Kinoti	1/21/2000	1/21/2000	Trip completed
105	Presentation of papers at CIES conference in San Antonio, TX	Miller-Grandvaux	2/28/2000	3/1/2000	Trip completed
106	To assist USAID/Mali in reviewing its ed agenda	Miller-Grandvaux	3/14/2000	3/29/2000	Trip completed
107	Nutrition and community IMCI planning and other SO 7, 8 and 9 activity updating in WA	Prysor-Jones	5/1/2000	5/3/2000	Trip completed
108	Steve Kinoti to consultation on HSR priorities on HIV/AIDS, Pretoria, June 19-23	Kinoti	5/24/2000	5/30/2000	Trip completed
109	Suzanne participation in IWG on HH & community approaches to IMCI	Prysor-Jones	5/25/2000	5/30/2000	Trip completed
109a	Onanga Bongwele to Durban IAWG on community IMCI	Prysor-Jones	6/8/2000	6/13/2000	Cancelled
110	Providing Dissemination TA to RQCC (Renuka Bery)	Bery	5/31/2000	6/2/2000	Trip completed
111	Support to USAID/Mali, ERNWACA's regional program, NGO role in education	Miller-Grandvaux	6/28/2000	6/29/2000	Scheduled for 7/00
200	Bill Rau as SARA Project evaluation and HIV/AIDS policy advisor	Prysor-Jones	10/4/1999	10/12/1999	Consultancy completed
200a	Bill Rau, 10 more days	Prysor-Jones, Duale	10/25/1999	10/26/1999	Consultancy completed
200b	Bill Rau, 10 more days	Prysor-Jones, Duale	11/2/1999	11/2/1999	Consultancy completed
200c	Continuation of Bill Rau through January-April 2000, 35 more days	Prysor-Jones, Duale	12/14/1999	1/4/2000	Consultancy completed
200d	Impact review paper on SO 8 male involvement activities in reproductive health (Bill Rau)	Inserra	4/7/2000	4/13/2000	Draft prepared and being reviewed
201	Hiring Dr. Stephen Kinoti as SARA consultant	Duale	10/4/1999	10/18/1999	Consultancy completed
201a	Familiarization trip for Dr. Steve Kinoti to SA	Prysor-Jones	11/18/1999	11/18/1999	See 104 above
202	Roger Gosselin facilitation of SATI workshop	Prysor-Jones	10/18/1999	10/19/1999	Trip completed
203	Beth Preble to complete paper on HIV and Nutrition	Piwoz	10/13/1999	10/19/1999	Under review
203a	HIV/AIDS and nutrition paper, Beth Preble, 5 more days	Piwoz	1/24/2000	2/8/2000	Under review
204	Transitioning Dissemination Center activity to a regional institution (Lawrence Gikaru)	Bery	10/14/1999	10/19/1999	Activity completed
205	Field testing of REDUCE model, Uganda	Blair	6/5/2000	6/16/2000	Scheduled for 7/00
206	Linda Kean, finalization of Nutrition Briefs	Piwoz	10/25/1999	11/2/1999	Work completed
207	Design for Qualitative Manual (Paula Whitacre)	Bery	11/2/1999	11/2/1999	Work completed
208	Documentation EMC team results in 2 WHO/AFRO blocks	Duale	2/28/2000	3/14/2000	Scheduled for 7/00
209	Updating country program briefs for AFR/SD/HRD	Prysor-Jones	4/13/2000	4/14/2000	Activity completed
210	Issues paper on early and abrupt weaning for HIV+ mothers	Piwoz	5/11/2000	6/8/2000	Underway
211	Strategy paper on reducing MTCT in Africa (Beth Preble)	Kinoti	6/16/2000	6/22/2000	Underway
300	Tulane University activities under subcontract FY 00	Prysor-Jones	10/4/1999	10/12/1999	Underway
301	Duale at Global Meeting on M&E of HIV Prevention, etc., April 12-24, 2000, Berlin	Duale	3/9/2000	3/14/2000	Trip completed
350	Morehouse University School of Medicine activities 10-11/99	Blair	10/4/1999	10/12/1999	Activity completed
351	Morehouse - Extension of Lalla Toure through January 31, 2000	Blair	12/7/1999	12/22/1999	Activity completed
352	Institutional strengthening of SAGO	Blair	3/9/2000	3/24/2000	Underway
400	Follow-up activities to West Africa EOC Conference of December 1998 (JHPIEGO)	Blair	10/4/1999	10/12/1999	Underway
401	Francophone MAQ bulletin	Blair	10/4/1999	10/13/1999	Bulletin completed and distributed
402	Printing and dissemination of French language PAC brochure	Blair	6/20/2000	6/23/2000	Scheduled for 7-8/00
450	PRB activities under SARA II, 10/99 - 1/00	Prysor-Jones	10/4/1999	10/12/1999	Underway
500	Training for CERPOD in ISSA software (Victor Canales)	Prysor-Jones	10/4/1999	10/12/1999	Trip completed
501	Follow-up activities to West Africa EOC Conference of December 1998 (CEFOREP)	Blair	10/4/1999	10/12/1999	Will extend
503	Training of CESAG staff in operations research methodology (Leduc, Berthelette)	Prysor-Jones	11/18/1999	11/18/1999	Consultancy completed
504	Devt of key tools and activities (CERPOD consultants)	Prysor-Jones	1/12/2000	1/14/2000	Underway
505	Reintegration of IDC in East & Southern Africa into CRHCS info dissem program	Bery	2/1/2000	2/1/2000	Trip completed
506	TA to SAGO to become more policy/action-oriented	Blair	3/9/2000	5/4/2000	Underway
507	ACI TA to CERPOD on training in qualitative research techniques for Francophone Africa	Prysor-Jones	5/26/2000	5/30/2000	Activity completed
600	Sponsorship of RESAR country researchers and SARA staff to annual RESAR meeting	Blair	10/18/1999	10/21/1999	Trip completed
601	Making presentation to CRHCS on electronic communication	Bery	10/18/1999	10/19/1999	Activity completed

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603	RESAR participation in Post-Cairo Assessment of RH Policies & programs in W. Africa	Blair	11/18/1999	11/19/1999	Activity completed
604	Support to SAGO, CEFOREP & CERPOD activities	Blair	12/7/1999	12/22/1999	Trip completed
604a	Support to planning of SAGO biennial conference, etc., per CTO letter 604	Blair	12/23/1999	1/4/2000	Trip completed
605	Post-CIES Study Tour for 3 African Network representatives	Miller-Grandvaux	2/28/2000	3/1/2000	Tour completed
606	Advocacy training workshop for Anglophone chapters of ERNWACA	Miller-Grandvaux	3/14/2000	3/29/2000	Activity completed
607	SARA support to CRHCS DJCC meeting	Kinoti, Blair	2/28/2000	3/3/2000	Trip completed
607a	SARA support to CRHCS DJCC meeting - additional costs	Kinoti, Blair	3/28/2000	3/29/2000	Trip completed
608	Panel presentation at the national Summit for Africa	Miller-Grandvaux	2/28/2000	3/1/2000	Activity completed
609	Support to 13th Conference of IUATLD Africa Region, Conakry, Guinea	Duale	2/28/2000	3/3/2000	Trip completed
610	Support presenters and dissemination of materials at Ghana Health Foundation conference	Duale	2/29/2000	3/2/2000	Activity completed
611	Participation in Durban Intl AIDS meeting & pre-conference satellite mtg on HIV & breastfeeding	Piwoz	3/14/2000	3/14/2000	Scheduled for 7/00
612	Support two African participants to attend HIV/AIDS in Education planning workshop, Durban	Miller-Grandvaux, Duale	3/28/2000	3/30/2000	Trip completed
613	Support to preparation and facilitation of nutrition focal points meetings	Piwoz	4/13/2000	6/8/2000	Underway
614	Consultative meeting on essential supplies for child health at community level	Prysor-Jones	5/19/2000	5/30/2000	Activity completed
615	Phil Musgrove presentation at USAID PHN SOTA course, June 5-9	Prysor-Jones	5/26/2000	6/5/2000	Activity completed
617	Assessment of impl. Of COPE initiative in Guinea	Prysor-Jones	6/16/2000	6/22/2000	Trip completed
618	Specialized TA to USAID staff in Durban	Kinoti	6/28/2000	6/29/2000	Scheduled for 7/00
700	Publication of a supplement to the Annals re: malaria and pregnancy	Duale	10/4/1999	10/12/1999	Activity completed
701	SD HIV/AIDS Briefing Materials folders	Bery	10/4/1999	10/12/1999	Activity completed
702	Printing of Nutrition Briefs	Ntiru	10/4/1999	10/12/1999	Activity completed
703	Printing of four program profiles for CRHCS Jubilee conference	Bery	10/26/1999	10/26/1999	Activity completed
704	Translation, printing and mailing of 3 malaria publications	Bery	11/2/1999	11/2/1999	Underway
705	Editorial Assistance for SARA Publications	Bery	11/30/1999	12/14/1999	Underway
706	Printing of French version of facilitation manual for "Making a Difference" (Boly guide)	Bery	11/30/1999	12/14/1999	Activity completed
707	Helping local health workers better analyze and use their data to improve services	Shafritz	12/14/1999	12/14/1999	Trip completed
708	Production of an IMCI policy brochure	Shafritz	12/14/1999	12/14/1999	Activity completed
709	Printing of "Qualitative Research for Improved Health Programs"	Shafritz	12/14/1999	12/14/1999	Activity completed
710	Printing of HIV/AIDS Briefing Packets	Bery	2/29/2000	3/1/2000	Ongoing
711	Development and dissemination of user-friendly brochure on best practices in EOC in WA	Blair	5/22/2000	6/8/2000	Work ongoing
712	Translation & printing of infectious diseases laboratory manual	Bery	5/19/2000	5/30/2000	Translation completed
713	Printing of education assessments	Bery, Miller-Grandvaux	5/25/2000	5/25/2000	Underway
800	Assessing youth livelihood & enterprise development programs through IDRC	Duale	10/4/1999	10/12/1999	Underway
801	Laurence Codjia, CESAG, to Washington for discussions on health management, economics issues	Prysor-Jones	10/14/1999	10/19/1999	Trip completed
802	TA to ZVITAMBO Project	Piwoz	11/2/1999	11/10/1999	Ongoing
803	Increasing e-mail and Internet access for nutrition focal points in Sierra Leone and Cote d'Ivoire	Bery	11/18/1999	11/18/1999	Activity completed
804	Assess WHO/AFRO outcome/impact indicators & selected malaria-related evals.	Duale	1/12/2000	1/12/2000	Activity completed