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TECHNICAL
ASSISTANCE

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LIST OF ACRONYMS

ACC/SCN	Administrative Committee on Coordination/Sub-Committee on Nutrition
ACDI/VOCA	Agricultural Cooperative Development International/Volunteers in Overseas Cooperative Assistance
ADRA	Adventist Development and Relief Agency
AED	Academy for Educational Development
AER	Annual Estimate of Requirements
AFR/SD	USAID Africa Bureau, Office of Sustainable Development
AFSI	Africa Food Security Initiative
ARC	American Red Cross
BASICS	Basic Support for Institutionalizing Child Survival Project
BCC	Behavior Change Communications
CA	Cooperating Agency
CORE	Child Survival Collaboration and Resources Group
CARE	Cooperative for Assistance and Relief Everywhere, Inc.
CHANGE	Behavior Change Innovation/State-of-the-Art Activity
CRG	Commodity Reference Guide
CMR	Crude Mortality Rate
CRS	Catholic Relief Services
CS	Cooperating Sponsor (Title II Implementing partner)
CSHGP	Child Survival Health Grants Program
CSTS	Child Survival Technical Support Project
CTO	Cognizant Technical Officer
CWE	Credit With Education
DA	Development Assistance
DAP	Title II Development Activity Proposal
DCHA	USAID Bureau for Democracy, Conflict and Humanitarian Assistance
DCHA/FFP	DCHA's Office of Food for Peace
DCHA/PPM	DCHA's Office of Programs, Policies, and Management
DCHA/PVC	DCHA's Office of Private and Voluntary Cooperation
DCOF	Displaced Children and Orphans Fund
DIP	Detailed Implementation Plan (Child Survival)
DP	Development Programs (as in FFP/DP)
EDDI	Education for Development and Democracy in Africa Initiative
EFP	Emergency Food Product
EFS-II	USAID/Port-au-Prince's Enhancing Food Security Project
EGAT	Economic Growth, Agriculture and Trade
EHA	Department of Emergency and Humanitarian Action
EP	Emergency Program (as in FFP/EP)
FACG	Food Aid Consultative Group
FACS	Food Assisted Child Survival Program
FAM	Food Aid Management
FANTA	Food and Nutrition Technical Assistance Project
FAO	Food and Agriculture Organization
FFE	Food for Education

FFH	Freedom from Hunger
FFP	Office of Food for Peace
FFP/DP	Office of Food for Peace, Development Programs Division
FFP/ER	Office of Food for Peace, Emergency Relief Division
FFP/POD	Office of Food for Peace, Program Operations Division
FFW	Food for Work
FHI	Food for the Hungry International
GEM	Global Excellence in Management
GH	USAID Bureau for Global Health
GH/HIDN/N	USAID Bureau for Global Health/Office of Health, Infectious Diseases and Nutrition/Division of Nutrition
HFSMT	Household Food Security Measurement Tool
HIDN	Office of Health, Infectious Diseases and Nutrition
HINAP	Health Information Network Advanced Planning
HIV/AIDS	Human Immunodeficiency Virus/Acquired Immune Deficiency Syndrome
HKI	Helen Keller International
HPN	Health, Population, and Nutrition (as in AED/HPN Programs)
ICF	Infant and Child Feeding
IDP	Internally Displaced Persons
IEE	Initial Environmental Examination
IFPRI	International Food and Policy Research Institute
IR	Intermediate Result
ISA	Institutional Support Assistance Grant
ITSH	Internal Transport, Shipping and Handling
KPC	Knowledge, Practice, Coverage
LDC	Less Developed Country
LIFDC	Low Income Food Deficit Country
LINKAGES	Breastfeeding and Complementary Feeding and Maternal Nutrition Program
MEASURE	Monitoring and Evaluation to Assess and Use Results Project
MOU	Memorandum of Understanding
M&E	Monitoring and Evaluation
MCHN	Maternal and Child Health/Nutrition
MSU	Michigan State University
MOST	Micronutrient Operational Strategies and Technologies
NICRA	Negotiated Indirect Cost Rate Agreement
NIH	National Institute of Health
NGO	Non-Governmental Organization
OFDA	USAID's Office of U.S. Foreign Disaster Assistance
OICI	Opportunities Industrialization Centers International
PAA	Title II Previously Approved Activity
PPC	USAID Bureau for Policy and Program Coordination
PROFILES	A Process for Nutrition Policy Analysis and Advocacy
PVC	DCHA's Office of Private and Voluntary Cooperation
PVO	Private Voluntary Organization (also used for Cooperating Sponsor)
R2	Result Report
R4	Results Review and Resource Request

REDSO	Regional Economic Development Service Office
REDSO/ESA	Regional Economic Development Service Office/East & Southern Africa
RFFPO	Regional Food for Peace Office
RNIS	Refugee Nutrition Information System
SANA	Sustainable Approaches for Nutrition in Africa
SARA	Support for Analysis and Research in Africa
SCN	Standing Committee on Nutrition (formerly Sub-Committee on Nutrition)
SOW	Scope of Work
SO	Strategic Objective
STC	Save the Children
SUSTAIN	Sharing U.S. Technology to Aid in the Improvement of Nutrition
SWOT	Strengths, Weaknesses, Opportunities and Threats
TAG	Technical Advisory Group
TAP	Transitional Activity Proposal
USAID	United States Agency for International Development (also referred to as the Agency)
USDA	United States Department of Agriculture
VAM/EWS	Vulnerability Assessment and Mapping/Early Warning System
WFP	World Food Program
WHO	World Health Organization
WV	World

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INTRODUCTION

The Food and Nutrition Technical Assistance Project (FANTA), a USAID cooperative agreement managed by the Academy for Educational Development (AED), completed its fourth year of operation on September 30, 2002. FANTA provides technical leadership in nutrition and food security policy and programs. Specifically, FANTA provides technical support in policy development, program design and implementation, and monitoring and evaluation. FANTA works with PVOs, USAID's Bureau for Global Health/Office of Health, Infectious Disease and Nutrition (GH/HIDN), USAID's Bureau for Democracy, Conflict and Humanitarian Assistance/Office of Food for Peace (DCHA/FFP), other USAID Bureaus and Offices, Missions and host country governments to:

- Improve food security and nutrition program design;
- Help integrate food security and nutrition into the strategic planning process;
- Provide analysis for food security/nutrition policy strategy development; and
- Facilitate technical exchanges and collaborations of activities carried out by stakeholders.

FANTA provides technical assistance to the Title II emergency program and to more than 84 development (non-emergency) nutrition and food security programs in 27 countries. FANTA implements in-country, on-going programs of direct technical support to Missions and PVOs in 5 priority countries: Ethiopia, Madagascar, India, Haiti and Honduras. FANTA also work with Child Survival & Health Grant Program (CSHGP) PVOs to assist in ensuring comparable standards of program design, implementation and reporting.

FANTA works collaboratively with a number of partners representing a broad range of technical expertise. These partners include the Food Aid Management (FAM) consortium of Title II PVOs, the Child Survival Collaboration and Resources Group (CORE), the Child Survival Technical Support (CSTS) project, Tufts and Cornell Universities, the International Food Policy Research Institute (IFPRI), Freedom from Hunger (FFH) and the World Health Organization (WHO).

This report covers activities undertaken during Project Year Four (October 1, 2001 through September 30, 2002). During this period, FANTA underwent an external assessment by GH/HIDN. The assessment team found that:

- FANTA's mandate continues to be a high priority for the agency;
- There is a clear consensus that FANTA activities over the first three years have led to substantial accomplishments. FANTA is a well-managed and highly regarded project. The technical assistance they provide is viewed as high quality, useful and responsive to stakeholder needs.
- FANTA is viewed as exemplary in terms of promoting inter-bureau collaboration, particularly between GH and DCHA.

The assessment validated FANTA's approach, mode of operation and results that have evolved over the four-year life of the project. FANTA prioritizes technical assistance to Missions and

PVOs in countries or in programs where the lessons learned from the technical assistance will strengthen activities of other PVOs in the country; will strengthen nutrition food security strategy in that country; or will inform and enhance guidelines on better practices by the wider nutrition and food security community. The following activities are illustrative of this approach and provide examples of some of the significant results achieved in Project Year Four.

Food Aid and Food Security Assessment. The Food Aid and Food Security Assessment (FAFSA) was commissioned by DCHA's Office of Food for Peace and the Office of Program, Policy and Management to review progress in implementing the Food Aid and Food Security Policy Paper and assess whether the Title II development programs have been successful in achieving and reporting on the food security goals laid out in the Policy Paper. The FAFSA report documented the achievement of significant food security results by Title II development programs since the Policy Paper was issued. The FAFSA found improvements in the nutritional status of children in more than half of programs reviewed as well as significant advances in reducing diarrheal disease and increasing immunization rates. The FAFSA also found improvements in agricultural yields for nearly all programs reviewed.

One of the key management priorities emphasized in USAID's Food Aid and Food Security Policy Paper is the integration of Title II programs with field Missions' overall strategies and specific strategic objectives. The FAFSA concluded that partnerships and collaboration within and between Title II and Mission programs have increased substantially since the mid-1990s when the Policy Paper was issued. Missions have worked with governments, donors and CSs to develop food security and/or nutrition strategies that identify the main determinants of food security and malnutrition, the location of the food insecure populations and the priority interventions necessary to address food insecurity. This collaborative process of developing food security maps and strategies and articulating where and how Title II programs fit into a Mission's Strategic Plan has helped identify vital complementary interventions, as separate DA-funded projects or as DA-funded interventions integrated into CSs' Title II programs. A good example of successful integration is found in Ethiopia.

The USAID Mission in Ethiopia has demonstrated significant achievement in the integration of resources and activities in a way that effectively enhances overall Mission objectives. The direct operational presence of CSs at the community level greatly extends the reach of the Mission's DA-funded programs in the field. The integration of DA resources in the DAPs helps ensure the provision of services, training and technical assistance, and reduces the need to monetize to generate the resources required for these essential activities.

During the process of resource integration in Ethiopia, significant challenges were confronted and resolved. Substantial work was required before the two sets of resources (DA and Title II) could be effectively converged. Such issues included: the reconciliation of different approaches in intervention design; the harmonization of indicators for performance monitoring; the technical oversight by Mission staff of the various sectoral activities; and the identification of targets that are geographically compatible. FANTA has provided technical assistance to the Mission throughout this process and has been instrumental in the results achieved.

Harmonizing Indicators for Results Reporting. A key area for FANTA technical assistance is Mission reporting to improve integration and comparison of program results. FANTA works intensively with Missions and Title II PVOs to standardize performance indicators across programs to ensure compatibility between PVO indicators and the Missions' own reporting indicators.

A good example of FANTA's role in strengthening monitoring and evaluation systems for better results reporting is the technical assistance provided to USAID/Port-au-Prince. In FY 2002, the Mission monetized or distributed \$22 million of Title II food aid complementing an already sizeable development assistance program. The Mission implements Title II through four Cooperating Sponsors (CSs). FANTA played an active role in strengthening the design of the DAPs and in standardizing outcome indicators across CSs. At the beginning of FY 2002, FANTA provided technical support to developing a conceptual framework for programs in each sector to address not only the outcomes of the activities but also the determinants of success or failure of the Title II programs.

Standardized Monitoring and Assessment of Relief and Transitions (SMART). Emergency response is a critical area for USAID and its PVO partners. Problems associated with food and nutrition programming in emergencies and the need for increased technical expertise among US government agencies and PVOs has long been recognized as a challenge for improving response. FANTA has been and continues to be active in strengthening reporting for effective programming and advancing USAID's goal of better monitoring the nutrition status of populations in crisis. FANTA is working to improve guidelines on emergency nutrition and disseminating state-of-the-art knowledge to the broader international humanitarian community.

The SMART initiative is illustrative of FANTA's support to improving the agency's reporting of the impact of emergency programming on nutritional status and mortality. Standardized Monitoring and Assessment of Relief and Transitions (SMART) is an inter-agency global initiative to improve the assessment, monitoring, reporting and evaluation of humanitarian assistance interventions. The SMART initiative emphasizes the importance of interpreting data in context to provide a comprehensive picture of a given situation to facilitate effective decision-making. FANTA, in collaboration with USAID and its partners, provided technical and logistical support to organize and conduct the SMART Workshop held in Washington, D.C. in July 2002.

LOOKING AHEAD TO PROJECT YEAR FIVE

During Project Year Five, FANTA will build on the successes and lessons learned of the previous four years. FANTA has established a reputation among USAID and the CSs for quality and timely technical assistance. Through a consultative process with USAID and PVO stakeholders, FANTA has identified several priority technical areas. In Project Year Five, FANTA will focus on the following strategic areas:

- Strengthen Maternal and Child Health and Nutrition (MCHN) and Child Survival and Health Grant (CSHG) programs with emphasis on improving infant and early childhood feeding measurement and indicators;
- Strengthen programs to improve women's nutrition and survival;

- Update guidelines for addressing nutritional care and support needs of people affected by HIV/AIDS;
- Develop guidelines and programming options for mitigating the impact of HIV/AIDS on food security and for demonstrating results achieved;
- Strengthen monitoring and evaluation of programs through indicator and measurement guide development and training; Identify and test indicators of food access/income for evaluation of programs; and
- Strengthen the guidance for design, implementation and M&E of developmental relief (emergency/transition) programs.

FANTA’S INTERMEDIATE RESULTS

FANTA’s Strategic Objective of improved food and nutrition policy, strategy, and program development will be reached through the achievement of its three Intermediate Results. Specific activities undertaken in Project Year Four are discussed under each IR.

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

ACTIVITIES IN SUPPORT OF IR 1

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

FANTA works with its partners and other stakeholders in nutrition and food security problem analysis, design and reporting. FANTA collaborates with USAID's Bureau for Democracy, Conflict and Humanitarian Assistance (DCHA) Office of Food for Peace (FFP), USAID Regional Offices and Field Missions, the Bureau for Global Health (GH), Title II PVO Cooperating Sponsors and International Organizations such as WFP and WHO. FANTA also works closely with the Child Survival and Health Grant Program (GH/CSHGP) and its partners—the Child Survival PVOs—to support nutrition interventions in child survival programs. FANTA facilitates increased collaboration among Child Survival PVOs, represented by the Child Survival Collaboration and Resources Group (CORE) and Title II Cooperating Sponsors, represented by Food Aid Management (FAM).

1.1. Support to improve development programming

The Title II food aid programs represent approximately one-third of USAID's total annual budget. Title II development food aid directly supplements the diet of young children and pregnant and lactating mothers. Title II food aid mobilizes poor people's labor to feed families and build local commercial and agricultural infrastructure necessary for sustainable rural development. Proceeds from the monetization of Title II development food aid are used to support the provision of basic health services, nutrition education, agricultural extension and training, and local capacity building, which help insure that the program's longer-term objective of sustainable increases in food security is met. When Title II development food aid is integrated with other USAID resources, it enhances the effectiveness of child survival, agriculture, income generation, basic education and community development activities targeting the rural poor.

1.1.1. Technical support to BHR/FFP/DP (Development)

1.1.1.a. Improve guidelines on nutrition and food security

During Project Year Four, FANTA completed a major assessment of Title II food aid programs; assisted FFP in developing a strategic review process for Title II monetization resources; presented two sessions at the Food for Peace Annual Food Aid Managers Course; and provided technical assistance to CSs to support improved development programming.

Food Aid and Food Security Assessment (FAFSA)

In 1995, USAID issued a Food Aid and Food Security Policy Paper that defined the general purposes and use of food aid resources in developing countries. During Project Year Four, FANTA completed an assessment of the Title II food aid development programs and their progress in meeting the food security goals laid out in the policy paper. See section 2.1.3 for a detailed description of this activity.

Office of Food For Peace's Annual Food Aid Manager's Course

In June 2002, FANTA attended FFP's three-day conference in Lansdowne, VA. The conference, titled "What's New with Title II", was held to provide a forum for learning, discussing, and exchanging information and ideas regarding current and evolving policies and practices related to Title II food aid. The conference attracted more than 200 participants from USAID (Washington and the field), other U.S. Government agencies, Congress, Cooperating Sponsors, industry and other groups.

A Food Aid Managers Training Course was held after the conference. FANTA presented two sessions: *Problem Assessment and M&E Concepts*, and *Food Security Indicators: Household Nutrition and Agricultural Productivity*. There were approximately 40 participants from FFP Washington, USAID Missions and PVOs at both of the sessions. Copies of FANTA indicator and programming guides were made available to the participants. Additionally, FANTA was an active participant and provided technical assistance both prior to and during the conference. Staff helped the organizers and facilitators define breakout groups, refine the agenda and train the breakout group facilitators.

Food for Peace's Commodity Reference Guide

FANTA is continuing to review and update the Commodity Reference Guide (CRG) for FFP. This guide serves as an essential reference for Cooperating Agencies, Cooperating Sponsors and the United Nations to determine the composition and size of food rations for development and emergency programming. FANTA prepared and submitted Commodity Fact Sheets on the nutritional content and recommended use of Non-Fat Dry Milk and the Cereal Milk Blend Commodities (Wheat Soy Milk, Corn Soy Milk, and Instant Corn Soy Milk). In addition, FANTA submitted draft text on micronutrient deficiencies and the issue of lactose intolerance to FFP for review. A general review of the CRG was undertaken to assess the accuracy of information and consistency of language. The updated documents will be available on USAID's website.

DAP Guideline improvement

FANTA assisted the Office of Food for Peace in developing the FY 2004 DAP Guidelines and incorporating PVO feedback on the drafts. The FY 2004 guidelines have been recognized as being clearer, more concise and understandable.

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

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

Table 1. Title II DAP Reviews by Type and Country

Program reviewed	Country	PVOs
DAP proposal	Bolivia	CAN, PCI
	Chad/Mali	Africare
	Ethiopia	Africare, CARE, CRS, EOC-DICAC, REST, SAVE, World Vision
	Guinea	OICI, Africare
	Honduras	World Vision
	Kenya	FHI
	Senegal	Technoserve
	Senegambia	CRS
	Uganda	CRS, Africare
	CSR4	Angola
Bangladesh		World Vision, CARE
Burkina Faso		Africare
Cape Verde		ACDI/VOCA
Chad		Africare
Ghana		ADRA, OICI, CRS
Guatemala		SHARE
Guinea		Africare
India		CARE, CRS
Indonesia		CARE, CRS, World Vision, Mercy Corps, Church World Service
Kenya		ADRA, CARE, CRS, TechnoServe, World Vision
Malawi		CRS
Mali		Africare
Nicaragua		CRS, ADRA
Niger		Africare
Mozambique		Africare, SCF, FHI, WVI, ADRA
Rwanda		CRS, World Vision, ACDI/VOCA
Uganda		ACDI/VOCA, WV, CRS, TNS, Africare
TAP proposal	Liberia	CRS
DAP amendment	Ghana	CRS
	Guatemala	SCF
	Guinea	OICI
	Mauritania	World Vision

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

Strategic Objective 2 (SO2) of FFP is: *Increased effectiveness of BHR/FFP's partners in carrying out Title II development activities with a primary focus on household nutrition and agricultural productivity.* During FY 2001, the Strategic Objective (SO2) team requested an extension in their Strategic Plan (SP) so that the new SP could reflect the legislative and operational realities of the program. During PY4, FANTA continued to provide technical assistance to FFP in developing its strategic plan and results framework for FY2004-2008. The SP should be finalized by March 2003.

FANTA has been an active participant in FFP's Vision and Strategy Working Group and its two subgroups: Vision and Mission and Review of Current Strategy. These two working groups aim to address different aspects of FFP's new Strategic Plan and new legislative mandates contained in the 2002 Farm Bill. By the time of the BHR/FFP conference at the end of June, the group had completed a draft Vision and Mission statement. The FAFSA is considered a key part of the analytic agenda underlying the SP - - FFP senior management has repeatedly indicated their intention that the FAFSA findings become part of the foundation on which the strategy is developed.

FFP's Vision and Strategy Working Group

The Farm Security and Rural Investment Act of 2002 (Farm Bill) requires USAID to streamline program procedures and guidelines for Title II and to report on the improvements made to Congress by January 2003. The Farm Bill identifies four priority areas for management streamlining: 1) expedition of and greater consistency in the program review and approval process; 2) streamlining information collection and reporting systems by identifying critical information that needs to be monitored and reported; 3) provision of greater flexibility to make modifications in activities to achieve results, with streamlined procedures for reporting such modifications; and 4) improvements and upgrades in information management, procurement and financial management systems. FANTA was actively involved with the Streamlining Working Group created by FFP.

SO2 Annual Report Performance Narrative

In the second quarter of Project Year Four, FANTA assisted FFP to draft the SO2 Annual Report Performance Narrative. This report forms the basis for the Office's Annual Report and represented an important opportunity to educate new Bureau management on the objectives and achievements of the Title II Development Program. For this report, FANTA reviewed forty-seven CSR4s for success stories, percentage of results achieved, baseline surveys implemented and performance targets set in a timely manner and incorporated this information in the performance narrative.

The narrative highlighted a number of important issues that will be important to address in FFP's new Strategic Plan. These included the need to establish a framework to maximize the contributions of the Title II development program to the DCHA objectives, within the

programmatic and legislative parameters set by the Farm Bill and Administration policy, the manageable interest of the SO2 Team and the human, OE and DA resources available to the Team. In addition, the report stressed that the SP and its associated Results Framework should also reflect the cross-cutting nature of the Title II development program, which makes important contributions to goals in the Economic Growth, Trade, and Agriculture (EGAT) and Global Health (GH) pillar bureaus. The challenge facing the Team and the Agency is to insure efficient intra-agency coordination, and develop a performance reporting plan that reports the contribution of the Title II development program to goals in all three pillar bureaus, without overburdening the Team and its partners with unrealistic reporting requirements.

Three options for the focus of the Strategic Objective for the FY 2003–FY 2007 Strategic Plan were described, which represent different tradeoffs among what is within the Team’s manageable interest, what is relevant and has resonance for a wider audience and performance reporting challenges.

Impact Assessment for Agriculture and Natural Resource Management Workshop

USAID’s Bureau for Economic Growth, Agriculture and Trade (EGAT) requested FANTA’s presence at their Impact Assessment for Agriculture and Natural Resource Management workshop in mid-September. The purpose of the workshop was to share among agricultural programs (contractors, cooperating sponsors and grantees) current indicators, methods and uses of the impact information and issues for measuring results of USAID-funded agricultural activities. The aim was to identify best practices and standardize to the extent possible impact assessment in this area. This will lead to greater complementarity in indicators and reporting across Agency programs, in this case between EGAT and FFP.

OMB’s Program Assessment Rating Tool

FANTA met with a representative from the Office of Management and Budget (OMB) to provide technical input on the Title II program and on Food for Peace’s management of the Title II program for the OMB Program Assessment Rating Tool (PART). PART is a component of OMB’s Budget and Performance Integration Initiative, which builds on the Government Performance and Results Act of 1993 (GPRA) and earlier efforts to identify program goals and performance measures, and link them to the budget process. After the meeting with OMB, FANTA briefed FFP and provided comments on FFP’s self-assessment for the PART.

1.1.1.d. Provide technical assistance to Institutional Support Agreements

Funded by USAID’s Office of Food for Peace, Institutional Support Agreements (ISAs) support technical initiatives in food security and nutrition and strengthen the capacity of headquarters staff of the Title II Cooperating Sponsors. Currently there are 12 recipients representing a wide range CSs engaged in development and emergency programming.

In Project Year Four, FANTA reviewed the FY 2003 Detailed Implementation Plans (DIPs) for ISA activities of all of the PVOs and provided comments to FFP. These include: ACDI/VOCA, ADRA, Africare, CARE, CRS, FAM, Food for the Hungry International (FHI), OICI, PCI, Save the Children, TechnoServe, and World Vision.

FANTA also reviewed the SOWs for ISA Final Evaluations of the same 12 PVOs and provided comments to FFP on the SOWs and the proposed evaluation consultants. All of the PVOs will be conducting ISA Final Evaluations during the first quarter of FY 2003.

FANTA provided sustained technical assistance to Africare in the ISA-funded initiative to improve annual results reporting. In part as a result of this assistance, all of Africare's CSR4s were submitted on time and an initial review of the reports suggests that the quality has significantly improved over previous years.

1.1.2. Technical support to Cooperating Sponsors and USAID Field Missions

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

FANTA provides technical assistance to CSs and USAID Missions using the following criteria:

- 1) Countries designated by USAID as a priority country or country of special interest due to the magnitude of the food insecurity or nutrition problem, severity of the problem and the overall political situation;
- 2) Countries where opportunities exist to leverage investment for other funding sources and donors;
- 3) Strong mission interest expressed by strategic objectives or intermediate results, high levels of food security and nutrition programming and a strong interest in collaboration;
- 4) Possibility of technical assistance on problems being of more general relevance to donor and partner community;
- 5) Interest from CSs and willingness to share experiences (better practices) with other CS and mission; and
- 6) Assistance will be offered where the lessons learned will be relevant to USAID's larger development audience, as well as where an opportunity exists for a multiplier effect with other CSs, PVOs implementing non-Title II funded programs such as child survival programs, host government initiatives, and local non-governmental organizations (NGOs).

Technical Assistance to USAID/Maputo

USAID/Maputo is conducting a nutrition study to look into the key causes underlying high rates of stunting and other malnutrition indicators in Mozambique. Included in this study is an analysis of the possible uses of direct food distribution in Title II programming, and no-cost adjustments to the six DAPs that would improve the nutrition activities of the programs. FANTA assisted the mission in developing a scope of work for the nutrition study.

FANTA also assisted the Mission and its PVO partners to 1) review the objectives of the Mozambique Title II five-year Development Assistance Programs (DAPs) and joint baseline and follow-on surveys of common indicators, and 2) develop an appropriate sampling framework to measure the progress achieved over time for the target population of the PVOs. FANTA conducted a training workshop for the PVOs on conducting sampling activities and will continue to provide technical assistance to the PVOs throughout the design process. The improved

sampling method will enhance the accuracy and reliability of Title II baselines and the standard indicators will allow for greater comparability.

Technical Assistance to Cooperating Sponsors

During Project Year Four, FANTA provided technical assistance to Catholic Relief Services (CRS) headquarters in Baltimore to develop a global assessment of CRS's food aid activities. FANTA assisted CRS to identify themes and develop interview questions and a methodology to determine and document *Promising Practices* and *Lessons Learned* in using "food as food" aid programs.

FANTA also provided technical assistance to CRS in selecting indicators to improve performance measurement, including selecting indicators for their new DAP in Uganda. FANTA's technical assistance on measuring income by using income proxy indicators resulted in CRS's decision to use more simple generic indicators for agriculture and concentrate on developing tools (rapid appraisal, case studies) for measuring the adoption of improved practices and food security impacts of their activities.

FANTA provided technical assistance to ACDI/VOCA on conducting a food security assessment in Guinea Bissau as part of the pre-DAP proposal for problem definition in their coverage area. In addition, ACDI/VOCA required assistance on refining indicators to improve the definition and measurement of agricultural practice adoption, one of the Food for Peace generic indicators for Title II programs.

1.1.2.b. Improve/strengthen existing program design

In-country Technical Assistance

FANTA provides in-country technical assistance to selected Title II programs. Through this assistance, FANTA broadly disseminates lessons learned to inform and enrich guidelines on better practices for use by the wider food security and nutrition community. A description of current and proposed countries with programs of in-country technical assistance is in Section 1.3.

Monitoring and Evaluation Working Group

FANTA continues its work with the FAM Monitoring and Evaluation Working Group, which assists PVOs to improve performance monitoring and reporting of field programming. In Project Year Four, the working group finalized the SOW for the activity to assess how Title II PVOs currently address and monitor food access, identify good practices in monitoring food access, identify appropriate indicators to measure food access and develop a Food Access M&E Guide for PVO field staff. In addition to technical and financial support from FANTA, the working group has received a financial commitment for this activity from five PVO members and FAM.

Local Capacity Building Working Group

FANTA continues to participate in the FAM Local Capacity Building Working Group, which assists PVO members in assessing and improving institutional capacity. During Project Year Four, the working group consultant presented a report on the review of indicators used in Title II programs to measure capacity-building. Key deliverables generated from the activity are a database of all of the indicators used by Title II development programs in FY 2000, and a matrix that organizes capacity-building indicators by level.

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

FANTA provides in-country technical assistance to selected Title II programs in countries and/or programs where the lessons learned will help strengthen the activities of other nutrition and food security programs in the same country; or will inform guidelines on better practices for use by the wider food security or nutrition community. A key activity in this process is providing support for conducting mid-term and final year evaluations of Title II programs. FANTA also provides Washington-based desk reviews of evaluation scopes of work and assists in identifying evaluation team members. During PY4, FANTA reviewed and provided technical input for the following Title II food security program evaluations (see Table 2.)

Table 2: Mid-term & Final Evaluations and Evaluation SOWs by Country and PVO

Country	PVO
Bangladesh	CARE
Bolivia	CARE, FHI, PCI, ADRA
Burkina Faso	Africare
Cape Verde	ACDI/VOCA
Chad	Africare
Kenya	CARE
Mali	Africare
Mozambique	World Vision, Africare, CARE, FHI
Uganda	Africare

1.1.3. Technical support to Child Survival and Health Programs

Child Survival Detailed Implementation Plans

FANTA completed the technical review and attended the external review sessions of eight Child Survival (CS) Detailed Implementation Plans (DIPs) submitted to USAID’s Child Survival Grants Program. The eight programs had important nutrition components. The objective of the review process was to strengthen the individual CS projects under review, as well as strengthen the larger CS community. FANTA received strong positive feedback from DCHA/PVC and the PVOs on the technical support provided.

Table 3: Review of Detailed Implementation Plans

Country	PVO
Azerbaijan	Mercy Corps
Cambodia	ADRA
Ethiopia	Save the Children
Ghana	Project Concern International
Guatemala	HOPE
India	Counterpart
Rwanda	World Relief
Uganda	CRS

1.2. Support to improve emergency and transition programming

Emergency response continues to be an important focus of USAID and its partners. There is an unmet need for innovative projects that link relief and development concepts in a new conceptual framework called “developmental relief”. FANTA is working with the FFP Emergency Program Division (FFP/EP) and its two teams—disaster response and disaster mitigation and program results—to ensure technical excellence in design, implementation, and M&E and to document lessons learned and promising practices. Close coordination is maintained with the Office of Health, Infectious Diseases and Nutrition and the Office of U.S. Foreign Disaster Assistance (OFDA). FANTA provides technical support to Title II PVOs on nutrition, health and performance measurement issues related to Title II emergency food aid.

1.2.1. Technical support to BHR/FFP/EP (Emergency)

1.2.1.a. Improve guidelines on nutrition and food security for emergency and transition programming

During Project Year Four, FANTA was active in various USAID and CS working groups to revise and update nutrition and food security related-guidance for Title II emergency programming and for the Agency’s Results Report submissions.

Technical Assistance to FFP

FANTA responded to numerous technical requests from FFP Emergency Program staff. This included advice on the use of Non-Fat Dry Milk (NFDM), the use of emergency food products (EFPs), the use and production of therapeutic formulas, guidance on general ration levels and the care and treatment of the severely malnourished and those living with HIV/AIDS.

SMART workshop

The global initiative known as Standardized Monitoring and Assessment of Relief and Transitions (SMART) seeks to improve the monitoring, reporting and evaluation of humanitarian assistance. The program will pilot an approach to routinely collect, analyze and disseminate information on nutrition and mortality. FANTA provided the technical and organizational lead for a technical working session on standardizing survey methodology. With funding from FFP,

GH and the State department, FANTA worked with FAM and key technical consultants to support a Technical Advisory group and to organize the workshop presentations and agenda. Convened by USAID/PPC, the workshop brought together US, Canadian and European NGOs, international organizations, academia and donors. The group sought to build a consensus on a generic methodology to be adopted by all relief organizations. The workshop was successful in establishing a broad-based consensus on the use of mortality and nutritional status indicators and a consensus on the importance of ensuring data is timely and reliable for policy and program decision-making.

Agreement on steps following the workshop included:

- Develop a simple SMART manual on methodology and nutritional status, including guidance on interpreting data in context;
- Undertake training at all levels (NGO, HQ, local capacity, donors);
- Develop a global technical support system and expand the inventory of organizations and individuals with expertise who can provide assistance;
- Develop a standard reporting format;
- Determine country pilot studies; and
- Develop an operational research agenda.

Emergency Food Products

FANTA drafted a Technical Note on the use of compact foods in emergencies. This technical note discusses the advantages and disadvantages of compact foods, considerations in the use of compact foods, and provides recommendations for their use in the initial stages of emergency situations.

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

FANTA provided comments on Title II emergency proposals, concept papers and reports. These requests are ad hoc but continue to increase as FANTA enhances its reputation in providing technical responses to issues related to food and nutrition in emergencies. For example, FANTA has been asked to comment on ration levels for program planning purposes, the use of therapeutic formulas, micronutrient deficiencies and nutrition monitoring and reporting. FANTA has been actively involved in discussions related to the use of compact foods in emergencies, in particular, the development of Emergency Food Products (EFPs). In the last quarter of Project Year Four, FANTA was asked to review and advise on the Southern Africa Drought program, a civil servant supplement program in Afghanistan, and a food assistance review in Tajikistan.

Southern Africa Drought Program

The FFP Emergency Program requested FANTA to review and advise on ration levels for the Southern Africa drought program. In addition, FANTA reviewed reports and proposals and attended policy meetings on Guatemala, Haiti, Southern Africa and Ethiopia, including a developmental relief proposal from a consortium of PVOs (World Vision, CARE, CRS) on the

Southern African drought. The final proposal focused on Malawi, Zambia and Zimbabwe. FANTA provided written comments and provided suggestions in terms of programming interventions.

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

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

FFP-EP requested that FANTA take the technical lead on the annual report. In the last quarter of Project Year Four, FANTA wrote the narrative, specific case studies and analyzed the data, with assistance from AMEX staff. Case studies included lessons learned from the Kenya emergency operation, protecting livelihoods in Afghanistan through food for asset creation and social assistance programs in Kosovo and Afghanistan. Areas that should be highlighted in the next round of strategic planning were also identified. For example, it is clear that current indicators will need to be revised both in terms of being in line with agency performance indicators and to be more appropriate for program management as well as meeting reporting requirements.

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

FFP/EP Database

As noted in section 1.2.1.c., the database has now been moved to AMEX in accordance with a previous agreement that FANTA would hand over this responsibility once a suitable home for the database had been agreed upon. AMEX will now oversee the maintenance of the database.

1.2.2. Technical Support to Cooperating Sponsors and USAID Field Missions

1.2.2.a. Provide technical assistance to CSs and Field Missions

Food Security Coordination in the Democratic Republic of the Congo

In an effort to help strengthen food security monitoring for improved emergency response, FANTA worked to coordinate FEWSnet with the National Food Security and Nutrition Monitoring System of the Democratic Republic of Congo. The objective of this activity was to improve both emergency and non-emergency food security planning and policy formation. Drawing from lessons learned in other countries and situations, FANTA acted in an advisory role, providing technical assistance on choosing indicators, improving coordination in

information collection and use, and establishing national protocols for feeding programs and surveys. This activity can serve as a model for FEWSnet and its affiliated national early warning systems on how the collection and analysis of nutritional data can improve the identification of vulnerable populations and the design of the response.

In Guatemala

FANTA reviewed concept papers from CARE, SHARE, CRS, and Save the Children/Guatemala for the Office of FFP/EP. The concept papers were submitted to obtain emergency funding to address the current nutritional situation in Guatemala.

In Angola

At the request of FFP, FANTA conducted a review of the pellagra situation in Angola. The report examines the prevalence of pellagra and its determinants and offers recommendations for appropriate interventions to address the niacin deficiency. Demand for this review stemmed from reports of high levels of pellagra, a disease resulting from inadequate intake or absorption of niacin, in parts of Angola. FANTA conducted a field review in the Bie province of Angola that involved data collection, interviews, and site visits, followed by analysis of the data. FANTA completed a draft report that provides a detailed analysis of the situation and offers phased recommendations to improve the situation and prevent further outbreaks. Following FFP's review, the report will be issued soon, and results are expected to inform interventions by USAID and its partners to address pellagra.

1.3. Country-specific activities

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

1.3.1. Ethiopia

The large Title II program in Ethiopia, representing approximately forty percent of the Mission's portfolio at approximately 34 million U.S. dollars in 2001, is implemented by Cooperative for Assistance and Relief Everywhere (CARE), Catholic Relief Services (CRS), Relief Society of Tigray, Save the Children/US, and World Vision International. The activities of the five CSs cover a variety of food security program interventions: agriculture, natural resource management, microenterprise, water and sanitation, maternal and child health and nutrition (MCHN), and humanitarian assistance. In addition, the Mission has a Development Assistance (DA) funded bilateral portfolio focused on maternal and child health, and HIV/AIDS.

The overall goal of the Ethiopia Mission's Integrated Strategic Plan (ISP) for 2002-2006 is "Reduction in Chronic Food Insecurity" against a backdrop of increasing vulnerability and destitution. Under the previous country strategy, the Mission focused on the availability (production) and access (income) aspects of food security. The third food security aspect, nutrition (utilization), received less attention. However, malnutrition remains pervasive in

Ethiopia: according to the recently released Ethiopia Demographic and Health Survey (DHS) 2000, the prevalence of stunting in Ethiopia is the highest in Sub-Saharan Africa at 49 percent. The Mission recognizes that, in order to achieve its food security goal, it must give increased attention to nutrition. The combination of the new Mission focus and the mandate of FANTA to develop and implement nutrition and food security strategies and programs led to the development of an enhanced program for maternal and child nutrition.

A series of activities was undertaken by FANTA during Project Years Two, Three and Four to initiate this program, including two PROFILES workshops, a thorough review of CS activities, support in the preparation of the 2003-2007 proposals (particularly with regard to the inclusion of nutrition interventions), technical assistance in the final evaluation of the overall food aid program and in the coordination of food security interventions between the Mission and the CSs, support to FFP and the Mission in review and selection of new DAPs proposals, technical assistance to the CSs and the Mission in the preparation of the baseline for follow-on DAPs, and further analysis of the nutrition information offered by DHS 2000 was also carried out to improve the design of nutrition programs in the country

During Project Year Four, FANTA provided technical support in the following areas:

With the USAID Mission:

- FANTA helped the Mission respond to the drought emergency that hit the Eastern part of Ethiopia in 2002 by reviewing proposals meant to mitigate the effect of the drought; carried out field visits to the worst hit areas; and represented the Mission in Washington to inform FFP, OFDA and other stakeholders about this situation.
- FANTA reviewed the Southern Tier Initiative (STI) program design and M&E. The goal of this Strategic Objective (SO) is to channel development resources to neglected pastoralist areas in Southern Ethiopia. FANTA provided comments to the Mission on the performance monitoring and evaluation plan (PMEP) of the STI and suggested appropriate modifications.
- FANTA supported the FFP Washington team and the USAID Mission in Ethiopia in the review of the seven new DAP proposals submitted by PVOs for the period 2003-2007.
- FANTA helped the Mission review the retrospective study of the impact of overall food aid in Ethiopia over the last eight years, prepared by Checchi International. FANTA's comments were central to the Mission's response and to the follow up revisions by the Checchi team.
- The Mission requested FANTA's help in reviewing the USAID-funded SERA (Strengthening Emergency Response Ability) project, housed at the Government of the Federal Democratic Republic of Ethiopia's (GFDRE) Disaster Prevention and Preparedness Commission (DPPC).
- FANTA participated in various roundtable sessions to discuss the Mitigating Emergency and Disaster (MED) SO's PMEP.

With the CSs:

- FANTA moderated the discussions among USAID and its Title II partners to enable the elaboration of a joint impact evaluation system. This led to the preparation of a joint baseline survey, to be conducted in the second quarter of FY2003.

- FANTA supported the review and re-writing of the final evaluation for the CSs. This work entailed the participation of an analyst team from the International Livestock Research Institute (ILRI) in Addis, who specialize in data analysis for policy making. FANTA wrote the SOW and provided the general parameters for analysis to the ILRI team as well as revised the ILRI report to make it more reader-friendly to a non-economist audience.

With other stakeholders, including the Government of Ethiopia:

- FANTA elaborated a plan for developing a nutrition strategy in Ethiopia with officials from the Ministry of Health's newly created Nutrition Unit. FANTA is expecting a formal request from the Nutrition Unit in order to initiate the nutrition strategy activity.
- FANTA drew up plans for a policy dialogue on nutrition with Regional Health Offices. The discussion is based on the PROFILES recommendations. FANTA expecting a formal request from the central Nutrition Unit in order to initiate this activity.
- FANTA supported the further analysis of the Ethiopia DHS 2000 nutrition data and presented the work to the nutrition community in Ethiopia, including representatives of the Ministry of Health, the Government's Central Statistical Authority, multilateral organizations (UNICEF, WHO, World Bank), the CSs and USAID. The findings will be used in later discussions with CSs so they can incorporate the findings in their programs.
- FANTA staff participated in a three-day conference organized at the Economic Commission for Africa (ECA) in Addis on sustainable land management policies in fragile lands of the East Africa. The issues in this conference are highly relevant to the design of interventions by the CSs, and FANTA ensured the dissemination of those findings to the CSs.

1.3.2. Madagascar

The Title II program in Madagascar (approximately \$6.5 million in FY 2002) is implemented by the Adventist Development and Relief Agency (ADRA), CARE, and CRS. The activities of the three CSs cover interventions in agriculture, maternal and child health, water and sanitation, food for education, and other child feeding/humanitarian assistance. The Title II program also includes disaster mitigation and urban development activity in the capital city, Antananarivo.

FANTA support to USAID/Antananarivo includes technical assistance in the area of nutrition and food security programming, covering not only the Title II program but also other activities in the Mission's food security portfolio. In Project Year Two, FANTA prepared a Food Security Situation Analysis for Madagascar. This document, which provides recommendations and explicit opportunities for integrating Mission resources (both development assistance (DA) and Title II) in its effort to address nutrition and food security, was used as a keystone of the Mission's new Integrated Strategic Plan (ISP), discussed during FY 2002; and is also promoted as a key reference for NGOs intending to submit a new DAP for the FY2004-2008 cycle.

In Project Year Four, FANTA staff conducted a field review in Madagascar to: 1) help the Mission and Title II CSs evaluate their M&E system; 2) evaluate the performance of Title II CSs; 3) assess the compatibility of the data with Mission CSR4 indicators; and 4) discuss next steps for future FANTA assistance. Overall, FANTA determined that the CSs' M&E systems were in relatively good shape, although a number of recommendations were made to improve the reporting systems. Performance was also found to be generally good, although particular sectors

were identified that will require increased attention on the part of the CSs. FANTA identified four indicators that could be jointly reported by the CSs and the USAID Mission as Title II accomplishments. Future steps will involve FANTA support for the current programs' final evaluations to take place in FY 2003; support to the Mission in reviewing the new DAPs; and continued assistance to the CSs in refining their approach to monitoring agricultural activities in the pilot programs being tested by the Madagascar Title II partners in collaboration with FANTA.

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

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

1.3.3. India

India has the largest program (valued at approximately \$88 million in FY 2002) in the Title II development portfolio. The program is implemented by CARE and CRS, and the bulk of interventions address maternal and child health and nutrition (MCHN). CARE/India's project, the Integrated Nutrition and Health Project (INHP), reaches approximately seven million women and children in eight states. In addition to a health and nutrition program, CRS/India's Title II food security program includes natural resource management, agriculture, food for education, and other child feeding/humanitarian assistance activities. Both CSs began new five-year Title II programs in FY 2002.

During Project Year Four, FANTA, in consultation with USAID/New Delhi, developed a technical assistance plan for the Mission and its Title II partners to develop effective exit strategies for the program, and to enable replication of successful program practices by government programs in non-Title II areas. FANTA developed a SOW for this technical assistance, and as an initial step in the process, FANTA reviewed the operational strategy and draft graduation approach for CARE/India's INHP.

FANTA provided guidance to CRS on monitoring and evaluating the Food for Education component of its Title II program. CRS has adopted indicators from FANTA's *Food for Education Indicator Guide*, and FANTA provided assistance from Washington on applying the indicators to the CRS program context.

1.3.4. Haiti

The Title II program in Haiti (approximately \$22 million in FY 2002) is implemented by CARE, CRS, Save the Children/US and World Vision and began in January 2002. The CSs implement

activities in water and sanitation, maternal and child health and nutrition, food for education, microcredit, infrastructure development, and humanitarian assistance.

During Project Year Four, FANTA provided technical support to the CSs in the operation of their development program; the Mission in various areas related to nutrition and food security, and the Haitian government in the development of a national early warning system. More specifically, FANTA provided technical support in the following areas.

With the CSs:

- Before the beginning of activities under the new DAPs, FANTA assisted the CSs in streamlining the indicators they will use in their new DAPs, particularly when reporting on nutrition and other food security interventions.
- FANTA continued to support the CSs in improving the design of their programs, using state of the art approaches such as better definition of target groups, more standardized use of food rations and better monitoring of quality service delivery.
- FANTA moderated the discussions that led to the implementation of a joint baseline survey.

With the USAID Mission:

- FANTA assisted the Mission in evaluating the impact of the withdrawal of school feeding (SF) programs from several regions in the country. The withdrawal was motivated by findings from a study documenting that no positive impacts (nutritional or educational) could be associated with SF programs as traditionally implemented in Haiti. Food for Education (FFE) programs, by contrast, were found to have quite positive impacts on educational outcomes. Following those findings, the CSs, FFP/Washington and the USAID Mission decided to phase out completely from all SF activities, and concentrate instead on FFE. FANTA was requested by the Mission to develop a study that would document the effect of this withdrawal not only on schools themselves, but also on households, on communities and the local economy. The study will be completed in Project Year Five.
- FANTA developed a methodology to streamline the work done by Food Monitors when visiting Title II food distribution sites. Applying the principles of Lot Quality Assurance Sampling (LQAS), FANTA developed an approach that will ensure continuous monitoring by the Mission of the quality of food assistance delivery and program operation. The training modules and the implementation of the approach will take place in Project Year Five.
- FANTA, in close collaboration with the Mission, the International Food Policy Research Institute (IFPRI), Cornell University and World Vision, initiated a study of the effectiveness of targeting food rations to malnourished children under five (recuperative approach) compared to universal targeting of all children under two (preventative approach). In addition to promoting a better targeting of nutrition activities in Haiti, this research will constitute an important contribution to the study of effective interventions to prevent malnutrition, with implications beyond Haiti's situation. (See Section 3.7 for further details.)

With other stakeholders, including the Government of Haiti:

- The USAID Mission requested FANTA support in developing a national early warning system in collaboration with the Government's National Food Security Council (CNSA).

FANTA led the discussions to develop such a system and implement it across Title II intervention areas, using CARE's Northwest Early Warning System (NEWS) as a model. Replicating the NEWS in other CS areas will provide nearly complete national early warning system coverage. A consultant was recruited by FANTA to undertake this work, which will be completed during Project Year Five.

1.3.5. Honduras

During Project Year Four, FANTA completed a Food Security Update for the USAID Mission in Honduras. Based on a review of literature and key informant interviews conducted during two field visits this year, the update analyzes the nature and scope of food insecurity in Honduras. The report identifies major constraints to improving food security and suggests broad policy and program responses for the Title II food aid program, including opportunities for resource integration. This update helped USAID/Tegucigalpa identify Title II program priorities and assist in improving the integration of food security into Mission activities and objectives. The Mission used the results of the report to support its request for higher resource allocations.

Since FANTA provides ongoing technical assistance to Title II PVOs for developing Development Activity Proposals (DAPs), the Food Security Update served as a practical reference document for PVOs in developing their DAPs to focus on priority areas (the most food insecure) and priority interventions.

The Food Security Update for USAID/Tegucigalpa was expanded from an update on the Title II program into an update for the entire Mission. With the expanded focus, this report will be able to better integrate food security objectives of Title II with poverty alleviation objectives of the Mission. The Update gives suggestions for incorporating all Mission SOs and discusses resource integration within the mission, and by combining mission resources with external sources. The Update will be used as a model for how to mainstream a topic (in this case food security) into both Title II programming and the Mission's strategic plan.

1.3.6. Nicaragua

As a result of Hurricane MITCH, food aid programs in Nicaragua increased in size and complexity. A FANTA-funded Food Security Specialist was dispatched to Nicaragua in December 2000 to provide longer-term technical assistance to the USAID Mission as well as the Title II Cooperating Sponsors.

The assignment was completed in March 2002. Major accomplishments included the successful design, submission, review and approval of each of the 2002-2006 proposals submitted by ADRA, CRS, Project Concern International (PCI) and SCF; the emergency response program to the drought conditions affecting the two major growing seasons and the flooding in the RAAN; and a framework for supporting the food insecure rural poor.

Specific results included the following:

- Provided key technical assistance to USAID/Nicaragua's Food Security Officer in developing the Mission priorities for incorporation into the design of the new 2002-2006 Title II Development Assistance Programs.
- Strengthened the Mission's focus on collaboration among implementing partners, which had been a key element of the large and comprehensive program to assist Nicaragua recover from the effects of Hurricane Mitch.
- Provided assistance to the Food Security Officer in facilitating the implementation of the TAPs, and responding to the drought conditions that resulted in significant (and sometimes total) crop losses by a large number of small-scale producers. This included work with the Cooperating Sponsors to develop a simple and reliable system to get accurate and timely information about a very dynamic situation, due to the disperse and localized nature of the effects of the drought. The response to the drought involved reprogramming Title II TAP resources, reprogramming Mitch-funding resources, obtaining additional Office of Foreign Disaster Assistance, Title II, and Section 416(b) funding. It also involved a major coordination effort with the World Food Programme, and incorporating other U.S. NGOs that had not, heretofore, been involved in food aid programs.
- Designed an emergency program to assist workers in the coffee sector who had their source of income disappear due to the sudden collapse of world market coffee prices.

ACTIVITIES IN SUPPORT OF IR 2

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

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

2.1. In Washington

2.1.1. Implement strategies for improving women's nutrition

FANTA takes a lead role in coordinating efforts to improve women's nutrition among USAID, its PVO partners and host country governments by facilitating collaboration and disseminating better practices and program options to the wider development community.

During Project Year Four, FANTA continued its focus on two priority areas to improve women's nutrition: advocacy and program strengthening. Activities to improve advocacy for women's nutrition concentrated on the development of new evidence-based models that highlight the consequences of women's nutritional status for audiences such as USAID, its Missions, and national-level policy makers. Program strengthening took place through a number of activities, including identifying, assessing, and disseminating information on women's nutrition and better practices for use by FANTA's partners and PVOs

Women and Adolescent Nutrition in West Africa

FANTA provided technical support to the annual assembly of Focal Points in West Africa. In September 2001, the Nutrition Focal Points Meeting was held in Accra, Ghana under the theme, *Women and Adolescent Nutrition*. FANTA assisted in organizing the technical updates on this topic and provided the participants packets of information on women and adolescent nutrition. The meeting concluded with a series of program and policy recommendations for national and regional level strategies and "priority actions."

Four of the FANTA reports written specifically for the Focal Points meeting were on the top ten list of "Most Downloads Requested" on the FANTA website, as recorded by WebTrends at the end of Project Year Four.

Women's Nutrition Roundtable

With support from USAID/G/PHN, the Women's Nutrition Roundtable, held in early November, 2001, brought together a wide range of participants from sixteen different organizations that work on women's nutrition. Participants at the roundtable shared information and discussed

developing a women's nutrition agenda through the formation of a women's nutrition taskforce. FANTA produced a report on the meeting and disseminated it to the participants.

Statistical Modeling

During PY4, FANTA continued to support the development of statistical models for the nutritional determinants and consequences of maternal mortality and disability. The first of these models, one on anemia and productivity, was developed and used in a PROFILES application in China. The second model quantifies maternal mortality as a function of vitamin A deficiency as measured by night-blindness. A third, quantifying the effect of anemia on maternal mortality, is pending the incorporation of results from a study by Johns Hopkins University. These statistical models can be incorporated into stand-alone statistical software, such as PROFILES and REDUCE and will continue to be used to advocate for increased attention to women's nutrition. This quantitative approach to highlighting the various impacts, including social, economic, and health of investments in women's nutrition interventions will support advocacy efforts by FANTA and others.

Women's Nutrition Indicator Guide

In Project Year Four, FANTA's began work developing an *Indicator Guide for Women's Nutrition* to facilitate the consistent measurement of women's nutrition indicators and to standardize data collection and analysis. In addition to providing detailed information about individual indicators, the guide addresses the causes and consequences of malnutrition in women and identifies a range of potential interventions that address the main nutritional risks issues faced by women. The FANTA guide focuses on problem assessment, monitoring and evaluation. Methodological challenges in the monitoring and evaluation of WN interventions are addressed and guidelines on the recommended methods for data collection are also provided.

2.1.2. Provide technical support to G/PHN and USAID

During PY4, FANTA continued to provide technical support to GH and other USAID Bureaus in the area of nutrition and food security policy and programs to improve and strengthen the integration of nutrition into USAID programming. FANTA advocated for and facilitated the incorporation of promising practices and program approaches in food security and nutrition aimed at food insecure and more vulnerable populations into USAID's new initiatives for agriculture and rural development.

FANTA's most active support to USAID initiatives is in the Expanded Response to HIV AIDS and the Agency's agriculture strategy (see Section 2.2).

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

Commissioned by DCHA/FFP and Office of Program Policy and Management (PPM), the report of the Food Aid and Food Security Assessment (FAFSA) published this year has strengthened FANTA's ability to be a key advisor on future programming and management adjustments to the Title II Food Aid program. The aim of the FAFSA was to assess the Title II development

programs and their progress in achieving the food security goals laid out in FFP's Food Aid and Food Security Policy Paper, issued in 1995.

The main findings of the assessment included: 1) greater focus of the Title II development program on the most food insecure regions and countries, especially in sub-Saharan Africa; 2) increased programmatic emphasis on improving agricultural productivity and household nutrition, including a dramatic improvement in the design of Title II agricultural and nutrition programs with the integration of complementary activities; 3) better results and results reporting; and 4) better collaboration among partners. Recognizing this progress, the assessment report identifies program weaknesses and makes recommendations to FFP, Cooperating Sponsors (CSs), Missions and other stakeholders for strengthening the program over the coming years. The importance of transparency, consistency, flexibility and communication in the management of the program by FFP is emphasized.

FAFSA results -- such as a review of how Title II non-emergency program changed its sectoral and regional priorities to conform to the Policy Paper; and the promising practices, lessons learned and constraints to results achievements -- have provided clear and definitive recommendations to FFP on future programming and technical feedback to CSs on improving the design, implementation and monitoring of their current and future Development Assistance Programs.

The assessment report was presented in several venues to share the key findings and to highlight the significance of the Title II program and the FAFSA for USAID strategic planning. During PY5, the director of the Office of Food for Peace plans to have FANTA present the FAFSA findings to USAID Administrator Andrew Natsios and other top Agency management. Additional positive feedback on the assessment report came from one PVO reader:

"[FAFSA] ... is the best and most comprehensive review of Title II that I have ever seen. Thanks and there is so much information that we can use in there to plan and recognize and then address specific problems that we are having."

John Lundine, Guatemala Country Director, World SHARE.

The FAFSA has become an extremely useful analysis of food aid issues, trends, successes and obstacles on several levels and to a wide audience. For example, FANTA met with the Office of Management and Budget (OMB) late in the year and provided technical input on the Title II program. Drawing directly from the FAFSA report, FANTA was able to offer documented results of FFP's management of the Title II program for the OMB Program Assessment Rating Tool (PART). PART is a component of OMB's Budget and Performance Integration Initiative, which builds on the Government Performance and Results Act of 1993 (GPRA) and earlier efforts to identify program goals and performance measures, and link them to the budget process. FANTA then assisted Food for Peace in constructing their self-assessment required for the PART.

2.1.4. Review health and nutrition in emergencies

Refugees and internally displaced persons (IDPs) continue to claim a large portion of USAID's resources. FANTA's work on the health and nutrition needs of distressed populations in

emergency situations attempts to address some of the gaps in crisis intervention design. In Project Year Four, FANTA made contributions in four main areas: provided technical support to the development of the Community Therapeutic Care (CTC) model; published reports on emergency food product (EFP) guidelines and the outbreak of Pellagra in Angola; participated in the ACC/SCN symposium on nutrition in conflict situations; and coordinated the SMART workshop on developing reporting standards.

Support for Community Therapeutic Care (CTC)

The Community Therapeutic Care (CTC) program, designed by Valid International, is a community-based model of care for managing large numbers of malnourished people in times of food insecurity and acute stress. CTC provides fast, effective and cost efficient emergency assistance in a manner that empowers the affected communities and creates a platform for longer-term solutions to the problems of food security and public health. Over the past year, FANTA has explored possible collaborations with Valid to promote the implementation and documentation of operational research in this area.

In November 2001, Valid International presented the design and rationale for community management of severe malnutrition to USAID with FANTA support. Linking relief and development concepts, the CTC model shows promise for countries such as Afghanistan. With collaboration from Valid, FANTA submitted a proposal in Project Year Four on CTC to the Office of Foreign Disaster Assistance (OFDA). The proposed activities would serve several critical purposes:

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

OFDA has since requested that Valid and FANTA submit a proposal for the Monitoring Effectiveness Component (MEC) of the overall CTC program, particularly in Mali, Malawi, Sudan and Angola. The MEC component of the overall program will allow a multi-disciplinary team to thoroughly test the CTC approach in different contexts and to rigorously monitor factors affecting quality, impact, efficiency and cost. The collection of quantitative and qualitative data will allow evaluation against internationally recognized standards as well as highlighting critical implementation issues prior to advocating replication and scaling up. The outcome of the funding review process is expected in the next project year.

Emergency Food Product Review

This year, FANTA published a comprehensive report on Emergency Food Products (EFPs), written as a background paper for the National Academy of Sciences. FANTA's well-received report, *A Study of Emergency Relief Foods for Refugees and Displaced Persons* is one of two papers on the development of a compact, nutrient-dense and ready-to-eat food for populations in the initial stage of an emergency. Drawing on existing knowledge, current guidelines and evidence from field practitioners and emergency experts, the paper discusses and summarizes current thinking and use of compact foods. It provides information on the nutritional requirements of the target population, constraints associated with meeting the theoretical requirements, and product descriptions and comparisons of compact rations currently in use. The paper concludes with a discussion of factors to consider in the design of the EFP and key recommendations. A technical note on this subject has just been completed and will be published in the next project year.

Investigating Pellagra in Angola

FANTA also published a report on the nutritional deficiency Pellagra. *An Investigation of Recurrent Epidemics of Pellagra in Kuito, Angola* highlights the situation of micronutrient deficiencies in emergencies and addresses critical issues related to interpreting nutritional data in context and appropriate intervention strategies. The report includes findings on the cause of pellagra reported in the Kuito area, possible reasons for the confinement of this problem only to this area, and recommendations for appropriate interventions to respond to the particular micronutrient deficiency. Recommendations include the revision of ration levels, market interventions, seed diversity, small animal production, milling and fortifying imported maize, and addressing the shortage of land. The report on the pellagra epidemic highlights the need for specific nutrition interventions in areas of prolonged conflict. FANTA's role in bringing this to light and drafting recommendations for intervention is an example of how FANTA continues to contribute to global nutrition crises.

Symposium on Nutrition in the Context of Crisis and Conflict

Each year, FANTA participates in global fora such as the ACC/SCN annual symposium. With funds from USAID/PPM, FANTA supported and assisted in developing a paper for the symposium on Nutrition in the Context of Crisis and Conflict, held in Berlin. The paper, "Achievements and Challenges in Nutrition over 20 Years," co-authored by Save the Children Fund/UK and Action Contre la Faim, outlined advances and achievements made over the past twenty years and identified priority areas for future work. Recommendations from the paper formed part of the Symposium statement on nutrition which was prepared for the UN Secretary General. They have also been included in the materials to be taken up for discussion by the UN Sub-Committee on Nutrition's Working Group on Emergencies during 2002-2003.

SMART Workshop

USAID, the UN and other bilateral donors recently launched an initiative to monitor, report and evaluate humanitarian interventions by establishing a standardized methodology for data

collection, analysis and interpretation of basic health indicators. In support of this, FANTA coordinated and facilitated a workshop this quarter: Standardized Monitoring and Assessment of Relief and Transition -- the SMART Technical Working Session. (See section 1.2.1.a. for details.)

2.2. With Field Missions

2.2.1. Support REDSO/ESA Strategic Objective 7: Enhanced Regional Capacity to Improve Health Systems

With support from REDSO/ESA, FANTA works in partnership with regional institutions to improve nutrition and food security in eastern and southern Africa. FANTA's work supports REDSO/ESA's SO7: *Enhanced Regional Capacity to Improve Health Systems*. FANTA works collaboratively with various regional institutions and coalitions, such as the Regional Center for Quality of Health Care (RCQHC), providing technical and material support to build regional capacity for improving health systems.

A key area of collaboration in Project Year Four has been designing a generic process for developing and applying national guidelines for the nutritional care and support of people affected by HIV/AIDS. FANTA has provided ongoing assistance to support and guide regional institutions and countries as they work towards formulating their national guidelines (see section 3.4)

Workshops on Developing National Guidelines

In collaboration with the RCQHC, FANTA organized a regional workshop on national guideline development, held in November 2001 in Uganda and attended by country teams from Uganda, Kenya, Tanzania, and Malawi. The country teams included representatives from governments, donors, Cooperating Agencies, PVOs and community-based organizations (CBOs). FANTA support for this workshop included facilitation, technical presentations, and follow-up planning. Key outcomes of the workshop included: 1) dissemination of information, tools, and skills required for developing national guidelines; 2) identification of national guideline content; and 3) preparation of workplans for guideline development and dissemination by each country team.

Drawing from the successes of the first regional workshop in Uganda in 2001, the Southern Africa regional workshop was held in May 2002 in Zambia. Organized by the RCQHC and UNICEF/Zambia, the workshop was supported financially and technically by USAID, FANTA and UNICEF. Countries attended from Zambia, Zimbabwe, Botswana, Namibia, Lesotho, Swaziland, and South Africa. FANTA made three technical presentations: 1) the implications of interactions between antiretroviral drugs and food and nutrition, 2) the application of national guidelines, and 3) the monitoring and evaluation of national guideline development and application. Based on these workshops, ten participating countries have developed or are developing national guidelines.

Nutrition Guidance Recognized by Powell

In a cable sent to U.S. embassies in sub-Saharan Africa and USAID bureaus, Secretary of State Colin Powell discussed the southern Africa drought response and HIV/AIDS. Reflecting on the state of the HIV/AIDS pandemic in the region, Secretary Powell referred to the work USAID has done to support HIV/AIDS nutritional care and support activities and to promote the establishment of guidelines for HIV and nutrition. The cable stated: “In particular, USAID has provided leadership in advancing awareness of the special nutritional needs of people with HIV and AIDS in Africa and is promoting adoption of standard guidance on meeting these nutritional needs.” FANTA has provided significant technical assistance and guidance on the importance of nutrition and HIV/AIDS and on the development of guidelines.

2.3. With Cooperating Sponsors

2.3.1. Develop Credit with Education program advocacy document and monitoring and evaluation measurement guide

During Project Year Four, FANTA continued to work with Freedom from Hunger (FFH) to support the dissemination of the Credit with Education (CWE) approach that combines credit incentives, especially to women, with health and nutrition education. After publishing the initial Freedom from Hunger report in Project Year Three, FANTA produced the first in the *Technical Notes* series summarizing the approach of Credit With Education for Title II programs. Other results from FFH studies this year include: tools and guidelines to provide supervisors with a methodology for assessing field agent performance and program improvement; approaches to strengthen program monitoring for key impact evaluation indicators; and improved client knowledge and practice in the CWE topic areas being addressed.

FANTA supported FFH in their work with several local partners, in particular with FOCCAS Uganda, in the development and testing of specific progress tracking approaches such as the learning session observation checklist. FFH documented experience with *Credit with Education* practitioners in developing and applying a learning session observation checklist approach. The report, *Supervision and Support of High-Quality Group-Based Nonformal Education Services: The Use of Observation Checklists* was completed this year. Using qualitative methodologies in data collection and monitoring, this paper draws on the experience of three *Credit with Education* practitioners in the Philippines, Uganda and Bolivia in applying observation checklists for promoting good-quality delivery of nonformal and participatory health and business education. These checklists underscore the critical importance of supervision and field-based feedback for decentralized community education activities. It is anticipated that this study will serve as a guide to other practitioners, including Title II CSs.

In another study, the lessons learned from CWE partners who use participatory rapid appraisal (PRA) are summarized to gain an understanding of both program impacts and client feedback necessary to strengthen programs. *Listening to and Learning from Clients: The Use of Qualitative Methods for Progress Tracking* is a report on these results. It will be published in PY5.

2.4. With Host Country Governments

FANTA's strategy for influencing host country government policy and programming to promote programs and guidelines in nutrition food security, and child survival builds on our relationship with the USAID Missions. Over the past year, with active involvement and support from in-country staff, FANTA provided technical assistance and disseminated promising practices through the sharing of FANTA products, such as Guides and Technical Notes to support the Missions in their dialogue with government ministries of health. FANTA also works to foster relationships between local and international PVOs and USAID Missions, such as the Regional Center for Quality Health Care (RCQHC) in Uganda. This year, FANTA worked with the Mission in Ethiopia in the areas of nutrition; in Uganda to develop national HIV/AIDS care and support guidelines; in Honduras to revise the Food Security strategy; and in Haiti to recommend a method for monitoring food distribution centers.

Support to USAID/Addis Ababa

FANTA supported USAID/Addis Ababa in the multi-donor dialogue with the Government of the Federal Democratic Republic of Ethiopia and regional government institutions to incorporate nutrition activities in the government's food security strategy. Also during Project Year Four, FANTA reviewed the goals and design of the project with the leader of the SERA initiative (Strengthening Emergency Response Ability), a group that provides funding to the government of Ethiopia to undertake vulnerability analyses at the district level in Ethiopia.

FANTA also assisted USAID/Addis Ababa mission in the design of the upcoming evaluation of food aid impacts in Ethiopia over the last ten years. This review was initiated at the request of the FFP office in Ethiopia. FANTA had recommended that the Mission reduce the scope of inquiry to a more manageable task, and a new set of comments suggested a more systematic approach to defining the information system for monitoring emergency needs in the country.

Support to USAID/Kampala

The development of national guidelines for HIV/AIDS nutritional care and support in Uganda made significant progress this year. USAID/Kampala is funding FANTA's technical and material support to the Regional Center for Quality of Health Care (RCQHC). The RCQHC worked with the Ministry of Health National AIDS Control Program, the Uganda Nutrition Coalition, and other national stakeholders on developing national guidelines on HIV/AIDS nutritional care and support. A multi-sectoral team within Uganda, led by the Ministry of Health's National AIDS Control Program and Uganda's Nutrition Coalition (UGANS) began the process of guideline development. Uganda's guidelines are expected to strengthen HIV/AIDS responses within the country, promote awareness about the benefits of nutritional interventions, and serve as a model for other countries in developing their guidelines.

Support to USAID/Port-au-Prince

During Project Year Four, the Mission requested FANTA support in the development of a methodology to ensure proper monitoring of the food distribution centers. In response, FANTA proposed to use a LQAS methodology that was developed by a FANTA subcontractor earlier this

year. The methodology is participatory and involves the CSs as well as the Mission in identifying bottlenecks and performance problems in the daily operation of the programs.

Support to USAID/Tegucigalpa

In Honduras, FANTA worked with USAID/Tegucigalpa this year to review and sharpen its food security strategy, with a particular emphasis on the impact of natural disasters (hurricanes, droughts and floods). FANTA's report, *Food Security Update for the USAID Mission in Honduras*, has formed the basis of the Title II food security strategy and has fed into the Mission's five-year country strategy.

Based on a review of literature and key informant interviews conducted during two field visits this year, the update examined the nature and scope of food insecurity in Honduras. It incorporated data and analyses from a series of publications by UNDP, WB, IFPRI and other key institutions working on food insecurity and poverty in Honduras. The paper identified priority regions and primary causes of food insecurity. It also recommended key interventions for the Title II program, for example, improved practices for hillside agriculture and increasing access to basic health services for remote communities.

This type of technical assistance to USAID/Tegucigalpa was intended to identify Title II program priorities and improve the integration of food security into Mission activities and objectives, both areas where FANTA is uniquely positioned to assist missions.

ACTIVITIES IN SUPPORT OF IR 3

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

IR 3 assists the Bureau for Global Health (GH) in fulfilling one of its primary functions of Global Leadership. While IRs 1 and 2 target a defined set of stakeholders (i.e., USAID, PVOs, and host country governments), under this IR, FANTA broadens the use of promising practices and acceptable standards in nutrition and food security programming. The primary approach is through research, analysis, documentation, and appropriate dissemination (including training and technical assistance) to a wide stakeholder audience.

Through this IR, FANTA is expected to support priority research in programmatic and operational issues and expand the institutional capacity of key stakeholder groups (i.e., PVOs, USAID Field Missions, and U.N. Agencies including the World Food Program, SCN, and UNICEF)) to assess, design, implement, monitor, and evaluate effective food security and nutrition policies and programs.

3.1. Develop Food Security Indicator and Promising Practice publications

3.1.1. Food for Education Indicators Guide

Food for Education programs (FFE), which use food as a resource to strengthen educational outcomes, have emerged in recent years as a means to improve children's education and enhance food security. FANTA published the *Food for Education Indicator Guide* in Project Year Three, which identifies recommended indicators to measure educational outcomes in FFE programs. For each indicator, the guide provides definitions and information on calculation, interpretation, data collection and use. The objective was to facilitate use of the indicators by program personnel, enable adoption of more effective M&E practices in FFE programs, improve results tracking and lead to improved program implementation.

During PY 4, the guide contributed to the improved design of M&E systems in several Title II programs. The World Food Program and the U.S. Department of Agriculture reviewed the guide for potential use in their Global Food for Education programs. USDA commented on the effectiveness of the Guide's indicators stating "...USDA is building our evaluation around some of the FANTA indicators."

3.1.2. Food for Education Better Practice Guide

FANTA is developing a guide summarizing promising practices and lessons learned in Food for Education to complement the *Food for Education Indicators Measurement Guide* published in Project Year Three. Both of these guides respond to the expressed needs of stakeholders interested in Title II or USDA resources from the Global Food for Education Initiative. The guide will also help orient WFP programs active in school feeding.

3.1.3. Improving the Use of Food Rations in Maternal and Child Health and Nutrition (MCHN) Programs Guide

FANTA's *Improving the Use of Food Rations in Title II Maternal and Child Health (MCHN) Programs Guide* is used by PVOs to strengthen food-assisted MCHN programs. The Ration Guide is organized around alternative strategies that have been used in different settings to achieve the goal of reducing child malnutrition. During Project Year Four, FANTA systematically documented how CSs are using the Rations Guide in their Title II MCHN program designs. The information from this review is being used to update and revise the Ration Guide.

3.1.4. Vitamin A Programming Guide for Food Security Programs

USAID considers improved Vitamin A status to be a major priority over the next 5-10 years. Following the launch of the web-based *Commodity Reference Guide* in 2000, FANTA was requested by PVOs and USAID to provide more specific guidance on programming food to improve child and maternal micronutrient status. Responding to the request, FANTA is working with Helen Keller International (HKI) to develop a technical report on the use of Title II commodities in addressing vitamin A deficiencies. FANTA received a first draft of the *Vitamin A Programming Guide for Food Security Programs* from HKI at the end of the project year. Topic areas include: i) food based approaches, including the use of Title II commodities, to increase vitamin A intake; ii) guidance on developing food baskets that provide vitamin A; and iii) behaviors to be promoted as part of local and donated food based approaches.

3.2. Improve agriculture, consumption and nutrition linkages

Throughout Project Year Four, FANTA has worked on developing strategies for Title II programs to improve the design of food agriculture interventions and increase the linkages between those interventions and improved nutritional outcomes for households and individuals.

Technical Note on Agricultural Practices

At the end of Project Year Four, FANTA drafted a new Technical Note for Title II CSs that defines specific practices and indicators for the agriculture sector. Titled "Adoption of Improved Agricultural Practices – Defining the Practice and Indicator," this publication will aid CSs in results reporting for agriculture programs. Developing clearer indicators will help measure: 1) how closely CSs are collaborating with local agricultural research recommendations; 2) how well farmers are responding to the technical packages offered by CSs; 3) how effective are specific technical packages at improving yields; and 4) other food security-related impacts.

Partnership to Cut Hunger in Africa

FANTA worked closely with the Partnership to Cut Hunger in Africa this year, a loose network of food security specialists originating out of Michigan State University. FANTA provided technical guidance in two main areas: i) how to improve the Partnership's conceptual framework on linking hunger and agriculture-based development; and ii) how to identify priority agricultural strategies to best effect a reduction in hunger in Africa.

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

The access to and consumption of adequate and appropriate food by households and individuals are important components of food security. This year, FANTA carried out a set of activities aimed at developing user-friendly, cost-effective approaches to measure changes in dietary quantity and quality and in feeding behaviors at the household and individual level. The results will enable USAID to use this information for program monitoring and evaluation as well as influence future data collection instruments such as the KPC and DHS surveys. FANTA conducts on-going indicator testing and field validation activities with Cornell, Tufts, and IFPRI.

3.3.1. Measuring improved household access to food

3.3.1.a. Dietary diversity

An understanding of household access to food as a significant part of overall food security is important to USAID Missions and partners. Obtaining detailed data on food consumption at the individual or household level is time-consuming, costly, and technically difficult. One indicator that has the potential to be used by Title II food security programs as a proxy indicator of household access is dietary diversity.

Earlier in the year, IFPRI completed the analysis of ten country data sets to test the dietary diversity indicator as a measure of access to and consumption of food at the household level. The objective was to produce estimates of the association between dietary diversity and measures of food security to assess whether dietary diversity can be used as a tool in evaluating the efficacy of food security interventions. The study validated the dietary diversity indicator as a measure of access (per capita expenditures) and consumption (caloric availability at the household level).

The report was published as *Dietary Diversity as a Household Food Security Indicator* and results were presented at a FANTA TAG meeting in the third quarter. FANTA also presented the findings at the FAO Food Information and Vulnerability Mapping Systems (FIVIMS)'s International Scientific Symposium in June. The purpose of the FIVIMS symposium, "Measurement and Assessment of Food Deprivation and Undernutrition," was to take inventory of the overall process and indicators for assessing food insecurity.

A draft summary of this report was completed at the end of the year, summarizing IFPRI's work on the dietary diversity measure for inclusion in FANTA's *Technical Notes* series. In addition to summarizing the results of the analysis, the technical note concludes with a section on programming implications.

3.3.1.b. Adaptation of the U.S. Household Food Security Scale approaches in developing country contexts

This FANTA activity is designed to validate the USDA Household Food Security and Hunger Assessment Tool for use in developing countries and to test its usefulness as an impact indicator

for the access component of food security in food and nutrition program evaluations. The concepts of food security and hunger measured using this approach will be validated against measures of household income and dietary caloric adequacy to see if it can be used to measure changes in access (or hunger) in evaluations of nutrition and food security programs.

FANTA is implementing field validation studies of this with Cornell University and Africare in Burkina Faso and with Tufts University and World Vision in Bangladesh. One of the principal objectives of the field validation studies is the documentation for the PVO and USAID audience of a practical formative research process, or protocol, that can be applied by local researchers and planners in a variety of settings to develop HFSMT measures of food security appropriate to their cultural, ecological, and economic contexts.

Both field sites have completed a population-based, cross-section baseline survey, implemented by the PVOs with technical support from FANTA. A longitudinal study of a cohort of families is now being implemented in both sites. This year, FANTA received a draft of Tuft's third deliverable for the Bangladesh Task Order: *Self-Reported and Interviewer Assessed Food Security Status Compared with Other Measures of Poverty and Malnutrition in Bangladesh* and Cornell University's fifth deliverable, *Analysis for Waves 1 and 2 of the Cohort Study*. Descriptions of the field validation studies were presented at the FIVIMS symposium.

3.3.1.c. FAM/FANTA Household Access Indicator Guide

This activity is undertaken collaboratively with Food Aid Management through participation in the M&E Working Group. The main objective is to assist PVOs in designing a guide for selecting and measuring M&E indicators for food access that could be used for measuring impacts of Title II development programs. Such a guide could also be used more broadly for non-Title II food-security programming.

With support from FANTA and FAM, a food access consultant carried out the initial work for developing a food access indicator guide, including clarifying what "food access" means in the context of Title II programming. The first phase of the work was completed this year. FANTA oversaw the work of the consultant. The activity will continue in Project Year Five.

3.3.2. Measuring infant and child feeding behaviors

3.3.2.a. Knowledge, Practice and Coverage Survey (KPC) Infant and Child Feeding Indicator

Infancy and early childhood are critical, vulnerable periods when adequate nutrition is essential for growth and development. In addition to prenatal interventions, early interventions in the first two years of life show the most promise for promoting child growth, health, and development. During these first two years, the linked effects of poverty, inadequate household access to food, infectious disease, and inadequate breastfeeding and complementary feeding practices can result in illness, growth faltering, nutrient deficiencies, delayed development, and death.

Nutrition interventions designed to improve complementary feeding practices are frequently a component of many child survival and health programs. Complementary feeding starts when breast milk alone cannot meet the infant's nutritional needs, and other foods and liquids are needed in addition to breast milk. Complementary feeding is defined as covering the age range from 6-23 months.

Indicators describing optimal breastfeeding practices have been available for some time, and there is considerable consensus about the meaning and use of these indicators. In contrast, consistent indicators for optimal or adequate complementary feeding have been lacking. Program planners and managers need indicators of adequate or optimal complementary feeding for a variety of purposes.

In USAID-funded child survival programs, Knowledge, Practices and Coverage (KPC) surveys are used as a tool for gathering quantitative information on a range of practices, including complementary feeding practices. At present, the KPC questionnaire includes a set of questions about complementary feeding. Respondents are asked about the frequency of feeding and the foods and liquids given to a selected child under 2 years of age on the previous day.

PVOs implementing child survival and health activities, the Child Survival Technical Support project (www.childsurvival.com), IFPRI and FANTA have been collaborating to improve the analysis and interpretation of the complementary feeding information in the KPC 2000+. During PY4, work began on a document that will provide suggestions for additional complementary feeding indicators for the KPC 2000+. After the proposed indicators have been reviewed, detailed tabulation guidelines will be provided and the proposed indicators will be field-tested. In FY5, a meeting will be held to discuss the proposed indicators, tabulation guidelines will be drafted and discuss, a final report will be produced, and the proposed indicators and guidelines will be field tested.

Complementary Feeding Data and the DHS

Drawing on the methods used to analyze Ethiopia's Demographic and Health Survey (DHS) data on infant and child feeding, FANTA and its collaborators have developed a model for expanded use of DHS data on infant and child feeding.

FANTA works with IFPRI to help define and improve measurement of infant and complementary feeding practices, and the use and interpretation of measurement indicators. This year, IFPRI completed the draft of the report *Recommended Tabulation Guidelines for Displaying Complementary Feeding Data When Using the Demographic and Health Surveys*. This product is one outcome of IFPRI's analysis of the Ethiopia DHS 2000 infant and child feeding (ICF) data.

The work on these guidelines feed into the ongoing work with IFPRI, CSTS and the CORE group to develop improved guidelines for using ICF data from the KPC survey. The guidelines are also intended to help MACRO/IDS, implementors of the DHS surveys, and other users of DHS data sets to better analyze, interpret and report on ICF in DHS countries, thereby encouraging wider and better use of ICF data.

3.3.2.b. Measuring caring behaviors

Appropriate infant and child feeding and childcare are increasingly recognized as key determinants of childhood health, nutrition, and development. However, measuring infant and child feeding and care behaviors and quantifying their relative importance for specific health and nutrition outcomes remain a challenge.

WHO's Global Consultation on Complementary Feeding

An earlier IFPRI study, supported and published by FANTA, *Developing a Methodology to Measure and Quantify Care*, was used this year as one of five background documents for a Global Consultation on Complementary Feeding organized and hosted by WHO in Geneva in December 2001.

Studies on Childcare and Feeding Practices

Last year, with FANTA support, IFPRI completed an analysis of data collected in Accra, Ghana on methodologies for studying childcare. Another IFPRI study was completed this year summarizing progress towards the measurement of selected childcare and feeding practices, and discussing the feasibility and usefulness of these measurements in research and program contexts. Both technical reports were prepared for dissemination this year: *A Multiple-Method Approach to Studying Childcare in an Urban Environment* and *Assessing Care: Progress Towards the Measurement of Selected Childcare and Feeding Practices, and Implications for Programs*.

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

FANTA continues to provide technical assistance to strengthen design, implementation, and monitoring and evaluation of Title II HIV/AIDS programs. This year, FANTA began developing an approach to HIV/AIDS mitigation that will guide FANTA's role in support of USAID's efforts. FANTA also continues to strengthen and update guidance on nutritional care and support for people living with HIV/AIDS. Specifically, FANTA worked on the SO4 Results Framework, launched the HIV/AIDS Guide, assisted with a regional workshop on national guidelines development and the corresponding handbook, developed an HIV/AIDS mitigation strategy, and drafted two issues of *Technical Notes* on HIV/AIDS mitigation and ARVs and nutrition.

Revising the SO4 Results Framework

FANTA provided feedback to USAID's Office of HIV/AIDS (OHA) on the Results Framework for the Global Health Bureau's SO4 (HIV/AIDS). OHA recently requested advice from partners on how to make the framework more useful and relevant for reporting and planning. FANTA provided technical assistance on broadening the framework to better include mitigation and nutritional responses to HIV/AIDS. FANTA's feedback was shared at the SO4 Partners Meeting during which the results framework revision was discussed.

HIV/AIDS Nutrition, Care and Support Guide

In October 2001, FANTA launched the publication *HIV/AIDS: A Guide for Nutrition, Care and Support* with a presentation co-sponsored by FANTA, LINKAGES and the SARA Project. The purpose of the meeting was to share current information and guidelines that draw on scientific evidence of appropriate nutrition and care approaches to address those infected and affected by HIV/AIDS. Thus, it was an ideal opportunity for FANTA to present this flagship product, its content and possible future additions.

Modifications have been underway for the revision of the HIV/AIDS Guide. A new module will be included on nutritional care and support for pregnant and lactating mothers, and expanded information will be provided on nutrition and modern therapies and on infant feeding recommendations. Given LINKAGES' experience from their Prevention of Mother To Child Transmission (PMTCT) program in Ndola, Zambia, FANTA requested to use their recommended nutritional practices for infants and maternal practices based on their program in Zambia.

FANTA hired a nutritionist from the SARA project to gather new information needed for the revision. Primarily, the nutritionist was responsible for the necessary additional research gathering and for the external review of the drafts. Drafts of two sections: Module 4: *Nutritional Issues Associated with Modern Therapies* and Module 5: *Nutrition and Care and Recommendations for Infants/Children* are now complete. The new module on nutrition care and support for pregnant and lactating women is nearing completion.

Eastern and Southern Africa Regional Workshops on National Guidelines Development

These workshops were important complementary activities to FANTA's HIV/AIDS Guide. In coordination with RCQHC, REDSO/ESA, and UNICEF, FANTA drafted the agenda and provided the technical content and materials for two Eastern and Southern Africa Regional Workshops on the Development of National Guidelines held in November in Jinja, Uganda and in May in Lusaka, Zambia. Country teams from Uganda, Kenya, Tanzania, Malawi, Zambia, Zimbabwe, Namibia, Lesotho, Botswana, and Swaziland participated, and representatives from South Africa shared their experiences in guideline development. The workshops were intended to equip country teams to develop and apply national nutrition guidelines for people infected or affected by HIV/AIDS. FANTA provided financial support for the workshops and for participants through the RCQHC and also technical assistance in developing content and materials, preparing technical presentations, and facilitation. Additional support and collaboration on the workshop was from various USAID Missions, FAO, SARA, and the Commonwealth Regional Health Community Secretariat.

Handbook for Developing National Guidelines

FANTA has provided significant technical assistance to the Regional Center for Quality of Health Care (RCQHC) to produce a handbook for developing national nutritional guidelines in the context of the HIV/AIDS pandemic. The guidelines were vetted at the Southern Africa Regional Workshop on national guideline development held this year in Zambia. *Developing*

National Guidelines for Nutritional Care and Support of People Infected or Affected by HIV/AIDS was completed by the RCQHC and was submitted to FANTA for technical review.

Mitigating the Impact of HIV/AIDS

FANTA's HIV/AIDS team began the process of developing an HIV/AIDS mitigation strategy for Project Year Five and beyond. As part of this process, FANTA facilitated a meeting with the International Center Research on Women (ICRW) and Horizon on food security and HIV/AIDS mitigation. The objective was to identify key operational research questions on the subject. FANTA made two presentations: 1) "HIV/AIDS Mitigation: Using What We Already Know" covered both national and community-based assessment approaches and addressing program designs to deal with the effects of HIV/AIDS on livelihoods; and 2) "Engaging or Disengaging Communities in Program Design: Is There a Choice?" highlighted the importance of participatory assessments and utilizing the existing networks and resources for identifying the right entry point for mitigation interventions and strategies.

Technical Notes on HIV/AIDS

FANTA completed a draft of the Technical Note on mitigation: "HIV/AIDS Mitigation: Using What We Already Know." This Note provides a summary of the literature on the impacts of HIV/AIDS on household and community food security and livelihood strategies in rural areas. It also presents a range of promising practices derived from the broader food-security and development experience that can be applied to HIV/AIDS mitigation efforts. The information orients program staff about the critical socioeconomic impacts and constraints most likely experienced in HIV/AIDS-affected environments, and suggests appropriate program designs and modifications to mitigate them. This technical note is also intended for the wider development community to encourage multisectoral approaches to development programs in a HIV/AIDS context.

FANTA also completed the draft of an issue of *Technical Notes* on nutritional implications of anti-retroviral drugs (ARVs) in resource-poor settings. The document is aimed at providing guidance to program managers and service providers on the interactions between antiretroviral drugs, food, and nutrition. The need for information and guidance on this subject was expressed by various stakeholders and by participants at the regional workshops in Eastern and Southern Africa. The need is pressing due to the imminent scaling-up of ARVs around the globe.

Support to USAID Missions on HIV/AIDS

FANTA staff traveled to Rwanda to provide technical assistance to USAID/Kigali and the Title II HIV/AIDS partners on food aid to people and communities affected by HIV/AIDS. Technical support to the Mission and Title II partners included:

- reviewing the ration composition and assessing its utility to targeted beneficiaries;
- advising on ways to assist local organizations in mobilizing communities to address the nutritional needs of HIV/AIDS infected people;
- developing creative monitoring tools that will be used by the community to monitor the nutritional status of HIV/AIDS infected people; and

- pre-testing the French version of FANTA's *HIV/AIDS Guide*.

FANTA staff traveled to Kenya to provide technical assistance to USAID/Nairobi and PVO partners on the Title II HIV/AIDS program. FANTA provided information on monitoring and evaluation of activities, ration composition, integration of nutritional care and support interventions into the program, and the experiences of other Title II HIV/AIDS programs.

USAID Project Profiles

FANTA prepared an updated profile of FANTA's HIV/AIDS activities for inclusion in the USAID publication *USAID Project Profiles: Children Affected by HIV/AIDS*. This publication provides information on USAID activities addressing OVC (orphans and vulnerable children) in the context of HIV/AIDS. It has been used to facilitate information exchange and networking, guide technical assistance, and track USAID activities for reporting to Congress. An updated version of the Profiles was prepared for use in the International AIDS Conference in Barcelona this summer.

3.5. Setting targets for improvements in nutritional status

See Sections 1.2.1.a. and 1.2.2.b. on FANTA's coordination of the Standardized Monitoring and Assessment of Relief and Transition (SMART) workshop.

3.6. Training workshops

During Project Year Four, FANTA conducted training on a range of technical topics for PVOs, USAID and other stakeholders. The major training programs FANTA conducted during the year are described below.

Monitoring Tools Workshop

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

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

Baseline Survey Training

In February, FANTA played a major role in the planning and facilitation of a highly successful baseline survey training workshop hosted by Save the Children (SCF) in Guatemala. The

purpose of the workshop was to improve the quality of baseline surveys and to institutionalize a set of common indicators and sampling methods that SCF program staff will use in their Title II programs. The workshop has implications beyond SCF for Title II programming and monitoring and evaluation standards, therefore workshop materials will be made available for all Title II PVOs to use.

Teaching Nutrition in Emergencies

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

Table 4. Training Activities in Project Year Four

Title	Location	Date	Duration	Number of participants
▪ USAID Food Aid Managers Course	Washington, DC	June 2002	4 days	40
▪ Development of National Guidelines for Nutritional Care and Support of People Infected or Affected by HIV/AIDS.	Jinja, Uganda	Nov. 2001	4 days	35
▪ Monitoring Tools Workshop	Johannesburg, South Africa	Nov. 2001	5 days	36
▪ SCF Baseline Training Workshop	Antigua, Guatemala	March 2002	6 days	25
▪ Pre-service Training Workshop in Nutrition and HIV/AIDS	Mombasa, Kenya	August 2002	5 days	30

3.7. Information sharing and communications

FANTA's communications strategy has a number of goals: 1) expand the knowledge base; 2) foster policy dialogue; 3) build linkages; and 4) increase awareness of food security and nutrition issues. To this end, FANTA made its presence known in a variety of ways over the last project

year, through publishing print and electronic media; presenting at local and international conferences and meetings; maintaining regular outreach to media and online databases; and responding to global requests for publication dissemination.

Print Media

HIV/AIDS Guide: At the beginning of the project year, *HIV/AIDS: A Guide for Nutrition, Care and Support* was published and disseminated. It was launched in October with a presentation to USAID, CAs, and PVOs. Over two thousand copies of the Guide have been distributed globally to USAID Missions, PVOs and NGOs, multilateral organizations, health care providers and other stakeholders working in HIV/AIDS affected communities during the past year.

In congressional testimony presented to the Senate Foreign Relations Committee in February, 2002, USAID's Assistant Administrator for the Global Health Bureau, Dr. Anne Peterson mentioned the FANTA's HIV/AIDS Guide and its impact on programming. She stated:

“USAID produced HIV/AIDS: A Guide for Nutrition, Care and Support which shows that, compared with the average adult, a person with HIV requires ten to fifteen percent more energy a day, and 50 to 100 percent more protein a day. We are now incorporating food security activities into our care and support activities.”

The translation and production of the HIV/AIDS Guide into French was completed in January 2002. A list of contacts and requests was compiled for a targeted distribution of the publication to francophone Africa. Approximately five hundred copies were distributed to stakeholders in those countries.

Anthropometric Guide & Bookmark: FANTA's *Anthropometric Indicators Measurement Guide* provides information on how to collect, analyze and report on key indicators for the anthropometric assessment of infants and children. During PY4, FANTA developed a bookmark to accompany the guide. The bookmark provides definitions for common anthropometric indices, measures and terms. It also presents malnutrition classifications and provides a graphic presentation of the international reference standard distribution. The bookmark will be included with each Anthropometric Guide and will be available for distribution at both meetings and conferences.

Technical Notes Series: FANTA's first in the *Technical Notes* series, *Credit with Education and Title II Programs* was published and disseminated in the second quarter. This summary of the work of Freedom from Hunger shows how Credit with Education programs can effectively reinforce Title II health and nutrition education services while operating on the principles of cost recovery.

Mid-year, FANTA produced a second *Technical Note* on how to write an effective scope of work for mid-term and final evaluations. *Title II Evaluation Scopes of Work*, was developed because numerous reviews of SOWs showed that: 1) CSs required support in drafting a clear and thorough SOW; and 2) weaknesses in SOWs were likely translated into weaknesses in the evaluations themselves. These issues of *Technical Notes* were disseminated to USAID and Title II CS program officers and field staff as well as posted on the FANTA website. A number of other *Technical Notes* are being reviewed for publication on a range of topics including: the use of compact foods in emergencies, HIV/AIDS and mitigation, child malnutrition and mortality, women's nutrition, nutrition and ARVs, improving Title II DAPs, and dietary diversity as a household food security indicator.

Ethiopia DHS 2000 Research: Early in April, FANTA produced a summary on infant and child feeding practices in Ethiopia using the Demographic and Health Survey 2000 for Ethiopia. The technical brief came out of research completed by IFPRI earlier this year, and was written specifically for use by in-country stakeholders. FANTA then disseminated this brief to the eight Title II PVOs working in Ethiopia.

SCN's 5th World Nutrition Situation Report: FANTA participated in the development of the narrative portions of the Standing Committee for Nutrition's (SCN) World Nutrition Situation Report, a major publication of the UN. The emphasis in the narrative is on mainstreaming nutrition to meet development objectives. The wide acceptance of the Millennium Development Goals, in which hunger and undernutrition are part of the outcome measures, and the interest by nutritionists to contribute to the reduction of poverty make this activity an important part of FANTA's broader efforts. The report traces lessons learned from the experiences of successful interventions and argues for increased investments in nutrition. FANTA, along with representatives from the SCN, the World Bank, ICRW, Danish Cooperation and IFPRI, will continue to guide the report's development.

Stakeholder Survey: FANTA conducted a stakeholder survey in November to assess FANTA's responsiveness in providing technical support to PVOs and to solicit ideas for future directions. FANTA sent out the questionnaire to PVO TAG members who were asked to respond and forward to others in their organization who use FANTA's technical assistance. Three main conclusions draw from the survey responses. 1) FANTA should provide solutions that are more appropriate to PVO organizational constraints and needs. 2) FANTA should provide technical assistance earlier in the PVO's project cycle. 3) FANTA should aim to provide solutions appropriate to PVO budget levels. The results of the survey were presented at the TAG meeting in December and incorporated in planning for PY5 and FANTA II.

Media Presence

FANTA is working to increase the visibility of current activities and research results. Outreach to periodicals and various newsletters both in print and through email distribution occurs each quarter. FANTA announcements and articles are sent to a range of media including: FAM's periodical *Food Forum*, *SCN News*, IFPRI's *New & Noteworthy in Nutrition*, the Global Health Council's *AIDSLink*, USAID's HIV/AIDS E-Newsletter, AED's *Academy News* and *Program Highlights*, and the GHPN newsletter *At a Glance*.

Information Sharing at Local & International Fora

CORE Annual Meeting, Millwood, VA: FANTA participated in the Nutrition Working Group sessions of the annual meeting. FANTA was asked to take the lead on three activities of the CORE nutrition working group: i) improving the infant and child feeding module of the KPC; ii) designing tools to improve staff performance for dietary counseling; iii) designing tools to improve capacity of treating severe malnutrition. FANTA led sessions on the management of severe malnutrition and infant and child feeding.

During the fall 2001 workshop sponsored by FANTA, CORE, FAM and CSTS, FANTA committed to producing the proceedings. This document, *Nutrition Works: Measuring, Understanding, and Improving Nutritional Status* explores three themes of the workshop and is useful to Title II and Child Survival PVOs beyond recounting the workshop activities and conclusions. FANTA's communications team was responsible for layout and production of the document so it could be distributed to all participants of CORE's Annual Meeting as well as those from the original workshop.

Rethinking HIV/AIDS and Development: A Review of USAID's Progress in Africa, D.C.: FANTA participated in this consultative meeting supported by the Africa Bureau and held at AED this year. The agricultural sector breakout group discussed current activities related to agriculture and HIV/AIDS. FANTA's presentation on "HIV Mitigation: Using What We Already Know" was highlighted.

Strengthening M&E of AIDS Control Programs Workshop, Senegal: FANTA participated in the workshop on Strengthening the Monitoring of HIV/AIDS Control Programs in Africa, attended by representatives from sixteen African French and English speaking countries. This workshop represented a major effort by the major donors in HIV/AIDS programs in Africa (USAID/CDC, UNAIDS and World Bank) to strengthen the M&E component of programs in Africa. FANTA worked closely with the Rwanda team in the situation analysis and the identification of priorities for Rwanda's country workplan.

In the workshop, FANTA staff made a presentation on HIV/AIDS activities and Title II HIV/AIDS programs in Rwanda and Uganda to the USAID/Nairobi and Title II partners in Nairobi, including CRS, Food for the Hungry, World Vision and ADRA/Kenya.

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

Nutrition in Crisis and Conflict Symposium, Berlin, Germany: FANTA was a member of the planning task force for the Berlin Symposium, part of the 29th Session of the Standing Committee for Nutrition (SCN). Three papers were designed for the symposium by the task force. One, "A Review of the Advances and Challenges in Nutrition in Conflicts and Crisis over 20 Years," was authored by Save the Children-UK and Action Contre la Faim, with funding and significant input provided by FANTA. FANTA also supported the second paper, "Nutrition and

Livelihood in Situations of Conflict” focused on the critical importance of livelihoods to nutrition and was presented by Tufts. The focus of the symposium was on nutrition in crisis and conflict but sessions were held on HIV/AIDS, food security, infant and child feeding and capacity development.

International Food and Nutrition Forum, Washington, D.C.: FANTA made a presentation at the International Food and Nutrition Forum held in May. With Nutrition and HIV/AIDS as the theme of the forum, FANTA’s presentation was an overview of the process and content of the HIV/AIDS Guide.

FAO International Scientific Symposium (ISS), Rome, Italy: As part of its contributions to the Inter-Agency FIVIMS (Food Insecurity and Vulnerability Information and Mapping Systems) initiative, the FAO sponsored the ISS in Rome this year. The chosen theme was “Measurement and Assessment of Food Deprivation and Undernutrition.” The purpose of the Symposium was to provide guidance on how methodologies for the measurement of undernutrition and food deprivation can be improved.

FANTA’s participation in the symposium provided an important forum for disseminating the results of FANTA’s work in food security to a broad international audience. In a session on qualitative and self-assessment measures of food security, FANTA presented papers on its work with Cornell and Tufts to adapt the U.S. Food Insecurity Measure to developing country contexts. FANTA also presented the findings of its work with IFPRI validating dietary diversity as a measure of the access component of household food security. Dietary diversity is not currently used by FIVIMS as a food security measure, but is worth considering.

International HIV/AIDS Conference, Barcelona, Spain: FANTA participated in the satellite meeting on nutrition and HIV/AIDS during the XIV International HIV/AIDS Conference held in Barcelona this summer. FANTA’s presentation was a paper entitled “Moving from Knowledge to Practice: Processes and Challenges,” sharing FANTA’s experience in working with regional partners and country teams in Eastern and Southern Africa to develop and apply national guidelines on nutrition and HIV/AIDS.

CRS Annual Health Meeting, Baltimore, MD: FANTA presented its project activities to Catholic Relief Services staff at the Annual Global Health Conference in August. The 50 health and nutrition offices from CRS’s global operations were informed of FANTA’s mandate and technical support functions. Participants expressed interest in improving child survival and nutrition activities, including those funded by Title II. Participants from Guatemala spoke highly of FANTA’s technical assistance and work with the USAID mission in moving the program and policy agendas forward. The CRS staff from India requested FANTA’s assistance with exit strategies for its Title II program.

Materials Dissemination (Illustrative)

- Kenya and Zambia for conference on Developing National Guidelines for Nutritional Care and Support
- USAID/Nairobi for the African SOTA room
- Title II PVOs in Ethiopia

- Global Health Council's conference *Nutrition in Times of Crisis*
- Commonwealth Regional Health Community Secretariat (CRHCS) meeting in Africa for the Nutrition Focal Points meeting for Eastern, Central and Southern Africa
- FAO/FIVIMS in Rome
- Food for Peace annual meeting & training workshops
- XIV International AIDS Conference in Barcelona, Spain
- WABA Global Forum in Arusha, Tanzania
- European Commission in Brussels, Belgium

FANTA Website

Early in Project Year Four, FANTA converted its website to a new format and design. Along with a redesigned look, the site allows easier navigation to essential FANTA information from the home page due to an overhaul of the website's search engine. The site now connects visitors not only to FANTA work and publications, but also to websites of other relevant projects, organizations, and information available on the web. The new design also allows greater opportunity for expansion.

In the last month of the year, FANTA hired a web and layout specialist to polish the image of FANTA's print and web products. In addition to carrying out regular site maintenance, such as testing links, adding and removing pages and posting new materials, a full review was made of the project's web site. The review closely examined the structure of the site and subsequently, a few key changes were made, while others will continue throughout next year.

To further aid visitors in their navigation through the site, the home page was changed to a static page that reflects recent updates. This allows visitors to find information on new work more easily and also highlights the latest FANTA publications. Specific attention was given to the section, "Focus Areas," which leads site visitors to key areas of FANTA activities. To make certain that visitors have a better sense of the newly designated thematic areas for Project Year Five, the current Focus Areas are undergoing a re-structuring. New web content is being developed to cover these new areas of activity.

Expansion possibilities for the site continue, with ideas and requests coming from technical staff as well as stakeholders. In response to a request from CORE, FANTA made the Anthropometric Reference Tables of the NCHS/WHO available through the website, linked to the Anthropometric Indicators Guide page. Over the course of the year, several PVOs commented that they found this reference data very useful. Sandra Bertoli of Child Survival Technical Services (CSTS) commented:

"We [child survival PVOs] certainly appreciate having the Anthropometric Measurement section on the FANTA website so readily accessible with both the new Anthropometric Indicators Measurement Guide and the WHO/NCHS Reference Tables for Children"

Table 5: FANTA Deliverables in Project Year Four

Date	Type	Title	Author(s)
September 2002	Handbook	Handbook on Developing and Applying National Guidelines on Nutrition and HIV/AIDS	Robert Mwadime Tony Castleman Marlou Bijlsma
September 2002	Workshop Report	Report on Developing National Guidelines for HIV/AIDS Nutritional Care and Support Workshop, Lusaka, Zambia	Robert Mwadime Marlou Bijlsma
September 2002	Quarterly Report	Food Insecurity Measurement & Validation Study Tufts (Task Order 3) July – September 2002	Patrick Webb
August 2002	Technical Report	Child Survival in Developing Countries: Malnutrition Does Matter Cornell (Task Order 3)	David L. Pelletier Edward A. Frongillo Maike Rahn
August 2002	Technical Report	Summary Indicators for Infant and Child Feeding Practices: An Example from the Ethiopia Demographic and Health Survey 2000 IFPRI (Task Order 3)	Mary Arimond Marie Ruel
July 2002	Periodical	<i>RNIS Bulletin</i> , Issue Number 38	UN Sub-Committee on Nutrition
July 2002	Quarterly Report	Progress Report for FANTA Cornell DNS (Task Order 5) April – July 2002	Edward A. Frongillo Sim on Nanama

June 2002	Technical Report	Self-Reported and Interviewer Assessed Food Security Status Compared with Other Measures of Poverty and Malnutrition in Bangladesh Tufts (Task Order 3)	Patrick Webb Jennifer Coates Robert Houser
May 2002	Technical Report	Dietary Diversity as a Household Food Security Indicator IFPRI (Task Order 1)	John Hoddinott Yisehac Yohannes
May 2002	Technical Guide (translation)	VIH/SIDA: Un Guide pour les Soins et le Soutien Nutritionnel (HIV/AIDS: A Guide for Nutrition, Care & Support in French)	Serena Rajabiu Bruce Cogill Eleonore Seumo-Fosso
May 2002	Technical Report	Food Security Update for Honduras	Patricia Bonnard Sandra Remancus
May 2002	Technical Report	Child Survival in Developing Countries: Malnutrition Does Matter	David L. Pelletier Edward A. Frongillo
May 2002	Quarterly Report	Food Insecurity Measurement and Validation Study Tufts FSNSP/World Vision Bangladesh (Task Order 3) January - March 2002	Patrick Webb
May 2002	Periodical	RNIS Bulletin, Issue Numbers 36 & 37	UN Sub-Committee on Nutrition

April 2002	Technical Report	Recommended Tabulation Guidelines for Complementary Feeding Data in the Demographic and Health Surveys: MEASURE DHS+ Series IFPRI (Task Order 3)	Mary Arimond Marie Ruel
April 2002	<i>Technical Notes</i> Issue Number 2	Title II Evaluation Scopes of Work	Patricia Bonnard
April 2002	Semi-Annual Report	Semi-Annual Report of GH/HN SSO4 Activities October 1, 2001 - March 31, 2002	Tony Castleman
April 2002	Workshop Proceedings	Nutrition Works: Measuring, Understanding, and Improving Nutritional Status	CORE FANTA FAM CSTS
April 2002	Quarterly Report	Progress Report for FANTA Cornell DNS (Task Order 5) January - March 2002	Edward A. Frongillo Sim on Nanama
April 2002	Technical Report	A Qualitative Study of the Patterns of Infant Feeding and Care in the Hinche Area of Plateau Central, Haiti IFPRI-Cornell (Task Order 5)	Purnima Menon Marie Ruel Gretel Pelto Yves-Francois Elisabeth Metellus Arsene Ferrus
April 2002	Quarterly Report	Food Insecurity Measurement & Validation Study Tufts/ World Vision, Bangladesh (Task Order 3) January – March 2002	Patrick Webb

April 2002	Periodical	<i>RNIS Bulletin</i> , Issue Number 35	UN Sub-Committee on Nutrition
March 2002	Technical Report	Report of the Food Aid and Food Security Assessment: A Review of the Title II Development Food Aid Program	Patricia Bonnard Patricia Haggerty Anne Swindale Gilles Bergeron James Dempsey
March 2002	Technical Report	Supervision and Support of High-Quality Group-Based Nonformal Education Services: The Use of Observation Checklists Freedom From Hunger (Task Order 3)	Ann Brownlee Barbara MKNelly Regina Nakayenga
March 2002	Summary Report	Infant and Child Feeding Practices in Ethiopia	FANTA
March 2002	Results Report	FFP/DP Strategic Objective 2 Results Report FY 2001	FANTA
March 2002	<i>Technical Notes</i> Issue Number 1	Credit with Education and Title II Programs	Freedom From Hunger Helen Reid
March 2002	Periodical	<i>African Journal of Food and Nutritional Sciences</i> Issue Number 2	Rural Outreach Program Ruth Oniang'o
March 2002	Training Materials	Workshop materials for Baseline Survey Training Guatemala City, Guatemala	Beth Dunford Paige Harrigan
February 2002	Technical Report	Report on an Investigation into Recurrent Epidemics of Pellagra in Kuito, Angola	Michael Golden Caroline Tanner

February 2002	Indicator Guide (translation)	Guia de Muestreo (<i>Sampling Guide</i> in Spanish)	Robert Magnani
February 2002	Background paper	A Study of Emergency Relief Foods for Refugees and Displaced Persons: A Background Paper for the National Academy of Sciences Institute of Medicine	Caroline Tanner
February 2002	Annual Report	Development of an Improved Measure of the Access Component of Household Food Security in Burkina Faso Cornell (Task Order 5) October 2000 – September 2001	Edward A. Frongillo
January 2002	Training Materials	Monitoring Tools Workshop Materials January 21-25, 2002, Johannesburg, South Africa	FANTA
January 2002	Proposal	Prevention or Cure? A Comparison of the Effectiveness of Targeting Food Supplements to Malnourished Children Compared to Universal Targeting of Children Under Two in Haiti IFPRI (Task Order 4)	IFPRI
January 2002	CSR4 Template	Walking the Walk, Talking the Talk: Developing a Participatory Report Writing Process for Africare's Title II Programs	Alice Walker

January 2002	Progress Report	Food Insecurity Measurement and Validation Study: A Report on the First Round of Data Collection Relating to World Vision's FSEI Activities in Bangladesh Tufts (Task Order 4)	Patrick Webb Robert Houser Jennifer Coates
January 2002	Quarterly Report	Development of an Improved Measure of the Access Component of Household Food Security in Burkina Faso Cornell (Task Order 5) October – December 2001	Edward A. Frongillo
December 2001	Pre-project Report	Review of Health and Nutrition Education Messages and Delivery System Currently Used in Haiti, and Recommendations for Further Research IFPRI-Cornell (Task Order 4)	Purnima Menon Marie Ruel Gretel Pelto Jean Pierre Habicht
December 2001	Technical Report	Considering the Applicability of Lot Quality Assurance Sampling (LQAS) to Credit with Education	Barbara MKNelly Joseph Valadez Jeanette Treiber Robb Davis
December 2001	Technical Report	Kenya Drought Emergency Operation – Food Aid and Nutrition: Key Findings and Lessons Learned	Caroline Tanner
December 2001	Annual Report	Nicaragua Food Security: Post-Mitch TA to USAID Mission in Nicaragua 2000-2001	Daryll McIntyre

October 2001	Indicator Guide	Food for Education Indicator Guide	Gilles Bergeron Joy Miller Del Rosso
October 2001	Indicator Guide	Anthropometric Indicators Measurement Guide	Bruce Cogill
October 2001	Technical Guide	HIV/AIDS: A Guide for Nutrition, Care and Support	Serena Rajabiu Bruce Cogill
October 2001	Annual Report	Development of a Household Food Security Measure Africare/Burkina Faso Cornell (Task Order 5) October 2000 - September 2001	Edward A. Frongillo
May 2001	Technical Report	Assessing Care: Progress Towards the Measurement of Selected Childcare and Feeding Practices and Implications for Programs IFPRI (Task Order 2)	Mary Arimond Marie Ruel
January 2001	Technical Report	A Multiple-Method Approach to Studying Childcare in an Urban Environment: The Case of Accra, Ghana IFPRI (Task Order 2)	Marie Ruel Margaret Armar-Klemesu Mary Arimond