# USAID EVALUATION POLICY: APPLICATION TO FEED THE FUTURE

Ruth Levine
Bureau of Policy, Planning and Learning

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# Feed the Future: Goal and Objectives

- Goal = Sustainably reduce global poverty and hunger

- First Level Objectives
  - Inclusive agriculture sector growth
  - Improve nutritional status (esp. women and children)

- Second Level Objectives
  - Improved agriculture productivity
  - Expanding markets and trade
  - Increased private sector investment in agriculture and nutrition
  - Increased agricultural value chain productivity leading to on- and off-farm jobs
  - Increased resilience of vulnerable communities and households
  - Increased access to diverse and quality foods
  - Improved nutrition related behaviors
  - Improved use of maternal and child health and nutrition services

# Feed the Future Implementation

- **11 of the 20 Country Programs are in Africa**

| Region | Countries |
|---|---|
| **Africa** | **Ethiopia, Ghana, Kenya, Liberia, Malawi, Mozambique, Rwanda, Senegal, Tanzania, Uganda, Zambia** |
| Asia | Bangladesh, Cambodia, Nepal, Tajikistan |
| Latin America and the Caribbean | Guatemala, Haiti, Honduras, Nicaragua |

- **5 Regional Programs**
  - ECAM - Central America Regional Mission
  - RDMA - Regional Development Mission in Asia
  - Southern Africa Regional Mission
  - West Africa Regional Mission
  - East Africa Regional Mission

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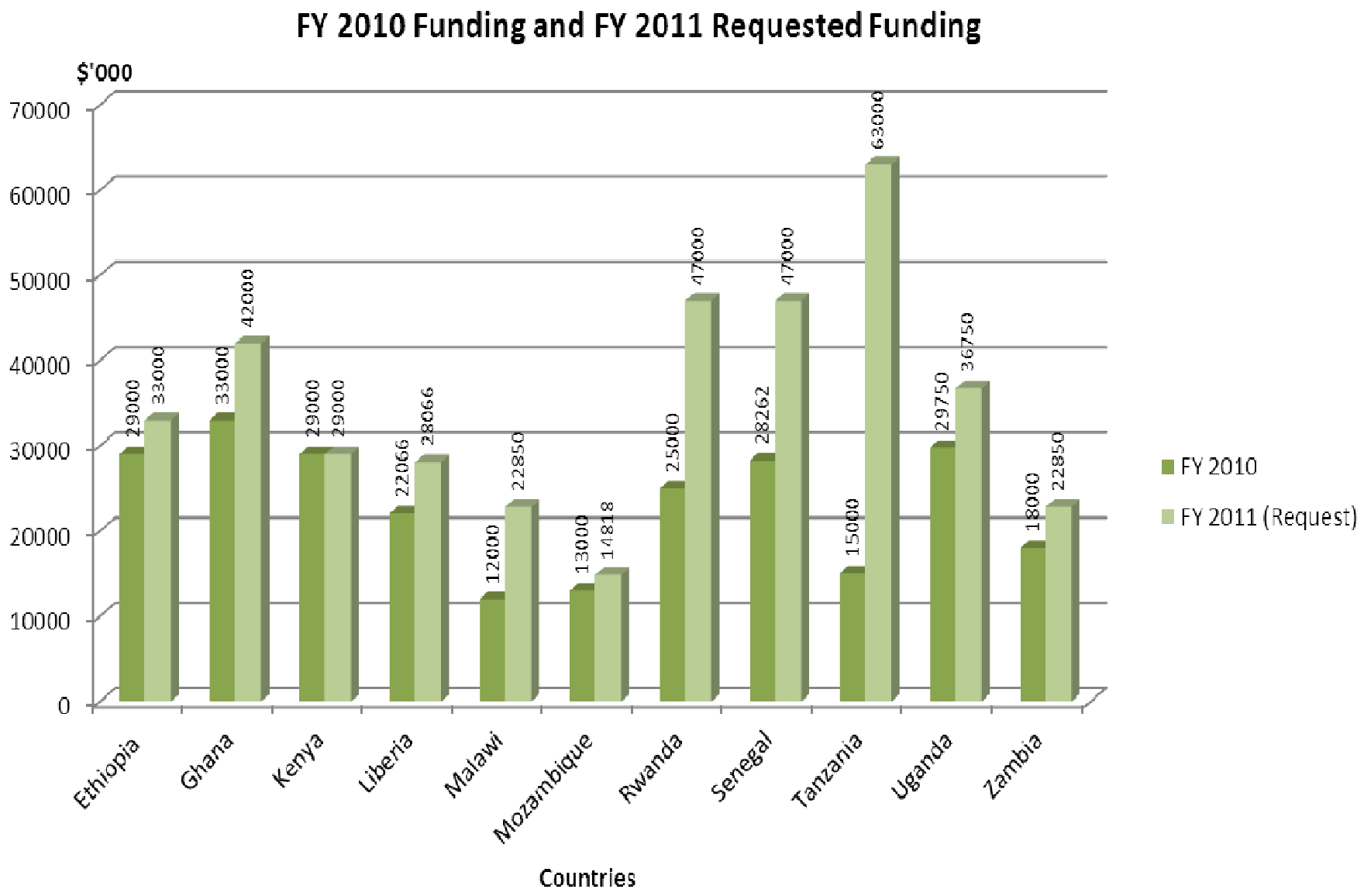

## Goal of FtF M&E approach

- An integrated and comprehensive system to gather, analyze, and share evidence that informs future programing and investments through
  - Performance monitoring
  - Impact evaluations
  - Local capacity building
  - Knowledge sharing

# FTF Results Framework

**Purpose: To provide empirical evidence on FTF programming to inform policy and investment decisions and to provide stakeholders with information about the extent to which USAID is fulfilling its specific objectives.**

## through

**Performance Monitoring** collects data for standard indicators to reveal what results are occurring and whether performance is on track.

**Impact Evaluation** studies the causal link between program activities and results to examine if, how, and to what extent program objectives have been met.

## Feed the Future Goal: Sustainably Reduce Global Poverty and Hunger

Indicators: *Prevalence of poverty & Prevalence of underweight children*

**First Level Objective:**
**Inclusive agriculture sector growth**

Indicators: -Agriculture sector GDP
- Rural household expenditures (proxy for incomes)

**First Level Objective:**
**Improved nutritional status esp. of women & children**

Indicators: -Prevalence of stunted children
-Prevalence of wasted children
-Prevalence of underweight women

Second-Level Objectives

- Improved agriculture productivity
  - -Gross margins per unit of land or animal of selected product
- Expanding Markets & Trade
  - -Percent change of value of intra-regional trade in targeted agricultural commodities
  - - Value of incremental sales (farm-level)
- Increased private sector investment in agriculture and nutrition-related activities
  - -Value of new private sector investment in agriculture sector or value chain
- Increased agricultural value chain productivity leading to greater on- and off-farm jobs
  - -Number of jobs attributed to FTF implementation
- Increased resilience of vulnerable communities and households
  - -Change in Average Score on the Household Hunger Scale
- Improved access to diverse and quality foods
  - -Dietary diversity for women and children
  - -Percent of Chidren 6-23 months that received a Minimum Acceptable Diet
- Improved nutrition-related behaviors
  - -Prevalence of exclusive breastfeeding under six months
- Improved use of maternal and child health and nutrition services
  - -Prevalence of maternal anemia

Second-Level Objective Indicators

| Programs and policies to support agriculture sector growth | Programs and policies to increase access to markets and facilitate trade | Programs and policies to reduce inequities | Programs and policies to support positive gains in nutrition |
|---|---|---|---|
| *AVAILABILITY* | *ACCESS* | *STABILITY* | *UTILIZATION* |

## Definition of Food Security

# Two Key Types of Evaluation

- Performance evaluations
  - Focuses on questions linked to program design or management decisions: i.e., how a project is being implemented, how it is perceived, whether expected results are occurring

- Impact evaluations
  - Measures the change in a development outcome that is attributable to a defined intervention; requires a credible and rigorously defined counterfactual

# Evaluation Policy – Implications for Feed the Future

- **Evaluation integrated into project design**
  - Identify key evaluation questions at outset of FtF project planning

- **Unbiased**
  - In most cases, use a third-party contractor or grantee, managed directly by USAID, to conduct FtF evaluations
  - Utilize outside experts as evaluation team leaders *(where possible local experts)*
  - Scope of Work being developed for an RFP to support FtF evaluations

# Evaluation Policy – Implications for Feed the Future

- **Relevant**
  - FtF evaluation questions should link specifically to future decisions to be made by USAID leadership, partner governments and/or other stakeholders
  - Workshop for stakeholder input in shaping the agenda planned for spring 2011
  - Impact evaluation questions identified by missions in FtF

# Evaluation Policy – Implications for Feed the Future (Cont.)

- **Based on best methods**
  - FtF evaluations will use methods that generate highest quality evidence, with consideration of time, budget and other practical considerations
- **Reinforcing local capacity**
  - FtF will place priority on supporting partner government and civil society capacity to undertake evaluations and use the results generated
- **Transparent**
  - FtF evaluation findings will be shared as widely as possible
  - Evaluation summaries will be available to the public through the USAID website within 3 months of evaluation's conclusion

# Examples of FtF Interventions and Evaluation Plan

## Tanzania

- Focus on irrigated rice production Morogoro and Zanzibar , while maize value chains will be promoted in Dodoma and Manyara regions.
- Horticulture value chains are focused in the central, northern and southern highland regions, as well as Zanzibar.
- Dodoma, Manyara and Morogoro have been identified as the primary regions of focus for nutrition-related interventions
- Evaluation
  - Impact of the agricultural development program on gender inequalities, assets disparities and rural livelihoods

# Examples of FtF Interventions and Evaluation Plan (cont.)

## Ghana

- Focus on increasing the competitiveness of rice, maize, soya, and fisheries value chains to support broad-based economic growth

- Food insecure households with women of reproductive age and children under two years who are not able to participate in the commercial rice and maize systems, provided with an integrated package of income generation, nutrition and food safety education, and other inputs to support dietary diversity

- <u>Evaluation</u>
  - Impact of FtF on increased livelihood options, and on reducing key gender disparities

# Examples of FtF Interventions and Evaluation Plan (cont.)

## Rwanda

- Focus on beans, including soy; maize; and dairy as priority value chains while limited investments will be undertaken to sustain gains made to date in two traditional high-value exports, coffee and pyrethrum

- Strengthen and scale-up CBNP to prevent and manage malnutrition in children under 5, with particular focus on those under 2, and in pregnant and lactating

### Evaluation

- Impact of the Rwanda integrated livelihood program on the economic and nutritional status of poor households in rural areas

# FtF Learning and Accountability

## Mutual learning and accountability from evaluation

- Results from evaluations will form the platform for mutual learning and accountability between USG and host government

- Evaluation findings will provide relevant information for design of new and/or scaled-up projects as USG increases its FtF investments in countries

# FtF Learning and Accountability (Cont.)

## Examples of systems for mutual learning and accountability

- Tanzania
  - Designated full time monitoring and evaluation specialist to appropriately monitor progress and engage in reporting and evaluation for FTF with the Agriculture Sector Development Program
  - M&E specialists will participate in annual meetings that include all implementing partners for FTF, the FTF working group, and Government of Tanzania representatives from relevant ministries.
- Ghana
  - USAID will be a partner in Joint Sector Reviews of agricultural sector performance conducted jointly by MOFA and development partners according to a mutual agreement

# Strengthening local capacity for monitoring and evaluation

- Local capacity strengthening is central to FtF monitoring and evaluation plan
- Coordination with host country stakeholders is a crucial component of FtF M&E strategy
- Capacity strengthening and training will be provided to host country professionals working on national data systems

# Local capacity strengthening for M&E (Cont.)

## Examples from FtF country strategies

- Senegal
  - USIAD will strengthen and build capacity within the National Statistics Office and the Agricultural Statistic Office, and will co-sign an MOU to this effect
  - USAID/Senegal FtF program contributed to the National Statistics Office budget for executing the 2011 census – will combine population census with relevant aspects of agriculture and livestock survey

# Local capacity strengthening for M&E (Cont.)

## Examples from FtF country strategies

- Tanzania
  - Support the GoT to conduct rigorous monitoring and evaluation of their CAADP plan, and the supporting strategies
  - USAID/Tanzania will provide direct support to the Government of Tanzania's National Bureau of Statistics
  - USG investments in M&E will also be linked with the GoT monitoring mechanisms to build the host country capacity and ability to analyze and report on results

# Local capacity strengthening for M&E (Cont.)

## Examples from FtF country strategies

- Ghana
  - FtF M&E will benefit from assistance provided by the USAID Ghana Strategy Support Program (GSSP) to strengthen Ghana's agricultural statistics system
  - IFPRI (through the GSSP) is helping to establish the CAADP Strategic Analysis and Knowledge Support System (SAKSS) Node and will continue to provide the professional guidance to the country to ensure high quality statistical data remains available
- Rwanda
  - Given identified weaknesses in data collection and performance monitoring in MINAGRI, the U.S. Government will strengthen its M&E capacity through the establishment of a FEWS field presence and a SAKSS node

# Conclusion

- Evaluation to maximize the impact of USG FtF investments
- Missions are aligning their FtF strategies with country investment plans in agriculture, and supporting the M&E capacity strengthening efforts in these plans
- Systems are being established to enhance mutual learning and accountability using results from FtF program M&E

## For more information

- USAID Evaluation Policy

  go to: http://www.usaid.gov/evaluation/

- For Feed the Future

  go to: http://www.feedthefuture.gov/