Supporting integrated food security and nutrition programs to improve health and well-being of women and children
Annual Report
Project Year 2
October 1, 1999 to September 30, 2000

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<th>Full Form</th>
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<tr>
<td>ACC/SCN</td>
<td>Administrative Committee on Coordination/Subcommittee on Nutrition</td>
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<td>ADRA</td>
<td>Adventist Development and Relief Agency</td>
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<tr>
<td>AED</td>
<td>Academy for Educational Development</td>
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<tr>
<td>BASICS</td>
<td>Basic Support for Institutionalizing Child Survival Project</td>
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<td>BHR</td>
<td>USAID’s Bureau for Humanitarian Response</td>
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<td>BHR/FFP</td>
<td>BHR’s Office of Food for Peace</td>
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<td>CARE</td>
<td>Cooperative for Assistance and Relief Everywhere</td>
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<td>CHANGE</td>
<td>Behavior Change Innovation/State-of-the-Art Activity</td>
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<tr>
<td>CORE</td>
<td>Child Survival Collaboration and Resources Group</td>
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<tr>
<td>CRS</td>
<td>Catholic Relief Services</td>
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<tr>
<td>CSs</td>
<td>Cooperating Sponsors (includes Private Voluntary Organizations)</td>
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<tr>
<td>CWE</td>
<td>Credit With Education</td>
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<tr>
<td>DAP</td>
<td>Title II Development Activity Proposal</td>
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<tr>
<td>DHS</td>
<td>Demographic and Health Surveys</td>
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<tr>
<td>EOC</td>
<td>Ethiopian Orthodox Church</td>
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<tr>
<td>EFS</td>
<td>USAID/Port-au-Prince’s Enhancing Food Security Project (Numbers I, II, and III)</td>
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<td>ER</td>
<td>Emergency Response</td>
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<tr>
<td>FACG</td>
<td>Food Aid Consultative Group</td>
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<td>FAM</td>
<td>Food Aid Management</td>
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<td>FANTA</td>
<td>Food and Nutrition Technical Assistance Project</td>
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<td>FAO</td>
<td>Food and Agriculture Organization</td>
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<td>FFE</td>
<td>Food for Education</td>
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<td>FFH</td>
<td>Freedom from Hunger</td>
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<td>FFP</td>
<td>BHR’s Office of Food for Peace</td>
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<tr>
<td>FFP/DP</td>
<td>Office of Food for Peace, Development Programs Division</td>
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<td>FFP/ER</td>
<td>Office of Food for Peace, Emergency Relief Division</td>
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<tr>
<td>FHI</td>
<td>Food for the Hungry International</td>
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<tr>
<td>GFFEI</td>
<td>Global Food For Education Initiative</td>
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<td>GHAI</td>
<td>Greater Horn of Africa Initiative</td>
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<tr>
<td>G/PHN</td>
<td>USAID’s Bureau for Global Programs, Center for Population, Health and Nutrition</td>
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<tr>
<td>HFSS</td>
<td>Household Food Security Scale</td>
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<tr>
<td>HINAP</td>
<td>Health Information Network for Advanced Planning</td>
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<tr>
<td>HIV/AIDS</td>
<td>Human Immunodeficiency Virus/Acquired Immune Deficiency Syndrome</td>
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<tr>
<td>HKI</td>
<td>Helen Keller International</td>
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<tr>
<td>IEC</td>
<td>Information, Education and Communications</td>
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<td>IFPRI</td>
<td>International Food Policy Research Institute</td>
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<td>IR</td>
<td>Intermediate Result</td>
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<td>ISA</td>
<td>Institutional Support Agreement</td>
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<td>ISP</td>
<td>Integrated Strategic Plan</td>
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<tr>
<td>KPC</td>
<td>Knowledge, Practice and Coverage</td>
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<td>LIFE</td>
<td>Leadership and Investment on Fighting an Epidemic</td>
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<tr>
<td>M&amp;E</td>
<td>Monitoring and Evaluation</td>
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<tr>
<td>MCH/CS</td>
<td>Maternal and Child Health/Child Survival</td>
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<td>MCHN</td>
<td>Maternal and Child Health and Nutrition Programs</td>
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<td>NGO</td>
<td>Non-Governmental Organization</td>
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<tr>
<td>Abbreviation</td>
<td>Description</td>
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<tr>
<td>PAA</td>
<td>Title II Previously Approved Activity</td>
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<td>PCI</td>
<td>Project Concern International</td>
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<td>PMEP</td>
<td>Performance Monitoring and Evaluation Plan</td>
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<td>PROFILES</td>
<td>A Process for Nutrition Policy Analysis and Advocacy</td>
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<tr>
<td>PVO</td>
<td>Private Voluntary Organization (also used for Cooperating Sponsor)</td>
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<tr>
<td>R2</td>
<td>Results Report</td>
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<tr>
<td>R4</td>
<td>Results Review and Resource Request</td>
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<tr>
<td>REST</td>
<td>Relief Society of Tigre</td>
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<tr>
<td>PLWHAs</td>
<td>People living with HIV/AIDS</td>
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<td>RNIS</td>
<td>Refugee Nutrition Information System</td>
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<tr>
<td>SCF</td>
<td>Save the Children Foundation</td>
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<tr>
<td>SOW</td>
<td>Scope of Work</td>
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<tr>
<td>SUSTAIN</td>
<td>Sharing U.S. Technology to Aid in the Improvement of Nutrition</td>
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<tr>
<td>UNICEF</td>
<td>United Nations' Children Fund</td>
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<tr>
<td>USAID</td>
<td>United States Agency for International Development</td>
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<tr>
<td>USDA</td>
<td>United States Department of Agriculture</td>
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<tr>
<td>TAG</td>
<td>Technical Advisory Group</td>
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<td>TAP</td>
<td>Transitional Activity Programs</td>
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<tr>
<td>UN</td>
<td>United Nations</td>
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<tr>
<td>VAM</td>
<td>Vulnerability Assessment Modeling</td>
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<tr>
<td>WFP</td>
<td>World Food Program</td>
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<td>WVI</td>
<td>World Vision International</td>
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<td>WHO</td>
<td>World Health Organization</td>
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I. INTRODUCTION

The Food and Nutrition Technical Assistance Project (FANTA) supports integrated food security and nutrition programming to improve the health and well being of women and children. The five-year cooperative agreement, funded by the US Agency for International Development (USAID), was awarded in September 1998 and is managed by the Academy for Educational Development (AED). This report discusses activities during the second year of the project (October 1, 1999 – September 30, 2000).
II. ABOUT THE PROJECT

The project helps integrate nutrition into the strategic planning process; provides analyses for food security and nutrition policy development; and shares information and knowledge with partners. Technical assistance is provided to USAID missions, host governments, Cooperating Sponsors (CS) or private voluntary organizations (PVOs) and non-governmental organizations (NGOs) to improve program design, monitoring and evaluation.

FANTA works collaboratively with donors, development organizations and other partners to:
• increase investment in food security and nutrition;
• promote the integration of food security and nutrition with other interventions such as child survival and maternal nutrition;
• improve program quality and impact of USAID resources including Title II food aid, development and humanitarian assistance;
• assist in planning the transition from emergency to development programs;
• validate approaches through special studies and analyses;
• review and analyze research findings for improving programming;
• guide monitoring and evaluation efforts to improve reporting on performance and effectiveness;
• foster the exchange of knowledge and experience about food security and nutrition among partners and across sectors; and
• link women’s income to improved health, nutrition and education.

The FANTA team supports programs with a food and nutrition component, with a particular emphasis on projects that address mild and moderate malnutrition in children, and projects aimed at achieving optimal nutrition for girls and women. The project also assists with specific interventions to:
• improve infant and child feeding, including breastfeeding;
• enhance micronutrient status, especially for Vitamin A in Title II programs;
• increase household income, including micro-enterprise and increased agricultural productivity; and
• improve nutrition care and support for HIV/AIDS affected people and households.

The project works closely with Food Aid Management (FAM)-- a consortium of PVOs working to improve food security by making Title II food aid more efficient and effective. FANTA provides technical assistance on key food security and nutrition issues identified by FAM members.

Two universities are primary subcontractors with the project: Cornell University’s Division of Nutritional Sciences and Tufts University’s School of Nutrition Science and Policy. Their focus is on specific policy and technical issues and operations research.
III. PROJECT YEAR TWO HIGHLIGHTS

Priority Action Areas

Priority action areas for technical assistance were identified through a consultative process with PVOs and USAID during the first year of the project. Recent examples of FANTA work during this project year are summarized for each priority area.

Strengthening Maternal Child Health/Nutrition (MCHN) Programs

The majority of Title II PVO programs focus on aspects of improving maternal child health and nutrition. FANTA's works on a range of activities in this area from applied research to technical assistance to disseminating lessons learned.

- "Improving the Use of Food Rations in Title II Maternal/Child Health and Nutrition Programs". During the first project year this guide was developed with PVOs. The guide makes recommendations for refocusing food rations in MCHN programs for the greatest nutritional benefit. Recommendations from the guide were used by CSs in Benin, Bolivia and Honduras to revise their programs.
- Child feeding index. Projects need to be able to measure improvements in child nutrition. FANTA is collaborating with academics and practitioners to develop inexpensive, simple to use methods to report on improvements in child feeding behaviors and children's diets. FANTA convened a seminar with researchers from the International Food Policy Research Institute (IFPRI) to discuss a methodology to measure and quantify child feeding practices using Demographic Health Surveys (DHS) data they had developed. The index can be used to identify vulnerable groups and specific feeding practices. Programs can use this index to help target nutrition education and behavior change programs to the most vulnerable.
- Estimating changes in child mortality from changes in child malnutrition. Enhancing child survival continues to be a major health and development goal for USAID. As part of their subcontract, Cornell University is developing alternative methods for estimating changes in child mortality from changes in child malnutrition. The first phase of the research and analysis was completed this year and a seminar for USAID will be held during the next project year.

Women's Nutrition

Women's nutrition and survival are an increased focus in development programs. During the first two years of the project, the focus was on information gathering and analyzing research and program experience. A background paper was prepared. The paper was the basis for preliminary research to identify program options to improve women's and adolescent girls' nutrition. The program options focused on a life-cycle approach and were shared with PVOs at a Technical Advisory Group (TAG) meeting for feedback. This information will be used in developing the women's nutrition strategy during Project Year Three.

Credit With Education (CWE)

Credit with education is an approach developed by Freedom from Hunger (FFH) to address issues of access and utilization through village banking models of microfinance. The village banks provide loans and health and nutrition education to groups of 15-50 women who jointly guarantee each other's loans. Credit with education programs can increase individual income and savings, improve key health and nutrition behaviors and can lead to improved household food
security. FANTA is collaborating with Freedom From Hunger on possible ways that credit with education might be integrated into Title II development programs. FFH developed a paper, "Credit With Education: A Promising Title II Microfinance Strategy", that examines the options and will present the recommendations at a FANTA technical advisory group meeting in Project Year Three. Next year, FFH will collaborate with FANTA on developing CWE monitoring and evaluation tools appropriate for Title II programs.

Access/Income Indicator for Food Security

FANTA promotes collaborative efforts between operational research and ongoing programs as part of the project's capacity building, technical strengthening and dissemination efforts. With subcontractors, Cornell and Tufts University, FANTA is adapting and validating the U.S. Department of Agriculture Household Food Security and Hunger Assessment Tool for use in a developing country context. This work will test the usefulness of the tool as an impact indicator for evaluating change in the access component of food security in program evaluations.

Existing measures of regional or local food availability are often inadequate for project-level decision-making since availability is only one component of household food security. One way to develop measures with these components is to base them on food insecurity at the household level. A background paper was prepared on the measurement tool "Measuring Household Food Security from the Ground Up". Field validation studies will begin in Year Three in Burkina Faso (Cornell University collaborating with Africare) and in Bangladesh (Tufts University collaborating with World Vision).

Monitoring and Evaluation

A major focus of FANTA technical assistance is strengthening the results reporting of PVOs. FANTA works face-to-face and electronically with PVO headquarters and field staff. They respond to a range of questions related to monitoring and evaluation (M&E) for nutrition and food security programs. FANTA also works with Food Aid Management, a consortium of PVOs working to make Title II food aid more efficient and effective. This collaboration has included a series of technical workshops. The FANTA Indicator Guide series is tailored specifically for this audience and is widely used for training and technical assistance.

- **Institutional Support Assistance (ISA) grants.** The ISA program is supported by USAID and provides resources to PVOs to improve coordination, program development and dissemination of promising practices. FANTA's involvement with the ISA program began two years ago with drafting of the monitoring and evaluation (M&E) guidance for the grants and technical review of the proposals. Over the last two years, FANTA's role has expanded to include: technical assistance to grantees on M&E, reviews of program reporting requirements and meetings with all the recipients about specific M&E issues such as capacity building indicators and baseline and mid-term evaluations.

- **Monitoring and Evaluation Workshop for Title II PVOs.** Thirty-seven representatives from Title II programs in West Africa participated in a five-day workshop held in Bamako, Mali. FANTA organized the workshop with support from USAID/Food for Peace and the PVOs. The purpose of the workshop was to strengthen M&E skills and to build a network of M&E practitioners in the region. Sessions at the workshop focused on designing a monitoring and...
evaluation plan, managing for results and developing an evaluation scope of work. FANTA developed presentations and exercises for each of the technical topics as well as a case study based on actual Title II programs. All of the materials were prepared in French and English and like all FANTA materials are available on the project website. (www.fantaproject.org)

Other Technical Activities

In response to requests from USAID and from PVOs, FANTA is working in a number of other technical areas.

**Agriculture-Consumption-Nutrition Linkages**

Agriculture interventions can make important contributions in increasing production and income and often household food consumption. At the request of USAID/Africa Bureau, FANTA completed a study of agricultural and nutrition programs and policies to identify options for USAID’s bilateral and regional programs to strengthen the linkages between agriculture, health and nutrition programs. Based on the recommendations from the study, FANTA prepared a brief ("Improving the Nutrition Impacts of Agriculture Interventions: Strategy and Policy Brief") for the USAID Africa Bureau to share with Agriculture and Health Officers in USAID Missions and their CS counterparts. The recommendations included improving consumption and nutrition impacts by: improving integration across sectors, enhancing access impacts, increasing impacts on nutrition and monitoring performance.

**Food for Education (FFE)**

USAID supports Food for Education (FFE) approaches to increase enrollment and school attendance in developing countries. US Title II food aid is provided to schools and combined with improvements in school infrastructure, curricula development and other inputs to ensure food is used to its maximum benefit. There is limited guidance on how to monitor and evaluate impact on educational opportunity and progress. To provide guidance on these issues FANTA developed a FFE Indicator Guide in collaboration with stakeholders including PVOs, various USAID offices, the World Bank and World Food Program. The guide will be published in Project Year Three.

**HIV/AIDS**

FANTA provides technical support to USAID and PVOs to improve policies and programs that mitigate HIV/AIDS and improve nutrition care and support at the household and community level. During Project Year Two FANTA:

- Published a brief ("Potential Uses of Food Aid to Support HIV/AIDS Mitigation Activities in Sub-Saharan Africa") on the appropriate use of food aid resources for HIV/AIDS mitigation to maintain household food security. The brief was developed in consultation with community-based organizations, donors, academic institutions and PVOs and was used in guiding USAID policy for the use of food aid.
- Provided technical input on the use of food aid for the US government's Leadership and Investment on Fighting an Epidemic (LIFE) Initiative. This initiative focuses on action for children affected by HIV/AIDS. FANTA provided recommendations for the Title II component on results reporting for CSs receiving LIFE resources.
Drafted a guide on nutritional care and support for families and communities affected by HIV/AIDS. The guide was developed for CSs and community organizations and will be field-tested in Malawi and Uganda prior to publication during Project Year Three. FANTA will provide support to adapt it for a specific country context.

**Targeting Food in Prolonged Emergency Programs**
Humanitarian relief organizations increasingly need to measure household food security to make planning and targeting decisions. With support from USAID, under the Greater Horn of Africa Initiative, FANTA collaborated with CSs on targeting food aid in prolonged emergencies. The first phase examined how CSs assess and monitor household food security in emergency settings including the level and extent of household food insecurity; identifying the most needy households; and ensuring the correct type and amount of food reaches these households. Experts in the application of the Food Economy approach (Save the Children and the Food Economy Group) and Household Livelihood Security (CARE – Cooperative for Assistance and Relief Everywhere) participated in the assessment. FANTA will prepare a report including recommendations in Project Year Three.

FANTA drafted a list of references and resources for managers of emergency food aid. This list includes information on logistics and management as well as nutrition.

**Priority Country Technical Assistance**
FANTA provides in-country technical assistance in seven focus countries: Ethiopia, Madagascar, India, Guatemala, Haiti, Honduras and Nicaragua. Technical assistance is provided to CSs and also to USAID Missions. FANTA work with CSs is an opportunity to help them implement recommendations with ongoing technical assistance during the process. In Honduras, FANTA has been working with the USAID Mission and CARE for several years. FANTA provided technical assistance to CARE in the design of activities and indicators for their new proposal and CARE adopted FANTA recommendations on targeting and ration size.

FANTA’s technical assistance helps CSs measure improvement in child nutritional status and the lessons are applied by other CSs in the country as well as in other countries. The lessons from this work are also used by USAID (both global and missions) in planning new programs and developing policies. For example, in Ethiopia and Madagascar, FANTA is assisting in the development of the Mission's food security strategy. Finally, FANTA plays an important bridging role between USAID and CSs. For example, in Haiti and Madagascar, FANTA is assisting CSs so their results are reflected in the USAID results reporting.

**Disseminating Best Practices to Improve Food Security, Nutrition Policy and Programming**
FANTA's approach emphasizes research, analysis and dissemination to a wide stakeholder audience. FANTA activities to support this approach included publications, workshops, seminars and the project website.
Publications

FANTA has produced a series of technical guides on monitoring and evaluation to assist PVOs working in Title II programs. The guides provide the technical basis for key Title II indicators and recommended methods for collecting, analyzing and reporting on them.

During Project Year Two, a new Title II Indicator Guide was published "Measuring Household Food Consumption: A Technical Guide". A best practices guide on "Improving the Use of Food Rations in Title II Maternal/Child Health and Nutrition Programs" was produced in English and Spanish and circulated to stakeholders for comments. FANTA also completed a paper on "Improving the Nutritional Impacts of Agricultural Interventions". The paper was presented at the USAID Greater Horn of Africa Regional workshop on Agricultural Policy, Resource Access and Human Nutrition in Addis Ababa, Ethiopia. Drafts were completed for the "Anthropometry Indicators Measurement Guide" and the "Food for Education (FFE) Indicators Guide".

FANTA Website

The website (www.fantaproject.org) is the major source for FANTA information and publications. During Project Year Two, the website was redesigned and expanded. The expanded site includes sections on FANTA focus areas, events, what's new and annotated links to key nutrition, food security and development organizations. The publication section includes summaries of publications as well as the full text. All FANTA publications are available electronically on the website. Utilization of FANTA information has increased steadily. During the last six months of the project year there were 7,206 visitor sessions and an average visitor time of 8 minutes- indicating that users were downloading FANTA information.

Staffing

Three new staff joined the project during this year. Patricia Bonnard is an agriculture economist and food security specialist. Julienne Hayford-Winful and Marya Khan are project assistants.
IV. FANTA's INTERMEDIATE RESULTS

FANTA's Strategic Objective will be reached through the achievement of its three Intermediate Results (IRs). Highlights and specific activities for Project Year Two are discussed under each IR.

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

Title II food aid programs represent approximately one-third of USAID’s total annual budget and represent an important resource and mechanism to reach undernourished women and children throughout the developing world. By continuing the collaborative process established with BHR/FFP, Cooperating Sponsors, Field Missions and G/PHN, FANTA helps strengthen the capacities of Cooperating Sponsors, BHR/FFP staff, USAID Field Mission staff and other stakeholders in food security and nutrition problem analysis, design and progress reporting.

IR 1: HIGHLIGHTS

Guidance: Transitional Activity Programs
At the beginning of this fiscal year, Food for Peace began developing guidelines for Transitional Activity Programs (TAP). The intent of the guidelines was to bridge the gap between emergency reporting and longer term reporting. Short-term development programs are located in areas that have received emergency assistance, but where a food security response beyond the short-term need can be initiated. These include agricultural interventions, but also the revitalization of essential health and economic services. The timeframe for these transition programs is three years, shorter than the five years for non-emergency or development programs.

FANTA took the lead in drafting the guidelines with USAID and the Cooperating Sponsors. The guidelines will be reviewed for possible implementation in Year Three.

Technical Assistance: Cooperating Sponsors
FANTA provides technical assistance to Cooperating Sponsors at different times in the CSs program cycle. Technical assistance may occur during proposal development, at project start-up, or any point in the funding cycle. FANTA activities in Niger are an example of assistance at the earliest point in a Title II development program.

Niger received approval from USAID for a consolidated Title II development program between Africare, CARE, Catholic Relief Services (CRS) and Helen Keller International (HKI) during this year. Earlier reviews by FANTA of their proposal had identified significant gaps in monitoring and evaluation, as well as in project coordination among the partners. FANTA provided extensive comments over several months to address concerns about the M&E plans for the partners. Africare (the lead implementor) requested additional technical assistance. FANTA spent a week with the partners in Niger and accomplished the following:
- reviewed individual PVO Monitoring and Evaluation plans (indicators, targets);
- developed joint reporting requirements;
• developed a scope of work for first six months of the program management unit; and
• identified key elements in consolidated and individual M&E plans for implementation

USAID/BHR/Food for Peace set up the ISA (Institutional Support Assistance) to help CSs strengthen their reporting and program management. The ISA program provides resources to the CS community to promote coordination, program development and dissemination of promising practices. This program reflects USAID's commitment to the strengthening of CS headquarters' management will lead to better program management in the field.

FANTA's involvement with the ISA began two years ago with drafting guidance on monitoring and evaluation for those grants and reviewing the initial proposals. There are currently fourteen grantees; all of them are Title II CSs. Over the last two years, FANTA's role has expanded to include technical assistance to individual grantees on monitoring and evaluation, reviews of program reporting requirements (annual reports and workplans) and meetings on specific M&E issues (including capacity-building indicators, strategies for evaluating impacts). The CSs generate these M&E topics with FANTA participation. FANTA takes the lead on organizing and presenting on key topics at scheduled ISA meetings.

During this year, FANTA reviewed M&E plans for all the ISA recipients. This included developing review criteria, consolidating responses, drafting issues letters and technical meetings with grantees about monitoring and evaluation.

**Measuring Improved Household Access to Food: Household Food Security Measurement Tool**

This activity is designed to validate the USDA Household Food Security Measurement Tool (HFSMT) 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 tool will be validated against measures of household income and dietary caloric adequacy to see if it can be used in impact evaluations of Title II food security programs.

If the HFSMT proves to be closely correlated with income and diet and if it is sensitive to changes in the economic situation of households achieved by project interventions, it will be recommended to USAID and the CSs as an indicator for impact evaluation. This would be a great contribution because the HFSMT involves the administration of a simple 12-18-questions questionnaire during a single household visit. Currently CSs are faced with the challenge of complicated, burdensome and costly data collection to assess household income and food consumption.

Field validation studies will start in Project Year Three 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 CS and USAID audience of a practical formative research process (protocol) that can be applied by local researchers and planners in a variety of settings to develop a HFSMT measure of food security appropriate to their cultural, ecological and economic contexts.
Activities this past year included:

- Publication of a background paper on the measurement tool, "Building Household Food Security Measurement Tools from the Ground Up".
- Field visits by Cornell and Tufts to determine the context of food insecurity in the PVO program implementation zones;
- Meeting with technical experts on the proposed methodology;
- Finalizing working relationships between the universities and the cooperating sponsors; and
- Reviews of the existing Title II development programs.

1. PROJECT YEAR TWO ACTIVITIES IN SUPPORT OF IR 1

During Project Year Two, FANTA continued its broad support to BHR/FFP, USAID Field Missions and CSs; provided technical assistance to priority countries (Madagascar, India, Haiti and Honduras) and initiated technical assistance in two new countries (Ethiopia, Guatemala).

1.1. Support to improve development programming

1.1.1. Technical support to BHR/FFP/DP

1.1.1.a. Improve guidelines on nutrition and food security

- FANTA was active in various USAID and CS working groups in revising and updating nutrition and food security related-guidance for Title II development programming and reporting requirements for the Agency’s internal reporting. FANTA works closely with a number of PVO organizations and committees including the Food Aid Consultative Group (FACG), Food Aid Management (FAM), CORE (Child Survival PVOs) as well as with individual PVOs.

- FANTA conducted training sessions on FFP Strategic Objective 2 and results reporting; development Title II reporting requirements; and problem assessment, design, monitoring, and evaluation at the annual Food Aid Manager’s Course, the annual Development Activity Proposal (DAP)/Previously Approved Activity (PAA) Guideline Workshop and the annual ISA Managers Meeting. More than 100 people from USAID and CSs were trained and also received on-going technical assistance.

- FANTA provided technical input for enhancing specific nutrition-related programming areas in the Title II development programming. Some of the technical areas included: the use of behavior change approaches for improving child nutrition; incorporation of nutrition and food security concerns in HIV/AIDS programming, especially for Title II service providers; development of a food rations guide for improving MCHN programs; and application of the credit with education approach in Title II programs.

- FANTA provided technical input and support to USAID’s SUSTAIN (Sharing US Technology to Aid in the Improvement of Nutrition) Project on the updating of the web-
version of the USAID Commodity Reference Guide, particularly with reference to the sections on Title II non-emergency program considerations and food aid ration composition, selection and use.

- USAID supports Food for Education approaches to increase school enrollment and attendance in developing countries. However, there is limited guidance on how to monitor and evaluate the impact of these programs on educational progress and achievement. To provide guidance on these issues, FANTA began development of a Food for Education Indicator Guide. The guide is being developed with stakeholders, including CSs, various USAID offices, the World Bank and the World Food Program. The first step was a technical review of the types of food for education programs and the indicators being used to monitor and report on impact. A draft was completed and reviewed by all stakeholders.

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

FANTA provided written technical reviews for proposed and on-going Title II development programs. The reviews focused on the food security problem analysis and the relevance of the design and monitoring and evaluation plan to address issues identified in the problem analysis. Table 1 lists the proposals reviewed by FANTA staff during Project Year Two. The table is organized by region and type of program proposal (DAP, PAA, TAP).

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<th>Region</th>
<th>Program</th>
<th>Country</th>
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<td>Africa</td>
<td>Development Activity Proposal (DAP)- new proposals</td>
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### Asia

**Development Activity Proposal (DAP) - new proposals**
- Bangladesh: CARE
- Bangladesh: WV
- India: CARE
- India: CRS

**Transitional Activity Proposal (TAP) - new proposals**
- Indonesia: CARE
- Indonesia: CRS
- Indonesia: MCI Indonesia
- Indonesia: WV
- Indonesia: CWS

### Latin America

**Development Activity Proposal (DAP) - new activity**
- Guatemala: Share
- Guatemala: CARE
- Haiti: CRS
- Honduras: CARE

**Previously Approved Activity (PAA) - On-going activity**
- Guatemala: CRS
- Guatemala: SCF
- Bolivia: ADRA
- Bolivia: FHI
- Bolivia: PCI
- Bolivia: CARE
- Bolivia: CARE
- Peru: ADRA
- Peru: CARE
- Peru: CARITAS
- Peru: PRISMA
- Peru: TNS

- FANTA participated in Washington-based review meetings for proposals and participated in field reviews in selected countries including Ethiopia, India, Guatemala, Haiti and Honduras.

**1.1.1.c. Assist Results Reporting for BHR/FFP Strategic Objective 2 (FFP/DP)**

- FANTA assisted with the production of the 1999 Results Report for FFP/DP, which formed the basis for the 2002 Results Report and Resource Request (R4) submission. Reporting on
this information is part of the US government strategy to improve agency performance and show results. This information is used in reporting to Congress and provides an end-use for reporting that FANTA supports with the CSs.

1.1.1.d. Review Institutional Support Assistance (ISA) grant Monitoring and Evaluation (M&E) plans

- During Project Year 2, FANTA collaborated with individual CSs, Food Aid Management and USAID to improve CSs reporting on results in institutional strengthening and capacity building. Institutional Support Assistance (ISA) grants are supported by BHR/FP to strengthen technical and management initiatives at Cooperating Sponsor headquarters. Currently there are fourteen ISA recipients. FANTA's involvement with the ISA began two years ago with the development of M&E guidance for the proposed ISA grants and a review of the first ISA proposals. Over the last two years, FANTA's role has expanded to include technical assistance to individual grantees on M&E, reviewing program reporting requirements (annual reports and workplans) and convening meetings on specific M&E topics. These meetings have focused on M&E issues and problems raised by the CSs. Topics included development of capacity building indicators and strategies for evaluating impacts. During this year FANTA staff reviewed M&E plans for all fourteen ISA grantees including: developing review criteria, consolidating responses, preparing issues briefs and organizing technical meetings on M&E.

1.1.2. Technical Support to Cooperating Sponsors (CSs) and USAID Field Missions

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

- FANTA provided feedback to CSs and USAID Field Missions on Title II programs on technical issues related to food security and nutrition monitoring and evaluation. FANTA provided technical assistance to the following project priority countries: Ethiopia, Madagascar, India, Guatemala, Haiti, Honduras and Nicaragua. During Project Year 2, FANTA also provided technical assistance to a number of CSs in West Africa: Benin, Niger and Mali and the USAID Regional Food for Peace Office in Bamako, Mali.

- In Madagascar, FANTA staff worked with the USAID Mission to develop a food security problem analysis (see Section 1.3). FANTA organized a workshop in Ethiopia on food security and nutrition using the PROFILES tool to promote a focus on nutrition programming. The workshop was attended by staff from USAID, CSs, government, and other stakeholders (see Section 1.3).

- FANTA provided feedback to CSs on food security problem analysis, program design, and monitoring and evaluation issues identified in the review of proposals and provided technical input for the revision of proposal submissions.

1.1.2.b. Improve/strengthen existing program design

- FANTA provides guidance and tools for CSs to help in making their programs technically stronger. FANTA provided in-country technical assistance to selected CSs on their Title II proposals in Ethiopia, Niger, Madagascar, India, Haiti, Honduras, and Guatemala. At the
West Africa monitoring and evaluation workshop, FANTA staff provided assistance to CSs from Burkina Faso, Cape Verde, Gambia, Ghana and Mali. The lessons from this technical assistance helped strengthen and improve proposals from other CSs in the same country; strengthened nutrition and food security strategy design in that country; and helped improve guidelines for the wider food security/nutrition community. A description of current in-country technical assistance is included Section 1.3.

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

The guidance provided by FANTA for mid-term and final evaluations strengthens CS programs and gives USAID important input for the design of future programs. FANTA guidance is an opportunity to improve ongoing projects and to influence the design and planning of new projects as well as inform FANTA of current programs and future opportunities.

- FANTA provided technical assistance for the planning and implementation of mid-term and final year evaluations of Title II development programs. FANTA undertook desk reviews of evaluation scopes of work (SOW) for a number of CSs, including Africare, and helped refine the criteria for the identification of evaluation team members.

- FANTA assisted USAID/Port-au-Prince in preparation of the terms of reference for the final evaluation of the Mission's Enhancing Food Security (EFS-II) program. The results of this evaluation will feed directly into USAID/Port-au-Prince's design of the new 5-year project and the lessons will be shared with CSs in other countries.

- Technical assistance was provided to CARE/Honduras to refine the indicators for their next five-year food security proposal. FANTA recommendations on targeting criteria and the ration size were adopted. FANTA assisted in revising the evaluation design for the final evaluation survey.

1.2. Support to improve emergency programming

1.2.1. Technical support to BHR/FFP/ER

1.2.1.a. Improve guidelines on nutrition and food security

- FANTA was active in various USAID and CS working groups in revising and updating nutrition and food security related-guidance for Title II emergency programming and for the Agency's internal reporting requirements. FANTA collaborated in this process with various USAID offices and PVOS, including a number of consortiums and committees: the US Farm Bill mandated Food Aid Consultative Group (FACG), Food Aid Management (FAM) and the Child Survival Collaboration and Resources Group (CORE). FANTA conducted training sessions on FFP's emergency Strategic Objective 1 and results reporting; emergency Title II reporting requirements; problem assessment, design, monitoring, and evaluation.
• FANTA provided technical input to the Sharing US Technology to Aid in the Improvement of Nutrition (SUSTAIN) project for the updating of the web version of the USAID Commodity Reference Guide. The updated guide will be issued as an electronic tool on the USAID website in Project Year 3. FANTA provided technical input for all the modules in the guide: maternal and child health programs, food for work, food for education, non-emergency humanitarian assistance and emergency assistance.

• FANTA collaborated with a team at USAID in developing a ready to eat compact ration that would be suitable for people in emergency situations for short periods of time. The compact food will be a nutrient dense, stand-alone food, suitable for all ages and cultures. It is specifically designed to meet the needs of people in an emergency situation and at a much lower cost than what is currently available. The development of this new emergency food is an opportunity to develop a ‘state of the art’ product that could be useful in a wide range of situations.

FANTA staff was part of a consultative and technical process to ensure that the bar meets nutrition, organoleptic and technical requirements. A background paper is being developed along with a paper on the macro and micronutrient specifications. Based on FANTA recommendations, a committee of the National Academy of Sciences (NAS) will determine the specifications for the compact food, known as the “Emergency Ration Bar.”

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

• FANTA provided written technical reviews of selected Title II emergency and transition proposals, concept papers and results reports at the request of FFP/ER. The reviews focused on M&E plans and indicators for emergency and transition programs. A list of emergency proposals reviewed by FANTA:

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1.2.1.c. Assist Results Reporting for BHR/FFP Strategic Objective 1 (FFP/ER)

• FANTA helped produce the 1999 Results Report for FFP/ER. This report is the basis for the 2002 Results Report and Resource Request.

• With funding from USAID (BHR, G/PHN) offices, FANTA contracted with the United Nation’s Administrative Coordinating Committee/Sub-Committee on Nutrition (ACC/SCN) to produce the Refugee Nutrition Information System (RNIS) Reports. The reports are available at [http://acc.unsystem.org/scn/Publications/html/rnisinfo.html](http://acc.unsystem.org/scn/Publications/html/rnisinfo.html). The RNIS reports on
the nutrition situation of refugee and displaced populations focus on Sub-Saharan Africa but include information from Asia and elsewhere. The report is published quarterly with an email update provided on emerging situations. Information is obtained from a wide range of collaborating agencies including the United Nations (UN) and NGOs. The reports provide information about nutrition, health and survival for refugees and displaced people. Four reports were produced during this project year. Information from these reports is used by multilateral and bilateral agencies, CSs, and NGOs in coordinating resources and planning their emergency response.

- FANTA has a contract with the RNIS and the Health Information Network for Advanced Planning (HINAP) of the World Health Organization to improve information for the analysis and reporting of USAID’s humanitarian assistance goals. Information is collected on the nutritional status of children under five years of age in complex emergencies in selected pilot sites in Angola, Kenya, Uganda, Sudan, Nepal, and Kosovo and combined with crude mortality rates from the sites in Angola, Kenya, Sudan and Nepal. The collection of data was coordinated by CSs undertaking Title II emergency food aid activities and a report was produced. This information is used by the State Department and is part of USAID’s Annual Performance Report to Congress.

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

- During Project Year Two, FANTA assisted in the refinement of the database for Title II emergency program results. This database is used by USAID to report on nutrition status in its emergency programs. It is a good example of collaboration among different offices of USAID to raise the profile of nutrition.

1.2.2. Technical Support to Cooperating Sponsors and USAID Field Missions

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

- FANTA provided technical input to inquiries on nutrition, health, and performance measurement issues related to Title II emergency food aid from CSs, BHR offices, bureaus and other agencies.

- FANTA provided orientation to new emergency CSs and USAID staff about FFP/ER’s results framework and reporting requirements.

1.2.2.b. Improve existing emergency and transition program design

- FANTA provided technical assistance to USAID in developing a monitoring and evaluation plan for Title II emergency food aid. The M&E plan builds on the information being collected in the database described in 1.2.1.d. This information enables USAID to compare results across programs and improve program design and helps programs manage resources more effectively.
1.3. Country-specific activities

FANTA provided Washington-based technical assistance to all of the CSs implementing development and emergency Title II programs. In-country technical assistance is concentrated in seven countries. This on-going technical support to the field is critical to enable Missions and CSs to measure improvements in maternal and child nutritional status. This in-country technical support by FANTA staff and consultants ensures continuity and follow-up on recommendations. It is also an opportunity to document the lessons learned so that they may be shared more widely among CSs in the country and in other countries, USAID (global and Missions) and host country governments. FANTA received field support funds from USAID field missions to carry out the activities.

During Project Year Two, FANTA initiated programs of on-going technical support in two countries, Ethiopia and Guatemala, and continued technical assistance programs in Haiti, Honduras, India and Madagascar. Because of Hurricane Mitch, the technical assistance program in Nicaragua was shifted to focus on emergency feeding and post-emergency reconstruction programs. A food security specialist was recruited by FANTA and will be posted in Nicaragua to assist in the post-emergency transition during Project Year Three.

1.3.1. Ethiopia

As part of FANTA support to USAID/Addis Ababa, FANTA staff reviewed the Mission's food security portfolio. The overall goal of the USAID Mission’s Integrated Strategic Plan (ISP) for 2002-2006 is “Reduction in Chronic Food Insecurity” against a backdrop of increasing vulnerability and destitution. Previously, the Mission had focused on the availability (production) and access (income) aspects of food security. The third food security aspect, utilization (nutrition), received less attention. The Mission recognized that, in order to achieve its food security goal, it must give increased attention to nutrition. This realization was reinforced by a worsening of the already high rates of malnutrition over the previous 20 years. FANTA was requested to support the development of an enhanced program for maternal and child nutrition. A series of activities were undertaken during Project Year Two to establish a basis for such programming.

The large Title II program in Ethiopia (valued at approximately $41 million in 1999, representing 41% of the Mission’s portfolio) is implemented by CARE, CRS, FHI (Food for the Hungry International), EOC (Ethiopian Orthodox Church), REST (Relief Society of Tigre), SCF (Save the Children Foundation), Africare and WVI (World Vision International). The activities of the eight CSs cover a variety of food security program interventions: agriculture, natural resource management, micro-enterprise, water and sanitation, maternal and child health and nutrition and other child feeding/humanitarian assistance. In addition, the Mission has a development assistance portfolio focused on maternal and child health, and HIV/AIDS.

FANTA received field support funds to carry out the following activities.

Project Year Two: In-Country Technical Support Activities
• FANTA reviewed the Mission’s and CSs’ health and nutrition activities; assessed the technical feasibility of the proposed interventions, performance indicators, monitoring and evaluation plans, and intended benefits and results. FANTA provided input to the Mission’s 2002-06 Integrated Strategic Plan (ISP) prior to the final review. FANTA recommended key nutrition interventions to Title II CSs, particularly in the areas of women’s and children’s health and nutrition, HIV/AIDS and Vitamin A programming. The objective of FANTA technical assistance was to increase the role of CSs in addressing food utilization aspects as an integral element to address food insecurity.

• As part of the strategy to increase awareness and support for nutrition, FANTA organized a workshop to advocate for improved maternal and child health and nutrition. Following that workshop, FANTA staff assisted USAID/Addis Ababa and the Title II CSs in implementing the workshop recommendations to design and introduce nutrition interventions into future programs. FANTA also advised the Mission on the integration of nutrition activities into the other programming areas it supports. FANTA provided advice to both the Mission and the CSs to streamline their M&E system so they use compatible indicators to report on the various results achieved through individual programs.

1.3.2. Madagascar

Madagascar has one of the highest malnutrition rates in the world. FANTA is assisting USAID/Antananarivo in revising their food security strategy to explicitly address this problem. The strategy will cover the years 2003-2008 and will be a key element of the overall USAID country strategic plan. The food security assessment document will be one of the keystones of the Mission’s new ISP, whose goal is poverty reduction.

The Title II program in Madagascar (approximately $7.4 million in 1999) is implemented by ADRA (Adventist Development and Relief Agency), CARE and CRS. The activities of the three CSs cover interventions in agriculture, maternal and child health and nutrition, water and sanitation, food for education, disaster mitigation and other child feeding/humanitarian assistance.

Project Year Two: In-Country Technical Support Activities

• In collaboration with the Mission, FANTA began revising their food security strategy. The revised strategy will examine programming options to improve food availability, access and utilization in the country starting with the current programs. FANTA completed desk reviews of the Title II programs. Based on these reviews, FANTA provided technical assistance for a number of nutrition and food security programming activities, covering not only the Title II program but also the Mission’s food security portfolio.

• Because of the range of Title II activities, the Mission requested assistance to better integrate Title II CSs’ food security activities into the Mission portfolio. This included the integration of food security activities across sectoral teams (environment, health, education, disaster response, governance teams) at the USAID Mission; across different funding sources (Title II, Development Assistance, food aid from 416b); as well as the coordination with other donors (World Bank, European Union, UN System, bilateral donors) and the government of Madagascar.
Madagascar. FANTA worked with Mission staff on how to integrate food security into the Mission’s results package.

- FANTA provided technical assistance to the Title II CSs on program design, monitoring and evaluation and integration of their activities with other Mission-funded food security activities. This resulted in changing how they reported on their indicators to USAID so the indicators were tied to USAID’s intermediate results and strategic objectives. CRS and ADRA overhauled their monitoring and evaluation indicators for agriculture so they are integrated with USAID intermediate results and strategic objectives.

1.3.3. India

India has the largest program (valued at approximately $97 million in 1999) in the Title II development portfolio and is implemented by CARE and CRS. The bulk of the Title II programs support maternal and child health and nutrition (MCHN) activities with direct food distribution. CARE/India reaches over 6.6 million women and children in seven states with direct food distribution, behavior change communications, immunization and Vitamin A supplementation. In addition to the health and nutrition program, CRS/India’s Title II food security program includes natural resources, agriculture, food for education, and other child feeding/humanitarian assistance activities. Both CARE and CRS are preparing for their final evaluations in 2001 and considering design options for the next five-year program.

Project Year Two: In-Country Technical Support Activities

- FANTA supported USAID/New Delhi in the revision of the results package for annual reporting of both CARE and CRS. In addition, USAID/New Delhi with the CSs and BHR/FPB began preparations for the new proposal submission in early 2001.
- FANTA provided technical support for the development of monitoring indicators for the Mission and PVOs.
- FANTA participated in the first phase of the Mission’s development of a child survival strategy with emphasis on creating synergy between development and Title II resources. The strategy document includes particular attention to activities to improve maternal and neonatal survival and improve the Vitamin A status of children.

1.3.4. Guatemala

Guatemala, like other food insecure countries, has high rates of child malnutrition. USAID/Guatemala is addressing this problem through an integrated strategy.

The Title II program in Guatemala (approximately $18 million in 2000) is implemented by CARE, CRS, Save the Children and World Share and covers activities in agriculture, water and sanitation, maternal and child health and nutrition (MCHN) and institutional child feeding. These Title II programs were designed to assist USAID/Guatemala achieve its strategic objective of increased rural household income and food security and are measured by increased annual household income and reduced stunting in children under age 5 years in selected geographic areas.
Project Year Two: In-Country Technical Support Activities

- The Government of Guatemala, Title II CSs and other national NGOs developed a national Information, Education and Communications (IEC)/behavior change strategy that focused on 16 key behaviors to reduce the rates of infant/child mortality and to improve the health and nutritional status of children 0-5 years old. One of the priorities is to improve child-feeding practices. In collaboration with Title II CSs, FANTA provided technical assistance for a workshop on improving infant and child feeding behaviors. The workshop will be held in Project Year Three. During the workshop, CSs will identify key focus behaviors to improve and develop appropriate indicators for measuring improved practices.

- FANTA collaborated with the Mission's Local Income Generation Activities project to develop monitoring and evaluation systems for Title II CSs to report on achievements of results.

- FANTA participated in proposal reviews for World Share, CARE and CRS. These reviews provided opportunities for FANTA to collaborate with the CSs and identify specific maternal/child health and nutrition practices to be strengthened in the 2001-2005 programs.

1.3.5. Haiti

In 1993 the USAID Mission in Haiti launched its Enhancing Food Security (EFS) program, an initiative aimed at alleviating food insecurity in Haiti. The EFS program was funded through two funding cycles (EFS-I, from FY1993 to FY1996; and EFS-II from FY1996 to FY2001). During those 8 years the EFS program consisted of integrated development activities designed by three Cooperating Sponsors (ADRA, CARE and CRS). The three CSs operated with resources provided by the Title II program with additional funds provided by the Mission for overall program management (approximately $50 million for the last five years). The Mission requested FANTA's assistance in the preparation and review of the final evaluation of the program. The outcomes of the evaluation will help USAID understand the global impact of food aid on Haiti's development, where, how and under what conditions food aid is best used and what the lessons learned are from this program. The evaluation results will be used by the Mission to re-design its food security strategy and plan future programs.

Project Year Two: In-Country Technical Support Activities

- FANTA drafted the scope of work for the final evaluation of EFS-II project.
- FANTA assisted the Mission in the preparation of the request for proposals (RFP) for the evaluation of EFS-II. FANTA participated in the review and selection of the evaluation team and in the preparatory work for the final evaluation.
- FANTA provided technical assistance to ADRA, CARE and CRS- particularly in the area of monitoring and evaluation. This included assisting the CSs in the definition of information to collect, in the design of a general survey protocol/instrument and in undertaking the analyses to be presented in the final evaluation report.
1.3.6. Honduras

In 2001, CARE/Honduras will begin implementing a follow-on Title II program (valued at approximately $5.1 million annually) that focuses on expanding coverage of their integrated activities in agricultural productivity, health and nutrition, rural infrastructure development and local government strengthening. The Mission has allocated field support funds for the FANTA project to support the evaluation of CARE's current program and to develop the baseline for the follow-on program.

FANTA provides ongoing technical assistance to the CARE/Honduras Title II program on using the qualitative and quantitative information generated by its monitoring and evaluation system to continually modify and improve program design, implementation and evaluation. FANTA's work with CARE Honduras has resulted in promising practices in evaluation design to measure possible food security impacts of program interventions. Based on FANTA recommendations, CARE has adopted programming recommendations to improve their focus on the prevention of moderate malnutrition in children under two years of age and strengthened their focus on women's health and nutrition issues.

Project Year Two: In-Country Technical Support Activities

- FANTA provided recommendations and feedback to CARE in the design of the activities and indicators for their follow-on DAP. Recommendations included focusing the MCHN program on all children under two rather than malnourished children under five, increasing the size of the MCHN ration to account for intra-household sharing of food and concentrating on expanding coverage of the integrated program within the existing target areas rather than extending the geographic area covered by individual program components. All three recommendations were adopted and included in the newly approved program.
- FANTA participated in the field review of the proposal.
- FANTA provided technical input for the design of the final evaluation of their current program and the baseline for the new proposal.

1.3.7. Nicaragua

The focus of the USAID Mission during this year was on Hurricane Mitch relief programs. The post-emergency transition period will run through 2002. Because of Hurricane Mitch, the FANTA technical assistance program in Nicaragua was shifted to focus on the transition from emergency feeding programs and strengthening Mission Title II management capacity.

Project Year 2: In-Country Technical Support Activities

- A food security specialist was recruited by FANTA and will be posted in Nicaragua to assist in the post-emergency transition during Project Year Three.
FANTA's strategy recognizes that nutrition and food security cuts across sectors and that many countries do not integrate their programs and policies to ensure the maximum impact on food security. Under IR2, FANTA seeks to strengthen the relationship between the Agency’s health and nutrition, agriculture and food security-related programs to maximize the nutritional impact of nutrition and food security-related programs on the beneficiary populations, especially women and children.

**IR2: HIGHLIGHTS**

**Technical assistance to USAID and Cooperating Sponsors (CS)**

FANTA provides technical assistance to CS implementing food security Title II development programs in 20 countries. At the same time, FANTA concentrates technical assistance in the field on seven countries: Ethiopia, Madagascar, India, Guatemala, Haiti, Honduras and Nicaragua. The following highlights for Ethiopia, Honduras and Madagascar illustrate the dynamic nature of FANTA technical assistance and some of the results.

**Ethiopia**

Ethiopia’s status as a priority country for development and emergency assistance is unquestioned. Droughts, famines, civil disputes and border wars all contribute to a fragile environment for food security, and a perilous one for development. The Mission is concerned about the increasing numbers of malnourished people. The eight ongoing food security programs in-country make it the largest Title II portfolio in Sub-Saharan Africa.

This was the first year for FANTA activities in Ethiopia. FANTA’s technical assistance to Ethiopia has three elements:
1) Mission and food security portfolio review
2) Development of a workplan with the Mission
3) Training and workshops on key strategies and interventions with Mission Staff, key partners and CSs. Field support funds from the Mission supported these activities, augmented by G/PHN core funding

The portfolio review took place in Ethiopia in November. A FANTA team examined both the Mission’s portfolio and those of the Title II CSs with the objectives of enhancing the nutritional impact and determining the particular strengths/weaknesses in the programs’ interventions and reporting strategies. Based on this review, FANTA developed a workplan with the key partners. The workplan proposed an integrated strategy to address problems in nutrition and incorporated elements from the USAID HIV/AIDS LIFE initiative. The process of integrating the strategy was part of a larger process, as the Mission began to develop its own strategic plan. Finally,
FANTA's support moved into a two-pronged approach of joint workshops and individual technical assistance (to both the CSs and the Mission). A number of activities were undertaken:

- Two workshops with Mission staff, government and CSs using the PROFILES tool to raise awareness of nutrition and identify policy options for addressing nutrition problems;
- Assistance to CSs to revise their monitoring and evaluation plans;
- Reviews of mid-term scopes of work for the CSs;
- Presentations to BHR and key partners; and
- Assistance to the Mission in developing their strategic plan.

The key nutrition interventions emphasized:

- Micronutrient supplementation of pregnant and lactating women;
- Attention to reproductive health of adolescent girls (with the focus of delaying age of first pregnancy);
- Birth spacing;
- Developing labor saving technologies for pregnant and lactating women; and
- Increasing food intake for pregnant and lactating women.

**Honduras**

FANTA has been working in Honduras with the USAID Mission and the CARE Title II program. During Year 2, FANTA developed a rationale for the Mission on universal targeting. Instead of focusing specifically on malnourished children under age 5, all children under age 2 would be targeted. Implementing this recommendation will have the significant impact on improving child nutritional status and FANTA is collaborating with a number of USAID Missions to expand this policy. This year, CARE submitted a new food security proposal and FANTA provided technical assistance on design, M&E and operational issues.

CARE plans to close its operations in some departments (aldeas) and begin new activities in others. This requires graduation and entrance criteria for the communities served. It also entails a more sophisticated research design to determine the differentiated effects on graduated, continuing, new and quasi-control communities. Using information from the recently published FANTA Food Rations Guide, FANTA recommended modifying the proposed MCHN ration size in the following ways:

- reducing the overall size of ration from 35% to 15% of the average household caloric requirements;
- increasing the amount of Vitamin A fortified vegetable oil; and
- decreasing the amount of beans.

FANTA participated in the field review for the new food security proposal. The review recommended that the program merited funding at the requested level, an increase of two million dollars annually- although FFP did not agree with this increase. FANTA returned to Honduras to work on the new approved program. This technical assistance focused on refining indicators and revising the evaluation design for the population-based surveys, including implementing recommendations made earlier.
Madagascar

This year was the first full year of FANTA assistance to USAID/Antananarivo and FANTA developed a workplan with the Mission. With Mission funding, FANTA’s assistance focused on three key areas:
1) Technical assistance to Mission and Title II CSs on M&E and programmatic interventions;
2) Preparation of a report documenting potential application of remote sensing and population data using a Vulnerability Assessment Modeling (VAM) technique and the application to disaster mitigation; and

FANTA reviewed the existing Food Security Strategy and provided the Mission a detailed scope of work for revising the strategy. A key element of the food security strategy is assisting the Mission to better integrate health, population and environment activities. The steps involved in developing the strategy included:
- contacting the main actors involved with food security in Madagascar;
- identifying key information; and
- identifying local consultants to provide technical support and manage data collection and analysis.

FANTA presented a draft Food Security Strategy to the Mission at the end of Project Year Two. Once finalized the Food Security Strategy will be a useful model for other USAID Missions interested in revising their food security strategies to have a more integrated approach.

2. PROJECT YEAR TWO ACTIVITIES IN SUPPORT OF IR 2

2.1. In Washington

2.1.1. Define and implement strategies for improving women’s nutrition

- FANTA completed a review of the literature and program experience in women’s and adolescent girl’s nutrition.

- Based on the literature and program review, FANTA staff drafted a list of program options for CSs to improve women’s and adolescent girls' nutrition. The program options identified focused on a life cycle approach. For each intervention described, the target group, beneficiary, benefit and effect were identified. This information will feed into the women’s nutrition strategy FANTA will develop in Project Year Three.

- FANTA provided recommendations to Save the Children on the anthropometric indicator to use for the "index of well-being of women and children" they are developing.

2.1.2. Provide technical support to G/PHN and USAID initiatives
Increasing the impacts of agricultural interventions
FANTA provided technical support to G/PHN to improve and strengthen the integration of nutrition into USAID programming. FANTA was asked by the Africa Bureau, Office of Sustainable Development, Agriculture Division to prepared a technical brief on recommendations for increasing nutrition impacts (especially consumption) of agricultural interventions. The brief will be shared with agriculture and health officers at USAID Missions and PVOs. The brief reflects USAID's interest in supporting and strengthening linkages between agriculture and nutrition.

Support for USAID initiatives in emergency programs, food for education and HIV/AIDS
- Greater Horn of Africa Initiative (GHAI): FANTA collaborated with PVOs on improved targeting of food aid in prolonged emergencies.
- Global Food for Education Initiative (GFFEI): Based on FANTA's expertise in food for education, FANTA was a technical resource for USAID in discussions on this new initiative with other government agencies including USDA. FANTA is also providing technical assistance to CSs about the measures adopted by FFP in light of policy changes generated by the GFFEI.
- Leadership and Investment in Fighting an Epidemic (LIFE) initiative: FANTA provided technical input on the use of donated food for the US Government's LIFE Initiative. The initiative focuses on action for children affected by HIV/AIDS. FANTA also provided recommendations to CSs receiving LIFE resources on reporting requirements.

2.1.3. Improve the food security framework

Food Security Framework
A food security framework aids in communicating the important linkages among different determinants of women's and children's nutrition. Ongoing review of the current framework ensures that FANTA's activities complement the wide range of activities supported by USAID. FANTA expanded the food security framework to: include a wider range of activities; account for the benefits of targeting selected actions to high-risk groups; and shift the food security paradigm to one based on the life cycle approach. These changes were reflected in materials developed under IR 3 including: targeting food rations in MCHN programs, strengthening agriculture-nutrition-consumption linkages; using food to support HIV/AIDS mitigation and care and support activities in sub-Saharan Africa; and applying credit with education in Title II programs.

Targeting Food and MCHN Activities
FANTA recommended targeting food and MCHN activities in Bolivia, Haiti and Honduras to all children under age two. Focusing on all children under two will have the biggest impact on nutritional status. This recommendation also complements other health interventions (e.g. immunizations) and education messages (e.g. appropriate feeding practices) that focus on children under the age of two. CSs in Bolivia, Haiti and Honduras are following this recommendation and revising their programs.
HIV/AIDS
As a result of the HIV/AIDS pandemic, the food security framework was revised to include mitigation and care and support activities for programs in Africa and elsewhere.

2.1.4. Network with key groups

- FANTA collaborated with other key nutrition partners including the World Bank, WFP (World Food Program), FAO (Food and Agriculture Organization), ACC/SCN, UNICEF (United Nations’ Children’s Fund), USAID and other strategic partners to share strategies and approaches on a range of issues: developing a child feeding index, food for education, targeting emergency rations, nutrition in emergency situations, application of a household food security measurement tool and credit with education.

2.1.5. Review health and nutrition in emergencies

Refugees and displaced people experience serious nutritional and health problems. However, more needs to be known on how to address nutrition needs in an emergency situation.

- FANTA reviewed donor and CS practices of targeting and distributing food aid in complex emergencies. With support from USAID, under the Greater Horn of Africa Initiative, FANTA undertook a field assessment to determine the level and extent of household food insecurity in an emergency setting in Guinea. Experts in the application of the Food Economy approach (Save the Children and the Food Economy Group) and Household Livelihood Security (CARE) participated in the assessment. The analysis found that using these approaches can contribute significantly to an assessment of food security in camp populations but both approaches also require information gathered with other tools. There needs to be more cross checking with information from individual interviews and from observation. FANTA will prepare a report on the assessment in Project Year Three.

- FANTA prepared a checklist of information and resources for new managers at emergency sites. The list includes resources on logistics and management as well as information about nutrition and monitoring and evaluation.

- Working with UN Agencies (ACC/SCN and the World Health Organization (WHO)), FANTA supported expanded reporting of the nutrition and health situation for refugees and the displaced through the Refugee Nutrition Information System (RNIS) Bulletin. Four editions of the Bulletin were produced along with electronic updates on their website (http://acc.unsystem.org/scn/Publications/html/rnisinfo.html). This information is used by USAID and donors for prioritizing resources and planning.

- FANTA coordinates with the RNIS and the Health Information Network for Advanced Planning (HINAP) of the World Health Organization to compile information for the analysis and reporting of USAID’s humanitarian assistance goals. Information is collected on the nutritional status of children under five years of age in complex emergencies in selected pilot sites in Angola, Kenya, Uganda, Sudan, Nepal, and Kosovo, and on crude mortality rates in the same sites in Angola, Kenya, Sudan and Nepal. CSs undertaking emergency food aid
coordinated the data collection. This information was used to improve reporting on the impact of the programs in USAID’s report to Congress.

2.1.6. Incorporate Vitamin A into food security programming

- FANTA provided technical assistance to CSs to design micronutrient components for new or current development and emergency activities in Ethiopia, India and Madagascar.

- FANTA met with Helen Keller International (HKI) on developing a policy brief on incorporating Vitamin A programming in food security programs to be developed in Project Year Three.

2.2. With Field Missions

2.2.1. Support food security strategy development

- FANTA provided technical assistance to improve women’s and children’s nutrition to USAID missions in Ethiopia, Madagascar, India, Guatemala, and Haiti to improve Mission strategies to integrate resources, including development assistance funds and Title II resources (both food and local currency). FANTA provided technical support and input for the design and review of Mission Strategic Plans and Performance Reporting Plans in Ethiopia, Madagascar and Haiti. (See Section 1.3 for information on specific country activities.)

2.2.2. Support the Greater Horn of Africa Initiative

FANTA focused on GHAI priority area three: improved maternal and child nutritional status in emergency and refugee situations. FANTA completed a review and a field assessment of targeting in complex emergencies:

- FANTA conducted an assessment of two methods to identify household food security in an emergency setting. FANTA reviewed donor and CS practices of targeting and distributing food aid in complex emergencies. The field assessment examined the level and extent of household food insecurity in an emergency setting in Guinea. Experts in the application of the Food Economy approach (Save the Children and the Food Economy Group) and Household Livelihood Security (CARE) participated in the assessment. The analysis found that using Food Economy methods can contribute significantly to an assessment of food security in camp population but both approaches also require information gathered with other tools. There needs to be more cross checking with information from individual interviews and from observation. FANTA will prepare a report on the assessment in Project Year Three.

2.2.3. Conduct a Policy Dialogue

FANTA provides analyses for food security and nutrition policy development and provides a forum for sharing this information and knowledge among USAID and Cooperating Sponsors. Information on FANTA activities with USAID Missions is detailed in section 1.3.
2.3. With Cooperating Sponsors

2.3.1. Develop materials for applications of credit with education to Title II development programs advocacy piece and impact measurement guide

During Project Year Two, FANTA collaborated with Freedom from Hunger (FFH) to examine the potential for applying the credit with education approach in improving household food security in Title II programs. Credit with education combines the incentive of credit provision, especially to women, with health and nutrition information sharing and behavior change focusing on infant and child feeding, diarrhea management and immunization.

Freedom from Hunger (FFH) prepared a draft paper, "Credit With Education: A Promising Title II Microfinance Strategy." The paper was reviewed by FANTA and a final version will be prepared. The paper examines the potential and challenges for incorporating Credit with Education (CWE) in Title II development programs. During Project Year Three, the paper will be published and distributed to Title II partners and others interested in applications of CWE in their programs. During Project Year Three, FANTA and FFH will be developing CWE monitoring and evaluation tools. The tools will build on field experiences of organizations using CWE approaches.

2.4. With Host Country Governments

FANTA collaborates with USAID Field Missions to influence host country government policy and programming in the areas of technical strengthening and strategic planning.

Technical Strengthening
- FANTA supported USAID/Tegucigalpa and CARE/Honduras in their dialog with the Ministry of Health in Honduras to encourage a shift in focus of the MCHN programs to the under two-age group.

Strategic Planning
- FANTA supported USAID/Addis Ababa in the multi-donor dialog with the government of Ethiopia and Regional Governments to incorporate nutrition activities in the government’s Food Security Strategy. A workshop using the PROFILES Tool to focus on nutrition programming was held with key stakeholders.
During Project Year Two, a series of activities were undertaken to develop and disseminate best practices and acceptable standards to improve food security and nutrition policy and program development, analysis, monitoring and evaluation. FANTA’s approach involves research, analysis, documentation and dissemination (including training and technical assistance) to a wide stakeholder audience.

IR3: HIGHLIGHTS

During the last seven years USAID has supported the development of a series of technical guides on monitoring and evaluating for food security and nutrition activities. The guides are intended for PVOs and USAID and are based on generic indicators developed with PVOs and USAID. Information in these guides is relevant to other development organizations besides Title II programs and they have been used by universities, UN Organizations and other USAID Cooperating Agencies. The guides provide the technical basis for the indicators and the recommended method for collecting, analyzing and reporting on the indicators.

**FANTA Title II Indicator Guides:**
- Agricultural Productivity Indicators Measurement Guide
- Food Security Indicators and Framework For Use In the Monitoring and Evaluation of Food Aid Programs
- Infant and Child Feeding Indicators Measurement Guide
- Sampling Guide
- Water and Sanitation Indicators Measurement Guide

The guides are available electronically from the program website and 245 copies were downloaded during this year. In addition, another 965 hard copies of the guides were distributed.

During this project year FANTA published a guide on measuring household food consumption and began development of a guide on Food for Education indicators.

**Measuring Household Food Consumption: A Technical Guide**
Most Title II projects are aimed at improving food security and household nutrition. Increasingly, they are being asked by USAID to monitor and evaluate the impact of their interventions. This guide describes the process and procedures for collecting information to assess the food-intake requirements and adequacy of a household. A separate appendix document was produced with detailed information about analyzing the data.

**Food for Education Indicator Guide**
USAID supports Food for Education (FFE) approaches to increase enrollment and school attendance (often focused on girls) in developing countries. US Title II food aid is provided to
schools and combined with improvements in school infrastructure, curricula development and other inputs to ensure food is used to its maximum benefit. There is limited guidance on how to monitor and evaluate the impact on educational opportunity and progress. To provide guidance on these issues FANTA developed a Food for Education Indicator Guide. The guide was developed with stakeholders including CSs, various USAID offices, the World Bank and World Food Program. The guide will be published in Project Year Three.

**HIV/AIDS**

FANTA provided technical support to USAID and its partners to improve policies and programs that mitigate HIV/AIDS and improve nutrition at the household and community level. As part of its ongoing commitment to improving HIV/AIDS programs, FANTA worked with Cornell University on examining opportunities to use donated food in Eastern Africa. FANTA collaborated with USAID (BHR/FP/DP) on the Leadership and Investment On Fighting An Epidemic (LIFE) Initiative to support existing programs working with the devastating effects of HIV/AIDS.

FANTA prepared a paper on HIV/AIDS and food security "The Potential Uses of Food Aid to Support HIV/AIDS Mitigation Activities in Sub-Saharan Africa". The paper was circulated throughout the HIV/AIDS policy community and received extensive reviews and comments. FANTA prepared a final version in January 2000, and the brief was used by USAID in planning and program design.

During the development of this paper, reviewers identified the need for information on specific community-based nutrition interventions and the types of impacts they might have. At an international conference in Entebbe (Uganda), FANTA worked with several PVOs with HIV/AIDS programs (including Save the Children/Malawi, Plan International/Uganda, Project Concern International/Zambia and CRS/Malawi) to discuss the identification, refinement and dissemination of better practices for nutrition care and support. FANTA developed a draft guide on the nutritional care and support for Persons Living With HIV/AIDS and other affected household members.

During Project Year Three, FANTA will field-test the guide and publish it.

**FANTA Information Dissemination**

All FANTA publications are available in print and electronic format. The FANTA website (www.fantaproject.org) was redesigned during Project Year Two to make these publications more accessible. FANTA responds electronically to a range of technical assistance questions. In general, these questions are tied to specific Title II program monitoring and evaluation issues.
3. PROJECT YEAR TWO ACTIVITIES IN SUPPORT OF IR 3

3.1. Develop New Title II Indicator and Best Practice Guides

An ongoing focus of FANTA technical support is providing guidance for USAID partners on how to monitor and evaluate the impact of their food and nutrition interventions. To provide guidance on these issues, FANTA developed the Indicator Guide series. During Project Year Two, FANTA developed two new guides: Anthropometry Indicators Measurement Guide and the Food for Education Indicator Measurement Guide, and published the Measuring Household Food Consumption Guide. A best practice series is being developed to introduce USAID partners to various technical topics to improve and strengthen their programs. The first document in this series is "Improving the Use of Food Rations in Title II Maternal/Child Health and Nutrition Programs". The draft was produced in English and Spanish and shared with key stakeholders.

3.1.1 Anthropometric Indicators Measurement Guide

USAID partners are required to monitor and evaluate the impact of their MCHN interventions on the nutritional status of the child. This guide provides information on the anthropometric impact and the annual monitoring indicators for Maternal and Child Health and Nutrition/Child Survival (MCHN/CS) Title II activities. Information is collected for baseline, mid-term and final evaluations. Information for monitoring is collected more frequently. The guide will be published during the next project year.

3.1.2. Improving the Use of Food Rations in Title II Maternal/Child Health and Nutrition (MCHN) Programs

This publication was developed with USAID, Cooperating Sponsors from Bolivia and Peru and Tufts University. The guide makes recommendations for refocusing food rations in MCHN programs for the greatest nutritional benefit. Implementing these recommendations can help make MCHN programs more efficient and transparent and provide an opportunity for focusing activities that benefit the mother and child. The guide was developed for program designers to use in deciding the most appropriate use of food rations in Title II MCHN programs. During Project Year Two, the draft was produced in English and Spanish and circulated to partners for comments and feedback. Recommendations from the guide were used in planning activities in Benin, Guatemala and Honduras and to revise current program activities in Bolivia.

3.1.3. Food for Education (FFE) Indicator Guide

USAID supports Food For Education (FFE) approaches to increase enrollment and school attendance in developing countries. US Title II food aid is provided to schools and combined with improvements in school infrastructure, curricula development and other inputs to ensure food is used to its maximum benefit. There is limited guidance on how to monitor and evaluate the impact on educational progress and achievement. To provide guidance on these issues FANTA developed a Food For Education Indicator Guide. The guide was developed with stakeholders including PVOs, various USAID offices, the World Bank and World Food Program. The guide will be published in Project Year Three.

PVOS are required to monitor and evaluate the impact of their interventions and FANTA provides technical assistance to them to facilitate the monitoring and reporting process. USAID and PVOS have developed generic impact indicators for household food consumption. This technical guide describes how to collect and analyze information to assess the food intake of a household. Detailed information about analyzing household food consumption data is included in a separate appendix. The guide has been used by Tufts University for training graduate students and by various UN agencies including the World Food Program.

3.1.5. Evaluation Design Guide

This guide will assist program implementers in the selection and implementation of appropriate evaluation designs for demonstrating the household and individual level food security and nutrition impacts of programs. Because of other priorities, the guide was not finalized during Project Year Two. A final draft will be prepared during Project Year Three.


A major challenge facing program managers is lack of a link between information collected, the relevance of the information for decision-making, and the economic efficiency of the process. During Project Year Two, FANTA developed a workshop on monitoring and evaluation for Title II partners in West Africa. The weeklong workshop in Bamako, Mali featured a series of technical presentations and group exercises on: designing an M&E plan; developing indicators; data validity, reliability and replicability; managing for results; and developing an evaluation scope of work. Materials were developed in French and English and are available on the project website. Information from this workshop will be used in the development of a guide during Project Year Three.

3.1.7. Behavior change approaches using positive deviance to strengthen MCHN programs

A behavior change approach using positive deviance identifies behaviors and practices associated with households and individuals who have successfully solved their own complex problems where other members of the community with similar resources have been less successful. This approach has been promoted by Save the Children (SCF) and has been effective in improving the nutritional status of young children in several countries. A number of PVOS are interested in applying these approaches in their programs.

- FANTA convened a meeting of interested PVOS on positive deviance and discovery methodologies. The objectives of the meeting were: to share and to learn about positive deviance and other behavior change methods that are currently being used by CSs; to identify the strengths and challenges in implementing behavior change methods in food security and nutrition programs and to share options for overcoming these challenges; and to suggest ways to improve information exchange among Cooperating Agencies, CSs, FANTA,
CHANGE (Behavior Change Innovation/State-of-the-Art Project) and USAID. The group came up with a list of approaches they have used for changing behaviors. These included appreciative inquiry or assets based approaches, modeling, KPC (knowledge, practice and coverage) for diagnosis and intervention, building community capacity, targeting, intersectoral approaches (e.g. literacy combined with health and nutrition), mass media (radio), community media (theater), print media, interpersonal counseling and group education such as mother's clubs. Positive deviance was recognized as another important technique but not widely used by the participants at this meeting. There was also discussion about using “doer-non-doer analysis”. This analysis looks at the reasons for not adopting a behavior and the positive behaviors that are adopted. All these approaches have been successful in changing knowledge, creating access to services and changing attitudes.

- Follow-on meetings were held with CRS and CARE headquarters and field staff. CSs in Guatemala identified several areas for technical assistance on communicating messages for improved child feeding so they lead to improved practices. During Project Year Three, FANTA will collaborate with CSs in Guatemala on using Behavior Change Communication (BCC) to improve child feeding behaviors.

3.2. Increasing the Nutritional Impacts of Agricultural Interventions

Agriculture interventions can make important contributions in increasing production and income and often household food consumption. With support from the Africa Bureau, Office of Sustainable Development, FANTA completed a paper on USAID agricultural and nutrition programs and policies and identified programming options for improving agriculture-consumption-nutrition linkages, "Increasing the Nutritional Impacts of Agricultural Interventions". FANTA recommendations included: improving integration across sectors, enhancing access impacts, increasing impacts on nutrition and monitoring performance. During Project Year Two, FANTA:

- Presented the results of the review at the USAID Greater Horn of Africa Regional Workshop on Agricultural Policy, Resource Access and Human Nutrition in Addis Ababa, Ethiopia.
- Shared recommendations with USAID/W and the Africa Bureau on the implications of the findings.
- At the request of the Africa Bureau, FANTA staff drafted a policy brief, "Improving the Nutrition Impacts of Agriculture Interventions" based on the earlier research for use with agriculture and health officers in USAID Missions and their CS counterparts. The brief will be presented in Project Year Three at a meeting of USAID agriculture officers in Africa.

3.3. Adaptation of the U.S. Household Food Security Measurement Tool in developing country contexts

This activity is designed to validate the USDA Household Food Security Measurement Tool (HFSMT) 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 tool will be validated against measures of household income and dietary energy adequacy to see if it can be used in impact evaluations of Title II food security programs. If the HFSMT proves to be correlated with income and diet and
if it is sensitive to changes in the economic situation of households achieved by project interventions, it will be recommended to USAID and CSs as an indicator for impact evaluation. FANTA is collaborating with Cornell University and Africare in Burkina Faso and Tufts University and World Vision in Bangladesh on the field validation studies. During Project Year Two, FANTA:

- Produced a background document: "Building Household Food Security Measurement Tools From the Ground Up". The paper explores the potential for developing improved measures of the access component of household food security. Relevant conceptual and measurement issues are discussed, including a review of the US approach and examples of efforts in developing countries. The challenges of applying the US approach to developing countries are also discussed along with the operations research needed for developing experiential based measures.

- Convened a Technical Advisory Group to review the proposed methodology and the instrument that will be field tested to assess changes in the access component of food security interventions.

- Partners were identified in Burkina Faso (Africare) and in Bangladesh (World Vision). They will be collaborating with FANTA, Cornell and Tufts in field testing the methodology.

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

FANTA provided technical support to USAID and its partners to improve policies and programs that mitigate HIV/AIDS and improve nutrition at the household and community level.

During the first year of the project, FANTA conducted an assessment of current and potential policies and programs for using food to mitigate the impacts of HIV/AIDS at the community and household level. This assessment included a literature review and consultations with key stakeholders from donor agencies, host governments, CSs and NGOs working in the areas of food security and HIV/AIDS. Field visits were made to Uganda and Kenya. The assessment was designed to assist FANTA in preparing recommendations for USAID/BHR/FFP and G/PHN on enhancing the use of resources, specifically Title II food aid, to mitigate the impacts of HIV/AIDS at the household level. Activities during Project Year Two built on the findings of the assessment.

- FANTA developed a technical brief for USAID on the "Potential Uses of Food Aid to Support HIV/AIDS Mitigation Activities in Sub-Saharan Africa".

- A roundtable discussion was organized with representatives from USAID and PVOs to discuss the recommendations for incorporation of food into HIV/AIDS programs and policies including the guidance for submission of Title II proposals. CSs, USAID and WFP used the recommendations in developing programs and policies.
• FANTA organized a seminar with CSs on the effect of HIV/AIDS on nutrition focusing on how nutrition status affects HIV progression and mortality.

• A draft guide was developed for CSs on nutritional care and support people living with HIV/AIDS (PLWHAs) and affected households. The guide is organized into six modules and will be field tested and produced during Project Year Three.

• FANTA collaborated with USAID (BHR/FFP/DP) on the Leadership and Investment On Fighting An Epidemic (LIFE) Initiative to support existing programs working with the devastating effects of HIV/AIDS. FANTA also provided technical assistance in program design, implementation, and results reporting to CSs and local NGOs receiving resources from the LIFE Initiative.

3.5. Estimating changes in child mortality from changes in child malnutrition using secondary data

Enhancing child survival has long been a major health and development goal for USAID. This focus has intensified in recent years due to the current emphasis on performance-based management and evaluation strategies. Indicators of the nutritional status of populations are of interest for two reasons: 1) there is broad recognition of the powerful impact that malnutrition can have on child mortality as a result of its potentiating effect on infectious disease, with roughly half (56%) of all child deaths being attributable to this effect; and 2) information on changes in population nutritional status may be more readily available than other demographic indicators. Cornell University is undertaking this study to develop and validate alternative methods for estimating changes in child mortality from changes in child malnutrition.

• Cornell completed the first phase of the research which included a national-level analysis (cross-sectional and longitudinal) and assembled sub-national data sets from several countries. The analysis has been completed and a report and technical brief will be prepared. FANTA will organize a seminar to share the findings in Project Year Three.

3.6. Use of nutrition indicators to measure program impact

Achieving improvements in child nutritional status is an important goal of nutrition and food security programs. However, program implementers are concerned that the three to five year period of typical child survival or nutrition activities may not be enough time to achieve reductions in the prevalence of malnutrition.

• FANTA completed a review of published and unpublished materials documenting the magnitude of change obtained in various contexts and to assist in target setting. Based on the report, a discussion paper on target setting will be produced during Project Year Three and circulated for discussion and comments.

3.7. Indicators of Risk versus Benefit
During Project Year Two, FANTA worked with Cornell University to define the protocol for a study contrasting health and nutrition situations to identify the most promising indicators of potential benefit from different interventions and associated cutoff points for the indicators. Cornell prepared a concept paper: "Predicting who will benefit from an intervention- extending theoretical research into action." The paper was reviewed by FANTA but because of the high cost, the study was not funded.

3.8. Collaborative private and public sector health care provision

FANTA consultants participated in the mid-term evaluation of a Project Hope child survival project in Guatemala. The project works with coffee estates, the Ministry of Health, the Guatemalan Social Security Institute and NGOs to improve the health and survival of families and migrant workers on the estates. Building on similar work by the BASICS (Basic Support for Institutionalizing Child Survival) project in Malawi in 1997, this evaluation reviewed the combined private and public sector health care provision approach for Guatemala. The potential success of this project suggests an important public-private partnership and model to improve the health of poor working families in developing countries.

3.9. Workshops and training

As part of FANTA capacity building and technical strengthening, the project provides technical assistance through workshops, seminars and lectures. Materials from the workshops are available on the project website.

**West Africa Title II Monitoring and Evaluation Workshop**

FANTA and Food For Peace co-sponsored a monitoring and evaluation (M&E) workshop for technical officers from CSs in West Africa. Thirty-seven participants attended the one-week workshop in Bamako, Mali. The purpose of the workshop was to strengthen M&E skills among participants and establish an M&E network in the region. The workshop was in French and English. Sessions at the workshop focused on designing an M&E plan, managing for results and developing an evaluation scope of work and were followed by working groups on the various technical issues as well as question and answer sessions.

**Data Analysis Workshop**

A major focus of FANTA technical assistance is strengthening the results reporting of PVOs working on nutrition and food security activities funded by USAID. CSs need to be able to communicate what is being done and its impact to donors, policy and decision-makers as well as partners. During Project Year Two, FANTA provided technical input for a workshop on data analysis. This workshop (planned for early in Project Year Three) is a follow-on to the FANTA/FAM sponsored workshop held on sampling last year. FANTA assisted in the development of the technical materials focusing on agricultural and nutrition data. FANTA consultants designed exercises for participants using two statistical packages most commonly used by CSs: Epi-Info and SPSS.
Food Aid Manager's Course
The annual USAID Food Aid Managers course is a key venue for capacity building among USAID and CS staff. Thirty-two participants from USAID and CSs attended the course in November 1999. FANTA prepared materials and made presentations on needs assessments, monitoring and evaluation and indicator use for both emergency and development programs.

University presentations
FANTA staff lectured nutrition and public health graduate students at Tufts University and Johns Hopkins University on food security and monitoring and evaluation.

Seminars
FANTA organized meetings for CSs, USAID and partners on: behavior change communications, child feeding indicators, food aid for HIV/AIDS mitigation and care and support, food for education, household food security measurement tools and nutrition and HIV/AIDS.

3.10. Information and Communications
FANTA is a focal point for information on nutrition and food security for USAID, partners and stakeholders. The information strategy has a number of goals: expand the knowledge base; foster policy dialogue; strengthen linkages and collaboration; and increase awareness of nutrition and food security. A key focus during the last year was to begin targeting project information so that it is appropriate for the varied audiences.

The FANTA website was redesigned and expanded during Project Year Two. The website is the main portal for project information and the information is organized so that users may get the most appropriate information they need— from a summary of a workshop to a link to another organization to the full-text of an indicator guide. The expanded site includes sections on FANTA technical focus areas, events, what's new and annotated links to key nutrition, food security and development organizations. The publications section includes short summaries of publications as well as the full text. Traffic to the website increased during the last six months of the Project Year Two. There were 7206 visitor sessions with 3946 unique visitors with an average visitor time of 8 minutes. This length of visitor session indicates that users are finding information on the site that is useful and they are spending the time to download it.

All FANTA publications are available in print and electronic format. Part of the reason for redesigning the FANTA website (www.fantaproject.org) was to make these publications more accessible. During Project Year Two, 345 FANTA Indicator Guides were downloaded. In addition, publications were distributed in hard copy at conferences, meetings and in response to information requests.

FANTA technical staff respond to a range of electronic technical assistance questions. In general, these questions are tied to nutrition and food security, program design and implementation and monitoring and evaluation. During Project Year Three, some of the recurring questions and answers will be archived on the FANTA website.

Articles on FANTA activities were produced for each issue for Food Aid Management's quarterly journal, Food Forum. Topics included: using food aid to support HIV/AIDS mitigation
in Sub-Saharan Africa, developing child feeding indicators; the West Africa monitoring and evaluation workshop; and monitoring the progress of Title II emergency food aid.

Articles were written for each issue of AED Highlights, a bimonthly newsletter for AED staff and partners. Topics included: Madagascar's food security strategy; USAID food aid - food security assessment; school feeding; targeting emergency food aid; behavior change and CSs; and increasing agriculture-consumption linkages in USAID programs.

Other activities included:

Edited, translated and packaged workshop materials for the West Africa monitoring and evaluation workshop;

Expanded FANTA project databases: mailing list, key references and FANTA project publications and reports;

Produced activity summaries and reports for two FANTA/FAM Technical Advisory Group meetings in February and July; and

Produced and disseminated FANTA publications and reports. (Box 1 is a list of all reports/publications produced during Project Year Two.)

**Box 1**

- Building Household Food Security Measurement Tools From the Ground Up
- Increasing the Nutritional Impacts of Agricultural Interventions
- Mid-Term Evaluation For Project Hope Child Survival Project in Guatemala
- The Potential Role of Food Aid for AIDS Mitigation in Sub-Saharan Africa: Stakeholder Views
- The Potential Uses of Food Aid to Support HIV/AIDS Mitigation Activities in Sub-Saharan Africa
- Preliminary Review of the Impact of Programs on Child Nutritional Status: Draft
- Improving the Use of Food Rations in Title II Maternal/Child Health and Nutrition (MCHN)Programs
- *Spanish version:* Mejoramiento del Uso de Raciones de Alimentos en los Programas de Salud y Nutricion Materno-Infantil del Titulo II
- Strategies, Policies and Programs to Improve the Nutrition of Women and Girls
- West Africa Title II Monitoring and Evaluation Workshop, May 29-June 2, 2000, Bamako Mali. (Binder and materials)
- *French version:* L'Atelier de Suivi et Evaluation pour Titre II, Le 29 mai au 2 juin, Bamako, Mali
V. FANTA RESULTS REPORTING

A performance monitoring and evaluation plan (PMEP) was initiated in Project Year 1 and a draft was circulated for review during the first quarter of Project Year Two. The current FANTA indicators are in Appendix 3. Data sources for some of the indicators have been identified, particularly those based on FFP Results reporting. Other potential sources will be evaluated since some indicators may be dependent on data reported by food security and nutrition program implementers (e.g. Title II CSs). Based on the availability and reliability of the data, a plan for obtaining the data in a timely fashion from stakeholders will be agreed upon, as well as quality control measures regarding the provision of technical assistance and monitoring procedures for FANTA quarterly reporting.
## VI. APPENDICES

### Appendix 1 – Title II Generic Indicators

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>Category</th>
<th>Level</th>
<th>Indicator</th>
</tr>
</thead>
<tbody>
<tr>
<td><strong>Health, nutrition and MCH</strong></td>
<td>Impact</td>
<td>% stunted children 24-60 months (height/age z-score)</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td></td>
<td></td>
<td>% underweight children (6-24 mo, 36-60 mos) (weight/age z-score)</td>
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<tr>
<td></td>
<td></td>
<td>% infants under 6 months breastfed only</td>
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<tr>
<td></td>
<td></td>
<td>% infants 6-10 months fed complementary foods</td>
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<tr>
<td></td>
<td></td>
<td>% infants continuously fed during diarrhea</td>
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<tr>
<td></td>
<td></td>
<td>% infants fed extra food for 2 weeks after diarrhea</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td></td>
<td>Annual</td>
<td>% eligible children in growth monitoring/promotion</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td></td>
<td>monitoring</td>
<td>% children immunized for measles at 12 months</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td></td>
<td></td>
<td>% of communities with community health organization</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td></td>
<td></td>
<td>% children in growth promotion program gaining weight in past 3 months by gender disag.)</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td><strong>Water and sanitation</strong></td>
<td>Impact</td>
<td>% infants with diarrhea in last two weeks</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td></td>
<td></td>
<td>liters of household water use per person</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td></td>
<td></td>
<td>% population with proper hand washing behavior</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td></td>
<td></td>
<td>% households with access to adequate sanitation (also annual monitoring)</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td></td>
<td>Annual</td>
<td>% households with year-round access to safe water</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td></td>
<td>monitoring</td>
<td>% water/sanitation facilities maintained by community</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td><strong>Household food consumption</strong></td>
<td>Impact</td>
<td>% households consuming minimum daily food requirements</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td></td>
<td></td>
<td>number of meals/snacks eaten per day</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td></td>
<td></td>
<td>number of different food/food groups eaten</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td><strong>Agricultural productivity</strong></td>
<td>Impact</td>
<td>annual yield of targeted crops</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td></td>
<td></td>
<td>yield gaps (actual vs. potential)</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td></td>
<td></td>
<td>yield variability under varying conditions</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td></td>
<td></td>
<td>value of agricultural production per vulnerable household</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td></td>
<td></td>
<td>months of household grain provisions</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td></td>
<td></td>
<td>% of crops lost to pests or environment</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td></td>
<td>Annual</td>
<td>annual yield of targeted crops</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td></td>
<td>monitoring</td>
<td>number of hectares in which improved practices adopted</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td></td>
<td></td>
<td>number of storage facilities built and used</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td><strong>Natural resource management</strong></td>
<td>Impact</td>
<td>imputed soil erosion</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td></td>
<td></td>
<td>imputed soil fertility</td>
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<tr>
<td></td>
<td></td>
<td>yields or yield variability (also annual monitoring)</td>
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<tr>
<td></td>
<td>Annual</td>
<td>number of hectares in which NRM practices used</td>
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<tr>
<td></td>
<td>monitoring</td>
<td>seedling/sapling survival rate</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td><strong>FFW/CFW roads</strong></td>
<td>Impact</td>
<td>agriculture input price margins between areas</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td></td>
<td></td>
<td>availability of key agriculture inputs</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td></td>
<td></td>
<td>staple food transport costs by seasons</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td></td>
<td></td>
<td>volume of agriculture produce transported by households to markets</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td></td>
<td></td>
<td>volume of vehicle traffic by vehicle type</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td></td>
<td>Annual</td>
<td>kilometers of farm to market roads rehabilitated</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td></td>
<td>monitoring</td>
<td>selected annual measurements of the impact indicators</td>
</tr>
</tbody>
</table>
Appendix 2 - Indicator Measurement Guides

Current Indicator Measurement Guides

1. Agricultural Productivity Indicators Measurement Guide
2. Food Security Indicators and Framework for Use in the Monitoring and Evaluation of Food Aid Programs
3. Infant and Child Feeding Indicators Measurement Guide
5. Sampling Guide
6. Water and Sanitation Indicators Measurement Guide
### Appendix 3 - FANTA Performance Indicators

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>Strategic Objective: Improved food and nutrition policy, strategy, and program development</th>
</tr>
</thead>
<tbody>
<tr>
<td><strong>SO Indicator 1:</strong></td>
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<tr>
<td><strong>SO Indicator 2:</strong></td>
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</tbody>
</table>

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>Intermediate Result 1: USAID's and Cooperating Sponsors' (CS) nutrition and food security-related program development, analysis, monitoring, and evaluation improved</th>
</tr>
</thead>
<tbody>
<tr>
<td><strong>IR1 Indicator 1:</strong></td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td><strong>IR1 Indicator 2:</strong></td>
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<tr>
<td><strong>IR1 Indicator 3:</strong></td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td><strong>IR1 Indicator 4:</strong></td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td><strong>IR1 Indicator 5:</strong></td>
</tr>
</tbody>
</table>
Intermediate Result 2: USAID, host country governments, and Cooperating Sponsors establish improved, integrated nutrition and food security-related strategies and policies

IR2 Indicator 1: Percentage of USAID field missions that adopt policies or strategies that (a) emphasize prevention of mild to moderate malnutrition, (b) emphasize adolescent girl and woman nutrition, in addition to infant and child nutrition, and (c) emphasize approaches to integrating nutrition and food security programming across key sectors.

IR2 Indicator 2: Percentage of host governments that adopt policies or strategies that (a) emphasize the prevention of mild to moderate malnutrition, (b) emphasize adolescent girl and woman nutrition, in addition to infant and child nutrition, and (c) emphasize approaches to integrating nutrition and food security programming across key sectors.

IR2 Indicator 3: Percentage of CS programs that adopt policies or strategies that (a) emphasize the prevention of mild to moderate malnutrition, (b) emphasize adolescent girl and woman nutrition, in addition to infant and child nutrition, and (c) emphasize approaches to integrating nutrition and food security programming across key sectors.

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

IR3 Indicator 1: The percentage of (a) USAID missions (b) host governments and (c) programs adopting codified practices and standards