FSN Network Task Force for Nutrition and Food Technology

2012 Workplan: January 2012 – December 2012 (*draft March 2012)*

**Vision:** The Nutrition & Food Technology Task Force underscores the critical and cross-cutting role of maternal and child nutrition in reducing poverty and hunger in the context of food insecurity through the identification, review, endorsement and/or modification of tools for effective programming and the dissemination of up-to-date information on state-of-the-art approaches*.*

**Objectives for 2012:**

1. Review Core Competencies developed in Year 1; finalize consensus.

2..Review tools for prioritized core competencies.

3. Identify and facilitate dissemination of recent experiences and SOTA for core competency areas.

**Focus Areas for 2012:**

1. Prioritized core competencies: IYCF, ENA, nutritional status / anthropometrics
2. New scientific understanding about linear growth in the first 1,000 Days.
3. Updates on new food products.
4. SOTA of a variety of micronutrient supplementation approaches.

**Chair (or co-chairs):** Joan Jennings, TOPS Nutrition & Food Technology Specialist

**2012 Workplan FSN Network Task Force for Nutrition & Food Technology**

| **What is the activity? (title, brief description)** | **How will this activity work to strengthen food security and nutrition implementation? / What linkages can be found with other Task Forces or emerging interest areas?** | **Point person (underlined)** **Lead:** | **How will the activity be taken forward? (Implementation steps)** | **Complete by: (include date for milestones)** |
| --- | --- | --- | --- | --- |
| Review ENA and UNICEF materials for training field staff on optimal IYCF practices | These materials have been recently revised, partly to include a greater focus on maternal nutrition. Familiarizing our community with these materials will assist in strengthening program focus on the “first 1,000 days”. | Joan (TOPS) | Field staff will review the materials during TOPS technical training workshops and identify “additional useful elements” beyond the basic set of messages, such as additional messages, or a focus on persons of influence. This will be shared with the task force for comment. | Quarter 2 |
| Develop a handout that could be used by field staff to orient local partners (MOH) to the strategic focus/target groups of MCHN interventions and food assistance.  | This was requested by some participants in the NPDA training of trainers workshop.It will provide local partners with a better understanding of some of the evidence which underlies the 1,000 days focus.  | Consultant | 1. Draft handout based predominantly on Alive & Thrive Technical Brief Issue 2, September 2010: Why Stunting Matters
2. Review by Alive & Thrive for accuracy.
3. Review by task force and key FFP stakeholders.
4. Revise as recommended.
 | Quarters 1, 2 and 3 |
| Gather tools to support supervision for improved quality of anthropometric measurement. | Projects focus on training staff and community volunteers on anthropometric measurement at start-up but there is often a gap in the quality/structure of follow-up supervision.The SBC Task Force has id’d QIVC tools; the M&E Task Force has interest in seeing the tools identified by this task force.  | Joan (TOPS) | 1. Gather tools from: QIVC and FANTA Anthropometric Measurement Guide 2003
2. Test use of tools in field training workshop with hands-on application.
3. Task force will review tools and discuss experience from use in the field during training.
 | Quarter 3 |
| Prepare for possible event on a variety of SOTA approaches for micronutrient supplementation. | This is a rapidly changing field and task force members have expressed interest. | Diane (IMC)Joan (TOPS) | 1. Diane will gather materials from a presentation at the Global Health Council in June 2011.
2. Joan will seek contacts for possible presenters.
 | Quarter 4 |
| Initiate community discussion on “the integration of agriculture and nutrition” | This is a priority area for all food security programming but little detailed guidance has been developed. | Joan (TOPS)ConsultantAndrea (TOPS) | 1. Joan & consultant will draft potential ways to “frame” the discussion; this will be field-tested during TOPS technical training workshop for East Africa Region.
2. Andrea will gather input from agricultural field staff and consultants from the agricultural perspective.
3. A joint task force meeting will be held between the Ag/NRM and the Nutrition & FT task forces.
 | Quarter 4 |