Speaker/Moderator Biographical Sketches

**Penelope Anderson** is the Food Security Director for Mercy Corps, a humanitarian organization that works in 40 countries around the world. She started with Mercy Corps in 1999 in Kosovo as an Emergency Program Officer, which was her first introduction to food assistance and Title II programming. After a stint in Albania, she became program manager of a Food for Peace funded program in Jakarta, Indonesia, that focused on maternal and child health and nutrition, as well as water and sanitation. She acted as Director of Programs for Mercy Corps Afghanistan from 2004 to 2006, helping oversee agricultural livelihoods programs funded by the US Department of Agriculture and other donors. In 2006, she became Mercy Corps’ Food Security Director, based in Washington, DC. In this role, she provides technical support to food security programs abroad, including assessment, program design, dissemination of best practices and evaluation. She also conducts advocacy on food security related issues in Washington, DC.

**Sylvia Cabus** is the gender advisor for the Bureau of Food Security at USAID and for the Feed the Future Initiative. She worked for Catholic Relief Services (CRS) in Kenya, Morocco, Mali, and Burkina Faso. In the US, Sylvia worked as a program officer with Heifer International, Handicap International, and USAID's Office of Foreign Disaster Assistance. Before joining USAID, Sylvia was a gender analyst with DevTech Systems, an international development consulting firm.   She received a BA with Honors in History from U.C. Berkeley and an MA in international relations from the School of Advanced International Studies (SAIS) of the Johns Hopkins University, and served as a Peace Corps volunteer in Cameroon.

**Lara Da Silva Carrilho** is the Vulnerability Assessment and Mapping Officer and coordinator of the bi-annual Community and Household Surveillance System in Mozambique. Lara is also the head of the Food Security and Nutrition Unit,since 2010. She was the technical coordinator of the Urban Vulnerability to Food Security and Nutrition studies, participated in various Crop Food Supply and Assessment Missions and is involved in training World Food Program, Government and NGO’s staff in food security, nutrition and emergency assessments. Lara provides technical assistance to SETSAN (Government National Secretariat for Food Security and Nutrition) for the annual multi-sectoral National Food Security and Nutrition Assessments.

**Charles Chikwiramadara** earned a diploma and an advanced diploma in Transport and Logistics from the Chartered Institute of Transport in the United Kingdom. He also earned a Bachelor of Science degree in Agriculture and a Master of Business Administration from the Zimbabwe Open University. Mr. Chikwiramadara has 15 years of experience working in agricultural development in Zimbabwe. He is currently working with ACDIVOCA as a Value Chain & Marketing Specialist based in Harare. For him, facilitation is the most interesting part of value chain development and enjoys executing this process. His motto is “Endeavoring to bring sustainable development to the human race”

**Tom Davis** is the Senior Specialist for Social & Behavioral Change (SBC) with the TOPS Program. He served on the board for the CORE Group for almost nine years, and has worked with Food for the Hungry for the past eleven years as their Senior Director of Program Quality Improvement. Tom has twenty-five years of international field experience in planning, implementing, and evaluating child survival, food security, HIV/AIDS, and primary health care projects in twenty-five countries. He has served on CORE’s SBC Working Group, the Quality Improvement Working Group, and the Monitoring and Evaluation Working Group. He is currently a member of the Food Security and Nutrition Network SBC Task Force. His calling is in eliminating child deaths, and his current central interests are in helping people to change beliefs, attitudes and behavior that will help them and their children to survive and thrive.

**William Fiebig** is a farming systems agronomist with more than 35 years of experience in designing and implementing rural development projects for food security and nutrition programs. At Purdue University, Dr. Fiebig was the Senior Advisor in Agronomy and Farming Systems Research and Deputy Chief of Party of the technical assistance team to the farming systems division of Burkina Faso's National Institute of Agricultural Research (I.N.E.R.A.). At the Rodale Institute, Dr. Fiebig was the Technology Program Coordinator for Sustainable Agriculture Programs in Africa through the DESFIL project. He was an Agricultural Officer (Seed Security) with the Food and Agriculture Organization of the United Nations. Dr. Fiebig joined Save the Children as the Technical Advisor in the Food Security Unit in 2002. In January 2009, Dr. Fiebig joined International Relief and Development and as the Senior Program Officer in the Office of Community Stabilization. He joined Mercy Corps on September 1, 2011 as the Senior Agriculture Specialist.

**Inácio Jossitala** has eight years of work experience in different areas of community development. Mr. Jossitala has worked for six years in microfinance, specifically in village savings and loan programs. Currently Mr. Jossitala is the STRIVE Project Manager, based in Nampula Province, North of Mozambique. He has been working with Save the Children for the past three years. He has a master's degree in Development Management and has completed higher education in Adult Education.

**Jessica Hartl** is Information Officer for USAID’s Office of Food for Peace. In this capacity, she works to effectively communicate the goals and impact of Food for Peace programs. Prior to joining USAID, Ms. Hartl was the Coordinator for the Council of Organizations division of the United Nations Association of the USA from 2005-2010, managing a network of NGOs with the common goal of promoting greater public awareness about global issues and strengthening the US-UN relationship. Before working for UNA-USA, Ms. Hartl completed a Master’s degree from Arcadia University in International Peace and Conflict Resolution. In her fifteen-year career, Ms. Hartl has worked extensively for international non-profit organizations. Her expertise includes program coordination and management, event planning, fundraising, public relations, and educational advocacy. Ms. Hartl volunteers regularly in the Washington non-profit community, including having served as Vice President of the Board for the Young Non-Profit Professionals Network of Washington DC (YNPNdc) and Member of the Board for the YNPN national organization. Ms. Hartl received her bachelor’s degree in French Language from Pomona College

**Nazmul Kalam,** the MIS Manager of Save the Children Bangladesh developed and manages the Mother and Child Aid (McAID) information system in the Nobo Jibon Program MYAP. McAID was developed during the Jibon-O-Jibika Program (the predecessor project of Nobo Jibon) and was perfected in the current project. McAID is a centralized tracking and reporting system that facilitates project management to monitor project outputs and track beneficiaries.

**Adugna Kebede** has served in various positions and responsibilities as a clinician, public health expert and manager both in relief and development programs in over six African countries that include Ethiopia, Angola, Uganda, Mozambique and Malawi over the past 17 years. He served as a technical lead for health and nutrition programs under the I-LIFE consortium and recently as a Deputy Chief of Party for the WALA consortium in Malawi. At the beginning of this month, Dr. Kebede joined World Vision International as the Director of Health, Nutrition and HIV/AIDS Programs for the Southern Africa region. His main area of interest is community centered development that empowers communities and promotes ownership.  Dr. Kebede is also a member of the Food Security and Nutrition Network Social and Behavior Change Task Force.

**Lisa Kuennen-Asfaw** heads the Public Donor Group, which provides support to all publicly funded awards worldwide, and draws upon Catholic Relief Service’s (CRS) field experience for advocacy related to US foreign aid and to hunger and food security. Lisa joined CRS after earning her master’s degrees in international business and public administration from the Monterey Institute of International Studies, and then serving in the Peace Corps in Cameroon. She served with CRS in Cameroon and Ethiopia before returning to the United States to hold a range of positions in several different divisions. Most of her work has been related to public resources throughout her twenty-plus years with CRS.

**Richard** **Lankas** is the senior technical lead for Last Mile Mobile Solutions (LMMS) deployments in World Vision International’s Food Programming Management Group. As a member of the LMMS core development team, Mr. Lankas leads regular technical and end user training for support and end user staff for the LMMS system in the countries where it has been deployed. He participates in collecting requirements for new developments with the other members of the team among other roles. Fundamental to system quality assurance, Mr. Lankas writes test scripts and performs testing for the software applications, logs and track software issues. Recently, he successfully deployed LMMS in Haiti where post-earthquake, LMMS has proved to be a useful technology for aid tracking and beneficiary data in emergencies with provision for immediate reporting - a piece of functionality that World Vision has not had before.

**Karen LeBan** has served as the Executive Director of the CORE Group since 2002 fostering collaborative action and learning to improve and expand community-focused public health practices amongst and between CORE Group member and partner organizations. Ms. LeBan previously worked with the BASICS II Project as a PVO Liaison to engage civil society organizations in large-scale community-based health and development program initiatives. Ms. LeBan worked with Save the Children in several leadership positions: as Director of the African and Latin America Region, Manager of the Health Unit and Field Office Co-Director in Sri Lanka and the Maldive Islands. She served as an International Development Intern with USAID in Bolivia, and as a Peace Corps volunteer and trainer in Thailand and Frogmore, South Carolina.

**Tina Lloren** is the Regional Nutrition Advisor for Save the Children’s programs in Africa. Ms. Lloren’s technical expertise focuses on community-based nutrition programming, nutrition-related components of food security programs, Community-Based Management of Acute Malnutrition, links between HIV and nutrition, and Monitoring and Evaluation. She received her Master in Public Health degree from Tulane University with a concentration in food security and nutrition. Prior to joining Save the Children, Tina conducted nutrition-related research at Tulane University; completed a policy fellowship with the Congressional Hunger Center based in Washington, DC and was a program manager at Chemonics International for the Famine Early Warning System Network. She began her overseas career as a Peace Corps volunteer in Kenya. Ms. Lloren is based in Maputo, Mozambique.

**Wales Sikusankha Magumbi** received his Bachelors of Science at the University of Malawi Bunda College of Agriculture. He received his Masters of Science at the University of Hannover in Germany. Additionally, he qualified for a certificate in Nursery Management Practices by the Institute for Tropical and Subtropical Crops at Nelspruit, South Africa. Additionally he has traveled to Uganda to learn about the Farmer’s Field Schools. He has worked as a Secondary School Teacher in Malawi as well as a Horticultural Officer for the Promotion of Horticulture of Malawi. He has worked for Save the Children since 2004 where he has held positions as the Agricultural Programs Coordinator for Malawi and now works as a Project Manager for Save the Children in Mozambique.

**Jonathan Mkumbira** has a Doctorate (PhD) degree in Agriculture from the Swedish University of Agricultural Sciences, Uppsala Genetic Centre; Master of Philosophy (MPhiL) in Plant Breeding and Crop Improvement from the Universities of Birmingham & Reading and a Bachelor of Science (BSc) Degree in Agriculture, University of Malawi, Bunda College of Agriculture

He has 26 years work experience in agriculture, which includes production and research for development in: private and public sector, large and small-scale farming, crops and livestock, commercial and food crops and in natural resources management. He has worked at national, regional and international levels. He has worked as a team member and team leader/manager at different levels and worked with various partners from private and public sectors involving a wide range of persons from smallholder to large-scale farmers.

**Moffatt K. Ngugi** is a climate change advisor at USAID’s Bureau for Food Security. He is a geospatial ecologist by training with a background in range management, physical land resources and agroecology. He received his bachelor’s of science at the University of Nairobi, his master’s of science at Ghent University and doctorate at Colorado State University and has worked in diverse settings worldwide. Examples of Dr. Ngugi’s research and work experience include dissertation research in Kenya on social and ecological characterization of herbivore key resource areas, postdoctoral research at University of California Davis using GIS/remote sensing to constrain biogeochemical modeling of greenhouse gases; working as a consultant for terrestrial carbon science; and inventory of forage resources in Dakota grasslands at United States Department of Agriculture (USDA)-ARS (Agricultural Research Service). His current role at USAID is to collaborate with all stakeholders to address climate change concerns in the sustainable intensification of agricultural production in order to improve food security

**Marumbo Ngwira** is the Learning Monitoring and Evaluation (M&E) Advisor for the Food Programming and Management Group (FPMG) based in Johannesburg, South Africa. She is responsible for supporting over 25 Country offices in establishing, implementing and utilizing quality food programming standards, specifically, M&E standards as designed by FPMG and the Food Aid Quality Group. FPMG quality food programming standards includes Design, Monitoring and Evaluation (DM&E), Learning, Accountability, Do No Harm, Audit and Commodity Tracking and reporting. Ms. Ngwira is the point person in ensuring the roll out and sustainability of M&E within food programs.

**Alloys Odhiambo Omolo** has a Bachelors of Science degree in Agriculture from the University of Nairobi and a Masters of Science degree in Agricultural Reading University with specialization in rural development, project planning and management. He has worked in both government and international NGOs based in Kenya as well as elsewhere in Africa. Among other positions he has worked for CARE Kenya as: the Project Manager for the Agro-forestry Extension Project, the Regional Co-Coordinator for the Eastern Providences and Senior Sector Manager for Commercialized Activities for small-holders sector. Currently he is the Agricultural Programs Coordinator for Food for the Hungry in Mozambique. He speaks English, Kiswahili, Portuguese and Luo.

**Jen Peterson**is theChief of Party for the SALOHI MYAP (a consortium including CRS, ADRA, CARE and Land O'Lakes), based in Antananarivo, Madagascar.  She is an extension agronomist, with more than 20 years of experience implementing development programs in technical areas including soil and water conservation, agroforestry, agriculture and animal husbandry (including fisheries), health and nutrition, communication for behavior change and disaster risk reduction, as well as gender programming, environmental compliance and monitoring and evaluation.  She has experience designing, implementing and evaluating food security programs and food security monitoring systems in Zambia, Malawi, Niger, Guinea, Sierra Leone and Madagascar. She holds masters’ degrees in Agronomy and Adult Education/Communication from the University of Florida, and a bachelor’s degree in International Development from the University of Virginia. She speaks French, and Kikongo (as well as some Zarma, Chewa and Pular) as well as her native, English.

**Joshua Poole** After nearly 10 years working in Madagascar Joshua Poole is now serving as a Public Donor Liaison for Catholic Relief Services (CRS) World Headquarters in Baltimore, Maryland. Joshua served two terms as an Agriculture Peace Corps Volunteer with a focus on improved rice techniques and improved cook stoves. Mr. Poole then moved on to work as the Ambassador’s Special Programs Manager for the United States Embassy in Antananarivo, responsible for small grants, girls scholarships and in country US Department of Agriculture programming. Finally, he served as the Projects Director for ADRA Madagascar with programs in various sectors including Title II. He continues to serve Madagascar, as well as CRS Country Programs in West Africa, in his current role.

**Nina Schlossman** is a nutrition and food security expert of more than 30 years, providing expertise in the international development and emergency relief arena. Dr. Schlossman has experience working in all aspects of food and nutrition throughout the lifecycle, starting with the critical first 1,000 days. She provides technical assistance, research, evaluation, marketing and training services, and fosters public-private food partnerships to improve the nutritional quality and diversity of the food aid basket. She has expertise in all aspects of food value chain and product development, including ready-to-use foods (RUF). As Co-Principal Investigator of the Food Aid Quality Review, Dr. Schlossman has used her expertise to develop the recommendations, and will be involved in the implementation of these recommendations and changes moving forward over the next several years. She is currently involved in global food security initiatives, including the Scaling Up Nutrition and Feed the Future initiatives.

**Melvin Siwale** has held several positions in the Ministry of Agriculture over a period of 16 years including: Animal Production Specialist, District Agricultural Officer, District Agricultural Coordinator. He has in the last 14 years worked for four international development organizations under sponsorship or support of the United States and the Swedish governments; and held positions at field, regional and national level. He received a degree in Livestock Science and Production from the University of Zambia and a Master’s of Science in Animal Production and Development Studies at Reading University. Mr Siwale is presently is the deputy Country Manager for Land O’ Lakes Inc. Zambia and is based in Lusaka.

**Paul Sommers** has been an active proponent for the integration of agriculture and nutrition for over three decades. He holds academic degrees in both agriculture and nutritional sciences and has taught both subjects as a faculty member of California State University, Pomona. He has promoted the link through a variety of channels including USAID, NGO's, U.S. Contractors, the United Nations and World Bank. Activities have included on the ground technical assistance in over 55 countries; management of long term food security projects and capacity building though community-based workshops and the publication of nine field training manuals and how-to books on the food production nutrition linkage for community outreach staff

**Christopher Szecsey** has 40 years of international development experience in more than 45 countries worldwide, including in 11 countries across Africa. Mr. Szecsey works as a consultant, trainer, and facilitator with international organizations, NGOs, government and multi-lateral agencies. Key areas of technical expertise include: food and nutrition, including food production to storage; hedgerows/agro-forestry; integrated, organic food systems; Integrated Pest Management; health systems development; appropriate technologies; project/program and organizational/technical capacity development for CBOs, NGOs, etc (capacity assessment-capacity building-capacity monitoring/evaluation); multi-stakeholder collaboratives/partnerships/networks; strategic and annual planning; leadership and team development; board development; etc. He also has significant experience and skills in designing and using participatory, interactive, and collaborative learning processes to ensure client and stakeholder engagement and ownership for positive, strength-based change, with such approaches as Appreciative Inquiry, Open Space, etc.

**Faith Thuita** is a senior public health nutrition specialist with over 15 years of experience in nutrition training, research, programming and advocacy, specializing in maternal and young child nutrition. She is the Infant Young Child and Nutrition (IYCN) Project’s Technical Advisor in Kenya and a lecturer at the School of Public Health, University of Nairobi. She has also worked with UNICEF Kenya as an IYCN specialist. Ms. Thuita has broad based experience and is a well recognized resource person in training, food and nutrition policy development and advocacy in Kenya. She has extensive experience in consultancy work for national and international organizations involving program evaluation, operations research and training. She is currently completing her PhD studies at the University of Nairobi.