

# KNOWLEDGE SHARING

MEETING January 27-28, 2016 Washington, DC

# STRENGTHENING CONNECTIONS:

INQUIRY, INNOVATION, & IMPLEMENTATION







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Dear Partners,

Welcome to this 2016 TOPS/FSN Network Knowledge Sharing Meeting. When we established TOPS in 2010, we did so with the intent that our partners could do their best and have the most impact by sharing collaboratively with their colleagues. In the six years since it started, TOPS has exemplified what we were striving for, by providing the space for the USAID Office of Food for Peace's partners and other food security experts to share, learn, and build a knowledge base for food assistance programs.

Over the next couple days, the discussions you have, the connections you make, and the ideas you generate will serve to further advance our mutual goal of improving and sustaining food and nutrition security of vulnerable populations. At the 2014 TOPS/FSN Network Knowledge Sharing Meeting, Food for Peace kicked off its consultation process and asked you to help shape the next Food for Peace strategy. Since that time we have held dozens of meetings with our partners inside and outside of the U.S. government and solicited ideas through a call for papers.

The fruits of our collective labor will be discussed at this event, and the draft strategy will soon be shared with you for comment. Key themes emerging in the strategy, including improved sustainability, community engagement, multi-sectoral nutrition approaches, and engaging youth, will also be discussed during the next couple days.

I am excited at how the draft strategy has evolved. Thank you for your inputs, and I encourage your early feedback on the draft when it is formally posted for comment.

Wishing you a successful workshop,

Dina Esposito

Director, Office of Food for Peace



Remember to follow Food for Peace and Dina on Twitter at @USAIDFFP and @DEsposito\_FFP.



# Strengthening innovation and learning within the food security and nutrition community

The Technical and Operational Performance Support (TOPS) Program is the USAID/Food for Peace-funded participatory learning initiative that **generates**, **captures**, **disseminates**, and **applies** the highest quality **information**, **knowledge**, and **promising practices** in development food assistance programming.

The TOPS Program ensures that more communities and households benefit from the U.S. Government's investment in fighting global hunger.

# MAIN PROGRAM MECHANISMS:

# Food Security and Nutrition (FSN) Network

Online and in-person community of practice, connecting food security and nutrition practitioners.

# Technical Capacity Strengthening

Sector-specific technical trainings for both implementing and donor staff at the country, regional, and home office level.

# **Small Grants Program**

Grants that fund research, documentation, and innovation to help the food security community design and implement stronger programs.

Led by Save the Children, TOPS is a consortium program drawing on the expertise of its partners: CORE Group (Knowledge Management), Food for the Hungry (Social and Behavioral Change), Mercy Corps (Agriculture and Natural Resource Management), and TANGO International (Monitoring and Evaluation). Save the Children brings its experience and expertise in Commodity Management, Gender, and Nutrition and Food Technology, as well as management of this seven-year (2010-2017), U.S. \$30 million award.

LEARN MORE AT THETOPSPROGRAM.ORG.













# Connecting food security and nutrition practitioners, donors, and researchers

The FSN Network provides a venue for...

Implementers to share promising practices, experiences, tools, and approaches for better program implementation. International NGOs, academicians, and researchers to circulate new policies, guidelines, and evidence.

USAID/Food for Peace to seek input through consultations, surveys, Task Force dialogue, and meetings.

# FEATURES OF THE FSN NETWORK:

Knowledge Sharing Meetings Learn new skills, discuss and explore emerging issues and recent tools, and meet fellow implementers, donors, and researchers at Knowledge Sharing Meetings around the world. These meetings prioritize knowledge exchange through discussion and activity to stimulate cross-organizational collaboration and learning.

**Task Forces** 

Join together with other practitioners in your area of expertise to share experiences, engage in peer learning, and develop and adapt crucial tools that are responsive to stakeholder needs.

Agriculture & Natural Resource Management | Commodity Management | Gender | Knowledge Management | Monitoring & Evaluation | Nutrition & Food Technology | Social & Behavioral Change

FSNNetwork.org

Explore the online home for the FSN Network community of practice, where you can participate in online discussions, browse Task Force-recommended tools and over 700 resources, find and register for upcoming events, stay up-to-date on Food for Peace updates and relevant news, and review materials from past meetings and webinars.

FSN Network News Find all the relevant news, events, resources, and funding opportunities you need in one place in this bi-weekly e-newsletter, which reaches 2,300+ food security and nutrition implementers.

Sign up at bit.ly/FSNNews.

# JOIN THE COMMUNITY TODAY AT FSNNETWORK.ORG!

The FSN Network is a tool of The TOPS Program, the USAID/Food for Peace-funded learning mechanism that brings the highest quality information, knowledge, and best practices in food assistance programming to implementers and donors around the world.







Dear Participants,

Welcome to the 2016 TOPS/FSN Network Knowledge Sharing Meeting. Our theme for this meeting is "Strengthening Connections: Inquiry, Innovation & Implementation." This theme highlights the crucial linkages between research and practical application. Reinforcing that dynamic helps each inform and strengthen the other in addressing the challenges of delivering effective development assistance to vulnerable people. There are many actors in these processes and it is important to continue to forge connections between us and our approaches and results. These TOPS/FSN Network Knowledge Sharing Meetings are opportunities to come together and examine those relationships so we can better address emerging food security and nutrition topics.

Since 2010, the TOPS/FSN Network has become an important collaborative and multi-channel forum, bringing together donors and program practitioners in food security through interactive task forces, discussion groups, training sessions, and knowledge sharing events. The TOPS/FSN Network supports our community of practice by providing face-to-face and virtual opportunities for practitioners to identify knowledge sharing needs, build collaboration, and create mechanisms for continued communication and learning. The diversity of sessions and presenters at this meeting is evidence of the whole community's generous input to the planning process.

Our presenters and facilitators include technical specialists from PVO implementers, USAID offices, and multilateral organizations. This is an opportunity for development experts, colleagues, and peers to share their experience and the latest knowledge and information on practices and methods to strengthen food security programming and help build resilience among vulnerable populations.

Thank you for joining us. We look forward to your participation and valuable contributions.

Sincerely,

Mark Fritzler

Director, The TOPS Program

# Wednesday, January 27

8:00am – 9:00am	REGISTRATION AND COFFEE
9:00am – 10:30am	WELCOME AND KEYNOTE ADDRESS
Renaissance East	Welcome and Opening Remarks  Mark Fritzler, The TOPS Program  Keynote Address  Dina Esposito, Director, USAID Office of Food for Peace
10:30am – 10:45am	BREAK
10:45am – 12:15pm	CONCURRENT SESSIONS
Renaissance East	Programming for Youth  Barri Shorey, The International Rescue Committee; Rani Deshpande, Save the Children; Carla Boussen, USAID
Renaissance West A	Essential Elements of the Care Group Approach (SBC)  Ryan Larrance, Independent Consultant; Sarah Borger, Food for the Hungry; Geoffrey Arijole Nyakuni, Food for the Hungry
Renaissance West B	Addressing Climate Change Through Smallholder Resilience Design  Jami Montgomery, USAID; Warren Brush, True Nature Design
12:15pm – 1:30pm	LUNCH
Renaissance East	12:30pm-1:20pm TOPS Small Grants Table Topics
Renaissance West B	12:30pm-1:20pm Update on the USAID Multi-Sectoral Nutrition Strategy  Mellen Duffy Tanamly, Consultant
1:30pm – 3:00pm	CONCURRENT SESSIONS
Renaissance East	Measuring Emergency Programs  Dina Brick, Catholic Relief Services; Imee Cambronero, Save the Children; William Martin, Catholic Relief Services
Renaissance West A	Knowledge Management: Learning and Sharing Across a Global Organization Aina Irbe, ACDI/VOCA; Yejin Oh, World Vision; Loria Kulathungam, World Vision
Renaissance West B	Food Aid Reform Update  Danielle Mutone-Smith, USAID
3:00pm – 3:30pm	BREAK
3:30pm – 5:00pm	CONCURRENT SESSIONS
Renaissance East	Using Context Monitoring to Understand Resilience: Leveraging Real-Time Data to Analyze Household Impacts of Drought and Resilience Capacity in the Ethiopia PRIME Project Tim Frankenberger, TANGO International
Renaissance West A	Let's Debate: Should Agriculture Extensionists Be Nutrition Educators?  Lydia Clemmons, The Manoff Group
Renaissance West B	Mythbusting! Trading in Fiction for Fact  Alexa Hassink, Promundo
5:30pm – 7:30pm	SOCIAL RECEPTION – Cuba Libre

# Thursday, January 28

8:00am – 9:00am	REGISTRATION AND COFFEE
9:00am – 10:30am	ANNOUNCEMENTS AND PLENARY
Renaissance East	PLENARY   The New Draft Food for Peace Strategy: 2016-2025 Susan Bradley, USAID Office of Food for Peace; Joan Whelan, USAID Office of Food for Peace
10:30am – 10:45am	BREAK
10:45am – 12:15pm	CONCURRENT SESSIONS
Renaissance East	Stop the Madness: Let's Stop Talking About Sustainability and Actually Do Something to Ensure it!  Janine Schooley, PCI; Clara Eder, PCI; Laura M. Glaeser, FHI 360
Renaissance West A	What Numbers Tell Us (and Don't) About Men And Women Farmers in Rural Ghana Kathleen Ragsdale, Mississippi State University; Mary Rebecca Read-Wahidi, Mississippi State University
Renaissance West B	Concept Testing for SBC Ann Jimerson, FHI 360
12:15pm – 1:30pm	LUNCH
Renaissance East	12:30pm-1:20pm Trending Table Topics
Renaissance West A	12:30pm-1:20pm Gender Task Force Meeting
1:30pm – 3:00pm	CONCURRENT SESSIONS
Renaissance East	Engaging Youth in Agriculture and Alternative Livelihoods Tara Noronha, Mercy Corps; Dan Norell, World Vision; Malini Tolat, Save the Children
Renaissance West A	Local and Regional Procurement – Opportunities and Challenges  John Service, Catholic Relief Services
Renaissance West B	Measuring Poverty With the Progress Out of Poverty Index  Julie Peachey, Grameen Foundation
3:00pm – 3:30pm	BREAK
3:30pm – 5:00pm	CONCURRENT SESSIONS
Renaissance East	Operationalizing a Theory of Change: What Happens Once We Finally Get All Those Shapes and Arrows Into a Cohesive Graphic?  Laurie Starr, TANGO International
Renaissance West A	Food Safety and Quality in the Management of Humanitarian Food Commodities: Challenges and Outlook Ruffo Perez, USAID; Richard Boyd, U.S. Department of Agriculture
Renaissance West B	It's Okay to Fail. Kinda.  Arno Boersma, World Bank Group; Deborah Hamilton, Feed the Future Partnering for Innovation; Emily Janoch, CARE
5:00pm – 5:15pm Renaissance East	WRAP-UP – There will be candy!



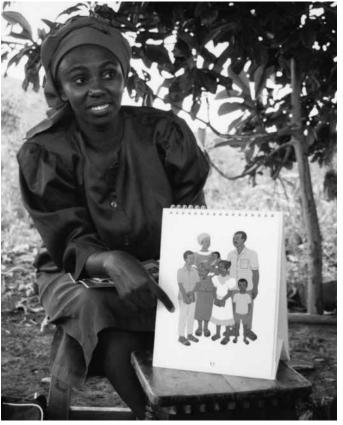
Want to design, test, and share promising practices, tools, guidance, and skills that can help others in the food security community design and implement stronger programs?

# Program Improvement Awards:

Funded up to \$100,000

# **Micro Grant Awards:**

Funded up to \$50,000



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# Dina Esposito, Director, USAID Office of Food for Peace

Dina Esposito is the Director of the Office of Food for Peace, in the Bureau for Democracy, Conflict, and Humanitarian Assistance at the U.S. Agency for International Development (USAID). In this capacity she oversees the Agency's food assistance programming, spanning 48 countries worldwide and valued at more than \$1.5 billion annually. USAID's Office of Food for Peace responds to acute food insecurity by providing in-kind food aid, locally and regionally procured food aid, food vouchers, and cash transfers to millions of people affected by conflict and natural disasters annually. In addition, it also supports interventions in critical areas such as nutrition, health, agriculture, and livelihoods to address the underlying causes of poverty and hunger among the poorest of the poor with development food aid.

Ms. Esposito began her career as a Presidential Management Fellow at the U.S. Department of State, where she covered African refugee assistance issues in the Bureau for Population, Refugees, and Migration. From 1992 to 1999, Ms. Esposito worked at USAID. She served as the disaster response manager for the Horn of Africa in the Office of U.S. Foreign Disaster Assistance (OFDA), covering the Somalia famine response in the early 1990s, among other humanitarian emergencies. She was among the first staff of USAID's Office of Transition Initiatives, which opened its doors in the mid -1990s, focusing her work on new programming approaches in post-conflict contexts. She also served as a senior policy advisor in USAID's Bureau for Humanitarian Response Office of Program, Planning, and Evaluation; and in the Africa Bureau's Office of Central and West African Affairs.

From 2000 to 2006, Ms. Esposito was a consultant, working with USAID and a variety of nongovernmental and for-profit organizations on policy analysis, program design, and training for staff working in conflict and post-conflict settings.

Prior to re-joining USAID, Ms. Esposito worked from 2006-2010 for Pact, a U.S. nongovernmental organization. She was based in Ethiopia as Pact's Chief of Party for the Constructive Dialogue Initiative project, a democracy/governance and conflict mitigation program, and also served as Pact's regional peacebuilding advisor in Kenya.

Ms. Esposito is a graduate of Williams College and holds a Masters degree from Johns Hopkins University, School for Advanced International Studies.



Follow Dina on Twitter: @DEsposito FFP

# WELCOME AND KEYNOTE ADDRESS | 9:00AM | RENAISSANCE EAST

# Welcome and Opening Remarks

Mark Fritzler, Program Director, The TOPS Program

## **Keynote Address**

Dina Esposito, Director, USAID Office of Food for Peace

### **CONCURRENT SESSIONS | 10:45AM**

# **Programming for Youth**

### Wednesday, January 27 | 10:45am - 12:15pm | Renaissance East

MODERATOR: Shelia Jackson, Knowledge Management Senior Specialist, The TOPS Program, @sljackson19 | PRESENTERS: Barri Shorey, Senior Technical Advisor, Enterprise Development and Employment, The International Rescue Committee, @barrishorey; Rani Deshpande, Director, Financial Services and Employment, Save the Children, @raniyouthsavngs; Carla Boussen, Gender and Youth Advisor, Policy, Technical, and Grants Services Division, USAID

There is a new emphasis on addressing youth in food security and nutrition programming. The youth population faces its own set of unique challenges that affect how projects and programs are designed. What are these challenges? What have we learned from working with youth? How do we go about working with youth? Join our presenters as they share their expertise and experience in working with youth. Presenters will discuss lessons learned from youth projects focusing on microfranchising, savings and employment in urban and rural areas and share tips for working with youth. Participants will get a chance to explore how youth may be integrated into food security programming.

# Essential Elements of the Care Groups Approach (SBC)

# Wednesday, January 27 | 10:45am - 12:15pm | Renaissance West A

MODERATOR: Mary Decoster, Social and Behavioral Change Senior Specialist, The TOPS Program | PRESENTERS: Ryan Larrance, Independent Consultant; Sarah Borger, Director of Health Programs, Food for the Hungry; Geoffrey Arijole Nyakuni, Chief of Party, Tuendelee Pamoja, Food for the Hungry

Care Groups are a community-based strategy for promoting behavior change, typically used in maternal and child health, and currently in use by 27 organizations in at least 28 countries. This session will explore the essential elements for implementing the Care Group approach. Presenters and participants will discuss the importance of maintaining fidelity to the core elements of the model, while encouraging flexibility in testing adaptions and variations such as male and grandparent involvement and collaboration with ministries of health for enhanced uptake of behavior change in local contexts, as well as sustainability.

#### Addressing Climate Change Through Smallholder Resilience Design

# Wednesday, January 27 | 10:45am – 12:15pm | Renaissance West B

MODERATOR: Andrea Mottram, Agriculture & Natural Resource Management Senior Specialist, The TOPS Program | PRESENTERS: Jami Montgomery, DCHA Climate Change Coordinator, USAID/DCHA; Warren Brush, Consultant, True Nature Design, @Warren brush

Climate change is expected to result in diverse, severe and location-specific impacts on agricultural production. Resilient smallholder farming systems must achieve optimal productivity and at the same time conserve natural resources for the longer-term. Smallholder farmers can improve their ecological, nutritional and economic stability and resilience by observing land patterns and incorporating agroecological principles.

This session explores what implementation of the Climate Resilient International Development Executive Order means for future FFP programs, and how we can better manage climate-related risks in smallholder farming systems by integrating a whole systems resilience design framework into programs.

By the end of this session, participants will have:

- Better understanding of how the Climate Resilient International Development Executive Order affects FFP programs.
- Increased awareness of land pattern design and agroecological principle application in addressing climate change, resilience and food security.
- Improved knowledge of how whole systems design methodologies and application can be integrated into current programs.

# **LUNCHTIME SESSIONS | 12:30PM**

# **TOPS Small Grant Table Topics**

Wednesday, January 27 | 12:30pm - 1:20pm | Renaissance East

Stop by a few of these informal discussion tables, or join one the whole time.

### Case Study on Adolescent Inclusion in the Care Group Approach: The Nigeria Experience

Shiromi Perera, Technical Officer, Nutrition, Food Security and Livelihoods, International Medical Corps

International Medical Corps has been using the Care Group approach, using peer-to-peer learning and support, to address malnutrition and to promote optimal birth and health outcomes in the northwest state of Sokoto, Nigeria, since 2014. International Medical Corps sought a small grant to describe the experience of including adolescent girls in Care Groups and to highlight barriers, facilitators, and lessons learned. As a result of this research, International Medical Corps provided consolidated promising practices on how to overcome barriers for including adolescents and strengthen program quality to include adolescent girls in Care Groups and meet their unique needs.

# Care Groups in Emergencies: Evidence on the Use of Care Groups and Peer Support Groups in Emergency Settings

Caroline Abla, Director, Nutrition, Food Security and Livelihoods, International Medical Corps

The Care Group (CG) approach has proven instrumental in many development contexts. International Medical Corps (IMC) and other implementing partners have modified the model for use in emergency contexts. A TOPS grant provided the opportunity to compile evidence on the use of the Care Group model and other types of peer support groups in emergency settings, and to develop recommendations to ensure their effective use in these contexts.

### Reading and Responding to your Baby

Sarah Bauler, Health and Nutrition Coordinator, Food for the Hungry; Mary DeCoster, Social and Behavioral Change Senior Specialist, The TOPS Program

This project tested the feasibility of incorporating messages on infant feeding and behavior cues in order to improve breastfeeding and complementary feeding in ongoing nutrition programming in a small cluster of communities in Alta Verapaz, Guatemala. As part of the project, Food for the Hungry developed key educational messages, created educational materials, and trained Food for the Hungry/Guatemala staff on how to use the materials. These materials were well received by the community members, and are available as a module for use with Care Groups or other mother support groups. The materials are also available on fsnnetwork.org/resources and caregroupinfo.org.

### **Commodity Management Echo Training**

Geoffrey Arijole Nyakuni, COP/Programs Director, Food for the Hungry

Food for the Hungry conducted an extensive, 5-day commodity management (CM) echo training for 31 staff from all five food security program implementing partners in the Democratic Republic of Congo (DRC) to address the lack of capacity in commodity programming and management in that country. "Echo training" is a process where people who have attended regional training sessions train others at the country level to help disseminate the knowledge gained at the regional trainings. Food for the Hungry used TOPS-created materials and modules, and adapted the materials using DRC-specific events and challenges. Participants agreed to share their knowledge with colleagues that were not able to attend, and partners in DRC will continue to share information on how to address CM challenges.

### Resource Guide for Building Effective Collaboration and Integrated Programming

Janine Schooley, Senior Vice President, Programs, PCI

PCI has served as facilitator and secretary of a collaboration committee promoted by the USAID Feed the Future program. The committee is made up of 13 organizations carrying out projects in 24 municipalities of the department of Huehuetenango, Guatemala. PCI created this resource guide to offer guidelines, recommendations, examples, and lessons learned to improve and promote effective project coordination and collaboration.

### **Warehouse Staff Safety Guide and Posters**

Ahmad Shaker, Procurement and Logistics Officer for Ebola Response Activities, PCI

Warehouse staff safety is critical, but the development of the Warehouse Staff Safety Guide marks the first time clear

guidance on how to secure staff safety in the warehouse became available. Project Concern International (PCI) developed this unique tool to provide international development organizations with information, recommendations, and materials to promote safety in warehouses where food commodities are stored; with the overall objective of reducing staff illness and injury in the warehouse. In addition to staff safety, the guide also helps organizations increase staff capacity and knowledge of proper warehouse management.

### The Consortium Management and Leadership Training—Facilitator's Guide

Sadia Parveen, Director of Partnership Development, CORE Group

The Consortium Management and Leadership Training—Facilitator's Guide strengthens related skills for a consortium's senior leadership team, technical team leaders within partner organizations, and senior management for local partner organizations for Food for Peace-funded development food assistance programs. The guide focuses on how to manage a consortium after it has been formed and implementation is underway.

The resource serves as a curriculum for a two-day participatory workshop on "Experiences with Managing Consortia: Aligning Organizations, Improving Impact." It includes an agenda and 10 modules covering topics such as maintaining a shared vision, aligning structure, and management decision making. It also includes handouts of implementation experiences from Ethiopia.

While the guide was designed in the context of Food for Peace-funded programs, it can also serve as a useful framework for strengthening consortia in any program area. It was published in December 2014 through a TOPS Program Micro Grant.

# **Update on the USAID Multi-Sectoral Nutrition Strategy**

Wednesday, January 27 | 12:30pm - 1:20pm | Renaissance West B

Mellen Duffy Tanamly, Consultant

The USAID Multi-Sectoral Nutrition Strategy aims to guide the Agency's policies and programs for nutrition, in both emergency and development contexts. The Strategy's goal is to improve nutrition to save lives, build resilience, increase economic productivity, and advance development. This session will include a brief overview of the Strategy, share updates on how the Strategy is being used by USAID Missions and partners, and discuss the Technical and Operational Guidance briefs that are being developed for the roll out of the Strategy.

# **CONCURRENT SESSIONS | 1:30PM**

### **Measuring Emergency Programs**

#### Wednesday, January 27 | 1:30pm - 3:00pm | Renaissance East

MODERATOR: Edith Mutalya, Monitoring & Evaluation Senior Specialist, The TOPS Program | PRESENTERS: Dina Brick, Technical Advisor, Food Security and Markets, Catholic Relief Services; Imee Cambronero, Senior Monitoring and Evaluation Specialist, Livelihoods, Save the Children; William Martin, Specialist of Economic and Early Recovery, Market Based Programs, Catholic Relief Services

Emergency Food Security Programming, in particular cash-based programs, has become a popular means of delivering humanitarian assistance. While great gains have been made in delivering quality cash-based programs, monitoring these programs is a challenge. This session will review the variety of measurement metrics used by implementers and provide a forum to share experiences and expertise through a facilitated exchange of lessons and ideas. The session will attempt to answer the following questions: How do we know that cash-based programs are having a positive impact in the community? How do we know that cash-based programs are "doing no harm" to local markets? How can we make real-time data analysis easier for program managers?

By the end of this session, participants will have:

- Been exposed to a practical way to systematically measure the impact of cash-based programs beyond the output level using indicators designed to measure cost-effectiveness.
- Discussed lessons and challenges in price monitoring, program flexibility and the concept of 'doing no harm.'
- Gained insights into the role of technology (mobile systems) in tracking cash-based programs.

# **Knowledge Management: Learning and Sharing Across a Global Organization**

Wednesday, January 27 | 1:30pm - 3:00pm | Renaissance West A

MODERATOR: Shelia Jackson, Knowledge Management Senior Specialist, The TOPS Program, @sljackson19 | PRESENTERS: Aina Irbe, Senior Director of Learning Technologies, ACDI/VOCA; Yejin Oh, Food CoP and Evidence Coordinator, FPMG, World Vision; Loria Kulathungam, Sustainable Health, Nutrition Knowledge Management Coordinator, World Vision

When it comes to collaboration solutions, what works? What doesn't work? ACDI/VOCA and World Vision are two different organizations who have one thing in common: they have experimented with various types of collaboration strategies and learned from them. In this session, ACDI/VOCA and World Vision will present their knowledge management (KM), learning, and collaboration challenges and solutions. Case studies highlight successes and discuss why these solutions are sustainable, and identify what lessons each organization has learned in the process. Participants will have the opportunity to share challenges and brainstorm solutions for their own organization.

By the end of this session, participants will have:

- Reviewed the commonly faced challenges for knowledge management /learning practitioners in global organizations
- Adapted best practices and lessons learned discussed during the session into their own organizational contexts.
- Identified one best practice they can implement in their organizations.

# **Food Aid Reform Update**

Wednesday, January 27 | 1:30pm - 3:00pm | Renaissance West B

MODERATOR: Birendra Kumar De, Commodity Management Senior Specialist, The TOPS Program | PRESENTER: Danielle Mutone-Smith, Policy Team Leader, USAID Office of Food for Peace

This session will introduce the major policy changes that have been put in place since FFP's last strategy, including food aid reform, reduced monetization, use of IDA and other changes that have transformed how FFP does its work.

By the end of this session, participants will have an understanding of the status of ongoing food aid reform, and its implications on programs and beneficiary outreach.

# **CONCURRENT SESSIONS | 3:30PM**

# Using Context Monitoring to Understand Resilience: Leveraging Real-Time Data to Analyze Household Impacts of Drought and Resilience Capacity in the Ethiopia PRIME Project

Wednesday, January 27 | 3:30pm - 5:00pm | Renaissance East

PRESENTER: Tim Frankenberger, President, TANGO International

Operating in the highly shock-prone areas of Ethiopia's Somali, Borena, and Afar regions, USAID's Pastoral Areas Resilience Improvement through Market Expansion Project (PRIME), implemented by Mercy Corps, works to increase incomes, enhance resilience, and bolster adaptive capacity to climate change among targeted populations. PRIME regularly used a short survey instrument to understand how project-targeted households coped with drought, how drought affected their food security, and whether those households with stronger resilience capacities prior to the drought's onset were more resilient to its effects.

This talk will demonstrate how analysis of real-time data collected during an in-progress shock presented a unique opportunity to understand how, in a time of increasing climatic variability throughout East Africa, droughts affect households, their responses, and whether their resilience capacity can help them recover.

### Let's Debate: Should Agriculture Extensionists Be Nutrition Educators?

Wednesday, January 27 | 3:30pm - 5:00pm | Renaissance West A

MODERATOR: Joan Jennings, Nutrition & Food Technology Senior Specialist, The TOPS Program | PRESENTER: Lydia Clemmons, Senior Advisor for SBCC, The Manoff Group

This session will begin with a mock debate on the topic. Participants will be randomly assigned to one stance or the other and given time to prepare. Key points from each side will be gathered by the session moderator and participants will discuss what is most appropriate in different contexts. The second half of the session will focus on a presentation by the ENGINE Project of Ethiopia to discuss how they approached this topic, and to show some of the SBCC materials they are developing for agriculture extensionists, who are called "Development Agents" in Ethiopia.

By the end of the session, participants will have:

- Reflected upon how much agriculture extensionists need to know about nutrition to contribute to nutrition-sensitive project planning and implementation, and how much they need to be able to communicate about nutrition to community members.
- Learned to describe 5 focus areas for SBCC programming that promote nutrition-sensitive and nutrition-specific behaviors relevant to smallholder farming households.
- Seen examples of integrated agriculture-nutrition-WASH materials developed by USAID/ENGINE.

## **Mythbusting! Trading in Fiction for Fact**

### Wednesday, January 27 | 3:30pm - 5:00pm | Renaissance West B

MODERATOR: Kristi Tabaj, Gender Senior Specialist, The TOPS Program, @ktwas | PRESENTER: Alexa Hassink, Communications Officer, Program Associate, Promundo, @Promundo US

Come help us debunk half-truths during this session. We will address some commonly used gender statements found in policy documents and proposals. Participants will have the opportunity to respond to generalizations. Discussion points will include how the misrepresentation of data and statements can lead to poor program activities. Come prepared to share your own examples, or just listen to the conversation.

By the end of this session, participants will have:

- Recognized discrepancies between commonly cited information and actual data.
- Identified other information not backed by data.
- Suggested ways to start correcting the narrative.

# Join us tonight for a

# SOCIAL RECEPTION



5:30 - 7:30PM Cuba Libre 801 9th Street NW (just down the block!)

# PLENARY | 9:00AM | RENAISSANCE EAST

### The New Draft Food for Peace Strategy: 2016-2025

Susan Bradley, Division Chief, Policy and Technical Division, USAID Office of Food for Peace; Joan Whelan, Learning Advisor, USAID Office of Food for Peace

How can we as a community ensure that the food and nutrition security of vulnerable populations is improved and sustained? This is the question the new draft FFP strategy has sought to answer through an extensive consultation process with internal and external stakeholders, including the FSN Network. FFP now has draft text for the strategy, which has been reviewed by FFP staff globally. With some minor revisions, it will be released imminently to the broader food security community. Come join the FFP strategy team for a preview of FFP's latest thinking and a discussion of the cross cutting intermediate results and their importance to achieving our collective goal.

### **CONCURRENT SESSIONS | 10:45AM**

# Stop the Madness: Let's Stop Talking about Sustainability and Actually Do Something to Ensure it! Thursday, January 28 | 10:45am – 12:15pm | Renaissance East

PRESENTERS: Janine Schooley, Senior Vice President, Programs, PCI; Clara Eder, Vice President Strategic Information for Impact, PCI; Laura M. Glaeser, Food Security Advisor, Food and Nutrition Technical Assistance III Project (FANTA), FHI 360

After a brief introduction to the topic of sustainable impact, including presentation of key concepts such as "sustainability readiness" and "transition", an interactive session using an adaptation of World Café® methodology will be utilized. All participants will rotate through 3 of the 6 phases of a project life cycle, using a checklist designed to ensure use of a sustainability lens throughout a project's life. Each phase or station will have a facilitator (Janine will facilitate the station on Design; Clara the station on MELA; and Laura the station on Transition). After 3 full rotations, the facilitators will present findings and reflections from the rotations. A full group discussion about the challenges and opportunities related to using such a checklist (or other approaches) to help ensure sustainable impact will then be facilitated.

# What Numbers Tell Us (and Don't) About Men and Women Farmers in Rural Ghana

Thursday, January 28 | 10:45am - 12:15pm | Renaissance West A

MODERATOR: Kristi Tabaj, Gender Senior Specialist, The TOPS Program, @ktwas | PRESENTERS: Kathleen Ragsdale, Associate Research Professor, Mississippi State University; Mary Rebecca Read-Wahidi, Postdoctoral Research Fellow, Mississippi State University

Results from research completed in Ghana highlighted particular areas where there is a need for increased empowerment among both men and women soy farmers. Program implementers were able to gain a more complete picture of issues facing specific groups using the Women's Empowerment in Agriculture Index (WEAI)+ results, when interpreted alongside more detailed data provided by qualitative research. Field observations, informal interviews, and focus group discussions expand WEAI+ key findings. This session will show the benefits of using a mixed-methods approach to understanding complex agricultural issues.

By the end of this session, participants will have:

- Gained information on emerging evidence targeting agriculture, gender and data collection methods.
- Learned about deeper complexities existing in agriculture issues involving gender, context and behavior change.
- Discussed how to improve the application of gender data collected through mixed methods.

#### **Concept Testing for SBC**

Thursday, January 28 | 10:45am - 12:15pm | Renaissance West B

MODERATOR: Mary DeCoster, Social and Behavioral Change Senior Specialist, The TOPS Program | PRESENTER: Ann Jimerson, Senior Specialist in Behavior Change, Alive & Thrive, FHI 360, @annjimerson

Translating formative research findings into impactful messages and materials is both art and science. Concept testing offers a process that helps identify the "emotional hooks" that grab people's attention and motivates them to adopt a positive behavior. Through examples of concept tests with audiences in the U.S. and in Bangladesh, experience how concept testing helps sharpen behavior change strategies for improved nutrition. Leave with some basic methodologies and ideas for how you may apply concept testing to improve your social and behavior change programs, and with tools for sharing the methodology with your colleagues.

### **LUNCHTIME SESSIONS | 12:30PM**

# **Trending Table Topics**

Thursday, January 28 | 12:30pm - 1:20pm | Renaissance East

Stop by a few of these informal discussion tables, or join one the whole time.

# Beyond M&E: Using Mobile Technology for Data Driven Programming

Anthony Connor, Partnership and Development Manager, Dimagi

Mobile technology is an increasingly important part of agricultural interventions, but many projects and organizations continue to only scratch the surface of its potential by using it for data collection or market price dissemination. This discussion highlights programs which have integrated mobile technology and real time data management to support agricultural interventions. Subsectors discussed will include an agricultural extension program rapidly scaling throughout India, Tanzania and Bangladesh; agricultural logistics with the Ministry of Agriculture in Mozambique; and capacity building with private cooperatives in Senegal. Participants will gain a greater understanding of emerging standards for using modern mobile technologies and real time data to augment agricultural interventions.

# Collaborating, Learning and Adapting: USAID's Approach to Organizational Learning and Knowledge Management

Sarah Schmidt, Deputy Chief of Party, USAID/LEARN, Dexis Consulting Group; Courtney Calvin, Knowledge Management Specialist, USAID/LEARN, Engility

Learning has always been a part of USAID's work. USAID staff and implementing partners have always sought ways to better understand the development process and USAID's contribution to it, to share the successes and lessons of USAID's initiatives, and to institute improvements to our programs and operations. Learning is taking place, but it is generally not planned systematically or adequately resourced, nor is it always facilitated or acted on in ways that are strategic and can maximize results. This table discussion will focus on USAID's approach to organizational learning and knowledge management - collaborating, learning and adapting (CLA) - and its framework/tool for assessing and planning.

# What Can the FSN Network Website Do for You?

Michelle Shapiro, Communications Officer, The TOPS Program

With just a few clicks on the FSN Network website, you can participate in online discussions, browse Task Force-recommended tools and over 700 resources, find and register for upcoming events, stay up-to-date on Food for Peace updates and relevant news, and review materials from past meetings and webinars. Learn how to personalize your FSN Network website experience and make the most out of this powerful hub in an informal lunchtime table session.

# A Nutrition-Sensitive Approach for Market-Based Agricultural Projects

Sandrine Chetail, Director, Agriculture Technical Support Unit, Mercy Corps; Cathy Bergman, Food Security Strategy Lead, Mercy Corps; Andrea Mottram, Agriculture & Natural Resource Management Senior Specialist, The TOPS Program

During this session, Mercy Corps will share guidance that has been designed to help agriculturalists working in market-based programs avoid harming the nutritional status of target households unintentionally, and boost nutrition whenever possible. The session will include an overview of nutrition-related issues; a step-by-step guide for the design, implementation and evaluation of nutrition-sensitive agriculture programs; review of a number of annexes providing background information, and practical tools to use when applying the step-by-step approach.

# Reaching Vulnerable Groups with Nutrition-Sensitive Agriculture Information and Services: Sharing Challenges and Strategies for Overcoming Them

Ashley Aakesson, SBCC Advisor, SPRING; Madeleine Smith, Agriculture Advisor, SPRING

In this participatory discussion, participants will share their experiences with identifying and prioritizing nutrition sensitive agriculture practices, and identifying gaps in information and services to support those practices. They will discuss mechanisms and approaches to reach vulnerable groups, at scale, with nutrition-sensitive agriculture information and services. SPRING will share their work applying agriculture to nutrition pathways and principles to designing and monitoring nutrition-sensitive agriculture activities. Participants will also review the gaps in the information and services available to help vulnerable groups improve nutrition-sensitive agriculture practices, and discuss how these

gaps are being filled. We will also discuss the mechanisms and approaches participants use to reach vulnerable groups with nutrition-sensitive agriculture information and services, and share challenges and lessons learned.

# What Are the Opportunities and Challenges of U.S. Organizations that Implement Quality Cash Programs at Scale?

Jenny Coneff, CaLP North America Regional Focal Point, The Cash Learning Partnership; Isabelle Pelly, CaLP Global Technical Coordinator, The Cash Learning Partnership; Blake Stabler, CaLP North America Capacity Building Officer, The Cash Learning Partnership

The Cash Learning Partnership or CaLP (www.cashlearning.org) recently opened a regional office in Washington, DC. Join us to learn more about CaLP in the U.S. and to share your thoughts about the challenges and needs U.S. organizations face with increasing the scale and quality of cash-based programming. Discussions will contribute to CaLP's 2016-17 U.S. capacity building and advocacy strategies.

# Agrilinks 3.0: Designing for Enhanced Community Engagement by Leveraging Online Facilitation Experience

Ashleigh Mullinax, Knowledge Management Portfolio Manager; Knowledge-Driven Agricultural Development (KDAD) Project, Insight Systems Corporation; Julie MacCartee, Knowledge Management Specialist, USAID Bureau for Food Security; Zachary Baquet, Knowledge Management Advisor, USAID Bureau for Food Security

USAID's Bureau for Food Security (BFS) and the KDAD project will soon launch a new version of Agrilinks.org, BFS' technical knowledge-sharing platform for the agricultural development community. At this table talk, we will discuss how we are using a range of online facilitation experiences (lessons learned from webinars, twitter chats, online discussions, social media, etc.) to inform our design and management of the new Agrilinks site as an interactive learning platform. We will also answer your questions about Agrilinks.org and its evolution. We invite you to share any challenges you've faced or lessons you've learned in engaging a community online—through your own organization's website, webinars, communities of practice, or social media. Visit our table for a preview of the new site and our engagement-oriented upgrades, which include a new "Discussions" feature, topic-oriented navigation, and improved member profiles.

## Forming a Resilience Measurement Interest Group

Tim Frankenberger, President, TANGO International

How do we measure program impact on resilience? What are the indicators that can be used to measure absorptive, adaptive and transformative resilience capacities? How do we measure shocks? Which wellbeing indicators should we monitor? What are the promising practices for setting up an M&E system for measuring resilience? What would a recurrent monitoring system look like to monitor shocks and household and community responses? TANGO International, with support from TOPS, is putting together a resilience measurement interest group to exchange ideas, methods and lessons learned around resilience measurement from across the globe. Stop by to learn more.

### **Gender Task Force Meeting**

Thursday, January 28 | 12:30pm - 1:20pm | Renaissance West A

The Gender Task Force focuses exclusively on gender integration in development food assistance programs funded by the Office of Food for Peace. This meeting will discuss gender-related issues relevant to current implementers and those who plan to apply for Food For Peace development funding in the future.

### CONCURRENT SESSIONS | 1:30PM

# **Engaging Youth in Agriculture and Alternative Livelihoods**

Thursday, January 28 | 1:30pm - 3:00pm | Renaissance East

MODERATOR: Andrea Mottram, Agriculture & Natural Resource Management Senior Specialist, The TOPS Program | PRESENTERS: Tara Noronha, Youth Employment Advisor, Mercy Corps; Dan Norell, Senior Technical Advisor, Economic Development, World Vision, @Dan-Norell; Malini Tolat, Livelihoods Advisor Asia, Save the Children

Nearly 200 million of the 842 million hungry people in the world are youth and a majority live in rural areas. Many youth leave rural areas because of limited employment opportunities. However, agriculture and the rural economy have much potential for youth employment. Food insecure youth working in agriculture face many of the same challenges as adults. What is distinctive about youth and their needs? How can we best understand the constraints they

face? What are best practices and strategies for youth programming? Drawing from examples from Mercy Corps, Save the Children and World Vision, this session will explore these questions.

By the end of this session, participants will have:

- Enhanced understanding of what is different about engaging youth in agriculture and food security programming.
- Improved knowledge of youth as parents, and the potential of agricultural production and market systems development approaches to impact malnutrition of 0-2 year-olds.
- Increased awareness of how to professionalize rural activities to attract youth.

# Local and Regional Procurement - Opportunities and Challenges

Thursday, January 28 | 1:30pm - 3:00pm | Renaissance West A

MODERATOR: Birendra Kumar De, Commodity Management Senior Specialist, The TOPS Program | PRESENTER: John Service, Humanitarian Response Officer, Catholic Relief Services

Food assistance is no longer how it used to be. It is becoming increasingly cash based, with greater options for local and regional procurement (LRP) and using market-based mechanisms such as vouchers and cash. This session will examine this dramatic shift and the positive opportunities it enables, as well as discuss the new potential for strategic sourcing and social sourcing. With an eye towards the future, the presentation will consider the need for greater ability to analyze markets, and it will review some comments on quality control and warehousing issues/challenges for food sourcing in particular.

By the end of this session participants will have:

- Learned about benefits of doing LRP in their programs. Reduced cost enables them to serve more beneficiaries.
- Learned about how to handle challenges that accompany LRP programs.

# Measuring Poverty With the Progress Out of Poverty Index®

Thursday, January 28 | 1:30pm - 3:00pm | Renaissance West B

PRESENTER: Julie Peachey, Senior Director, Social Performance Management, Grameen Foundation

The M&E frameworks for many food security programs require a direct approach to poverty measurement, based on consumption data from nationally representative Demographic and Health Surveys (DHS). Such an approach typically requires a costly, exhaustive survey to be administered to beneficiaries, taking from several hours to several days. In contrast, the Progress out of Poverty Index® (PPI®) uses an indirect approach to estimating poverty at the household level. The answers to 10 questions about a household's characteristics and asset ownership are scored to compute the likelihood that the household is living below or above the poverty line. This session will provide an overview of the PPI® - its history, how it was developed, how it works, and real-life examples of how it has been used.

By the end of this session, participants will have:

- Understood the basics of the PPI® and how it works.
- Generated ideas about how their program might benefit from using the PPI®.
- Been inspired and motivated to try using the PPI<sup>®</sup>.

### **CONCURRENT SESSIONS | 3:30PM**

# Operationalizing a Theory of Change: What Happens Once We Finally Get All Those Shapes and Arrows Into a Cohesive Graphic?

Thursday, January 28 | 3:30pm - 5:00pm | Renaissance East

PRESENTER: Laurie Starr, Senior Technical Advisor, TANGO International

This session focuses on how staff can use a project theory of change (ToC) to reflect, learn, and adapt! Creating that maze of shapes and arrows we call a "theory of change" is not the end of the road; it is just the beginning. In each stage of the program cycle, staff must review the ToC because assumptions and pathways of change are often affected by new evidence and contextual changes. Timely revisions to ToCs based on such changes are critical to effective and transparent programming. Through hands-on small group work and a plenary Q&A session, participants will gain a better understanding of how, in combination with good monitoring, a ToC can be an effective tool for fine-tuning program strategies.

# Food Safety and Quality in the Management of Humanitarian Food Commodities: Challenges and Outlook Thursday, January 28 | 3:30pm – 5:00pm | Renaissance West A

PRESENTERS: Ruffo Perez, Senior Food Technology Advisor, USAID, @ruffoperez; Richard Boyd, Chief, Contract Services Branch Organization, U.S. Department of Agriculture, Agricultural Marketing Service

This session will focus on food safety, and the quality of foods used by the international community in humanitarian aid. The discussion will revolve around two presentations by subject matter experts, followed by a panel discussion to engage the audience with questions and answers. Presentations will cover, but not exclusively, manufacturing practices, supply chain, regulations and innovation.

By the end of this session participants will have:

- Acquired knowledge of the current food safety and quality challenges throughout the supply chain in the handling of food aid.
- A better understanding of the current status and trends on regulations around food safety and quality of food aid.
- New insight as to how the concept of food safety has evolved from focusing mainly on human pathogen to a more comprehensive approach which includes long-term health and nutrition.

### It's Okay to Fail. Kinda.

### Thursday, January 28 | 3:30pm - 5:00pm | Renaissance West B

MODERATOR: Shelia Jackson, Knowledge Management Senior Specialist, The TOPS Program, @sljackson19 | PRESENTERS: Arno Boersma, Knowledge Management Specialist, World Bank Group; Deborah Hamilton, Communications and Knowledge Management Lead, Feed the Future Partnering for Innovation, @FTF\_PI; Emily Janoch, Senior Technical Advisor for Knowledge Management and Learning, CARE

"The only real mistake is the one from which we learn nothing." - Henry Ford

It is generally accepted that we learn more from failure than we do from success. Yet we rarely talk about our own failures. Everyone wants a 'fail fair', but ask for volunteers to share their failures and dead silence ensues. There are many reasons why we do not discuss our failures, but there is no denying that our hesitation means we do not learn from them. And are therefore almost guaranteed to repeat them. Learning why something did not work is just as important as learning why something did. Join us as three brave presenters bare their souls to share their failures and what they learned.

By the end of this session, participants will have learned that it is okay to talk about failure.



# Arno Boersma, Knowledge Management Specialist, World Bank Group

Arno Boersma is an experienced knowledge designer, who has worked with the World Bank Group since 2007. He holds a Masters degree from the Rotterdam School of Management in the Netherlands, and worked for multinational firms (e.g. Heineken, L'Oreal), before co-founding the knowledge strategy firm Squarewise in Amsterdam and Brussels in 2000. He has worked in a range of countries, from Burundi to China. His work takes place at the intersection of knowledge management and design thinking.



# Sarah Borger, Director of Health Programs, Food for the Hungry

Sarah Borger is the Director of Health Programs at Food for the Hungry. Prior to joining FH she worked with World Relief, has also worked as the Director of Operations and Quality for a non-profit organization and was the Acting Director and Family Resource Coordinator for the Massachusetts Department of Public Health. In addition to her professional experience she has an MPH degree from Boston University and has served both as a Peace Corps Volunteer in West Africa and a community health volunteer in India. Sarah is married to Scott Borger and resides in Washington, DC.



# Carla Boussen, Gender and Youth Advisor in the Policy, Technical, and Grants Services Division, USAID

Carla Rull Boussen is the Gender and Youth Advisor in the Policy, Technical, and Grants Services Division. A former volunteer with both VISTA and Peace Corps, Carla brings decades of varied experience, ranging from managing household and community behavior change initiatives to facilitating national-level policy dialogue and development. Consulting for the World Bank, USAID and other international donor

organizations, she has acted as senior technical advisor on development policy and programming approaches in gender, population/family planning, nutrition and HIV/AIDS. Working with the former NGO, Planning Assistance, she led an initiative that provided technical, planning and management support directly to developing country governments in the design and implementation of cross-ministry initiatives in the areas of population planning and women in development. Gender equity and participatory approaches involving all groups of society have been a focus throughout her career. Carla has a Masters in Public Health from the University of North Carolina at Chapel Hill in social and behavioral change.



# Richard Boyd, Chief, Contract Services Branch U.S. Department of Agriculture, Agricultural Marketing Service

Richard Boyd is Chief of the Contract Services Branch in the Specialty Crops Inspection Division, Specialty Crops Program, Agricultural Marketing Service (AMS), U.S. Department of Agriculture (USDA), in Washington, DC. He coordinates USDA/AMS inspection of packaged food components used in combat rations purchased by the United States military, and has coordinated AMS' recent inspection and auditing services

for Ready-to-Use Foods procured by USAID. In addition, Richard serves as Chair of the Codex Committee on Processed Fruits and Vegetables, which develops international standards for these commodities. Since 2013, he has participated on a U.S. Food and Drug Administration work group on Preventive Controls for Human Food under FDA's Food Safety Modernization Act. Richard also heads the USDA/AMS Child Nutrition Labeling Office. Richard has been with USDA/AMS for 33 years and holds a Bachelor of Arts Degree in Biology from Middlebury College in Middlebury, VT.



# Susan Bradley, Division Chief, Policy and Technical Division, USAID Office of Food for Peace

Susan Bradley is Chief of the Policy and Technical Division for USAID's Office of Food for Peace (FFP). Susan returned to FFP from the Bureau for Food Security, where she managed both the Bureau's Economic Resilience portfolio and a technical division tasked with integrating critical cross-cutting issues (gender, NRM/climate change, vulnerability reduction, and governance) into Feed the Future agriculture and nutrition programming. Susan managed USAID's food assistance programming in the Horn of Africa through

three near-famines, served on the USG Disaster Assistance Response Teams in Kosovo, Sudan, Ethiopia and Iraq, and in 2011, helped launch the Horn of Africa Joint Planning Cell. Before joining USAID, she worked with a number of non-governmental organizations including CARE International and Doctors Without Borders. She began her work in international assistance as a Peace Corps volunteer in Niger. Susan received her Masters of Public Health in Maternal and Child Nutrition from Johns Hopkins University.



# Dina Brick, Technical Advisor, Food Security and Markets, Catholic Relief Services

As a member of CRS' Humanitarian Response Department, Dina Brick heads CRS' Emergency Food Security, Livelihoods and Early Recovery team. This global team focuses its support on cash and market-based programming in pre-crisis, emergency, and early recovery contexts. Dina has over 10 years of experience in international agriculture, food security, and cash and markets programs, and holds a Masters degree from the Fletcher School at Tufts University.



# Warren Brush, Consultant, True Nature Design, @Warren\_brush

Warren Brush is a global permaculture design consultant, educator, lecturer and storyteller. He has worked for over 25 years in sustainable systems design for communities, private and public organizations, households, small holder farms, and conservation properties worldwide. He is co-founder of Quail Springs Permaculture, Regenerative Earth Enterprises, Sustainable Vocations, Wilderness Youth Project, Casitas Valley Farm and Creamery and his Permaculture design company, True Nature Design. He is a consultant

for The TOPS Program where he trains technical field staff in a Resilience Design Framework. He works extensively in North America, Africa, the Middle East, Europe, and Australia. He has taught the following courses: Permaculture Design Certification, Earthworks for Resiliency, Resilient Smallholder Farm Design, Permaculture for International Development, Rainwater Harvesting Systems, Ferro-Cement Tank Building, Community Design Using Permaculture, Permaculture Investing, Spring Rejuvenation and Watershed Restoration, Compost Toilet Systems, Water for Every Farm, Drought Proofing Landscapes, and Ecological Restoration.



# Imee Cambronero, Senior Monitoring and Evaluation Specialist, Livelihoods, Save the Children

Imee Cambronero has 11 years of experience in policy, development, and public health work. She currently supports Save the Children's Department of Hunger and Livelihoods USAID Food for Peace development and emergency portfolio by providing technical support to seven programs located in Liberia, Mali, Malawi, Mauritania, Nepal and Niger. Prior to joining Save the Children, Imee was a Technical Advisor with CARE where she provided technical support to food security and nutrition programs across East and

West Africa and South Asia. Imee spent three years as an Evaluation Advisor assigned to the Centers for Disease Control and Prevention Tanzania overseeing maternal and child health, and HIV/AIDS programs. Imee has worked as an external nutrition consultant with TANGO International and in the United States Congress House of Representatives. She holds a BS in Biology, and an MPH from the University of Minnesota - Twin Cities, where she also completed a pre-doctoral fellowship in adolescent health.



### Lydia Clemmons, Senior Advisor for SBCC, The Manoff Group

Dr. Clemmons serves as The Manoff Group's Senior Advisor for Social and Behavior Change Communications (SBCC), providing technical assistance to ENGINE, USAID Feed The Future's flagship nutrition project in Ethiopia, led by Save the Children. She is a medical anthropologist and public health specialist with 30 years of experience in the design, management, implementation and evaluation of public health, nutrition and HIV/AIDS programs. Her technical leadership has supported the development and use of inno-

vative, evidence-based tools and interventions for national and community-based programs - many of which have been recognized as global best practices in social and behavior change (SBC). Dr. Clemmons' expertise includes developing integrated agriculture-nutrition and WASH SBCC frameworks, programming, and materials for use by agriculture extension workers, host country national governments, local NGOs and USAID Feed the Future programs.



# Rani Deshpande, Director, Financial Services and Employment, Save the Children, @raniyouthsavngs

Rani Deshpande is Director of Financial Services and Employment at Save the Children U.S. Previously Ms. Deshpande directed YouthSave, a \$12.5M, 5-year project funded by The MasterCard Foundation to develop and test the social and commercial impact of teen-friendly savings accounts in Colombia, Ghana, Kenya and Nepal. Over three years, YouthSave assisted over 130,000 teens to open tailored savings ac-

counts, reached 44,000 with financial education through face-to-face mechanisms and approximately 700,000 individuals through mass media, community events, and text messaging. Ms. Deshpande's experience also includes strategy consulting for nonprofit organizations and four years at CGAP, where she built institutional and industry capacity on products, including savings and money transfers. Ms. Deshpande has worked directly with MSMEs in India and West Africa, provid-

ing technical assistance on production for export and small business management. She earned her undergraduate degree from Stanford University and a dual Masters in international affairs and business from Columbia University.



# Clara Eder, Vice President Strategic Information for Impact, PCI

Clara Eder, EdD, MPH brings more than 25 years of experience in education and public health, with emphases on program design, research, monitoring, evaluation, development of management information systems/quality assurance, local capacity strengthening and sustainability. Dr. Eder's key responsibilities with PCI include overseeing the organizational research, monitoring, evaluation and sustainability agendas. She has backstopped programs in all 16 countries in which PCI operates. Dr. Eder is regionally based

in South Africa, and has worked extensively in the southern and East Africa regions, Latin America and Asia to support M&E system design, data management, measurement systems, qualitative and quantitative research methodologies. She has also worked on leveraging knowledge, promoting the use of data for decision-making, reporting and documentation, and sustainability and strategic planning and management issues.



# Tim Frankenberger, President, TANGO International

Tim Frankenberger is the President and co-founder of TANGO International and a global expert on food security, livelihood approaches and resilience. Tim has over 30 years of experience in international development, with specialized skills in project design, M&E, and policy analysis. He previously served as Senior Food Security Advisor and Livelihood Security Coordinator at CARE and was a farming systems research specialist at the University of Arizona. Tim has published numerous articles on household food

security and resilience. Tim's graduate work includes an MA and doctoral studies in Anthropology, with a minor in Agricultural Economics. His current research interests include resilience measurement in food insecure contexts and appropriate mechanisms for social protection.



# Laura M. Glaeser, Food Security Advisor, Food and Nutrition Technical Assistance III Project (FANTA), FHI 360

Laura Glaeser is a food security, early warning, and livelihoods analysis expert with more than 13 years of experience designing, managing, evaluating, and providing technical assistance and decision support for food security-focused humanitarian, transitional, and development projects in Africa, Latin America, and Asia. Ms. Glaeser currently serves as the Food Security Advisor for the Food and Nutrition Technical

Assistance III Project (FANTA), where she directs research on topics including assessing factors that facilitate the sustained impact of development-focused projects and analyzing how select food security indicators relate to one another and to various phases of food insecurity severity. Ms. Glaeser's work at FANTA is informed by her previous professional engagement with entities including: USAID's Office of Food for Peace, the Famine Early Warning Systems Network, the United Kingdom's Department for International Development, and the Food Economy Group.



# Deborah Hamilton, Communications and Knowledge Management Lead, Feed the Future Partnering for Innovation, @FTF\_PI

Deborah Brody Hamilton heads the knowledge management and communications component for Feed the Future Partnering for Innovation, a USAID program that funds public-private partnerships to commercialize agricultural technologies for smallholder farmers. Previously, she was vice president of The Keystone Center, where she headed the marketing and development division and co-founded the Green

Products Roundtable. She has led initiatives at the Council on Foundations, Grantmakers In Health, National Center for Family Philanthropy, and the Association of Small Foundations and published articles on a variety of topics. An experienced facilitator and mediator, Deborah has volunteered at the Bipartisan Congressional Retreat on Civility the Multi-Door Dispute Resolution Division of DC Superior Court. Deborah holds a BA in English and History from Wellesley College, and an MA in Public Policy from Georgetown University.



# Alexa Hassink, Communications Officer, Program Associate, Promundo, @Promundo\_US

Alexa Hassink is a Communications Officer and Program Associate with Promundo in Washington, DC. She leads the communications team, and plays a key strategic role in advocacy efforts, project development and management. Promundo is a global leader in promoting gender justice and preventing violence by engaging men and boys in partnership with women and girls. Since its founding in Brazil in 1997, Pro-

mundo has worked to advance gender equality in over 35 countries through formative research and rigorous evaluation, evidence-based educational and community-wide programs, and advocacy for policy change.



# Aina Irbe, Senior Director of Learning Technologies, ACDI/VOCA

Ms. Irbe has 21 years of experience in the training and e-learning field. She is fluent in the technologies and techniques for eLearning development in large training initiatives, and experienced in managing and applying the full life cycle of the instructional design process and principles of adult learning. She established and successfully managed the first training department at SSB BART Group and EYT, Inc. She has also served as Adjunct Faculty at George Washington University, where she taught Masters degree level

online classes in George Washington University's Educational Technology MEd Program. Ms Irbe developed the first webbased Latvian language training course for the Foreign Service Institute's (FSI) School of Language Studies (SLS). She spent over a decade developing accessible e-learning and other training products for U.S. government clients, and is currently the Senior Director of Learning Technologies at ACDI/VOCA in Washington, DC.



### Emily Janoch, Senior Technical Advisor for Knowledge Management and Learning, CARE

Emily Janoch is a Senior Technical Advisor for Knowledge Management for the CARE USA Food and Nutrition Security team, focusing on ways to better learn from and share implementation experiences on eradicating poverty through empowering women and girls. She is an expert in designing systems to capture and share information across many sources. With four-years of on-the-ground experience in West Africa and academic publications on community engagement and the human element in food security in

Africa, she is especially interested in community-led development. Her work focuses on making sure that communities can engage in their own development for sustainable, appropriate results. She is fluent in French and Dogon, and has experience in food security, nutrition, health, governance, and gender programming. Her work on holding NGOs accountable to community needs and creating local capacity has been presented at Harvard, Imperial College London, and USAID seminars on USAID Forward. She has a BA in International Studies from the University of Chicago, and a Masters in Public Policy in International and Global Affairs from the Harvard Kennedy School.



# Ann Jimerson, Senior Specialist in Behavior Change, Alive & Thrive, FHI 360, @annjimerson

A seasoned professional in behavioral science and social marketing, Ann Jimerson contributes to Alive & Thrive's formative research, strategic program and communication design, and evaluation of Viet Nam's national mass media campaign. Ann has a talent for analyzing and applying consumer research to produce programs that result in real changes in behavior. Recently, she created and co-produced A&T's emagazines and an online, video-based series of case study kits for behavior change. These innovative

tools package and share lessons from A&T's field experience, reinforcing sound and practical methods for promoting improved feeding practices.



# Loria Kulathungam, Sustainable Health, Nutrition Knowledge Management Coordinator, World Vision, @LoriaKula @healthWV

Loria Kulathungam works as the Knowledge Management Coordinator with World Vision International's Nutrition Centre of Expertise, which provides leadership for technical expertise in nutrition programming and advocacy. She facilitates documentation and sharing of nutrition knowledge through peer networks, virtual information streams, and learning events. Loria is involved in development and rollout of capacity-

building curriculum and resources, including eLearning courses on Anaemia and Stunting. She lives near Toronto, Canada with her husband, two young sons and a variety of household pets.



# Ryan Larrance, Independent Consultant

Ryan Larrance is an independent consultant with over 12 years of experience as a technical advisor and program manager. He has expertise in maternal, newborn, and child health and nutrition, and is knowledgeable in program monitoring, evaluation, and research. He has lived and worked in East and Horn of Africa and the U.S. Gulf Coast, and has field experience in West Africa, Asia, and the Caribbean. He earned his MPH with a focus on international health and development from Tulane University and a BA from Hamilton College.



# William Martin, Specialist of Economic and Early Recovery, Market Based Programs, Catholic Relief Services

William Martin is a Specialist of Economic and Early Recovery in highly challenging contexts. He is responsible for supporting the development and implementation of markets-based/cash transfer programs for CRS' emergency response around the globe. William has more than 8 years of experience working on cash and voucher transfers, food security, livelihoods and micro-finance programming.



# Jami Montgomery, DCHA Climate Change Coordinator, USAID Bureau of Democracy, Conflict and Humanitarian Assistance

Jami Montgomery has served as the Climate Change Coordinator for the Bureau of Democracy, Conflict and Humanitarian Assistance (DCHA) at USAID since 2011. In this role, she manages the DCHA global climate change adaptation portfolio and provides technical assistance for integrating climate change considerations into DCHA programming. Her previous experience includes more than 12 years managing

both domestic and international environmental programs and projects for the non-profit, academic and private sectors. She holds advanced degrees in environmental engineering and marine studies, with a focus on water resources.



# Danielle Mutone-Smith, Policy Team Leader, USAID Office of Food for Peace

Danielle Mutone-Smith leads the Policy Team in USAID's Office of Food for Peace. Danielle joined Food for Peace in 2013 after having served in USAID's Bureau for Legislative and Public Affairs as the Congressional Liaison Officer for the Bureau of Democracy, Conflict and Humanitarian Assistance, where she led efforts around Farm Bill renegotiations and Food Aid Reform. Prior to joining USAID, Danielle served as Director of Global Trade and Agriculture Policy at Women Thrive Worldwide, as Senior Policy Analyst at

Bread for the World, as program officer for the Farmer to Farmer program at Partners of the Americas, and chaired the InterAction Agriculture and Food Security Working Group (2011/12). Danielle holds a PhD in Public Policy from George Mason University and both an MA in International Development and a BA in Economics and International Studies from American University.



# Dan Norell, Senior Technical Advisor, Economic Development, World Vision, @DanNorell

Dan Norell works on the Food Security & Livelihoods Team providing technical services to grant acquisition for U.S. Government and Foundation funding in market development, economic strengthening, economic recovery, microfinance, and other economic development interventions. He provides technical services to World Vision National Offices in economic development programming, and to VisionFund International in microfinance. He is a co-author of the "Integrating Extremely Poor Producers into Markets

Field Guide." The Field Guide is designed to provide tools to field market facilitators. He is also a co-author of the article "Improving the food security of the extremely poor by linking them to markets" published in the March 2015 Enterprise Development and Microfinance Journal. Dan holds a Masters degree in Business Administration and a Masters degree in Social Work. He has seven years overseas experience in Jamaica and Zimbabwe and 18 years in the World Vision U.S. Washington, DC office providing technical backstopping to World Vision Economic Development projects.



# Tara Noronha, Youth Employment Advisor, Mercy Corps

Tara Noronha is the Youth Employment Advisor on the Markets, Economic Recovery, and Growth Technical Support Unit at Mercy Corps. She has more than 10 years of youth development experience and currently provides ongoing technical support focused on market systems development, employment, and entrepreneurship programming for youth. She has a specific focus on youth-led labor market research and has supported these initiatives in numerous countries including Liberia, Tunisia, and Kenya. Tara sup-

ports Mercy Corps' youth economic engagement portfolio, which spans more than thirty countries including Afghanistan, West Bank/Gaza, Yemen, Liberia, Uganda, Kenya, South Sudan and others. She has a BA from the University of Notre Dame and a Masters in Public Administration, International Development, from New York University. Tara is based at Mercy Corps' global headquarters in Portland, Oregon.



# Geoffrey Arijole Nyakuni, Chief of Party, Tuendelee Pamoja, Food for the Hungry

Geoffrey Arijole Nyakuni is a humanitarian and development professional with over 10 years experience managing programs funded by multilateral donors, USAID and UN bodies, including UNHCR, UNICEF and WFP. He is skilled in program design and management, proposal development, organizational development, financial management and grants management. He has considerable experience managing multisectoral programs in food security and livelihoods, value chains, water and sanitation and hygiene, health

and nutrition applying behavior change communication, and applied research. He has a Masters degree in Public Health Nutrition and a Bachelors degree in Food Science and Technology from Makerere University in Uganda. He has also received extensive training in U.S. government rules and regulations related to grants, and Designing for Behavior Change (DBC) in health and livelihood programming. He is a recipient of the 2004 Regional Universities Forum (RUFORUM) Scholarship award for advanced studies and a member of the Uganda Action on Nutrition (UGAN). Geoffrey is currently the Chief of Party for the Food for the Hungry USAID funded "Tuendelee Pamoja" DFAP in South Kivu and Tangayika (formerly Katanga) provinces of Eastern Democratic Republic of Congo.



# Yejin Oh, Food CoP & Evidence Coordinator, FPMG, World Vision

Yejin Oh has been coordinating the World Vision Food Assistance sector's Knowledge Management priorities and activities for the past 5 years; finding great joy in creating, curating and sharing knowledge and contents for a hunger-free world. In her role, she travels and writes to consolidate and share evidence of impact and case studies from the field (see the most recent report: Telling Our Stories: Accountability to Affected Populations for a Hunger-free World). When back in her Washington, DC base, she supports

World Vision's Food Community of Practice with over 800 members from 50+ countries on various Knowledge Management activities. Yejin received her Bachelors in International Relations from Seoul National University and her Masters in International Affairs (Law & Organizations) at George Washington University. She's lived and worked in South Korea, South Africa, Rwanda and the U.S.



# Julie Peachey, Senior Director, Social Performance Management, Grameen Foundation

Julie Peachey serves as Senior Director of Social Performance Management for Grameen Foundation. In this role, she oversees the Progress out of Poverty Index® (PPI®), a household-level poverty measurement tool developed by Grameen Foundation and Mark Schreiner. Ms. Peachey has more than 20 years business and non-profit experience, including 13 years in international development. Her accomplishments include establishing and serving on the board of a social business in India, transforming a credit-focused

rural bank into a savings-led institution in the Philippines, playing a key role in raising \$25 million in private equity for a technology company, and starting a school in Honduras. Ms. Peachey started her career as a public accountant at KPMG and holds an MBA from the Kellogg Graduate School of Management at Northwestern University. She joined Grameen Foundation in November 2002.



### Ruffo Perez, Senior Food Technology Advisor, USAID, @ruffoperez

Rufino (Ruffo) Perez is a food scientist with a PhD from Michigan State University. His major research centered on the use of gas mass spectrometry for the identification of fingerprint volatiles produced by pathogens in foods, as rapid food safety indicators in packaged foods. Before joining the USAID Office of Food for Peace in September 2013 as Senior Food Technology Advisor, Dr. Perez worked for six years for Kraft Foods, both as a corporate food safety and quality expert, and as a nutrition and ingredient re-

searcher. Patented research works include micro encapsulation technologies in flavor delivery and food safety ingredients, as well as dehydration technologies. He has vast experience on global food safety programs, particularly in HACCP-based systems conceived and developed through the Global Food Safety Initiative (GFSI), in both capacities: implementation and auditing.



# Kathleen Ragsdale, Associate Research Professor, Mississippi State University

Kathleen Ragsdale, PhD, MA, is an Associate Research Professor and applied medical anthropologist at the Social Science Research Center (SSRC), Mississippi State University. She has more than 15 years of experience designing and implementing sociobehavioral research, program evaluations, and trainings/workshops to address identified needs in Sub-Saharan Africa, Latin America, the Caribbean, and the U.S. She is Co-PI on the Feed the Future Soybean Innovation Lab (SIL) where she leads SIL's Socioeconomic/

Gender Equity Research program. Her team adapted the original Women's Empowerment in Agriculture Index (WEAI) - developed/piloted by USAID Feed the Future, IFPRI, and OPHI - into the WEAI+ by adding soybean modules and ensuring the survey was culturally relevant for men and women smallholder farmers in Ghana and Mozambique. Her international research sites include Ghana, Mozambique, Belize, Costa Rica, Panama, and the U.S. Virgin Islands. Her U.S. research sites include rural and urban settings as varied as New York City and the Mississippi Delta. Ragsdale's funders include foundations as well as USAID, USDA NIFA, CDC, NIH, NSF, and UNIFEM.



# Mary Rebecca Read-Wahidi, Postdoctoral Research Fellow, Mississippi State University

Mary Rebecca Read-Wahidi, PhD is a Postdoctoral Research Fellow and medical anthropologist at the Social Science Research Center (SSRC), Mississippi State University. She joined the SSRC in 2015 after receiving her PhD in Biocultural Medical Anthropology at The University of Alabama. She has more than 10 years experience working with rural populations, migrant populations, and agricultural workers on issues such as barriers to accessing healthcare, improving services at community healthcare facilities, and

equality/empowerment through culturally-specific practices. As a member of the Feed the Future Soybean Innovation Lab (SIL) Socioeconomic/Gender Equity Research Team, Read-Wahidi is currently working on a project to identify best practices and potential barriers to the sustainable adoption of soy among men and women smallholder farmers in Ghana's Northern Region as a means of improving household economic and nutritional status. This research primarily utilizes the Women's Empowerment in Agriculture Index (WEAI), and was adapted by the Socioeconomic/Gender Equity Research Team to include soybean modules and to ensure the survey was culturally relevant for use in Ghana.



# Janine Schooley, Senior Vice President, Programs, PCI

Janine Schooley has spent the last 30 years in leadership positions with 2 organizations: Wellstart International from 1985-2000 and PCI since October 2000. Janine is a specialist in NGO leadership, with emphasis on program design and management of comprehensive programming, including capacity strengthening, gender equity, and behavior/social change aspects of integrated, community-based health and development programs. Currently Janine is Senior Vice President for Programs at PCI, ensuring quality, integrated

programming for maximum sustainable impact across PCI's global portfolio. Since 2007 she has been a faculty member at the Monterey Institute of International Studies where she teaches a course on behavior change. Ms. Schooley served as Secretary of the Board of Directors of the CORE Group from 2002-2011 as well as Co-Chair of the HIV/AIDS Working Group. She is again on the CORE Board as of 2014.



### John Service, Humanitarian Response Officer, Catholic Relief Services

John Service has over 15 years of experience working on humanitarian response efforts in many countries including Angola, Zambia, Dominican Republic, Jamaica, Guyana, Haiti, South Sudan, Philippines, and Nepal. John has hands on experience in the entire range of humanitarian work covering: needs assessments, targeting, intervention design and proposal writing, response set up, operations, monitoring and evaluation, security, country program management, national and international coordination, best practice and

guideline elaboration, and technical support and capacity building assistance. As the Humanitarian Response Officer based at HQ, John provides back stop support to agency emergency field operations, manages the operations team, deploys overseas whenever needed, and ensures optimal coordination and communication both internally and externally. In 1993, he earned his undergraduate degree from Hamilton College with a major in political science and a minor in comparative literature. In 1999 he earned a Masters degree in International Economics and Latin American studies from the Johns Hopkins University School of Advanced International Studies (SAIS), and joined CRS right after graduation as an International Development Fellow in Peru. John is fluent in Spanish and Portuguese and capable in Mandarin Chinese.



# Barri Shorey, Senior Technical Advisor- Enterprise Development and Employment, The International Rescue Committee, @barrishorey

As Senior Technical Advisor, Barri Shorey supports the development of strategy and program design for all enterprise and employment-based programming - with a specific focus on IRC's Syria Response portfolio focusing on the progression from meeting basic needs to more livelihoods-based humanitarian responses. Barri began working at IRC in 2006 at the very beginnings of the livelihoods and economic program-

ming sector, previously serving as youth and livelihoods advisor providing support to IRC's West Africa, Rwanda, Burundi, Haiti and Kenya programs with a specific focus on curriculum development, microenterprise development and private

sector partnerships. Barri also served as the Child and Youth Protection and Development Officer in Sierra Leone, where she managed the IRC's first microfranchise pilot. Barri has a Masters degree in international education from the George Washington University and a Bachelor of Arts in philosophy and religion from Colgate University.



### Laurie Starr, Senior Technical Advisor, TANGO International

Laurie Starr is an applied researcher with extensive experience in gender issues, resilience, livelihoods, and food security. The geographic range of her experience encompasses 20 countries in Africa, Asia, and the LAC region. As a Senior Technical Advisor for TANGO International, Laurie's primary roles are to evaluate the effectiveness of development programs and to provide strategic support to NGOs and donors seeking to design gender sensitive resilience and food security programs. She is one of TANGO's key

facilitators for theory of change workshops around the world, assisting NGO staff to bring a systems thinking perspective to problem analysis and program design, implementation, and monitoring. Laurie holds a Masters degree in International Development Practice from Prescott College for the Environment and Social Justice.



### Malini Tolat, Livelihoods Advisor Asia, Save the Children

Malini Tolat is Technical Advisor, Livelihoods with Save the Children U.S. She provides strategic direction and technical assistance to field offices in the areas of food security, value chain development, household economic strengthening, financial services and youth livelihoods in Asia. She is the global technical point for youth employment and has spearheaded the development of internal guidelines with respect to Labor Market assessments, youth employability training and testing approaches to support youth livelihoods in

rural areas. Malini's over 15 years of professional experience in international development have focused on inclusive economic growth, with an emphasis on market and system strengthening approaches. Malini has a Masters in International Public Policy from the School of Advanced International Studies (SAIS), Johns Hopkins University and an MBA with specialization in finance from the Institute of Management Technology (IMT), India.



# Joan Whelan, Learning Advisor, USAID Office of Food for Peace

Joan Whelan is a strategic learning specialist providing support to FFP in development and rollout of the new strategy, strengthening program learning, and improving feedback loops and knowledge sharing between field and HQ, and with implementing partners and academic institutions. Joan has a long history of support to USAID's Office of Food for Peace through senior management roles on both FANTA and TOPS. She has been instrumental in the development of landmark guides, manuals, and other tools to

support the capture and diffusion of promising practices and emerging evidence, in designing and managing mechanisms for program learning and collaboration, and in leading consultative and agenda setting processes. Joan lived in Africa for four years, and still looks fondly on her time spent 'off the map' in Eritrea. Joan holds an MPA from New York University's Wagner School of Public Service.



# Eric Carlberg, Agriculture Specialist, Mercy Corps

Eric works with the TOPS Senior Agriculture Specialist to increase the effectiveness and impact of the agriculture, economic development and natural resource management components of food security programs. Previously, he worked as a Research Associate on the USAID Global Climate Change Monitoring and Evaluation Task Order for Development and Training Services, Inc (DTS). He has a BS from University of North Carolina at Chapel Hill in Business Administration and an MS from the University of Georgia in Agriculture and Applied Economics.



# Julia Crowley, Program Specialist, Save the Children

Julia has previously worked on both international and domestic health issues, including providing programmatic and backstopping support to Family Health International projects in Africa and the Middle East. Julia has lived and worked in South Africa, where she helped CDC/South Africa's Monitoring and Evaluation team with their PEPFAR reporting. Julia has an MS in Global Health from the Harvard School of Public Health.



# Birendra Kumar De, Commodity Management Senior Specialist, Save the Children

BK is responsible for commodity management capacity building of the PVOs implementing Title II food assistance programs and developing tools that benefit the entire community of commodity management practitioners. Previously, he worked in nine countries on three continents (Africa, Asia, and Europe) in development and emergency response programs. His responsibilities included commodity management, logistics, warehousing, and distribution for more than 25 years of his career. Just before joining TOPS,

BK played a key role in setting up the Supply Chain Management Unit at CARE USA headquarters to improve CARE's global supply chain capability. Immediately before moving to CARE USA, BK managed a commodity logistics project for 1.2 million internally displaced persons in Darfur, Sudan. He also worked for CARE in Malawi managing commodities in a multistakeholder Title II food assistance program. BK has an MSc in International Logistics from Georgia Institute of Technology in Atlanta.



# Mary DeCoster, Social & Behavioral Change Senior Specialist, Food for the Hungry

Mary provides technical support to the overall SBC effort that Food for the Hungry leads in The TOPS Program, including identifying the knowledge and skill needs of practitioners and involving them in the process of implementation, synthesizing, producing, field testing, and delivering reliable, high-quality SBC information in user-friendly appropriate formats and venues; using effective and appropriate information and skill delivery systems/applications; and supporting and expanding skill and knowledge exchange

forums. Previously, she managed behavior change programs for communicable disease prevention and maternal/child health and backstopped child survival projects. Mary has an MPH and an MS in Library Science from the University of North Carolina Chapel Hill and is an International Board Certified Lactation Consultant.



#### Mark Fritzler, Director, Save the Children

Mark joined Save the Children (SC) in July 2003 as Country Director in Iraq. Subsequently, he served as SC Country Director in Mozambique and Indonesia. In 2007-08 Mark was Chief of Party for the global Save the Children tsunami response in Aceh, Indonesia. During his career in international development and emergency response, Mark has worked in Africa, Asia, and the Middle East. He also worked with JHPIEGO, CARE International, and on several projects with international development consulting firms. Mark has a

BA in Political Science from the University of Oregon.



## Shelia Jackson, Knowledge Management Senior Specialist, CORE Group, @sljackson19

Shelia develops and organizes learning events that maximize engagement, learning, and knowledge transfer through the use of participatory learning techniques. She fosters knowledge sharing and collaboration in the food security community by chairing the FSN Network's Knowledge Management Task Force. Previously, Shelia was the Knowledge Management Team Lead for the KSC Project at USAID. She has experience in envisioning and cultivating knowledge sharing programs that focus on the role

knowledge management plays in helping people to efficiently accomplish daily tasks while adding to the institutional knowledge of their organization, proposing ideas for customized knowledge management solutions to address information

sharing gaps and implementing training programs for social media tools. She earned an MS in Library and Information Science from Florida State University.



# Joan Jennings, Nutrition & Food Technology Senior Specialist, Save the Children

An expert in maternal and child health and nutrition, Joan has more than 15 years of experience providing consulting services for many USAID-funded food security and child survival programs and has extensive experience working with nutrition protection and behavior change strategies for improved infant and young child feeding practices. Her skill set also includes quantitative and qualitative evaluation, formative investigation, proposal development, and strategic planning. She has worked in over 20 countries

throughout all development programming regions. In between periods of consulting, she was the team leader for children's health with CARE USA. She initiated her work in development as a Health and Nutrition Manager for Save the Children in Nicaragua. She possesses an MPH from Tulane University and received an internship with the United Nations ACC/Sub-Committee on Nutrition, where she edited a review of the elements of success among large-scale nutrition programs in 10 countries.



# Lauren Jessup, Program Associate, Save the Children

Lauren provides daily program, logistical, and administrative/management support. Previously, she was an Agribusiness Peace Corps volunteer in Buea, Cameroon, where she worked on a variety of health and food security related projects. Lauren has a BS in Science-Business from the University of Notre Dame. Lauren studied abroad in France and China, speaks conversational French, and participated in a summer service learning program in South Africa.



# Adam Keehn, Deputy Director, Save the Children

Adam supports work to gather and share lessons learned in the small grant and the Associates Award programs; produces annual progress reports, work plans, and other TOPS reports; investigates alternatives to traditional commodity programming and training; and supports the development of TOPS' approach to knowledge development and training. Adam brings more than 25 years of work in international relief and development to TOPS, mostly with Save the Children. He opened SC US' office in Mali where he had

served as a Peace Corps volunteer and Food for Peace Monitor. He also served as Country Director in Burkina Faso and Ethiopia, and has held a variety of management and HR roles in SC's headquarters. Beginning in 2013 Adam directed SC's Hurricane Sandy recovery program in New York, followed by two interim assignments as Program Director for Southern Africa based in Pretoria, and as Program Development and Quality Director in Liberia. Adam holds a BA in French and English from Beloit College and an MPS from Cornell University in Adult Education/Community Development.



### Dasha Kosmynina, Associate Director, Grants and Finance, Save the Children

Dasha provides sound financial and administrative management of The TOPS Program. Prior to TOPS, Dasha was the Deputy Director of Save the Children's YouthSave Project, responsible for project administration at HQ and in four implementation countries. She joined Save the Children as the Associate Director for Portfolio Management and Support of the Livelihoods Department. Before SC, Dasha worked for The Urban Institute in several capacities including Project Coordinator, Research Associate, and Resident

Advisor positions in Washington, DC and Tbilisi, Georgia. Dasha has a BA in Political Science from Emory University and an MA in Law and Diplomacy from The Fletcher School at Tufts University.



### Abby Love, Agriculture Officer, Mercy Corps

Abby supports all agriculture and natural resource management activities for The TOPS Program. Before joining Mercy Corps, she worked both in the field and the headquarters office for 2Seeds Network, an agricultural development nonprofit working with smallholder farmers in Tanzania. She has a BSES in Environmental Economics and Management and an MS in Agricultural and Applied Economics from the University of Georgia.



# Erin Kelley Mossop, Senior Operations Coordinator, Commodity Management, Save the Children

Erin provides logistical and programmatic support for TOPS' Commodity Management technical team. This includes aiding in the coordination of the Food Assistance Commodity Management (FACM) Workshop series. Previously, she worked at Georgetown University as a coordinator for the English Language Fellow Program, a U.S. Department of State public diplomacy grant. In that position, she worked on both

participant management, as well as facilitated the review and selection of new applicants. Erin holds a BA in International Relations from American University and an MPS in Emergency and Disaster Management from Georgetown University.



# Andrea Mottram, Agriculture Senior Specialist, Mercy Corps

Andrea leads the agriculture and natural resource management component, working with the implementing community to identify, modify, and develop tools and best practices, strengthen technical skills, and support knowledge sharing mechanisms. With 20 years of experience in agricultural development, Andrea has worked for Mercy Corps in a number of agriculture and economic development field positions throughout Africa and Asia, as well as global technical support. She previously worked in agricultural

research and training for the Centre for Arid Zone studies, a UK-based research and development organization. She has a PhD from the University of Wales, Bangor, UK in sorghum and millet production and an MSc in rural resource management. Andrea is based at Mercy Corps.



# Edith Mutalya, Monitoring & Evaluation Senior Specialist, TANGO International

Edith leads TOPS' monitoring and evaluation (M&E) activities, including focused capacity building of M&E practitioners working for Title II and other food security projects, and supporting and strengthening the community of M&E practitioners. She liaises with the FANTA III M&E team, FFP M&E team, M&E Task Force members, and the M&E practitioners working for Title II programs; identifies effective tools and promising M&E practices; and reviews small grant proposals and oversees the relevant small grants. In addition, she

is responsible for TOPS' own M&E plan. Edith has nearly 20 years of international development experience in the areas of food security programming, natural resource management, HIV/AIDS, and orphans and vulnerable children. She also has experience in project management, strategic planning, and program design and implementation. Edith previously served as Program Management Officer for M&E with World Vision US, M&E Specialist with Chemonics International Civil Society Fund, and M&E Specialist with World Vision Uganda Livelihoods Project. She received a BSc in Agricultural Economics and an MPS in Applied Economics and Management, and she is currently pursuing an MPH.



# Rana Olwan, Director, DHL Finance and Portfolio Manager, Save the Children

In this role, Rana is responsible for the sound financial and administrative management of The TOPS Program Associate Awards. Furthermore, she provides indirect support to The TOPS Program by assuring financial policies are implemented in coordination with Save the Children's Finance and Grants and Contracts policies and procedures. Previously, Rana was the Associate Director, Grants Management for The TOPS Program. She also held several positions with Save the Children including Finance and

Administration Manager in the Occupied Palestinian Territories (oPt) and Finance and Administration Director in Basra, Iraq. She is a Chartered Professional Accountant (CPA) and a Certified General Accountant (CGA). Rana holds a B.A. in Accounting from Yarmouk University in Irbid-Jordan and she is currently pursuing an MBA at Laurentian University in Ontario, Canada. Rana is fluent in Arabic.



# Michelle Shapiro, Communications Officer, CORE Group, @michelleshapiro

Michelle Shapiro is the Communications Officer on The TOPS Program. She provides communications support to the Food Security & Nutrition (FSN) Network through online and print media. Michelle has over five years of marketing and communications experience in both the for-profit and non-profit sectors. Before joining CORE Group, she spent several months in Uganda consulting for a local NGO. Michelle holds a Bachelor of Science in Communication from Boston University.



### Yemisi Songo-Williams, Knowledge Management Specialist, CORE Group

Yemisi designs and executes knowledge management activities and processes to strengthen and expand the TOPS FSN Network. She works to improve food security and nutrition practice by providing support to the TOPS technical leads in leveraging new technologies and practices for engaging online communities in knowledge exchange and capacity strengthening. In her previous role as a Knowledge Management and Learning Officer with CRS, Yemisi led the creation and management of a web-based platform for

knowledge collection and dissemination. She also developed synergistic relationships with partner organizations to improve learning and collaboration, and capture critical knowledge, innovations and best practices. Yemisi holds an MSc in Social Research Methods from the London School of Economics and Political Science.



# Kristi Tabaj, Gender Senior Specialist, Save the Children, @ktwas

Kristi facilitates knowledge sharing of gender integration strategies and practices in food security programming. A development professional with more than 15 years of experience in food security, agriculture and agribusiness, gender, livelihoods, and natural resource management, she has been involved in the design, implementation, and evaluation of programming in North America, Africa, Latin America, the Middle East, and Central and South Asia. She previously worked with TOPS consortium

partner Mercy Corps, the Forest Service, and served as a Peace Corps volunteer in Honduras and Guatemala. Kristi has a BA in Anthropology from Lawrence University and an MS in International Agricultural Development from University of California, Davis. She is a fluent English speaker and possesses some Spanish and French language skills.



# Adrienne Todela, Knowledge Management Coordinator, CORE Group, @atodela

Adrienne is responsible for supporting both the CORE Group and TOPS teams with online content creation and management, events planning, and overall community engagement through the FSN and Community Health Networks. She has gained experience in content creation, media outreach, and events management from her work with varied non-profit, non-governmental organizations such as Accion International, The African Foundation for Development, and the United Nations High Commissioner for Refugees. Adrienne

received her BA in International Relations and BS in Journalism from Boston University in 2015. Passionate for advocacy work, she holds knowledge sharing and public information essential to effective capacity building in the international development arena. She enjoys traveling domestically and internationally, trying different types of cuisines, reading poetry and prose, exercising at Gold's Gym, and spending quality time with family and friends.



### Fitih Wedajeneh, Grants Specialist, Save the Children

Fitih has played a significant role in the formation, implementation, follow up, and closeout of projects funded by TOPS under the Small Grant Mechanisms. He communicates with interested applicants, coordinates with the TOPS Technical Team, facilitates the review of proposals, and prepares approvals and award documentation for Save the Children and USAID. Previously, he worked as Acquisition and Assistance Management Specialist at the USAID Mission in Ethiopia and as procurement coordinator at

Save the Children US in the Ethiopia Country Office. He has obtained several certifications that are equivalent to the Level II Federal Acquisition Certification (FAC) Program. He has a BA in Management and an AA in Purchasing and Supply Management.

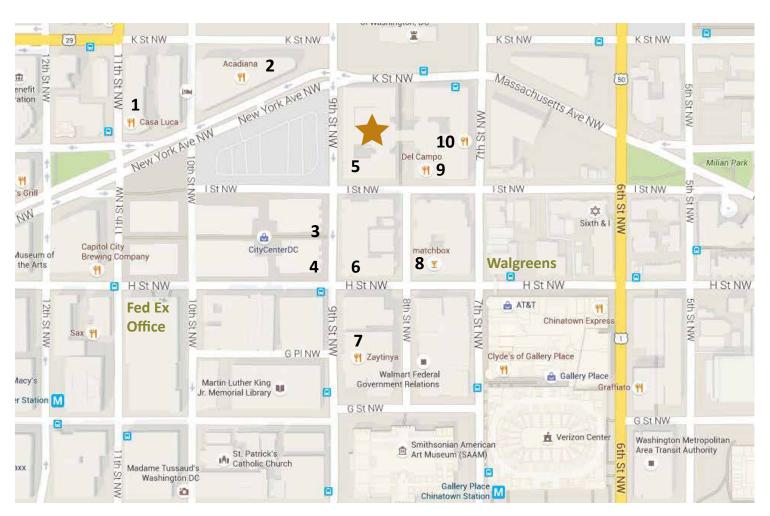
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- 5. City Tap House (Gastropub) 901 9th Street NW
- 6. Cuba Libre (Cuban) 801 9th Street NW \*\*Stay for dinner after the reception Wednesday night!
- 7. Zaytinya (Mediterranean Small Plates) 701 9th Street NW
- 8. Matchbox (Pizza, American) 713 H Street NW
- Del Camp (South American) 777 I Street NW
- 10. Ping Pong Dim Sum (Chinese) 900 7th Street NW



# Thank you to all participants and contributing organizations!

The TOPS team would like to thank the entire FSN Network community for their participation, their willingness to engage in dialogue, and the ideas they have brought to share with their colleagues. We would also like to extend special thanks to the many individuals who made this event possible through their leadership in sessions as presenters or moderators.

The USAID Office of Food for Peace-funded TOPS Program manages the FSN Network, serves as the planning committee for the Network's semi-annual knowledge sharing meetings, and is the sponsor for this week's events.

# The TOPS team would like to especially acknowledge:

# **Program Advisory Committee**

- Adam Reinhart, USAID
- Anthony Koomson, Food for the Hungry
- Bianca Flokstra, World Vision
- Catherine McMahon, Mercy Corps
- Cathy Bergman, Mercy Corps
- David Kauck, Save the Children
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- Judy Canahuati, USAID
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- Tim Ogborn, PCI
- Tom Spangler, PCI
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Patrick Connors, Planner/Facilitator

Adam Lowe, Photographer

# Volunteers

- Afia Agyekum
- Melissa Stefun
- Shuyuan Huang
- Samrawit Delelegn

Renaissance Washington, DC Downtown Hotel Staff

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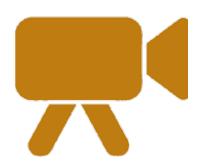
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