FSNNetwork
Food Security and Nutrition Network

The FSN Network is an open community of practice working to strengthen food security in households and communities through knowledge sharing and collaboration for improved programming and implementation.

Upcoming Events

Gender and Climate-smart Agriculture Online Learning Event: FAO; January 30 - February 18, 2014; Online

Global Forum for Innovations in Agriculture: City of Abu Dhabi; Feb. 3 - 5, 2014; Abu Dhabi, UAE

Care Groups Implementation Training Workshop: TOPS; Feb. 3 - 7, 2014; WDC

Practitioner Academy Community Health Learning Trip 2014: CORE Group; February 4 - 12, 2013; Jamkhed, India

Sustainable Microenterprise and Development Program: The Carsey Institute/University of New Hampshire and Ghana Microfinance Institutions Network (GHAMFIN); March 10 - 21, 2014; Accra, Ghana

Innovator's Forum: Unite for Sight; March 14, 2014; New Haven, CT

ICT4D Conference: Catholic Relief Services; March 25 - 28, 2014; Nairobi, Kenya

Borlaug Summit on Wheat for Food Security: International Maize and Wheat Improvement Center, Association for

FSN Network News

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There are many ways to participate in the FSN Network:

- Join an online community to share questions with peers
- Access tools from our resource library
- Follow daily news from the FSN Network on Twitter or Facebook

"Greening" Development Food Assistance Programs

A discussion of the FSN Network online community is exploring technologies and approaches to develop environmental safeguards for development food assistance programs. Participants are sharing the steps that their organizations have taken or are taking to be more "green."

This is the first of three online discussions on the FSN Network Online Portal to foster conversation around methods for "greening" development food assistance programs. The TOPS Program will be pulling together the comments of participants of the online discussion and sharing them with the USAID/DCHA Bureau Environmental Officer.

Follow the discussion and add your voice at fsnnetwork.org.

I-SMART Database Presentation and Field Test Results
January 30, 2014; 11:00 AM - 2:00 PM
50 F Street NW, Washington, DC 20001; Werqu Mekasha Conference Room, 6th Floor

ACDI/VOCA is hosting a workshop to share the TOPS I-SMART database and the results of a field test in Sierra Leone, and discuss the final steps of the program.

ACDI/VOCA was awarded a grant through the USAID TOPS (Technical and Operational Performance Support) program to develop an information management system to support project management and reporting. The ACDI/VOCA grant, from TOPS implementing organization Save the Children, funded the Information System for Management, Analysis and Reporting Timeliness (I-SMART) Project. The project has created a foundational database to be used for multi-sectoral programming including livelihood programming, health and nutrition, and some aspects of commodity management. On January 30th, we will present the I-SMART database.

Lunch will be provided. Please RSVP to Baily Jones at bjones@acdivoca.org by January 28th.

Agricultural Research and Experimentation of the State of Sonora; Mar. 25 - 28, 2014; Ciudad Obregón, Mexico

[Consumer Behavior and Food Science Innovations for Optimal Nutrition](#): The New York Academy of Sciences, The Sackler Institute for Nutrition Sciences; March 26, 2014; NYC

[Global Health Practitioner Conference Spring 2014](#): CORE Group; May 5 - 9, 2014; Silver Spring, MD

[2020 Conference](#): IFPRI; May 15 - 17, 2014; Addis Ababa, Ethiopia

[International Symposium on Understanding Moderate Malnutrition in Children for Effective Interventions](#): International Atomic Energy Agency; May 26 - 29, 2014; Vienna, Austria

[Micronutrient Forum Global Conference](#): Micronutriet Forum; June 2 - 6, 2014; Addis Ababa, Ethiopia

[4th Annual LCIRAH Research Conference](#): Leverhulme Centre for Integrative Research on Agriculture and Health; June 3 - 4, 2014; London, England

Online Discussion

[Seeking Recommendations on M&E Strategy for Farmer Group Tool/Curriculum](#) from FSN Network

Did You Know?

GAIN launched the

To learn more about the TOPS Small Grants program, visit [fsnnetwork.org](#).

Save the Date: Commodity Tracking System Demonstrations and Consultation
March 17 - 18, 2014
Washington, DC

The TOPS Commodity Management Team is hosting a meeting examining cutting-edge Commodity Tracking Systems (CTS) in Washington, DC on March 17 - 18. Several PVOs implementing Title II programs on behalf of USAID's Office of Food for Peace will present their respective electronic commodity tracking systems. During the 1.5 day workshop, participants will be able to familiarize themselves with the features and functionalities of the different systems. The presentations will be followed by a structured discussion on the pros and cons of standardizing such systems.

Anyone active in food security and commodity management is encouraged to attend this meeting. More information will be provided in the coming weeks. Send questions about the meeting to Birendra Kumar (BK) De at bkde@savechildren.org.

From the Online Community: Combining Care Groups and PM2A Approaches

A member of the online community of the FSN Network is seeking advice on using the Care Groups approach in a development food assistance program that follows the Preventing Malnutrition in Children under 2 Approach (PM2A). The discussion explores whether to enroll women in the first trimester and how to accurately determine the age of children being enrolled in the program. It also looks into the challenges, advantages and unintended consequences of combining the Care Groups and PM2A approaches.

Read more and join the discussion at [fsnnetwork.org](#).

FSN Network Task Force & Discussion Group Meetings

The **global task forces** of the FSN Network enable members from around the world to directly contribute their expertise in development toward identifying and adapting crucial information, tools and methods that are responsive to stakeholder needs. **Discussion Groups** allow field-based practitioners to connect online to share experiences, seek recommendations, and strengthen capacity in cross-cutting and emerging implementation areas. *Newcomers are welcome to attend the meeting below.*

- [SBC Task Force Meeting](#), January 30, 2014, 1:00 - 2:30 PM EST
- [Care Groups Forward Discussion Group Meeting](#) (Rescheduled), February 11, 2014, 12:30 - 2:00 PM EST
- [Commodity Management Task Force Meeting](#), February 12, 2014, 10:00 AM - 12:00 PM EST

[Improving Nutrition Hub](#) on the Global Development Professionals Network in partnership with *The Guardian*.

New Publications, Guides & Tools

[Gender Inequalities in Ownership and Control of Land in Africa](#) from IFPRI

[Exploring the Promise of Information and Communication Technologies for Women Farmers in Kenya](#) from MEAS and Cultural Practice LLC

[Determinants of Aggregate Agricultural Productivity Among High External Input Technology Farms in a Harsh Macroeconomic Environment of IMO State, Nigeria](#) from African Journal of Food Agriculture, Nutrition and Development

[Using Feedback and Response Mechanisms for Development Programming in Zimbabwe](#) from CRS

[Region-wide Assessment of the Capacity for Human Nutrition Training in West Africa: Current Situation, Challenges, and Way Forward](#) from Global Health Action

[FIELD Report 18: Smallholders and Inclusive Growth in Agricultural Value Chains](#) from Impact LLC and FHI 360

Articles

[Mental Health: African](#)

Featured Information Resource: Barrier Analysis Questionnaires

In recent years, organizations implementing FFP projects have recognized the need to develop more effective behavior change strategies. To this end, TOPS has provided training in the Designing for Behavior Change framework, which recommends the use of Barrier Analysis (BA), a survey that identifies the most significant barriers to behavior change. To implement a BA, researches must first develop a data collection tool - the questionnaire.

TOPS created a set of [Barrier Analysis Questionnaires and Guidance](#) on how to adapt these questionnaires as references for BA implementers. The questionnaires address behaviors in the areas of maternal and child nutrition, health, water and sanitation and agriculture.

Find more tools and references for implementers at www.fsnnetwork.org.

Job Postings

- [Emergency Health Advisor](#) based in WDC with Save the Children
- [Short-term Consultants](#) based in Nairobi, Kenya with World Agroforestry Centre
- [Food for Peace Program Operations Specialist](#) based in WDC with USAID
- [Nutrition Advisor](#) based in Dublin or UK with Concern Worldwide
- [Deputy Director of Nutrition](#) based in WDC with ACDI/VOCA
- [Project Director, Skills to Succeed](#) based in WDC with Save the Children
- [Senior Gender Agribusiness Specialist](#) with IFC
- [Mid- to Senior-level Specialists](#) based in WDC with Social Impact
- [Nutrition Advisor - Global Health Fellow](#) based in WDC with USAID
- [Program Manager, The Sackler Institute for Nutrition Science](#) based in NYC with The New York Academy of Sciences
- [President and Chief Executive Officer](#) based in NYC with The Hunger Project
- [Deputy Director of Programs, HarvestPlus](#) based in WDC with IFPRI
- [Chief of Party - Bangladesh Livestock](#) based in Bangladesh with Land O'Lakes International Development
- [Agricultural Specialist](#) based in Malawi with The World Bank

Funding and Other Opportunities

- [**Apply for a grant**](#) through the TOPS Small Grants Program - **Awarded on a rolling basis.** The two types of grants include Micro Grants (maximum per award $50,000) and

[Countries to Benefit from a USD7.2 M Canadian Grant](#) from Africa Science News

[Alarm Over Mandatory Gardens in Karamoja](#) from IRIN

[Major Food Crisis Looms in CAR](#) from IRIN

[Get a Taste for Teff, the Ethiopian Superfood](#) from *The Guardian*

[Food Affordability, Optifood, and the Complexity of Developing Nutritional Solutions for Children](#) from Global Health Hub

[Sub-national Malnutrition Data](#) from Open Data - The World Bank Blog

[Reflections on Three Farmers, Teachers, and Innovators](#) from Oxfam First Person Blog

[A Photographer's Artful Images of African Agriculture](#) from *New York Times*

Program Improvement Award (PIA) (maximum per award $100,000).

- **[Submit abstracts](#)** for the 4th Annual Leverhulme Centre for Integrative Research on Agriculture and Health (LCIRAH) Research Conference - Due January 31, 2014 (extended deadline). The conference will take place June 3 - 4, 2014 in London. LCIRAH is looking for abstracts of qualitative and quantitative research studies in the agriculture-health nexus on policy impact evaluations, causal mechanisms, policy processes and institutional arrangements.
- **[Apply](#)** for the UC Berkeley-Eleventh Hour Food and Farming Journalism Fellowship - Due March 1, 2014. Aimed at early- and mid-career journalists, the Fellowship presents an opportunity to report ambitious long-form stories on the full range of subjects under the rubric of food systems: agricultural and nutritional policy, the food industry, food science, technology and culture, rural and urban farming, agriculture and the environment (including climate change), global trade and supply chains, consolidation and securitization of the food system and public health as it relates to food and farming.
- **[Submit abstracts](#)** for The University of Alberta Faculty of Agricultural, Life and Environmental Sciences' Food Security Dialogue - Due February 9, 2014. The title of the Dialogue is Enhancing Food Production, Gender Equality and Nutritional Security in a Changing World, and it will take place on April 30 - May 2, 2014. Abstracts should pertain to one of the following themes: sustainable agricultural systems; gender and livelihoods; nutritional security; or economics, value chains and policy.

If you are not already on our e-mail list, sign-up [here](#). We welcome news of events, tools, trainings, country updates and other content from the broad FSN Network community. Please send any suggested content to news@fsnnetwork.org.

The FSN Network is being spearheaded by TOPS, a USAID/FFP funded program seeking to build the capacity of FFP grantees and other food security and nutrition implementers. The program is working to improve the quality of implementation through fostering collaboration, innovation, and knowledge sharing around food security and nutrition best practices. For more information about TOPS please click [here](#).

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