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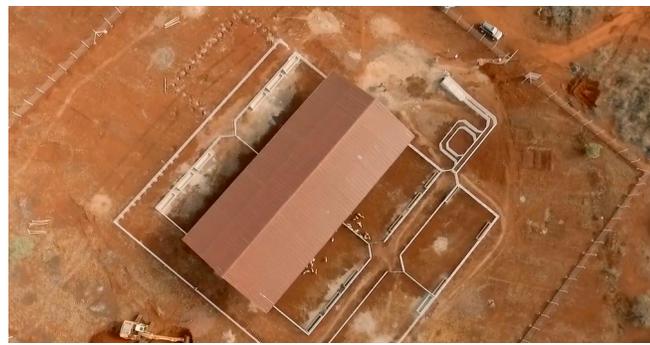
**Your source for the latest in food security and nutrition**

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#### VIDEO OF THE WEEK

Produced by ACDI/VOCA

Women and youth living in Kenya's arid lands are restricted from economic activities due to cultural practices, traditions, poverty, and poor education. This video highlights the work being done by the USAID-funded project [Resilience for Economic Growth in the Arid Lands - Accelerated Growth \(REGAL-AG\)](#) to help provide inclusive access and participation in the region's livestock value chain. REGAL-AG have awarded several women and youth business development grants to set up livestock related businesses, which have the potential of increasing livestock production leading to increased employment and household income. [Watch the video here.](#)

[Submit photos or videos for future newsletters.](#)

#### DID YOU KNOW...

[Transforming Lives](#) on USAID's website showcases success stories in all areas of the Agency's programming. These stories focus on individuals from all over the world and how respective USAID programs have helped them transform their lives. A

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from USAID's electronic food voucher program. Households like hers that live in areas where markets are functioning can redeem monthly vouchers through mobile technology in exchange for items in nearby stores. This food assistance program stimulates local economies and enables households to choose the variety of nutritious foods that best meets their needs.

[Read the full story here.](#)

## Contribute to the Newsletter!

The FSN Network News is a community newsletter, and we welcome your input. Let us know of upcoming events, new publications, and interesting articles. We also share new job openings, funding opportunities, calls for input, and photos. Email submissions to [news@fsnnetwork.org](mailto:news@fsnnetwork.org).

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## USDA Now Accepting Applications for the FY 2018 McGovern-Dole International Food for Education and Child Nutrition Program

The U.S. Department of Agriculture's Foreign Agricultural Service (FAS) is now accepting applications for the 2018 [McGovern-Dole International Food for Education and Child Nutrition program](#), which supports feeding of school-aged children, reduces hunger, promotes literacy (especially for girls), promotes food security and enhances nutrition for mothers and their children in low-income, food-deficit countries committed to education and school meals. The program provides U.S. commodities and financial and technical assistance to achieve these goals. While McGovern-Dole projects are typically funded for five years, all projects in this announcement will be funded subject to availability of a fiscal year 2018 budget for McGovern-Dole.

USDA has prioritized the following countries: Burkina Faso, Cameroon, Egypt, Ethiopia, Guatemala, Malawi, Senegal, Sierra Leone, Sri Lanka, and Timor Leste. FAS will also review submissions for non-prioritized countries.

Eligibility information, applicant requirements, and specific country guidance are all detailed within the [Notice of Funding Opportunity](#). **Applications are due Friday, March 30, 2018 at 5:00 p.m. EDT.**

[Learn more here!](#)

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## Register Now! FAQR Shares Evidence on the Effectiveness and Cost-Effectiveness of Supplementary Foods in the Prevention of Malnutrition in Children

**Wednesday, January 31, 2018 | 8:30 AM - 5:00 PM EST**

Join the Food Aid Quality Review (FAQR) project, funded by USAID's Office of Food for Peace and implemented by Tufts University Friedman School of Nutrition Science and Policy with partners ACIDI/VOCA, Save the Children and IRSS (Institut de Recherche en Sciences de la Sante) for a dissemination of research results. The results will focus on the effectiveness and cost-effectiveness of four supplementary foods in the prevention of stunting and wasting in children 6 to 23 months in a supplementary feeding program in Sanmantenga Province,

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## Featured Resource

### Constant Gardeners: An Impact Assessment of Permagardens in Karamoja, Uganda - A Climate Smart Agriculture Approach

This report from BRACED (Building Resilience and Adaptation to Climate Extremes and Disasters) presents results of an impact assessment of the program's permagarden activities in Karamoja, Uganda. The objective of the study was to assess the impact of the permagardens in terms of production, utilization and knowledge transfers. The assessment was carried out in May 2017, roughly 3 months after the program began establishing permagardens, and during the hunger period which runs from January to June (FAO, 2010). The study results are encouraging as they show high uptake and application of the permagarden techniques being promoted by the program. Study participants also found the program's permagarden training to be useful giving it a median score of 9 out of a maximum possible score of 10. The results also show that the permagardens have provided participating households with food security, income and savings benefits that have enabled them to better cope with climate shocks and stresses.

[Click here to view the document.](#)

## Job Postings

- [Senior Advisor for Community Health and Civil Society Engagement](#) based in Washington, DC with CORE Group
- [Communications and Knowledge Manager](#) based in Washington, DC with CORE Group
- [Advisor, Water Sanitation Hygiene \(WASH\)](#) based in Washington, DC with Save the Children
- [Senior Data and Learning Advisor](#) based in Portland, Oregon with Mercy Corps
- [Senior M&E Specialist](#) based in Ouagadougou, Burkina Faso with HKI
- [Strategic Coordination & Learning Advisor](#) based in Ouagadougou, Burkina Faso with HKI
- [Senior Gender Advisor](#) based in Ouagadougou, Burkina Faso with HKI
- [Cash Preparedness Delegate](#) based in Abuja, Nigeria with British Red Cross
- [Nutrition Technical Advisor](#) based in New York with IRC
- [Chief of Party](#) based in Niamey, Niger with CARE
- [Strategic Coordination and Learning Advisor](#) based in Niamey, Niger with CARE
- [Senior M&E Advisor](#) based in Niamey, Niger with CARE
- [Program Assistant, Humanitarian Assistance & Resilience/ Food, Nutrition, Livelihood & Security](#) based in Washington, DC with Project Concern International
- [Development Associate/Officer](#) based in Washington, DC with Promundo

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## Funding & Other Opportunities

### **Two Funded PhD Opportunities on Environmental Impacts of Canadian Food Choices | Rolling Deadline**

University of Waterloo (starting ASAP) and Dalhousie University (starting Fall 2018). Are you interested in sustainable and healthy diets, addressing food security, and the challenge of eating within planetary boundaries? Professor Goretty Dias, of the Faculty of Environment, University of Waterloo, and Professor Peter Tyedmers of the School for Resource and Environmental Studies, Dalhousie University, are looking for keen PhD students with a track record of successful research at the Masters level who enjoy engaging in multi-disciplinary research. Students will join a newly established, SSHRC-funded project. [Learn more here!](#)

### **The Global Nutrition Report Independent Expert Group | Deadline: January 25, 2018**

The Stakeholder Group of the Global Nutrition Report (GNR) is calling for nominations to the Independent Expert Group (IEG). The IEG is responsible for drafting the report, led by the co-chairs. It ensures the quality of the data, develops the narrative around the data, and is held accountable for the quality and independence of the GNR and the process that produces it. The length of appointment on the IEG is three years, with possibility of extension. The IEG is looking for a breadth of experience that cover urban and rural opportunities and challenges; experience across all income countries including high-, middle- and low-income countries; those who have a deep understanding of the multiple malnutrition vulnerabilities; and programmatic, policy or research/methods/evaluation experience. [Learn more here!](#)

### **2018 Ideas for Action Call for Proposals | Deadline: February 28, 2018**

Ideas for Action, a joint program of the World Bank and the Zicklin Center for Business Ethics Research at the Wharton School, is a youth competition centered around financing sustainable development. Every year, students and young professionals from around the world participate to design ideas for financing and implementing the Sustainable Development Goals. Winners of the competition present their ideas during the IMF & World Bank Annual Meetings, receive support from a dedicated startup accelerator at the Wharton School, and benefit from unique networking opportunities with other young leaders as well as some of the most senior decision-makers in international development, academia, and the private sector. [Learn more here!](#)

### **Food Systems for Healthy and Sustainable Diets Course | Deadline: April 23, 2018**

Food systems considers all the actors, elements and activities that relate to primary producing, processing, distributing, preparing and consuming food and waste disposal; and the socio-economic and environmental outcomes of these activities. The course explores food systems from a dietary perspective and discuss which components are related to the diet gaps for different populations groups at national, regional and global level. It discusses possible actions to be taken to transform the food system for addressing the gaps and how these actions can be leveraged in a sustainable way. The training targets staff of governmental and non-governmental organisations. The course is job-oriented and the training approach is interactive, experience as well as evidence-based: it provides the participants with the possibility to learn from expert facilitators as well as from each other. Transfer of knowledge goes hand in hand with case studies, working groups, etc. A mix of participants with different backgrounds, yet common interests, will provide a good basis for the exchange of experiences. [Learn more here!](#)

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## Upcoming Events

[Balancing the Systems: Making Food & Market Systems Work for Nutrition](#): ACDI/VOCA and Agribusiness

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[Cash Transfer Programming \(CTP\) - The Fundamentals](#): Cash Learning Partnership and International Rescue Committee; January 25; New York

[Economics of Resilience: An Ounce of Prevention, A Pound of Cure](#): Agrilinks; January 25, Online

[Youth Required: Building Resilient Food Systems for a Sustainable World](#): The Hunger Project and IFPRI; January 25; Washington, DC and Online

[Water for Food International Forum: Farmer-Led Irrigated Agriculture](#): World Bank; January 29; Washington, DC

[Symposium on Irrigation in African Smallholder Farming Systems](#): USAID Feed the Future International Laboratory for Small-Scale Irrigation (ILSSI); January 31; Washington, DC

[Trade-Based Solutions to Food Insecurity](#): Microlinks and Agrilinks; January 31, Online

[Evidence on the Effectiveness and Cost-Effectiveness of Supplementary Foods in the Prevention of Malnutrition in Children: Presentation of the Research Findings for the Food Aid Quality Review \(FAQR\) III Study in Burkina Faso](#): FAQR, ACDI/VOCA, Save the Children and IRSS (Institut de Recherche en Sciences de la Sante); January 31; Washington, DC

[More Events](#)

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## New Reports, Guides & Tools

[Pulses for nutrition in India: Changing patterns from farm to fork](#) from IFPRI

[How many people will an intervention reach?](#) from A4NH

[Mainstreaming Agrobiodiversity in Sustainable Food Systems](#) from Bioversity International

[The risks of multiple breadbasket failures in the 21st century](#) from IFPRI

[Shaping the future of livestock](#) from UN FAO

[Can Market Systems Development Build Resilience in Fragile Contexts?](#) from Mercy Corps

[Shifting Nutrition and Hygiene Behaviors in Sierra Leone Utilizing Trials of Improved Practices](#) from SPRING

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## Recent Articles

["Freedom of Crop Choice" Brings Prosperity to Myanmar's Farmers](#) from Innovation Lab for Food Security Policy

[Mobilizing Science and Partnerships to Boost Irrigation and Food Security in Bangladesh](#) from Agrilinks

[Rural Bangladeshis finding their way to better nutrition](#) from The World Bank

[Youth Leadership is a Win-Win for Nicaraguan Coffee Communities](#) from Agrilinks

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[Award-winning Nepalese Farmers Grow Bananas to Avert Floods](#) from Reuters

[The U.N.'s Terrible Dilemma: Who Gets to Eat?](#) from NPR

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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](mailto:news@fsnnetwork.org).

The TOPS Program was made possible by the generous support and contribution of the American people through the United States Agency for International Development (USAID). The contents of this newsletter do not necessarily reflect the views of USAID or the United States Government.

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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