

Updates from Food for Peace, upcoming trainings and events in food security, new job openings, and more.

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#### VIDEO OF THE WEEK

[This video](#) by USAID tells a story about Ruma, a fish farmer from Bangladesh who is able to transform her family's life. With the money she earns by selling fish, she can now pay for her son's education, food, clothes, healthcare and other expenses.

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

#### DID YOU KNOW...

Unpredictable rainfall patterns and increases in temperatures have a negative effect on crop production and are decreasing yields for food crops including pulses, oilseeds, and cereals by **up to 60%**. Learn more from this [infographic](#) on how the [SNV Netherlands Development Organisation](#) is making agriculture climate smart.

## IDEAL Activity Announcement

### Learn about IDEAL and meet the Director

The **Implementer-Led Design, Evidence, Analysis and Learning (IDEAL)** Activity was formally issued at the end of 2018 and is now in full swing planning for its first program year. IDEAL is a five-year Leader with Associate Award, funded by USAID's Office of Food for Peace (FFP) and implemented by a consortium of four partner organizations (Save the Children, the Kaizen Company, Mercy Corps, and TANGO International).

The IDEAL Activity was announced through the FSN Network earlier this week. Learn more about IDEAL and how you can engage with this activity moving forward [here](#).

The infographic features the USAID logo at the top left. The main title is 'IDEAL - Implementer-led Design, Evidence, Analysis & Learning'. Below the title, there is a photograph of a group of women in a kitchen setting. The infographic is divided into several sections: 'What is IDEAL?', 'What can IDEAL do for its stakeholders?', 'CAPACITY STRENGTHENING', 'FIELD TO FIELD LEARNING', 'SMALL SCALE PROGRAM', 'STAKEHOLDER COOPERATION', 'IDEAL Quick Facts', and 'How can stakeholders engage with IDEAL?'. The 'What is IDEAL?' section states that IDEAL is an activity funded by the USAID Office of Food for Peace (FFP) that seeks to support the United States Government's goal of improving food and nutrition security among the world's most vulnerable households and communities. The 'What can IDEAL do for its stakeholders?' section lists four pathways: Capacity Strengthening, Field to Field Learning, Small Scale Program, and Stakeholder Cooperation. The 'IDEAL Quick Facts' section lists the duration (7 years (2018-2025)), the consortium (Save the Children, The Kaizen Company, Mercy Corps, TANGO International), and the key stakeholders (USAID, FFP implementing partners, USAID, USAID/FFP staff in the field and headquarters, Private sector, Host government, International, policy makers, Academics, and Other organizations and organizations engaged in food and nutrition security activities). The 'How can stakeholders engage with IDEAL?' section provides instructions on how to get involved, such as attending meetings, providing input, and sharing information.

## Comment on the 2019 Draft International Relief Partnership Request for Applications

USAID's Office of Food for Peace has published the [2019 Draft International Relief Partnership \(IFRP\) Request for Applications \(RFA\)](#). This is in support of FFP's Title II IFRP grant program. Please note that the overall purpose of the Draft 2019 IFRP RFA document is for comment only, for a 30 calendar day time frame. **Comments are due Monday, April 1, 2019.**

FFP expects to publish a Final 2019 IFRP RFA for a period of an additional 30 calendar days thereafter for grant applications from private voluntary organizations, both US and non-US (PVOs/NGOs), and, Public International Organizations (PIOs) for the transportation, delivery, and distribution of shelf-stable prepackaged commodities. Please see page 9, Section III, of the attached IFRP RFA document for a complete explanation of eligible applicants.

All questions and/or requests for additional information regarding the [Draft 2019 IFRP RFA](#) should be addressed to Ben Vogler at the following address: [IFRP@usaid.gov](mailto:IFRP@usaid.gov).

## From Off-farm to Non-farm: Weeding through Alternative Livelihoods Definitions

Blog post from SCALE



Photo: Sean Sheridan/Mercy Corps

[What's in a name?](#) From 'formal work' to the 'informal economy,' 'self-employment' to 'entrepreneurship,' and 'off-farm' to 'non-farm' livelihoods, alternative livelihoods terminology can be confusing. The blurred lines of income classification can be even more challenging within food security initiatives that operate in unpredictable environments, where constantly shifting work opportunities within agriculture and beyond are the norm. [This blog](#), produced by [SCALE](#), discusses and clarifies definitions for some of these terms.

To weigh in on these definitions, discuss their influence on program design and evaluation, and learn more about SCALE's alternative livelihoods strategy, please join Mercy Corps, Save the Children and the USAID/Office of Food for Peace on **Thursday, March 7 at 9am EST** for a webinar: [What's in a Name? From on-farm to non-farm livelihoods and everything in between.](#)

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## Featured Resource

### Toolkit: Understanding and addressing equality, non-discrimination and inclusion in water, sanitation, and hygiene (WASH) work

The WaterAid 'Equality and Inclusion Toolkit' aims to help WASH practitioners leave no one behind. It provides users with practical guidance and support on reducing inequalities in program and advocacy work. It introduces the most important equality, non-discrimination and inclusion principles, and includes practical activities, tools and checklists for application to work with partners and communities. This toolkit gives real examples and many practical tools for all stages of the program cycle and advocacy work.

The toolkit is available in English, Portuguese, and French. Download it from the FSN Network Resource Library [here](#).



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## Job Postings

- [Food Security and Resilience Specialist](#) based in Washington, DC with RTI International
- [Gender and Youth Advisor](#) based in Washington, DC with USAID Food for Peace
- [Award Manager](#) based in Washington, DC with the IDEAL Activity
- [Monitoring, Evaluation, Research, Learning and Adapting Specialist, Food Security and Agriculture](#) based in Washington, DC with RTI International
- [Senior Food Security Technical Advisor](#) based in Washington, DC with Mercy Corps on the IDEAL Activity
- [Monitoring, Evaluation, and Learning Lead for Development Food Security Activities](#) based in Niamey, Niger with CRS
- [Food Security Specialist](#) based Worldwide with CARE
- [Program Associate- Food Security and Agriculture](#) based in Washington, DC with RTI International
- [Technical Director of Agriculture and Food Security](#) based in Silver Spring, Maryland with Global Communities
- [Consultancy, Sanitation Marketing](#) based remotely with PRO-WASH
- [Consultancy, Water Quality Monitoring](#) based remotely with PRO-WASH

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## Funding & Other Opportunities

[Call for Proposals to Present: Cracking the Nut 2019](#) | **Deadline: March 22, 2019**

The Cracking the Nut Advisory Committee invites interested persons to submit proposals to present at the Cracking the Nut 2019: Leveraging Systems for Improved Food Security conference. This conference's core

themes for the breakout sessions are: **Reducing Systemic Risks, Improving Health, Nutrition and Access to Clean Water, and Increasing Inclusion in Commercial Markets.**

For additional information regarding conference proposals, please contact [crackingthenut@connexus.email](mailto:crackingthenut@connexus.email)

[Call for Applications: Information Technology Master's Degree for African Policy Makers](#) | **Deadline: April 9, 2019**

The African Development Institute of the African Development Bank is implementing the next African Global IT Leaders Program under the Korea-Africa Economic Cooperation (KOAFEC) Knowledge Sharing Program (KSP). The objective of the program is to create a critical mass of highly trained professionals in ICT across the African continent. This two-year Masters degree program in Information Technology provides integrated courses focused on the IT technologies and Korean business strategies. It also offers opportunities for networking with Korean IT industrial companies through classes and seminars, field trips to traditional sites to experience Korean culture and history, and on-site workshops at IT companies.

[Call for Submissions: 2019 Collaborating, Learning and Adapting Case Competition](#) | **Deadline: April 12, 2019**

The annual Collaborating, Learning and Adapting (CLA) Case Competition captures real-life case studies of USAID staff and implementing partners using a CLA approach for organizational learning and better development outcomes. This is not a call for traditional success stories; USAID Learning Lab wants to hear what's working well, what you're struggling with, and what you've learned along the way. It can be about something big, or about one small practice that made an important difference to your work. All eligible case studies will be featured on USAID Learning Lab and may be shared via communications channels such as their blog, and on Twitter.

The competition is open to all types of individuals and organizations working with USAID.

[Call for Proposals: Support Commodity Development Activities](#) | **Deadline: April 15, 2019**

The Common Fund for Commodities (CFC) is inviting applications for support of commodity development activities in its member countries. Through a range of financial instruments, the CFC seeks to support business activities in the field of commodity development. The intervention should, besides giving a sound financial return, also provide for a measurable social and environmental return. Project proposals that incorporate innovative ideas in the field of agriculture technology and include more sustainable ways of production are especially expected to be submitted.

[Call for Nominations: 2019 Africa Food Prize](#) | **Deadline: May 14, 2019**

The Africa Food Prize celebrates Africans who are taking control of the continent's agriculture agenda and changing the reality of farming in Africa from a struggle to survive to a business that thrives. It puts a bright spotlight on bold initiatives and technical innovations that can be replicated across the continent

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## Upcoming Events

[Save the Date: The Future of Resilient Agriculture: Cultivating Self-Reliance in Emergency & Development Contexts](#): SCALE; May 8-9; Washington, DC

[What's in a name? From on-farm to non-farm livelihoods and everything in between](#): SCALE; March 7; Online

[Beneficiary Data Protection in Asia](#): Asia Regional Cash Working Group (RCWG) and the Cash Learning Partnership (CaLP); March 7; Online

[BE.Hive: Climate Change Needs Behavior Change](#): Rare; March 19; Washington, DC

[Cash and Livelihoods Training](#): The Cash Learning Partnership (CaLP); April 5; Washington, DC

[Ending Global Hunger Colloquium](#): Purdue University; April 10-11; West Lafayette, IN

[Water for a Hungry World- Innovation in Water and Food Security](#): University of Nebraska; April 29-30; Lincoln, NE

### [More Events](#)

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## **New Reports, Guides & Tools**

[Food Assistance Fact Sheet - Nigeria](#) from USAID FFP

[Food Assistance Fact Sheet - Cameroon](#) from USAID FFP

[The State of the World's Biodiversity for Food and Agriculture](#) from FAO

[Towards Zero Hunger in Nepal- A Strategic Review of Food Security & Nutrition](#) from Government of Nepal and WFP

[Agriculture and Climate Change](#) from FAO

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## **Recent Articles**

[Hens, Health and Heart](#) from USAID FFP

[Empowered Orphaned Girls to Become Community Leaders](#) from Feed the Future

[Building sustainability in rural Mozambique](#) from WFP

[Responding to Venezuela's Health Crisis](#) from USAID/OFDA

[Nutrition Exchange- Issue 11](#) from Emergency Nutrition Network

[Malawi: WFP to Distribute K321 M to Food Insecure Families in Salima](#) from AllAfrica

[Once neglected, these traditional crops are our new rising stars](#) from FAO

[Climate pioneers: How Small Farmers could be Leading the Way towards Sustainable Agriculture](#) from The Conversation

[Growing Resilience with Sweet Potatoes in Nepal](#) from Feed the Future

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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.



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