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#### PHOTO OF THE WEEK

Submitted by [Save the Children](#)

Irrigation as part of the WALA (Wellness and Agriculture for Life Advancement) Program in Malawi, led by CRS.

Submit your photos to [news@fsnnetwork.org](mailto:news@fsnnetwork.org) to be featured in the next newsletter.

#### DID YOU KNOW...

A new online resource, the [Value Chains](#)

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initiative is led by CGIAR Research Program on Policies, Institutions, and Markets.

## See Your Words Here

The FSN Network News is a community newsletter, and we welcome your input. If you know of a relevant upcoming event, you're releasing a new publication, or you come across a cool article, send it our way for inclusion in an upcoming newsletter. 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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## Reminder: FFP Draft Budget Matrix for Comment

The [draft Food for Peace Budget Matrix](#), similar to the matrix included in FFPIB 12-03, is available for your review and comment. FFP would greatly appreciate receiving consolidated comments on the Food for Peace Budget Matrix from the representative groups of the FACG.

The comment period will last for 45 days from the date materials are released. Therefore, comments are due no later than noon on Monday, September 29. However, please do not wait until the last day to submit comments and inquiries. Comments should be submitted to [facg@amexdc2.com](mailto:facg@amexdc2.com).

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## From the Online Community: Proposed Changes to the FFP FY 2016 RFA Process

Food for Peace hopes to explore the strengths and weaknesses of the development RFA process and improve it based on your ideas and brainstorming. We invite you to view some of the proposed changes to the FY 2016 RFA for Development Food Assistance Programs and share your thoughts and insights with Food for Peace in this [online discussion](#).

View the discussion and share your thoughts at [fsnnetwork.org](http://fsnnetwork.org).

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## Join I-SMART Version 2.0 Working Group

**September 16, 2014**  
**Washington, DC**

ACDI/VOCA was [recently awarded](#) a [TOPS grant](#) for I-SMART version 2.0. The objective of I-SMART v 2.0 is to enhance the Information System for Management, Analysis, & Reporting Timeliness (I-SMART), which was originally developed and funded under TOPS as a data collection and management system to be used in multisectoral project management and reporting.

ACDI/VOCA welcomes and encourages further comments as they continue to refine the database to best meet the needs of Title II implementers. You are invited to participate in a smaller working group that will communicate frequently and incorporate feedback in a timely, consistent manner.

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DC) to discuss the purpose of the working group, anticipated level of effort, as well as an initial schedule for follow-on meetings and communications.

Efforts will be made to do coordination via skype or phone, thus facilitating greater participation. Please RSVP to Maby Palmisano at [mpalmisano@activoca.org](mailto:mpalmisano@activoca.org) by September 10, 2014.

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## Food for Peace Co-Sponsoring SEEP Conference

**September 22 - 25, 2014**

**Washington, DC**

USAID's Microenterprise and Private Enterprise Promotion (MPEP) and Food for Peace (FFP) offices are excited to come together to co-sponsor the [Push/Pull track](#) at [SEEP's 2014 Annual Conference](#). Jointly, these two offices have been giving increasing attention to the modalities—in design and implementation—around how the most vulnerable and impoverished households reached by their programming can be more sustainably and incrementally integrated into markets. The FSN Network will also be partnering with SEEP, to ensure that our learning communities come together around these topics year round.

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## Sustainable Impact Resource Guide Workshop

**October 14, 2014**

**Washington, DC**

Join PCI for a 1-day TOPS-funded workshop to share PCI's Resource Guide for Enhancing Potential for Sustainable Impact. Participants will be oriented to this brand new, practical Guide designed to improve program design and implementation for maximum sustainable impact.

Learn more and RSVP [here](#).

Learn more about how a TOPS micro grant can support your learning event at [thetopsprogram.org](http://thetopsprogram.org).

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## Featured Resource

### Agroecological Risk and Resilience Screening Tool

Mercy Corps has released version 1.0 of their Agroecological Risk and Resilience Screening Tool. The overall goal of this tool is to support sustainable agricultural productivity for smallholder farmers with a long-term vision towards resilience. Utilizing a food system perspective and agroecological principles, the tool is designed to guide food security and agriculture practitioners through a series of inquiries into how proposed interventions may affect the natural resource capital of smallholder farmers. The tool will assist teams in the field and technical experts in identifying opportunities to leverage and maximize available resources in resource-scarce environments and to avoid undermining these resources over the long term. The intended result is improved programs that enhance producer yields and the resilience of productive, sustainable agroecosystems and the households, markets and food systems which rely on them.

View the tool [here](#), and send comments to Gregory Scarborough, Senior Advisor for Food Security and Nutrition, at [gscarborough@bos.mercycorps.org](mailto:gscarborough@bos.mercycorps.org).

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AGROECOLOGICAL RISK AND RESILIENCE SCREENING TOOL  
 GUIDANCE FOR CONSIDERING AGROECOLOGICAL IMPACT OF AGRICULTURE INTERVENTIONS AND  
 IDENTIFYING OPPORTUNITIES TO BUILD RESILIENCE IN FOOD SYSTEMS  
 Version 1.0 for Field Testing and Consultation

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## Job Postings

- [Food Security and Market Advisor](#) based in WDC with USAID Office of Food for Peace
- [Foreign Service Environment Officer](#) based in WDC with USAID
- [Technical Advisor - Nutrition/Child Health](#) based in WDC with PSI
- [Practice Manager, Food Security and Resilience](#) based in WDC with Land O'Lakes International Development
- [Senior Agricultural Officer](#) based in Juba, South Sudan with FAO
- [Research Associate/Program Manager, TCI Program](#) based in Ithaca, NY with Cornell University
- [Chief of Party, Growth Health and Governance Program](#) based in Uganda with Mercy Corps
- [Consultancy: Linking Nutrition and \(Integrated\) Community Case Management \(iCCM/CCM\): A Review of Operational Experiences](#) with ACF International
- [Emergency Response Officer](#) based in DRC with WFP
- [Nutritionist](#) based in South Sudan with WFP
- [Senior Technical Advisor for Resilience](#) based in Baltimore with Lutheran World Relief
- [Program Associate, Monitoring & Evaluation](#) based in Baltimore with Lutheran World Relief
- [Program Officer, Livelihoods in Emergencies](#) based in NYC with Women's Refugee Commission
- [Gender Research Associate Scientist](#) based in Lima, Peru with International Potato Center

## Task Force Meetings

Newcomers are welcome! Learn more about Task Forces [here](#).

[Agriculture](#): Thursday, September 18th at 11:00AM EDT

## Funding & Other Opportunities

[Apply for a grant](#) through the TOPS Small Grants Program - Awarded on a rolling basis. Under the

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[Submit full proposals](#) for horticultural research projects to the **Feed the Future Innovation Lab for Collaborative Research on Horticulture - Due September 30, 2014**. Research projects should be related to postharvest handling, nutrition, and gender/social equity.

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## Upcoming Events

[Pathways to Market Inclusion for Women: Experience in Gender-Sensitive Push/Pull Strategies from CARE and ACDI/VOCA](#): SEEP; September 10, 2014; Online

[Building Resilience in the Face of Climate Change and Weather Shocks](#): Chicago Council on Global Affairs, IFPRI; September 11, 2014; WDC

[International Symposium on Agroecology for Food and Nutrition Security](#): FAO; September 18 - 19, 2014; Rome, Italy

[SEEP 2014 Annual Conference: Scaling Impact in Inclusive Market Systems](#): SEEP; September 22 - 25, 2014; WDC

[Edgar S. McFadden Inaugural Symposium on Wheat Improvement](#): South Dakota State University; September 23 - 24, 2014; Brookings, South Dakota

### [More Events](#)

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## Online Discussion

[Policy Outreach and Communications - What Works for Improving Food Security and Nutrition at the Country Level?](#) from Global Forum on Food Security and Nutrition

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## New Publications, Guides & Tools

[Biofortification Progress Briefs](#) from HarvestPlus

[Africa Agriculture Status Report 2014](#) from Alliance for a Green Revolution in Africa (AGRA)

[Review of Gender and Value Chain Analysis, Development and Evaluation Toolkits](#) from International Livestock Research Institute

[Moving Together to the Market: The Clustering Approach to Agroenterprise Development for Small Farmers](#) from CRS

[Missing Women: Gender and the Extreme Poverty Debate](#) from USAID

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[Men Can Address Malnutrition by Facilitating Women's Empowerment](#) from Microlinks

[Ebola is Taking a Second Toll, on Economies](#) from The New York Times

[Food Crisis Prompts South Sudan Reggae Band to Sing Songs of Farming](#) from The Guardian

[Over One Million People in Somalia Face Acute Food Insecurity as Food Crisis Worsens](#) from FAO

[Another Milestone Toward Making Cell Phones the Future of Weather Observations](#) from Washington Post

[Africa's Farmers Face "Failed Seasons" Risk](#) from BBC

[Humans of New York Blogger Hits the Road for World Tour](#) from The Guardian

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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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