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#### VIDEO OF THE WEEK

Submitted by FHI 360

Countries around the world have been combating hunger and food insecurity for decades, yet these problems persist. In this video, Tricia Petruney, Technical Advisor for Research Utilization at FHI 360, discusses the multiple causes of food insecurity, including climate change and political instability. She also talks about the complexities of addressing food insecurity, underscoring the need for a multisectoral, integrated approach that takes into account the interconnections among climate, poverty, health, nutrition, and gender dynamics. [Watch it here!](#)

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

#### DID YOU KNOW...

The World Bank's Session "Spotlight on Nutrition: Unlocking Human Potential and Economic Growth" on April 22 was recorded, and you can watch the session and view the comments and related

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[#InvestInNutrition.](#)

## 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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## Registration Now Open! TOPS/FSN Network Knowledge Sharing Meeting - Successes, Challenges, and the Way Forward: Seven Years of Community Building

July 19-20, 2017

Washington Plaza Hotel, 10 Thomas Circle NW, Washington, DC 20005



Join us for the final TOPS/FSN Network Knowledge Sharing Meeting on July 19-20, 2017 in Washington, DC! As we look back over the past seven years of The TOPS Program, we look forward to engaging in productive discussions about our collective accomplishments and innovations, lessons learned, and ways in which the greater food security and nutrition community can keep advancing in the years to come.

[Register Now](#)

We hope you will join The TOPS Program for this unforgettable capstone event. If you have any questions about the Knowledge Sharing Meeting, please email [events@fsnnetwork.org](mailto:events@fsnnetwork.org), and [learn more about the meeting here](#).

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## How Much is the Picture Worth? Reviewing On-Farm Demos in Agriculture Extension

Thursday, May 4, 2017 | 9:30 AM - 11:00 AM EST

Mercy Corps, 1111 19th Street NW, Suite 650, Washington, DC 20036

Demonstration sites are an important element of any agriculture extension system. Well managed demonstrations can play a critical role in enabling farmers to learn and adopt innovative farming practices. On the flipside, poorly managed demonstration sites can dissuade farmers from adopting new practices. Despite

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development programs on how to improve the management and enhance the impact of these sites.

Against this background, World Vision recently completed an assessment funded by the USAID Food for Peace-funded TOPS Small Grants Program, aimed at developing guidelines for improving the management of agriculture demonstration sites. The study included a review of prevailing practices across food security programs in Bangladesh, Niger and Zimbabwe, as well as consultations with practitioners and stakeholders from over 30 organizations who are involved in implementing agriculture demonstration sites globally.

During this seminar, World Vision will share findings from the assessment highlighting key challenges, lessons learned, best practices and recommendations for improving management of on-farm demos. The seminar will provide an opportunity to reflect on factors influencing knowledge transfer and behavior change in agriculture development. The event will also serve as a platform for discussing opportunities to strengthen the technical and operational efficiency of key elements in agriculture extension systems.

[Learn more and register here!](#)

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## Animal Source Foods for Nutrition Impact: Evidence and Good Practices for Informed Project Design Workshop

Thursday, May 4, 2017

Online

Land O'Lakes International Development and the International Livestock Research Institute are pleased to announce a webinar option for the upcoming Animal Source Foods for Nutrition Impact: Evidence and Good Practices for Informed Project Design Workshop. This one-day event will be held on the ILRI Nairobi campus from 8:30am to 5:00pm Thursday May 4th. Due to limited space, the in-person workshop is by invitation only, however we will be streaming portions of the day as a webinar (and will also have videos available later).

The webinar will stream during the day from approximately 8:45 AM- 5PM East Africa Time (6:45 AM-3PM GMT). A detailed agenda will be shared with webinar registrants prior to the event, so they can tune in to sessions they are most interested in.

[Learn more and register here!](#)

*This event is the fourth and final event in a [year long, USAID/FFP TOPS funded learning series on Livestock, Animal Source Foods and Household Nutrition](#), organized by Land O'Lakes International Development in collaboration with the International Livestock Research Institute.*

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## M&E Technical Briefs - Feedback Requested

Give your Feedback by Friday, May 12, 2017!

The TOPS Program is launching a series of technical briefs to provide M&E staff working on FFP Development Food Assistance Programs (DFAPs & DFSAs) with practical "how-to" guidance. We need your input to help choose priority topics that will be the focus of these briefs, which are intended to complement existing FFP M&E guidance and TOPS resources. The briefs will also provide links to other more-detailed resources and recommended tools designed for M&E practitioners.

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Please take a few minutes to choose the topics you would most like addressed in a TOPS M&E technical brief. **We appreciate your feedback by Friday, May 12.**

Contact Karyn Fox ([kfox@tangointernational.com](mailto:kfox@tangointernational.com)) with any questions or comments. You can take the survey to provide your feedback [here](#).

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## Commodity Management Toolkit Feedback

Last month, The TOPS Program launched the [Commodity Management Toolkit](#), a one-step operational guide for anyone working on programs using food commodity. It provides staff quick access to the specific information they need on minimum requirements, whenever and wherever they need it. The toolkit is a set of interconnected flowcharts that provide a road map of the entire commodity management (CM) process - from project start-up through close-out - in simple steps.

**We are seeking feedback on the toolkit! To help us improve the CM Toolkit, please send any comments, suggestions, or recommendations to [cmtoolkit@savechildren.org](mailto:cmtoolkit@savechildren.org).**



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## Translating Technology to People: Empowering Communities with Blockchain as a Tool in Aid Delivery

**Monday, May 22, 2017 | 8:30 AM - 10:30 AM EST**

**InterAction, 1400 16th Street NW #210, Washington, DC 20036**

Originally created to enable the digital currency Bitcoin, blockchain technology has garnered attention by creating new opportunities beyond currency for organizations in all sectors. The blockchain has the potential to transform the development sector by improving transparency and traceability, and thus enabling cost savings. The distribution logic behind blockchain can offer new insights into development while providing a new tool for solving some of the challenges that plague delivery.

An introductory guide to blockchain technology and the benefits of the technology in development will be provided, together with a discussion of case studies in the development sector that have utilized blockchain in current delivery models to illustrate possibilities for future integration.

Please RSVP to [admin.northamerica@cashlearning.org](mailto:admin.northamerica@cashlearning.org)

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## Institutionalizing Cash and Vouchers in Response. Experience-sharing on how Organizations are Adapting to the Evolving Humanitarian Landscape

Wednesday, May 31, 2017 | 9:00 AM - 4:00 PM EST

SEIU, 1800 Massachusetts Avenue NW, Washington, DC 20036

Cash transfers and voucher programs have been used for many years in humanitarian work, but many organizations are just now beginning to understand how deeply these modalities affect how humanitarian organizations operate. Cash transfers and vouchers are changing how systems and the humanitarian architecture itself respond to disasters. Cash transfers and vouchers are changing how humanitarian organizations relate both to each other and to their beneficiaries. At the same time, the technology being employed for cash, voucher, and in-kind programs is changing quickly. While technology is allowing more widespread deployment of cash and vouchers in novel forms, at the same time, the collection of more monitoring data and the move to digital systems have led to new challenges in how to best deliver humanitarian assistance.

Case studies of a CaLP's Strengthen Institutional Capacity (SIC) work with Relief International (RI) and Project Concern International (PCI) will be presented along with the Organizational Cash Readiness Tool (OCRT), which was revised through this work. Similarly, the American Red Cross (ARC) and the International Rescue Committee (IRC) will present on some of the ways they are increasing and monitoring their institutional readiness to deliver cash and vouchers in emergencies. The event will be interactive with plenty of opportunities to share experiences, to discuss the difficulties of becoming digital, the difficulties of providing more cash, and the changing humanitarian landscape.

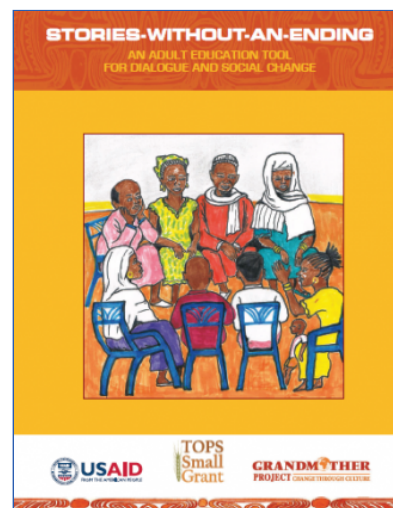
Please RSVP to [admin.northamerica@cashlearning.org](mailto:admin.northamerica@cashlearning.org)

## Featured Resource

### Stories Without An Ending: An Adult Education Tool for Dialogue and Social Change

The purpose of this guide is to help organizations involved in community programs to develop and use the Stories Without An Ending (SWE) approach. This adult education tool can be used to actively engage community groups in discussion of issues of priority concern to them and/or to development programs and to catalyze discussion of those ideas in the wider community. The generic SWE methodology can be used to address a variety of issues dealing with maternal and child health and nutrition, as well as other questions related to early childhood development, adolescent health and well-being, and child protection.

SWE are open ended, without prescribed or set solutions to the problematic situations they present. An important aspect of the SWE is that they elicit debate on both existing and new ideas within small group, which in turn can catalyze discussion in the wider community and can ultimately result in community-wide consensus for change.



[Read more and view the document in the resource library at fsnnetwork.org.](#)

## Job Postings

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- [Youth Impact Lab Program Director](#) based in Amman, Jordan with Mercy Corps
- [Senior Technical Advisor for Food Security](#) based in Baltimore, Maryland with CRS
- [Agricultural/Seed System Data Set Manager](#) with CRS
- [Women's Protection and Empowerment Coordinator](#) based in Myanmar with IRC

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## Funding & Other Opportunities

### Summer 2017 Junior Associates Program: Women's Empowerment Program | [Applications due May 5, 2017](#)

In an increasingly complex and interconnected world, Asia plays a crucial global role. Would you be excited at the prospect of employing your knowledge and skills to improve lives, expand opportunities, and help societies flourish across this dynamic region? You could have this opportunity at The Asia Foundation. Informed by six decades of experience and deep local expertise, we address critical issues affecting Asia in the 21st century: governance and law, economic development, women's empowerment, environment, and regional cooperation. We work with innovative leaders and communities to build effective institutions and advance path-breaking reforms. Together with our partners, we are committed to Asia's continued development as a peaceful, just, and thriving region of the world. The Asia Foundation's Women's Empowerment Program team seeks a Junior Associate (JA) to work in our Washington, DC office during the summer 2017 program period of June 19 – September 8, 2017.

### Africa Food Prize 2017 | [Nominations due June 5, 2017](#)

The Africa Food Prize is the preeminent award recognizing an outstanding individual or institution that is leading the effort to change the reality of farming in Africa—from a struggle to survive to a business that thrives. The US \$100,000 prize celebrates Africans who are taking control of Africa's agriculture agenda. It puts a spotlight on bold initiatives and technical innovations that can be replicated across the continent to create a new era of food security and economic opportunity for all Africans.

### The USAID BAA for Sustainable Development in Sub-Saharan Africa | [Information Here](#)

This Broad Agency Announcement (BAA) seeks opportunities to co-create, co-design, co-invest, and collaborate in the research, development, piloting, testing, and scaling of innovative, practical and cost-effective interventions that address development challenges in Sub-Saharan Africa (SSA). The United States Agency for International Development (USAID) invites interested parties to participate with USAID to identify innovative thinking, best practices and promising programs that will create more strategic, focused, results-oriented, cost-effective and practical options that will further the US Government's goal of improving the impact of its policies and programs on Africa's poor. USAID, through the Bureau for Africa (USAID/AFR), aims to develop and test innovative, sustainable and cost-effective solutions that will accelerate progress towards eliminating extreme poverty in Sub-Saharan Africa. This BAA specifically seeks to incorporate new ideas that will directly and positively influence USAID's programs and policies, including, but not limited to, support for SSA institutions to deliver services and manage programs that contribute to sustainable development.

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## Task Force and Interest Group Meetings

[Commodity Management](#): Thursday, May 4; Project Concern International, 1140 Connecticut Ave NW, Suite 900, Washington, DC 20036

[Subscribe](#)[Past Issues](#)[Translate ▼](#)**TOPS Commodity Management Task Force Spring Meeting****Please join us**

at the TOPS Commodity Management Task Force (CMTF) spring meeting where we will share all materials, results and next steps from the January 2017 TOPS Integrated Pest and Fumigation Safety Training.

For more information on the January training, please visit: <http://www.fsnnetwork.org/integrated-pest-management-and-fumigation-safety-training>.

**Date & Time**

May 4, 2017 10:00am – 12:00pm ET

**Location**

PCI, Washington DC Office  
1140 Connecticut Avenue, NW, Suite 900  
Washington, DC 20036

**RSVP by May 1**

Please indicate if you want to participate remotely or in person.  
Email RSVP to: [fst@pciGLOBAL.org](mailto:fst@pciGLOBAL.org)  
Email Subject: RSVP for CMTF May 4



[Monitoring & Evaluation DC](#): Wednesday, May 10; Save the Children, 899 N. Capitol St. NE, Suite 900, Washington, DC 20002 & online

## Upcoming Events

[Facilitating Behavior Change: Market Systems and SBC Frameworks](#): ACDI/VOCA; May 3; online

[Pathways from Emergency e-Transfers to Financial Services](#): ELAN; May 3; Washington, DC

[Animal Source Foods for Nutrition Impact: Evidence and Good Practices for Informed Project Design Workshop](#): Land O' Lakes International Development and ILRI; May 4; Nairobi, Kenya and online

[CAADP Technical Networks: Building Capacity for Africa's Agricultural Development](#): CAADP; May 4; online

[How Much is the Picture Worth? Reviewing On-Farm Demos in Agriculture Extension](#): World Vision; May 5; Washington, DC and online

[Nutrition Impact and Positive Practice Dublin Launch](#): GOAL; May 5; Dublin, Ireland

[Breastfeeding Seminar: Protecting, Promoting, and Supporting Breastfeeding in the Field](#): The TOPS Program; May 9-11; Washington, DC

[CaLP Market Assessment Tools Training](#): CaLP; May 15-19; Baltimore, Maryland

[Reducing Childhood Stunting \(Nutrition-Specific E-Learning Opportunity\)](#): World Vision; May 15-July 7; Online

[From Big to Bigger! How Multisector Nutrition Programs can be Brought to Scale with Quality: Lessons from Nepal](#): May 16; online

[Permaculture for Resilience: A Design Certification Course for People Working in International Development](#): May 21-June 4; Maricopa, California

[Translating Technology to People: Empowering Communities with Blockchain as a Tool in Aid Delivery](#): CaLP; May 22; Washington, DC

[Women's Economic Empowerment Global Learning Forum](#): The SEEP Network; May 23-May 25; Bangkok,

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[Institutionalizing Cash and Vouchers in Response: Experience-sharing on how Organizations are Adapting to the Evolving Humanitarian Landscape](#): CaLP; May 31; Washington, DC

[More Events](#)

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## New Reports, Guides & Tools

[Resilience Measurement Practical Guidance Series: Guidance Note No. 1 - Risk & Resilience Assessments](#) from Mercy Corps, USAID Center for Resilience, and the REAL Project

[Gender and Climate Change: Gender, Climate, and Food Security](#) from GGCA and UNDP

[Global Report on Food Crisis 2017](#) from WFP

[Synthesis Report: Review of Successful Scaling of Agricultural Technologies](#) from USAID

[Toolkit](#) and [e-Learning Modules](#) on Nutrition-Sensitive Agriculture and Food Systems from FAO

[Understanding Gender and Power Relations in Home Garden Activities: Empowerment and Sustainable Home Garden Uptake](#) from Feed the Future

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## Recent Articles

[Syrian Farmers Sow Seeds of Hope in Mercy Corps' Agriculture Program](#) from Mercy Corps

[Small Farms: Stewards of Global Nutrition?](#) from Food Matters

[Six Megatrends that could Alter the Course of Sustainable Development](#) from The Guardian

[Young Africans Chart New Path for Agriculture as Climate Heats Up](#) from Reuters

[Digital Credit's Evolving Landscape: Three Things You Need to Know](#) from CGAP

[A New Agriculture App Could Usher in a 'Golden' Era for Myanmar Farmers](#) from Forbes

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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



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security and nutrition best practices. For more information about TOPS please click [here](#).



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