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

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FSN NETWORK NEWS

Your source for the latest in food security and nutrition

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VIDEO OF THE WEEK

Produced by SPRING

Recent evidence underscores the need for commitment from multiple sectors to end malnutrition. While the concept of increased coordination and collaboration across sectors is widely accepted, working across diverse disciplines with different missions has proven to be a challenge in many countries. SPRING developed a brief to document lessons learned from its work with Feed the Future USAID Missions and their implementing partners in Guatemala, Bangladesh, and Rwanda to strengthen their vision, plans, and approaches for coordination and collaboration around nutrition. This short animation describes the brief, focusing on key recommendations.

Submit photos or videos for future newsletters.

DID YOU KNOW...

The International Council for Science published a new guide on the relationships between the Sustainable Development

- Recent Articles

synergies between the Goals, including a detailed analysis of the interactions between SDG 2 (To end hunger, achieve food security and improved nutrition, and promote sustainable agriculture) and other Goals.

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.

Draft Agenda Now Available! 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.

View the draft agenda here**.** Please note the agenda is subject to change.

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, and **learn more about the meeting here**.

Recording Now Available!

At this stakeholder consultation, we discussed the Food for Peace 2016-2025 Strategy and what this means for the food security and nutrition implementing community. Participants brainstormed about what type of capacity strengthening may be needed to successfully implement under the new strategy. Key topics included working towards sustainability, strengthening local systems, and how to best integrate gender/youth, social cohesion, and social accountability into our work.

View the recording, the presentation slides, and learn more about the event here**.**

Make it clear! Learn how to write so your audience understands: A workshop for program and technical staff who want to improve their writing skills

Wednesday, June 14, 2017 | 9:30 AM - 11:00 AM EST
Save the Children, 899 N Capitol Street NE, 9th Floor, Washington, DC 20002 & online

When writing about technical concepts we often use complicated language and terminology that can limit our audience's understanding and adoption of our messages. And we all know it is easier to write lengthy texts over many pages, than to fit our ideas into a few, concise sentences. Attend this interactive session and receive practical tips and guidance on how to write in plain language that is consistent, accessible and easy to understand.

In 2010, President Obama signed the Plain Writing Act, a law that requires federal agencies to use "clear Government communication that the public can understand and use." The Plain Language Action and Information Network (PLAIN) is a community of federal employees dedicated to the idea that citizens deserve clear communications from government (see http://www.plainlanguage.gov/index.cfm). Jessica Hartl, Acting Strategic Communications Team Leader at the Office of Food for Peace, USAID, will lead this session to help participants improve their writing.

View the event page here!

Register Now

Pilot Monitoring for Cash and Voucher Programs Training: A One-Day Training on How to Monitor Humanitarian Cash and Voucher Program

Friday, June 16, 2017 | 9:00 AM - 5:00 PM EST
ACDI/VOCA 50 F Street NW, #1000, Washington, DC 20001

Cash Learning Partnership (CaLP) invites field staff who are new to monitoring humanitarian cash and voucher program to take this one-day course pilot. For the purposes of the pilot, we are seeking monitoring and evaluation (M&E) practitioners, preferably with experience monitoring emergency cash and voucher programs and will provide feedback on if the training, in its pilot phase, meets its objectives and how it can be improved.

By the end of the training, participants will be able to:

modalities of assistance
3. Outline the major steps needed to link indicators in the project's log frame /results framework/ project management plan (PMP) and design a monitoring system and plan
4. Describe the similarities and differences between monitoring cash, vouchers, and in-kind projects and programs

Please RSVP to: admin.northamerica@cashlearning.org**.** A light breakfast and lunch will be served.

Evidence in Agriculture: Credit

Thursday, June 22, 2017 | 10:00 AM - 11:30 AM EST
Save the Children, 899 N Capitol Street NE, 9th Floor, Washington, DC 20002 and online

Join The TOPS Program and Becca Toole, Policy Associate of MIT's Abdul Latif Jameel's Poverty Action Lab (J-PAL), to answer the question: How might credit constrain smallholder farmers' adoption of new technologies? We will discuss smallholder farmers' credit needs and why traditional microcredit does not always meet them and share results of rigorous research (funded by the Agricultural Technology Adoption Initiative) that tested tailored credit products to better fit the context of smallholder agriculture. Some examples of promising credit products have provided improved information about borrowers to lenders, accounted for collateral constraints, or considered the seasonal distribution of farmer income. We will finish with a brief overview of digital financial services and a few key policy insights on credit for smallholders.

Learn more here!

Register Now

This is the third session in a series on emerging insights from randomized evaluations hosted by The TOPS Program and the Agriculture Technology Adoption Initiative (ATAI). To listen to the first session, visit Randomized Evaluations in Practice: Opportunities and Challenges. To listen to the second session, visit Evidence in Agriculture: Information Constraints to Technology Adoption.

Emergency Measurement Workshop: Lessons Learned from the Field

Tuesday, June 27, 2017 - Thursday, June 29, 2017 | 8:30 AM - 5:00 PM EST
SEIU, 1800 Massachusetts Avenue NW, Washington, DC 20036

The emergency funding stream of the Office of Food for Peace (FFP) has been expanding quite fast over the recent years. As such USAID is interested in developing a more harmonized monitoring and evaluation guidance. To jump start FFP's reflection on this issue, TOPS was requested to organize a series of EFSP learning events to facilitate an initial sharing of M&E experiences. The DC event is the second one following the 2016 West African hosted in Burkina Faso.

The aim of the DC event is three fold:

1. Reflect upon useful methodologies and tools being used to track some of the standard indicators and other studies;
2. Learn from each other's successes and challenges; and
3. Provide useful feedback for USAID to provide better, more consistent technical assistance and oversight for the EFSPs.

Seed System Security Assessment: Key Trainers Course Leading to Certification

September 15, 2017 - October 7, 2017

With increased global scrutiny focused on ill-tailored or dependency-generating seed responses, Seed System Security Assessments (SSSAs) are rapidly becoming the de-facto tool in preventing misdiagnosis of seed insecurity. Seed security is now widely seen as distinct from food security and there is growing worldwide interest in this new field of SSSAs.

With increased visibility, the demand for SSSAs is rising. Seed System Security Assessments have recently been integrated into USAID guidelines and standards for best practice and organizations like Catholic Relief Services (CRS) and the UN-Food and Agriculture Organization (FAO) are routinely commissioning actual field assessments. There is an urgent need to build a specialized set of experts who can lead such assessments worldwide.

Read the full announcement and access the course registration form here!

This course will train in both rapid and more comprehensive forms of SSSAs. It will focus on a) analysis of all seed channels (own stocks, social networks, local networks, formal seed sellers) and b) targeted response options to deal with problems at hand. Tools will be both qualitative and quantitative (including options for automated data tallies and table formats). Methods for training will figure prominently as the aim to create a training of trainers capacity as well as to strengthen direct field assessments. Note that the focus will embrace different types of disaster, chronic stress and developmental contexts (see seedsystem.org).

Register Now

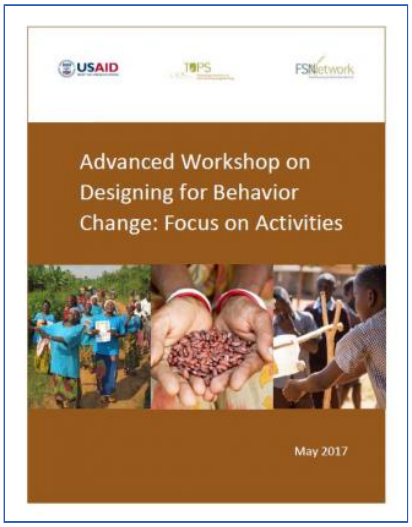
Featured Resource

Advanced Workshop on Designing for Behavior Change: Focus on Activities

During the past decade (2006 – 2016) many nongovernmental organization (NGO) staff have been trained to use the Designing for Behavior Change (DBC) framework to design determinant-based behavior change strategies. Review of completed DBC frameworks and discussions with practitioners indicated a desire and an opportunity for more in-depth discussion and practice in linking the results from their Barrier Analysis studies to effective activities.

In order to give appropriate emphasis and attention to the important step of designing activities that directly link to the results of formative research, The TOPS Program developed this three-day, additional curriculum for experienced DBC practitioners.

View the resource here.



Job Postings

- Chief of Party, Advancing Women's Empowerment based in Washington, DC with CARE
- Team Leader and Policy Advisor based in Karachi, Pakistan with GFA Consulting Group
- Director, Monitoring, Evaluation, Research, and Learning based in Washington, DC with Women for Women International
- Capacity Building Fellowship based in Washington, DC with Women Thrive Alliance
- Research Assistant based in New York with Global Insight
- Health and Nutrition Senior Technical Advisor based in Washington, DC with Food for the Hungry
- Program Assistant - Responsible Finance/Financial Inclusion based in Arlington, Virginia with SEEP Network
- Nutrition and SBCC Advisor based in Washington, DC with Save the Children
- Urban Livelihoods Specialist - Economic Security Delegate with British Red Cross
- Lead Technical Specialist - Gender, Targeting and Social Inclusion based in Rome, Italy with IFAD

Funding & Other Opportunities

Call for Proposals: 2017 Global Digital Health Forum Sessions | Proposals due June 16, 2017
The Global Digital Health Network (The Network), in partnership with the Personal Connected Health Alliance (PCHAlliance), will once again present the now 4th Annual Global Digital Health Forum on December 4-6, 2017 at the JW Marriott Hotel in the heart of Washington, DC. With the exponential growth of the Forum, we will offer a three-day standalone experience. The event was previously co-located with the Connected Health Conference, which is moving to Boston this October. The theme for this year's Forum — *The Evolving Digital Health Landscape: Progress, Achievements and Remaining Frontiers* — captures the spirit of progress made in the past several years to scale digital health systems and also encourages us to look critically at the continued need for innovation,as well as integration, to improve health outcomes in a changing political landscape. Descriptions of the session types can be found here. Presenters will be notified by August 1st. We look forward to reviewing your submission!

Call for Proposals: The SEEP Network Annual Conference Learning Sessions | Proposals due June 16, 2017
The 2017 SEEP Network Annual Conference will bring together leading practitioners, funders, research organizations and private sector actors dedicated to promoting more inclusive and resilient markets and financial systems. Under the conference theme - *Catalyzing Transformative Change* - we will deepen our understanding and commitment to approaches that bring about large scale positive change. We will explore insights garnered from behavioral science that enhance impact, strategies that positively address discriminatory social and cultural norms, incentives that help catalyze change in relationships of market actors and engage private sector firms, and transformative new technologies. We will share proven practice and innovative strategies that modify both the structure and dynamics of market systems in ways that contribute to greater empowerment of vulnerable populations. Likewise, we will also examine the important change processes within programs and organizations that lead to more adaptive management and effective learning. SEEP invites proposals from network members for conference sessions that address the specific technical tracks, and will also consider submissions outside of these tracks that reflect the conference's general theme.

In relation to the Call for Proposals for the 2017 SEEP Network Annual Conference, SEEP invites you to submit a Proposal for a Peer Learning Session under the Markets, Food Systems and Nutrition Technical Track. This track will focus on the most effective ways to catalyze social and behavioral change, align private sector incentives with social goals, engage with governments to reach these goals, and use financial services to

Request for Expressions of Interest: WASHPaLS Project - Habit Formation Approaches and Gender Equity & Social Inclusion Innovations for Hygiene Behavior Change | EOI Submissions due June 23, 2017
The Water, Sanitation and Hygiene Partnership and Learning for Sustainability (WASHPaLS) project is seeking expressions of interest (EOIs) from eligible entities to identify, develop and evaluate innovative approaches to trigger and sustain hygiene behavior change focusing on (1) habit formation and nudge theory (i.e. habit science) and/or (2) gender equality and social inclusion (GESI).

Upcoming Task Force and Interest Groups Meetings

Care Groups Forward; June 27: 11:30 AM - 1:00 PM; Online

Knowledge Management; June 29: 11 AM - 12:30 PM; Online

Upcoming Events

EAT Stockholm Food Forum: EAT Forum; June 12-June 13; Stockholm, Sweden

Gender Equity and Diversity Training: CARE; June 13-June 14; Washington, DC

Webinar on Gender, Climate Change, and Agriculture: CGIAR; June 15; Online

AgExchange on Food Safety in Developing Countries: Research Gaps and Opportunities: Agrilinks; June 20-June 21; Online

ICTforAg 2017: ICTforAg; June 23; Washington, DC

Webinar on an Integrative Framework for Implementation Science in Nutrition: SISN; June 28; Online

Improving Livelihoods, Food Security and Engagement in HIV Care through Integrated Referral Systems; LIFT II Project; July 11; Washington, DC

Change Through Culture: A Workshop on How to Build Programs on Cultural Roles and Values to Increase Community Engagement and Achieve Lasting Results; The Grandmother Project; August 20-25; Mbour, Senegal

More Events

New Reports, Guides & Tools

Gender, Power and Justice Primer from CARE

Gender, Climate Change and Nutrition Integration Initiative (GCAN) from IFPRI

Women's Economic Leadership in Agricultural Markets and Enterprises: Linking Gendered Households and

Climate Change and Variability: What are the Risks for Nutrition, Diets, and Food Systems? from IFPRI

The Father Factor: How Community Video Encourages Male Involvement for Better Nutrition and Hygiene Behaviors in Niger from SPRING

Behavior Change Toolkit for International Development Practitioners Enabling People to Practice Positive Behaviors from People in Need

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Recent Articles

Five myths about famine from The Washington Post

Bridging the Divide for Success in Nutrition-Sensitive Agricultural Market Development from Microlinks

Rise of Nutrition: Coordination, Investments and the Trump Administration from CSIS

Promoting gray matter infrastructure is a game-changed for Africa's development agenda from Africa Development Bank Group

Ugly vegetables destined for the dump are now helping to feed thousands of schoolchildren in Kenya from World Food Program Insight

Fish Farming Brings Food and Nutrition Security to Sierra Leone from Agrilinks

Where they eat water lilies to survive: South Sudan's remote islands - in pictures 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.

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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