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VIDEO OF THE WEEK

Submitted by The TOPS Program

The TOPS Program, along with USAID's Office of Food for Peace, hosted a Breastfeeding Seminar that brought together those who provide technical assistance Food for Peace-funded programming in the field, along with other key stakeholders. Learn more about the event and access notes and presentations online at the FSN Network website [here](#). Watch the video [here](#).

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

DID YOU KNOW...

South Sudan, Nigeria, Yemen, and Somalia are all experiencing severe food security and nutrition emergencies, compounded by ongoing violent conflict. As part of the global humanitarian response to all four crises, the U.S. Agency for International Development has dedicated "[Fighting Famine](#)" on www.usaid.gov to share current news and updates on these crises and the agency's response. The government agency has also published an infographic identifying when a food crisis becomes a famine. [View here](#).

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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.

Additional Resources Available! Breastfeeding Seminar - Protecting, Promoting, and Supporting Breastfeeding in the Field

The TOPS Program hosted a Breastfeeding Seminar on May 9-11, 2017 to support a continued focus on protecting, promoting, and supporting breastfeeding in the field. A [video](#) from interviews with participants is now available (see the Featured Video above!), along with new notes documenting several sessions:

- Tuesday, May 9: [Notes on Panel Discussion: Reflections on Breastfeeding-focused USAID Projects](#)
 - Wednesday, May 10: [Notes on Small Group Work: Future Directions](#)
 - Thursday, May 11: [Notes on Closing Remarks by Judy Canahuati](#)
-

Survey of Interest for a new Social Accountability Interest Group

FFP's strategy calls for systems strengthening through increased Social Accountability. Social accountability approaches can be critical for sustaining improved access to essential services in education and health, public and private extension, financial services and social protection.

Although Social Accountability as a field is not new, its application in food security is relatively nascent. World Vision and CARE are seeking to join hands with other organizations interested in the topic to build a learning community around the application of social accountability in food security programming.

If you are interested to participate in the Social Accountability Interest Group, please email Gitau Mbure at gmbure@worldvision.org and/or Vidhya Sriram at vsriram@care.org for further details.

New Theory of Change Tools

Theory of Change Checklist and Narrative Matrices

Two new tools, developed by The TOPS Program in collaboration with USAID's Office of Food for Peace (FFP), will help PVOs improve the quality of Theory of Change (TOC) diagrams and narratives for FFP development activities. [Click here to explore the tools!](#)

Theory of Change Checklist

The purpose of this tool is to provide an overview of FFP expectations for TOC development in a concise format. It is expected that the tool will be used by PVO staff reviewing their TOCs before submitting to FFP, and by FFP staff when reviewing the submitted diagrams.

For more information about the items on the checklist, please reference the document [Food for Peace Policy and](#)

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[Click here to download the Theory of Change Checklist!](#)

Theory of Change Narrative Matrices

The matrices provide a sample format for submitting the additional information required in a TOC narrative for FFP development activities. A common misconception about the TOC narrative is that all information that is not easily interpreted from the TOC diagram must be submitted in written paragraphs - This is not true. Matrices such as these samples are an effective and efficient way to add necessary detail and evidence to support assumptions; to fully explain rationales; and to identify and clarify the role of other actors, among other uses.

This is not to say that explanatory paragraphs will never be needed in the TOC narrative. For example, a discussion of how the activity addresses cross-cutting areas or clarifications about how targeting a limited number of direct participants will result in sustained population-level changes, are both topics that may be easier to explain in paragraph versus matrix format. Using matrices, such as these samples, simply makes it much easier for users to follow many of the links between the TOC diagram and the details in the narrative.

[Click here to access the Theory of Change Narrative Matrices!](#)

Please direct questions related to developing or using a TOC throughout the life of your development activity to Laurie Starr at laurie@tanqointernational.com.

Updated Permagarden Toolkit Materials

Technical Manual and Training Guidelines Second Edition Now Available!

Earlier this summer, our agriculture and natural resource management team released the second edition of the popular TOPS Permagarden Toolkit. Read more about the materials below, and learn more and download the materials [here!](#)

What is the Permagarden Method?

The permagarden method combines components of permaculture and bio-intensive agriculture to create a highly productive garden using a small amount of land. It is designed to work in both the rainy and dry seasons, and is an approach to home gardens that improves soil fertility and water management to produce nutritious crops. The method shows how farmers around the world with only a small amount of land can produce food throughout the year by learning principles behind proper gardening and resource management, and matching those principles to basic practices. The permagarden method is designed to empower gardeners to use local resources to overcome challenges in the garden; it is a simple solution that can help bring resilience to each household, one small adjustment at a time.

If you are interested in learning more about the permagarden method or permagarden training options, please contact Eric Carlberg at ECarlberg@mercycorps.org or Andrea Mottram at AMottram@mercycorps.org.

Featured Resource

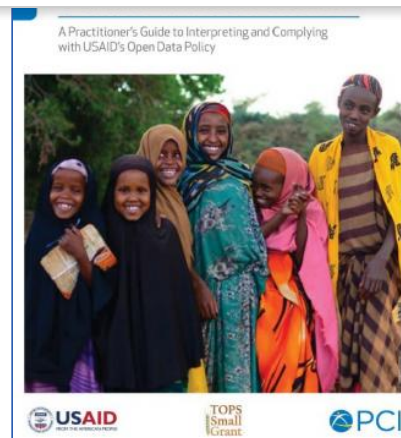
Open Data Policy Compliance Guide: A Practitioner's Guide to Interpreting and Complying with USAID's Open Data Policy

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submitting data to USAID's Development Data Library (DDL). Designed to be easy and follow, the guide will enable food, nutrition and livelihood security practitioners and other stakeholders to strengthen their internal data management systems, maximize ways that data and information can be utilized strategically to improve program quality, and ultimately support USAID's commitment to the value of open and shared data.

InterAction hosted PCI for a webinar introducing this guide. [View it here.](#)

[Read more and view this document in the resource library on the FSN Network website.](#)



Job Postings

- [Associate VP, Gender Equality and Girls Empowerment](#) based in Washington, DC with Save the Children
- [Senior Director, Evaluation & Monitoring](#) based in Washington, DC with Save the Children
- [Country Director](#) based in Maputo, Mozambique with Helen Keller International
- [Senior Director, Food, Nutrition & Livelihoods Security](#) based in Washington, DC with PCI
- [Senior Director, Financial Inclusion](#) based in Washington, DC with Mercy Corps
- [Food and Nutrition Security Advisor](#) with Wageningen Centre for Development Innovation (CDI)
- [Gender Cohort Coordinator](#) based in Atlanta, Georgia with CARE
- [Deputy Chief of Party](#) based in Washington, DC with Fintrac
- [Senior Gender Specialist](#) based in Mogadishu, Somalia with UN Women
- [Gender Analysis Consultant](#) for Ethiopia with REST

Funding & Other Opportunities

INNOVATE Call for Proposals | Deadline: October 6, 2017

The INNOVATE Call for Proposals (the Call) seeks applications from eligible organizations, companies and institutions (i) to pilot a Non-Traditional Finance (NTF) product/service focused on rapid testing and learning OR (ii) to document through a case study an ongoing or completed initiative related to NTF. The initiatives should demonstrate the potential and/or ability of products, services, or delivery channels that can catalyze and/or foster the adoption of agricultural innovations by women and men smallholder farmers in East Africa, South America (the Andes) and South Asia. INNOVATE aims to learn from the experiences of the grant recipients; to test and document which products, services or delivery channels have potential to catalyze agricultural innovation by smallholder farmers. Therefore, a key focus of the Call is learning. The Call also has a focus on gender, in which applicants shall clearly differentiate between women and men's priorities and needs, treating them as distinct market segments in the proposal and research process. [Learn more here!](#)

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

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Students will join a newly established, SSHRC-funded project. [Learn more here!](#)

Upcoming Task Force Meetings

[ANRM Task Force Meeting](#): September 19; Online

[Resilience Task Force Meeting](#): September 21; Washington, DC and Online

Upcoming Events

[Impact and Cost-effectiveness of the Preventing Malnutrition in the First 1000 Days in Burundi and Guatemala](#): FANTA; September 11; Washington, DC

[Feed the Future BIFAD Public Meeting: The U.S. Government's Global Food Security Research Strategy: From Upstream Research to Development Impact](#): BIFAD; September 12; Washington, DC

[Toolkit Launch: Meeting the Sexual and Reproductive Health Needs of Young Married Women and First-time Parents](#): Pathfinder International; September 13; online

[Webinar on Private Sector & Smallholder Adaptation: What We Know](#): Agrilinks; September 19; online

[Fall 2017 Global Health Practitioner Conference](#): CORE Group; September 25-29; Baltimore, MD

[Global Youth Economic Opportunities Summit](#): GYEO Summit; September 27-29; Washington, DC

[2017 SEEP Network Annual Conference: Catalyzing Transformative Change](#): October 2-October 4; Arlington, VA

[More Events](#)

New Reports, Guides & Tools

[Gender and Commodity Management: A Field Guide](#) from The TOPS Program

[Bangladesh Resilience Research Report](#) from the REAL Award

[Addressing barriers to maternal nutrition in low- and middle-income countries: A review of the evidence and programme implications](#) from MCSP

[Peacebuilding, Governance, Gender, Protection and Youth Assessments: A Basic Guide for Busy Practitioners](#) from CRS

[Self-Paced Online Gender Trainings](#) from UN Women

[Nutrition-Sensitive Intervention Selection Tool](#) from Food, Agriculture, and Natural Resources Policy Analysis

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[Triggering for Positive Behavior Change in Nutrition](#) from Sustainable Nutrition for All (SN4A)

Recent Articles

[Bringing Scientists and Journalists Together for More Effective Communications](#) from Agrilinks

[What Gets Measured Gets Done: Benchmarking for a Better Enabling Environment](#) from Agrilinks

[Digital Credit: Data Sharing Can Improve Product Diversity](#) from CGAP Blog

[Protecting Africa's Drylands Key to the Continent's Future](#) from IPS News Agency

[Do Farmers Really Want to be Paid in Mobile Money?](#) from ICT Works

[Facing Famine, Girls and Women Bear the Heaviest Burden](#) from Huffington Post

[Getting Ag Tech and Innovations into New Hands: Commercial Pathways to Scale and Sustainability](#) from Agrilinks

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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