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**Your source for the latest in food security and nutrition**

October 17, 2017 | Volume 7, Issue 39

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#### VIDEO OF THE WEEK

Submitted by The TOPS Program

The TOPS Program recently published a video from its most recent [Knowledge Sharing Meeting](#). Over 200 implementers, donors, and researchers from over 60 organizations joined us for the final TOPS/FSN Network Knowledge Sharing Meeting on July 19-20, 2017 in Washington, DC. The conference not only looked back over the past seven years of The TOPS Program, but also looked forward to 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. [Check out the video here!](#)

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

#### DID YOU KNOW...

Yesterday, October 16, 2017, was World Food Day 2017. This year's theme was migration and food security, with a call to invest in rural development. [Learn more about World Food Day here!](#) You can also check out yesterday's

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Future, and FFP by exploring the hashtag [#endhunger](#) and [#WFD2017](#).

## 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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## The Use of Mobile Phones to Support Improved IYCF

**Tuesday, November 21, 2017 | 9:30 AM - 11:00 AM EST**  
**Online**

The TOPS Program will host a webinar on November 21 at 9:30 a.m. EST. Alison Mildon, registered dietitian and doctoral student at the University of Toronto, will present the results from research conducted by the University of Toronto on the use of mobile phones to support improved infant and young child feeding in low- and middle-income countries. Implications for projects and areas for further research will be shared for audience discussion.

[Learn more and register here!](#)

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## FFP Annual Monitoring Workshop

**Resources Now Available!**

The five-day FFP Annual Monitoring Workshop (September 2017, Washington, DC) was the first of its kind, bringing together FFP staff from headquarters and regions (11 total), implementing partner M&E officers from 13 FFP development activities, M&E Headquarter and Regional staff from nine implementing partner organizations, and a handful of speakers and participants from research institutions. Participants greatly appreciated the “opportunity to network with PVOs and openly discuss M&E technical issues with FFP directly.”

[Learn more and access some of the presentations here!](#)

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## FFP Stakeholder Consultations

**Presentations, Notes, and Recordings Now Available!**

**Implementing Under the New Food for Peace 2016-2025 Strategy**

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 toward sustainability, strengthening local systems, and how to best integrate gender/youth, social cohesion, and social accountability into our work.

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## Indicator Challenges for Food for Peace-funded Development Food Security Activities

USAID's Office of Food for Peace (FFP) hosted a stakeholder consultation with The TOPS Program on July 6, 2017, in order to take a deeper look at FFP indicators and what challenges and opportunities they bring. This stakeholder consultation covered topics that resulted from interviews with FSN Network Monitoring and Evaluation (M&E) Task Force members, as well as other M&E professionals in the community. The three main topics were:

1. The number of indicators
2. How data are used
3. Implementing partner involvement in baselines studies and final evaluation

These topics were discussed in-depth among participants both online and in-person. FFP and implementing partners were in attendance, and both gained a better understanding of the challenges that existed and ways to work together to create solutions.

[Check out resources from the consultation here!](#)

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## FFP Gender Analysis Process Webinar Presentations, Recording, and Resources Now Available!

The demand for gender analysis consultants is growing. Earlier this year, TOPS distributed a survey to consultants and implementing partners to find out what each is seeking and where gaps exist in the gender analysis process. During this one hour webinar, we summarized the survey results and shared resources to bridge the connection between consultants and implementing partners of Food For Peace development programs. Participants had the opportunity to contribute comments and resources in response to the survey results as well as answer questions.

You can now listen to the recording and view the presentation from the webinar, as well as access additional resources and webinars that were highlighted. If you attended the webinar or have accessed the recording, you can also [continue the conversation at the discussion forum](#).

[Check out resources from the webinar here!](#)

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## Additional Resources for FY 2017 Annual Results Report (ARR) SAPQ Webinar and APR eLearning Course

The **2017 Standardized Annual Project Questionnaire (SAPQ) Webinar recording and slides** are available. The SAPQ webinar training occurred over the last several weeks. Two recorded sessions of the training along with the slides are posted on the [FSN Network Annual Results Reporting Page](#). The Webinar recordings include the French Webinar and the English Webinar. If you have not already done so, please take a few minutes to fill out the survey concerning the webinar [here](#), to help us improve our 2018 SAPQ training.

The new **ARR eLearning course** is available on [FSN Network Annual Results Reporting Page](#). Once you have completed the course, please take a short, 5-question survey about the eLearning module by clicking [here](#).

*Please contact the FFP MIS support desk with any system questions: [FFPMIS\\_support@devis.com](mailto:FFPMIS_support@devis.com). If you have any additional questions, please contact your respective AORs. Thank you for your interest in USAID programs.*

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## Updated Food for Peace Information Bulletins (FFPIB) Comments due November 13, 2017

Two draft Food for Peace Information Bulletins (FFPIBs) are now available regarding the eligible uses of Internal Transportation, Storage, and Handling (ITSH) and Section 202(e) funds. Access the FFPIB on eligible uses of Section 202(e) and CDF for FFP awards [here](#), and access the FFPIB on eligible uses of ISTH, Inland Freight, and Monetization Proceeds for FFP awards [here](#).

These documents serve as an update to [the previous FFPIB document](#) outlining eligible uses of Section 202(e) and ITSH funds published on August 15th, 2017.

All comments and input on these two documents should be submitted to [facg@usaid.gov](mailto:facg@usaid.gov) by COB November 13, 2017.

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## Stakeholder Consultation Workshop as part of the "Coordination of Assessment for Environment in Humanitarian Action" Initiative Wednesday, October 25 - Thursday, October 26, 2017 1176 Eye Street NW, 4th Floor, Washington, DC 20006

USAID and the Joint UN Environment/OCHA Unit would like to announce the upcoming [stakeholder workshop](#), on October 25-26, 2017, in Washington DC, as part of the multi-stakeholder initiative for "[Coordination of Assessments for Environment in Humanitarian Action](#)". This initiative is a joint venture between USAID with the UN Environment/OCHA Joint Unit, UNHCR, Swedish Civil Defence Organization (MSB), WWF and IUCN. The workshop will bring together a group of environmental and humanitarian stakeholders to discuss challenges and opportunities around integration of environment in the humanitarian system, with a particular focus on assessments and environmental data and information sharing.

If you are interested in more information, please reach out to Erika Clesceri, USAID Bureau Environmental Officer for the Bureau for Democracy, Conflict and Humanitarian Assistance (DCHA) and Janine Berger, Workshop Coordinator, ([janine.berger@cadmusgroup.com](mailto:janine.berger@cadmusgroup.com)).

[Learn more here!](#)

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## Mercy Corps STRESS Methodology New Guideline Documents Now Available!

Mercy Corps is sharing its first external guidelines for conducting its Strategic Resilience Assessment (STRESS) process.

This document is the result of 5 years of hard work among a diverse group of stakeholders. It provides development practitioners guidance through a process of applying resilience thinking in the distinct and increasingly fragile contexts in which they work.

Read the full process guidelines [here](#). Read a two page background document [here](#). Watch a short video on STRESS Niger [here](#).

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STRESS is a methodology that helps teams apply resilience thinking in humanitarian or development contexts. The process deepens practitioners' understanding of risk and the systems that communities rely on—allowing them to adjust what they do and how they do it—with the goal of maintaining progress toward well-being outcomes even in the face of increasing instability and fragility.

STRESS has been applied in a variety of geographic contexts ranging from Niger to Mongolia with the goal of informing program, regional and country level strategies. [Click here to learn more about some of these applications.](#)

### Why is STRESS needed?

Mercy Corps designed the STRESS process to help practitioners understand how complex, interconnected drivers of instability threaten progress toward development outcomes in specific contexts. In so doing, STRESS facilitates the development of measurable strategies and targeted interventions aimed at supporting communities in achieving long-term well-being outcomes and transformational change.

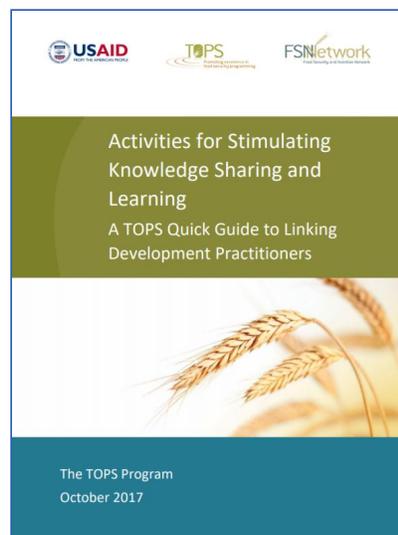
## Featured Resource

### Activities for Stimulating Knowledge Sharing and Learning: A TOPS Quick Guide to Linking Development Practitioners

This guide offers food security and nutrition practitioners a variety of methods and techniques for designing knowledge sharing activities to enhance learning at the program and organizational level. Each activity has been tested and found useful by development practitioners. Some of the activities emerged during interviews conducted by TOPS in 2012 with organizational leaders and knowledge management staff at international development organizations. Others were selected from knowledge management practitioners of the TOPS FSN Network Knowledge Management Task Force. All of the activities highlighted in this guide have been implemented by international development organizations working in food security and nutrition, and global health programming.

The majority of the knowledge sharing activities presented in this guide are designed to be done in person. Food security and nutrition practitioners work around the world and cannot always meet face-to-face. Geographic constraints present a unique challenge to knowledge sharing and. Technology serves as an excellent medium for connecting individuals who cannot meet face-to-face regardless of location. This guide offers suggestions for utilizing technology to enhance the quality and reach of knowledge sharing activities when meeting in person is not possible.

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



## Job Postings

- [Africa Regional Technical Advisor, Nutrition](#) based in Dakar, Senegal with HKI
- [Nutrition Advisor](#) based in Washington, DC with Chemonics
- [Food Security Analyst](#) based in Washington, DC with Chemonics
- [Deputy Decision Support Advisor](#) based in Washington, DC with Chemonics
- [Monitoring and Evaluation Specialist](#) for USAID's Office of Food for Peace

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## Funding & Other Opportunities

### **Request for Proposals for Peer Learning Sessions at the Global Savings Groups Conference 2018 | Deadline: November 10, 2017**

SEEP is excited to announce the Request for Proposals for the upcoming Global Savings Groups Conference 2018, May 22-24 in Kigali, Rwanda. The Global Savings Groups Conference engages a large and diverse community of stakeholders, develops and promotes improved standards of practice, mobilizes knowledge, creates opportunities for cross-organizational learning, and strengthens partnerships and alliances among development and market actors. SEEP invites all Savings Groups practitioners to submit a proposal for one of 24 dynamic Peer Learning Sessions across the four conference tracks: Systemic Approaches to Increase Scale, Sustainability, and Impact; Access to Formal Financial Services; Expanding Outreach to More Vulnerable and Diverse Populations; and Savings Groups and Gender-transformative Initiatives. [Learn more here!](#)

### **Abstract Submission Open for 2018 International Social and Behavior Change Communication Summit | Deadline: November 27, 2017**

The 2018 International Social and Behavior Change Communication (SBCC) Summit featuring Entertainment Education is organized to understand better what works in shifting social norms, changing behaviors and in amplifying the voice of those who have most at stake in the success of development efforts. And, it is designed to wrestle with the profound issues of social justice and agenda setting that affect these decisions. Who decides, for example, what behaviors need changing or which norms should be shifted? How can people's realities and voices be put at the center of such change? How much emphasis should be placed on shifting norms and behaviors when power structures, policy environments or lack of services may constitute problems that overwhelm the capacity of individuals or communities to act? The 2018 Summit will address some of the primary challenges facing the SBCC community: understanding what approaches work and what investments in SBCC programming can expect to deliver, and making sense of the complexity and diversity in the field of SBCC that would facilitate greater investment. The Summit will be organized around three overarching themes: 1) What Works, 2) Making Sense of the Field Now, and 3) Voice and Agenda Setting. Abstracts and concept notes for the Summit sessions will be submitted by theme. [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 the School for Resource and Environmental Studies, Dalhousie University, are looking for keen PhD students with a track record of successful research at the Masters level who enjoy engaging in multi-disciplinary research. Students will join a newly established, SSHRC-funded project. [Learn more here!](#)

### **Food Systems for Healthy and Sustainable Diets Course | Deadline: April 23, 2018**

Food systems considers all the actors, elements and activities that relate to primary producing, processing, distributing, preparing and consuming food and waste disposal; and the socio-economic and environmental outcomes of these activities. The course explores food systems from a dietary perspective and discuss which components are related to the diet gaps for different populations groups at national, regional and global level. It discusses possible actions to be taken to transform the food system for addressing the gaps and how these actions can be leveraged in a sustainable way. The training targets staff of governmental and non-governmental organisations. The course is job-oriented and the training approach is interactive, experience as well as evidence-based: it provides the participants with the possibility to learn from expert facilitators as well as from each other. Transfer of knowledge goes hand in hand with case studies, working groups, etc. A mix of

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## Upcoming Task Force Meetings

Commodity Management Task Force Meeting: November 14; location TBA

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## Upcoming Events

[Webinar: Neem-based Pesticides in Integrated Pest Management](#): Feed the Future Innovation Lab; October 18; online

[Making Finance Work for Women Summit](#): Women's World Banking; October 24-25; Dar es Salaam, Tanzania

[Stakeholder Consultation Workshop as part of the "Coordination of Assessment for Environment in Humanitarian Action" Initiative](#): USAID; October 25-26; Washington, DC

[2017 SUN Movement Global Gathering](#): SUN; November 7-9; Abidjan, Côte d'Ivoire

[Advanced Training Workshop in Results Measurement for Private Sector Development](#): Miehbradt Consulting; November 20-24; Bangkok, Thailand

[The Use of Mobile Phones to Support Improved IYCF in Low and Middle Income Countries](#): The TOPS Program; November 21; online

[Data Use Webinar](#): FFP and FANTA; November 30; online

[World Bank Group Youth Summit 2017: Technology and Innovation for Impact](#): World Bank Group; December 4-5; Washington, DC

[Revitalizing Extension for Agricultural Development](#): DLEC and INGENAES; December 12-13; Washington, DC

### [More Events](#)

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## New Reports, Guides & Tools

[Nigeria LSMS Resilience Analysis - Phase I](#) from the REAL Award

[Global Fortification Data Exchange](#) from FFI, GAIN, IGN, and Micronutrient Forum

[The Role of Agricultural Insurance: Gender and Nutrition Dimensions](#) from GCAN

[Boundary-Spanning Actors in Complex Adaptive Governance Systems: The Case of Multisectoral Nutrition](#) from International Journal of Health Planning and Management

[The State of Food Security and Nutrition in the World 2017](#) from FAO

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## Recent Articles

[This Tiny Country Feeds the World](#) from National Geographic Magazine

[Rural Mothers, Gender Equity, and Scaling Up Biofortification](#) from CGIAR

[Inspire, Explore, and Connect Through Agricultural Education](#) from Agrilinks

[World Food Day 2017: The Role of Fortified Foods in Ending Nutritional Deficiencies Globally](#) from NDTV

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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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