FSN Network Gender Task Force Meeting July 9, 2012

Attendance: Kristi Tabaj- TOPS / Save the Children, Violet Dancheck- USAID, Mara Russell- Land O’Lakes, Noreen Mucha- Bread for the World Institute, Jenn Williamson- Counterpart International, Melissa Teuber- TOPS / Save the Children

* TOPS Capacity Building Workshop and Knowledge Sharing Meeting in Addis Ababa, Ethiopia
  + Addis was the 3rd knowledge sharing meeting
    - Baltimore, Maputo, then Addis
      * The goal is to get implementers together to share what they are doing
      * Maputo had 2 training days, and this was expanded to 5 days in Addis
        + 3 tracks- Agriculture, Nutrition, and M&E
        + SBC and Gender were integrated throughout
      * Following week of knowledge sharing
        + Did research before the meeting on what topics were of interest and what organizations would like to know more about
* Overview on Addis
  + - * TOPS made a greater effort to address gender by having 3 sessions during the knowledge sharing days
        + There was a broad range of people participating

The mission was visible in attendance

There was a mixed crowd of individuals working on development programs and emergency programs

* + - * + Organizations want to be able to integrate gender better in their programs

Want to look at influencers in the community that can help achieve a program’s aims

They see that gender is more than just sex disaggregated data

* + - * Link available to materials presented from Addis
        + <http://www.fsnnetwork.org/tops-capacity-strengthening-workshop-2012>.
* Gender Sessions
  + There were large differences in the number of people who attended each session
    - Gender specialists were not specifically targeted to attend the Addis meeting, but TOPS will make sure to do so for future meetings
      * If any task force members have suggestions on who to send to the next meetings, please let us know
        + The next meeting will be in DC in late fall, followed by another regional meeting next spring
  + Gender Lens Session
    - Mara Russell presented the history of Land O’Lakes forming their task force
      * Land O’Lakes has created a policy
      * Land O’Lakes is now in the process of developing specific guidelines to integrate gender into programs
* Carol Miller talked about a gender audit done at Save the Children’s Ethiopia Country office
* Unintended Positive and Negative Consequences of Gender Programming Session
  + Started talking about negative, but found there are positive impacts
    - One Example: Recognizing work with fathers and grandmothers in terms of nutrition and the uptake in households
* Showed division in emergency and development
  + Hard to judge expectations in regards to gender given the short time period
  + In Yemen, it is very hard to find women headed households and then target them
  + FANTA working on recommendations for FFP and WFP for gender indicators for emergencies
* Measuring Gender Impact
  + Sylvia Cabus from the BFS spoke of the Women’s Empowerment in Agriculture Index
  + Violet Dancheck asked for feedback from the group as to whether the WEAI should be used for FFP programs
    - Someone said we are not interested in women’s empowerment in particular, but interested in increasing food security- so there needs to be a link to show it increases food security
    - Felt the index is too long- projects are already doing 2 hour baselines
    - Felt the index could be useful for formative research, but it only looks at agriculture, which is limiting
    - Violet will present on this trip to FFP
    - There is an application out for a company to do all FFP baselines, which ask for applications with and without the index. This may lead to a decision on the use of the index based on the total cost
      * This is different from the FtF baseline feedback mechanism
        + There is still negotiation going about how to do baselines in FtF and FFP overlapping countries
    - There are currently no standardized indicators. Each program has to come up with at least one to integrate among all the SOs
      * In some cases there is overlap with WEAI
      * The WEAI is more specific, and FFP is more general
      * There are current standard indicators that already exist in other sectors, such as health and nutrition, agriculture and food security, and Disaster Risk Reduction that might be utilized
        + Perhaps have a different indicator for each SO

Violet will mention this to FFP

* The Way Forward
  + After each session people wrote on index cards what they thought should be done on the topic to move the discussion forward
  + Will be posted on fsnnetwork.org
  + Ideas from the way forward will be built off of in our next meetings
* Work Plan Update
  + Will be posted fsnnetwork.com in the Gender Task Force area
    - Still a few things that need to be finalized, which TOPS will discuss with USAID.
  + Hope to get a roster of people working on gender to get a better understanding of our network- gender focal points
  + The task force’s next focus with be on recommending tools
* Next Meeting
  + It will be in September
    - May hear from Counterpart on the role of fathers and grandmothers in nutrition
  + May have a collaboration meeting with the SBC working group
    - The first meeting to meet the need some have mentioned about involving gender in the other task forces.
* Invite for feedback
  + Noreen is working on a paper on the difference for nutrition sensitive interventions vs. nutrition specific interventions
    - If you are interested in in commenting on this paper, please let Noreen know.