# Resilience Task Force Notes

## Thursday, November 10, 10:00 am to 11:30 am EST

Meeting Led by Tim Frankenberger

Notes taken by Mia Durairaj

The launch of Resilience Monitoring, Evaluation, Assessment, Strategic Analysis and Capacity Building TOPS Associate Award has been granted to the TOPS. Activities to be carried out in the first six months include:

* + **Secondary data analysis of Malawi LSMS** (income expenditure survey); the team is analyzing from a resilience lens. Tim says they have another week to go and will make available to everybody when it is completed.
	+ **Deep dive in Kenya and Ethiopia resilience data**. The team is currently looking at determinants of malnutrition. Analysis has been completed and has been shared with USAID. Tim hopes he can share with the group soon.
	+ **Setting up RMS in RISE program in West Africa**. The team is conducting an impact evaluation for this. Just completed the second round. Looking for positive deviance in households with better food security. Comparing with food insecure households. Looking for more positive coping strategies. The presentation for this last week is available via FSN network: <http://www.fsnnetwork.org/discussion-new-research-resilience-climate-shocks-east-and-southern-africa>
	+ **Workshop in Kenya on Using Resilience Data for Program Decisions**. Tim leaving tomorrow for Kenya. Using data from Ethiopia, Somalia, Uganda, and Kenya to discuss program learnings. Data analysis into program actions. We will be able to make findings available to resilience task force after this.
	+ **Second round of RMS in Ethiopia**. Data analysis starting soon. That will be available in a few months and there will be a presentation.
	+ **Guidance notes on Measuring shocks, Assessments, Resilience measurement.** Mercy Corps and other partners developing using subjective and objective measures. Looking at key leverage points. It is important to have good measures of shocks and stresses and good measures of responsibilities and development outcomes. Hopefully this will help people understand more clearly what to do.

Someone asked, do we have a mapped out strategy for the dissemination process? Tim says that they are still working through strategy but it should be clearer in a month or so. Currently they are developing a theory of change for how the associate award will go.

From **January 10-12, 2016**, The TOPS Program, Save the Children, and TANGO International are hosting a three-day **Resilience 101** **Workshop** (title tentative) at Save the Children office in DC. Details will be shared once plans form up.

The Rockefeller Foundation has launched a **Resilience Measurement, Evidence and Learning Community of Practice**. The idea of this CoP/professional association/peer group is to bring a diverse group of people together to influence policies and monitor resilience. Additionally, they want to build the group’s capacity and skills in resilience programming. They may support annual conferences or other ways to bring people around the world together to catalyze change. They would also like to capture case studies where resilience principles have been applied to programs.

Their goals are to:

* 1. Use evidence to influence key actors to catalyze change in programs, policies, markets and key elements of the global discourse that enhance the application of resilience knowledge;
	2. Consolidate, integrate, build and elevate the evidence base for resilience benefits so that funders and implementing partners and implementers can learn from the evidence, adjust strategies as needed, and scale up resilience efforts and investments;
	3. Provide practical on-the-ground support to test and equip practitioners with knowledge, experience and tools for M&E of resilience;
	4. Support practitioners in gaining a fundamental understanding of resilience concepts and frameworks and strengthening skills in monitoring and evaluating resilience projects and programs in accordance with practitioner-identified needs.

Please email **Renee Emya** at Renee.eyma@arabellaadvisors.com to get on the CoP list.

An effort is underway to **harmonize the USAID and FAO approaches** **for measuring Resilience.**  A paper is being written by Lisa Smith of TANGO International and Marco Derrico of FAO to compare the differences and the similarities. The researchers are applying two approaches to six different data sets. Can we use both approaches? The paper will be available in the next few months.

We have updated **the FSN Resilience Resource library**: <http://www.fsnnetwork.org/task-force/resilience-task-force>. Send Mia (adurairaj@savechildren.org) your papers! We can upload your documents in the coming weeks.

**Information on the Gender and Resilience Working Group’s Nov 14th Meeting**

Gender and Resilience Working Group’s next meeting Monday, November 14 at 3:30pm- 5:00 pm at Mercy Corps offices, 1111 19th Street, Suite 650, Washington, DC 20036. CARE has agreed to serve as co-chair of the working group, and **Mara Russell** will be chairing the meeting.

To call into the meeting, please use the information below: Dial: 1-866.740.1260 Access code: 8965833

If you are joining the meeting remotely and want to follow the slides for the presentation, please go to [https://www.readytalk.com](http://www.readytalk.com)/ to log in with the same access codes above.

Below is a tentative agenda for the meeting, but your input and suggestions are welcome:

Introductions, including CARE as co-chair, and update from Mercy Corps

* 30-minute presentation by **Ellen Chigwanda** from CARE, entitled "Exploring Resilience through a Girls Education Lens"
* Discussion of adopting a regular practice of 30 minute sharing of work by members of the working group to open each meeting; schedule volunteers for future meetings
* Distribution of the activity mapping document and resource list, followed by discussion of standards for both
* Brainstorming around collaborative initiative: criteria for initiative, ideas for initiative, and prioritization of ideas
* Next meeting, January 9

Please contact **Kelly Fish** kfish@mercycorps.org for more information.

**Mara Russell** also mentioned that the Work Group was putting together a resource list, so stay tuned.

**Pascal** **Debons** from Action Against Hunger talked about how important it is to use the mixed methods rather than tradition quantitative approaches; the qualitative explains what is going on; how people are using the coping strategies. They have a draft of a Methodology & Implementation guide currently in progress at Action Against Hunger.

**Amelia Kendall from World Vision** says she’s working on strategy documents and tools on the intersection on conflict states and resilience. She will keep us all updated.

**Mara Russell** asked Tim to what extent will this group be coordinating with other networks (Agrilinks, CORE, Microlinks, etc.)? Not exclusively related to resilience but there may be ways to build an understanding. Mutually supportive. Lots of opportunity for cross-links.

There is a new **Knowledge Management Specialist for Resilience** position posted on the CORE Groups’ website here: <http://www.coregroup.org/our-network/job-postings/jobline/details/4439>

**Dustin Caniglia**: how do people in the horn identify female headed households? Mara thinks it’s an interesting subject for a gender task force meeting. Tim says we’d love to hear more about Dustin’s research. Someone asked, does IFPRI have insights on that?

A discussion followed about the **change in administration and what it might mean for resilience programming**. Many are worried about change in leadership, and its anti-environmental stance. Stocks for environmentally friendly technologies have gone way down. Nobody knows what is going to happen overall in terms of policy – there are lots of possibilities. A lot of discussion if this government will lead to more pay-by-results programming and less holistic projects. Obama’s initiative that every USAID mission has climate change imbedded in strategy. There is concern that it will it be rolled back? How much can resilience be linked with ANRM?

Is there anyone you’d like us to add the resilience task force? If so, give Mia (adurairaj@savechildren.org) their address so she can send them an email invite.