

Quality Assurance for Local and Regional Procurement

Brief Background

USAID FFP is transitioning from Good Manufacturing Practices (GMP) to a Hazard Analysis and Critical Control Points (HACCP) approach to food safety in its food aid supply chain. Simultaneously, USAID food aid procurement is adapting to include more local and regional procurement (LRP) as a modality to better provide the right product at the right time in the right place. As part of this transition, USAID must ensure the food safety and quality of LRP products, ensuring they follow U.S. food aid product specifications.

However, countries that are likely to source through LRP follow Codex Alimentarius (Codex), the set of international food standards most countries meet. The differences between the Codex and FSMA HACCP food safety system/food safety system mean that food companies must meet different standards. It is unclear if a Codex approved but not FSMA approved supplier must also meet FSMA standards, or if Codex standards are adequate.

As part of this work stream, FAQR III will support the transition from GMP to HACCP and assist in maintaining the same standards of food safety and quality in both U.S.-sourced and internationally sourced food aid commodities.

This will involve a focus on interagency and intra-agency harmonization of auditing, sampling, and inspection of food aid commodity processing facilities overseas that could provide LRP food aid products. Building on USDA's experience with HACCP in the U.S., Tufts will facilitate USAID FFP's efforts as it adopts HACCP. This will also include a review of relevant food safety and quality sections of [Commodity Requirements Documents \(CRDs\)](#)¹, assessing possible enhancements to audit processes to achieve greater effectiveness and efficiency.

Overall Objective

- Support FFP in interagency activities that occur in developing framework to maintain food safety and quality standards for LRP given that CODEX and FSMA may apply different standards to products in different countries
- Support FFP during transition activities (GMP to HACCP)

¹ CRDs can be found at: <https://www.fsa.usda.gov/programs-and-services/commodity-operations/procurement-and-sales/export/commodity-requirements/index>



- Support FFP as it aims to create an enhanced joint interagency food safety and quality system that is more preventative in nature, not only reliant on sampling and reacting