Food Aid Scenario: Scope for Improvement

Patrick Webb – Principal Investigator FAQR/Tufts University

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FOUR FOOD EMERGENCIES

“We are facing the largest humanitarian crisis since the creation of the United Nations. 20 million people across four countries face starvation and famine.”

- USG/ERC Stephen O’Brien
  Statement to the Security Council, March 10th, 2017

Image Source: globalsecurity.org
We need to “identify strategic opportunities to make global humanitarian assistance more effective and efficient, including prioritizing needs and reducing duplication and costs.”

Statement to the US Senate Committee on Foreign Relations by Gregory C. Gottlieb, Acting Assistant Administrator, Bureau For Democracy, Conflict, And Humanitarian Assistance, March 22, 2017

Image Source: UNICEF
FOOD AID IS RAPIDLY EVOLVING
FOOD AID QUALITY REVIEW: OBJECTIVES

➢ Helping USAID/FFP ensure that food aid products are evidence-based to achieve optimal outcomes (fit-for-purpose)

➢ Focus on cost-effectiveness of outcome, not just cost per ton of products

➢ Efficiency gains across USG and global food aid players
Food Aid Quality Review - Overview

• **Phase I (2009-2011):**
• **Is Title II food aid ‘fit-for-purpose?’**
  • *Delivering Improved Nutrition: Recommendations for Changes to U.S. Food Aid*
  • Scientific and practitioner consultations
  • Identifying differences across specifications.
“In 2011, we completed a food aid quality review in partnership with Tufts University that resulted in the most far-reaching improvements to U.S. food aid since 1966.”
The GOALS of FAQR Phase III:

i. Generate **evidence on cost-effective products**

ii. Develop **decision tools** supporting product choices

iii. Recommend **innovations in packaging and/or processing**

iv. Promote **supply chain optimization**

v. Enhance **food safety and quality assurance systems**

vi. Support further **inter-agency harmonization of specifications, standards, approaches, product guidance**

vii. Promote **priority research on food aid** for nutrition
FAQR FIELD STUDIES: NEW EVIDENCE

1. Malawi - achieving recommended oil use in CSB
2. Malawi – preventing post-treatment relapse from wasting

3. Burkina Faso – stunting prevention, wasting management (ongoing, enrollment complete)

   Sierra Leone – wasting (Ebola)

4. Sierra Leone - wasting treatment
5. Sierra Leone – body composition
6. Sierra Leone - cognitive outcomes
**Shelf Life Study Results: CSB+ and SC+ (Vitamin A)**

- **SuperCereal+** and **Corn-SoyBlend+**

- **Vitamin A (mcg/100g)**

- **Initial**
- **Week 03**
- **Week 06**
- **Week 09**
- **Week 13**
- **Week 19**
- **Week 26**

- **Shelf Life**
  - 40°C/104°F
  - 30°C/86°F

- **Target & Permitted Range**
RESULTS: RUSF - VITAMIN A

Vitamin A (mcg/100g)

- RUSF

shelf life - 40 C/104 F
shelf life - 30 C/86 F

Target & Permitted Range

Initial
Week 03
Week 06
Week 09
Week 13
Week 19
Week 26
BIG QUESTIONS TO BE ANSWERED:

➢ What industry R&D can help inform USG decisions on food aid optimization for nutrition?

➢ What innovations in packaging and food processing represent low-hanging fruits?

➢ What novel ingredients or additives should be explored?

➢ What is the best way to determine projected costs for proposed/new ingredients, products or processes?
FAQR works to establish evidence, information systems, tools, data-gathering and data-sharing platforms, that will support US government-wide actions for coming decades.