
October 2010 – December 2010

This (draft) report was produced for review by the United States Agency for International Development.
It was prepared by Tufts University, under the terms of contract AFP-C-00-09-00016-00 awarded to the Friedman School of Nutrition Science and Policy.
## Glossary

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>Acronym</th>
<th>Full Form</th>
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<tbody>
<tr>
<td>AED</td>
<td>Academy for Educational Development</td>
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<tr>
<td>ACDI/VOCA</td>
<td>Agricultural Cooperative Development International and Volunteers in Overseas Cooperative Assistance</td>
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<tr>
<td>ADA</td>
<td>American Dietetic Association</td>
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<td>ADRA</td>
<td>Adventist Development and Relief Agency</td>
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<td>ARS</td>
<td>Agriculture Research Service (USDA)</td>
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<td>ART</td>
<td>Antiretroviral Therapy</td>
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<td>ASA</td>
<td>American Soybean Association</td>
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<td>BCC</td>
<td>Behavior Change Communication</td>
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<tr>
<td>C&amp;F</td>
<td>Commodity and Freight</td>
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<tr>
<td>CRG</td>
<td>Commodities Reference Guide</td>
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<td>CRS</td>
<td>Catholic Relief Services</td>
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<td>CSB</td>
<td>Corn Soy Blend</td>
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<td>DACO</td>
<td>Deputy Administrator, Commodity Operations (USDA)</td>
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<td>DFID</td>
<td>Department for International Development (USAID)</td>
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<td>DRI</td>
<td>Dietary Reference Intake</td>
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<td>DSM</td>
<td>DSM Nutritional Products</td>
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<td>EP</td>
<td>Expert Panel</td>
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<td>FAD</td>
<td>Foreign Animal Disease (USDA)</td>
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<td>FANEP</td>
<td>Food Aid Nutrition Enhancement Pilot</td>
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<td>FANTA-2</td>
<td>Food and Nutrition Technical Assistance Program II</td>
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<td>FAQR</td>
<td>Food Aid Quality Review</td>
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<td>FAS</td>
<td>Foreign Agricultural Service</td>
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<td>FBF</td>
<td>Fortified Blended Food</td>
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<td>FFI</td>
<td>Feed the Future Initiative</td>
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<td>FFP</td>
<td>Office of Food for Peace (USAID)</td>
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<td>FRAT</td>
<td>Fortification Rapid Assessment Tool</td>
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<td>FSA</td>
<td>Farm Service Agency (USDA)</td>
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<td>GAIN</td>
<td>Global Alliance for Improved Nutrition</td>
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<td>GAO</td>
<td>Government Accountability Office</td>
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<td>GF&amp;N</td>
<td>Global Food and Nutrition, Inc</td>
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<td>GH</td>
<td>Bureau for Global Health (USAID)</td>
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<td>HIDN</td>
<td>Office of Health, Infectious Diseases and Nutrition (USAID)</td>
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<td>HKI</td>
<td>Helen Keller International</td>
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<td>IDA</td>
<td>International Disaster Assistance</td>
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<td>IFAC</td>
<td>Interagency Food Aid Committee (FAQR recommendation)</td>
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<td>IFPRI</td>
<td>International Food Policy Research Institute</td>
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<td>IHSA</td>
<td>International Humanitarian Studies Association</td>
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<td>IRD</td>
<td>International Relief and Development</td>
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<td>iTAG</td>
<td>interagency Technical Advisory Group (FAQR recommendation)</td>
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<td>IYCN</td>
<td>Infant and Young Child Nutrition</td>
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<tr>
<td>KC</td>
<td>Kansas City</td>
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<tr>
<td>KCCO</td>
<td>Kansas City Commodity Office (USDA)</td>
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<tr>
<td>Acronym</td>
<td>Description</td>
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<tr>
<td>LNS</td>
<td>Lipid-Based Nutrition Supplement</td>
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<td>LRP</td>
<td>Local and Regional Procurement</td>
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<td>MT</td>
<td>Metric Ton</td>
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<td>MCHN</td>
<td>Maternal Child Health and Nutrition</td>
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<td>MFFAPP</td>
<td>Micronutrient Fortification Food Aid Products Pilot Project</td>
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<td>MUAC</td>
<td>Mid-Upper Arm Circumference</td>
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<td>MYAP</td>
<td>Multi-Year Assistance Program</td>
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<td>NAMA</td>
<td>North American Millers Association</td>
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<td>NFSQ</td>
<td>Nutrition, Food Safety/Quality (USDA)</td>
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<td>NICHD</td>
<td>National Institute of Child Health and Disease</td>
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<td>NIFA</td>
<td>National Institute for Food and Agriculture</td>
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<td>NIH</td>
<td>National Institutes of Health</td>
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<td>NUGAG</td>
<td>Nutrition Guidelines Expert Advisory Group</td>
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<td>NUT</td>
<td>Nutrition Division (USAID/HIDN)</td>
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<td>OCBD</td>
<td>Office of Capacity Building and Development</td>
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<td>PATH</td>
<td>Program for Appropriate Technology in Health</td>
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<td>PCHIPA</td>
<td>The Partnership to Cut Hunger and Poverty in Africa</td>
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<td>PEPFAR</td>
<td>President’s Emergency Fund for AIDS Relief in Africa</td>
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<tr>
<td>PLW</td>
<td>Pregnant or Lactating Women</td>
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<td>PLWHA</td>
<td>People Living with HIV/AIDS</td>
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<td>PLHIV</td>
<td>People Living with HIV</td>
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<tr>
<td>PM2A</td>
<td>Preventing Malnutrition in Children Under 2 Approach</td>
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<td>PTD</td>
<td>Policy and Technical Division (USAID)</td>
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<td>PVO</td>
<td>Private Voluntary Organization</td>
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<td>REE</td>
<td>Research, Education and Economics (USDA)</td>
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<tr>
<td>RNI</td>
<td>Recommended Nutrient Intake</td>
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<td>RUCF</td>
<td>Ready-to-Use Complementary Food</td>
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<td>RUSF</td>
<td>Ready-to-Use Supplementary Food</td>
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<tr>
<td>SC</td>
<td>Save the Children</td>
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<td>SERD</td>
<td>Science and Education Research Development Unit (USDA)</td>
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<td>SYAP</td>
<td>Single-Year Assistance Program</td>
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<td>TOPS</td>
<td>Technical and Operation Performance Support Program (USAID)</td>
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<tr>
<td>UNSCN</td>
<td>United Nations Standing Committee on Nutrition</td>
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<td>USAID</td>
<td>United States Agency for International Development</td>
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<td>USBDC</td>
<td>The United States Dry Bean Council</td>
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<td>USDEC</td>
<td>United State Dairy Export Council</td>
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<td>USPB</td>
<td>United States Potato Board</td>
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<td>WALA</td>
<td>Wellness and Agriculture for Life Advancement project</td>
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<td>WFP</td>
<td>World Food Program</td>
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<td>WHO</td>
<td>World Health Organization</td>
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<td>Y.R.G. CARE</td>
<td>Y.R.Gaitonde Centre for AIDS Research and Education</td>
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Background Information on the Activity
The United States Agency for International Development’s (USAID) Food for Peace program awarded two-year a contract to Tufts University’s Friedman School of Nutrition Science and Policy in April 2009 to examine the nutritional needs of beneficiary populations across the developing world, and the nutritional quality of commodities currently available to meet those needs.

Scope of the Review
The project involves an assessment of Title II foods mainly intended for use in programs that seek a defined nutrition outcome. The study is reviewing:

- the nutritional value of existing products and their contribution to nutrition-related activities;
- whether these products and activities respond to beneficiary nutritional needs as effectively as they might; and
- how USAID could respond to defined needs better and more cost-effectively through potential changes in product formulation, the range of products provided, and modes of processing, procurement, and distribution to beneficiaries.

Among important issues being addressed: What guidance does current science provide about the need for inclusion/exclusion, levels and types, of macro and micronutrients in foods provided to highly vulnerable populations? What economic or food technology considerations come into play in seeking to optimize the nutritional content of food aid commodities and get the best nutritional impact for a given level of investment? Should new products or modes of processing, procurement, and distribution be considered for Title II activities? Innovative products are being investigated, as well as the potential for modifications to existing products. Activities to be considered include both non-emergency contexts (mainly maternal and child health and nutrition interventions, Food for Education and PEPFAR-funded programs) and emergency relief.

The review will provide recommendations on, a) how to improve existing products (updating formulations) that are mostly used with defined nutritional outcomes as their goal, b) what kinds of new formulations/products should be considered that would also be used to support clearly-defined nutritional objectives that are not easily met with existing products, c) how product formulations/specifications can be reviewed and updated in a more systematic and on-going manner, and d) steps needed to ensure quality throughout the value-chain. In addition, the review will provide recommendations related to the programming of these products for maximum and most cost-effective nutritional impact.
I. Research and Writing for Final Paper

This quarter was characterized by intensive work on finalizing the first draft report for comment, which was posted for public comment on December 15, 2010 on the Food Aid Quality Review (FAQR) website www.foodaidquality.org. In addition to finalizing the draft report, FAQR staff continued to hold expert consultations, and work on appendices and references throughout the quarter.

During this quarter the FAQR author team conducted final research and consultation with stakeholders, government officials, industry partners, and USAID Implementing Partners on topics relevant to the drafting of the final report. A final Expert Panel meeting, hosted by Tufts University on November 8th, 2010, served as a forum for initial review of FAQR draft conclusions and recommendations, which were then incorporated into the draft final report. This meeting was well attended with a total of 15 panelists and 11 FAQR authors, staff members, and consultants. Discussion was extensive, and all comments on the part of the Expert Panel were recorded for consideration during the drafting process.

The team conducted extensive writing to complete its draft final report to USAID. This working draft of the entire paper—including chapters on products, process, and programming—was reviewed by all Authors and submitted to USAID partners for initial review on December 14th. After this review, the draft report was then sent to the FAQR Expert Panel, and finally posted on the FAQR website for public comment.

The seven chapters making up the draft report cover product formulation and composition; product selection and usage in programming; HIV/AIDS context; cost and pricing; and processes surrounding product introduction, procurement, and quality assurance. The final chapter lists the FAQR conclusions and recommendations. The bibliography and references for this report are underway and will be completed in the coming quarter. Please see Annex II for a draft table of contents for the forthcoming report.

1.1 Stakeholder Consultation and Surveys

- During December 2010, Patrick Webb held discussions with USAID Title II partners involved in Malawi’s WALA project on issues relating to food aid product development, and on studies needed around usage (compliance) with RUTFs and RUSFs in various programming contexts.
- Dr. Webb traveled to Rome on October 14th-20th to meet with WFP regarding FAQR recommendations.
- The FAQR team began drafting proposals and scopes of work for follow-on studies and trials to be conducted based on recommendations from the final report to USAID. The draft scope of work is now under review by USAID.
The Implementing Partner Field Survey concluded in October, and analysis was conducted on the final surveys and incorporated into findings for the draft report.

Ongoing consultations with WFP, producers, stakeholders, and professionals continued throughout the quarter.

Dr. Wanke held discussions with Tony Castleman of FANTA (10/4 and 12/24) to develop a proposal to study MUAC as predictor of body composition and malnutrition in HIV infected adults.

From her position as Country Director at Helen Keller International (HKI), author Anu Narayan continued to provide input on the program chapter via phone and email.

1.2 Meetings and Events Organized and Attended

- The FAQR team held a meeting with representatives from Implementing Partner organizations at GF&N offices in Washington, DC on November 3rd. The meeting provided an opportunity for Dr. Rogers and Dr. Schlossman to present preliminary observations, conclusions, and recommendations, and to solicit NGO input and feedback, particularly in the areas of programming and agency processes related to programming and product development, and guidance relevant to NGO implementing partners (Please see Annex I for agenda). There was keen discussion about programming, timing of product development, field testing-testing of products and programming options, introduction of new products etc.

- The team also held a roundtable consultation with industry stakeholders at GF&N offices in Washington, DC on November 19th. This meeting was held for the purpose of soliciting industry input and feedback as FAQR readies the recommendations and report to a more public stage. Dr. Webb presented product recommendations and emphasized collaboration going forward. Dr. Schlossman presented process recommendations, including transparency, streamlining, oversight, fairness in industry standards and specifications, and the need for yearly guidance as the Commodities Reference Guide is not current. Those in attendance included ASA (American Soybean Association), Tabatchnick Fine Foods, USA Rice, USA Rice Federation, USAID/FFP, USDEC, Breedlove Foods, NAMA, American Peanut Council, Birdsong Peanuts, Edesia LLC, Sorghum Checkoff, US Grains Export Council, USDBC, USPB, and DSM. Industry feedback was substantial.

- A second Expert Panel Meeting was held on November 8th to receive input on the draft conclusions and recommendations for the FAQR final report. Authors presented findings, highlights, and key issues from each chapter of the draft report. The meeting provided an informal venue, with extensive discussion and comments recorded.

- An Author Meeting was held on November 9th, after the Expert Panel Meeting, to review and incorporate panelists' many comments, and discuss next steps.

- Dr. Wanke attended the ADA Symposium as a proposer and presenter on HIV and Nutrition on November 9th.
USAID Food Aid Quality Review  
October-December 2010

- Dr. Wanke attended the NUGAG Meeting (WHO Nutrition Expert Advisory Group) in Amman, Jordan on November 15th-17th. She presented updates on scientific evidence related to nutrition in HIV.
- GF&N staff attended the PCHPA: Food Aid and Agricultural Cargo Preference event on December 7th on behalf of FAQR (at no additional cost). The purpose of this event was to address the issue highlighted in Professor Chris Barrett’s article of a financially burdensome cargo preference policy.
- GF&N staff attended the Food for Peace Consultation: Title II Application and Review Process on December 8th. This meeting discussed the proposed Annual Program Statement (APS), which would combine applications for Title II funding and International Disaster Assistance (IDA).
- GF&N staff also attended the FACG Meeting on December 19th in Washington, DC. The purpose of this meeting was to provide an update on various food aid issues, many of which relate directly to the work of the FAQR.

1.3 Web-Mediated Outreach

Registration for the FAQR website (www.foodaidquality.org) increased sharply when the draft report to USAID was posted for public comment on December 15th, 2010. Membership is now at around 450. The draft report was posted electronically, accessible for public and private comment, chapter by chapter. The deadline for public comment was set for January 15th, 2011 in the coming quarter.

2. Administrative and Budget Issues

2.1 Staffing

The project has no staffing changes to report for this quarter.

2.2 Budget

The FAQR project is on track with its remaining budget, but will require a no-cost extension to cover two planned conferences and a report launch set to occur just after the official end of the FAQR contract: April 4th, 2011.

3. Plans for the coming quarter (January-March 2011)

- Patrick Webb will discuss issues surrounding new product development, testing and packaging studies with stakeholders in Nepal during January 2011 (World Bank, WFP, DFID, HKI). There is considerable partner and industry interest in these domains in this country.
- The draft Final Report to USAID will remain posted for comment on the FAQR website through January 15th, 2011. Throughout the coming quarter, authors will
be receiving and reviewing comments. These comments are expected to come from Expert Panel members, stakeholders, government officials, and the public.

- The FAQR team will be holding a final USAID-USDA Interagency Meeting in DC in early March 2011. This meeting will also serve as a time to launch the FAQR-recommended ITAG (Interagency Technical Assistance Group).

- Experimental Biology Conference 2011: The FAQR team will be holding a Symposium to present FAQR conclusions and recommendations on April 12th, 2011 (this will likely be covered by a no-cost extension).

- Kansas City Food Aid & Development Conference 2011: The FAQR team will hold a side-event at this conference on topics presented in the final report.

- During the upcoming quarter, the Food Aid Quality Review’s final report will be published and printed. In mid-April, the FAQR team and USAID will hold a launch of the Final Food Aid Quality Review Report to USAID.

- Quentin Johnson and Patrick Webb will be attending the Transatlantic meeting on Food Aid in Washington organized through Cornell.

- Dr. Wanke plans to attend the Y.R.G. CARE Symposium on January 7-8 in Chennai, Tamilnadu as an invited speaker on HIV and nutrition. She will discuss the Y.R.G. CARE clinic and foundation approach to incorporation of nutrition into primary care, and their approach to the development of sustainability for nutritional support for HIV infected and affected families.

- Dr. Rogers will travel to Ethiopia in January 2011 in conjunction with a separate project, which will provide the opportunity to observe the logistics of monitoring and distribution of alternative food aid products (Plumpy’Nut and CSMB) in a medical (HIV) context.
Annex 1: Meeting Agendas

Food Aid Quality Review
Second Expert Panel Meeting
Boston, MA

Date: November 8, 2010
Time: 9:00 AM – 6:00 PM *8:30 AM Breakfast and Registration
Location: Tufts University, Arthur J. Sackler Building - Room 812, 145 Harrison Avenue, Boston, MA 02111

Agenda

8:30 AM – 9:00 AM Registration; coffee & light breakfast

9:00 AM – 9:15 AM Introductory Remarks – Patrick Webb (PI)
   Introductions

9:15 AM – 10:45 PM FAQR Presentation on Product – Irwin Rosenberg, Jessica Tilahun
   Comment from Expert Panel

10:45 AM – 12:15 PM FAQR Presentation on Programming – Beatrice Rogers (co-PI)
   Comment from Expert Panel

12:15 PM – 1:15 PM Lunch

1:15 PM – 2:15 PM FAQR Presentation on Costing – Patrick Webb (PI)
   Comment from Expert Panel

2:15 PM – 3:45 PM FAQR Presentation on Process – Nina Schlossman, Quentin Johnson
   Comment from Expert Panel

3:45 PM – 4:00 PM Coffee break

4:00 PM – 5:30 PM FAQR Presentation on HIV & Nutrition – Christine Wanke, Kate Sadler
   Comment from Expert Panel

5:30 PM – 6:00 PM Closing Discussion; Next Steps
Food Aid Quality Review
Implementing Partner Meeting
Washington, DC
November 3, 2010

Attendees:

Kathrine Coon – IRD
Catherine Feeney – WFP
David Dyjack – ADRA
Jaspal Gill – WFP
Mary Hennigan – CRS
Joan Jennings – TOPS Program
Matthew Krause – Land O’Lakes
Lisa Kuennen-Asfaw – CRS
KD Ladd – ACDI/VOCA
Robert Laprade – Care
Guillermo Lizzaraga – ADRA
Naila Mohamed – Counterpart
Sara Netzer – Counterpart
Cindy Pfitzenmaier – Project Concern
Kathryn Reider – World Vision
Dorcas Robinson – Care
Catherine Seeney – WFP
Brendan Wachenreuter – SC
Emily Wei – Mercy Corps
Daniel Wortman – ADRA
Ellyn Yakowenko – Africare
Sonya Kibler – SC
Bea Rogers – FAQR
Amelia Reese Masterson – FAQR
Nina Schlossman – FAQR
Jessica Tilahun – FAQR
Stephen Ross – FAQR

Agenda

Introductions

Programming Findings and Recommendations – Bea Rogers
- Survey and Research Findings - highlights
- Programming Guidance
- Use of Field Level Data
- Preliminary Recommendations

Processes – Nina Schlossman
- Product introduction, procurement, supply-chain management
- Recommendations

Q&A

FAQR Next Steps
Annex II: Draft Report Table of Contents

Table of Contents

Executive Summary
Acknowledgements

Report Synopsis

Chapter 1: Introduction and Overview
  1.1 The Institutional Context for this Review
  1.2 Summary of Approach

Chapter 2: Formulation and Composition – Optimizing Products
  2.1 The Evolving Composition of Fortified Blended Products
  2.2 Nutritional Needs of Beneficiary Populations
  2.3 Upgrading the Formulation of Enriched and Fortified Products
    2.3.1 Recommended Reformulation of CSB and WSB
    2.3.2 Comparison with Lipid based nutrition Supplements
    2.3.3 Recommendations for Fortification of Milled Grains (Flour and Meal) and Enriched Blended Cereals
    2.3.4 Recommendation for Fortified Vegetable Oil

Chapter 3. Product Selection and Usage - Optimizing Programming
  3.1 The Evolving Programming Portfolio
  3.2 The Food Basket
  3.3 Trends in Title II Programming
    3.3.1 Use of Commodity by Technical Sector
    3.3.2 Composition of Rations
    3.3.3 Purposes of CSB in Programming
    3.3.4 Variable Ration Size and Composition
    3.3.5 Ration Sharing within the Household
    3.3.6 Program Design, Monitoring and Evaluation
    3.3.7 Logistics and Management Concerns
  3.4 Program Guidance to Implementing Partners
    3.4.1 Program Guidance Documents for FY2011
  3.5 Proposed Guidance for Nutrition Programming
    3.5.1 Tailoring the Use of Commodities to their Objectives
    3.5.2 Complementary Program Components
    3.5.3 Ongoing Evaluation
    3.5.4 Decision Trees to Guide Commodity Selection and Programming
Chapter 4. The HIV/AIDS context – Optimizing Treatment Approaches

4.1 Nutritional Complications of HIV/AIDS
   4.1.1 Weight Loss or Cachexia
   4.1.2 Complications of Weight Loss/Loss of Lean Body Mass
   4.1.3 Interventions with Micronutrients in ART Naïve PLHIV
   4.1.4 Interventions with Macronutrients in ART Naïve PLHIV

4.2 Assessment of Nutritional Status in HIV

4.3 Frequency and Severity of HIV Associated Weight Loss and Wasting

4.4 Etiology of Weight Loss in HIV
   4.4.1 Food Insecurity
   4.4.2 Barriers to Oral Intake
   4.4.3 Malabsorption
   4.4.4 Altered Metabolism

4.5 Treatment, Loss of Weight, and Micronutrient Deficiency in PLHIV on ART
   4.5.1 Micronutrient Interventions in PLHIV on ART
   4.5.2 Macronutrient Interventions in PLHIV on ART
   4.5.3 Dilemma: Nutritional Interventions for Nutritional or Non-nutritional Benefit?

4.6 Consideration of Product ‘Fit-for-purpose’
   4.6.1 Targeting
   4.6.2 Objectives for the Use of Food
   4.6.3 Commodities and Ration Sizes
   4.6.4 Timing of Nutritional Support
   4.6.5 Other Program Design and Delivery Issues
   4.6.6 Assessing Program Impact

Chapter 5. Costing and pricing – Optimizing Cost-Effectiveness

5.1 Review of the Cost of Title II Commodities, 2004-2008
   5.1.1 Cost of Current Rations

5.2 Cost of Reformulating Rations
   5.2.1 Caveats to Cost Estimates

5.3 Cost of Fortified Milled Grains
5.4 Cost of Fortified Vegetable Oil
5.5 Comparing Costs with Alternate Products
5.6 Cost Implications of New Programming Approaches
   5.6.1 Cost Associated with Delivering Formulated Products
5.7 Cost Implications of New Approaches

Chapter 6. Product Introduction, Procurement and Quality Assurance – Optimizing Processes

6.1 The Changing Marketplace: Increased Availability of New Products
6.2 Product Introduction and Reviews
   6.2.1 New Product Proposal, Review, Approval, and Listing Processes
   6.2.2 Product Listing
   6.2.3 Review of Past Recommendations
   6.2.4 Changes to the Product Introduction and Approval System
6.2.5 Potential for Performance-Based Specifications
6.2.6 Proliferation of FBF Products and Specifications

6.3 Current Procurement Practice
  6.3.1 Procurement and Quality Control/Quality Assurance Issues
  6.3.2 Changes in Procurement and Implications for Quality Assurance
  6.3.3 FBF Quality Assurance and Specifications

6.4 Quality Issues and Complaints
  6.4.1 Vegetable Oil Quality Issues
  6.4.2 Issues in QC/QA That Require Priority Attention and Resolution
  6.4.3 Vendor Performance Standards

6.5 Inter-Agency Oversight Systems

Chapter 7. Conclusions and Recommendations
  7.1 Broad Conclusions
  7.2 Recommendations on Products
  7.3 Recommendations on Programming
  7.4 Recommendations on Processes

Acronyms
Procurement Flow-chart Acronyms

References cited

Appendix 1: Authors, Staff, and Expert Panel Members [names, affiliations, expertise]
Appendix 2: Technical Details of Proposed Product Reformulations
Appendix 3: Overview of Implementing Partner Survey
Appendix 4: Summary of Critical Knowledge Gaps Affecting Title II Food Aid Programming
Appendix 5: Guidance for Implementing Partners (decision trees – also found in Chapter 3)
Appendix 6: …