



USAID
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FOOD AID QUALITY REVIEW PHASE III: YEAR 4

REFINE (Research Engagement on Food Interventions for Nutritional Effectiveness): CONCEPT NOTE

PROBLEM STATEMENT

Significant research has been and is being done on food aid for nutrition; however, sharing evidence and lessons learned remains limited and challenging. Also, there is no clear guidance highlighting how researchers engaged in food aid for nutrition can maximize the comparability of their studies and the quality of their evidence by following best practices in study planning, design and dissemination.

REFINE was established in 2012 to facilitate knowledge sharing and support consensus-building on topics related to food aid for nutrition. To support these aims, the REFINE website was developed as a repository of ongoing research, published studies, and other key documents relating to food-supported interventions, and made searchable by priority themes in order to stimulate dialogue and forge linkages among relevant research initiatives.

GOAL/OBJECTIVE

REFINE will (1) complete the FAQR: Lessons Learned in Decision-Making, Design, Implementation, and Analysis deliverable to share decision-making rationale and lessons learned in study design, implementation, and analysis of research done throughout FAQR; (2) implement a series of updates to the web platform (www.refinenutrition.org) to facilitate ease of use, outreach, and feedback mechanisms for end users in the food aid for nutrition community, and (3) establish a sustainability plan for REFINE following completion of FAQR.

SIGNIFICANCE TO USAID/FFP AND PARTNERS

As REFINE continues to grow and extend its reach, our aim is that it will become a central hub for stakeholders involved in research on food aid for nutrition to facilitate knowledge sharing and consensus-building on topics related to food-supported interventions. USAID/FFP and

partners will receive Quarterly Resource Updates on emerging research themes, ongoing research, published trials, and other key documents relating to food aid for nutrition. USAID/FFP and partners may also leverage the REFINE web platform to identify and track key areas for research prioritization around food aid products, as well as ongoing studies in the field and potential collaborators for future work.

FINAL DELIVERABLE(S)

- FAQR: Lessons Learned in Decision-Making, Design, Implementation, and Analysis
- REFINEnutrition.org Design Updates & Outreach
- REFINE Sustainability Plan

WORKSTREAM CONTACTS

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