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FOOD AID QUALITY REVIEW

Food Aid Safety and Quality Systems Work Stream

BACKGROUND

As a key recommendation from FAQR I, improved oversight of the food aid supply chain remains a priority. Tufts will collaborate with USAID, USDA, and key partners to identify and analyze supply chain challenges to commodity production, shipment, storage, and handling, including the “last mile” of distribution to beneficiaries. The work will *analyze* key concerns relating to potential threats to food safety and cost-effectiveness, where ‘effectiveness’ is defined in terms of timely delivery of products to their final destination in good condition. We will propose *recommendations* relating to potential improvements in a) food-basket composition, procurement, transportation, storage and field distribution mechanisms, and b) potential for interagency *harmonization* of supply chain management approaches. The recommendations will take full account of different agency experiences and also evaluate the impact and potential of increased local and regional procurement.

Stakeholder engagement, USAID Title II data analysis and an extensive literature review will be conducted in FY16. Furthermore, data-driven decision-aid tools that can quantify the impact of the above recommendations will be developed during FY17. These tools will support systematic decision making for procuring and distributing food aid locally, regionally, or globally.

OBJECTIVES

- A. Analysis and identification of challenges in procurement, shipment, storage, handling from a cost-effectiveness perspective based on data received from USAID
- B. Develop models that consider the entire value-chain as a “system” (including product mix, transfer modality, regional and local procurement, storage location and amounts, transport and delivery options)
- C. Develop spreadsheet-based tools based on the models
- D. Identify constraints and environmental factors, alternatives and use these models to identify investments and changes in activities that can enhance the cost-effectiveness