

SAVE THE DATE

*Food Security and Nutrition Network
Knowledge Sharing Meeting
June 11-13, 2012
Addis Ababa, Ethiopia*

The USAID/Office of Food for Peace (FFP)-funded TOPS Program is holding its third Food Security and Nutrition (FSN) Network Regional Knowledge Sharing Meeting to bring together food security and nutrition grantees, donors, and researchers for peer learning, knowledge sharing, and networking. The focus of content for the event will be on the East Africa Region, but stakeholders globally are invited to attend.

The meeting agenda will focus on the challenges and successes found in implementing both development and emergency food aid programs, and address many of the issues facing Title II grantees as they carry out food security and nutrition programs for some of the world's most vulnerable populations. The meeting is intended to facilitate discussion and sharing, and to emphasize opportunities for building linkages between individuals and organizations across technical areas, programs, and countries.

Potential topics include integrated watershed management, community mobilization, successful coordination structures and practices, integrating conflict mitigation into program interventions, improving linkages between the research and implementing communities, fostering agriculture and nutrition linkages, operationalizing gender integration, and strengthening knowledge and skills to improve monitoring and evaluation, social and behavioral change, agriculture, and nutrition program delivery.

Four quick steps you can take to stay involved:

- 1) Pass this save the date on to your colleagues.
- 2) Provide us input on topics and possible sessions of interest by following the link to our online survey: <http://www.surveymonkey.com/s/WFT5992>
- 3) Let us know of potential presenters (including you!) who may have interesting solutions or new ways of approaching our collective work to improve food security. Send suggestions to Joan Whelan at jwhelan@coregroupdc.org
- 4) Subscribe to the FSN Network News to stay informed on developments regarding this event and other announcements of interest to the food security and nutrition implementing community. Subscribe to the newsletter by following the link: bit.ly/fsnnetworknews

The FSN Network knowledge sharing workshop will be preceded by a TOPS multi-day training workshop. See below for more information.

TOPS Capacity Strengthening Workshop

June 4-8, 2012

Addis Ababa, Ethiopia

The knowledge sharing event in Addis Ababa will be preceded by several days of TOPS capacity strengthening workshops in Nutrition, Agriculture, and Monitoring and Evaluation, with cross-cutting content addressing Social and Behavioral Change and Gender Integration.

These workshops are by invitation only, with participants selected from the Food for Peace implementing community through a nomination process.

More details on the TOPS training workshop will be announced in the coming weeks in the FSN Network News. In the meantime, for more information, contact Melissa Teuber, TOPS Program Associate, at mteuber@savechildren.org

More about TOPS

TOPS SO: Highest quality information, knowledge, and best practices for improved methodologies in food aid and food security program performance identified, established, shared and adapted.

TOPS, funded by USAID/Office of Food for Peace (FFP), is a Leader with Associates (LWA) Cooperative Agreement intended to improve the quality of food aid and food security program implementation through capacity strengthening, direct technical assistance, and the identification, adaptation, and sharing of best practices for widespread adoption. TOPS provides training workshops in the U.S. and in the field, administers a small grants program, and fosters the development of the FSN Network.

More about the FSN Network

The goal of the FSN Network is to create opportunities for the food security and nutrition community to share information, shape agendas, understand and influence donor priorities, build consensus on best practices, and widely diffuse technical knowledge, all with the goal of achieving high quality, efficient, and effective food security programming for vulnerable people.

The Network offers several mechanisms to expedite organizational knowledge sharing and collaboration, including technical task forces in which members from around the world directly share and discuss their expertise on development information, tools, and methodologies, as well as regional knowledge sharing meetings where participants gather to share implementation experience and best practices.

