



**USAID**  
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USDA-USAID 2016 INTERNATIONAL

**FOOD ASSISTANCE**

& **FOOD SECURITY**

CONFERENCE



OCTOBER 10-11, 2016  
DES MOINES, IOWA



U. S. rice harvest. Credit: USDA

## OCTOBER 10, 2016

ALL SESSIONS ARE LOCATED IN THE IOWA BALLROOM UNLESS NOTED IN THE AGENDA

- 8:00 A.M. **WELCOME AND INTRODUCTIONS**
- 8:45 A.M. **CONCURRENT BREAKOUT SESSIONS**  
U.S. Department of Agriculture FY 2017 Food Assistance  
Randomized Evaluations: Use and Practice  
Food Aid Quality Review
- 9:45 A.M. **COFFEE BREAK**
- 10:00 A.M. **CONCURRENT BREAKOUT SESSIONS**  
Experimental Evidence in Agriculture: Lessons from over 40 Randomized Evaluations  
How Ethiopia Averted Widespread Famine: Resilience in the Face of El Niño and a Historic Drought  
Increasing the Operational Efficiency of In-Kind Food Assistance
- 11:15 A.M. **CONCURRENT BREAKOUT SESSIONS**  
Evidence from Randomized Controlled Trials on School Feeding and Education  
Resilience: What Does the Evidence Tell Us?  
The Food for Peace Tool Box
- 12:30 P.M. **LUNCH**  
Reflecting Back and Looking Forward on U.S. Food Assistance
- 2:00 P.M. **CONCURRENT BREAKOUT SESSIONS**  
Learning Agendas  
Food for Peace 10-Year Strategy  
From Evidence to Impact: Scaling What Works in Development
- 3:00 P.M. **COFFEE BREAK, SPEED NETWORKING AND EXHIBITS (DES MOINES ROOM)**
- 4:30 P.M. **CONFERENCE IS ADJOURNED**



A Cambodian farming family at work. Credit: FINTRAC

## OCTOBER 11, 2016

ALL SESSIONS ARE LOCATED IN THE IOWA BALLROOM UNLESS NOTED IN THE AGENDA

- 8:00 A.M. **WELCOME REMARKS**
- 8:45 A.M. **CONCURRENT BREAKOUT SESSIONS**  
Climate Change and Food Security  
Does Food Security Contribute to Political Stability?  
Nutrition-Sensitive Agriculture and the Local Food Systems Approach
- 10:00 A.M. **COFFEE BREAK**
- 10:45 A.M. **CONCURRENT BREAKOUT SESSIONS**  
Internationally Commenced, Domestically Completed (Des Moines Room)  
Big Data for Big Problems  
Emerging Agriculture Innovations for Improved Diets  
Double Burden of Malnutrition
- 12:15 P.M. **LUNCH (DES MOINES ROOM)**  
Moving Women Up the Value Chain in Agricultural Market Systems
- 2:00 P.M. **CONCURRENT BREAKOUT SESSIONS**  
School Feeding: A Critical Social Safety Net  
SPS and Food Safety: Building Capacity to Support Trade  
Food Self-Sufficiency versus Food and Nutrition Security  
Leveraging In-Kind Food Aid
- 3:30 P.M. **COFFEE BREAK, SPEED NETWORKING AND EXHIBITS (DES MOINES ROOM)**
- 4:30 P.M. **CLOSING PLENARY SESSION (DES MOINES ROOM)**  
Global Food Security Act Forward Strategy
- 5:30 P.M. **CONFERENCE IS ADJOURNED**



Kenyan sweet potato farmers. Credit: FINTRAC

## SESSION DESCRIPTIONS

(IN ORDER OF APPEARANCE ON THE PROGRAM AGENDA)

### OCTOBER 10, 2016

#### U.S. DEPARTMENT OF AGRICULTURE FY 2017 FOOD ASSISTANCE

An introduction of the USDA Food Assistance Division (FAD) and its role in the administration and management of three U.S. Government Food Assistance programs: Food for Progress, McGovern-Dole Food for Education, and Local and Regional Procurement Program. The session will include a summary of FAD structure, including program branches, transportation and logistics, and program administration and monitoring branch.

**Panelists:** Ben Muskovitz, Director of Food Assistance Division; Nicola Sakhleh, Branch Chief of Food for Development Branch; Ingrid Ardjosoediro, Branch Chief for School Feeding and Humanitarian Assistance Branch; and Angela Crooks, Branch Chief for Program Administration and Monitoring Branch

#### RANDOMIZED EVALUATIONS: USE AND PRACTICE

Randomized evaluations, also called randomized controlled trials (RCTs), are a rigorous and sometimes controversial evaluation methodology that can generate strong evidence but that can also be challenging to implement, particularly in the context of international development. This session will discuss what makes randomized evaluations such a powerful methodology. How do they work? When are they most appropriate? What do we learn from them?

**Introduction:** Ellie Morefield, Evaluator, Monitoring and Evaluation Staff, USDA

**Speaker:** Kyle Murphy, Senior Policy Associate, J-PAL

#### FOOD AID QUALITY REVIEW

The presentation will focus on USAID's Food Aid Quality Review (FAQR), research to make food aid more cost-effective and of longer-lasting positive impact. The session will include the outcomes of the recently concluded Phase II products and processes as well as an overview of the current FAQR phase. Further topics include updates on fortified rice research, work with ready-to-use foods, food safety concerns and auditing systems.

**Moderator:** Judy Canahuati, Nutrition Team Leader of Food for Peace, USAID

**Panelists:** Dr. Rufino Perez, Food Technologist, Food for Peace, USAID; and Dr. Patrick Webb, Tufts University, Food Aid Quality Review, Principal Investigator

#### EXPERIMENTAL EVIDENCE IN AGRICULTURE: LESSONS FROM OVER 40 RANDOMIZED EVALUATIONS

The session will provide an overview of emerging insights from randomized evaluations of agricultural technology adoption in the developing world; it covers a portfolio of nearly 40 RCTs. The session will review results from evaluations of interventions which address smallholder farmers' credit and savings access, risk mitigation and reduction, information and extension services, and value chains.

**Introduction:** Ellie Morefield, Evaluator, Monitoring & Evaluation Staff, USDA  
**Speaker:** Craig McIntosh, Professor of Economics, UC-San Diego & Board Officer of Agricultural Technology Adoption Initiative

### **HOW ETHIOPIA AVERTED WIDESPREAD FAMINE: RESILIENCE IN THE FACE OF EL NIÑO AND A HISTORIC DROUGHT**

Ethiopia is dealing with the worst drought in decades, leaving approximately 10 million people in need of relief food assistance. However, despite this enormous need, the nation has averted widespread famine. In this session, panelists will discuss how science and the efficiency of early warning systems led to quick response by USAID decision makers, NGOs and the Ethiopia government in order to provide relief; addressing immediate needs, longer-term recovery and resilience to similar shocks in the future.

**Moderator:** Dina Esposito, Director of the Office of Food for Peace, USAID  
**Panelists:** Jim Verdin, and Chris Hillbruner of FEWS NET/Chemonics, David Alt of Catholic Relief Services, and Clifford Davison, Food for Peace Officer for Ethiopia, Food for Peace

### **INCREASING THE OPERATIONAL EFFICIENCY OF IN-KIND FOOD ASSISTANCE**

A roundtable discussion on enhancing and increasing the procurement of commodities as well as finding more efficient ways in transportation. This session will be an open dialogue that features sharing of ideas that could set in motion long-term efficiency gains for our FAS food assistance programs.

**Moderator:** Shane Danielson, Branch Chief of Transportation and Logistics, Food Assistance Division, USDA  
**Panelists:** Greg Olson, Program Operations Division Director, Food For Peace, USAID; Dan Webber, Branch Chief, International Procurement Branch, Kansas City Commodity Office, USDA; and Paul Vicinanza, Division Chief, Transportation, Office of Acquisition and Assistance, USAID

### **EVIDENCE FROM RANDOMIZED CONTROLLED TRIALS ON SCHOOL FEEDING AND EDUCATION**

An overview of research from school feeding and lessons from randomized evaluations in primary education. It summarizes evidence on programs to increase student participation, including reducing distance and student costs, providing incentives and information, and improving student health. It also summarizes evidence on what aspects of school quality matter for student learning, including adding school inputs, improving curriculum and pedagogy and strengthening school governance.

**Introduction:** Christie Vilsack, Senior Advisor for International Education, USAID  
**Speaker:** John Floretta, Associate Director of Policy, J-PAL

### **RESILIENCE: WHAT DOES THE EVIDENCE TELL US?**

Building resilience to recurrent crises emerged as a priority following the 2011-12 droughts in the Horn of Africa and Sahel, driven by the extraordinary cost of lives and livelihoods lost as well as the economic impact on national economies and recurrent humanitarian spending. Resilience measurement has also grown, as has the body of evidence on what resources, strategies and assets enable vulnerable households and communities to

effectively mitigate, adapt to and recover from shocks and stresses. This panel will explore the current evidence on resilience - what matters, where and why - and the ramifications for policy and programming.

**Moderator:** Greg Collins, Resilience Coordinator and Director, USAID's Center for Resilience  
**Panelists:** Panelists: Tim Frankenberger, President, TANGO International; Todd Crosby, Advisor, NCBA CLUSA; Catherine McMahon, Director of Food Security and New Business Development, Mercy Corps; and Andrew Layton, Chief of Party, Somalia Resilience Program, World Vision

### **FOOD FOR PEACE TOOL BOX**

Modern food assistance is more than just food. While commodities from U.S. farmers remain the cornerstone of U.S. food assistance, this session focuses on how USAID uses other tools – including locally purchased commodities and cash-based programs - in concert with U.S. in-kind food to tackle chronic hunger, malnutrition and poverty throughout the world.

**Speaker:** Matt Nims, Deputy Director of Food for Peace, USAID

### **REFLECTING BACK AND LOOKING FORWARD ON U.S. FOOD ASSISTANCE**

Ms. Esposito will reflect on her six years serving as the Food for Peace director including how Food for Peace and its partners are adapting to the changing contexts in which they work; how they are tackling some of the biggest hunger challenges of the day; and lessons learned and challenges as we look to the future.

**Speaker:** Dina Esposito, Director of Food for Peace, USAID

### **LEARNING AGENDAS**

A learning agenda is a broad set of questions directly related to the work that an agency conducts that, when answered, enables the agency to work more effectively and efficiently, particularly pertaining to evaluation, evidence and decision-making. Once the questions are identified, a learning agenda also prioritizes and establishes a plan to answer short- and long-term questions of the highest value across relevant program and policy areas. This session will introduce OMB's efforts to encourage use learning agendas as well as presentations of learning agendas for USDA's McGovern-Dole and Food for Progress programs and the Feed the Future's learning agenda.

**Moderator:** Jason Compy, Evaluator and Acting Branch Chief, Monitoring & Evaluation Staff, USDA  
**Panelists:** Diana Epstein, OMB Evidence Team; Eric Benschoter, Deputy Director of Monitoring and Evaluation, The QED Group, LLC; Geetha Nagaragan, Lead Researcher, Social Impact; and Omar Dary, Bureau for Global Health, USAID/ Feed the Future

### **FOOD FOR PEACE 10-YEAR STRATEGY**

USAID's Food for Peace (FFP) will launch its 2016-2025 Food Assistance and Food Security Strategy. Developed in close partnership with a broad range of stakeholders, FFP's strategy reaffirms its vision of a world free of hunger and poverty, where all people live in dignity, peace and security. This session provides an opportunity to learn more about FFP's new strategic thinking, and the improved focus and capacities that will be required to

meet ambitious goals set out for the next decade.

**Moderator:** Dina Esposito, Director of the Office of Food for Peace, USAID

**Speaker:** Joan Whelan, Strategy and Learning Advisor for Food for Peace, USAID

### **FROM EVIDENCE TO IMPACT: SCALING WHAT WORKS IN DEVELOPMENT**

This panel discusses different models for scaling evidence-based programs. Panelists will talk about experiences from conducting evaluations and working with implementing organizations to fund effective programs and integrate research insights into plans for scale. Themes covered will include: identifying programs that work and then providing funding to scale them; working closely with a partner organization to evaluate then scale a program; and generalizing insights from evaluations across contexts.

**Moderator:** John Floretta, Associate Director of Policy, J-PAL

**Panelists:** Craig McIntosh, Professor of Economics, UC-San Diego & Board Officer of Agricultural Technology Adoption Initiative; Katrin Verclas, Director, Global Communications and Advocacy, Evidence Action; and Mary Hennigan, Senior Technical Advisor in Nutrition, CRS

## **OCTOBER 11, 2016**

### **CLIMATE CHANGE AND FOOD SECURITY**

Climate change undermines food security by exacerbating the risks of hunger and undernutrition directly through changes in agro-ecological conditions and indirectly by affecting growth and distribution of incomes, and thus demand for agricultural produce. Climate Smart Agriculture is an approach for developing agricultural strategies to secure sustainable food security under climate change. However, policies and practices are not implemented in a vacuum so climate change and agricultural development must be addressed simultaneously and in a holistic manner that also supports natural resources and people.

**Moderator:** Dr. Rob Bertram, Chief Scientist in USAID's Bureau for Food Security

**Panelists:** Dr. Muhammad Ibrahim, Director General of the Tropical Agricultural Research and Higher Education Center; Dr. Andy Jarvis, Director of the Decision and Policy Analysis Area in the International Centre for Tropical Agriculture; Elizabeth Basauri Bryan, Senior Research Analyst Food Policy Research Institute; Dr. Walter E. Baethgen, Head of Regional and Sectoral Research, Latin America and the Caribbean program, Earth Institute, Columbia University

### **DOES FOOD SECURITY CONTRIBUTE TO POLITICAL STABILITY?**

As global food demand increases and competition for land resources intensifies, food security is increasingly linked to political stability. The global food price crises of 2008 and 2011 revealed how food insecurity can contribute to political unrest and exacerbate underlying sociopolitical tensions in low- and middle-income countries through specific pathways. Panelists will discuss how policies that promote food security can also mitigate causes of instability and address how food assistance programs can evolve to meet this challenge – or at the very least – do no harm?

**Moderator:** Kimberly Flowers, Direct of the Global Food Security Project, CSIS

**Panelists:** Joanna Upton, Cornell; Marc Bellemare, University of Minnesota; and Robert Paarlberg, Harvard

### **NUTRITION-SENSITIVE AGRICULTURE AND THE LOCAL FOOD SYSTEMS APPROACH**

Achieving food security, so that all people at all times have availability and access to sufficient food to meet caloric and nutritional needs for an active and healthy life, requires a diverse and high quality diet. Nutrition requires proper utilization of food as well as availability, access, and stability. This session introduces the audience to the key pathways from agriculture to nutrition and summarizes the current evidence base for effective nutrition-sensitive agriculture programs. It also introduces the audience to the use of local food systems to improve food and nutrition security.

**Panelists:** Heather Danton, SPRING; and Stella Nash, USDA Food and Nutrition Service Regional Nutrition and Technical Services Director of the Mountain Plains Regional Office

### **INTERNATIONALLY COMMENCED, DOMESTICALLY COMPLETED**

Designing food assistance projects that are sustainable and can be transitioned to local management is a persistent challenge for practitioners and policymakers. There is evidence that resources, capacity and motivation are three critical factors to ensuring that the benefits of interventions endure after a project ends. However, there is a lack of rigorous assessment and measurement of the sustainability of change. This session will identify project design elements that encourage sustainability of project outcomes and discuss strategies for improving the measurement of, and ultimately the evidence base on, sustainability in food assistance programs.

**Moderator:** Jason Compy, Evaluator and Acting Branch Chief, Monitoring & Evaluation Staff, USDA

**Panelists:** Beatrice Rodgers, Tufts University; Andrew Epstein, Social Impact; and Janine Schooley, Project Concern International

### **BIG DATA FOR BIG PROBLEMS**

Data has become a valuable global commodity, but in expert hands, it transforms from information to intelligence. It helps to respond to climate change/variability, food insecurity and malnutrition, and environmental degradation by revolutionizing genomics and crop breeding and revolutionizing disciplines from climate modelling to agronomy. Today's data revolution represents an unprecedented opportunity to find new and better ways to reduce hunger and poverty, by encompassing data-driven solutions to ongoing research-for-development efforts and in so doing, bringing transformational changes by introducing positive disruptive technologies that radically change impact pathways.

**Moderator:** Dr. Andy Jarvis, Director of the Decision and Policy Analysis Area in the International Centre for Tropical Agriculture

**Panelists:** Christian Merz, Senior Program Officer Digital Solutions, Bill & Melinda Gates Foundation; Jim Verdin, FEWS NET/Chemonics ; Christopher Burns, U.S. Global Development Lab at USAID; and Dr. Daniel Jimenez, Agronomist and Data Scientist in the Decision and Policy Analysis (DAPA) Research Area of the International Centre for Tropical Agriculture (CIAT)

### **EMERGING AGRICULTURE INNOVATIONS FOR IMPROVED DIETS**

A healthy and balanced quality diet requires good sources of micro and macronutrients, including key vitamins and minerals, and high quality protein. Availability of and access to a sufficiently diverse and safe diet, especially in low and middle income countries, are a challenge for the most economically vulnerable. Agriculture innovations play a critical role in improving dietary quality by making safe and nutritious foods more widely available and affordable. This session focuses on important examples of successful work in this field: biofortification, biocontrol and integrated pest management in cowpea value chains, dairy value chain improvements and Aflasafe.

**Moderator:** Dr. Rob Bertram, Chief Scientist in USAID's Bureau for Food Security

**Panelists:** Dr. Howarth Bouis, Program Director, HarvestPlus; Dr. Barry Pittendrigh, University of Illinois;

Jennie Lane, Land O'Lakes; and Paul Kachapulula, Borlaug LEAP Fellow

### **DOUBLE BURDEN OF MALNUTRITION**

The double burden of malnutrition refers to populations that have a heavy burden of both under- and over-nutrition. Nearly every low and middle income country in the world is now facing this looming crisis, which has now become the "new normal" in global nutrition and food security. The session will describe and propose solutions to address the double burden of malnutrition and the tremendous public health and economic risks it poses for a rapidly growing number of low and middle income countries.

**Speaker:** Professor Rafael Pérez-Escamilla, PhD, Yale School of Public Health

### **MOVING WOMEN UP THE VALUE CHAIN IN AGRICULTURAL MARKET SYSTEMS**

Women play a significant role in agriculture, yet lack equal access to resources and legal rights in the developing world. While many organizations and regional bodies, such as the African Union and U.N. Food and Agriculture Organization have highlighted the need for action to address women's empowerment, cultural and behavioral change is still needed at the local level. The session will focus on how to strengthen enabling environments for women to access the agricultural value chain at higher levels.

**Moderator:** Alexis Taylor, Deputy Under Secretary for Farm and Foreign Agricultural Services, USDA

**Panelists:** Niklas Buehren, World Bank Economist; Dr. Jolyne Sanjak, Chief Program Officer, Landesa; Hazel Malapit, Research Coordinator at the Poverty, Health and Nutrition Division at the International Food Policy Research Institute; and Soukeyna Cisse Diop, Proprietor, Poultry Supply Company and current Mandela Washington Young African Leaders Fellow

### **SCHOOL FEEDING: A CRITICAL SOCIAL SAFETY NET**

In July 2016, the Partnership for Child Development, World Bank and World Food Programme launched the publication of the School Feeding Sourcebook, a comprehensive set of best practices and lessons learned from 14 countries with successful school feeding programs. This publication builds on the analyses of the State of School Feeding Worldwide 2013 and Rethinking School Feeding. This session will explore the growing importance of school feeding as a critical safety net and a tool for social inclusion.

**Moderator:** Dr. Ugo Gentilini, Senior Economist, Social Protection and Labor Global Practice, World Bank

**Panelists:** Dr. Donald Bundy, Senior Advisor and Deputy Director, Global Health, Bill and Melinda Gates Foundation; Dr. Lesley Drake, Executive Director, Partnership for Child Development; and Mr. David Ryckembusch, Senior Programme Advisor, Safety Nets & Social Protection Unit, U.N. World Food Programme

### **SPS AND FOOD SAFETY: BUILDING CAPACITY TO SUPPORT TRADE**

Capacity-building programs can help other countries engage more fully in international trade and create a safer domestic food supply. As USDA's Foreign Agriculture Service and USAID invest in value chains, program developers need to be mindful of the role international standards and guidelines play in ensuring a safe food supply for both the domestic and global markets. While a challenge, if done correctly countries could

improve economic expansion and overall food security.

**Moderator:** Dr. Osei Yeboah, North Carolina Agriculture & Technical State University

**Panelists:** Sharon Bomer Lauritsen, Assistant U.S. Trade Representative for Agricultural Affairs and Commodity Policy; Dr. Washington Otieno, Centre for Agriculture and Biosciences International; Jim Hershey, American Soybean Association; and Daniel Orellana, Regional Technical SPS Advisor for Central America at FAS/Trade and Scientific Capacity Building Division

### **FOOD SELF-SUFFICIENCY V. FOOD AND NUTRITION SECURITY**

As food prices rose and became more unpredictable as a result of the 2007-2008 food crisis, many low and middle income countries began to develop policies and agricultural plans that promote food self-sufficiency. These policies, however, raise concerns that food self-sufficiency could in fact lead to inefficiencies, disrupt trade and put national- and global-level food security at risk. This session will provide examples of countries with food self-sufficiency policies; the impact of such policies on their food and nutrition security and discuss how to strike a balance between policies that increase domestic food production without distorting global trade.

**Moderator:** Ambassador Darci Vetter, U.S. Trade Representative

**Panelists:** Dr. Anjani Kumar, International Food Policy Research Institute; Carolyn Hart, SPRING Project Director; William Warshauer, President and CEO, TechnoServe; and Dr. Sonny Ramaswamy, Director of National Institute of Food and Agriculture

### **LEVERAGING IN-KIND FOOD AID**

Effective monetization, sale of in-kind commodities to generate proceeds for use in development projects abroad, is always a topic of interest. Learn how USDA approaches monetization and the steps it has taken to demonstrate the positive outcomes of this unique sales mechanism. This session will also reveal the preferred sales mechanism for two countries in West Africa and one in the Caribbean.

**Moderator:** Daniel Whitley, Deputy Administrator of the Office of Global Analysis, USDA

**Panelists:** Michael Jung, President and CEO, Cantera Partners, Christopher Goldthwait, Cantera Partners; Dale Kabat, Cantera Partners, and Nicola Sakhleh, USDA

### **GLOBAL FOOD SECURITY ACT FORWARD STRATEGY**

**Speaker:** Dr. Beth Dunford, Assistant Administrator for the Bureau of Food Security; Feed the Future Deputy Coordinator for Development



Credit: FINTRAC

## BIOGRAPHIES

**Ingrid Ardjosoediro** is the branch chief of the McGovern Dole International Food for Education and Child Nutrition Program in USDA's Foreign Agricultural Service. Ingrid is an agricultural economist with more than 15 years of experience in agriculture and food security issues. She provides technical direction in the design, implementation, and monitoring of locally appropriate interventions that promote rural prosperity while ensuring sustainable use of natural resources. Ingrid holds advanced degrees in both fisheries and agricultural and natural resource economics. Her passion for agriculture has led her to working with U.S. and international farmers to improve livelihoods and strengthen community resilience.

**Dr. Walter Baethgen** heads the regional and sectorial research program and the Latin America and the Caribbean program in the International Research Institute for Climate and Society (IRI) at Columbia University where he establishes regional research programs to improve climate risk assessment and risk management in agriculture, health, water resources and natural ecosystems. Prior to IRI, Dr. Baethgen was a senior scientist in the research and development division of IFDC, where he worked mainly in information and decision support systems for the agricultural sector. Baethgen has consulted for the Inter-American Development Bank, UNDP, UNIDO, FAO, the IAEA, The World Bank and IICA. He also consulted for the governments of Brazil, Chile, Paraguay, Guatemala and Uruguay as well as the private sector. He holds PhD and MS degrees in crop and soil environmental sciences from Virginia Polytechnic Institute and State University, and his BS in agricultural engineering from the University of Uruguay.

**Marc Bellemare** is an associate professor in the Department of Applied Economics at the University of Minnesota, where he also directs the Center for International Food and Agricultural Policy. He serves as one of two co-editors of Food Policy. His research lies at the intersection of agricultural economics, food policy and international development. A few specific areas of his research include land markets, market access, risk and uncertainty, agricultural value chains, and food prices.

**Eric Benschoter** is QED's deputy director of monitoring and evaluation and has managed monitoring and evaluation of foreign assistance projects, program design, data management and integration, and reporting for more than 17 years. He has conducted or supported performance evaluations in 17 countries in sectors including climate change, agriculture, humanitarian response, natural resource management, research and education. Currently, Mr. Benschoter oversees several evaluation mechanisms providing M&E and assessment services to USDA, USAID and the Department of State. Prior to QED, he served for nine years in the USAID Office of Agriculture and Office of Private Voluntary Cooperation as an evaluation analyst, providing programmatic oversight for the Farmer-to-Farmer volunteer program and the Cooperative Development Program. Benschoter holds a dual BA in international affairs and French from Florida State University and an MA in international development from George Washington University.

**Dr. Rob Bertram** is the chief scientist in USAID's Bureau for Food Security, where he leads USAID's evidence-based efforts to advance research, technology and implementation in support of the Feed the Future initiative. Previously, Dr. Bertram served as director of the Office of Agricultural Research and Policy in the Bureau for Food

Security and guided USAID investments in agriculture and natural resources research for many years. Dr. Bertram studied plant breeding and genetics from UC-Davis, the University of Minnesota and the University of Maryland. He also studied international affairs at Georgetown University and was a visiting scientist at Washington University in St. Louis. Before coming to USAID, he served with USDA's international programs as well as overseas with the Consultative Group on International Agricultural Research system.

**Dr. Howarth Bouis** will be awarded the 2016 World Food Prize, along with colleagues from the International Potato Center (CIP), for his pioneering work in ending global hidden hunger through biofortification. Their work with sweet potato has already improved the health of over 15 million people by reducing "hidden hunger." Several hundred million will benefit in coming decades. Bouis is the founder and director of the HarvestPlus program, which is dedicated to promoting nutrition, health and livelihoods by enriching staple food crops with micronutrients, a process known as biofortification. He pioneered this concept in the early 1990s and has devoted his career to turning this idea into a global movement. Bouis coordinates an interdisciplinary, global effort to breed and disseminate micronutrient-rich staple food crops to reduce hidden hunger.

**Elizabeth Basauri Bryan** is a senior research analyst in the Environment and Production Technology Division of the International Food Policy Research Institute (IFPRI) where she focuses on climate change adaptation and mitigation and water resourced management. Prior to IFPRI, she worked as a consultant for the Poverty Reduction Group of the World Bank where she helped compile a database of impact evaluations and a program assistant in the Latin American Program of the Woodrow Wilson International Center for Scholars. Elizabeth received an MA in international development with a concentration in development economics from American University.

**Niklas Buehren** is an economist with the World Bank's Africa Region Gender Practice. He coordinates and participates in a portfolio of impact evaluations. His work and research interest primarily focuses on technology adoption and access extension services in agriculture, land tenure, entrepreneurship, microfinance, adolescent development and intra-household bargaining. Before the World Bank, Niklas worked in the research unit of a NGO in Uganda, Tanzania and Southern Sudan. He holds an MA in economics from the London School of Economics.

**Dr. Donald Bundy** is the senior advisor and deputy director for global health at the Bill and Melinda Gates Foundation. As part of the Neglected Tropical Diseases (NTD) team, he works on the delivery of investments to control and eliminate 10 diseases. He previously served as lead health specialist at the World Bank, coordinating the World Bank response to NTDs, while also leading, in partnership with the World Health Organization, a \$1.2 billion African Riverblindness Programme that treats more than 100 million people annually. Donald had a successful academic career in at Oxford University, Imperial College London and the University of the West Indies, with a focus on the epidemiology and control of infectious disease. He is widely published and produced several documentary films, including a series broadcast on PBS, and is a member of the editorial team of the 3rd Edition of Disease Control Priorities.

**Christopher M. Burns** is the senior coordinator of digital development with Feed the Future. In this capacity, he leads the technical team within the U.S. Global Development Lab, working alongside the Bureau for Food Security, to integrate a suite of digital technologies into Feed the Future activities. He previously served as acting director for

the team, as well as senior advisor for digital inclusion. At USAID, he has spearheaded a number of public-private partnerships including the Digital Impact Alliance, the GSMA Connected Women Program and the Alliance for Affordable Internet. Mr. Burns spent nearly 10 years with the Peace Corps, as program and training officer for Peace Corps/Niger, country desk officer for Central Asia, and agro-forestry advisor in Ghana.

**Judy Canahuati** has been the senior technical advisor in USAID's Food for Peace on Maternal and Child Health, Nutrition and HIV for the last 12 years. She manages the Tufts University School of Nutrition Review of Food Aid Quality and the Technical and Operations Performance Support (TOPS) programs. She has 40 years' experience supporting maternal child nutrition and health programs in over 20 countries in Latin America, Asia and Africa working with NGOs, USAID, governments and international organizations. She lived in Honduras for over 30 years, focusing on maternal and child health – particularly breastfeeding. Returning to the U.S. in 2001, she worked with the CARE Health, Emergency, Food Security and HIV units and managed a Mellon grant to improve collaboration between CARE, Emory and CDC before joining Food for Peace.

**Dr. Greg Collins** is the director of the USAID Center for Resilience and serves as the Agency's Resilience Coordinator, providing strategic guidance and technical support on resilience to missions in Africa, Asia and the Middle East. Dr. Collins was based in Kenya during the 2011 drought emergency and helped lead the development of USAID's Horn of Africa resilience strategy in 2012. He also helped lead the development of USAID's Sahel resilience strategy in 2012-2013. Dr. Collins worked for more than a decade as a strategy and technical advisor on food security, monitoring and evaluation, and vulnerability assessment and analysis to various UN agencies (FAO, WFP, UNICEF) and NGOs in east and southern Africa and the Middle East. He holds an MPH from Tulane University and a PhD in economic sociology from UC-Davis.

**Jason Compy** is a team lead and program analyst on the monitoring and evaluation staff at USDA. In this role, he promotes rigorous evaluation of agricultural development programs and provides technical assistance on performance monitoring and evaluation design. Prior to USDA, Jason worked as a Peace Corps evaluation specialist and country representative.

**Angela Crooks** is the branch chief for the Program Administration and Monitoring Branch in the USDA/FAS Food Assistance Division. She oversees project management for the McGovern-Dole and Food for Progress program areas, focusing on financial monitoring and compliance with agency and government-wide regulations. Prior to joining USDA, Angela managed projects for the Department of Energy's (DOE) Solar Energy Technology Office. She also led portfolio management and risk assessment initiatives for the Project Management Coordination Office, which supported 10 technology programs within DOE. Angela worked for USAID's Europe and Eurasia Bureau and has lived in Russia, Ukraine and Kazakhstan. She is a certified Project Management Professional and has an MBA in finance.

**Todd Crosby** is a senior technical director for the National Cooperative Business Association in Washington, DC. He has more than 20 years of experience designing and managing food security, health, agriculture and enterprise development initiatives on behalf of a range of international donors, including USAID, DFID and the World Bank. He has led several development projects in Senegal, Mali and Ghana. Most recently, Todd was the chief of party for the

USAID's YaaJeende Food Security Project in Senegal. He regularly contributes to scholarly publications on themes relating to international development and holds a MA in sociology from the University of Chicago.

**Shane Danielson** is the branch chief for Transportation and Logistics in the U.S. Department of Agriculture's Food Assistance Division. In this capacity, Shane coordinates the procurement of commodities and freight in support of the McGovern-Dole Food for Education and Child Nutrition Program and Food for Progress. Shane has worked in the Foreign Agricultural Service for seven years, managing programs that strengthen food safety standards in developing countries and promote U.S. agricultural exports internationally.

**Heather Danton** is the director of food security and nutrition at John Snow International (JSI) under the Strengthening Partnerships, Results and Innovations in Nutrition Globally (SPRING) project. She has over 25 years of experience in the area of food security and livelihoods and specializes in the design, implementation, monitoring and evaluation of programs that integrate economic and agricultural development with nutrition. Prior to JSI, Heather served as senior director of food security and livelihoods for Save the Children and vice president for SEED Corporation, doing small business lending and entrepreneurial training in association with the U.S. Small Business Administration. Heather holds an MS in agriculture from Cornell University and a BS in biology from Stanford University.

**Dr. Omar Dary** has provided technical assistance to more than 40 countries in the areas of micronutrient interventions, mainly food fortification, and nutrition surveillance for the last 25 years. He has been an advisor to WHO, UNICEF, FAO, WFP, IAEA, PAHO, the CDC, ILSI, MI, GAIN, and SUSTAIN. From 1990 to 2002, Omar led the Micronutrient Group, and the Nutritional Biochemistry and Food Composition Laboratories of the Institute of Nutrition of Central America and Panama, where he. He also worked for several organizations that implemented USAID development projects in nutrition. He is member of the steering committees of the Iodine Global Network and the International Zinc Nutrition Consultative Group.

**Clifford Yu Davison** is a Food for Peace Officer with USAID's Office of Food for Peace (FFP) in Washington, DC, where he helps to backstop emergency and development food assistance programs in Ethiopia. In his role, he is responsible for analyzing the food security situation in Ethiopia and recommending and implementing food assistance strategies to be carried out by implementing partners, including private voluntary organizations and international organizations like the United Nations World Food Program. Prior to joining FFP in 2015, Cliff worked as a program officer for the World Food Programme, providing technical assistance on Nutrition, Maternal and Child Health as well as HIV/AIDS and Tuberculosis for 13 countries. Trained as a medical doctor, Cliff went to UNC Chapel Hill School of Medicine before joining the United Nations and also holds a MPH in global health from George Washington University.

**Soukeyna Cissé Diop** is the founder of Quali'Volaille, a brand that supplies quality poultry at an affordable cost to her community in Senegal. Born and raised in Dakar, Soukeyna earned a BA in international management before traveling to the UK to continue her studies in business administration. Returning to Senegal, she worked for a new regional e-commerce office of a multinational company before leaving to set up her own business. Soukeyna hopes for food self-sufficiency in Senegal and in Africa and promotes poultry farming among youth.

**Dr. Lesley Drake** is the executive director of the Partnership for Childhood Development (PCD) and acts as deputy director of the London Centre for Neglected Tropical Disease Research and associate professor at the University of Washington. Lesley has managed the PCD since 2007 while simultaneously leading the development of Deworm the World. With over 20 years' experience, she is committed to child development issues and has focused her career on translating quality research into holistic and operational solutions for comprehensive school health and nutrition. Her work has also contributed to global efforts to achieve equitable Education for All. Lesley holds a PhD in epidemiology and parasitology from Imperial College London.

**Dr. Beth Dunford** is the assistant to the administrator for USAID's Bureau for Food Security, as well as the deputy coordinator for development for Feed the Future, the U.S. government's global hunger and food security initiative. In this dual role, she coordinates implementation of Feed the Future across the U.S. Government, oversees its execution, reports on results and leads engagement with the external community to ensure that food security remains high on the development agenda. She also oversees USAID's technical and regional expertise focused on improving food security to sustainably reduce hunger, poverty and undernutrition. A career Foreign Service Officer, Dr. Dunford served as Director of USAID's Mission in Nepal as well as Ethiopia and Afghanistan where she directed agriculture, resilience and emergency food assistance programs. Dr. Dunford earned her bachelor's degree from Northwestern University and her PhD in sociology from Michigan State University.

**Dina Esposito** is the director of USAID's Office of Food for Peace. She began her career as a Presidential Management Fellow at the U.S. Department of State, where she covered African refugee assistance issues in the Bureau for Population, Refugees and Migration. She was a disaster response manager for the Horn of Africa in USAID's Office of U.S. Foreign Disaster Assistance before serving as a consultant on policy analysis, program design, and training for staff working in conflict and post-conflict settings. Prior to re-joining USAID as Food for Peace Director, Dina worked for Pact, a U.S. nongovernmental organization, as chief of party for the Constructive Dialogue Initiative project, a democracy, governance and conflict mitigation program.

**Andrew Epstein** is a senior education and evaluation technical specialist at Social Impact. He is the co-author of the USDA Bangladesh Post-Project Sustainability Evaluation and a monitoring and evaluation specialist with expertise in qualitative, quantitative and mixed research methods. He obtained his PhD in international and comparative education/anthropology from the University of Wisconsin and his MEd in educational leadership and policy studies from the University of Washington.

**Diana Epstein** is a senior evidence analyst at the White House Office of Management and Budget (OMB). She focuses on efforts to develop and use evidence on program effectiveness and provides expert advice and technical assistance on evidence-related activities and initiatives for a broad range of federal agencies and functions. She was previously a research and evaluation manager at the Corporation for National and Community Service and a program evaluator and policy analyst at Abt Associates, the American Institutes for Research and the RAND Corporation. She has an MPP from UC Berkeley and a PhD in policy analysis from the Pardee RAND Graduate School.

**John Floretta** is the associate director of policy for the Abdul Latif Jameel Poverty Action Lab (JPAL). Prior to this role, he served as Deputy Director of JPAL South Asia and helped to run JPAL's largest regional office. He was involved with building monitoring and evaluation capacity of government and civil society partners, including the establishment of the South Asia Center for Learning on Evaluation and Results, a World Bank coordinated initiative. John has worked with the UNDP and U.N. World Food Program in China and led evaluation and organizational learning assignments with Nike Foundation and Mercy Corps. He holds a MA in law and diplomacy from Tufts University with concentrations in development economics and human security.

**Kimberly Flowers** is the director of the Center for Strategic and International Studies (CSIS) Global Food Security Project, which examines and highlights the impact of food security on U.S. strategic global interests. Prior to joining CSIS in 2015, Ms. Flowers was the communications director for Fintrac, an international development company focusing on hunger eradication and poverty alleviation through agricultural solutions. She also worked for USAID, serving overseas as a development, outreach and communications officer in Ethiopia and Jamaica, supporting public affairs in Haiti directly after the 2010 earthquake and leading strategic communications for Feed the Future.

**Tim Frankenberger** is the president and co-founder of TANGO International and a global expert on food security, livelihood approaches and resilience. Tim has over 35 years of experience in international development, with specialized skills in project design, monitoring and evaluation and policy analysis. He previously served as senior food security advisor and livelihood security coordinator at CARE and a farming systems research specialist at the University of Arizona. Tim has published numerous articles on household food security and resilience. Tim's graduate work includes an MA as well as doctoral studies in anthropology with a minor in agricultural economics.

**Dr. Ugo Gentilini** is a senior economist with the Social Protection and Labor Global Practice at the World Bank. Before joining the World Bank, he spent a dozen years with the U.N. World Food Programme working on a range of safety net issues. His forthcoming book (February 2017), co-edited with Harold Alderman and Ruslan Yemtsov, identifies lessons from the historical evolution, technical design and empirical performance of major food-based safety nets in the United States, India, Indonesia, Egypt, Sri Lanka, and Mexico. He holds a PhD in development economics.

**Ambassador Christopher E. Goldthwait** is the senior advisor for Cantera Partners for more than 10 years. Ambassador Goldthwait is based in Washington, DC and serves as an independent consultant for agricultural consulting firms, law firms, trade associations, and development non-governmental organizations and other non-profit groups in the areas of agricultural policy and international agriculture, with special focus on food security issues. Earlier in his career Ambassador Goldthwait served for 26 years in the Foreign Agricultural Service (FAS). He became the first FAS Foreign Service officer to be appointed and confirmed as a U.S. ambassador. He served as Ambassador to Chad from 1999 to 2004. Earlier in his service, he had postings in both Nigeria and Germany.

**Carolyn Hart** is director of the Strengthening Partnerships, Results, and Innovations in Nutrition Globally (SPRING) Project and director of John Snow, Inc.'s Washington office. Her specialties include program management, service delivery improvement, policy development, communications and strategic planning. Prior to joining SPRING, Ms. Hart's recent work focused on raising policy-level awareness of the importance of product availability and

supply chain management in health programs, addressing logistics system improvement in the context of health system strengthening, and engaging decision makers at ministries, multilateral, and bilateral development agencies, foundations, and nongovernmental organizations in support of information-driven public health supply chains. She holds a MS in Public Health.

**Mary Hennigan** is a senior technical advisor in nutrition for Catholic Relief Services (CRS). Mary has an MPH with a concentration in nutrition from Tulane University. She has over 30 years of experience with organizations like CRS including CARE and Project Hope, and began her work in the public health field when she was assigned to the Dominican Republic as a Peace Corps volunteer. Currently, Mary is a board member to the CORE Group, a network of over 60 U.S. PVOs working in maternal and child health.

**Jim Hershey** is the executive director of the World Initiative for Soy in Human Health (WISHH) Program with the American Soybean Association. This innovative program devotes funds and staff resources to agricultural value chains in emerging markets, improving food security and creating trade and long-term demand for U.S. soy. Prior to WISHH, Jim held other export development positions with the American Soybean Association and the U.S.A. Rice Council. Jim was a Peace Corps Volunteer Cote d'Ivoire and earned his BA in American Culture at Northwestern University and an MA in international management from the American Graduate School of International Management in Arizona.

**Chris Hillbruner** is the Famine Early Warning Systems Network's (FEWS NET) deputy chief of party. He has led FEWS NET's early warning analysis since 2009 and currently oversees the project's technical sectors: decision support, markets and trade, nutrition, livelihoods, and training. Chris regularly presents FEWS NET's analysis to a range of U.S. government offices and leading media outlets including the BBC, NPR, the Atlantic, and the Economist. He has also played a key role in the development of the Integrated Food Security Phase Classification (IPC), the recognized global standard for classifying food insecurity severity. Prior to joining FEWS NET, Chris conducted research for Mercy Corps on urban food security in Mongolia; evaluated food aid exit strategies for Catholic Relief Services and assessed multi-sectoral nutrition planning in Malawi for the World Bank. Chris was a water/sanitation Peace Corps Volunteer in the Philippines and received an MS in nutrition from Tufts University.

**Dr. Muhammad Ibrahim** is the director general of the Tropical Agricultural Research and Higher Education center (CATIE). He has made notable contributions in the field of the environment and livestock and is a leader in innovation and development of sustainable farming systems and intelligent climate in Latin America. He also founded the Programme Livestock and Environmental Management, which has played an important role in the transition from traditional systems to environmentally friendly systems. Dr. Ibrahim holds a BS in agricultural science at the University of Guyana (Guyana), an MS in agricultural science and renewable natural resources, with emphasis on ruminant nutrition, at CATIE and a PhD in agricultural science and the environment at the Wageningen Agricultural University (Netherlands).

**Dr. Andy Jarvis** is the director of the decision and policy analysis area in the International Centre for Tropical Agriculture (CIAT) and is a flagship leader on the Consultative Group for International Agricultural Research (CGIAR) Program for Climate Change, Agriculture and Food Security (CCAFS). Dr. Jarvis has 10 years' scientific research experience in developing countries to support the goals of alleviating poverty and protecting essential ecosystem services, and has published over 70 articles, book chapters or books. In 2003, he won the Crop Science Society of

America C-8 Genetic Resources award for his work on conservation prioritization research for wild peanuts in Latin America, and in 2009, received the Ebbe Nielsen award for innovative research in bioinformatics and biosystematics. Dr. Jarvis has been a consultant on a variety of projects for the Food and Agriculture Organization (FAO), European Union, and Global Environment Facility, among others.

**Dr. Daniel Jiménez** is a scientist at the International Center for Tropical Agriculture (CIAT). He holds a PhD in applied biological sciences (agriculture) from Ghent University (Belgium) and currently is the leader of the group of Big Data at CIAT. Daniel's data-mining approach to agronomy is now rapidly gaining proponents at all levels – from farmers and technicians to government decision makers and agricultural experts. This has put Daniel in the vanguard of scientists who are demonstrating how big data analysis can help address key challenges for tropical agriculture – such as closing yield gaps, and coping with climate change. The U.N. selected Daniel's research to be one of the two winners of its Big Data Climate Challenge at the U.N. Climate Summit in September 2014. Daniel has also worked for Bioversity International and the University of Applied Sciences of Western Switzerland and has been a consultant for Agricultural Research for Development.

**Dale Kabat** is an independent consultant with Cantera Partners. Mr. Kabat has extensive experience in monetization planning, proposals and execution, in market assessments and research, commodities, value chains, in int'l agricultural projects and development between for-profit and non-profit sectors. He often collaborates with USDA and USAID in many countries on Food for Progress, McGovern Dole, LRP, Title II and other programs. Over the course of his career, he has worked for commercial companies, non-profits and cooperatives across four continents including 14 years with CRS in Africa and Asia. He also worked in Russia with NCBA and commercially in USA and Europe. Mr. Kabat holds an MBA from University of Minnesota. He had also worked in the computer industry, for banks and IBM, and holds a degree in electronic engineering.

**Paul W. Kachapulula** is a plant pathologist and faculty member of the University of Zambia. He is currently a PhD candidate and a Borlaug LEAP Fellow in the Plant Pathology Program of the School of Plant Sciences, University of Arizona. His doctoral research seeks to reduce aflatoxins in maize and groundnuts, important staples in his home country Zambia, through improved use of biological control with atoxigenic strains. His research contributes to improved food safety and dietary quality across Southern Africa by increasing yields and reducing losses in quality and safety within smallholder farming communities. Paul previously studied agricultural sciences at the University of Zambia and earned an MA in crop sciences and plant pathology from Makerere University (Uganda).

**Michael Jung** is the president of Cantera Partners, LLC where he specializes in bringing together public and private sector partners and resources for development and commercial activities. During his time in Cantera, he has had an integral role in securing more than \$150 million in funding for its partners through U.S. government food aid initiatives. Mr. Jung has successfully developed, negotiated and executed a number of international deals and programs in Europe, Central Asia, Southeast Asia and Africa. Mr. Jung received a MBA from Creighton University and a Bachelor's degree from Texas Christian University.

**Anjani Kumar** is a research fellow with the International Food Policy Research Institute (IFPRI). Before joining IFPRI, he worked with the International Crops Research Institute for the Semi-Arid Tropics in Hyderabad, the

National Centre for Agricultural Economics and Policy Research in New Delhi, and the Asia Office of International Livestock Research Institute in Nairobi. Mr. Kumar has also served as a consultant and written 50 research papers in national and international research journals on various agricultural development issues. He has contributed to books and received a number of awards from national and international institutions. He holds an MA and PhD in dairy economics from the National Dairy Research Institute in Karnal, India.

**Dr. Jennie Lane** is a Mickey Leland International Hunger Fellow placed with Land O'Lakes International Development as an animal health and livelihoods technical advisor. Her current research focuses on understanding the pathways of impact livestock transfer programs have on food security and nutrition at the household level, and the role of financial services in livestock development programming. She spent the last year working in central Malawi with the USAID-funded Livestock for Resilience program implemented by Land O'Lakes. Jennie received a Doctorate of Veterinary Medicine from Michigan State University and an MPH from University of California, Berkeley. Jennie is particularly interested in sustainable and collaborative solutions to improve livelihoods of the world's poorest small holder farmers, and has a special love for working equines.

**Sharon Bomer Lauritsen** is the assistant U.S. trade representative for agricultural affairs and commodity policy at the Office of the U.S. Trade Representative, Executive Office of the President. Ms. Bomer has overall responsibility for negotiations and policy coordination regarding agriculture. Responsibilities include Free Trade Agreement (FTA) and World Trade Organization (WTO) Development Agenda (Doha) negotiations on agriculture and sanitary and phytosanitary measures, issues affecting trade in agricultural and food products, monitoring and enforcement of existing WTO and FTA commitments for agriculture, and WTO accession negotiations on agriculture **market access**.

**Andrew Layton** is the chief of party for the Somalia Resilience Consortium. Prior to working on resilience, Andrew was part of the Global Rapid Response Team supporting the program transition between the emergency response to recovery and rehabilitation operations. Andrew was the program director for the World Vision Sri Lanka tsunami response, where he managed a \$110 million program over four years. Andrew was raised as an agro-pastoralist on a wheat and sheep farm in Australia. He has a Bachelor of Humanities from University of Melbourne, a Masters from the Australian Institute of Management and is completing a Masters in international development at Deakin University, Melbourne.

**Dr. Craig McIntosh** is a professor of economics at the School of Global Policy and Strategy at UC-San Diego and board officer for Agricultural Technology Adoption Initiative. Dr. McIntosh also serves as the Faculty Chair of agriculture at the Center for Effective Global Action at University of UC-Berkeley and co-chair for agriculture at The Abdul Latif Jameel Poverty Action Lab (JPAL). Dr. McIntosh is a development economist whose work focuses on program evaluation. He has conducted field evaluations of innovative anti-poverty policies and is currently working on research projects investigating how to boost savings among the poor, on whether schooling can be used as a tool to fight HIV/AIDS in Sub-Saharan Africa, and on mechanisms to improve the long-term viability of Fair Trade markets. He received his PhD from UC-Berkeley in agriculture and resource economics.

**Catherine McMahon** is the senior director for new initiatives and food security at Mercy Corps. She oversees strategic program development and design across Mercy Corps' priority sectors and initiatives, and supports the development, dissemination and refinement of agency strategies and approaches for improved Food Security. She has over 20 years of experience in international humanitarian and development programs throughout Africa, Latin America, the Middle East, Asia and Eastern Europe. Mercy Corps is a leading global organization powered by the belief that a better world is possible, who partners to put bold solutions into action - helping people triumph over adversity and build stronger communities from within.

**Dr. Hazel Malapit** is a research coordinator at the Poverty, Health and Nutrition Division at the International Food Policy Research Institute (IFPRI). She coordinates research, training and technical assistance on the implementation of the Women's Empowerment in Agriculture Index, manages and coordinates the integration of gender into the research of the CGIAR Research Program on Agriculture for Nutrition and Health and conducts research on gender, women's empowerment, agriculture, health and nutrition issues. Before joining IFPRI, she held the Herman Postdoctoral Fellowship in Gender and Economics at the University of Michigan and conducted research on gender, labor market and data issues at the World Bank's Gender and Development unit. She received her MA in economics from the University of the Philippines, and her PhD in economics from American University.

**Christian Merz** is the senior program officer for digital solutions within the Agricultural Development Program of the Bill & Melinda Gates Foundation. He is responsible for championing practical, cost-effective, sustainable and scalable solutions that impact smallholder farmers. Previously, he managed SAP's research program on information and communication technologies for development covering agriculture, rural logistics, procurement and retail, financial services. In 2006, he served as technical lead for an EU-funded project that stimulated economic development of small and micro enterprises in rural Africa through the innovative concept of virtual cooperatives. Other project experiences comprise interoperability in business networks, e-learning platforms to educate in-service teachers and healthcare solutions in rural South Africa. He received his diploma in physics from the Albert-Ludwigs-University (Germany).

**Eleanor (Ellie) Morefield** is a program analyst in the USDA Foreign Agriculture Service (FAS) Office of Capacity Building and Development. She serves as an evaluator on the monitoring and evaluation staff, where she assists the McGovern-Dole Food for Education and Child Nutrition Program and the Food for Progress Program. Prior to joining USDA, Ms. Morefield worked at Peace Corps Headquarters and Discovery Learning Alliance, strengthening internal monitoring and evaluation by focusing on data collection, management and use, and capacity building through training. Early in her career, she served as a Peace Corps Volunteer in Uzbekistan.

**Kyle Murphy** is a senior policy associate at the Abdul Latif Jameel Poverty Action Lab (JPAL), where he manages JPAL's agriculture sector. As a member of the policy group, Kyle shares best practices for integrating rigorous evidence into program and policy processes for foundations, NGOs, governments and others. Mr. Murphy holds a MPP in international development and program evaluation from the University of Michigan. As a student, he was a Coverdell Fellow, a Dow Sustainability Fellow, and worked with Global Detroit and Recovery Park to design their social impact monitoring frameworks. Mr. Murphy served as an agricultural extensionist and volunteer coordinator for three years with the Peace Corps in Nicaragua.

**Benjamin Muskovitz** is the director of the Food Assistance Division in the USDA Foreign Agricultural Service (FAS). Ben started his career at USDA as an agricultural economist in the FAS' Export Credits Division. Upon leaving USDA, he joined USAID's Food for Peace Office where he handled emergency food assistance programs. In 1995, Ben joined the U.S. Department of State and during his 12-year tenure held positions as bureau economist for Latin America, in the National Security Council, served as a special assistant to the Under Secretary of State for Global Affairs, and was the deputy U.S./Mexico border coordinator. Ben also worked for several large private consulting firms focusing on international development before returning to the FAS. He served as a Peace Corps Volunteer in Thailand and received a BA in international affairs from the University of Colorado, Boulder and a MPP from Duke University.

**Geetha Nagarajan** is research director at the IRIS Center, serving as economist and monitoring and evaluation specialist. She is currently the research director for the Financial Services Assessment project, funded by the Bill and Melinda Gates Foundation, and project director for the Islamic Microfinance pilot project to develop Sharia-compliant financial services. She is also monitoring and evaluation director for a USAID project to support orphans and vulnerable children with economic strengthening initiatives. Dr. Nagarajan has evaluated numerous economic development programs, and conducted field based research to identify causes of poverty to design policy and programs to address them, especially in conflict and disaster affected environments. An expert in small and micro-enterprise development and microfinance, she has a wide range of experience in developing, measuring and implementing activities to ensure program effectiveness to reach the target population.

**Stella Nash** is the regional nutrition and technical services director of the USDA Food and Nutrition Service Mountain Plains Regional Office, based in Colorado. She leads the External and Internal Nutrition Committees, the Health and Wellness Team, and the State and Tribal Nutrition Action Coalitions for the region. Ms. Nash is a Registered Dietician and earned an MA in nutrition education at New York University. She is a member of the Federal Interagency Council on the Homelessness and the Workforce Development Council of the Colorado Federal Executive Board.

**Matthew Nims** is the deputy director of USAID's Office of Food for Peace. Matt's career with USAID began in Indonesia in 2000, where he worked on food and disaster response programs. He then served in Washington, DC for four years backstopping Asia and Latin America for Food for Peace. More recently, Matt worked on a broad portfolio of development programs in Guyana and managed infrastructure programs in Afghanistan before joining Food for Peace in 2011. After serving as a Peace Corps volunteer in the Dominican Republic, Matt pursued a master's in public health at Emory University.

**Greg Olson** is the program operations division chief in the Office of Food for Peace, USAID. His primary areas of expertise include Title II procurement, pre-positioning and commodity quality and safety issues. Prior to USAID, Greg worked for the United Nations World Food Program as a policy officer in Washington, DC. Greg holds degrees in international relations from UC- Davis and international public administration from the Monterrey Institute of International Studies.

**Daniel Orellana** is the regional technical sanitary and phytosanitary advisor for USDA's Foreign Agricultural Service in Central America. Mr. Orellana coordinates and implements the USAID reimbursable programs that cover SPS, MIS as well as other topics in CAFTA-DR and Panama. Mr. Orellana has a total of 16 years with FAS, serving six years as a FAS Locally Employed Staff in Guatemala. He also had a distinguished career in the private sector as regional manager for both PEPSICO and CICI's Pizza. Mr. Orellana holds degrees in economics, political science and an MBA from Pepperdine University and has served as a professor in business, economics and marketing for the Central Bank of Guatemala, Universidad Rafael Landivar and the Universidad Mariano Galvez.

**Dr. Washington Otieno** is the plantwise programme executive at the Centre for Agriculture and Biosciences International (CABI). Prior to joining CABI, he consulted for the International Plant Protection Convention (IPPC) Secretariat, worked with USAID-Kenya, Kenya Plant Health Inspectorate Service, Tea Research Foundation of Kenya, and lectured at the University of Nairobi. Mr. Otieno also represented Kenya at meetings of the WTO-SPS Committee and the IPPC from 2006 to 2010 and served as a developing country representative in the Working Group and Policy Committees of the Standards & Trade Development Facility. He holds bachelor's and master's degrees in agriculture and plant pathology from the University of Nairobi and a PhD from Wageningen University.

**Robert Paarlberg** is an associate at Harvard's Weatherhead Center for International Affairs and recently retired from Wellesley College. He is an independent scholar and consultant specializing in global food and agricultural policy. Paarlberg has recently been a member of the Board of Agriculture and Natural Resources at the National Research Council and a consultant to the National Intelligence Council, USAID, COMESA, IFPRI, the World Bank, and the Bill and Melinda Gates Foundation. In 2009, he presented testimony on U.S. agricultural development assistance policy to the Senate Committee on Foreign Relations.

**Dr. Rufino Perez** is a food technologist at USAID and the main food technology and food safety resource within Food for Peace, supporting country missions and local suppliers throughout the USAID food aid supply chain. Before joining USAID, Dr. Perez worked for Kraft Foods as a corporate food safety and quality expert and nutrition and ingredient researcher. He has vast experience on global food safety programs in both implementation and auditing capacities. He received his PhD from Michigan State University, with his major research being on the use of gas mass spectrometry for the identification of fingerprint volatiles produced by human pathogens in foods, as rapid food safety indicators in packaged food.

**Dr. Rafael Pérez-Escamilla** is a professor of epidemiology and public health, director of the Office of Public Health Practice and director of the Global Health Concentration at the Yale School of Public Health. He is a member of the National Research Council Food and Nutrition Board and has been a senior scientific advisor to maternal-child community nutrition programs as well as household food security measurement projects funded by several international organizations and foundations, as well as the governments of Mexico, Brazil and Colombia. In 2016, he was awarded a Doctorate Honoris Causa by the University of Guadalajara, Mexico.

**Dr. Barry Pittendrigh** holds an endowed foundations professorship at Michigan State University and previously held the C.W. Kearns, C.L. Metcalf and W.P. Flint endowed chair in insect toxicology at the University of Illinois at Urbana-Champaign. Prior to this, he was an assistant and associate professor at Purdue University and a Max

Planck Fellow at the Max Planck Institute for Chemical Ecology in Jena, Germany. Dr. Pittendrigh has co-authored numerous peer-reviewed journal articles and book chapters. His work spans from insect genomics to integrated pest management strategies for cowpea in West Africa. He also co-founded Scientific Animations Without Borders, a program and systems approach that creates highly scalable educational content for low-literate learners that can be placed into numerous languages and disseminated by global partner groups using a diversity of electronic technologies.

**Dr. Sonny Ramaswamy** serves as director of the National Institute of Food and Agriculture. He has received research grants from many federal and state agencies, commodity groups and industries for his research in integrative reproductive biology of insects. Earlier in his career, Dr. Ramaswamy taught entomology at Kansas State and Mississippi State, served as the dean of Oregon State's College of Agricultural Sciences and the director of Purdue's agricultural research programs. He has published several journal articles, book chapters and a book and has received a number of awards and honors. He received his BS in agriculture and MS in entomology from the University of Agricultural Sciences in Bangalore, India, and earned his PhD in entomology from Rutgers University. He is also a graduate of Harvard University's Management Development Program.

**Beatrice Rogers** is a professor of economics and food policy at Tufts University and the director of the Food Policy and Applied Nutrition Program, which draws on the multidisciplinary expertise of Tufts, and focuses on the economic, political, and social science dimensions of global nutrition challenges. Dr. Rogers is an economist whose research focuses on economic determinants of household food consumption, including price policy and food aid. Her current research assesses the effectiveness and cost-effectiveness of alternative supplementary foods for the treatment and prevention of moderate acute malnutrition in children, based on field studies in three sub-Saharan African countries. She recently completed a multi-country study in Bolivia, Honduras, and India, on how the benefits of food assistance programs can be made sustainable after the programs are closed – research that should inform the design of future development projects to ensure that interventions produce lasting change without creating dependence on external support.

**David Ryckembusch** is a senior programme adviser of the Safety Nets and Social Protection Unit at the U.N. World Food Programme (WFP), where he specializes in the areas of social protection, school feeding and value chains. David joined WFP after 15 years working with private sector companies in supply chain management in Europe. He holds a Masters of Engineering degree from Institut Catholique d'Arts et Métiers and Global Executive Masters of Business Administration from Vienna University and University of Minnesota. He has published in World Development and in collaboration with the International Food Policy Research Institute.

**Nicola Sakhleh** is currently the chief of the food for development branch at USDA's Foreign Agriculture Service. The Food for Development Branch manages the Food for Progress Program, which helps developing countries and emerging democracies modernize and strengthen their agricultural sectors. Mr. Sakhleh holds two bachelor's degrees: one in international studies and another in social/ cultural anthropology and a graduate degree in public policy in international commerce and trade.

**Dr. Jolyne Sanjak** is the chief program officer for Landesa with over 25 years of technical, research and managerial experience relating to inclusive global economic development, rural and urban land governance, rural livelihoods and agricultural development. Prior to joining Landesa, Dr. Sanjak founded and was executive director of the Land Alliance, a not-for-profit organization engaged in supporting land-based development around the globe. She served as a managing director and later deputy vice president for the Millennium Challenge Corporation, and also led the U.S. government in intergovernmental negotiations including the U.N. Food and Agriculture Organization's voluntary guidelines on the responsible governance of the tenure of land, fisheries and forests in the context of national food security. Earlier in her career, she served as a land consultant for the World Bank, IFPRI, the FAO and the IADB.

**Janine Schooley** has spent more than 30 years in leadership positions with two San-Diego-based global non-profit health and development organizations: Wellstart International from 1985-2000 and PCI since October 2000. Janine is a specialist in NGO leadership, with emphasis on program design and management of comprehensive programming, including capacity strengthening, gender equity, and behavior/social change aspects of integrated, community-based health and development programs. Currently Janine is Senior Vice President for Programs at PCI, ensuring quality, integrated programming for maximum sustainable impact in 12 developing countries and the US/ Mexico Border Region, as well as overseeing PCI's monitoring, evaluation and research function, with an emphasis on measurement of sustainable impact, social empowerment and transformative change. She obtained her MPH with an emphasis on Maternal and Child Health from San Diego State University in 1985.

**Alexis Taylor** serves as the USDA Under Secretary for the Farm and Foreign Agricultural Services (FFAS). FFAS is comprised of the Farm Service Agency, Risk Management Agency and Foreign Agricultural Service. Previously, as Deputy Under Secretary, Alexis oversaw the department's international activities including international trade policy and export assistance programs, and coordinated USDA's role in international food assistance. Before joining USDA, she served as the legislative advisor to Congressman Leonard Boswell of Iowa and Senator Max Baucus of Montana. During her time in Congress, Alexis worked on the 2008 Farm Bill, as well as the Senate version of the 2012 Farm Bill which was enacted into law as the 2014 Farm Bill. From 1998 to 2006, Alexis served in the U. S. Army Reserves and did one tour in Iraq with the 389th Combat Engineer Battalion. Alexis is a graduate of Iowa State University.

**Joanna Upton** is a post-doctoral research associate in the Department of Applied Economics and Management at Cornell University, with areas of concentration in economics of development and public policy analysis. Her research currently focuses on food security and food policy in sub-Saharan Africa. She seeks to improve our understanding of the impacts (on individuals, households, and communities) of different modalities of food assistance, while her broader research program investigates how development and humanitarian policy interact with and influence food security and food markets.

**Katrin Verclas** is the director for global communications and advocacy and is responsible for advancing Evidence Action's communications and brand. She also works with individual donors supporting Evidence Action. She previously was the officer for the National Democratic Institute, which works to support democratic institutions and movements worldwide. She founded and led several nonprofit organizations including MobileActive focused on

mobile technology for development, and was the executive director of NTEN: The Nonprofit Technology Network. She was an inaugural 2009 TED Fellow, a 2010 fellow at the MIT Media Lab, and was named by Fast Company as one of the most “Influential Women in Tech”.

**Ambassador Darci Vetter** serves as chief agricultural negotiator at the Office of the U.S. Trade Representative (USTR). Previously, Ms. Vetter served as USDA Under Secretary and oversaw the department’s international activities, supported trade negotiations and export assistance programs and coordinated USDA’s role in international food aid. Ms. Vetter also previously served as an international trade advisor on the U.S. Senate Committee on Finance, and as director of agricultural affairs at USTR. She received her MPA and a certificate in science, technology and environmental policy from Princeton and her BA from Drake University in Des Moines.

**Dr. James (Jim) Verdin** is the FEWS NET Agro-Climatology Activities Manager, detailed to USAID from USGS, where he coordinates contributions of USGS, NOAA, NASA, USDA and university partners. He oversees the monthly technical review of agro-climatological working assumptions for food security scenarios for the coming 6-8 months. He is also a co-founder of the Early Warning Crop Monitor, compiled monthly through a collaborative international process. Previously, Jim led USGS support to FEWS NET for more than 20 years. He has extensive experience in geographic characterization of drought and flood hazards for food security assessment in Africa, Asia and Latin America. He also served as deputy director of the National Integrated Drought Information System, where he helped establish regional drought early warning systems in the western U.S. Jim has a BS from the University of Wisconsin-Madison and an MS from Colorado State University degrees in civil and environmental engineering as well as a PhD from the University of California, Santa Barbara in geography.

**Paul Vicinanza** is chief of the transportation division in USAID’s Office of Acquisition and Assistance. Previously, he headed bulk chartering activities within USAID and served as the contracting officer for the Food for Peace’s Preposition Warehouses Program. Prior to joining USAID, Mr. Vicinanza spent 17 years with commercial shipping entities including Mediterranean Shipping Company, Farrell Lines and Sea Land Services. Mr. Vicinanza holds BS and MS degrees in transportation from the New York Maritime College. He is a captain in the U.S. Naval Reserve and holds an active U.S. Coast Guard Merchant Marine license.

**Christie Vilsack** is the senior advisor for international education at USAID. For 25 years, she taught secondary and college English and journalism, which led to a focus on education as Iowa’s First Lady, as a candidate for Congress and now as the spokesperson for USAID Education. In her current role, Christie works with partners and education leaders worldwide to build understanding of and support for international education solutions. Ms. Vilsack is a graduate of Kirkland College and earned an MA in journalism from the University of Iowa.

**Dr. Patrick Webb** is the Alexander McFarlane Professor of Nutrition at the Friedman School of Nutrition Science and Policy at Tufts University. As chief of nutrition in World Food Programme, he oversaw programs in 30 countries and played a key role in organizing response to food and nutrition needs in many emergencies. This underscores Dr. Webb’s globally recognized leadership in defining policies and actions relevant to food aid. Dr. Webb serves as the principal investigator for the Food Aid Quality Review and is the director of the Nutrition Innovation Lab, which generates empirical findings relevant to USAID programming in agriculture, health and nutrition.

**William Warshauer** brings more than 25 years of experience in international development and the private sector to his position. He launched his career as a Peace Corps volunteer in Sierra Leone and has since worked in 40 developing countries. In his latest role, Warshauer served as chief operating officer of Pact, Inc. and as president of the Pact Global Microfinance Fund – one of the world’s largest microfinance institutions. Previously, he served as executive vice president for health and development solutions with Voxiva Inc., where he led the development of innovative, mobile phone-based health information systems. As a former executive vice president at Population Services International, Warshauer led initiatives such as the development of the organization’s global strategic plan and oversaw a \$90 million portfolio of health programs in Africa.

**Dan Webber** is the chief of the procurement branch in USDA’s International Procurement Division located in the Kansas City Commodity Office. His primary duties include supervising the staff that awards and administers bulk and packaged commodity contracts for USAID Title II, Food for Progress and McGovern-Dole Food for Education purchases. Dan has been with the USDA for 16 years and, during that time, has had first-hand knowledge with the procurement of bagged whole grains, pulses, corn-soy blend, and super cereal plus. For the past 11 months, he has been part of the sponsor team for the Business Management Improvement Project.

**Joan Whelan** is a development specialist with more than 25 years of experience in the public, private and non-profit sectors; expertise in food security, resilience and nutrition; and skills along the research to implementation spectrum. With USAID’s Office of Food for Peace since 2014, Joan has led a highly consultative process for development of the Office’s new 2016-2025 Strategy for Food Assistance and Food Security. She has also been working to mainstream core ideas around systemic change, sustainability, resilience, social accountability and conflict sensitivity into project design, procurement, implementation and evaluation. Joan holds an MPA from New York University.

**Daniel Whitley** is the deputy administrator of USDA’s Office of Global Analysis. In this capacity, he is responsible for leading FAS analysis on the global agricultural supply and demand situation. Daniel’s team consists of roughly 60 analysts working in the areas of commodity analysis, international production and trade policy. His staff provides commodity analytical support to the Office of the Chief Economist and is a key member of USDA’s economic intelligence system. In addition to developing supply and demand estimates for key commodities, his office routinely conducts impact analysis on trade policy issues. Daniel oversees the publishing of over 100 annual reports on commodity markets, international agricultural production, and trade policy. Daniel began his professional career with USDA in 1997 with the Economic Research Service. He started with FAS in 2001 and has worked in several capacities including senior economist, deputy-director of trade analysis, and director of civil rights.

**Osei Yaboah** is a professor at North Carolina Agricultural and Technical State University. Dr. Yaboah’s research interests focus on international trade, agribusiness marketing; cooperative development, environmental and natural resource economics and policy; and small scale agriculture. Dr. Yaboah is a recipient of many grants awards from agencies such as USDA and USIAD. Most recently, including evaluation of alternative storage technologies for maize in Ghana; and strengthening the peanut value chain in Ghana, all USDA-FAS funded projects. Yaboah earned an undergraduate degree in agricultural science at Kwame Nkrumah University of Science and Technology (Ghana), a Master’s in Production Economics and a PhD in Agricultural Economics at University of Nebraska-Lincoln.

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