



FEED THE FUTURE

The U.S. Government's Global Hunger and Food Security Initiative

The Feed the Future Learning Agenda





Presentation Objectives

1. Understand what the Learning Agenda (LA) is
2. Understand its purpose
3. Know the history of its development
4. Know the themes and questions of the LA



What is the Learning Agenda?

A set of questions for which FTF seeks to generate evidence, findings, and answers

How will FTF answer the Learning Agenda questions?

Evidence to answer the questions will come primarily through impact evaluations, while performance monitoring and performance evaluation will also produce useful findings



History of the Learning Agenda (LA)

The process to formulate the Agenda involved several steps:

Step 1: Examination of causal linkages in FTF Results Framework and Missions' MYSs to generate "laundry list" of Qs (Jan – Feb 2011)

Step 2: Analysis of "laundry list" by BFS/M&E and IFPRI experts to develop (LA) themes and refine questions (March)



History of the Learning Agenda (LA)

- **Step 3:** Working groups of technical experts revised and prioritized questions in each theme to create draft (April – May 2011)
- **Step 4:** Concept notes on LA themes drafted by experts (May – June 2011)
- **Step 5:** LA Technical Meeting at IFPRI convened researchers, evaluation practitioners, CSO reps, and USAID/USG experts to vet and refine draft questions (June 2011)



History of the Learning Agenda (LA)

- Step 5:** Technical working groups reconvened to further refine and rework questions (July – Aug 2012)
- Step 6:** Final vetting by FTF missions and BFS/CSI (early Sept 2012)
- Step 7:** Reviewed by FTF senior leadership (Sept 2011)
- Step 8:** Rolled out for operational use in FTF M&E Regional Workshops (Oct 2011)



Learning Agenda Themes

Ag
Productivity

Research and
Development

Markets and
Trade

Nutrition and
Dietary
Diversity

Gender and
Women's
Empowerment

Resilience of
Vulnerable
Populations



Improved Nutrition and Dietary Diversity

Top Key Questions:

- What approach to Agriculture, Nutrition and Health (ANH) integration is most effective for achieving nutrition impact (i.e. geographic co-location, integration of interventions, what combination of ANH)?
- What factors have enabled value chain investments to lead to improved consumption of diverse diets? What barriers to value-chain investments have most impeded improved consumption of diverse diets?
- Which agriculture technology interventions improve diets and nutrition outcomes? How are they linked?



Learning Agenda & Impact Evaluations

- Agenda provides a framework for programming IEs
- Contributions to the Learning Agenda

USAID/BFS will fund Impact Evaluations via FEEDBACK	~22
Most FTF Missions also funding at least one IE	~19
Food for Peace conducting some IEs	~3
MCC has several IEs that support the Agenda	~10
TOTAL	~54



Next Steps

- Thorough review and documentation of existing evidence
- Development of Literature Reviews for each Agenda theme through the FTF FEEDBACK M&E contract
- More thorough examination of M&E contributions to Learning Agenda across USG