USAID/Nepal
Feed the Future Overview

Innovation Lab Meeting
March 10, 2014
Core USAID/Nepal FTF Team

Gautam Bajracharya
Navin Hada
Danielle Knueppel
Anita Mahat
Evan Meyer
Amy Prevatt
Nepal Context

- Recovering from decade long conflict
- 55% of population below the poverty line
- Nearly 80% of population engaged in agriculture
- Two-thirds of population experience food shortages during the year
- High rates of urban and out-migration
  - 20% of GDP is from remittances
- On track to meet 3 MDGs by 2015
  - Maternal and child health and primary education
Nutrition Status of Children under 5

Bar chart showing the percentage of children under 5 with different nutritional statuses in Nepal (2011), Ethiopia (2011), and Tanzania (2010). The chart includes:

- **Stunting** (height for age)
- **Wasting** (weight for height)
- **Underweight** (weight for age)

Key:
- **Nepal 2011**
- **Ethiopia 2011**
- **Tanzania 2010**

The data indicates a significant prevalence of stunting and underweight in all three countries with variations in percentages.
Agricultural Context and Challenges

- Low ag. productivity: Access to high quality inputs is a challenge
- Ag. extension network is insufficient
- Private sector plays a minor role
- Weak linkage between extension services and market and research

**Fertilizer use**
- Nepal – 19 kg/ha
- S. Lanka – 295 kg/ha

**Improved seed use**
- 20% of total veg grower

**Area under irrigation**
- 32% of total cultivated areas

**Productivity**
- 2.3 tons/hectare (corn, wheat, rice)
  - 3.9 Bangladesh
  - 3.8 Sri Lanka
Goal: Maximize the number of Nepalis lifted out of poverty and increase the number of women and children with improved nutritional status

Intermediate Results:

1) Increased agriculture productivity and income
2) Expanded markets and trade
3) Increased investment in agriculture and nutrition-related activities
4) Increased resilience of vulnerable communities and households
5) Improved access to diverse and quality foods
6) Improved nutrition-related behaviors
7) Improved use of maternal and child health and nutrition services
Reach 160,000 households, up to 1 million beneficiaries

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>Value chains</th>
</tr>
</thead>
<tbody>
<tr>
<td>• Focus: High value vegetables</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>• Cropping systems: rice, maize, lentils, livestock</td>
</tr>
</tbody>
</table>

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>Components</th>
</tr>
</thead>
<tbody>
<tr>
<td>• Agriculture productivity and income generation</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>• Nutrition and hygiene</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>• Entrepreneurial literacy</td>
</tr>
</tbody>
</table>

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>Highlights</th>
</tr>
</thead>
<tbody>
<tr>
<td>• Whole-of-government approach</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>• Scale and sustainability through change agents and local capacity building</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>• Based FTF on proven successes</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>• GHI co-funding for nutrition</td>
</tr>
</tbody>
</table>
High-value vegetables with rice, maize, lentils, and livestock

Vegetables
- **High impact potential** for income & nutrition
- By 2015, domestic demand will be **1.4 times** current production\(^1\)
- Competitive supply potential\(^2\)
- Focus on farming systems and driving supply expansion

Staple systems
- **High impact potential**: Rice and maize are #1 and #2 most produced staples
- **Lentils and animal products** are key source of protein
- **Quick wins with existing technologies**: Early harvest rice, protein-rich maize seed dissemination, intercropping with vegetables

---

\(^1\) Based on 2005-2010 local consumption growth rate
\(^2\) Based on USAID project experience showing competitiveness for local market
Nepal has 3 major regions, running from the Terai plains in the South to the Himalayas in the North.

Nepal – elevations

Far West

Mid West

West

Central

East

Terai

Hills

Mountains

FTF focus districts

Feet above sea level
High: 29,022
Low: 200

SOURCE: MOAD 2008m
Geographic Focus:

- 20 districts in the Terai and lower hills in the Far-Western, Mid-Western, and West Regions
FTF will scale up proven implementation models and target up to 160,000 farmer households (1m people)

FTF Major Components

A  Component A: Improved Agricultural Productivity
   • Increase number of crop cycles per year; increase irrigation and seed quality
   • Increase productivity of high value vegetables with complementary impact on rotational crops: rice, maize, pulses and livestock

B  Component B: Improved Nutrition & Hygiene Education & Service Delivery
   • Replication of USAID’s Suaahara/Integrated Nutrition Program
   • Change nutrition and hygiene behaviors
   • Improve quality and diversity of diets
   • Deliver better services

C  Component C: Entrepreneurial, Literacy & Numeracy (Nepali organization)
   • Increased resilience of vulnerable communities and households through skills development

Monitoring & Evaluation (Nepali organization)
Current USAID Nepal FTF Projects and Activities

1. Knowledge-based Integrated Sustainable Agriculture and Nutrition Project (KISAN): Increase agricultural production and incomes

2. Hill Maize Research Program (HMRP): Enhance maize production and seed quality; co-funded with Swiss donors (SDC)

3. Cereal Systems Initiative for South Asia (CSISA): Cereal seed and technology

4. Integrated Pest Management Innovation Lab (IPM IL): Technology packages for high-value vegetable production

5. International Food Policy Research Institute (IFPRI): Policy implementation and advocacy

6. Business Literacy Project: Literacy and numeracy training combined with life skills and income generation for women, low caste groups, and other marginalized people

7. Peace Corps: PCVs focus on agriculture, nutrition and hygiene education

8. FTF M&E
Current FTF Projects and Activities

- Business Literacy 3 yrs
- IPM IL 3 yrs
- CSISA 3 yrs

KISAN
5 yrs

20 Districts (West/Mid-West/Far-West)

Total beneficiaries = 160,000 households
Focus = Disadvantaged Groups
Nepal FTF Coordination

- Close coordination with Ministries of:
  - Agricultural Development
  - Commerce and Supplies
  - Forestry and Soil Conservation
  - Environment

- In-depth coordination with local governments and Local Development Offices (LDOs)

- FTF fits within the
  - Agricultural Development Strategy
  - Multi-sector Nutrition Plan
  - National Food and Nutrition Security Plan

- Close coordination with other development partners and local organizations

- Partnerships with businesses
Whole of Government Approach

USAID Collaboration

FTF Nepal Linkages with Other Presidential Initiatives
- Global Health Initiative (GHI): Co-funding for FTF and common approaches in nutrition, hygiene, and sanitation interventions
- Global Climate Change Initiative (GCC): Integration in areas such as water management, crop selection, conservation agriculture, community forest user groups

FTF Nepal Linkages with Other USAID Activities
- Economic Growth: Strengthening selected value chains, business environment, and microfinance; income generation and savings and credit activities
- Disaster Risk Reduction (DRR): Including modules on DRR in literacy and life skills training packages
- Democracy and Governance (DG): Best practices on local governance and accessing local resources
Whole of Government Approach

USG Collaboration

Other USG Agencies with Current Roles in FTF Nepal

• U.S. Department of State: advocate policy reforms, support exchange programs

• Peace Corps: volunteers will work in FTF and GHI project areas

• NASA-SERVIR: satellite data documenting climate change and glacier melting

• Food for Peace: emergency relief in food insecure areas

• DOD PACOM: culverts; agriculture collection centers double as disaster shelters

USG Partnerships in Development

• USDA: collaboration on livestock support

• MCC Threshold: Nepal recently selected for MCC threshold funding - TBD