FAMINE EARLY WARNING SYSTEMS NETWORK (FEWS NET III) TO 4

QUARTERLY PERFORMANCE REPORT
JULY – SEPTEMBER 2017

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LIST OF ACRONYMS

CH	*Cadre Harmonisé*
CAID	*Cellule d'Analyses d'Indicateurs de Développement* (DRC)
CILSS	*Comité Inter-Etats de Lutte contre la Sécheresse au Sahel* (West Africa)
DRC	Democratic Republic of the Congo
DSG	Decision Support Group
DMMU	Disaster Management and Mitigation Unit (Zambia)
ECOWAS	Economic Community of West African States
FAO	Food and Agriculture Organization of the United Nations
FAOB	Food Assistance Outlook Brief
FAW	Fall armyworm
FDW	FEWS NET Data Warehouse
FEWS NET	Famine Early Warning Systems Network
FFP	Food for Peace
FIPE	Food insecure population estimate
FOSVANN	Food Security and Vulnerability Network in Nigeria
FSIN	Food Security Information Network
FSNAU	Food Security and Nutrition Analysis Unit – Somalia
FSO	Food Security Outlook
FY	Fiscal Year
GFT	GIS Flood Tool
HEA	Household Economy Approach
HO	Home Office
IGAD	Intergovernmental Authority on Development
IPC	Integrated Phase Classification
IR	Intermediate Result
KFSSG	Kenya Food Security Steering Group
KML	Knowledge Management and Learning
LAC	Latin America and the Caribbean
LH	Livelihoods
LSMS	Living Standards Measurement Study
M&E	Monitoring and Evaluation
M&T	Markets and Trade
MOU	Memorandum of Understanding
ND	Network Development
NEWU	National Early Warning Unit (Zimbabwe)
NGO	Non-governmental organization
NMA	National Meteorology Agency (Ethiopia)
NOAA	National Oceanic and Atmospheric Administration
NTM	National Technical Manager
NVAC	National Vulnerability Assessment Committee
RTM	Regional Technical Manager
RVAA	Regional Vulnerability Assessment and Analysis Programme
RVAC	Regional Vulnerability Assessment Committee
SADC	Southern African Development Community
SECAC	Secretariat of the Central American Council for Agriculture
SESAN	Secretariat of Food and Nutrition Security (Guatemala)

SIMMAGRO   Regional Agricultural Markets Information System (LAC)
SO   Strategic Objective
SWALIM   Somalia Water and Land Information Project
TO   Task Order
TWG   Technical Working Group
UN   United Nations
USAID   United States Agency for International Development
USGS   United States Geological Survey
WFP   United Nations World Food Programme
WRSI   Water Requirements Satisfaction Index

SECTION 1

INTRODUCTION TO FEWS NET

A.   Background

The United States Agency for International Development's (USAID) Famine Early Warning Systems Network (FEWS NET) is the world's premier provider of high-quality food security analysis and early warning. Created in 1985 in response to famines in East and West Africa, the project's coverage is global, with a mix of presence and remote monitoring countries. Led by USAID, FEWS NET implementing partners include the National Aeronautics and Space Administration, the National Oceanic and Atmospheric Administration (NOAA), the United States Department of Agriculture (USDA), the United States Geological Survey (USGS), Kimetrica, and Chemonics, the last of which manages the Washington technical office and about 25 field offices in locations ranging from Africa to Central Asia, Central America, and Haiti.

Based on an in-depth understanding of local livelihoods, FEWS NET analysts monitor information and data related to weather and climate, crops, pasture conditions, markets and trade (M&T), nutrition, and other factors that influence acute and chronic food insecurity. Along with monthly reports and alerts, FEWS NET produces specialized research products on food security drivers and cross-cutting issues such as climate change and resilience. Reports are made available at www.fews.net and distributed globally to governments, relief agencies, and other stakeholders engaged in humanitarian response and development programs.

The ongoing third phase of FEWS NET (2012-2018) centers on close collaboration with international, regional, and national partners on the production of analysis and reinforcement of food security networks. Activities include: joint monitoring and assessments, data exchanges, collaborative analysis and report writing, and training. Their goal is to facilitate local and regional food security networks in leading the way toward achieving the global objective of food security for all.

B.   Task Orders

As of 2017, USAID has awarded four Task Orders (TOs) to the Chemonics consortium under the FEWS NET Indefinite Quantity Contract. TO-1 was the original core TO under which the consortium performed the majority of FEWS NET's work. This TO ended in December 2016, the month which also marked the beginning of TO-4. TO-4 extends the work of TO-1 into 2018. In April 2012, USAID issued TO-2 to provide dedicated support to the West Africa regional organization, *Comité Inter-États de Lutte contre la Sécheresse au Sahel* (CILSS). This TO lasted one year, but close collaboration with and support to CILSS continues under the core contract (TO-1, and now TO-4). In late 2015, USAID awarded TO-3 to provide for focused support to three countries affected by the then-ongoing Ebola crisis—Guinea, Liberia, and Sierra Leone. Activities under this TO ended and this TO closed in June 2017. This performance report therefore covers activities undertaken toward the ongoing TO-4.
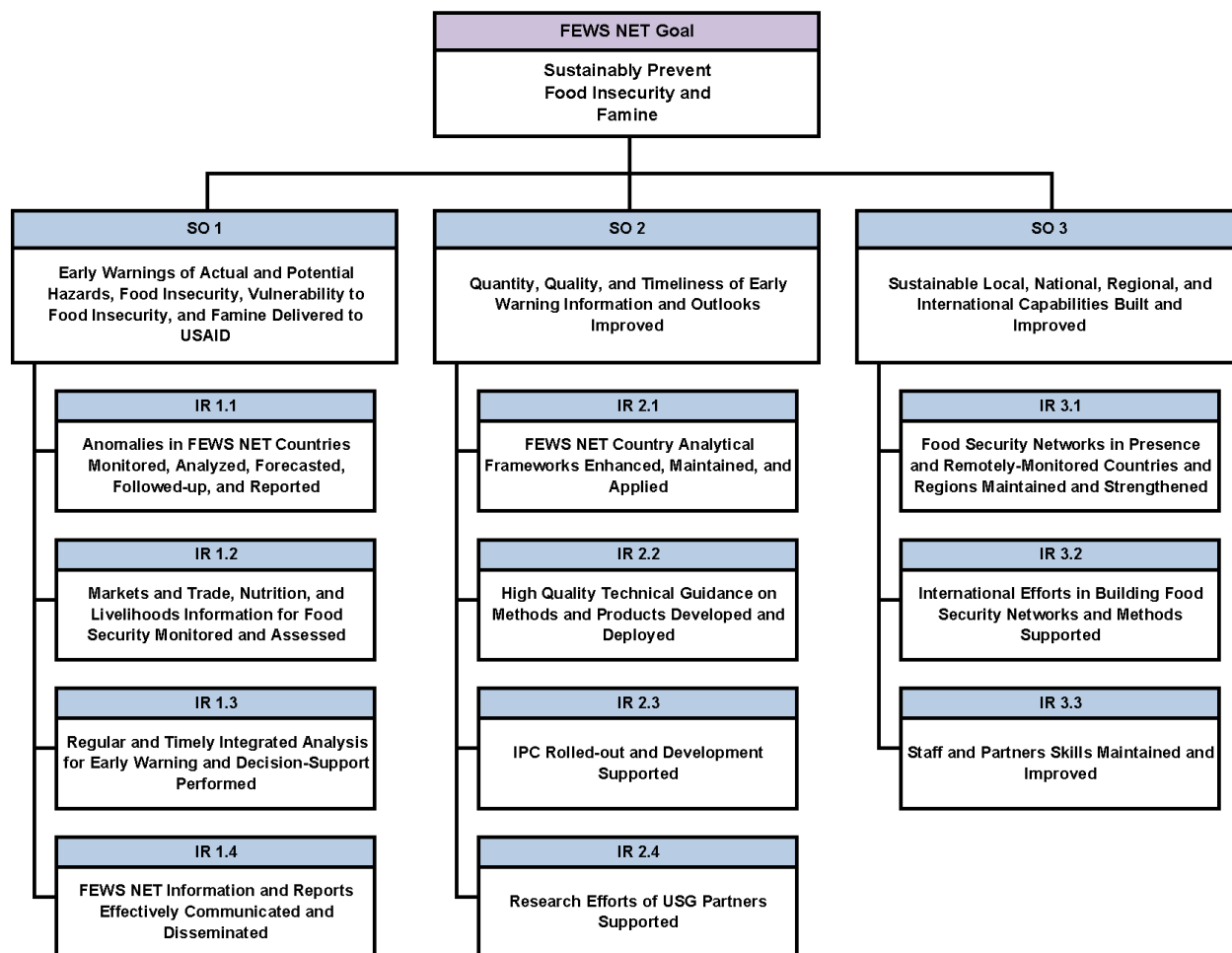
C.   Results Framework

The FEWS NET Results Framework (Figure 1) is a planning, communications, and management tool. It conveys the development hypothesis implicit in the project's goal and objectives, as well as the cause-

effect relationships between Intermediate Results (IRs) and Strategic Objectives (SOs). Hence, the Results Framework provides a foundation for work planning and performance monitoring.

FEWS NET works toward its goal of sustainably preventing food insecurity and famine through three project SOs: providing early warning; improving the quantity, quality, and timeliness of early warning; and building the capacity of partners in food security assessment, monitoring, and analysis. Broadly, these three SOs represent what FEWS NET does, how FEWS NET works to do it better, and how FEWS NET facilitates its partners' engagement in similar work.

Figure 1. FEWS NET Results Framework

FEWS NET Goal
Sustainably Prevent Food Insecurity and Famine

SO 1	SO 2	SO 3
Early Warnings of Actual and Potential Hazards, Food Insecurity, Vulnerability to Food Insecurity, and Famine Delivered to USAID	Quantity, Quality, and Timeliness of Early Warning Information and Outlooks Improved	Sustainable Local, National, Regional, and International Capabilities Built and Improved

IR 1.1	IR 2.1	IR 3.1
Anomalies in FEWS NET Countries Monitored, Analyzed, Forecasted, Followed-up, and Reported	FEWS NET Country Analytical Frameworks Enhanced, Maintained, and Applied	Food Security Networks in Presence and Remotely-Monitored Countries and Regions Maintained and Strengthened

IR 1.2	IR 2.2	IR 3.2
Markets and Trade, Nutrition, and Livelihoods Information for Food Security Monitored and Assessed	High Quality Technical Guidance on Methods and Products Developed and Deployed	International Efforts in Building Food Security Networks and Methods Supported

IR 1.3	IR 2.3	IR 3.3
Regular and Timely Integrated Analysis for Early Warning and Decision-Support Performed	IPC Rolled-out and Development Supported	Staff and Partners Skills Maintained and Improved

IR 1.4	IR 2.4
FEWS NET Information and Reports Effectively Communicated and Disseminated	Research Efforts of USG Partners Supported

Under SO 1, FEWS NET carries out its core early warning activities. These activities fall into the four broad IRs listed below:

1. Identifying, monitoring, and assessing anomalies that can impact food security outcomes
2. Monitoring livelihoods, M&T, nutrition, and other sectoral contexts
3. Performing food security and outlook analyses using scenario development, the Integrated Food Security Phase Classification (IPC), and other relevant methods
4. Communicating early warning information to decision-makers and partners via the FEWS NET website, publications, briefings, and other means of information dissemination

Under SO 2, FEWS NET strives to improve its methods and products. The project maintains and regularly updates national knowledge bases and monitoring plans (IR 2.1) and works to improve and refine tools and methods that facilitate food security analysis (IR 2.2). FEWS NET supports the continued development of the IPC, and IR 2.3 covers activities that the project undertakes to rollout and support the use of IPC in FEWS NET analysis. The Chemonics team also works with other FEWS NET implementing partners to support the overall goal of the project in areas such as climate change and remote sensing applications. These activities are reflected in IR 2.4.

The third SO represents the networking, capacity development, and institutional strengthening components of FEWS NET. In addition to working with national, regional, and global food security networks on monitoring and early warning (IR 3.1), FEWS NET also participates in global efforts to develop methods, systems, and networks such as the IPC and the Food Security Information Network (FSIN) (IR 3.2). Recognizing that the strength of FEWS NET is in its cadre of field- and Washington-based analysts and technicians, the project also devotes considerable effort to supporting, maintaining, and improving staff skills (IR 3.3). To increase the effectiveness, and, ideally, impact, of activities undertaken in this SO, FEWS NET launched a Network Development (ND) initiative in fiscal year (FY) 2014. This initiative and its associated activities are discussed further in Section II, D and Section III.

SECTION II

QUARTERLY PERFORMANCE REPORT

A.   Developing the Quarterly Report

FEWS NET's quarterly performance report process begins with the National Technical Manager (NTM) in each FEWS NET field office compiling a list of key activities, organized by IR, which the office either started or completed during the reporting period. Each office also compiles a list of planned activities that the project did not carry out or complete, along with a brief explanation as to why. For each activity reported, FEWS NET's NTMs also provide, where appropriate, a brief description of the activity's results and impacts. FEWS NET's Regional Technical Managers (RTMs) and regional sector-specific advisors then review and provide comments on the NTMs' inputs from the country offices in their region. The RTMs' and regional advisors' reviews serves two purposes: allowing the RTMs and regional advisors to remain informed of key activities in the region and facilitating discussions with the NTMs on the progress of activities to date and any corrective actions or other changes in implementation approach that may be required. After this initial examination in the field, FEWS NET's Washington-based Senior Management Team consolidates, reviews, and aggregates the various inputs to produce the final project performance report for the quarter. The final report also incorporates inputs from Washington-based advisors and technical staff, as well as management information from the Project Management Unit.

This quarterly report begins with an overview of key management and contractual events that occurred during the reporting period, as well as the project's decision support and ND activities. FEWS NET organizes the rest of the quarterly report according to the project's Results Framework. For each IR, FEWS NET provides a brief narrative that highlights specific associated efforts and an activity table that provides a synthesized list of activities carried out under the IR. Some activities may appear to be duplicates; this is a result of the structure of FEWS NET, where multiple offices may collaborate to carry out an activity and/or an activity may have multiple objectives. In these cases, each office reports the activity from their perspective and lists the activity under the relevant IRs. A brief discussion of activities planned during the reporting quarter but not carried out follows the presentation of the IRs.

B.   Management

Famine Risks

Unprecedented levels of global food insecurity continued through the reporting period. The four conflict-affected countries at risk of Famine (Nigeria, Somalia, South Sudan, and Yemen) remained priorities for USAID and continued to dominate FEWS NET technical and managerial priorities during the reporting quarter. In addition, FEWS NET has raised concern of severe food insecurity conditions and possible Famine risks in Ethiopia.

Cameroon Assessment

During the reporting quarter, USAID requested a surge proposal from FEWS NET to inform humanitarian programming in the Lake Chad region. Following pre-assessment workshops, FEWS NET fielded assessment teams to the Far North Region, where the assessment focused on market functionality, and to Adamaoua Region, where the assessment focused on verifying reports of high acute malnutrition. These assessments were organized, conducted, and final reports delivered to USAID during the reporting quarter. It is expected that Cameroon will become a FEWS NET remote monitoring country, with reporting coverage.

Southern Africa Retrospective Review

Following last year's severe El Niño event, which resulted in poor production and widespread food insecurity across much of southern Africa, USAID asked FEWS NET to conduct a retrospective analysis of the assumptions used to guide FEWS NET analysis, which informed USAID and other agency's response. As a learning exercise, the objectives were to identify the accuracy of FEWS NET analysis in terms of price projections, crop, livestock, self-employment, and coping assumptions, with the aim of improving FEWS NET analysis and early warning moving forward. During the quarter, the desk review was completed in preparation for a meeting with USAID scheduled for early in the next reporting quarter. This analysis and associated forthcoming discussion with USAID was part of a series of after action/learning events associated with the El Niño event organized by USAID's Office of Food for Peace (FFP) Southern Africa Regional Office.

Livelihood Zoning and Profiling in Nigeria

FEWS NET has been piloting a method to zone and profile livelihoods in Nigeria using household survey data from the World Bank's Living Standards Measurement Study (LSMS). This pilot presents a possible alternative or complement to FEWS NET's traditional method of zoning and profiling livelihoods using the Household Economy Approach (HEA), which applies field-intense (and therefore costly) qualitative methods. The initial results of the pilot, as presented to USAID and key partners during the reporting quarter, establish a proof of concept and will be followed up with a second phase, to include field verification work in Nigeria. The pilot method could provide a more cost-effective, and/or accurate method for developing FEWS NET's knowledgebase livelihoods products, which underpin its food security analysis.

Global IPC Partners Discussion

While USAID funds both FEWS NET and the IPC, differences in analysis sometimes causes confusion amongst humanitarian actors, and tension between IPC partners at national and global levels. During the reporting period, USAID organized and convened a discussion amongst key IPC global partners which sought to proactively address a number of challenges related to current IPC practices and processes. These included the use of IPC as a common language amongst global partners, national capacity and the quality of analyses, IPC compatibility agreements and norms, and processes for addressing technical concerns and analytical differences in analyses. Partners will continue to work together to define processes and recommendations to address these and related issues.

FEWS NET Data Warehouse (FDW)

Efforts continue to build and update the FEWS NET Data Warehouse with historical and current datasets for crop production, nutrition, Food Insecure Population Estimates (FIPE), historical food insecurity classification, cross-border trade, and market price data for FEWS NET presence and select remote monitoring countries. During the reporting quarter, seven FEWS NET countries submitted new crop production data, and 15 countries submitted historical crop production data—all of which was processed, cleaned and delivered for upload to the FDW. Additional datasets, including geographic units shapefiles, nutrition and FIPE were also delivered for FDW upload. FEWS NET field and regional offices continue adding weekly and monthly price data, consumer price indices, and exchange rate data to the FDW. These inputs are used to generate monthly Price Watch Annexes and Price Bulletins.

Fall Armyworm

Fall armyworm (FAW) in Africa continues to be an important concern, threatening the food security of a growing number of countries. During the reporting quarter, FEWS NET continued to participate in regional and national efforts to track FAW, in collaboration with USGS field scientists, and to understand its potential and actual food security impacts. FEWS NET participates in global, regional, and national FAW working groups, including a working group with USAID in Washington, DC.

FEWS NET Foundational Training for Implementing Partners

FEWS NET organized and delivered a Foundational Training for the USAID FEWS NET management team and for FEWS NET science partners to facilitate a better understand how FEWS NET conducts its analyses broadly and to improve how agroclimatology informs and is used in FEWS NET analyses. The training included introductory sessions on the IPC, scenario development, the main technical sectors (M&T, agroclimatology, nutrition, and livelihoods), humanitarian assistance, and herd dynamics.

FEWS NET Science Meeting and Joint Work Planning

A FEWS NET Science Meeting was convened in Washington, DC, which included a series of meetings and presentations with science partners, USAID, FEWS NET Home Office (HO) technical staff and RTMs, and other implementing partners. This meeting included discussions with the private sector on effective use of high resolution satellite imagery to inform FEWS NET food security analysis. USGS/FEWS NET field scientists presented overviews and updates from their work in FEW NET regions. Science partners presented their work on new initiatives, data, research, and partnerships. This meeting was followed by a joint work planning session, aimed at better linking the work of science partners with each other, and with FEWS NET contractors, Chemonics and Kimetrica, to seek opportunities for improved inter- and intra-team exchange and collaboration.

High-Resolution Imagery Analysis

During the reporting quarter, FEWS NET, in close collaboration with science partners and USAID, solicited a subcontractor to help improve FEWS NET's use of high resolution satellite imagery in its food security analysis. This subcontract will help ensure FEWS NET is taking advantage of new technologies, including machine learning and crowd sourcing, to fill crucial data gaps and improve its food security analysis. Initial high-resolution imagery efforts will focus on better estimating the area planted to key crops—a crucial factor driving food security outcomes in all FEWS NET countries. Work will proceed in the next quarter under an advisory group, which includes USAID and USG science partners, and will complement other FEWS NET activities.

Consolidating M&T Activities in Southern Africa

During the reporting quarter, FEWS NET continued to consolidate and strengthen its own and partners' M&T activities and efforts in southern Africa. As part of these efforts, FEWS NET supported a Southern African Development Community- (SADC-) hosted training event on market assessment and price projections. This training will be followed by a series of FEWS NET-led market assessments in six countries (DRC, Madagascar, Malawi, Mozambique, South Africa, and Zimbabwe) during the next reporting quarter. FEWS NET also prepared a training for 20 cross-border enumerators in Malawi, Zambia, and Zimbabwe on the use of tablets for data collection and transmission, which will be conducted jointly with the United Nations (UN) Word Food Programme (WFP) during the next reporting quarter.

Zambia Transition to a FEWS NET Remote Market Watch Monitoring Country

Earlier in the year, FEWS NET Zambia staff co-located with the Government of Zambia's Disaster Management and Mitigation Unit (DMMU) in the Office of the Vice President, in an effort to build government capacity for comprehensive food security and early warning data collection, management, analysis, and reporting, in anticipation of ending FEWS NET's presence in Zambia in December 2017. During the reporting quarter, FEWS NET developed and began implementing an administrative, financial, and technical closeout plan to guide the project's transition out of the country.

Ebola Learning Event

Following the Ebola outbreak in Guinea, Liberia, and Sierra Leone, FEWS NET established and maintained a limited presence in the three affected countries from September 2015 through May 2017. Following the closure of these offices earlier in the year, USAID asked FEWS NET to present lessons learned from the Ebola coverage to colleagues in Washington, DC. The event focused on FEWS NET inputs, such as staffing, offices, and training; FEWS NET outputs, including assessments, analyses, reports, and capacity strengthening efforts; as well as major achievements, challenges, and lessons learned. The event was convened in Washington, DC in September, with a presentation by the FEWS NET West Africa RTM.

Work Planning

During the reporting quarter, USAID exercised the first six-month option under TO-4 to extend FEWS NET III for six months, through June 4, 2018. FEWS NET/Chemonics initiated efforts to develop an associated work plan by bringing key field staff, including the RTMs and the Network Development (ND) Advisor to Washington, DC to strategize on key priorities and plans for the extension period. Work plan efforts during the option period will focus on consolidating achievements and preparing for a successful handover to FEWS NET 7, with only a limited number of new activities.

New Hires

FEWS NET on-boarded the following staff during the reporting quarter:

- Democratic Republic of the Congo (DRC): Administrative Assistant (1)
- Haiti: Food Security Specialist (1)
- Nicaragua: Remote Monitor (1)
- South Sudan: Senior Food Security Advisor (1)
- Sudan: Market Enumerator (1)
- Yemen: Food Security Specialist (1)
- Washington, DC: Food Security Analyst (1)
- Washington, DC: Markets and Trade Research Assistant (1)

Pending Professional Staff Recruitment

During the reporting quarter, FEWS NET worked to recruit the following posts:

- Afghanistan: Assistant National Technical Manager (1)
- Afghanistan: Nutrition Officer (1)

- Afghanistan: Office Manager/Accountant (1)
- DRC: Assistant National Technical Manager (1)
- Ethiopia: Food Security Specialist (1)
- Kenya: NTM (1)
- Nigeria: Assistant National Technical Manager (1)
- South Sudan: Assistant National Technical Manager (1)
- Sudan: Field Monitor Coordinator (1)
- Uganda: Assistant National Technical Manager (1)
- Washington, DC: Deputy Decision Support Advisor (1)
- Washington, DC: Food Security Analysts (2)
- Washington, DC: Nutrition Advisor (1)

Resignations

FEWS NET received the following resignations during the reporting quarter:

- Afghanistan: Office Manager/Accountant (1)
- Afghanistan: Assistant National Technical Manager (1)
- DRC: Assistant National Technical Manager (1)
- Nigeria: Assistant National Technical Manager (1)

Memoranda of Understanding

FEWS NET entered into memoranda of understanding (MOUs) with the following entities during the reporting quarter:

- Afghanistan: Ministry of Agriculture Irrigation and Livestock (extension)
- DRC: *Cellule d'Analyses d'Indicateurs de Développement* (Center for the Analysis of Development Indicators, CAID)
- Guatemala: Cooperation Agreement for the Creation, Institutionalization, and Operation of the Regional Agricultural Markets Information System (SIMMAGRO)

Registrations

During the reporting quarter, FEWS NET commenced registration activities in Yemen.

Approvals

During the reporting quarter, Chemonics submitted 58 TO-4 approval requests to USAID, of which 51 were technical approvals and 7 were contracting office action requests. Through the end of the quarter, Chemonics submitted 208 official TO-4 requests, of which 147 were Contracting Officer's Representative actions and 61 required Contracting Officer action.

C.   Decision Support

During the reporting quarter, FEWS NET posted 341 reports and briefs to its website, compared to the 359 reports posted in the previous quarter. Of the reports posted, 96 are foreign language products. Table 1 provides a break out of these decision-support products.

Table 1. Summary of FEWS NET Decision-Support Products between 04/01/2017 and 06/30/2017

	East Africa	West Africa	Southern Africa	Latin America/ Caribbean	Asia/ Middle East	Global	Total
Food Security Outlook	1	2 (1)	1	0	0		4 (1)
Food Security Outlook Update	7	9 (4)	7 (2)	3 (1)	1		27 (7)
Key Message Update	21	31 (15)	20 (4)	8 (3)	1		81 (22)
Remote Monitoring Web Report	2	3 (1)	0	1	0		6 (1)
Food Security Alert	2	0	0	0	0	0	2
Food Assistance Outlook Brief						3	3
Food Security Outlook Poster						0	0
Special Report	0	2	0	1	0	0	3
Price Watch/Annex						3	3
Price Bulletin	23 (3)	45 (21)	18 (3)	26 (13)	3		115 (40)
Cross border trade bulletin	1	0	0	0	0		1
Global Weather Hazard Report						12	12
Rain Watch	0						0
Seasonal Monitor	5	4	0	2	0		11
Regional Market Report	0	0	0	0	0		0
Staple Food Market Fundamentals Report	0	0	0	0	0		0
Supply and Market Outlook Report	1	0	1	0	0		2

* Figures in parentheses () indicates the number of reports under each report type that were published in a foreign language.

D.   Network Development

The ND Advisor carried out a number of activities during the reporting quarter to further the project's ND objectives, including:

- Consolidated the April to June 2017 network development quarterly report
- Worked with the RTMs and the regional ND focal points to support progress on on-going activities
- Provided strategic guidance and support to the FEWS NET Zambia field team in efforts to achieve a successful skills transfer/network strengthening activity in the country, in line with the signed Letter of Agreement between the DMMU and USAID/Zambia
- Supported the FEWS NET Madagascar, Uganda, and Zimbabwe NTMs in the review and/ or update of existing ND strategies to include activities and set associated targets that are more aligned to current contextual realities
- Provided support to FEWS NET Nigeria to help national partners establish a well-coordinated; well-structured, sustainable food security early warning system. Support included initial consultations on the development of a roadmap for the system's development and an outline for a proposal for its joint implementation.

- Provided ND orientation to the Yemen Food Security Specialist and gave guidance on mapping existing networks and identifying gaps and opportunities for capacity strengthening.
- Worked with the Communications Coordinator to finalize: set up of an ND page on www.fews.net, a set of ND Guidelines, and a one-pager highlighting ND efforts in Mozambique. Documentation for additional one-pagers for Chad, Mali, and Ethiopia was also initiated.
- Maintained strategic interactions with global and regional partners, including the IPC Global Support Unit, the Food and Agriculture Organization of the United Nations (FAO), and SADC's Regional Vulnerability Assessment and Analysis Programme (RVAA) on on-going and potential collaborative capacity strengthening initiatives, and continued to provide leadership to the Regional Vulnerability Assessment Committee's IPC Technical Working Group (TWG).
- Worked with HO Decision Support Group and Southern Africa Regional Office staff on a retrospective analysis requested by USAID/Southern Africa on the early warning FEWS NET provided during the 2016/17 El Niño-induced food security crisis.

Network Development Advisor Travel

The ND Advisor undertook the following travel during the reporting quarter:

- **Zambia, July 25-28:** The ND Advisor travelled to Lusaka, Zambia, along with the Southern Africa RTM to support the FEWS NET Zambia field team's efforts to achieve a successful skills transfer/network strengthening activity in the country, in line with the Letter of Agreement signed between the DMMU and USAID/Zambia. Given constraints on DMMU counterpart staff availability and the time remaining prior to the planned close out of FEWS NET Zambia (December 4, 2017), this mission supported the re-prioritization of initial ND targets and efforts to garner a higher level of commitment and support from DMMU and USAID/Zambia counterparts on these targets and in order to achieve a successful skills transfer/network strengthening.

- **Nigeria, August 25-28:** The ND Advisor travelled to Abuja, Nigeria, along with the West Africa RTM to support the FEWS NET Nigeria field team's efforts to support the setting up of a well-coordinated, well-structured, sustainable food security early warning system for Nigeria. The activity is being synergistically implemented with CILSS—FEWS NET's key regional partner with the food security mandate in the Economic Community of West African States (ECOWAS). The expected results of this support will be a roadmap, jointly articulated by key food security partners including CILSS, FEWS NET, the UN World Food Programme (WFP), and FAO, under the leadership of the National Food Security Program in the Government of Nigeria's Ministry of Agriculture and Rural Development. The joint effort will facilitate implementation of this effort. Through a combination of desk reviews and extensive consultations at the state and federal levels while in Nigeria, the ND Advisor produced an outline that serves as a framework to help in the drafting of the food security early warning system's implementation roadmap. This road map is now being reviewed and taken forward by the designated desk officers from each of the key partner organisations.

- **Washington, DC, September 11-16:** The ND Advisor traveled to Washington, DC to engage in strategic planning for FEWS NET's 2018 work planning. The planning sessions had three specific objectives: (i) to reflect on achievements from the 2017 work plan and factors that affected delivery of activities, (ii) to identify guiding principles and priority activities for the 2018 work plan, and (iii) to discuss and agree upon a process, roles, and responsibilities for completion of FEWS NET's 2018 work plan. Individual meetings with advisors, RTMs and Decision Support

Group (DSG) staff alongside these strategy sessions were helpful in resolving challenges and related to and planning for ND activities that are slated for 2018. During this visit, the ND Advisor also worked with the Decision Support Advisor and the Southern Africa RTM to finalize preparations for a retrospective review workshop planned for early October 2017. These working sessions allowed staff to review outstanding analyses, agree on the modalities and approach, allocate responsibilities for preparation and delivery of the associated presentations, and decide on workshop logistics.

Implementation Progress of Country and Regional Network Development Strategies

Country and regional ND strategies were initially designed with a target end date in December 2016 (the original end of TO-1). With the transition to TO-4, most FEWS NET field offices have taken the opportunity to deepen gains and/or implement additional activities to help sustain the ND results seen to date.

Progress toward achieving ND results is monitored through a simple monitoring and evaluation (M&E) reporting template. Each country's reporting template is based on the specified success indicators and results listed in their ND strategy document. As noted above, most results from ND strategies were expected to be achieved by December 2016. However, at the start of T0-4, a number of result areas were lagging behind for some field offices for a variety of contextual reasons. Since January 2017, the ND M&E reports have tracked progress across all countries, but mainly focused on those countries where results achievement remained below 80 percent. A summary table of ND M&E results (Table 2) is included in Section III.

Network Development Activity Highlights

Latin America and the Caribbean (LAC)

- The **LAC Regional Office's** ND efforts are focused on strengthening regional networks in three (climate, coffee, and M&T). In the reporting quarter, most activities worked toward capacity strengthening and processes institutionalization in the M&T sector. An MOU with SIMMAGRO has been signed by all parties—a major step that consolidates actions toward the institutionalization of the network. The roll-out of SIMMAGRO is also supported by FAO as part of its broader efforts to strengthen the market information system of the region (which is composed of members of the regional M&T network). FEWS NET has now provided technical orientation to the staff of the Secretariat of the Central American Council for Agriculture (SECAC), the designated focal point and coordinator of the Regional M&T network. In addition, FEWS NET has trained members of select national market information systems in M&T analysis, including price projections. During the reporting quarter, FEWS NET provided remote training for new Honduras market information system staff, upon request.
- Capacity strengthening for partners in the coffee and climate sector networks remains visibly improved and information exchange (which has been/is being formalized through MOUs) continues to improve. During the reporting quarter, Guatemala's meteorological services signed an MOU with FEWS NET, and the Nicaragua meteorology service is expected to sign a similar agreement in the next quarter.

East Africa

- FEWS NET **South Sudan** has been implementing a market information system ND activity since October 2014, through a partnership with field-based non-governmental organizations (NGOs). Market price data is collected and reported on weekly basis by market information system

network partners from approximately 30 markets. However, insecurity and frequent relocation of partner NGO staff, notably in Jonglei, Upper Nile, and parts of Unity, continue to impact operational capacities to collect market prices and expand to new markets where market information is particularly important. During the reporting quarter, 19 partners continued to collect and report market price data regularly. Market price data is channeled to the Ministry of Agriculture's FAO-supported CLiMIS database, where it is made available online for end users. During the reporting quarter, the Government of South Sudan's National Bureau of Statistics also began using the CLiMIS price data for their regular monitoring of markets in the country, especially for areas where price data from CLiMIS exists and/or no other regular price collection is taking place. Other members of South Sudan's food security cluster noted that they have also become aware of and are likely to start using price data available on the CLiMIS website.

- FEWS NET **Somalia** efforts to strengthen networks, improve coordination, produce joint reports, and provide joint briefings and other communication products have gained traction. While the ND strategy in this country had called for the signing of MOUs to formalize and strengthen collaboration with different partners, these efforts have lagged, and currently only two formal agreements have been developed (with the Somalia Water and Land Information Project, SWALIM, and FSNAU. Despite the slow progress in signing the formal agreements, there is marked improvement in collaborative engagements and the analysis capacities of many of the partners targeted under the strategy. During the reporting quarter, the partners jointly produced an updated IPC Phase Classification Map which, together with other well-coordinated early warning releases, were used by donors, UN agencies, and the international humanitarian community to scale up interventions.

Southern Africa

- The **Southern Africa Regional Office** is assisting the SADC RVAC to provide harmonized technical support to national vulnerability assessment committees (NVACs) on strengthening markets assessments and analysis. This objective is itself being pursued through FEWS NET technical leadership within the SADC M&T TWG, which FEWS NET helped to re-launch as part of its regional ND strategy for Southern Africa. Specifically during the reporting quarter, FEWS NET supported the trained 43 VAC participants (23 males, 20 females) in the implementation of markets assessment guidelines. This training included a FEWS NET price projections module, which NVACs can use in their analyses (e.g., HEA and IPC analysis). In the coming quarter, FEWS NET plans to further galvanize this work by undertaking markets assessments with key government partners in several SADC member states. Relatedly during July, data collection restarted in a FEWS NET-WFP-supported joint regional informal cross-border monitoring activity. This activity includes data collection, analysis, and reporting through monthly updates which will soon be shared with key stakeholders.
- In **Madagascar**, FEWS NET's ND activities during the reporting quarter have included:
  - Supporting the launch of a National Early Warning System through planning for a joint livelihood baseline study in select zones of the country.
  - Training of Madagascar's NVAC members on market assessments and price projections. FEWS NET will also work with the NVAC to incorporate price projections into the next IPC Analysis, to be held in October 2017.
  - Financially supporting the *Observatoire du Riz* to collect weekly food prices in 13 markets throughout Madagascar as part of a broader effort to facilitate price data availability for all stakeholders. Since September, this funding support has been

successfully taken over and is being sustained by the Government of Madagascar, and FEWS NET and other stakeholders have continued to receive the data regularly.

- In the **DRC**, one area of intervention in the network development strategy is collaboration with CAID on data sharing and capacity strengthening. An MOU formalizing this relationship has been signed and related activities are now operational. During the reporting quarter, FEWS NET trained CAID staff in price data collection and analysis, which is helping to enhance the quality of data shared by CAID to FEWS NET and other partners.
- In **Malawi,** FEWS NET continues to consolidate efforts to improve Malawi's NVAC analysis and strengthen food security analysis capacity more broadly. During the reporting quarter, FEWS NET Malawi provided orientation to select Malawi NVAC members on price analysis to enable them to conduct and integrate it in an HEA outcome analysis. Additionally, the Southern Africa Regional Food Security Specialist for Livelihoods provided technical support to Malawi's NVAC to strengthen members' capacity in HEA outcome analysis. This technical support included guidance on how HEA outcome analysis results were to be interpreted and used for IPC acute classification during the associated IPC acute food insecurity analysis conducted and co-facilitated by FEWS NET in July.
- USAID/**Zambia** has signed an agreement with the DMMU under which FEWS NET Zambia is co-locating with DMMU, with the main objective of effecting skills transfer in food security analysis and reporting to local networks as FEWS NET transitions out of Zambia. The co-location has been in effect since the end of April, and is being operationalized through a joint work plan that focuses on hands-on training and mentoring of designated staff to conduct various assessments and analyses. While some progress was made during the reporting quarter, results achievement has greatly slowed by competing demands and commitments among designated DMMU staff. Resolutions to these challenges have been limited, likely limiting the amount of skills transfer that will be achieved by December 4, 2017 when FEWS NET closes operations in the country.

West Africa

- The **West Africa Regional Office** conducted several activities during the reporting quarter in line with the ND objective of supporting CILSS in its mandate to strengthen national food security information systems to enhance regional technical consensus on food security outcomes using the *Cadre Harmonisé* (CH). During the reporting period, FEWS NET worked directly with CILSS to support the establishment of a sustainable early warning system in Nigeria. This included consultations with technical and financial partners, and with ECOWAS. These consultations helped kick-start the early warning system development process, which the Government of Nigeria is now leading. During the reporting quarter, FEWS NET also participated in a CILSS advocacy mission for the adoption of a five-year strategic plan for the CH roll-out in Nigeria. The mission provided an opportunity to discuss with partners how to link and tap into the synergies between the CH initiative and the initiative to establish a broader EWS.
- Field offices across the region also continued to support skills building and strengthening of national networks, with the objective of enhancing the national CH analysis process. Such efforts during the reporting quarter included:
  - In **Mauritania**, last quarter's significant progress regarding the functionality of various networks that FEWS NET is helping to support has been maintained. Network partners have continued to work jointly and to exchange relevant information. A particularly notable success has been in the reactivation of a food market and price monitoring network, led the Government of the Islamic Republic of Mauritania's Food Security Commission. During the reporting quarter, it was further agreed that the Commission

will fulfil its obligations as set out in the protocol signed in 2008 with FEWS NET and WFP. Specifically, it will monitor markets and process and centralize the associated data. FEWS NET, WFP, and other partners will provide support, as needed. Discussions about providing a monthly bulletin on the results of this market monitoring effort are underway, with an anticipated October bulletin forthcoming.

o During the reporting quarter, FEWS NET **Mali** continued to strengthen the technical capacity of its partners (especially staff of the national early warning system), through refresher training in analysis concepts such as scenario development, and HEA/livelihood analysis. FEWS NET's price projection method has just been adopted by the HEA committee as the only method for using projected prices. The use of FEWS NET's remote sensing imagery, especially for seasonal and biomass monitoring, fills an important national early warning system data gap, especially in less accessible areas.

o In **Nigeria**, FEWS NET's activities in capacity strengthening and mentoring of food security technicians at the state and federal levels are clearly enhancing the CH roll-out process. Government of Nigeria counterparts at the state and federal levels, as well as donor agencies, and humanitarian actors are now progressively using the CH results as inputs into their decisions and program planning. In August, FEWS NET participated in a CILSS-led advocacy mission to senior government officials at the state and federal levels to firm up commitments to progressively take on funding of CH cycles for sustainability and ownership as ECOWAS funding winds down. Additionally, during the reporting quarter, FEWS NET Nigeria received support from the West Africa RTM and the ND Advisor to help kick-start efforts to establish a comprehensive, well-coordinated national food security early warning system. The system will ensure better access to and availability of necessary data and information for credible, timely, integrated food security analysis, especially for CH analyses. The roadmap to establish the national early warning system will be discussed and adopted at a stakeholder workshop planned for the next quarter, with a formal launch to be held thereafter.

E. SO 1—Early Warning of Actual and Potential Hazards and Food Insecurity

IR 1.1 Anomalies in FEWS NET Countries Monitored, Analyzed, Forecasted, Followed-Up, and Reported

This IR relates to seasonal monitoring and assessment activities—a core FEWS NET function. Broadly, FEWS NET's analysis applies secondary data on food security factors, where available, and supplements this with primary data collection, when needed. In these latter cases, the project may engage subcontractors to carry out primary data collection through representative surveys or other approaches. Among the activities implemented during the reporting quarter, FEWS NET undertook fieldwork to better understand the evolution of food security conditions in key countries of concern—including Ethiopia, Nigeria, Somalia, South Sudan, and Yemen, and other areas where anomalies have been noted, including DRC, Mauritania, and Mozambique. Other activities carried out in the context of this IR include regular analysis of remote sensing products, such as Rainfall Estimates, EROS Moderate Resolution Imaging Spectroradiometer Normalized Difference Vegetation Index, and Water Requirements Satisfaction Index (WRSI), and sharing of this data and analyses with partners. Table 2 synthesizes select key activities FEWS NET carried out under IR 1.1 during the reporting period.

Table 2. Activities performed by each FEWS NET office under IR 1.1

Office	Activity
All Offices	Carried out seasonal monitoring and assessment missions

Office	Activity
All Offices	Monitored crop conditions
All Offices	Monitored remote sensing products
All Offices	Monitored and reviewed available climate information
DRC	Conducted rapid food security assessments in Kasai Oriental (Mbuji Mayi), Kasai (Tshikapa), and Tanganyka (Kalemie)
Ethiopia	Conducted a rapid food security assessment in Dollo, Korahe, and Liben zones (Somali Region) and South Omo, Sege, Gamogofa and Wolayita (SNNPR)
Ethiopia	Conducted a rapid FAW infestation assessment in Jimma, Illubabur and east and west Wolega zones of Oromia
Haiti	Conducted joint assessment of Hurricane Irma Impact in the North east with FAO, WFP, and the Ministry of Agriculture of Haiti.
HO DSG	Continued to monitor food security impacts of FAW in sub-Saharan Africa though consultation with partners and participation in working groups
HO DSG	Worked with a consultant to develop improved estimates of county-level populations in South Sudan
LAC Regional Office	Conducted field visits to Honduras and Nicaragua to identify production data and undertake field assessments
Madagascar	Conducted Crop and Food Security Assessment Mission with partners (FAO, WFP, the Ministry of Agriculture, and BNGRC)
Mauritania	Participated in a rainfall evolution analysis with the National Office of Meteorology and the Agriculture Directorate
Mozambique	Carried out a rapid food security assessment in parts of the semiarid area of Tete Province and the central region
Nigeria	Monitored jointly with the National Agricultural Extension Research and Liaison Services the Agricultural Performance Survey across the country
Nigeria	Monitored jointly with WFP market stocks and performance in Adamawa, Borno, and Yobe states
Nigeria	Participated at Borno state assessment of wet season agricultural production
Somalia	Conducted post-*Gu* food security and nutrition assessment
Nigeria	Supported joint emergency food security assessment data collection for the October CH analysis
Somalia	Monitored *Hagaa* rainy season impact on crops and livestock production in Lower Shabelle and Juba regions
South Sudan	Participated in data collection and supervision of the Food Security and Nutrition Monitoring Systems effort
South Sudan	Conducted a rapid food security and market assessment in Kapoeta East and Kapoeta South, Eastern Equatoria
Yemen	Monitored the breeding of locusts, particularly along the Red Sea and Gulf of Aden Coasts
Yemen	Monitored seasonal rainfalls and agro-climatic forecasts as well as crop and livestock production
Yemen	Monitored the spread of the cholera outbreak

IR 1.2 Markets and Trade, Nutrition, and Livelihoods Information for Food Security Monitored and Assessed

While IR 1.1 places attention on the broad assessment of food security and associated anomalies, IR 1.2 focuses on sector-specific assessment in M&T, health and nutrition, and livelihoods. Regular activities under this IR include price and cross-border trade monitoring. During the reporting quarter, FEWS NET also undertook activities to monitor and assess the nutrition sector through technical support on SMART survey implementation and analysis in Somalia, as well as a rapid nutrition assessment in Cameroon's Adamaoua region and support to a Ministry of Health-coordinated nutrition survey in Zimbabwe. In addition, FEWS NET launched efforts to construct a labor market monitoring framework in Guatemala and produced information products derived from a Tomnod crowdsourcing campaign to understand changes in livestock and temporary and permanent dwellings in South Sudan's Unity State between 2015 and 2017. In the livelihoods sector, FEWS NET prepared for and/or undertook HEA outcome analyses in Ethiopia, Haiti, and Malawi and undertook other livelihoods-related activities in Nigeria, Ethiopia, Madagascar, and Mauritania. Table 3 synthesizes select key activities FEWS NET carried out under IR 1.2 during the reporting period.

Table 3. Activities performed by each FEWS NET office under IR 1.2

Office	Activity
All Offices	Monitored markets
All Offices	Monitored and reviewed available market, trade, and price data, including cross-border trade data
East Africa Regional Office	Provided technical input into the FSNAU SMART *Gu* nutrition surveys in northwestern Somalia

Office	Activity
East Africa Regional Office	Monitored maize balance sheets for Kenya, Uganda, and Tanzania
Ethiopia	Updated the monthly consumer price index from Central Statistics Authority
Haiti	Conducted joint outcome analysis with key food security partners
HO Knowledge Management and Learning (KML)	Produced heat, count, and 2015/2017 change maps of Unity State for livestock, temporary dwellings, and permanent dwellings using data from a Tomnod crowdsource campaign
HO Livelihoods (LH)	Updated herd dynamic tool
HO LH	Conducted Somali Region, Ethiopia outcome analysis
HO LH	Analyzed the Nigeria LSMS-derived HEA analysis pilot results
HO LH	Completed Malawi outcome analysis
HO LH	Coordinated with partners on implementation of an HEA-based seasonal assessment plan for Ethiopia
HO M&T	Supported planning for and finalized deliverables from a food security and market assessment in Northern Cameroon
HO M&T	Supported FEWS NET Guatemala and the FEWS NET Latin America and the Caribbean regional office in implementing a labor market monitoring pilot
LAC Regional Office	Conducted field visits to coffee plantations and monitoring systems
LAC Regional Office	Conducted rapid field assessments for the design of a casual labor monitoring system in livelihoods zones 6, 7, 8, and 10 in Guatemala
LAC Regional Office	Produced three regional market & trade reports with the Market Information Systems of Mesoamerica and Caribbean of OIMA.
Madagascar	Organized a meeting at the National Bureau for Risk and Crisis Management to sensitize partners to upcoming livelihoods baseline assessment work in Madagascar
Malawi	Backstopped the Agriculture Market Information System in monitoring retail food prices, including support to market informants in 12 key markets
Mauritania	Participated in a livelihoods profile update in the pastoral and mining zones, as well as in the pastoral and commercial zone
Mauritania	Contributed to the analysis of quantitative and qualitative data on the rates of reproduction of the livestock in the different livelihoods zones
Southern Africa Regional Office	Supported the implementation and reporting of informal cross-border trade monitoring in Zimbabwe, Malawi, and Zambia
West Africa Regional Office	Organized and conducted a market and food security assessment in Cameroon's Far North region
West Africa Regional Office	Organized and conducted a rapid nutrition assessment in Cameroon's Adamaoua region
West Africa Regional Office	Participated in the Regional stocks monitoring tool development workshop in Ouagadougou, Burkina Faso
Zambia	Introduced a static workbook for market price analysis and facilitated associated DMMU reporting (Price Bulletin)
Zimbabwe	Participated in a Ministry of Health-coordinated nutrition survey

IR 1.3 Regular and Timely Integrated Analysis for Early Warning and Decision-Support Performed

IR 1.3 houses FEWS NET's food security and early warning analysis. With food security and associated anomalies assessed under IR 1.1 and the sectoral assessments of IR 1.2 in hand, this IR focuses on integrated analysis. FEWS NET staff produced Food Security Outlook (FSO) Updates for all presence countries in August 2017. Countries and regions also prepared other analytic products, including monthly input to the Washington Food Assistance Outlook Brief (FAOB). In addition, FEWS NET issued a special report illustrating the extent and severity of the 2016/17 Horn of Africa drought and, in response to forecasts for another below-average season in the region, issued a subsequent regional alert. FEWS NET also published several regional supply and market outlook reports, including for East and Southern Africa.

FEWS NET's DSG continued supporting integrated analysis and assuring high-quality information products for FEWS NET clients and users during the reporting period. Across the reporting quarter, the project published 96 original language monthly reports. FEWS NET also issued:

- 11 Seasonal Monitors
- 4 Alerts
  - *July 5, 2017: Prolonged drought drives a food security emergency in Somalia and southeastern Ethiopia*

- - *July 19, 2017: Sever food insecurity in Somali Region likely to deteriorate further given lack of food aid*
    - *August 3, 2017: Revised Ethiopia Somali Region alert*
    - *September 29, 2017: A fourth consecutive season of below-average rainfall expected over the Horn of Africa*
- 2 special reports:
  - *July 2017: Illustrating the extent and severity of the 2016/17 Horn of Africa drought*
  - *August 2017: A pesar de una recuperacion parcial, el sector cafetalero sigue afectado por la roya*

Table 4 synthesizes select key activities FEWS NET carried out under IR 1.3 during the reporting period.

Table 4. Activities performed by each FEWS NET office under IR 1.3

Office	Activity
All Offices	Prepared Scenario Summary Tables and food security classification mapping data
All Offices	Produced FSO Update reports and/or key messages
All Offices	Provided inputs for the FAOB
All Offices	Produced monthly Price Watch and price bulletins (national and regional)
All Regional Offices	Completed regional Seasonal Monitors
All Regional Offices	Developed regional food security assumptions and projections
All Regional Offices	Produced monthly Food Security Updates and/or key messages for remote monitoring countries
All Regional Offices	Reviewed and provided feedback on country scenario summary tables and FSO Updates
Burkina Faso	Produced and published joint executive briefs on the start of season and seasonal progress
Burkina Faso	Produced and published joint quarterly report on market analysis
Chad	Produced dekadal bulletins on the progress of the season
HO KML	Produced maps for Horn of Africa drought story map and converted report into an ESRI Story Map
HO KML	Produced four FAOBs and two regional Outlook videos
HO LH	Completed Nigeria LSMS-derived HEA analysis pilot report
HO M&T	Published Southern Africa Regional Supply and Market Outlook
HO M&T	Published East Africa Regional Supply and Market Outlook
HO M&T	Published special analysis on M&T activities in northeast Nigeria
HO M&T	Provided technical review of monthly Sudan Food and Agriculture Market Information System report
LAC Regional Office	Finished and posted the Special Regional Report on Coffee
Nigeria	Produced a joint market monitoring bulletin with WFP
Somalia	Produced a technical press release of post-*Gu* food security outcomes with FSNAU
Somalia	Developed market and climate sector analysis for the joint FSNAU/FEWS NET quarterly brief and technical series
Sudan	Produced and published two monthly market updates
West Africa Regional Office	Contributed to drafting of the Far North Cameroon Assessment report
West Africa Regional Office	Completed the first draft of the report highlighting the collaboration with CILSS since 2013
West Africa Regional Office	Contributed to drafting of Adamaoua/Cameroon rapid nutrition assessment report
Zambia	Prepared a joint food security report with the DMMU for local dissemination

IR 1.4 FEWS NET Information and Reports Effectively Communicated and Disseminated

IR 1.4 capture FEWS NET's information dissemination. During the reporting period, FEWS NET continued to meet timeliness requirements for monthly reporting and FEWS NET NTMs and RTMs provided briefings to USAID missions, United States embassies, UN cluster participants, host-government counterparts, and other partners on this reporting and other FEWS NET analyses. All FEWS NET field

staff remained active in their food security networks, distributing reports and information pro-actively and on request. DSG staff provided 7 briefings in Washington to support decision-making, including the following:

- *July 13:* Southern Africa Outlook Briefing
- *July 21:* US Mission/Abuja briefing on northeast Nigeria and Famine risk
- *July 26:* East Africa Outlook Briefing
- *August 3:* Briefing to US Government InterAgency meeting on four countries facing a risk of Famine
- *August 31:* FEWS NET Cameroon Assessment Briefing (FFP)
- *September 11:* Somali post-*Gu* assessment briefing (FFP)
- *September 29:* Yemen Food Security and M&T Briefing (FFP)

DSG staff also fielded more than 17 special requests from USAID and partners across the reporting period, including:

- *July 5:* Request for information on FEWS NET peak estimates of food insecure populations (FFP)
- *July 6:* Request for information on FAW impacts in Nigeria (FFP)
- *July 7:* Interview request on East Africa (Voice of America)
- *July 10:* Request for information on food insecure population estimates for four countries facing a risk of Famine (FFP)
- *July 12:* Ethiopia's Somali Region night note for USAID Administrator
- *July 20:* Request for information on the Nigeria Food Security Cluster's gap analysis (FFP)
- *July 28:* Request for information on Crisis (IPC Phase 3) populations in Mozambique's central areas (FFP)
- *August 2:* Request for IPC Phase 2 and Phase 3+ Population estimates in October 2017 in Madagascar (FFP)
- *August 4:* Request for information on the food security situation in Rann, Borno State, Nigeria (FFP)
- *August 11:* Request for information on food insecure population estimates for four countries facing a risk of Famine and Ethiopia (FFP)
- *August 16:* Request for discussion on FEWS NET's analysis for Malawi (International Food Policy Research Institute, IFPRI)
- *August 24:* Request for briefing information on current situation and projected trends for Sudan, Ethiopia, and South Sudan (FFP)
- *September 10:* Request for briefing/information on South Sudan population analysis (USAID/South Sudan)
- *September 10:* Request for information on the size of the food-insecure population in Sudan (FFP)
- *September 13:* Request for information on the size of the food-insecure population in Somalia (FFP)
- *September 14:* Request for information on the size of the food-insecure population in South Sudan (FFP)
- *September 22:* Request to discuss Northeast Nigeria Analysis (Tufts University)

During this reporting quarter, the www.fews.net website received 51,836 visits (up 17.55% from the same quarter last year, but down 19.5% from last quarter). There were 30,253 unique visitors (up

19.68% from the same quarter last year, but down 21.2% from last quarter) visiting 130,163 (up 17.48% from the same quarter last year, but down 16.6% from last quarter). Just under 30% of all website viewers were located in the United States, followed by Kenya and the United Kingdom.

Figure 2. FEWS NET Website Visits, 2017 Q4 compared to 2017 Q3
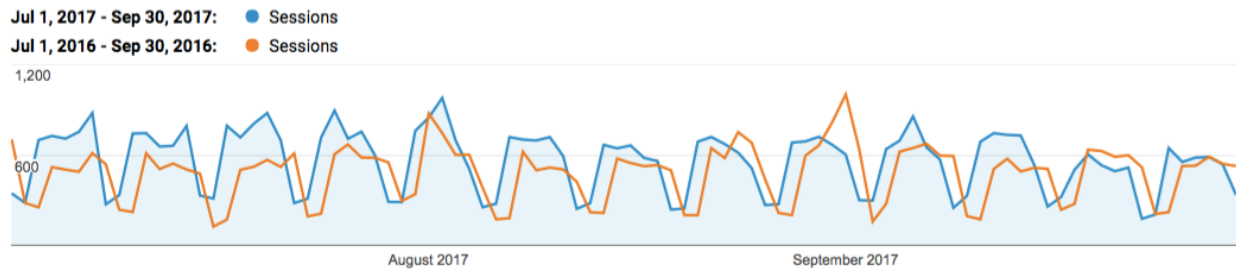

Table 5 synthesizes several other select key activities undertaken in IR 1.4 during the reporting period.

Table 5. Activities performed by each FEWS NET office under IR 1.4

Office	Activity
All Offices	Briefed USAID/US Embassy and key partners on FSOs and other food security updates
All Offices	Communicated monthly food security information electronically to USAID, host-government partners, and other stakeholders
All Offices	Responded to ad hoc requests for food security information from USAID/US Embassy and key partners
All Offices	Distributed FEWS NET information and analysis products to partners
All Offices	Reviewed and submitted activities for the quarterly progress report
Chad	Briefed the Regional Applied Research for the Development of Agricultural Systems in Central Africa (PRASAC) group on FEWS NET's food security analysis approaches
Chad	Briefed African Development Bank food security experts on food security conditions in the country
HO KML	Managed FEWS NET's online and static food security mapping
HO KML	Managed FEWS NET Data Center content
HO KML	Responded to data requests from researchers at the World Bank, USAID, and Tufts University
HO KML	Updated the server hosting FEWS NET website to improve performance
HO KML	Wrote and published 22 Facebook posts on FEWS NET's analysis and activities
HO KML	Wrote and published 98 Twitter posts on FEWS NET's analysis and activities
HO KML	Monitored daily news for mention of FEWS NET; recorded 84 mentions during the reporting period
HO LH	Delivered presentations on the Nigeria LSMS-derived HEA analysis
Mali	Produced and shared with partners a presentation on the system for monitoring pastures and water points using satellite images
Niger	Provided a presentation on FEWS NET's analytical approach to the International Committee of the Red Cross
Nigeria	Briefed USAID on efforts to develop a national early warning system
Sudan	Briefed two international researchers from the Overseas Development Institute undertaking a migration study in Darfur
West Africa Regional Office	Prepared a presentation highlighting the key findings of the Far North Cameroon assessment
Zambia	Provided two briefings to USAID/Zambia colleagues on progress of the joint FEWS NET-DMMU wok plan activities and findings of a joint market and food security assessment

F.   SO 2—Improved Quantity, Quality and Timeliness of Early Warning Information and Outlook

IR 2.1 FEWS NET Country Analytical Frameworks Enhanced, Maintained, and Applied

FEWS NET's approach to monitoring, analysis, and early warning starts with the establishment of a suite of products that constitute a knowledge base. These products provide baseline information on the

factors that contribute to food security, including livelihoods zoning and profiling; market structure, conduct, and performance; commodity trade flows, and the nutrition context. Since 2015, FEWS NET's scope of work has also included carrying out enhanced market analyses in specific countries of interest to USAID. IR 2.1 captures the activities associated with creating and maintaining this knowledge base.

During the reporting quarter, the M&T team conducted background research, planned field activities, and initiated (or continued and completed) market fundamental studies in Burkina Faso, Haiti, Niger, Nigeria, Zambia, and Zimbabwe and the livelihoods team developed and/or updated livelihoods information for Guatemala. In addition, FEWS NET continued to work with USAID, the Kimetrica team, and other partners to broaden and deepen the FDW. Finally, during the reporting period, FEWS NET launched the design of a mobile data transmission system pilot for price data in Haiti, as well as a labor monitoring system in Guatemala.

Table 6 synthesizes key activities undertaken in IR 2.1 during this reporting period.

Table 6. Activities performed by each FEWS NET office under IR 2.1

Office	Activity
All Offices	Uploaded available current and historical data to the FDW, inclusive of commodity prices, cross-border trade, agricultural production, nutrition, food insecure population estimates, historical food insecure classifications
East Africa Regional Office	Provided technical input on the monitoring of maize balance sheets for Kenya, Uganda, and Tanzania
Guatemala	Supported the design of a labor monitoring system through the drafting of labor market profiles for key products
Guatemala	Developed a comparative analysis of livelihood studies done in 2007 and 2016
HO KML	Worked with a subcontractor to develop a questionnaire and database structure for the Haiti mobile price transmission system
HO M&T	Developed Cross-border trade domain of the FDW with Kimetrica
HO M&T	Conducted background research, lead network workshop, and draft Niger Market Fundamentals Report
HO M&T	Conducted background research, lead network workshop, and draft Burkina Faso Market Fundamentals Report
HO M&T	Supported background research, network workshop, and creation of Zimbabwe Market Fundamentals Report
HO M&T	Conducted background research, lead network workshop, and draft Nigeria Market Fundamentals Report
HO M&T	Conducted background research, lead network workshop, and draft Haiti Market Fundamentals Report
HO M&T	Conducted background research, network workshop, and creation of Zambia Market Fundamentals Report
Nigeria	Developed monthly market functioning classifications for border areas between northeast Nigeria, Chad, Niger, and Cameroon
Somalia	Supported partners on generation of climate images for integration into food security analyses

IR 2.2 High Quality Technical Guidance on Methods and Products Developed and Deployed

During the reporting quarter, FEWS NET HO staff continued development of M&T-related guidance to support calculation of price projections and the use of price projections in HEA Outcome Analysis, as well as an M&T glossary. In addition, the FEWS NET Nigeria office provided guidance to partners on best practices in price data collection and market monitoring and the FEWS NET Regional Office in Southern Africa facilitated the launch of regional market assessment guidelines. FEWS NET field offices reviewed draft guidance on conducting field assessments and the HO released a video that introduces the project's scenario development process. A synthesis of select key activities undertaken for IR 2.2 during this reporting quarter is provided in Table 7.

Table 7. Activities performed by each FEWS NET office under IR 2.2

Office	Activity
HO KML	Edited and formatted the Network Development guidance document
HO KML	Produced and finalized the Introduction to Scenario Development video
HO LH	Provided guidance on using price projection in HEA outcome analysis
HO M&T	Continued development of the price projections guidance document

Office	Activity
Kenya	Updated the Kenya livelihood zones methodology and roadmap together with members of the Kenya Food Security Steering Group (KFSSG)
LAC Regional Office	Provided feedback for the guidelines on conducting FEWS NET field assessments
LAC Regional Office	Provided feedback on the M&T glossary
Mali	Participated in the review of a data collection methodology document for HEA outcome analysis
Nigeria	Shared the draft note on best practices in price data collection and market monitoring with partners
Southern Africa Regional Office	Supported and facilitated the training of partners on implementation of markets assessment guidelines
West Africa Regional Office	Developed food security, market and nutrition rapid assessments tools
West Africa Regional Office	Provided support to country staff to using nutritional information
West Africa Regional Office	Provided support to northeast Nigeria food security monitoring and reporting
West Africa Regional Office	Contributed with partners for the development of the HEA Outcome Analysis Guide

IR 2.3 IPC Rolled Out and Development Supported

FEWS NET continues to support the IPC and related methods, such as the CH. During the reporting quarter, FEWS NET actively participated in IPC/CH analyses in several countries, including: Afghanistan, Guatemala, Kenya, Madagascar, Malawi, Mozambique, Somalia, and South Sudan. In addition during the reporting quarter, two field staff participated in IPC Level 1 training and HO staff participated in approximately five Food Security Working Group teleconferences to continue refining the IPC technical approach in preparation for the launch of an updated manual. Table 8 synthesizes FEWS NET's participation in IPC/CH activities across this reporting period.

Table 8. Activities performed by each FEWS NET office under IR 2.3

Office	Activity
Afghanistan	Provided technical input into and participated in national IPC acute analysis
Afghanistan	Participated in IPC TWG meetings
Guatemala	Facilitated and participated in an IPC acute analysis
Kenya	Provided technical input into and participated in the Kenya Long Rains IPC acute analysis
Kenya	Promoted the piloting of the IPC information support system in five counties
Madagascar	Participated in the IPC acute malnutrition analysis
Madagascar	Participated in data gathering to provide technical input into the next IPC acute analysis (October)
Malawi	Facilitated and participated in a Malawi NVAC IPC acute analysis
Mozambique	Provided technical input into and participated in the IPC acute analysis
Nigeria	Participated in a joint advocacy mission of FEWS NET/CILSS/Government to support funding for CH activities in Nigeria
Somalia	Provided technical input into and participated in Somalia post-*Gu* IPC acute analysis
Southern Africa Regional Office	Participated in one IPC regional TWG meeting
South Sudan	Provided technical input into and participated in the national IPC acute analysis
South Sudan	Engaged with the South Sudan IPC TWG in the planning process for the September IPC acute analysis
South Sudan	Participated in IPC Level 1 training
Sudan	Participated in three national IPC coordination meetings held at national level
Uganda	Provided technical input into the planning for the national IPC acute analysis
Zambia	Facilitated through the Zambia NVAC Core Team an IPC awareness workshop for high-level decision makers and technical-level staff
Zambia	Participated in Zambia NVAC meeting for feedback on IPC adoption

IR 2.4 Research Efforts of USG Partners Supported

During this reporting quarter, project staff continued providing FEWS NET implementing partner scientists with information to help ground-truth FEWS NET's agroclimatological tools, in addition to participating in climate teleconferences and other work to strengthen partners' capacities to use remote sensing imagery for food security analysis. In addition, FEWS NET HO and Regional staff participated in a meeting of all FEWS NET science partners, hosted in Washington, DC. Table 9 provides a synthesis of select key activities related to this IR across this reporting period.

Table 9. Activities performed by each FEWS NET office under IR 2.4

Office	Activity
All Offices	Provided input to the FEWS NET/NOAA/USGS weekly hazards reports
All Offices	Provided national partners with seasonal monitoring products derived from remote sensing
All Regions	Participated in the Washington, DC FEWS NET Science Partner meeting
Ethiopia	Shared dekadal data on real-time weather parameters observed at 50 stations with FEWS NET/University of California-Santa Barbara
Ethiopia	Continued research to improve monitoring of weather anomalies using remotely sensed parameters
LAC Regional Office	Participated in the Climate Outlook forum in Nicaragua
Zambia	Facilitated linkages between DMMU and FEWS NET/USGS Regional Scientist for data and information sharing

G. SO 3—Sustainable Local, National, Regional and International Capacity Strengthening

IR 3.1 Food Security Networks Maintained and Strengthened

An important FEWS NET objective is to support and strengthen food security networks at the national, regional, and international levels through collaboration, coordination, and training. To facilitate this, FEWS NET, in close collaboration with USAID, launched an ND strategy in mid-2014. Since then, the ND Advisor has been working with FEWS NET RTMs and NTMs to monitor against ND plans for each country and region. This quarterly report contains ND-specific reporting in Section II, Part D and Section III. Table 10 synthesizes additional key ND activities undertaken in the context of IR 3.1 during the reporting quarter.

Table 10. Activities performed by each FEWS NET office under IR 3.1

Office	Activity
All Offices	Participated in food security cluster, nutrition cluster, humanitarian cluster, technical working group, and other local network meetings (including host-government network meetings) at the national and regional levels
All Offices	Collaborated with the ND Advisor to implement regional and national ND strategies
Burkina Faso	Participated in national livestock department workshop on product tools for pastoral assessment
Ethiopia	Provided inputs to deliberations and discussions, to aid in decision-making in HotSpot Classification Working Group
HO M&T	Supported the market assessments guidelines training with SADC RVAC
Mauritania	Contributed to improving the analytical approaches of the recently-revived markets and food security network
Mauritania	Participated in the meeting of National Center in Charge of Locust Monitoring
Mozambique	Monitored the implementation of the GIS Flood Tool (GFT) at the National Directorate of Water (DNGRH)
Niger	Participated in a forum for collaborative learning and coordination on resilience among RISE partners
South Sudan	Obtained updates on planned assessments and results of assessments including Initial Rapid Needs Assessments conducted in areas of concern
South Sudan	Conducted training of enumerators and supervisors for the Food Security and Nutrition Monitoring Systems
Uganda	Provided analyzed agro-climatic data/ markets information for the production of the monthly National Integrated Multi-Hazard Early Warning Bulletin
Uganda	Strengthened collaboration with the Ministry of Agriculture Animal industry and Fisheries's (MAAIF's) early warning unit through joint assessments, etc.

Office	Activity
Zambia	Participated in ZVAC core team meetings on preparation of road map for the completion of the HEA baselines and training in outcome analysis and engagement of consultant
Zambia	Participated in meetings with DMMU and USAID on joint work plan implementation
Zimbabwe	Participated in a multi-stakeholder FAW meeting
Zimbabwe	Participated in the Africa Risk Review Validation Workshop and Contingency Planning meeting

IR 3.2 International Efforts in Building Food Security Networks and Methods Supported

FEWS NET is committed to supporting international methods and standards, including the FSIN and IPC/CH (see IR 2.3), as well as other international and regional strategies that support building networks and standards. During the reporting quarter, FEWS NET staff contributed to an IFPRI effort to launch regional technical networks to measure and monitor intra-regional agricultural trade on the African continent. In addition, FEWS NET staff continued to engage in a series of consultations to encourage information and methods exchanges on good practices to monitor the impact of FAW on countries across the continent (Table 11).

Table 11. Activities performed by each FEWS NET office under IR 3.2

Office	Activity
All Regions	Engaged in multi-stakeholder consultations to monitor the impact of FAW on food security
East Africa Regional Office	Provided input during the launch of a set of regional technical networks to measure and monitor intra-regional agricultural trade

IR 3.3 Staff and Partners Skills Maintained and Improved

FEWS NET is committed to building the skills and capacities of its staff and those of network partners— the main focus of IR 3.3. During the reporting quarter, new HO and field staff received foundational and other core trainings. Table 12 synthesizes other select key IR 3.3 activities during the reporting quarter.

Table 12. Activities performed by each FEWS NET office under IR 3.3

Office	Activity
Afghanistan	Trained FEWS NET field monitors on the IPC's food security concepts, analytical framework, and online database
Burkina Faso	Provided technical guidance to reinforce partners skills on seasonal field assessments
Burkina Faso	Participated in an Africa RiskView workshop training
Burkina Faso	Participated in an Action Against Hunger workshop training on biomass analysis tools
DRC	Trained CAID staff on FEWS NET price data collection and analysis methods
Ethiopia	Facilitated training for FSNAU staff on HEA outcome analysis using the Livelihood Impact Analysis Spreadsheet
HO KML	Conducted scenario development training for the Chemonics Food Security and Agriculture practice members
HO KML	Provided Foundational Training for DSG Analyst Mathias Medina and Haiti Food Security Specialist Myrlene Chrysostome
HO KML	Conducted Foundational Refresher Training to Senior International Food Security Advisor Abdullahi Khalif
HO KML	Provided remote training for Yemen Food Security Specialist Najib Al-Hammadi (scenario development, introduction to the IPC, livelihoods analysis, and FEWS NET processes/protocols for decision support)
HO KML	Led a two-day in-person training for FEWS NET Nigeria staff on production of inputs into M&T special reports
HO KML	Organized and led three-day Foundational Training for USAID staff and science partners
HO KML	Trained M&T Research Assistant Molly Adams on production of monthly price maps
Kenya	Conducted training for KFSSG members on use of agroclimatic data and analysis of markets for food security
LAC Regional Office	Conducted agroclimatology, network development, and scenario development trainings for new FEWS NET Haiti and partner staff
Mali	Delivered training on the use of FEWS NET Map Viewer for the M&E manager of the National Early Warning System
Mali	Conducted a training of trainers on the data collection tools of the national food security survey
Mauritania	Participated to an HEA baseline training coordinated by Action Against Hunger
Nigeria	Organized a skills refresher training for FEWS NET and partner market monitors

Office	Activity
Nigeria	Participated in a data collection methods training for the Agricultural Performance Survey
Somalia	Facilitated training for FSNAU staff on scenario development
Southern Africa Regional Office	Participated in and led the SADC-FEWS NET Markets Assessment Guidelines and Price Projection training of trainers, respectively
Sudan	Conducted two-day refresher training for FAMIS' data checkers
Sudan	Conducted two-day training for the new cross-border trade monitor for Barange
Sudan	Organized one-day market analysis training for CONCERN's staff in West Darfur state
West Africa Regional Office	Provided internal MT and price data review/transmission supports to FEWS NET Nigeria
West Africa Regional Office	Provided supports to the Nigeria price enumerators' training in Kano
Yemen	Remotely trained new food security consultant

H.   Planned Activities Not Completed

Despite careful planning, some activities in the work plan did not progress during the reporting quarter. At the same time, changes in priorities sometimes resulted in unplanned activities being added to FEWS NET's work. The following list includes changes in the FEWS NET work plan during the quarter, with a brief explanation on the reason certain activities did not take place.

- **Afghanistan:** *Attend Nutrition Cluster Meetings and participate in other nutrition activities* – FEWS NET is in the process of filling the Nutrition Officer Vacancy in Afghanistan and will recommence engagement in these sector activities as soon as this new colleague is on-boarded.

- **DRC:** *Conduct livelihoods baselines* – Due to constraints on consultant availability, scheduling conflicts with a number of other priority activities, and the recent departure of the Assistant NTM for DRC, this activity was postponed and will now commence in the next reporting quarter.

- **Guatemala/HO M&T**: *Labor market monitoring pilot* – Two attempts to compete this activity through a Request for Proposals process were unsuccessful. The activity is being implemented internally and is now underway.

- **Madagascar**: *Support establishment of a food security monitoring system* – Anticipated donor funding for this activity did not come through in the planned timeframe. This activity has been reprogrammed for calendar year 2018.

- **Southern Africa:** *Undertake market assessments across the region* – Given competing project activities, this activity began during the reporting quarter in some countries and will be completed in the remaining countries during the next reporting quarter.

- **West Africa**: *Coordinate with CILSS and other regional partners to issue Version 2.0 of the CH manual* – Limited time availability among participating stakeholders has delayed completion of this manual, though work toward its further revision is underway.

- **Zambia**: *Prepare joint FEWS NET-DMMU monthly food security reports in an effort to facilitate skills transfer to DMMU colleagues* – Competing priorities among DMMU staff have limited consistent (monthly) delivery on this activity.

- **Zimbabwe**: *Verify whether existing HEA baselines remain valid for select livelihoods zones* – Given competing project priorities, this activity was postponed and will now be undertaken in the next reporting quarter.

SECTION III

MONITORING AND EVALUATION OF NETWORK DEVELOPMENT

Table 13. Summary of M&E Results on Network Development through September 2017

EAST AFRICA

Overarching ND objective	Results Achievement			
	Achieved	**On track**	**Delayed**	**Comments**
Ethiopia: *Enhance access to quality market price data and improved geospatial food security early warning analysis of the National Disaster Risk Management Commission*		ⓞ Improved analysis of markets and prices reported in the monthly Disaster Risk Management and Food Security Sector bulletin ⓞ Food security-related decisions increasingly made using reliable and timely market and price analysis		FEWS NET support in analysis is on track, but remains necessary to entrench the capacities gained through training. An MOU to provide this extended support was signed during the last reporting quarter (in May 2017).
Improve weather forecasting and geospatial analysis of the National Meteorological Agency (NMA)	ⓞ NMA able to utilize different remotely sensed data to improve its weather forecasts and geospatial analyses ⓞ NMA's capacity in utilizing ArcGIS strengthened and associated analysis improved	ⓞ Early warning information in the country improved through improved weather forecasts		This ND objective has been met and the NMA's products have been improved with a wider circulation, a new MOU to provide continued technical support, as needed, was signed during the last reporting quarter (in June 2017).
Kenya: *Improve the analytical capacity and foster adoption of improved tools and analytical methods in the KFSSG in support of building a sustainable strong local network.*	ⓞ KFSSG partners able to develop informed assumptions and analyze future food security outcomes that lend themselves to IPC categorizations of food insecurity to inform decisions ⓞ Network members able to access and use county and national production data for improved food and nutrition security analysis for decision support	ⓞ Efficient production data flows from county to the national level to facilitate food security analysis ⓞ More robust approach for determining populations in need of food assistance applied during food security assessments	ⓞ A revised national livelihoods zones map for Kenya, including detailed livelihood zones profiles ⓞ Customized ARC model for Kenya that is accepted by the government and other food security stakeholders	Good progress has been made against this ND objective, but full achievement continues to be delayed by the slow pace of implementation due to competing partner priorities, including financial and human resource constraints.
Somalia: *Develop, strengthen, and improve capacities of networks to manage and disseminate food security early warning, nutrition, and livelihoods information and help build strong local resilience and food security networks*	ⓞ Information dissemination among FSNAU, SWALIM, WFP, FEWS NET, and the UN Office for the Coordination of Humanitarian Affairs is coordinated and more formalized ⓞ Data is shared among the partners, and reports are shared for review prior publication	ⓞ Technical partners are enabled to adopt and replicate tools and methods used by FEWS NET, such as market price data collection tools and methods, including trade flow mapping ⓞ FSNAU, SWALIM, WFP and FEWS NET produce joint reports, delivering one message to decision makers		Data and information sharing, and joint analysis and reporting among partners is incrementally improving with successes reported in during the reporting quarter, especially with joint reporting. MOUs to strengthen collaboration with key partners are under preparation and expected to be signed in the next quarter.
Sudan: *Expand cross-border monitoring activities in Darfur and strengthening market information system data collection, analysis, and dissemination to broaden and*	ⓞ Cross-border trade data from new sites collected, transmitted and fed into various FEWS NET and partner reports			This ND objective has been fully met. Cross-border trade data now regularly feeds into various local partner reports, the East Africa Cross-Border Trade quarterly reports, as well as FEWS NET's

Overarching ND objective				
make available information that enhances food security and nutrition early warning				Food Security Outlook and Outlook Update reports.
South Sudan: *Support the market information system to improve price data collection (in part by expanding their partnership base) and ensuring sustainable data collection and analysis through institutionalization in local institutions*		🟢 Market price data regularly collected, collated, analyzed, shared, reported, and input into a Government of South Sudan Ministry of Agriculture database 🟢 Increased uptake of market price data in food security analysis and reports		While the conflict continues to hamper progress toward a stable and sustainable market information system, key milestones against this ND objective have been achieved and the activity continues to provide needed data. 19 partners continue to collect and report market price data regularly for inclusion in the price database that is managed from the Ministry of Agriculture. The data is accessible online to users.
Uganda: *Enhance content of the National Emergency Coordination and Operations Centre's monthly National Integrated Multi-Hazard Early Warning Bulletin*		🟢 Early warning information on agro-climatic and market variables is regularly incorporated into the national multi-hazard early warning bulletin		This is a new network development strategy operationalized in April 2017. Progress against this ND objective to date is satisfactory, with FEWS NET providing relevant data and information.
East Africa Regional Office: *Develop a coherent and generalized knowledge base of regional livelihoods to support stakeholder (e.g., the Intergovernmental Authority on Development, IGAD/Food Security and Nutrition Working Group) planning and programming decisions*			🟠 A simplified, harmonized East Africa regional livelihood zone map with brief livelihood descriptions which provide a coherent and generalized knowledge base of regional livelihoods that will be an important input toward the resilience strategy for IGAD in the region	Progress on this ND objective has stalled since the departure of Regional Food Security Specialist - Livelihoods.

LATIN AMERICA AND THE CARIBBEAN

Overarching ND objective	Results Achievement			
	Achieved	**On track**	**Delayed**	**Comments**
Guatemala: *Strengthen and improve crop monitoring system's current analysis by including agro-climatic information, collecting and processing rainfall data, agricultural damages data, and crop phenology inputs*		🟢 Availability and use of rainfall data by the crop monitoring system enhances identification of areas with anomalies for closer monitoring 🟢 Field technicians have training resources to support their induction and professional skills 🟢 Price analysis is improved with the inclusion of historic monthly data	🟠 Development of a database on crop development that provides historical trends to help determine possible impacts of anomalies on agricultural production using analogue years	Progress towards this ND objective remained slow during the reporting quarter due to staffing challenges in the Government of Guatemala's Ministry of Agriculture. In this quarter, the main achievement was progress in the digitization of historic price data.
Guatemala: *Strengthen skills of the Food Security Outlook Forum to*		🟢 Better use of existing data and information and identification of information gaps	🟠 Improved quality of Food Security Outlook Forum's technical analysis 🟠 Improved geographical and forward-looking focus of early warning reports	This network faces similar challenges as those noted for the preceding crop monitoring system. These challenges

conduct forward looking and geospatial food security analyses		🟠 The initiative is sustainably implemented by the Secretariat of Food and Nutrition Security (SESAN), notwithstanding staff turnover or changes in government.	🟠 SESAN adopts FEWS NET's scenario development methodology to build food security scenarios.	continue to slow down progress toward full realization of strategy results.
Haiti: *Strengthen network analytical capacities for food security early warning analysis and reporting to produce and disseminate credible early warning food security information*			🟠 Quality of reporting in term of analysis content improved 🟠 Reporting is more early warning oriented, giving decision-makers insight into the evolution of food security conditions in specific areas 🟠 Reports from the Government of Haiti's Food Security Coordination Cell provide an added source of information for food security stakeholders, including FEWS NET	Work toward this ND objective was halted during the recruitment process for new FEWS NET Haiti staff. New staff have received ND orientation and have started revisions to this objective that incorporate current network priorities.
Regional Office: *Help the regional M&T network institutionalize and sustainably produce high quality products for decision support*	🟠 A regional, high level agreement (Ministers of Agriculture cabinet mandate) supports the maintenance and sustainability of the network for data submission and analysis, report writing, and participation in associated teleconferences 🟠 Participants from various market information systems in the region are trained on M&T analysis and report writing 🟠 The Market Information Organization of the Americas (OIMA) assumes lead and regularly (every six weeks) organizes teleconferences and ensures attendance 🟠 High level decision makers have access to and understand the importance of regional M&T dynamics to contextualize conditions in each country	🟢 A regional Institution (SECAC) takes over coordination of the M&T network 🟢 The M&T network produces a high quality regional report 🟢 A regional market information system is developed based on the regional data base information hosted by one or multiple partners who to facilitate sustainability		Most success indicator targets for this ND objective have been met. The FEWS NET Regional Office for LAC is implementing additional activities with network partners and FAO to further enhance network sustainability and institutionalization.
Reinforce analytical capacities of the Regional Climate Network's meteorology officials through trainings in geospatial tools for climate analysis for improved climate early warning and improve information/ data exchange for CHIRPS	🟠 Meteorological services are trained on GeoWRSI and GeoClim 🟠 Meteorological services apply the Geo tools in their analysis and integrate results into the Climate Outlook Forecast	🟢 Agreements signed with FEWS NET and meteorological services at the country level (e.g., Panama, Nicaragua, Guatemala) 🟢 Meteorological services provide and exchange meteorological station information with FEWS NET to improve CHIRPS		This ND objective has been met. Ongoing activities including remote support are fostering sustainability and enhancing impacts to ensure full achievement. MOUs with some of the targeted met services are pending signature.
Strengthen the coffee network's technical analysis around climate for improved coffee sector-related early warning by the region's coffee associations	🟠 Sector analyses are more early warning oriented, giving decision-makers insight into the evolution of food security conditions in specific areas 🟠 Production of an updated Regional Coffee Report	🟢 Monthly teleconferences with Regional Coffee Institutions continue 🟢 Coffee institutions trained on GeoWRSI and GeoClim 🟢 Improved participation in workshops and working coffee sessions organized by different partners	🟠 MOU signed with FEWS NET and coffee association at country level	Most results under this ND objective have been achieved, and new activities have been added to address remaining gaps. These activities will ensure technical competence of the relevant coffee associations and uptake and use of information for decision making.

	Relevant information on climate and coffee sector dynamics updated O Regional data bases include updated price information (e.g., World Bank)		

SOUTHERN AFRICA

Overarching ND objective	Results Achievement			
	Achieved	**On track**	**Delayed**	**Comments**
DRC: *Strengthen the capacities of local actors in the analysis of food markets and HEA and in the verification of food security anomalies*		O Improved coverage of food price data collection through an MOU with CAID O CAID partners are trained in data collection methods to enhance quality of shared data	O Harmonized and consistent information on shocks is available O Network partner capacities in HEA are reinforced and an HEA study is conducted in some priority areas O CAID partners are trained on and can conduct improved price data analysis, including price projections	Results achievement against this ND objective is slow due to delayed activity implementation caused at least in part by the on-going conflict, which leads to regular reprioritization of activities. However, during the reporting quarter, FEWS NET trained CAID staff on FEWS NET methods for data collection and analysis.
Madagascar: *Strengthen food security networks and help re-launch the national early warning system through capacity building, advocacy, and contributing to the livelihoods knowledge base*		O Partners are trained on the HEA framework O Inter-organization collaboration is improved, and participation in network activities is reinforced O An updated livelihoods zone map and livelihoods baselines for selected zones is produced		The focus of this ND objective is on building the capacity of the Madagascar NVAC and contributing technically to activities that will help to re-launch the national early warning system. In the reporting quarter, FEWS NET undertook preparations for a multiagency livelihoods activity scheduled to begin in the next quarter (in October).
Malawi: *Support improvements in HEA outcome analysis for the Malawi NVAC through updated livelihoods zone baselines, training in HEA outcome analysis, and strengthening integration of M&T and nutrition indicators in food security analysis*	O Malawi NVAC livelihoods baseline data is updated and livelihoods impact assessment spreadsheets are developed O Malawi NVAC members are trained in HEA outcome analysis	O Malawi NVAC uses updated livelihoods baselines more effectively		Livelihoods zone baselines were fully updated and the Malawi NVAC has been using them in their vulnerability analyses since 2016/17. Additional support toward this ND objective during the reporting quarter included an HEA outcome analysis training, further support in IPC acute analysis, and the integration of markets and nutrition indicators into the 2017 annual assessments and analyses.
Mozambique: *Improve the quality, availability, and accessibility of flood disaster early warning information for improved decision making on response and program planning and through introduction of the USGS / GFT*	O A collection of potential inundation maps is made available to support the National Institute for Disaster Management (INGC) and regional emergency operation centers (CENOE) in preparedness and rapid response during major flooding events O The 5-, 50-, and 100-year return period (recurrence interval) maps for selected towns along major river basins are produced by the network using the GFT.			This ND objective has been met. Inundation maps were produced and used for flood monitoring starting in the 2016/17 rainfall season. FEWS NET continues to support the network in the application of the GFT to build capacity and enhance national flood monitoring and early warning.

	ⓞ The resulting inundation patterns are used to assess vulnerability to flood events and support contingency and preparedness planning			
Strengthen crop monitoring and seasonal analysis through the roll-out of the GeoWRSI model to the provincial level for improved food security early warning		ⓞ Improved and more regular (10-day) crop monitoring products generated by GeoWRSI ⓞ Improved reporting, which will lead to enhanced crop monitoring in the country ⓞ Decisions are made considering GeoWRSI status and/or agricultural season trends		Staff in targeted provinces have been trained and are applying GeoWRSI for monitoring at the provincial level. FEWS NET is working with national-level stakeholders to monitor and support application of the tool at the provincial level as preparations for 2017/18 seasonal monitoring get underway.
Zambia: *Enhance the analytical and reporting capacity and skills of the DMMU and other Government of Zambia networks, such as the Zambia NVAC.*	ⓞ IPC awareness raising for high level and technical officers is held and decisions for moving forward agreed	ⓞ DMMU receives training to regularly update price data sheets, produce a price bulletin, and conduct markets analysis ⓞ DMMU staff are equipped with food security monitoring, analysis, and reporting skills	ⓞ Food security reporting is produced jointly with DMMU ⓞ DMMU takes the lead in markets analysis for a monthly Price Watch bulletin	This ND objective is implemented through an agreement approved in March 2017 in which FEWS NET Zambia is co-locating with the DMMU to strengthen staff capacity in food security analysis and reporting. The skills transfer is meant to assist DMMU colleagues to sustain food security analysis and reporting after the close out of FEWS NET during the next reporting quarter.
Zimbabwe*:* *Support the National Early Warning Unit (NEWU) to strengthen and harmonize its data collection, analysis, and information systems on food security and early warning.*			ⓞ The NEWU terms of reference is reviewed through stakeholder consultations and a revised scope of work and technical guidelines is agreed upon ⓞ NEWU and partners receive technical trainings, such as scenario development, price projections, acute IPC Phase classification, WRSI application, and technical report writing	This ND objective is not yet operational, and recent restructuring of the Government of Zimbabwe has resulted in further setbacks. Progress is expected with the implementation of planned activities in the next quarter.
Regional Office: *Support the SADC RVAC in the integration of M&T in vulnerability assessments and analyses and help sustain the availability of informal cross-border trade data*	ⓞ The SADC RVAC M&T TWG is revived and its membership, purpose, tasks, and deliverables are clearly defined ⓞ NVACs trained in the use of the markets assessment guidelines and price projections	ⓞ Markets assessments in SADC member countries are standardised through consistent implementation of the developed assessment guidelines ⓞ Informal cross-border trade monitoring resumes and is maintained; monitors are equipped with digital data transmission tools ⓞ An online data (ODK) transmission system is set up and data is collated, processed, and reported to a regional focal point		The markets assessment guidelines have been rolled-out, although the RVAC has recommended further refinements for better integration. Implementation of market assessments in pilot countries in the next quarter will facilitate these refinements. The informal cross-border trade activity resumed, in partnership with WFP. Planned tasks are meant to facilitate availability of streamlined data collection, analysis, and reporting.

WEST AFRICA

Overarching ND objective	Results Achievement

	Achieved	On track	Delayed	Comments
Burkina Faso: *Support and improve the country's food security and nutrition analysis system by strengthening the capabilities of network members to produce and release regularly relevant food security information*	Network staff are trained in scenario development to better harmonize IPC/CH analyses	CH cycles are better supported by relevant household information on contributing factors and livelihoods A joint market bulletin is issued and widely disseminated quarterly CH analysis is harmonized, convergence of evidence is improved, and CH products are more consistent	Market information system enumerators are trained on FEWS NET's price projection approaches	The ND objective to improve the analytical capacity of network members in Burkina Faso is largely being achieved. The quality of CH analyses has improved with the result that there are minimal divergences between CH and FEWS NET analyses. During the reporting quarter, update of the markets trade flow maps and assessment methodologies contributed to improved markets and price analysis and reporting.
Chad: *Strengthen the early warning unit to improve food security analysis and reinforce consensus in CH analyses for timely early warning through joint activities and targeted trainings*	Partners trained in market conditions, price projections, and relative price analysis; Quality and reliable market data collected and analyzed CH analysis is improved and more consensual and timely food security early warning is disseminated A joint price bulletin is produced	Partners can better use FEWS NET livelihood profiles Data collection tools are improved and associated data bases are established Field trips are conducted jointly and joint reports are issued in a timely manner following their completion	Reinforce partner capacity to undertake projections using FEWS NET's scenario development approach	Expected results and impacts of this ND objective are being achieved. FEWS NET efforts to improve the analytical skills of national food security experts and the analysis tools and methods are being successfully sustained. The quality of joint assessment reports and CH analyses is improving as experts use acquired analytical skills.
Mali: *Develop capacity of network actors to improve food security and nutrition analyses (CH and HEA) and help to build a food security and nutrition-focused indicator database*	A database on key food security indicators is available for all actors Network actors exhibit better understanding and integration of livelihoods, resulting in improved analysis	Capacity of network members to make price projections and read and interpret satellite images strengthened Early warning unit actors use scenarios to project future food security and include this analysis in regular monthly reporting		Most expected results under this ND objective have been successfully achieved. FEWS NET capacity strengthening efforts have enhanced the integration of improved analytical approaches within the early warning and CH units. For example, satellite imaginary is now regularly used by network members to fill information gaps for inaccessible areas.
Mauritania: *Re-launch and enhance capacity of local networks to provide stronger, more technically rigorous CH analyses*		Databases are established and updated for domains including: production, cereal balances, prices, population, livelihoods, and nutrition	Dynamic networks working in collaboration use reliable data for more rigorous analysis Joint monthly market newsletter is produced and distributed with relevant and quality analysis	This ND objective has gained momentum since early 2017. The most significant success has been in the reactivation of food markets and price monitoring network.
Niger: *Strengthen national early warning systems and help establish partner sentinel site monitoring to expand coverage and improve data availability for CH analyses*	Sentinel site monitoring is established, functional, and producing data to reinforce CH analyses	More consensus on food security figures and less divergence between food security outcomes from FEWS NET and CH analyses		Specified results have been achieved against this ND objective and impact in terms of less divergence between FEWS NET and CH analyses is on track. FEWS NET Niger is now implementing activities aimed at consolidating these results.
Nigeria: *Support the state-level rollout of the CH process and facilitate the formation of the Food Security*	Establish CH analysis cells at the country and state levels (eight pilot states, 12 additional states) Facilitate availability of joint information databases for easy, open access	Joint food and nutrition security reports published	Establish an effective FOSVANN	ND objective results related to the CH roll-out have largely been met. The targeted 16 states are now conducting CH analyses, although the need to strengthen the CH cells, improve data

and Vulnerability Network in Nigeria (FOSVANN)	⬤ Hold regular briefings with donors on the evolution of the CH process		availability, and build analysis capacity in participating states remains. The national FOSVANN effort is still in a formative stage, and, during the reporting quarter, FEWS NET initiated processes toward the establishments of a coordinated early warning system.
Regional Office: *Support CILSS in strengthening capacity for CH analysis in the region through participation in joint activities, including training in improved methodologies for data collection, analysis, and reporting*	⬤ The CH national cells in FEWS NET presence countries are formalized and fully established	⬤ National early warning systems in FEWS NET presence countries are leading data collection and technical consensus efforts on food security outcomes, contributing to more stable CH analyses and less controversial results ⬤ Updated training materials are supporting the capacity strengthening of CH analysts at regional and national levels ⬤ Consensual key messages delivered at national and regional levels support decision making	Expected results toward this ND objective are being achieved. CILSS technicians have been empowered to effectively lead the CH process. CILSS' and other partners' technical skills have improved, national early warning systems and CH units have been technically strengthened, quality of CH analysis is improving, and divergence between CH and FEWS NET analysis has decreased. FEWS NET support has extended to non-presence countries where CILSS needs more support to build network capacity to effectively carry out CH analyses.