Food Security and Resilience

Goal Leaders:
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International Affairs

Overview

Goal Statement

- Increase food security and resilience in Feed the Future countries. By September 30, 2019, Feed the Future will exhibit an average reduction in the prevalence of poverty and stunting of 20 percent, across target regions in Feed the Future's focus countries, since the beginning of the initiative in FY 2010.

Challenge

- Despite progress in global food security and nutrition, there are nearly 800 million hungry people in the world today. By 2050, the global population is estimated to be more than nine billion, compared to 7.5 billion now.
- Food security supports national security, and advances global prosperity and stability. We have seen that where hunger and poverty persist, instability and resentment can grow.

Overview

Opportunity

- Feed the Future's approach to increasing food security and nutrition aligns with the Global Food Security Act enacted in 2016.
- Feed the Future is expanding opportunity for millions of people, empowering women and girls, and helping to expand growth to more people.
- Together with other U.S. Departments and Agencies, partner governments from around the world, global organizations, and leading American business, non-profits, universities, and research institutions, we are using the best parts of American leadership, entrepreneurship, research, technology and talent to help some of the world's poorest countries and communities harness the power of agriculture and entrepreneurship to jumpstart their economies and create new opportunities for people at every level of their societies.

Leadership

Core Team:

Led by USAID, Feed the Future draws on the agricultural, trade, investment, development, and policy resources and expertise of several Federal Departments and Agencies. Feed the Future has two deputy coordinators who lead the initiative and help the U.S. Government target activities toward a common vision:

- The Feed the Future Deputy Coordinator for Development at USAID drives the interagency process, to ensure relevant U.S. Government Agencies and Departments are engaged in formulating policies, strategies and monitoring criteria for Feed the Future; and
- The Feed the Future Deputy Coordinator for Diplomacy at the Department of State leads diplomatic efforts to advance our priorities, focused on policy coordination among major donors, strategic partners, and international organizations.

Goal Structure Strategies

The food-security Agency Priority Goal will report progress made in implementing the U.S. Government's Global Food-Security Strategy (GFSS). This strategy reflects the unique skills, resources, and lessons learned from U.S. Federal Departments and Agencies that contribute to global food security, as well as input from partners throughout the private sector, academic institutions, and civil society.

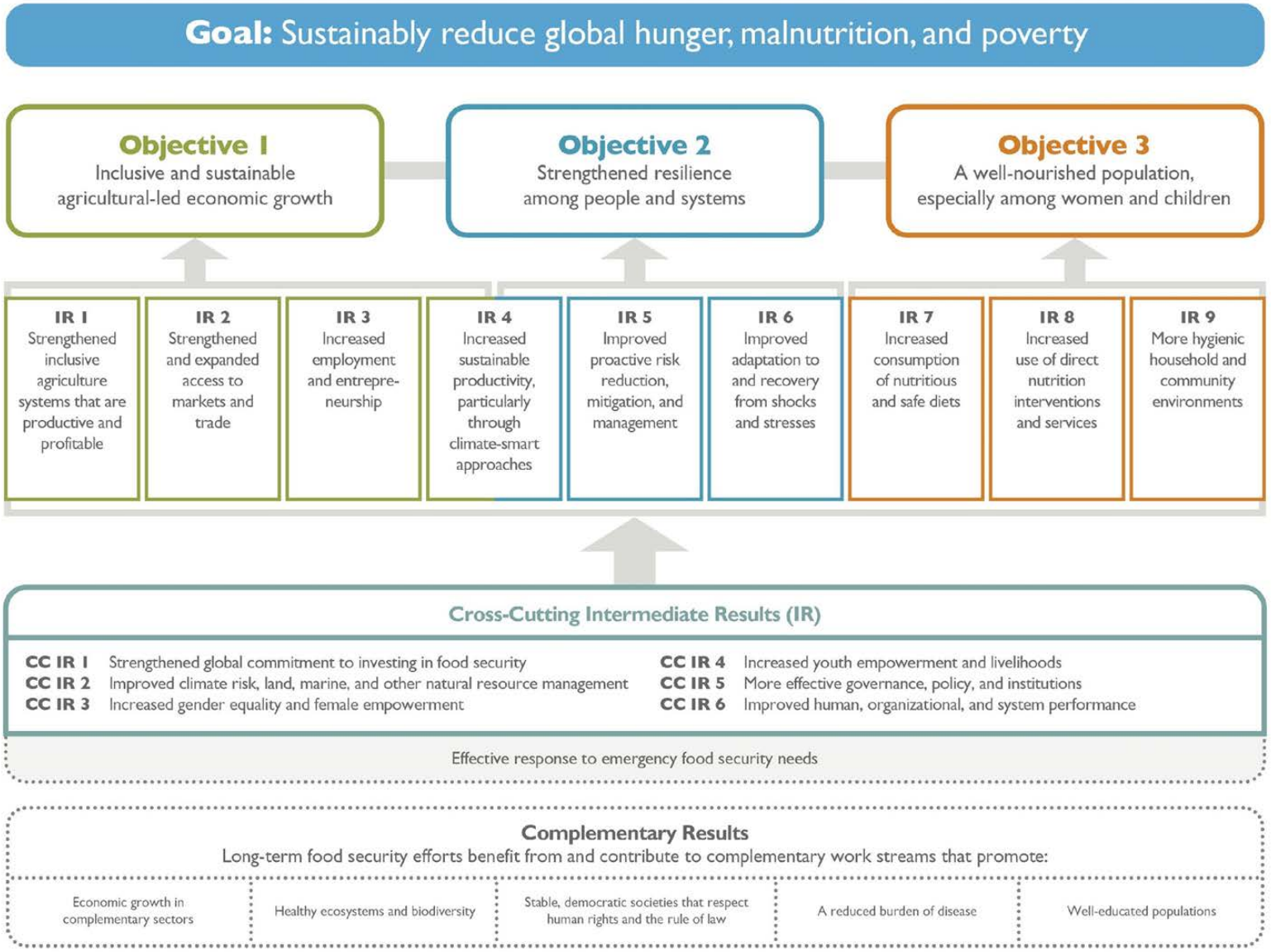
The overarching goal of the GFSS is to reduce global hunger, malnutrition, and sustainably poverty through three, interrelated and interdependent, objectives:

- **Inclusive, sustainable, agricultural-led economic growth**, shown in some areas to be more effective than growth in other sectors at helping men and women lift themselves out of extreme poverty and hunger.
- **Strengthened resilience among people and systems**, as increasingly frequent and intense shocks and stresses threaten the ability of men, women, and families to sustainably emerge from poverty. Feed the Future pays particular attention to increasing resilience and reducing root causes of hunger among vulnerable populations in countries with recurrent food crises that receive U.S. humanitarian assistance.
- **A well-nourished population**, especially among women and children, as undernutrition, particularly during the 1,000 days from pregnancy to a child's second birthday, leads to lower levels of educational attainment, productivity, lifetime earnings, and economic-growth rates.

Key External Factors

The principal challenge for Feed the Future in achieving reductions in hunger, poverty, and malnutrition are external risk factors that can inhibit progress, such as food crises, conflict, and changing host-government priorities. For GFSS target countries, implementation strategies will account for these externalities by allowing a certain degree of flexibility in their programming and assumptions to address unforeseen events. Individual USAID Missions also account for changing conditions through periodic review, stock-taking, and adjustments of each overarching Country Development Cooperation Strategy.

GFSS Results Framework



Summary of Progress – FY 18 Q2

The U.S. Agency for International Development (USAID) made five Feed the Future evaluation reports publicly available during the second quarter of fiscal year (FY) 2018. This includes four performance evaluations of the Knowledge-Driven Agricultural Development Project, the Bangladesh Women's Empowerment Activity, the Feed the Future Innovation Lab for Small-Scale Irrigation and the Feed the Future Innovation Lab for Soybean Value Chain Research; and one process evaluation of a joint USAID-Peace Corps nutrition and behavior-change training activity in Guatemala. These evaluations are available on the USAID Development Experience Clearinghouse, at https://dec.usaid.gov/dec/home/Default.aspx.

The Feed the Future Learning Agenda has eight subject areas: Gender and Women's Empowerment; Market Systems; Policy Systems; Scaling Technologies and Practices; Risk and Resilience; Nutrition; Water & Water, Sanitation, and Hygiene; and Youth. The Feed the Future interagency has contributed to the development of sets of questions for each area and the resulting document has undergone initial review. The next steps for completing the Feed the Future Learning Agenda will include expanded engagement inside the U.S. Government around the draft, finalization of the draft, and consultations with stakeholders external to the US Government for additional input.

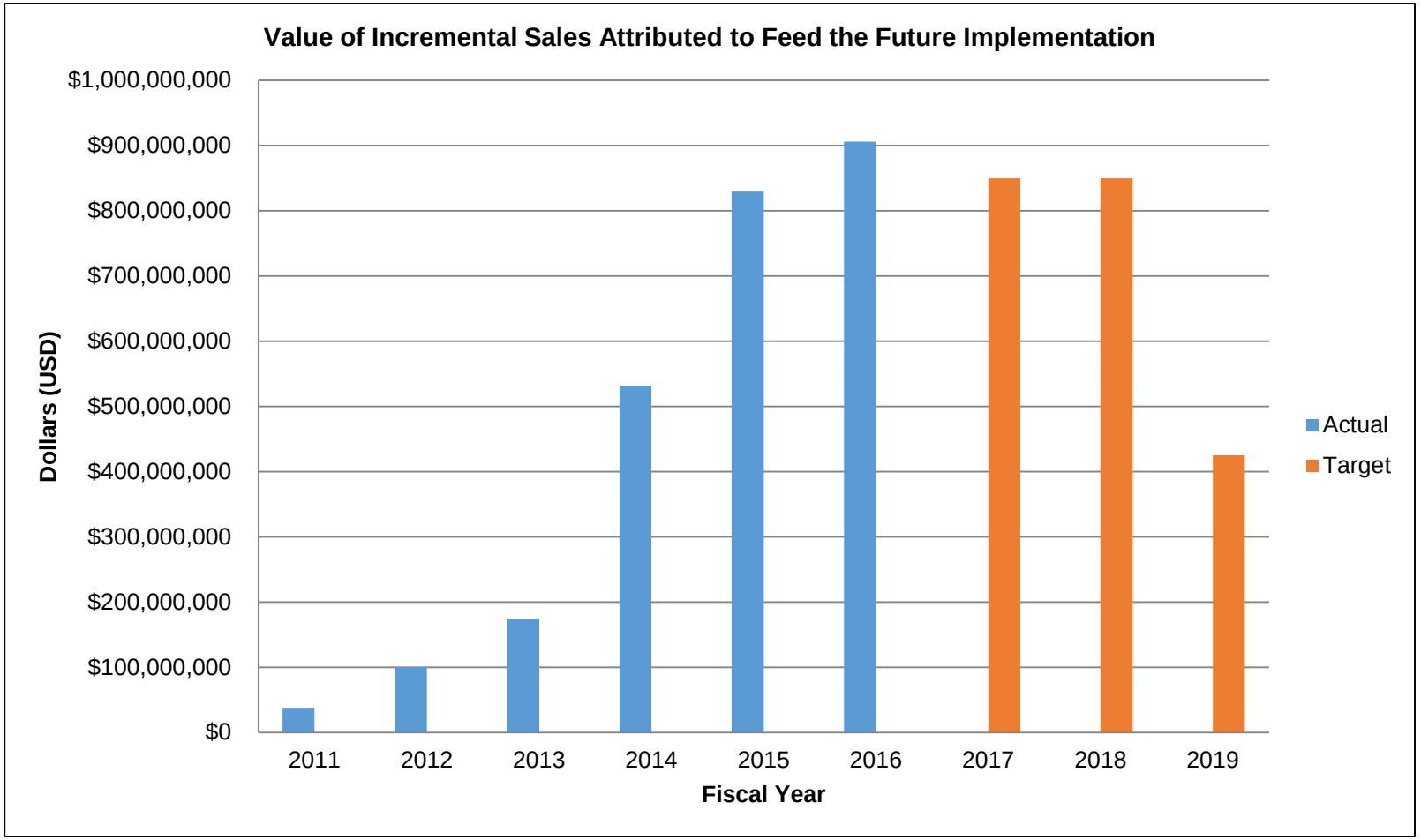
While requiring more time to complete, the additional engagement with intra-Agency partners and U.S. Government stakeholders has the potential to result in more-extensive learning and evidence-based decision-making derived from the Learning Agenda. Building participation and a sense of ownership in learning processes requires appropriate investments in time and effort to achieve success. We expect the work on the Learning Agenda will be complete by the fourth quarter of FY 2018.

Key Milestones

- These milestones will help track the U.S. Government's efforts to implement the Global Food-Security Strategy (GFSS).

Milestone Summary					
Key Milestone	**Milestone Due Date**	**Milestone Status**	**Change from last quarter**	**Owner**	**Comments**
Complete and post the revised Feed the Future Learning Agenda	Q4, FY 2018	In Progress	Due date delayed		Because of the need to build greater buy-in for the Learning Agenda across intra-Agency U.S. Government, and external stakeholders, we anticipate completing the revised Feed the Future learning agenda by the fourth quarter of FY 2018.
Complete at least 10 Bureau for Food Security (BFS)/Mission Feed the Future performance reviews	Q3, FY 2018				
Complete and post 12 GFSS Target Country plans	Q4, FY 2018				
Complete policy matrices for 12 GFSS Target Countries	Q1, FY 2019				
Complete three formal knowledge sharing events during the quarter	Q2, FY 2019				
Complete at least 10 BFS/Mission Feed the Future performance reviews	Q3, FY 2019				
Complete Learning Agenda synthesis and update	Q4, FY 2019				

Key Indicators



Note: Annual Food Security data is not reported until late into the following calendar year. 2017 results will be available in late 2018.

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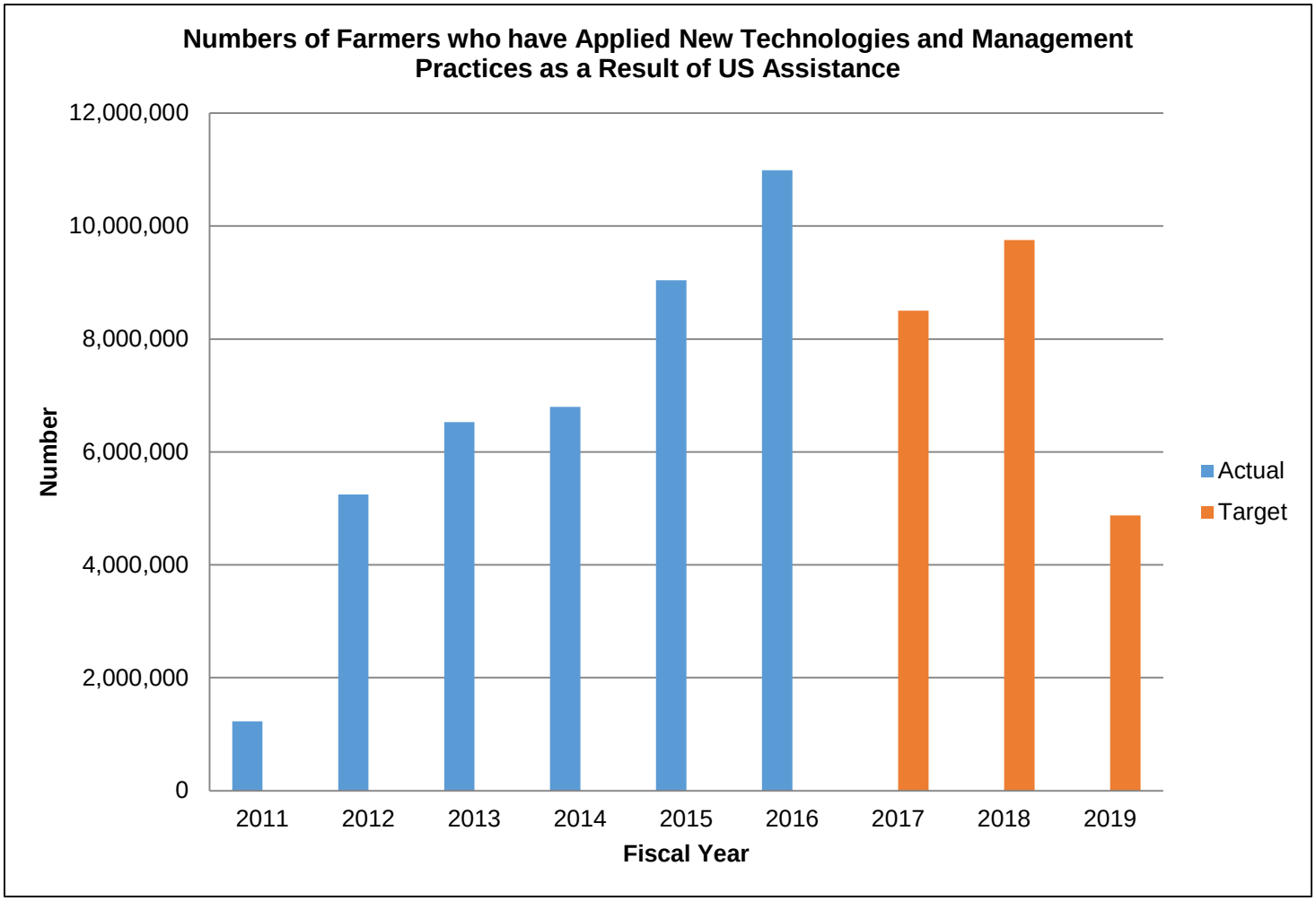

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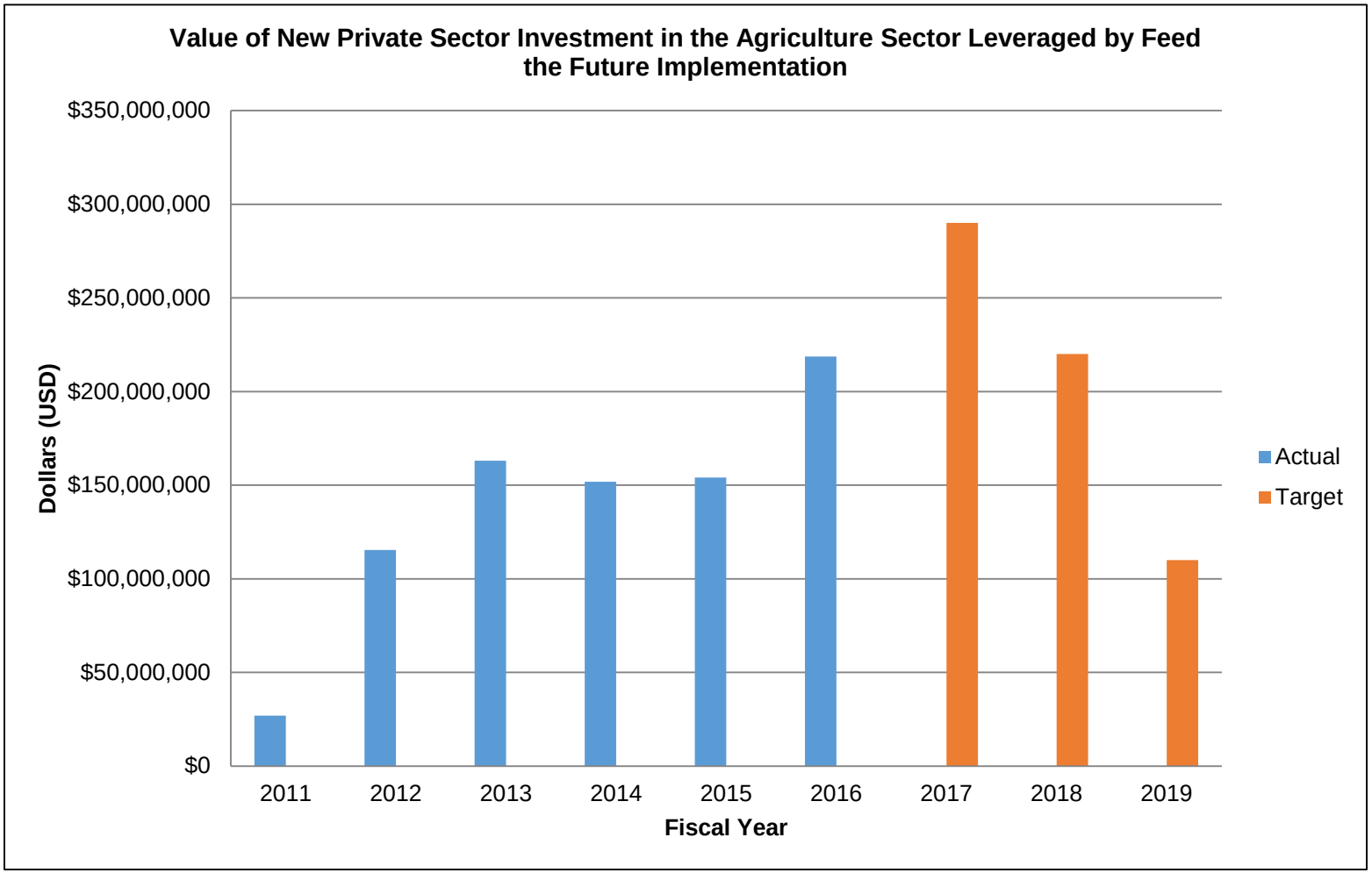

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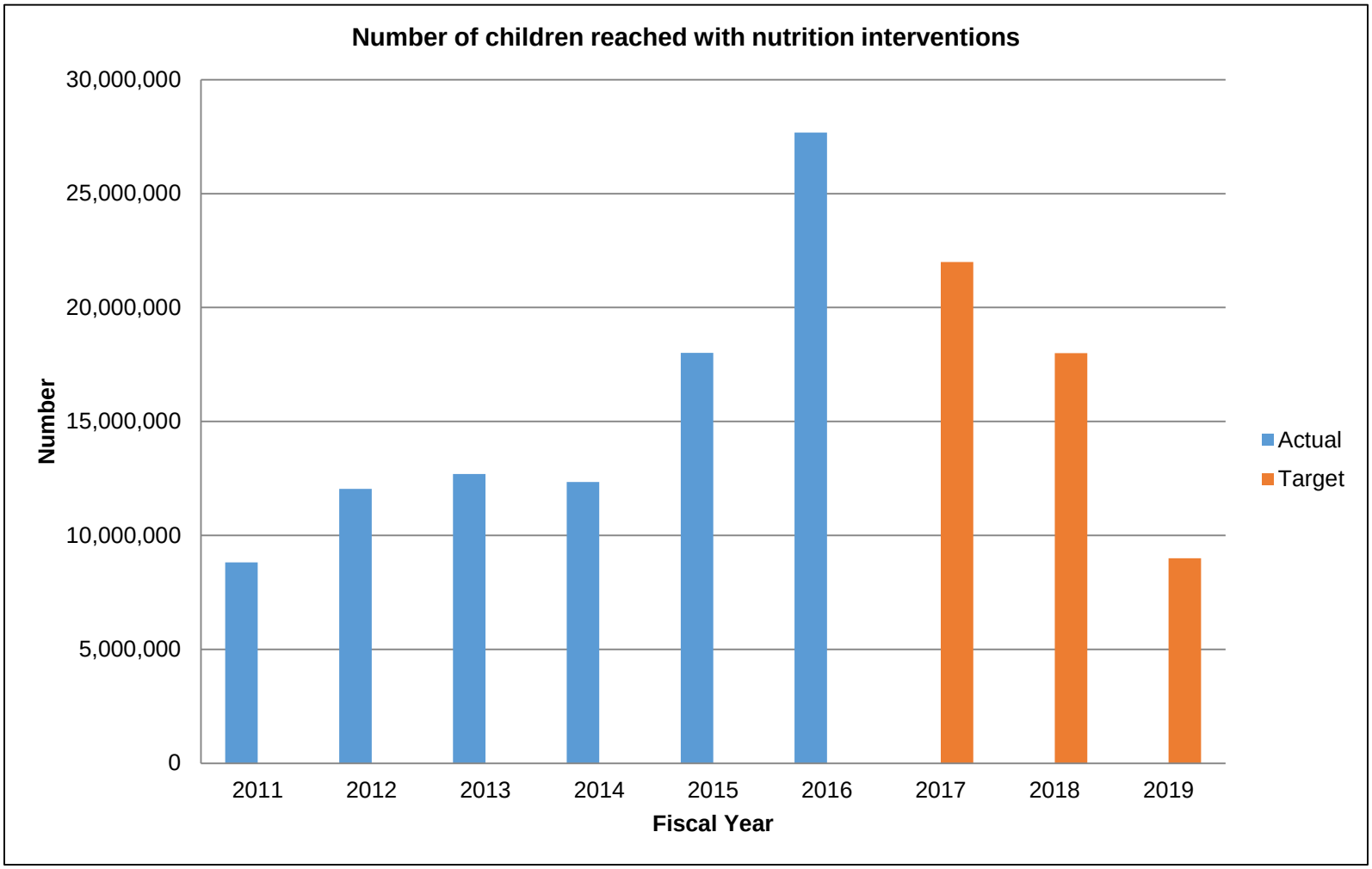

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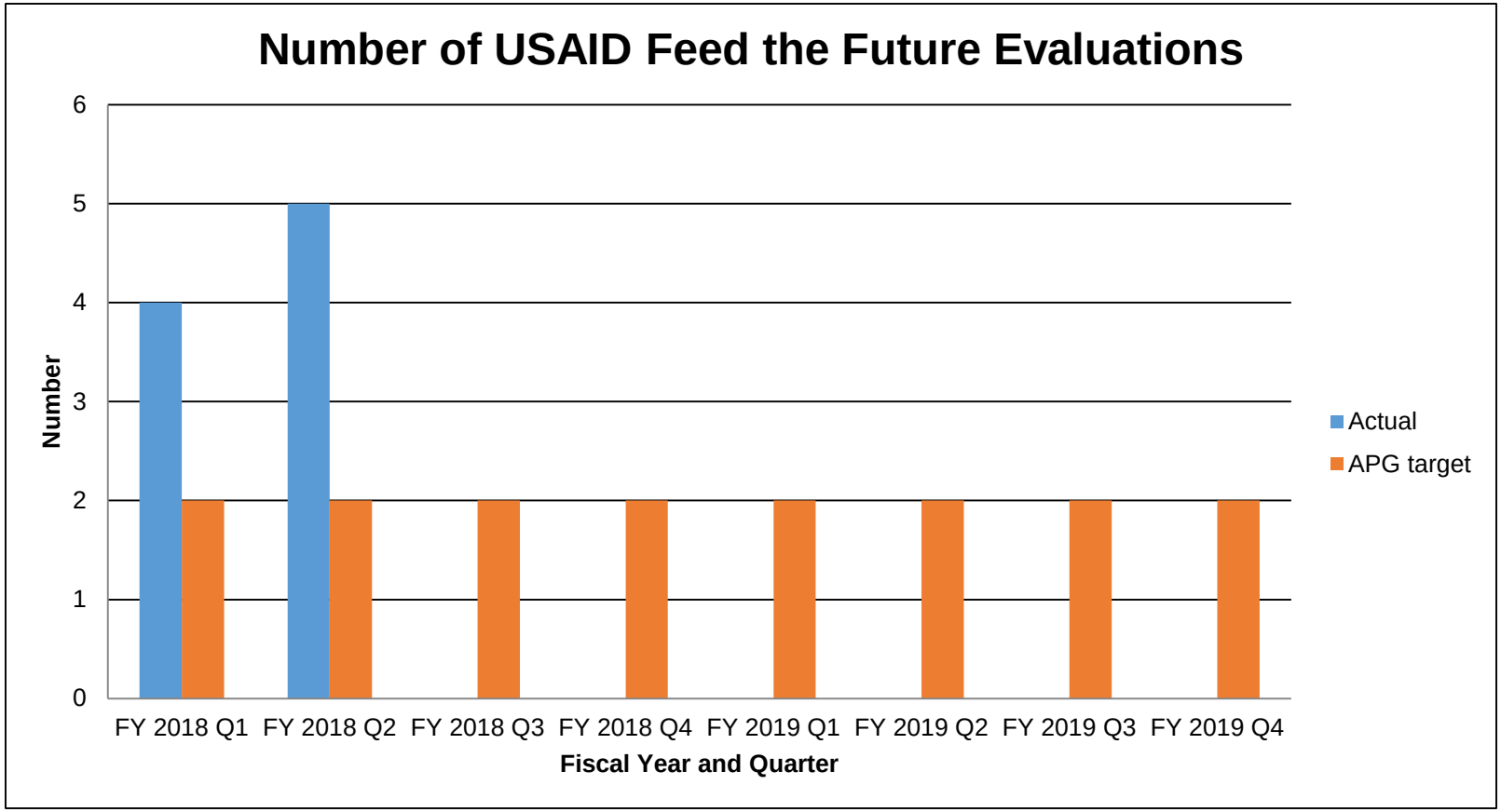

Note: This indicator will not use interagency data collected in the Feed the Future Monitoring System (FTFMS), which collects results data annually. The number of evaluation reports will be those completed and uploaded onto the publicly accessible USAID Development Experience Clearinghouse website (https://dec.usaid.gov/dec/home/Default.aspx). Unlike other indicators, which include interagency results, this indicator will only track USAID data.

Data Accuracy and Reliability

Data to support the Agency Priority Goal on Food Security will come primarily from inputs to the Feed the Future Monitoring System (FTFMS), updated annually.

FTFMS is part of an interagency effort to consolidate U.S. Government reporting on Feed the Future activities. Currently, six U.S. Departments and Agencies contribute data to FTFMS, including the U.S. Agency for International Development, the U.S. Departments of Agriculture and the Treasury, the Millennium Challenge Corporation, the Peace Corps, and the U.S. African Development Foundation. FTFMS indicator data are the official results for Feed the Future, aggregated and posted on www.usaid.gov/data for the purposes of transparency.

Feed the Future verifies performance data using Data-Quality Assessments (DQAs), and the numbers must meet standards of validity, integrity, precision, reliability, and timeliness. Each USAID Operating Unit must document the methodology used to conduct the DQAs. DQA and data-source records are maintained in the Performance Management Plans, as described in USAID's Automated Directive System (ADS) Chapter 201.3.2.16, https://www.usaid.gov/sites/default/files/documents/1870/201.pdf).

To ensure the quality of data, USAID works closely with interagency partners and its implementing partners to review and validate the data. Feed the Future releases data annually in the Feed the Future Progress Report (https://feedthefuture.gov/progress).

As Feed the Future quarterly indicators milestones focus primarily on the achievement of key activities or the public release of materials, the initiative will measure data based on the status of reaching programmatic priorities.

Data Accuracy and Reliability

Timing and Availability of Data

FTFMS collects data following the end of the Fiscal Year (FY) in which the activities occurred. Based on the time needed to consolidate and validate global data from across the initiative, including from implementing partners and U.S. interagency partners, Feed the Future generally does not release progress data until well into the year. For example, in the FY 2014 - 2015 APG reporting period, FY 2015 data were not available to report in Performance.gov until the third quarter of 2016. The delay in information availability meant that the initiative could not close out the FY 2014 - 2015 APG reporting cycle until nearly the end of FY 2016. FY 2016 data for food security were not available until the end of the fourth quarter of FY 2017.

Target Setting

The FY 2018 President's Budget represented a reduction in funding for USAID's funding streams for food security. The initiative has decreased outyear targets accordingly.

Additional Information

Contributing Programs

Contributing programs to the Agency Priority Goal for food security include a range of efforts from across the U.S. Government in support of the Global Food-Security Strategy, see Annex 1: Agency-specific Implementation Plans of the Global Food-Security Strategy (https://feedthefuture.gov/resource/us-government-global-food-security-strategy-fy-2017-2021) and Appendix 2: Global Food-Security Strategy Agency Implementation Plan Updates (https://feedthefuture.gov/resource/us-government-global-food-security-strategy-implementation-report-2017) for the details of the contributions of individual U.S. Departments and Agencies participating in 2017.

Stakeholder / Congressional Consultations

Congress supported the U.S. Government's food security efforts by enacting the Global Food-Security Act of 2016, authorizing food security appropriations through FY 2018. The process to develop the U.S. Government's Global Food-Security Strategy (GFSS) included external consultations with non-governmental, U.S. university, and private-sector stakeholders. USAID, with its interagency partners, continues to engage with Congress and other stakeholders on the implementation of the GFSS. In FY 2018, this will include the completion of country plans for GFSS target countries. The further development of stakeholder-collaboration platforms; and refinement of the monitoring, evaluation, and learning approach to track progress and facilitate the sharing of learning and best practices.