TOPS, funded by USAID/Food for Peace (FFP), will strengthen the capacity of FFP grantees and improve the quality and effectiveness of food aid implementation through fostering collaboration, innovation, and knowledge sharing concerning food security and nutrition best practices.

**TOPS Strategic Objective**

*Highest quality information, knowledge, and best practices for improved methodologies in Title II food aid commodity program performance identified, established, shared and adapted.*

**TOPS Program Strategies**

- Focused capacity building
- Community of practice—Food Security and Nutrition Network
- Knowledge management web portal
- Small grants program

**TOPS Key Stakeholders**

- Title II grantees
- USAID Washington and Missions
- USDA
- Academic and research institutions
- Other food security and nutrition implementing agencies and international organizations
TOPS Program Partners

- Save the Children
- coregroup
- Food for the Hungry
- Mercy Corps
- TANGO

Collaborating Partners
- Africare
- ADRA
- IRD
- Land O'Lakes
- OIC International
- Project Concern International
- Samaritan's Purse
- TechnoServe

Resource Partners
- Cornell University
- Inside NGO
- Institute of Development Studies
- International Center for Research on Women
- Tulane University
- UN Food and Agriculture Organization
- UN World Food Programme
- Worldwatch Institute

TOPS is committed to inclusiveness, participation and broad stakeholder engagement.

Contact the TOPS program staff directly or email info@foodsecuritynetwork.org for more information on how to get involved.

Priorities for Program Year One
Establish an inclusive, stakeholder-driven, field-oriented collaboration and information sharing network to develop, build consensus, and strengthen capacity in state of the art food security program planning, design, implementation, and monitoring and evaluation.

Priority Technical Focus Areas
TOPS' focused technical capacity building efforts will address:
- Commodity management
- Nutrition and food technology
- Agriculture
- Social and behavior change
- Monitoring and Evaluation
- Gender Equity
- Emergencies

Targeted Resource Flows
Through TOPS two significant resource flows directed to quality improvement in food security and nutrition programming:

Small Grants: A small grants program is a key component of the TOPS program for promoting use and adaptation of capacity building tools, field-led and collaborative projects, and dissemination of best practices to Title II food security and nutrition stakeholders.

LWA Awards: The TOPS USAID/FFP program grant is a Leader With Associate Award, which allows for pre-competed Associate Awards to be made by any USG funding source through TOPS for direct project development and implementation, e.g., USAID Missions, non-FFP Bureaus, and other USG agencies.

Engaging the broader community
Establishing an open community of practice, the Food Security and Nutrition Network, will allow the food security and nutrition community to share information, shape agendas, understand and influence donor priorities, build consensus on best practices, test promising practices, and widely diffuse technical knowledge. A web portal, currently under development, will be the foundation for FSN Network knowledge sharing and outreach to the community.

Working groups/task forces forming around technical content areas will enable members from around the world to directly contribute their expertise in continuing discussions on development and adaptation of crucial information, tools, and methodologies that are responsive to stakeholder needs. These technical groups will emerge directly from stakeholder interest; several are already coalescing around strong interest in agriculture, nutrition/food technology, monitoring/evaluation, knowledge management, and behavior change.

Fostering Collaboration and Innovation for Improved Food Security