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Integrating Gender and Nutrition within Agricultural Extension Services

Honduras
Landscape Analysis

Working document

February 2016

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INGENAES
Integrating Gender and Nutrition within Agricultural Extension Services

Technical editing and production by Rebecca J. Williams

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Abbreviations

ACS	Alianza para el Corredor Seco (Dry Corridor Alliance)
ALDESAR	Agencia de Desarrollo Económico Local (Agency for Local Economic Development)
AOR	Agreement Officer's Representative
ASHONPLAFA	Asociación Hondureña de Planificación de Familia (Honduran Association for Family Planning)
CAC	Central American Council of Agriculture
CCAFS	Climate Change, Agriculture and Food Security
CCT	Conditional Cash Transfer
CDCS	Country Development Cooperation Strategy
CEDEH	Centro Experimental y Demostrativo de Horticultura (Center for Experimental and Demonstrative Horticulture)
CGIAR	Consultative Group for International Agricultural Research
CIP	Country Investment Plan
CNR	Congreso Nacional de la República (National Congress of the Republic)
COMEX	National Committee for Trade Facilitation
CONACTA	Consejo Nacional de Ciencia y Tecnología (National Council of Science and Technology)
COTISAN	Comité Técnico Interinstitucional de Seguridad Alimentaria y
CRSP	Collaborative Research Support Program
CUROC	Centro Universitario Regional del Occidente
DICTA	Dirección de Ciencia y Tecnología Agropecuaria (Office of Science and Agricultural Technology)
DO	Development Objective
EAS	Extension and Advisory Services
ECC	Exchange on Environment, Conflict, and Cooperation
ENDESA	La Encuesta Nacional de Demografía y Salud (The National Survey of Demographics and Health)
ENSAN	Estrategia Nacional de Seguridad Alimentaria y Nutricional (The National Food Security and Nutrition Strategy)
ENSO	El Niño Southern Oscillation
FAO	Food and Agricultural Organization of the United Nations
FHIA	Fundación Hondureña de Investigación Agrícola (The Honduran Foundation for Agricultural Research)
FNS	Food and Nutrition Security
FONACTA	El Fondo para el Desarrollo de la Investigación y Transferencia de Tecnología Agropecuaria (The Fund for the Development of the Research and Transfer of Agricultural Technology)
FP	Family Planning
FPPL	Fondo para Productores de Ladera (Fund for Hillside Producers)
FTE	Full Time Equivalent
GAFSP	The Global Agriculture and Food Security Program

GDI	Gender Development Index
GDP	Gross Domestic Product
GII	Gender Inequality Index
GNI	Gross National Income
GOH	Government of Honduras
GWI	Global Water Initiative
HONDUPALMA	Palmas Aceiteras de Honduras (Palm Oil of Honduras)
HONDUPALMA-ECARA	Empresa Cooperativa Agroindustrial de la Reforma Agraria (Palm Oil of Honduras: Agro-Industrial Business Cooperative for Agrarian Reform)
HDI	Human Development Index
ICT	Information and Communications Technologies
IHCAFE	Instituto Hondureño del Café (Honduran Institute of Coffee)
IHDI	Inequality-adjusted Human Development Index
IHMA	Instituto Hondureño de Mercadeo Agrícola (Honduran Institute of Agricultural Marketing)
IHSS	Instituto Hondureño de Seguridad Social (Honduran Social Security Institute)
INFOP	Instituto Nacional de Formación Profesional
INGENAES	Integrating Gender and Nutrition within Agricultural Extension Services
IR	Intermediate Result
ITCZ	Inter-tropical Convergence Zone
M&E	Monitoring and Evaluation
MANCORSARIC	Mancomunidad de la Ruta Maya (Commonwealth of the Maya Route)
MCC	Millennium Challenge Corporation
MCH	Maternal and Child Health Services
MDPI	Multi-dimensional Poverty Index
MOH	Ministry of Health
MSME	Micro, Small and Medium Enterprises
NGO	Non-governmental Organization
NSFNS	National Strategy for Food and Nutrition Security (Inter-Agency Technical Committee on Food and Nutrition Security)
OCDIH	Organismo Cristiano de Desarrollo Integral de Honduras
ONEC	Obstetric and Neonatal Care
OPHI	Oxford Poverty and Human Development Initiative
P4P	Programa de Compras para el Progreso (Purchase for Progress Program)
PAPP	Programa de Apoyo al Pequeño Productor (Program of Aid for Small Producers)
PEAGROH	Plan Estratégico del Sector Agroalimentario de Honduras (The Honduras Strategic Plan for the Agrofood Sector)
PESA	Programa Especial para la Seguridad Alimentaria
PI	Primary Investigator

PILARH	Proyectos e Iniciativas Locales para el Autodesarrollo Regional de Honduras (Local Projects and Initiatives for the Regional Development of Honduras)
PIPSA	Plan de Inversión de País para el Sector Agroalimentario (National Investment Plan for the Agri-food Sector)
PPP US$	Purchasing Power Parity
PPP	Public-Private Partnership
RAMNI	Accelerated Reduction of Maternal and Infant Mortality Strategy
RFPS	Rural Family Planning Strategy
RH	Reproductive Health
RTMA	Regional Trade and Market Alliances Project
RUTA	Regional Unit for Sustainable Rural Development in Central America and the Dominican Republic
SAG	Secretaría de Agricultura y Ganadería de Honduras (The Honduran Agriculture and Livestock Secretariat)
SESAL	Secretaría de Salud – Honduras (The Honduran Health Secretariat)
SIECA	Secretaría de Integración Económica Centroamericana (Secretariat for Central American Economic Integration
SNITTA	Sistema de Investigación y Transferencia de Tecnología Agrícola Nacional (System of Research and Transfer of National Agricultural Technology)
ULAT	Technical Assistance Local Unit (USAID Mission bilateral partner agency)
UNDP	United Nations Development Program
UN-HLTF	United Nations – High Level Task Force on the Global Food Security Crisis
UNICEF	United Nations Children's Fund
US	United States of America
USAID	United States Agency for International Development
USDA-FAS	United States Department of Agriculture – Foreign Agricultural Service
US-GHI	United States – Global Health Initiative
UTSAN	Unidad Técnica de Seguridad Alimentaria y Nutricional (Technical Unit for Food and Nutrition Security, Honduras)
WHO	World Health Organization
WTO	World Trade Organization

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Introduction

The Integrating Gender and Nutrition within Agricultural Extension Services (INGENAES) project is funded through the Bureau for Food Security (BFS) of the United States Agency for International Development (USAID) to support the Presidential Feed the Future Initiative, which strives to increase agricultural productivity and the incomes of both men and women in rural areas who rely on agriculture for their livelihoods[1].

This landscape study provides an overview of Honduras's agriculture and the status of the country's extension system. It also contains information on the prevalence of poverty, nutrition, and gender-related issues in the country with special focus on rural areas. The report summarizes Honduras's current agricultural and nutrition policy and details the strategic goals and objectives of USAID and other donors in the country. The report provides a summary of the on-going projects by the United States Government (USG) and other donors in the country related to agriculture extension, and gender and nutrition impacts.

INGENAES supports the development of improved extension and advisory systems (EAS) to reduce gender gaps, increase empowerment of women farmers, and improve gender and nutrition integration within extension services by directly or indirectly assisting multiple types of stakeholders within a country, such as farmers, producer groups, cooperatives, policy makers, technical specialists, development non-governmental organization (NGO) practitioners, and donors. INGENAES efforts will strengthen the capacity of key stakeholders and provide the fora and networks for them to coordinate and reach agreement on policies and strategies to implement improved EAS that better meet the needs of men and women farmers. While INGENAES project will not directly monitor beneficiary impact, it will focus on changes in institutions that directly impact men and women who access agricultural information, training, technologies and nutrition information. Improved services empower women and engage men.

INGENAES will strengthen institutions by identifying their needs and building their capacity to effectively integrate gender and nutrition sensitive information and activities into agricultural extension systems with the aim to promote gender equality, improved household nutrition, and increased women incomes and, subsequently, household food security. Based on the identification of four main gaps in extension services concerning gender and nutrition integration, INGENAES activities can be divided into the following action areas:

- Build more robust, gender-responsive, and nutrition-sensitive institutions, projects, and programs capable of assessing and responding to the needs of both men and women farmers through extension advisory services (EAS);

[1] The USAID cooperative agreement (Award No. AID-OAA-LA-14-0008) has been awarded to the prime implementer, the University of Illinois at Urbana-Champaign, the lead organization of the consortium. The consortium also includes the University of California-Davis, the University of Florida, and Cultural Practice, LLC. The project is currently working in select FTF countries.

- Identify and scale up proven mechanisms for delivering improved EAS to women farmers;
- Disseminate technologies that improve women's agricultural productivity and increase household nutrition; and,
- Apply effective, nutrition sensitive, extension approaches and tools for engaging both men and women.

Indicative activities of the INGENAES project include learning exchanges, assessments, curricula development, training into action, mentoring relationships, internship experiences, and networks that focus on identifying gender-responsive and nutrition-sensitive innovations that can be promoted by EAS organizations, and adopted by men and women farmers. Developing these outputs collaboratively with agricultural extension experts and other partners will transform extension-relevant institutions working directly with men and women farmers.

In each country, INGENAES needs to examine the relationships, identify the key change actors, build their capacity, and provide them the incentives to make changes (e.g., set new policies, employ new management practices, modify organizational structures, make changes in practice, adopt innovations). The key actors will vary from country to country, although policy makers, the Ministries of Agriculture and Health, NGOs and the private sector, and of course, women farmers, are likely to be involved in most countries. Key actors will be identified as part of the needs and scoping assessments. Thus, and in preparation for country-level activities, the consortium gathers information and key contacts to develop a landscape study of the agricultural sector in that country, a simple description of the pluralistic extension system, nutrition-related initiatives, and gender issues. As such, the landscape study is intended as a preparatory tool and handy reference document for work in country. Each landscape study will be updated periodically as INGENAES continues to engage in that country and identifies new key contacts, organizations, and initiatives.

Background

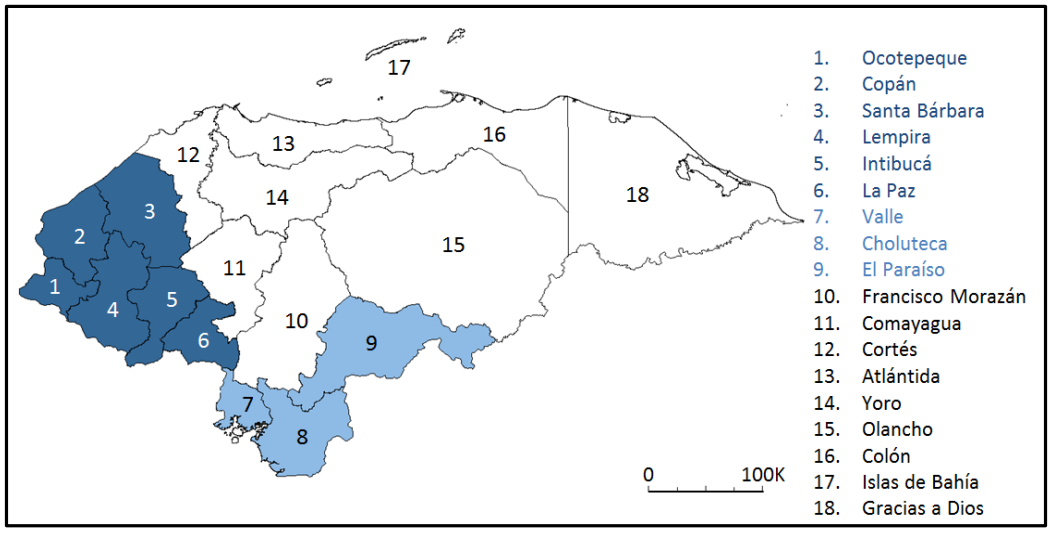
Honduras is located in Central America and is part of a region known as the "Northern Triangle" that includes El Salvador, Honduras, and Guatemala. Honduras is made up of 18 departments and 298 municipalities (WHO, 2013). It is ranked as a lower-middle income country with a democratic constitutional republic form of government (USAID, 2015e; World Bank, 2015). The country is roughly the size of Louisiana at 111,890 square kilometers. The current population (2014) is estimated at 8.26 million, and population growth rate is two percent. There are eight recognized indigenous groups in Honduras, which make up approximately 7.2 percent of the population (WHO, 2013). Nearly half of the population is under the age of 18 (USAID, 2013). Women have a higher life expectancy than men (75.6 versus 70.7), and "based on demographic data, the typical Honduran, on average, is a woman from a rural area under the age of 18" (UAID, 2013, p. 9). Female-headed households accounted for 31.9 percent of all households in 2013 (USAID, 2013).

The Honduran economy was heavily affected by the 2008 economic downturn and a 2009 government overthrow that led to the temporary halting of foreign assistance by several world governments, including the United States (US). Since this time, the economy has recovered somewhat, showing a 3.5

percent growth in gross domestic product (GDP) in 2013 (USAID, 2014). "Improved growth, however, has not translated into reductions in poverty levels; 60 percent of the population lives in poverty and 36 percent in extreme poverty, with the highest burden on the rural poor and indigenous groups. Significant challenges to human development include natural disasters such as hurricanes, flooding, droughts and environmental degradation, which ruins crops and prevents access to food and other basic necessities" (USAID, 2014, p. 1). There are significant differences in the rural and urban population, where the rural poor representing 74 percent of the nation's poor and 86 percent of the extremely poor in 2010 (UNDP, 2013). In addition to economic and environmental concerns, Honduras has the highest intentional homicide rate in the world, which is indicative of significant violence in the country. It is estimated that 10 percent of the Honduran GDP is lost due to the violence and crime (USAID, 2014). Honduras also ranks very poorly on the perceived corruption scale, at 126th out of 174 countries (USAID, 2015e).

Honduras is heavily dependent on agriculture, which accounted for 13.8 percent of GDP in 2014, and manufacturing, which accounted for 18.5 percent of GDP in 2014 (World Bank, 2015). Agriculture employs 40 percent of the workforce and, when including industrial food production, and goods and services related to agriculture and food, the actual share of agriculture to the GDP is estimated at 40-45 percent (UNDP, 2013). "Agriculture is even more important for employment and food security. The sector provides work to more than half the employed population. Many of them—over 30 percent of the total population and 54 percent of the rural population—live in smallholder families who produce staple foods such as maize, beans, rice and sorghum (Baumeister, 2010), which are also the four most important crops for the Honduran diet, in decreasing order (SERNA, 2011)" (UNDP, 2013, p. 17). Western Honduras holds the highest number of rural poor and severely poor, with smallholder agriculturalists making up the greatest percentage of this population. These issues have made Western Honduras the primary Feed the Future zone of influence including the departments of Santa Bárbara, La Paz, Ocotepeque, Intibucá, Copán, and Lempira. There is also a secondary zone of influence in Honduras's southern dry corridor, including Choluteca, Valle, and El Paraíso. Figure 1 shows the departments of Honduras including the Feed the Future zone of influence (dark blue) and a secondary zone of influence (light blue).

Figure 1: Map of Honduras by Department and Feed the Future Zone of Influence



Education

The net primary school completion rate is average for the Central America region at 90.3 percent of males and 95.0 percent of females in 2013. However, the out-of-school rate is high for the region at 110,700 school-aged children out of school, of which 55 percent are males (USAID, 2015e). In 2010, the school repetition rate was high at 10 percent, with 59 percent of these students being male, and the overall dropout rate was estimated at 20 percent in the same year. The gender parity index (GPI) in primary education is 1.02, which indicates that more females attend primary school in Honduras than males. This is more pronounced at the secondary level where Honduras has one of the highest GPI's in the world at 1.23, indicating significant disparities in secondary education for males. In Honduras, only 66 percent of males attended any secondary school in 2010 compared to 81 percent of female students.

Development Indicators

The Human Development Index (HDI) ranked Honduras as 131st out of 188 countries in 2014, making it a lower-middle developing economy (UNDP, 2015; USAID, 2014). The Inequality-adjusted HDI, which accounts for inequalities between life expectancy, education, and income, shows a loss of 32.1 percent of the HDI (from 0.606 on a scale of 0-1 to 0.412) because of inequality – largely attributable to income inequality (UNDP, 2015). "According to the Gini Index,[2] the degree of inequality in the distribution of family income in Honduras is the highest in Central America and the tenth highest worldwide. In addition, over one-third of the Honduran workforce was considered unemployed or underemployed in 2010." (US-GHI, 2012)

The Oxford Poverty and Human Development Initiative (OPHI) compiles the Multi-Dimensional Poverty Index (MDPI), which looks across three dimensions of education (years of schooling and school attendance), health (child mortality and nutrition), and standard of living (access to electricity, sanitation, water, cooking fuel, assets and floors). A person is "multi-dimensionally poor" if he or she is deprived in at least one-third of these indicators. The MDPI for Honduras indicates that 15.8 percent of Hondurans are multi-dimensionally poor, with an intensity of 45.7 percent (proportion of indicators in which people are poor). In addition, 21 percent of Hondurans are vulnerable to poverty, 4.2 percent are in severe poverty, and 2.3 percent are considered destitute (OPHI, 2015). Table 1 provides a comparison of the MDPI with other poverty measures for the year 2012.

Table 1: Comparative Poverty Measures (2012)

Multi-dimensional Poverty Index	0.072
Percentage of MPDI Poor	15.8%
Average Intensity Across MPDI Poor (A)	45.7%
Percentage of Income Poor ($1.25/day)	16.5%
Percentage of Income Poor ($1.90/day)	21.4%
Percentage of Income Poor ($3.10/day)	37.3%
Percentage of Poor (Honduran Poverty Line)	66.5%
Income Inequality (GINI index)	0.574

Source: OPHI, 2015, p. 2; USAID, 2015e

The MDPI is particularly interesting as it includes child mortality and nutrition under the health dimension as one-third of the overall poverty score (one-sixth for each domain). According to the

[2] The GINI index measures the extent to which the distribution of income among individuals or households within an economy deviates from a perfectly equal distribution. A GINI index of 0 represents perfect equality, while an index of 100 implies perfect inequality (World Bank, 2015).

MDPI, approximately 4.5 percent of Hondurans are deprived of adequate nutrition, and slightly less than six percent of children die before the age of five, Overall, nutrition and child mortality contribute 10.6 and 13.6 percent, respectively, to the total poverty score in Honduras (ODPI, 2015). The complete MDPI for Honduras including the MDPI score for each of the departments can be found in Appendix A: Development Indicators for Honduras.

The Gender Development Index (GDI) [3] was introduced in 2014's Human Development Report as a gender-disaggregated version of the HDI. The GDI shows several differences between males and females in Honduras. Females have an average of five years greater life expectancy (75.7 for females, 70.7 for males), they have one year higher expected year of schooling (11.6 for females, 10.6 for males), and a much lower share of Gross National Income (GNI) than males (2,365 for females, 5,508 for males). Overall, the HDI values for females are lower than for males, indicating overall gender disparities in development in regards to the three areas measured in the HDI: life expectancy, schooling, and income. These numbers are significantly lower than other Latin American countries and middle-income countries (See Table 5, Appendix A). Similarly, the Gender Inequality Index (GII)[4] ranks Honduras as 106th out of 155 countries with a GII value of 0.480 out of 1 (See Table 6, Appendix A). Honduran females have a much smaller share of labor force participation at 42.8 percent of females compared to 82.9 percent of males. Compared to other medium HDI countries, Honduras has a high adolescent birth rate (84 for Honduras compared to 43.4 of other medium HDI countries) and a low level of secondary education in both female (28%) and male (25.8%) cohorts in comparison with medium HDI countries (34.8% for females and 55.3% for males).

Violence and Instability

The high levels of violence in Honduras, ranked in 2015 as the country with the highest intentional homicide rate in the world, have an impact on health and nutrition in the country (US-GHI, 2012; World Bank, 2015b). This high homicide rate disproportionately affects young men, with nearly half of all homicides affecting men aged 15-29, and 76 percent affecting men between the ages of 15-44 (UNAH-IUDPAS, 2015). This is evidenced in the mortality rate, where men are significantly more likely to die between the ages of 15-60 than women are. In 2012, the mortality rate for women aged 15-60 was 122 per 1,000 as compared to 176 per 1,000 for men. This has improved, however, from 1990 rates at 179 for women and 239 for men. The violence in Honduras puts a strain on the health care system both in dealing with the health fallout of violence and by diverting limited resources. This results in a limited capacity of health care workers and promoters to conduct outreach, promote services, and provide expanded services – including nutrition services (US-GHI, 2012, p. 6).

[3] "The GDI measures gender inequalities in achievement in three basic dimensions of human development: health (measured by female and male life expectancy at birth), education (measured by female and male expected years of schooling for children and mean years for adults aged 25 years and older); and command over economic resources (measured by female and male estimated Gross National Income (GNI) per capita)" (UNDP, 2015, p. 5).

[4] "The GII reflects gender-based inequalities in three dimensions – reproductive health, empowerment, and economic activity. Reproductive health is measured by maternal mortality and adolescent birth rates; empowerment is measured by the share of parliamentary seats held by women and attainment in secondary and higher education by each gender; and economic activity is measured by the labor market participation rate for women and men" (UNDP, 2015, pp. 5-6).

Nutrition Profile

Honduras has made some progress towards decreasing infant and maternal mortality rates. In the year 2000, the infant mortality rate was 31 per 1,000 live births, and in 2012 decreased to 19. The under-five mortality rate also decreased from 38 per 1,000 in the year 2000 to 23 per 1,000 in 2012 (WHO, 2014). Within this same cohort, in 2000 nine percent of these deaths were related to diarrhea, which had a slight decrease to six percent in 2012 (WHO, 2014). The 2011-2012 National Survey of Demographics and Health (ENDESA) found that 19 percent of children suffered from diarrhea, of which 71 percent received oral rehydration treatment (GOH, 2014). The same survey found that only 64 percent of children with pneumonia received medical attention, and only 60 percent of those that received medical attention were given antibiotics (GOH, 2014). The maternal mortality ratio (per 100,000) also dropped from 150 in 2000 to 120 in 2013 (WHO, 2014).

It is estimated that around 1.5 million Hondurans face hunger at some point each year, with varying estimates placing the number between 12-15 percent of the population (Feed the Future, 2014; USAID, 2015; World Bank, 2011). Lack of resources and increasing poverty levels are basic factors contributing to the nutrition issues in the country. "The gap between salaries and the basic food basket cost is high and seems to be increasing. In fact, at household level, by summer 2010 the food basket for a family of 5 was calculated at 6,400 lempiras, over the minimum salary (5,500 lempiras) and well in excess of the income of many poor families" (UN-HLTF, 2010, p. 4). The economic cost of this is significant. In the years 2000-2004 Honduras dedicated 10 percent of the GDP to undernutrition problems, including 6.2 percent for education and 3.2 percent for health (Martínez & Fernández, 2008). "The estimated public and private health costs for Honduras are equivalent to US$ 48 million in 2004 dollars, representing 0.64% of GDP and 18% of public spending on health for that year. A breakdown of these costs reveals that 92% correspond to the public sector and 8% to the private sector" (Martínez & Fernández, 2008, p. 122).

There are significant disparities in the prevalence of stunting in Honduras based on the region and socio-economic status.[5] In 2010, 50 percent of stunting occurred in only one-third of the regions of Honduras – mainly in Western Honduras. In addition, children in rural areas are 2.5 times more likely to experience stunting than their urban counterparts (World Bank, 2011). Children in the poorest quintile are eight times more likely to be stunted than children in the wealthiest quintile. In addition, the level of education is a significant indicator of potential stunting, with over half of children of mothers with no education and one-third of children whose mother completed primary education being affected by stunting (UNICEF, 2009; World Bank, 2011). Within the Feed the Future zone of influence, 40.2 percent of children under the age of five suffer from stunting. In some areas the child stunting rate is as high as 50 percent (Feed the Future, 2015; UNICEF, 2009; US-GHI, 2012). Table 2 provides a comparison of nutrition data in Honduras for the years 2006 and 2012.

[5] Low height for age

More recently, Honduras has been experiencing a complex combination of both undernutrition and obesity impacting the population (UN-HLTF, 2010; World Bank, 2011).

> "Progress in improving community infrastructure and development of sound public health systems has been slow, thwarting efforts to reduce undernutrition; while rapid urbanization and the adoption of diets high in refined carbohydrates, saturated fats and sugars, combined with a more sedentary lifestyle are commonly cited as the major contributors to the increase in overweight and chronic diseases" (World Bank, 2011, p.2).

Currently, overweight (body mass index >25) and obesity (body mass index >30) are more prevalent among women (56%, 24%) than men (47%, 12%), respectively (WHO, 2015).

This is a particularly important issue for Honduras, as undernutrition during childhood can result in greater susceptibility to heart disease, diabetes, and other chronic illnesses later in life – including illnesses associated with obesity (Darnton-Hill, Nishida, & James. 2004; World Bank, 2011). In addition, vitamin and mineral deficiencies contribute to undernutrition with nearly one-third of preschool aged children and pregnant women in Honduras lack sufficient iron and are considered anemic. Similarly, 14 percent of preschool aged children are deficient in vitamin A (World Bank, 2011, p. 2).

Table 2: Honduras Nutrition Data (2012)

Population	7.8 million*	
Population under 5 years of age (0-59 months)	975,000*	
	2006	**2012**
Prevalence of stunting[6] among children under 5 (0-59 months)	30%	23%
Prevalence of underweight[7] among children under 5 (0-59 months)	8%	7%
Prevalence of wasting[8] among children under 5 (0-59 months)	1%	1%
Prevalence of anemia[9] among children aged 6-59 months	37%	29%
Prevalence of anemia among women of reproductive age (15-49 years)	19%	15%
Prevalence of thinness[10] among women of reproductive age (15-49 years)	4%	5%
Prevalence of children aged 0-5 months exclusively breastfed	30%	31%
Prevalence of breastfed children aged 6-23 months receiving a minimum acceptable diet	n/a	59%

Source: USAID, 2014, p. 2

***** 2015 population estimated at 8.6 million; population under 5 years of age estimated at 997,000

Health

Access to reliable health care in Honduras is estimated at 70-80 percent of the population, when combining services offered by the Honduran Secretary of Health (SESAL), the Honduran Social Security Institute (IHSS), NGOs, civil society organizations, and private organizations and businesses (GOH, 2014). Within the group that has access to health care, the GOH estimates that 50-60 percent of this

[6] Stunting defined as below minus two standard deviations from median height for age of the reference population.
[7] Moderate underweight is defined as below minus two standard deviations from median weight for age of the reference population; Severe underweight is defines as below minus three standard deviations from median weight for age of the reference population.
[8] Wasting defined as below minus two standard deviations from median weight for height of the reference population.
[9] Hemoglobin below 10.9 g/dL
[10] Thinness defined in adult populations as body mass index below 18.5 kg/m2.

coverage is through SESAL, 16 percent is through IHSS, and 10-15 percent is through private providers and NGOs (GOH, 2014). "In this context of structural poverty, health conditions affecting the population are associated with socio-cultural behaviors, lifestyles, lack of income in households, poor level of education, limited job opportunities, low quality and human resources in health coverage, aspects, which in turn, have an impact on the level of human development that characterizes the Honduran population" (GOH, 2014, p. 3, *original in Spanish*).

The Honduran National Plan for Health 2014-2018 outlines thirteen challenges for the health care system that they wish to address by the year 2018. Some of these are related to nutrition including:

2. Make accessible to the population a health care strategy to promote healthy lifestyle habits.
3. Improve maternal health and child health (under five years of age), reducing mortality in both groups.
13. Implement interventions throughout the life cycle that mitigate the risk of illness and death in the population.

A key strength of the Honduran health care system is a decentralization program that gives contracts to municipal governments, community organizations, and NGOs to provide basic health services in marginalized communities. "The decentralized model of performance-based contracts to municipalities and NGOs currently covers a population of approximately 750,000 Hondurans, and has demonstrated notable success. Studies carried out by USAID and the World Bank found that, as a result of the model, access to key services increased in some cases by over 100% in rural and underserved communities" (US-GHI, 2014, p. 9). Within this system are included programs that specifically aim to work with rural and marginalized populations to improve maternal and child mortality through home visits, community-based training and education, and growth monitoring (US-GHI, 2014).

Agriculture

As of 2013, Honduras has 32,350 square kilometers (20,101 square miles) of agricultural land, accounting for 28.9 percent of the total land area (World Bank, 2015). The GOH reports that in 2009 agricultural production contributed approximately 13 percent of the total GDP. Of this, 20 percent was coffee, 15.7 percent was fruits and vegetables, 14 percent was livestock, 10.8 percent was basic grains, 9.1 was fish and aquaculture, 8.6 was silviculture, and 8.1 percent was banana. Agricultural exports totaled 70 percent of total exports (GOH, 2011).

Arable land accounts for 9.12 percent of land area. There is a large discrepancy in the quality of agricultural lands, in which large-scale commercial monoculture systems occupy the most fertile lands and subsistence smallholders occupy the poorest quality lands that are often located in steep, mountainous areas that experience high climate variability (UNDP, 2013; UN-HLTF, 2010). This issue is compounded by big landowners' expansion of monoculture and livestock breeding operations that put pressure on land use, forcing smallholders to move to less productive lands (UNDP, 2013). The concentration of arable land is largely in the hands of big landowners who produce export crops, and there is little policy recognition of land tenure for smallholder farms (UN-HLTF, 2010). This is despite the fact that smallholder farmers produce the majority of staple foods consumed within Honduras. In addition, 1.3 million people living in rural areas (one third of the total rural population) are landless and

live on income from temporary agricultural labor (UN-HLTF, 2010, p. 3). "Increasing rural productivity and diversifying rural income sources will be key to progress, as most of the poor live in rural areas and depend on agriculture for their livelihoods" (USAID, 2014, p. 1).

Agricultural productivity is low due to various factors such as poor infrastructure, lack of inputs, low farmer capacity, and lack of credit structures for rural farmers (UN-HLTF, 2010). "Livelihoods of the rural poor in Honduras largely consist of growing subsistence grains, farmed with centuries-old, low-productivity practices. Basic grains carry the most social and economic importance, despite the opportunity cost. Given the small size of the plots, basic grains cannot be grown in sufficient volume to be profitable" (GOH, 2013, p. 5). In addition, rural smallholders resist shifting to higher value crops, as these households depend on maize and beans for household subsistence (GOH, 2013). There are no state-run extension services in Honduras: "…[the] inefficient system was abandoned in the 1990s with the intent of the private sector providing these services in a move to increase competitiveness in agriculture. This indeed took place but mainly only large land-owners can now afford to pay for extension services" (UN-HLTF, 2010, p. 3).

Gender

The United States Global Health Initiative (US-GHI, 2012) states that "the most recent in-depth gender assessment conducted in Honduras found that traditional gender roles in Honduras continue to place women in a subordinate position to men" (p. 2). A 40-page gender analysis conducted by USAID for the 2014-2019 Country Development Plan outlined several major gender issues facing the country including:

- Significant gender inequalities in distribution of employment
- High levels of violent crime, including gender-based violence and the highest femicide rate in Latin America
- Weak implementation of policies and laws that promote gender equality and human rights
- GOH development strategies mention gender as a cross-cutting issue but do not address it specifically
- Increased female representation in government, but difficulties and barriers in actual participation
- Women overrepresented among the poor, with 31.9 percent of households headed by women

Agriculture and nutrition are both highly gendered in Honduras, with women typically participating in activities related to health, nutrition and the household, and men typically participating in activities related to production, income generation, and marketing (UNDP, 2013). "In the large majority of households, [agricultural] tasks are clearly separated between genders: while men cultivate the land, women are more involved in harvesting, post-harvest activities, processing and commercialization of products in local markets" (UNDP, 2013, p. 18). Women contribute significantly to food security in rural areas, working up to 12 hours per day on gardening, tending animals, collecting, processing, and cooking food, childcare and education, eldercare, selling products in nearby urban markets, and participating in agricultural activities (USAID, 2013, p. 24).

Empowering women to participate in agriculture can have significant impacts in Honduras. In Honduras, a positive correlation exists between women's land rights and their overall role in the household. When

women have control over land, they are more likely to have control over household income and share of earnings, and are more likely to receive credit (Ashby et al., 2009; World Bank, 2009). Similarly, studies in Honduras find that "involving women in the design and field testing of new technologies such as crop varieties, small machinery, and farm tools speeds the adoption of innovations, increasing productivity and incomes" (Ashby et. al, 2009, p. 2).

Honduras has made improvements in some areas such as increase girl's access to education, women's representation in politics, and the adoption of laws and political policies that support women. A full list of these laws and policies, some of which are related to agriculture, is available in Appendix B: Pro-Women Laws and Policies. However, USAID's 2013 gender report states that:

> "The aim of the [Honduran] gender policy in agriculture was to reduce the inequality gaps found in rural agriculture, forestry, and fishing sectors. For example, the policy identified ways in which women have been discriminated against in obtaining benefits from government-supported projects. However, based on assessments in rural areas, the government is not monitoring its compliance of this policy and many existing government funded projects continue to target men exclusively, ignoring the role of women in supporting family incomes, or when targeting women, fail to adopt strategies which factor in the additional cultural obligations in maintaining the household (i.e., housekeeping, cooking, child raising)" (p. 24).

Climate Change

"[Honduras] is plagued by protracted development challenges including extreme economic inequalities, rural poverty, low levels of education, high levels of crime and gang violence, lack of economic opportunities, particularly among youth, and acute environmental degradation. Climate change and climate variability place additional strains on the Honduran government's capacity to effectively address these socio-economic challenges" (ECC, 2015, p. 1). Climate change is a significant threat in Honduras, which is projected to experience an increase in temperature by 2° Celsius by 2050 and a 7.5-14 percent decrease in annual precipitation (ECC, 2015; UNDP, 2013). The impact on agriculture will be significant, as 40 percent of the Honduran workforce depends on agriculture for their livelihoods, contributing 40-50 percent of the GDP (ECC, 2015). The combination of climate change, poverty, population growth, and the limited ability of the GOH to respond to crises is expected to have a significant impact on the Honduran GDP, livelihoods, malnutrition, and food security – particularly for agricultural-reliant households (ECC, 2015).

Honduras is particularly susceptible to the El Niño Southern Oscillation (ENSO) event and variation in the Inter-tropical Convergence Zone (ITCZ), which creates drought conditions that particularly impact the rural poor who depend on subsistence agricultural production for household food security (ECC, 2015; UNDP, 2013). "In summer 2014, a prolonged canícula (seasonal dry spell) occurred causing damage to crops and affecting more than 500,000 people. Maize production was almost 75 per cent below normal in the south-western region of Honduras leading to acute food insecurity, malnutrition and migration to urban areas" (ECC, 2015, p. 2). The threats of climate change and extreme weather events in Honduras makes it one of the three countries with the highest vulnerability to climate change, worldwide (ECC, 2015; UNDP, 2013, WHO, 2013). The dry corridor is particularly susceptible to the impacts of climate change, where smallholders are already feeling the effects of higher daily

temperatures and decreases in rainfall. It is estimated that within ten years, this area could see a decrease in the productivity of staple crops by one-third, under current agricultural practices (GOH, 2014).

Severe weather events, such as Hurricane Mitch in 1998, can have a more significant impact on women than on men. In this case, household tasks such as accessing water, fodder, fuel wood, and food preparation increased significantly – tasks that fall on women. In many cases, this increase in household responsibilities made it difficult for women to return to work, both on- and off-farm (World Bank, 2009). Similarly, a disproportionate number of men died in this event, a phenomenon that is attributed to gender norms that resulted in men putting themselves at greater risk during the storm. This resulted in a large increase in female-headed households, following Hurricane Mitch (World Bank, 2009).

Agricultural practices also have an effect on climate change vulnerability through unsustainable natural resource use and management. This includes deforestation, of which Honduras has the highest rate in Central America, water-intensive monoculture, production on steep hills, which contributes to erosion, and the destruction of key ecosystems, including mangrove systems, coastal barriers, dry forests, and high-altitude rainforests (ECC, 2015; USAID, 2015d). Climate change and environmental degradation have contributed to the severe coffee rust (la roya) outbreak that began in 2011, and during the 2012-2013 period, resulted in the loss of 100,000 jobs, which affected nearly 20 percent of the Honduran workforce (ECC, 2015; FAO, 2013).

> "Coffee is the highest valued cash crop in Honduras and the main foreign exchange earner. The crop is particularly vulnerable to diseases or parasites even under moderate changes in temperatures and rainfall, specifically during blossoming and fruit development… These events indicate how sensitive the coffee value chain is to climate-related shocks and the magnitude of impacts on livelihoods and the economy."

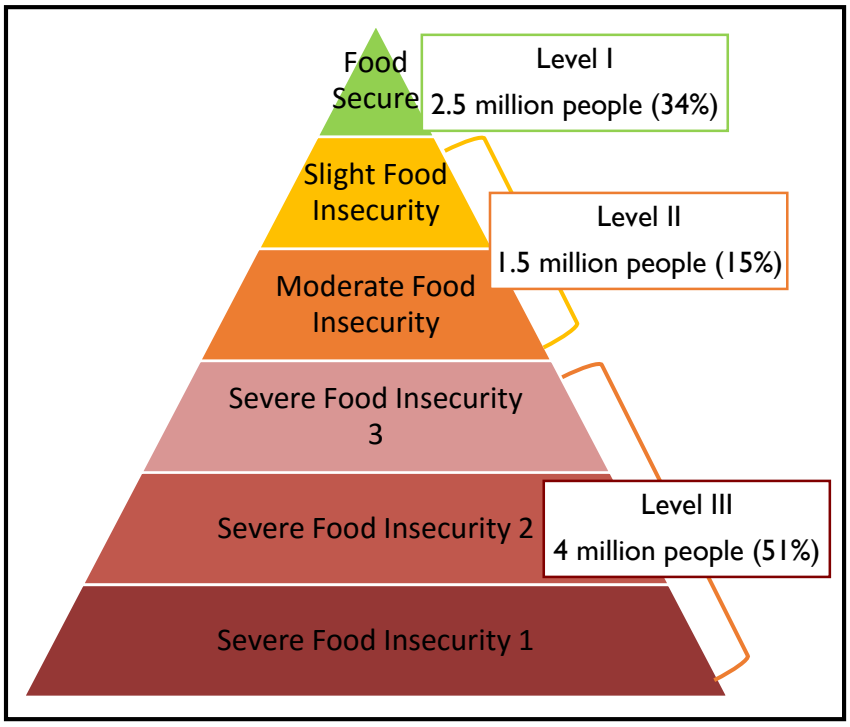
The United Nations Development Program (UNDP) released a report on climate risk management for smallholder agriculture in Honduras (2013) that provides a detailed look at climate change in Honduras including impacts and risks, smallholder vulnerability, threats to development, and recommendations for climate risk management.

Climate change impacts are also contributing to the violence issues in Honduras, which ranks first worldwide for intentional homicides per capita (World Bank, 2015b). A comprehensive discussion of the violence issues in Honduras is beyond the scope of this paper; however, citizen security is a significant issue in the region, which is compounded by the fragility associated with the high risk of climate vulnerability (ECC, 2015). "The feedback loops between climate impacts on livelihoods, migration and state capacities are likely to exacerbate existing fragility and vulnerability risks in Honduras" (ECC, 2015, p. 3). The impacts of climate change on coffee production, high-value crops, and subsistence agricultural production is leading to greater urban migration and greater exposure of youth recruitment to gangs, criminal groups, narcotraffickers, and greater threats of violence and insecurity (ECC, 2015).

Food and Nutrition Insecurity

Food and nutrition insecurity in Honduras is divided into three levels: severe food insecurity, moderate-to-slight food insecurity, and food secure, as shown in Figure 2. Level I food secure includes those who generate employment opportunities and access to economic resources that can improve the situation for those at the bottom of the pyramid. This accounted for 2.5 million Hondurans in 2010, or 34 percent of the overall population.

FIGURE 2: DISTRIBUTION OF FOOD & NUTRITION INSECURITY IN HONDURAS



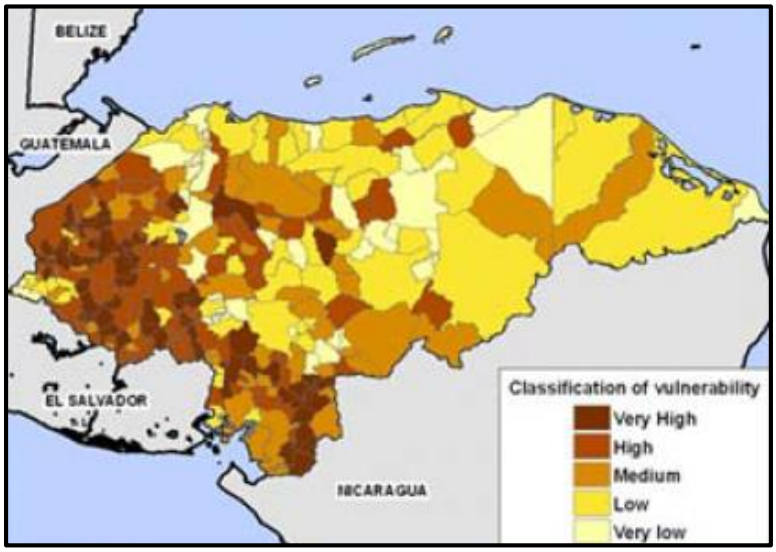
Source: UTSAN, 2010, p. 39

Level II includes both slight food insecurity and moderate food insecurity, which combined, affected 1.5 million Hondurans in 2010, or 15 percent of the overall population. Figure 3 shows the distribution of food insecurity by municipality in the year 2009.

Slight food insecurity refers to those with adequate access to food as well as other basic necessities and have a low or moderate possibility of becoming food insecure. Moderate food insecurity refers to those with adequate access to food resources with a moderate possibility of becoming food insecure, but lacking other necessary resources such as access to education and health services.

Level III refers to those who are severely food insecure, which

FIGURE 3: VULNERABILITY MAPPING OF FOOD INSECURITY IN HONDURAS BY MUNICIPALITY



Source: Famine Early Warning Systems Network (MFEWS), "Vulnerability Mapping of Food Insecurity in Central America," October 15, 2009. Reproduced from GOH, 2013

affected four million Hondurans in 2010, or 51 percent of the population. This is divided into three subsections. Severe food insecurity 1 refers to a lack of food, high malnutrition rates, and above average levels of depletion of livelihoods. Severe food insecurity 2 refers to a lack of access to food, high mortality and high malnutrition rates, and an irreversible loss of livelihood. Severe food insecurity 3 refers to a critical lack of foods, high mortality and high malnutrition rates, and critical loss of livelihood (UTSAN, 2010).

A 2010 report by the United Nations – High Level Task Force on the Global Food Security Crisis analyzed early warning signs that indicated an urgent food and nutrition security (FNS) issue in Honduras. This included (p. 3):

- Increasing violence around land tenure.
- Increasing violence around water access.
- Increasing rural poverty.
- Continuous drought in the southern part of the country.
- Rapid increase of the basic food basket cost.
- High gap between salaries and the basic food basket.
- Degradation of nutrition standards.

Government of Honduras's Food Security Multi-Year Strategy

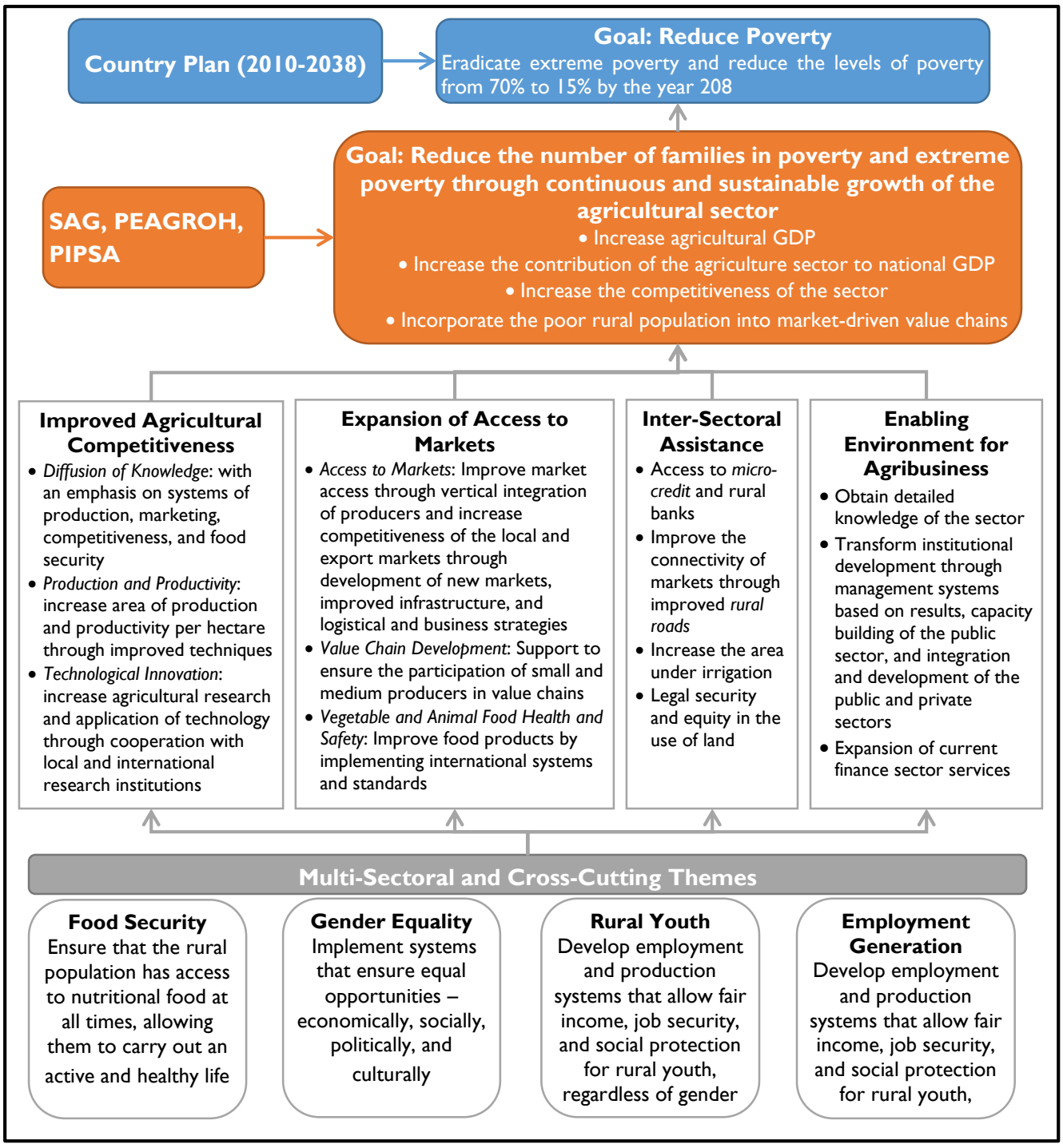
The GOH has four inter-related plans for addressing food security. Two are national-level plans that include the "Country Vision" and the "National Development Plan." The other two are implementation plans that include the "National Investment Plan for the Agri-food Sector (PIPSA), and the "National Food Security and Nutrition Strategy (ENSAN)."

PIPSA includes five programs to reduce poverty in the rural population including (GOH, 2011, p. 9):

- Competitiveness and grown in the agricultural sector
- Expansion of access to markets
- Inter-sectoral assistance (resources and productive infrastructure)
- Enabling environment for agribusinesses
- Multi-sectoral/cross-cutting areas: food security, gender, youth, and employment generation)

Figure 4 below shows the goals and objectives of PIPSA. PIPSA includes both nutrition objectives and gender objectives. PIPSA "recognizes that the participation of women in agriculture, under equal conditions, is necessary to increase production, reduce malnutrition, and reduce the level of poverty. This includes access to education, land, technology, finance, and markets and will require in a reduction in the social, economic, political, and cultural gaps that exist between genders…" (GOH, 2011, p. 46). PIPSA's goal is to assist women in employment generation, training for work on and off-farm, and assistance in developing micro-businesses, in the regions with the highest poverty level. The anticipation is that this will result in a 30 percent decrease in gender inequalities (GOH, 2011). Nutrition programs discussed in PIPSA include the 10,000 household "bono" cash transfer, the school lunch program (merienda escolar), and programs that will be developed by the Ministry of Health.

FIGURE 4: PIPSA GOALS AND OBJECTIVES, 2011-2014



Adapted from: GOH, 2011, p. 12, original in Spanish

The Government of Honduras's (GOH) Technical Unit for Food and Nutrition Security (UTSAN) developed the ENSAN national food security strategy spanning the years 2010-2022. This is a national-level strategy that incorporates the 28 year-long national "Country Vision." The 12-year strategy was

established to meet the goals and objectives of this vision, including strategic guidelines and progress indicators. This plan is intended to be revised and reformulated after the 12-year period (UTSAN, 2012).

ENSAN is structured with multiple layers of strategic points and general objectives (Figure 5). The complete set of objectives and sub-objectives is available in Appendix B: Pro-Women Laws and Policies Replicated From: *USAID, 2013, pp 14-15.*

Addressing Social and Political Participation:

- Creation of National Women´s Institute (INAM) Law (1999).
- Political parties and GOH agencies agree to have a thirty percent minimum quota of women in the list of political party's candidates (2000).
- Law for Equality of Opportunities for Women (2000).
- Law for Access to Land and Agriculture: Honduran Gender Equity Agro Policy (2000).
- Plan for Just Employment (2007).
- Policy of Gender Equality and Equity: II PIEGH: Honduras II Equality and Equity Gender Plan. National Women´s Policy 2010-2022.

Addressing Violence Against Women:

- Family Code (1984, 1989, 2002).
- Creation of the Special Prosecutor for Women (1994).
- Law Against Domestic Violence and subsequent Amendments (1997; 2005).
- Inclusion of sexual violence crimes to the Penal Code Reform (1997).
- Inclusion of mental health and domestic violence reforms to the National Sexual and Reproductive Health Policy (1999).
- Creation of the Court Specialized on Domestic Violence (2000).
- Reforms to the Penal Code, which includes crimes against women's freedom, and physical, psychological, and sexual integrity of persons (2005).
- Reforms to Domestic Violence Law (2006, 2013).

International Agreements:

- Convention on the Elimination of all Forms of Discrimination against Women (1980, 1982).
- International Population and Development Conference (1994).
- Inter-American Convention to Prevent, Sanction, and Eradicate Violence against Women, promoted by the Organization of American States (1995).

GOH Policies:

- Gender Equity Policy in the Honduran Agro (2000-2015).
- Gender Policy of Natural Resources and Environment (2000-2015).
- Mental Health Policy (2005).

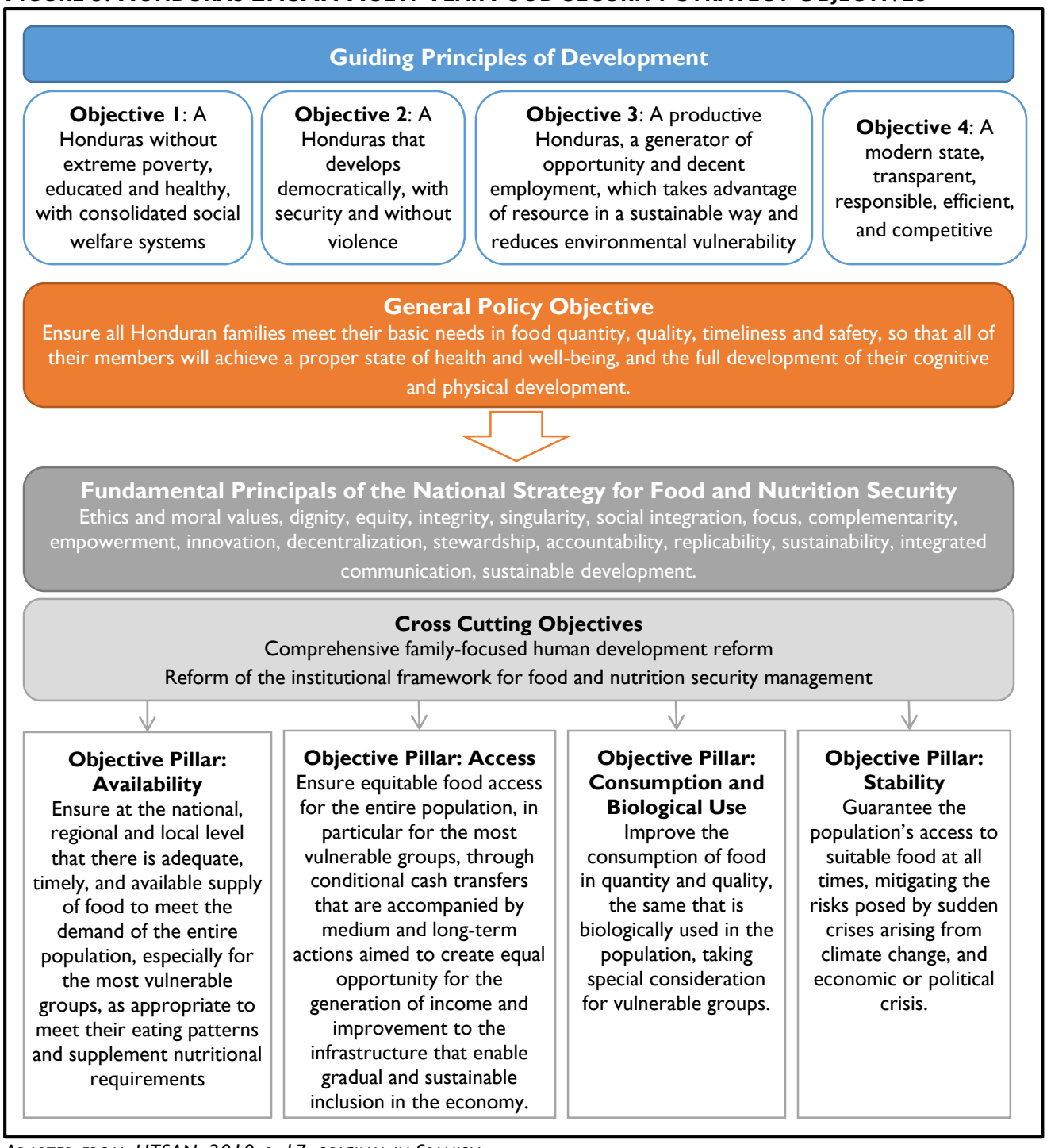
Appendix C: GOH Feed the Future Multi-Year Strategy Objectives. Two cross-cutting objectives and four "pillars" make up the GOH's ENSAN. The cross-cutting objectives include: (1) comprehensive family-focused human development reform; and (2) reform in the institutional framework for FNS management. The former focuses on citizen security, social inclusion, and on ethics, transparency, and monitoring of FNS activities. The latter focuses on the regulatory framework and institutions involved in FNS activities (UTSAN, 2010).

The four pillars of ENSAN's objectives reflect the pillars of food security. They are: (1) availability; (2) access; and (3) consumption and biological use, and (4) stability. The *availability* objectives focus on promoting value-added production in the agroforestry sector; improved means of community production such as through irrigation systems, food storage, food distribution and renewable energies; and mechanisms for providing credit and funding for small farmers. The *access to food* objectives focus on food storage, social assistance programs, improvements in production, education, workforce development programs, investment structures, and national plans for emergency food reserves. The *consumption and biological use* objectives focus on nutrition campaigns and education, the creation of a national 4-H system, supplemental food programs (such as the school lunch program called "merienda escolar"), and basic sanitation. This set of objectives also emphasizes local production and locally appropriate consumption patterns. The *stability* objectives focus on climate change mitigation, eco-stove programs and reforestation, and renewable energy (UTSAN, 2010).

The plan has a particular focus on vulnerable groups, which are classified as:

- Infants from birth to two years of age
- Girls and boys from 24 months until five years of age
- Adolescents
- At-risk populations
- Pregnant and lactating women
- Women of reproductive age
- Persons with disabilities
- The elderly
- Ethnic minority groups

FIGURE 5: HONDURAS ENSAN MULTI-YEAR FOOD SECURITY STRATEGY OBJECTIVES



ADAPTED FROM: UTSAN, 2010, P. 17, ORIGINAL IN SPANISH

USAID-Honduras Country Development Cooperation Strategy

The two major development objectives (DOs) of the USAID Country Development Cooperation Strategy (CDCS) for Honduras (2015-2019) are (DO1) citizen security and (DO2) sustainable poverty reduction for vulnerable populations in Western Honduras. This report will focus the latter

development objective (Figure 6). The CDCS strategy focuses on six departments in Western Honduras, where poor social and economic conditions are significant. This coincides with the Feed the Future zone of influence, which includes the departments of La Paz, Intibucá, Lempira, Ocotepeque, Copan, and Santa Barbara in Western Honduras (USAID, 2011). "This population is particularly vulnerable to shocks and repeating the cycle of poverty. To the extent possible, USAID will focus on sub-groups of the extreme poor, women and youth in particular, to avoid further marginalization of these vulnerable groups and to maximize development results" (USAID, 2015d, p. 25). Target communities will be decided in collaboration and cooperation with municipalities based on poverty levels, stunting rates, literacy, economic potential, and local leadership capacity (USAID, 2015d, p. 25).

Figure 6: USAID-Honduras Development Objective 2

DO2: Extreme poverty sustainably reduced for vulnerable populations in Western Honduras	
IR 2.1: Resilience of livelihoods increased	Sub-IR 2.1.1: Natural resource management and biodiversity protection improved
	Sub-IR 2.1.2: Adaptation of poor household to climate risks increased
IR 2.2: Incomes Increased	Sub-IR 2.2.1: Agricultural productivity improved
	Sub-IR 2.2.2: Market demand and access increased
IR 2.3: Human capital improved, with a focus on children	Sub-IR 2.3.1: Basic education and nutrition service delivery improved
	Sub-IR 2.3.2: Local service management systems improved

Reproduced from: USAID, 2015d, p. 24

Key Indicators for the Intermediate Results (IRs) and illustrative activities are listed in Appendix C: USAID-Honduras CDCS Key Indicators and Illustrative Activities. IR 2.1 focuses on natural resource management and climate change adaptation as Western Honduras is highly dependent upon natural resources and is at a high risk of climate change and severe weather impacts (USAID, 2015d). The focus of this strategy will be on the conservation and protection of the high-altitude cloud forests and the dry forest ecosystems in Western Honduras. There is also a heavy focus on reforestation of recharge zones, water management, water harvesting, and irrigation. The gender component focuses on the "awareness of the differences in knowledge, management and natural resource needs of men and women within a community will ensure that women and children are not disproportionately disadvantaged by conservation efforts" (USAID, 2015d, p. 32).

USAID's development hypothesis for IR 2.2 is that "if agricultural productivity is improved (Sub-IR 2.2.1) and market demand and access are increased (Sub-IR 2.2.2), then individuals and families will have greater incomes, reducing poverty levels of the poorest populations in the western Highlands" (USAID, 2015d, p. 35). There is a specific emphasis on single female-headed households and increasing overall female empowerment, as women in Western Honduras have a higher prevalence of poverty (64% of female-headed-households compared to 58.5 of male-headed-households) and a higher prevalence of extreme poverty (17.6% of female-headed-households compared to 9.2% of male-headed-households) (USAID, 2015d). Within this IR, gender considerations will include increasing access to and control over productive resources, economic decisions, and control over income, with the anticipation that this will

result in greater income spent on food, health and nutrition. In addition, USAID will focus on strengthening farmer groups and cooperatives that focus on value-added production, particularly those led by women (USAID, 2015d). Specific strategies for IR 2.2 include (USAID, 2015d):

- Technology adoption to increase yield, diversify crops, and increase incomes.
- Technical assistance for best agricultural practices and climate change adaptation.
- Connections between public and private institutions, producer groups and markets, and domestic, and international markets.
- Job creation for those with limited farm assets or inability to work full time.

IR 2.3 focuses on improving human capital, particularly for children. One such strategy is a focus on educational needs "resulting from poverty, undernutrition, violence in the home, and other special circumstances in the region" (USAID, 2015d, p. 40). Educational interventions will include (USAID, 2015d, p. 43):

- Improving reading outcomes at the primary level.
- Standards-based reform (continuation of past programs).
- Development of curricular materials and teacher professional development.
- Educational performance monitoring.
- Improving access to grades 7-9.
- Curriculum to address gender and violence issues.
- School infrastructure.

IR 2.3 will also focus on improving nutrition through an integrated approach that involves both men and women. Nutrition interventions will include (USAID, 2015d, pp. 43-44):

- Training for child care and sanitary household conditions for both male and female caregivers.
- Improved prenatal care, institutional delivery, postnatal care, and education for breastfeeding.
- Household improvements such as cementing floors, improved cook stoves, access to drinking water and latrines.

Feed the Future and other US Government Sponsored Programs

The 2014 Feed the Future Progress Report states that more than 1.7 million Hondurans live below the national poverty line, 20 percent of whom are living below the $1.25 severe poverty line. As of 2013, a major Feed the Future has been crop diversification for the market and securing maize and bean production for the household. This has resulted in a drop in food staples to 21 percent below the baseline and an increase of high-value crops of 80 percent above the baseline. This has resulted in a 125 percent increase in net income from high-value crops in target households (Feed the Future, 2014, p. 17).

Another major initiative has been coffee production, which has suffered from falling world prices (30% decrease) and coffee leaf rust (la roya) which has cut yields by 30 percent (Feed the Future, 2014; Office of Inspector General, 2015). "As a result, coffee sales in the zone of influence fell below the baseline by about 21 percent, and coffee quality and on-farm employment decreased" (Feed the Future, 2014, p. 17). These issues are compounded by the extreme sensitivity to climate variability and severe weather

events in this region. However, the Feed the Future initiative has made progress with 24,000 people (4,300 families) moving above the $1.25 poverty line between 2012-2013 (Feed the Future, 2014).

Du, et al.'s (2015) landscape analysis pointed to recommendations for Feed the Future programs that are common across Feed the Future activities:

- Design and modify interventions and indicators based on context assessment, particularly constraints faced by women and critical design and implementation decisions.
- Empower women by building a supportive family and social environment, particularly women's involvement in more profitable value chain activities, campaigns to change normative views of women, and improving women's decision-making power.
- Target social and behavior change activities along all agriculture-nutrition pathways.
- Focus on opportunities for nutrition throughout the value chains such as value chain crops for nutritional deficiencies, harvesting techniques and postharvest processes.
- Document incremental results to build the evidence base.

Multiple Feed the Future projects are working Honduras. In addition to USAID funds, the Global Agriculture and Food Security Program (GAFSP) has contributed 30 million dollars in funds, and USAID, the Government of Brazil and the Government of Honduras have entered into a Trilateral Cooperation that leverages funds and experience from Brazil (in addition to USAID) in moving populations out of poverty (Feed the Future, 2014). USAID and other US government-funded agriculture programs include:

- ACCESO and MERCADO (follow-up to ACCESO)
- Innovation Labs
- The Dry Corridor Alliance
- The Regional Trade and Market Alliances (RTMA)
- The Regional Food Security Policy Effectiveness and Sustainable Agriculture Program (RUTA)
- The Trilateral Cooperation
- CGIAR-CCAFS gender equity and low-emission agriculture programs
- USDA-FAS's Food for Progress and Food for Education programs

Each is discussed in detail in Appendix D: Feed the Future and other US Government Sponsored Programs Goals and Objectives, including project duration, areas of assistance, goals and objectives, activities and progress, challenges to implementation and key contacts.

Many of the Feed the Future and other USG-funded programs currently operating in Honduras focus on improving agricultural productivity. The routes for increasing productivity include training and technical assistance such as improving production, postharvest processes, and agricultural management. Examples of programs are ACCESO and their follow-on program MERCADO, the Dry Corridor Alliances, the Trilateral Cooperation, the USDA-FAS Food for Progress program, RTMA, and the CGIAR-CCAFS program. Only the Dry Corridor Alliance and CGIAR-CCAFS make gender explicit in their program goals and objectives (CGIAR, 2015; Fintrac, 2015; 2015b; GOH, 2013; USAID, 2014; 2015a). This latter program ran a pilot study in Honduras where "women farmers [got] access to small plots of land to plant with disease-resistant coffee and tree crops. The land and seedlings [were] paired with fuel-efficient cookstoves" (CGIAR, 2015, p. 1). Several of these programs emphasize the connection between

poverty, income generation, and improved agricultural practices by focusing on reducing poverty through increasing household income – both on- and off-farm. RUTA takes a slightly different approach by focusing on policy and working between and among regional and multilateral organizations to formulate and analyze food and nutritional strategies (RUTA, 2013).

A focus on improving trade, access to markets and the agricultural value chain is also evident in several projects including GAFSP, RTMA, RUTA, the Trilateral Cooperation, the Dry Corridor Alliance, and USDA-FAS. The Trilateral Cooperation also focuses on value-added products, particularly in the dry corridor (Feed the Future secondary zone of influence) including training for agricultural institutions, capacity development for farmers on sesame, cashew, and honey, and production and marketing of these products.

The Feed the Future Innovation Labs take a different approach by leveraging programs from research and development institutions and those of higher education, such as Zamorano University in Honduras, to research agricultural issues that are relevant to the region such as higher yielding beans and crop resistance to coffee rust and drought. These programs also promote adoption of technology through training programs, working with NGOs and governmental institutions, and promotion of sustainable agriculture for small and medium farms. At least one of these programs also has an explicit objective to focus on small and medium farms that are managed by women (CEDEH-FIAH, 2013; Diaz & Neinhuis, 2014; HortCRSP, NDa; NDb; MSU, 2015a; 2015b).

Few projects make a distinct connection in their goals and objectives to the link between agriculture and nutrition; the few that do include a link are ACCESO, GAFSP, and the Trilateral Cooperation (CGIAR, 2015; GOH, 2013; USAID, 2014; 2015a). GAFSP makes the most direct connection, with objectives and activities that focus on improving agricultural practices for food diversity, food quality and nutrition-related behaviors. However, it does not have any tightly related gender objectives (GOH, 2013). The USDA-FAS McGovern-Dole Food for Education program aids the GOH with the school lunch program, as does USAID. The Dry Corridor Alliance and MERCADO have specific nutrition objectives, including improving sanitation and hygiene, maternal and child health services, and a focus on reducing undernutrition in children five years and younger. As briefly discussed above, few programs have explicit gender-based goals and objectives, though several have activities that focus on working with women. Notably, the Trilateral Cooperation and the CGIAR-CCAFS have focused (as part of their strategy) on women and improving home cookstoves (GOH, 2013; Programa Trilateral, 2014).

A study by Du, Pinga, Klein, and Danton (2015) found that Feed the Future multi-year strategies (in 19 countries) have adopted one of three explicit or implicit agriculture-nutrition pathway approaches for leveraging agriculture for nutrition. These are:

1. Production → Consumption → Nutrition
2. Income → Food and health purchase → Nutrition
3. Women's empowerment (Workload → Energy use → Maternal nutrition; Time use → Care capacity → Child nutrition)

The production-consumption-nutrition pathway approach assumes that improved small-scale and home-based production will lead to gains in household nutritional outcomes (Du et. al, 2015). "Activities promoting the production of staple crop value chains assumed the commodity would contribute to households' well-being through both home consumption and sale to generate income" (Du et al., 2015, p. 22). The income-food and health purchase-nutrition pathway focuses on income generating projects that are both on- and off-farm, with the assumption that economic gain will lead to nutrition-related purchases. The women's empowerment approach focuses on two different pathways, both of which assume empowering women will result in greater nutrition for children. However, Du et al. (2015) state that the activity design documents for USAID Feed the Future projects did not always adequately implement these strategies, in particular, the reduction of women's drudgery through labor-saving technologies, and strengthening women's control of income.

AES Institutional Framework

Extension and advisory systems (EAS) documentation contains limited discussion of nutrition and gender, as activity and implementation strategies are the responsibility of the implementing organization. The Honduran health care system does promote nutrition extension through their extension efforts, though this is not directly connected to agriculture and gender, other than a focus on women for improving nutrition.

EAS are publicly funded and privately delivered in Honduras. The move to decentralization began in 1982 with restrictions on public spending, freezing of wages and a reduction in the national deficit. This impacted the agricultural sector beginning in 1991 when Honduras enacted the "law for modernization and the development of the Agricultural Sector." With this law began the Dirección de Ciencia y Tecnología Agropecuaria (DICTA – Office of Science and Agricultural Technology) under the auspices of SAG, that reorganized EAS to a model of competitive production and privately managed technical services (GWI, 2014).

An example of one of these EAS organizations is Fondo para Productores de Ladera (FPPL, Fund for Hillside Producers) which works with producers in the departments of Yoro, Olancho, and Francisco Morazán (Hanson, Just, & Lainez, 2006). "The FPPL contracts with private extension companies, which are local, to provide agricultural extension programs to farmers. A typical project includes eight villages with approximately 20 to 25 families per village. The extension company must hire at least one agricultural technician for every four villages, which are then visited once per week" (Hanson, Just, & Lainez, 2006, p. 18). An evaluation of the FPPL program found that this model has been successful in this region in increasing access to EAS services and increasing agricultural productivity (Hanson, Just, & Lainez, 2006). However, according to the 2007-2008 National Agricultural Survey, only 16.5 percent of agriculturalists have received EAS, most of which were provided by NGOs. Only 3.5 percent of these services were provided directly by the government (GWI, 2014). According to the Global Water Initiative's report on extension in Honduras, this is in contrast with numbers presented by DICTA, which annually reports assistance to 160,000 producers through a staff of 120 extensionists (p. 48).

Organizations that provide publicly funded and privately managed EAS include (GWI, 2014):

- Zamorano University which trains students in extension and maintains 25 extension agents

- Fundación Hondureña de Investigación Agrícola (FHIA – The Honduran Foundation for Agricultural Research), originally formed by banana companies
- Sistema de Investigación y Transferencia de Tecnología Agrícola Nacional (SNITTA - system of research and transfer of national agricultural technology)
- Consejo Nacional de Ciencia y Tecnología (CONACTA - National Council of Science and Technology)
- El Fondo para el Desarrollo de la Investigación y Transferencia de Tecnología Agropecuaria (FONACTA – The Fund for the Development of the Research and Transfer of Agricultural Technology)
- Programa de Apoyo al Pequeño Productor (PAPP – Program of Aid for Small Producers)
- Instituto Hondureño del Café (IHCAFE – Honduran Institute of Coffee)
- Palmas Aceiteras de Honduras (HONDUPALMA – Palm Oil of Honduras)
- Palmas Aceiteras de Honduras - Empresa Cooperativa Agroindustrial de la Reforma Agraria (HONDUPALMA ECARA – Palm Oil of Honduras: Agro-Industrial Business Cooperative for Agrarian Reform)

INGENAES Scoping Study

From January 31, 2016- February 12, 2016 a team of delegates from the cooperating INGENAES institutions of University of California, University of Illinois, and University of Florida conducted a scoping trip to Honduras. The purpose of this trip was to meet with potential collaborators and USAID mission staff regarding plan of work, regional focus and key activities for INGENAES research, training and capacity development in the Feed the Future target areas of Western Honduras. The team met with several USAID-funded programs as well as governmental and non-governmental organizations, for profit institutions, and academic institutions listed below:

- **Academic Institutions**
  - UNAH-CUROC (Centro Universitario Regional del Occidente)
  - Zamorano Pan-American Agricultural Institute
- **For-Profit Institutions**
  - Beneficios Santa Rosa/Honduran Quality Coffee
  - Camosa Camiones, retailer and maintenance supplier of construction and agricultural machinery
  - DICONSA
  - DISAGRO
- **Governmental Organizations**
  - ALDESAR (Agencia de Desarrollo Económico Local)
  - Clínica de Salud Lepaera
  - DICTA
  - INFOP (Instituto Nacional de Formación Profesional)
  - Mancomunidad: Man Sur Copan
  - Mancomunidad: MANCORSARIC
  - Plan Honduras
  - SAG

- **Non-Governmental Organizations**
  - CARITAS Coffee Farmers Group
  - Consejo de Mujeres
  - FAO-PESA (Programa Especial para la Seguridad Alimentaria)
  - Groundswell International
  - Heifer International
  - Lutheran World Relief Program
  - OCDIH (Organismo Cristiano de Desarrollo Integral de Honduras)
  - OXFAM
  - PILARH (Proyectos e Iniciativas Locales para el Autodesarrollo Regional de Honduras)
  - Women's Office in Cabanas
  - World Vision
- **USAID-Funded Projects and Implementing Partners**
  - ACCESO/MERCADO and Fintrac
  - Trilateral Cooperation
  - USAID Feed the Future Staff

Recommended Next Steps and Activities

As briefly discussed in the Introduction, the INGENAES activities are divided into four over-arching action areas:

1. **Institutional Capacity Building**: Build more robust, gender-responsive, and nutrition-sensitive institutions, projects, and programs capable of assessing and responding to the needs of both men and women farmers through extension advisory services (EAS).
2. **Capacity Building for Women Farmers**: Identify and scale up proven mechanisms for delivering improved EAS to women farmers.
3. **Dissemination of Innovations for Women Farmers**: Disseminate technologies that improve women's agricultural productivity and increase household nutrition.
4. **Engaging Men and Women**: Apply effective, nutrition sensitive, extension approaches and tools for engaging both men and women.

This section will address recommended next steps and activities based on the results of the scoping study within the context of these action areas.

Institutional Capacity Building

The academic institutions who participated in the scoping both have a need for improved institutional capacity building. Zamorano has the goal to integrate social curriculum into their EAS programming. CUROC has requested training on integrating nutrition and gender into EAS for both students and faculty. Additionally, CUROC is interested in forming research partnerships with US students and CUROC research teams. At the primary and secondary level, the mancomunidad for Man Sur Copan and the NGO CARITAS have expressed a need for increased nutrition education in schools as well as expanding the school-based curriculum on nutrition and agriculture. A related need by the NGO World Vision is a technology assessment of picture books on health issues and if such an initiative can be scaled up. Potential partnerships with academic institutions include Zamorano, the Zamorano Horticulture

Regional Center, CUROC, regional mancomunidades, and World Vision. Another potential partner is ALDESAR who has a food security module that may be modified for INGENAES use.

Both the governmental agency DICTA and the NGO Oxfam expressed a need for information sharing among key agencies in understanding the needs and perceptions of indigenous communities, including effective ways of meeting community needs. Capacity building for EAS was expressed multiple agencies who have a need for integrating nutrition and gender into the agricultural extension and organizational practices, including SAG, INFOP, Clinica de Salud Lepaera (who also suggested PROMESAN), OCDIH, and the USAID Feed the Future staff.

USAID Feed the Future staff emphasized their need for a package of best practices for extension facilitators, including a training manual on how to address gender issues in the field. They also expressed interest in learning more about nutrition and gender impact pathways including how gender equity can improve household nutrition and how gender integration can benefit other USAID targets sustainably.

Capacity Building for Women Farmers

Many governmental organizations have expressed a need for capacity building of women farmers on various topics related to gender, nutrition, and agriculture. MANCORSARIC has a need for regionally appropriate and simple materials on maternal and infant health as well as sexual education for young women at high risk of pregnancy. Man Sur Copan has a need for nutrition education for parents and students and education in school gardens. Man Sur Copan also identified a lack of access to agricultural information and a need for agricultural training for women. Similarly, both Man Sur Copan and Beneficios Santa Rosa expressed a need to improve and increase adding value to products beyond bread making. The latter organization wants to expand training on farm diversification for women's coffee growing groups.

Potential collaborators included the mancomunidades (including MANCORSARIC and Man Sur Copan), and Beneficios Santa Rosa. Beneficios Santa Rosa could also serve as a model of integrating women into all levels of leadership across the value chain and taking a gender-transformative approach to agricultural extension.

Dissemination of Innovations for Women Farmers

The meeting with the for-profit institution Camosa Camiones prompted the team to look for manufacturers of small-scale equipment that is more appropriate for smallholders. An engineer for the Trilateral Cooperative demonstrated some smaller equipment he had designed with recycled materials for a lower cost. There are possibilities to collaborate with this engineer to make this technology available and provide training on how to use and maintain it. Similarly, DISAGRO has conducted research in building tools and materials, which after implementation could lead to short-term positive nutrition and health outcomes among women farmers in Lempira, Honduras. A potential partnership exists in working with DISAGRO to scale this initiative up.

Engaging Men and Women

Engaging men in nutrition was a theme expressed by multiple organizations including the governmental agencies of Man Sur Copan, MANCORSARIC, SAG, and the Clinica de Salud Lepaera, and the NGOs of PILAHR, OCDIH, World Vision, and USAID Feed the Future Staff. The primary interest is in training for men on gender and nutrition and changing men's attitudes about participating in what is considered "traditionally female" work. Similarly. They also expressed a need to increase women's participation in community meetings and in leadership roles – an issue also expressed by CARITAS.

The Women's Office in Cabanas expressed a need for research on gender-based violence (GBV), and if formal reporting mechanisms are appropriate to address the GBV problem. Based on these findings, there could be an opportunity to write up this model as a case study or facilitate an exchange between the gender specialist and other people in her same position in other municipalities to share lessons learned and best practices for reporting violent crimes. DICTA, MANCORSARIC, ACCESO/MERCADO, and the Dry Corridor Alliance all expressed interest in incorporating GBV training in the integration of nutrition at the family level (including males). PILAHR expressed interest in exploring masculinities and the relationship between behavior change and gender sensitivity.

Conclusions

With the significant dependence on agriculture in Honduras for livelihoods, the agriculture-nutrition-gender nexus will be integral to improving food security in the region. The documentation on Honduras's strategies for agriculture, EAS, nutrition, and gender has some overlap, but little direct connection amongst all factors. For example, the GOH's food security plan connects food security with agriculture and nutrition, but makes little reference to gender. Similarly, the health ministry makes connections between nutrition and gender, but little reference to agriculture. To add to the complexity, EAS in Honduras have been decentralized with funding coming from the government but with implementation and management falling on organizations. In addition, much of smallholder's access to EAS comes from NGOs, rather than government-funded services. Despite these issues, the GOH's nationwide strategies align with Feed the Future foci and initiatives.

There exist many opportunities for INGENAES to collaborate with institutions in Honduras that align with the four action areas of institutional capacity building, capacity building for women farmers, dissemination of innovations, and engaging men and women in gender, nutrition, and agriculture. Recommended future steps include forming research partnerships, collaboration on educational and training materials, training for EAS, improving access to agricultural information and services for women, exploring, piloting, and disseminating small-scale agricultural equipment – particularly for female farmers, and addressing gender roles and norms in order to integrate men into nutrition and to reduce gender-based violence.

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Appendix A: Development Indicators for Honduras

Table 3: Human Development Index (HDI) Indicators Relative to Selected Countries and Groups (2014)

	HDI value	HDI rank	Life expectancy at birth	Expected years of schooling	Mean years of schooling	GNI per capita (PPP US$)
Honduras	0.606	131	73.1	11.1	5.5	3,938
Nicaragua	0.631	125	74.9	11.5	6.0	4,457
El Salvador	0.666	116	73.0	12.3	6.5	7,349
Latin America and the Caribbean	0.748	—	75.0	14.0	8.2	14,242
Medium HDI Countries	0.630	—	68.6	11.8	6.2	6,353

Reproduced from: UNDP, 2015, p. 4

Table 4: Inequality-adjusted HDI (IHDI) Indicators Relative to Selected Countries and Groups (2014)

	IHDI value	Overall loss (%)	Human inequality coefficient (%)	Inequality in life expectancy at birth (%)	Inequality in education (%)	Inequality in income (%)
Honduras	0.412	32.1	30.7	17.0	26.4	48.6
Nicaragua	0.480	24.0	23.6	13.2	29.5	28.3
El Salvador	0.488	26.7	26.2	14.5	30.2	34.0
Latin America and the Caribbean	0.570	23.7	23.2	13.3	21.0	35.2
Medium HDI	0.468	25.8	25.5	21.9	34.7	19.8

Reproduced from: UNDP, 2015, p. 5

Table 5: Gender Development Index (GDI) Indicators Relative to Selected Countries and Groups (2014)

	Life expectancy at birth		Expected years of schooling		Mean years of schooling		GNI per capita		HDI values		F-M ratio
	Female	Male	Female	Male	Female	Male	Female	Male	Female	Male	GDI value
Honduras	75.7	70.7	11.6	10.6	5.5	5.4	2,365	5,508	0.583	0.618	0.944
Nicaragua	77.9	71.9	11.8	11.3	6.2	5.8	2,967	5,979	0.615	0.640	0.960
El Salvador	77.4	68.3	12.1	12.4	6.2	6.9	5,497	9,406	0.652	0.676	0.965
Latin America and the Caribbean	78.2	71.7	14.4	13.7	8.0	8.1	10,194	18,435	0.736	0.754	0.976
Medium HDI	70.6	66.8	11.5	11.8	4.9	7.3	3,333	9,257	0.574	0.667	0.861

Reproduced from: UNDP, 2015, p. 5

Table 6: GDI Indicators Relative to Selected Countries and Groups (2014)

	GII Value	GII Rank	Maternal mortality ratio	Adolescent birth rate	Female seats in parliament (%)	Population with some secondary education		Labor force participation	
						Female (%)	Male (%)	Female (%)	Male (%)
Honduras	0.480	106	120	84.0	25.8	28.0	25.8	42.8	82.9
Nicaragua	0.449	95	100	100.8	39.1	39.4	38.3	47.4	80.3
El Salvador	0.427	91	69	76.0	27.4	36.8	43.6	47.8	79.0
Latin America and the Caribbean	0.415	—	85	68.3	27.0	54.3	55.2	53.7	79.8
Medium HDI	0.506	—	168	43.4	18.8	34.8	55.3	37.5	79.8

Reproduced from: UNDP, 2015, p. 6

Table 7: OPHI's Multi-Dimensional Poverty Index for Honduras by Department (2012)

H: Incidence of poverty: the percentage of multi-dimensionally poor people or headcount ratio.
A: Intensity of poverty: the average number of deprivations poor people face at the same time.
Feed the Future Zone of Influence: highlighted in blue and bolded.
Feed the Future Secondary Zone of Influence: highlighted in light blue.

Region	MPI (HxA)	H (Incidence) k≥33.3%	A (Intensity)	Percentage of Population			Inequality Among the MPI Poor	Population Share
				Vulnerable to Poverty k=20%-33%	In Severe Poverty k≥ 50%	Destitute		
Honduras	0.072	15.8%	45.7%	21.0%	4.2%	2.3	0.112	100
Urban	0.022	5.2%	41.6%	11.7%	0.9%	-	-	48.1%
Rural	0.119	25.7%	46.5%	29.7%	7.2%	-	-	51.9%
Isla de la Bahía	0.017	4.5%	38.2%	9.9%	0.3%	0.4%	0.035	0.7%
Cortés	0.026	6.0%	42.5%	9.9%	1.2%	0.6%	0.077	17.5%
Francisco Morazán	0.031	6.9%	44.3%	13.6%	2.0%	1.1%	0.090	17.8%
Atlántida	0.045	10.1%	45.1%	16.4%	2.8%	1.4%	0.103	4.9%
Colón	0.058	13.4%	43.5%	19.9%	3.7%	1.3%	0.090	3.8%
Valle	0.068	15.7%	43.1%	28.0%	3.5%	1.7%	0.076	2.3%
Yoro	0.073	16.4%	44.6%	21.9%	4.3%	1.9%	0.095	7.5%
Santa Bárbara	0.076	16.9%	45.1%	27.1%	5.1%	2.4%	0.105	5.3%
Comayagua	0.077	16.7%	46.1%	25.2%	4.7%	2.9%	0.143	6.2%
Olancho	0.089	19.2%	46.5%	28.2%	6.9%	3.5%	0.105	6.1%
El Paraíso	0.095	20.9%	45.2%	32.9%	7.1%	3.6%	0.107	5.4%
La Paz	0.107	23.5%	45.6%	32.1%	7.6%	1.7%	0.114	2.7%
Choluteca	0.108	23.4%	46.0%	30.4%	7.3%	3.1%	0.113	5.5%
Ocotepeque	0.109	22.5%	48.2%	25.1%	8.5%	3.4%	0.132	2.0%
Gracias a Dios	0.124	29.5%	42.2%	35.9%	4.9%	2.2%	0.047	1.1%
Intibucá	0.139	29.9%	46.4%	30.4%	10.5%	4.9%	0.116	2.7%
Copán	0.161	33.2%	48.4%	23.8%	13.4%	5.4%	0.132	4.6%
Lempira	0.201	41.9%	48.0%	27.9%	16.0%	7.4%	0.129	4.1%

Reproduced from OPHI, 2015, p. 5

Appendix B: Pro-Women Laws and Policies

Replicated From: USAID, 2013, pp 14-15.

Addressing Social and Political Participation:

- Creation of National Women´s Institute (INAM) Law (1999).
- Political parties and GOH agencies agree to have a thirty percent minimum quota of women in the list of political party's candidates (2000).
- Law for Equality of Opportunities for Women (2000).
- Law for Access to Land and Agriculture: Honduran Gender Equity Agro Policy (2000).
- Plan for Just Employment (2007).
- Policy of Gender Equality and Equity: II PIEGH: Honduras II Equality and Equity Gender Plan. National Women´s Policy 2010-2022.

Addressing Violence Against Women:

- Family Code (1984, 1989, 2002).
- Creation of the Special Prosecutor for Women (1994).
- Law Against Domestic Violence and subsequent Amendments (1997; 2005).
- Inclusion of sexual violence crimes to the Penal Code Reform (1997).
- Inclusion of mental health and domestic violence reforms to the National Sexual and Reproductive Health Policy (1999).
- Creation of the Court Specialized on Domestic Violence (2000).
- Reforms to the Penal Code, which includes crimes against women's freedom, and physical, psychological, and sexual integrity of persons (2005).
- Reforms to Domestic Violence Law (2006, 2013).

International Agreements:

- Convention on the Elimination of all Forms of Discrimination against Women (1980, 1982).
- International Population and Development Conference (1994).
- Inter-American Convention to Prevent, Sanction, and Eradicate Violence against Women, promoted by the Organization of American States (1995).

GOH Policies:

- Gender Equity Policy in the Honduran Agro (2000-2015).
- Gender Policy of Natural Resources and Environment (2000-2015).
- Mental Health Policy (2005).

Appendix C: GOH Feed the Future Multi-Year Strategy Objectives

Translated (by report author) and adapted from: UTSAN, 2010, pp. 57-62

Cross-Cutting	General Objectives	Sub-Objectives
Comprehensive family-focused human development reform	1. Ensure the population has the opportunity to lead a dignified life, through the promotion of equitable human development integrated in a sustainable manner and in an environment of equity, peace, and justice.	1.1 Incorporate elements of ethics and moral values in all FNS actions. 1.2 Create a mass campaign for the recuperation of national identity and pride. 1.3 Incorporate social monitoring bodies in all FNS activities as a mechanism of generating transparency and citizen stewardship. 1.4 Incorporate economic, social, and environmental sustainability as a fundamental requirement of all FNS actions. 1.5 Incorporate into the formal primary and basic education systems a curriculum on violence in the family, the cycle of violence, the characteristics and symptoms of physical, psychological, and sexual abuse, victims' rights, and the public and private institutions where the population can find support. 1.6 Create national campaigns of conscientization as a mechanism for social inclusion of all members of the community, and especially the most vulnerable groups. 1.7 Create a national network of rehabilitation centers and centers for victims of family violence that train in the peaceful settlement of conflicts as a prerequisite for the eradication of violence.
Reform of the institutional framework for food and nutrition security management	2. Modernize the legislative FNS framework to promote the compliance and coordination of regional and international agreements with state FNS policies and complimentary laws, planning the use of resources from within the existing institutional framework under a system of monitoring, follow-up, and evaluation of the NSFNS that promotes the capabilities for development and social auditing.	2.1 Reform the legislative framework at the political-regulatory level. 2.2 Strengthen the role of the Inter-Agency Technical Committee on Food and Nutrition Security (COTISAN). 2.3 Strengthen the technical capabilities of UTSAN for planning and coordination. The Secretariat of the Presidency has a technical unit for food and nutrition security (UTSAN) which is the body that operationalizes, together with the assessment and management units of each secretariat, the guidelines and priorities from higher courts in the plans of operation and annual budgets related to the actions of FNS and impact indicators. 2.4 Strengthen the coordination of legal bodies. With the aim of creating greater impact on the implementation of this strategy and FNS policy, a legislative liaison office has been created within UTSAN. The link to the legislative committee on food and nutrition security of the National Congress allows a direct relationship with CNR which facilitations the coordination of new Bills and amendments to existing laws. 2.5 Strengthen the mechanisms for planning, execution, and operations regionally and locally. Incorporating the guidelines and priorities of FNS in municipal development plans and regional and sectorial planning processes.

Pillar	General Objectives	Sub-Objectives
Availability	3. Ensure at the national, regional and local level that there is adequate, timely, and available supply of food to meet the demand of the entire population, especially for the most vulnerable groups, as appropriate to meet their eating patterns and supplement nutritional requirements	3.1 Promote productivity, diversification, and value-added in the agroforestry sector, based on local and regional development plans determined according to land laws and implanting a model of long-term, integrated, sustainable development that generates a culture of participation, empowerment, equity, social integration, stewardship, social monitoring, and accountability in the population. 3.2 Improve access to means of community production with a special emphasis on small farmers such as: community systems of harvesting water, irrigation, food production, post-harvest storage, distribution, markets, alternative clean power generation, and training and transfer of technologies that are sustainable, efficient, replicable, simple, innovative, and low-cost. 3.3 Develop mechanisms of alternative agricultural credit or rural and local savings guarantees, community banks, contract agriculture, venture capital financing institutions, and banking premises with a special emphasis on small farmers.
Access	4. Ensure equitable food access for the entire population, in particular for the most vulnerable groups, through conditional cash transfers that are accompanied by medium and long-term actions aimed to create equal opportunity for the generation of income and improvement to the infrastructure that enable gradual and sustainable inclusion in the economy.	4.1 Create community-based food storage centers (particularly for grains) in communities that historically suffer food shortage by natural events (droughts and floods). 4.2 Increase, coordinate and supplement social assistance and CCT programs to meet the immediate needs of the most vulnerable groups through income generation programs. 4.3 Improve access to the means of production as a basis for the economic recovery of families and their communities, based on regional and local development plans. 4.4 Create public information services based on market orientation to guide the population on issues of professional, technical and occupational training, self-employment, supply of goods and services, business incubators, job portals, market intelligence, business support, access to credit for production, and programs for economic recovery and job creation. 4.5 Improve the quality of the formal education system as a cornerstone of the nation's development, adapting systems of evaluation of students and teachers to international standards, and creating programs of grants and scholarships for academic excellence. 4.6 Create a national network of centers for technical and business training for young entrepreneurs, single mothers, the disabled and the elderly, as a formal space for comprehensive training to strengthen their personal skills, develop competitive technical skills, and acquire productive jobs that provide sustainable incomes, and promote equal opportunities in social and economic participation. 4.7 Create rural and urban employment programs directed at the decentralization of community and public services such as: access and maintenance of tertiary roads, reforestation, maintenance of public buildings, etc. 4.8 Promote investment as a mechanism of generation of employment though aggressive incentive programs for the production of Honduran goods and services (eg. "Made in Honduras"). 4.9 Improve primary and secondary road infrastructure as a fundamental requirement to ensure access to food and markets. 4.10 Create an a program of investment in infrastructure aimed at opening markets for added value goods and services such as: storage, refrigerated transport, auctions, producers markets and craft fairs, dry warehouses, and cold storage.

		4.11 Maintain a permanent reserve of basic grains that allows a reduction in levels of speculation in the event of shortages and to assist in the event of a national emergency. This reserve should be administered by the Honduran Institute of Agricultural Marketing (IHMA) 4.12 Maintain the School Lunch program as a national social protection network, under the principles of social audit, community participation, local productivity, efficiency in spending, universal coverage for nutrition/protein, and respect for local culture. 4.13 Promote the integration of small farmers markets, strengthen the World Food Program's Purchase for Progress (P4P) program as a national strategy led by the State for the management of programs that provide technical assistance, training, equipment, inputs, system support, and institutional strengthening to small farmers, promoting their integration with the private sector and social programs financed by the State.
Consumption and Biological Use	5. Improve the consumption of food in quantity and quality, the same that is biologically used in the population, taking special consideration for vulnerable groups.	5.1 Incorporate nutrition campaigns into the formal education system and schools for parents including nutrition education, distribution of food in the home, food safety, and local consumption patterns with high nutritional value. 5.2 Create a national program of 4-H clubs as a means of training community leaders, mothers, and those involved in the handling of food on issues of selection, management, conservation, preparation, and distribution of food and nutrition in households. 5.3 Strengthen local food systems in order to teach people the importance of compliance with food safety regulations. 5.4 Supplement, coordinate, and strengthen supplemental feeding programs to generate synergies that allow the efficiency and sustainability of programs that offer services to the population. 5.5 Generate programs that identify and combat conditions that interfere with the proper biological use of food, in particular the access to safe drinking water, basic sanitation services, and adequate waste disposal systems.
Stability	6. Guarantee the populations access to suitable food at all times, mitigating the risks posed by sudden crises arising from climate change, and economic or political crisis.	6.1 Promote prevention, risk management, emergency care, recovery, and reconstruction post-disaster as a mechanism to reduce harm, hunger, and deaths related to natural disasters produced by climate change. 6.2 Create a civil works investment program to prevent the flooding of roads, harvest water in dry areas, and preserve the quality of soils in all regions of the country, as the foundation of climate vulnerability reduction. 6.3 Create programs to replace conventional wood-burning stoves for eco-stoves and plant forests for firewood, giving priority to the protection of areas at climatic risk (droughts and floods), slopes, and watersheds. 6.4 Promote the implementation of sustainable and environmentally friendly agriculture and livestock practices as a means to reduce the damage caused by shifting cultivation, deforestation of hillsides, and livestock expansion. 6.5 Create a program for ecological restoration and production of forest resources that promotes the generation of rural employment in the field of environmental services. 6.6 In all projects, promote the inclusion of clean development mechanisms (CDM), carbon credits, energy efficiency, alternative sources of clean energy, and environmental conservation. 6.7 Facilitate mechanisms with international donors for outsourcing food for emergency stocks in cases of emergency caused by natural disasters, in order to maintain an adequate stock of food and non-food resources.

Appendix C: USAID-Honduras CDCS Key Indicators and Illustrative Activities

The following table is constructed from the USAID-Honduras Country Development Cooperation Strategy 2015-2019.

DO2: Extreme poverty sustainably reduced for vulnerable populations in Western Honduras Key Indicators:

1. Number of households with income from three or more sources.
2. Number of households with increased income from market-based conservation.
3. Number of hectares of biological significance and/or natural resources under improved natural resource management practices.
4. Number of households with improved renewable or clean energy due to USG assistance.

IR	Sub-IR	Key Indicators	Illustrative Activities
IR 2.1: Resilience of livelihoods increased	Sub-IR 2.1.1: Natural resource management and biodiversity	2.1.1-1. Number of payment mechanisms for environmental services being implemented as a result of USG assistance. 2.1.1-2. New net sales of participating rural micro, small, and medium sized enterprises. 2.1.1-3. Number of hectares in critical habitats reforested with trees of native species 2.1.1-4. Area protected for natural regeneration.	• Develop programs to sustainably increase the profitability of agroforestry, organic production, value chains and certification of coffee cultivation, with careful expansion of the production area. • Develop forest protection and restoration programs that take advantage of the high capacity of forest for natural regeneration, in areas that have already been harvested or degraded. • Promote sustainable water management at the municipal and community levels. • Improve protection and management of areas capable of sustaining and enhancing biodiversity and sustainably supplying ecological services (i.e., water and renewable energy) important to increasing rural incomes. • Strengthen value chains that facilitates biodiversity conservation (agroforestry promotion, coffee planting with shade trees, and small-scale tourism linked to protected areas), yielding higher incomes for households and micro, small, and medium enterprises (MSMEs).
	Sub-IR 2.1.2: Adaptation of poor household to climate risks increased	2.1.2-1. Number of municipalities and communities with increased resilience and capacity to prepare for and respond to climate change impacts. 2.1.2-2. Number of people with a crop insurance policy as a result of USG assistance.	• Improve access to climate change and ecosystem monitoring data for use in adaptation and mitigation strategies. • Installation of new climatologic stations which form part of the national weather service network, with linkages to risk insurance policies • Facilitate a market for crop insurance products that are within the reach of poor farmers

IR	Sub-IR	Key Indicators	Illustrative Activities
		2.1.2-3. Number of households and beneficiaries with improved access to water for irrigation. 2.1.2-4. Value of income from off-farm sources.	• Improve protection and management of water catchments, water distribution systems, and installation of farm-level irrigation systems. • Promote micro and small hydro projects in extremely poor off-grid communities. • Diversify household incomes for the poor through off-farm and microenterprise activities. • Adapt infrastructure maintenance works needed to avert or minimize flooding of roads and the weakening of bridge foundations. • Use innovative engineering tools to produce risk maps of vulnerable infrastructure and a cost effective plan for infrastructure strengthening. • Involve affected communities in maintenance and preservation activities to minimize the risks and related damages from more intense and longer duration of storms. • Protect and recuperate forest cover.
IR 2.2: Incomes Increased	Sub-IR 2.2.1: Agricultural productivity improved	2.2.1-1. Gross profit margin per unit of land 2.2.1-2. Number of farmers and others who have applied new technologies or management practices 2.2.1-3. Value of investment from retained earnings and financial services 2.2.1-4. Number of women participation in agricultural activities 2.2.1-5. Net household assets 2.2.1-6. Number of beneficiaries using improved technologies for processing agricultural products.	• Provide training in good agricultural practices and crop-specific technical assistance based on market quality requirements. • Transfer higher yielding technologies so as to improve productivity and introduce high-value horticultural crops. • Enable access to water management technologies that increase production and resilience. • Promote adequate post-harvest management and crop storage. • Support the use of improved solar dryers and other energy efficient technologies that bring greater value to the farm.
	Sub-IR 2.2.2: Market demand and access increased	2.2.2-1. Value of incremental sales (collected at the farm level) attributed to Feed the Future implementation. 2.2.2-2. Number of households accessing new markets.	• Facilitate market linkages by encouraging farmer groupings focused around market opportunities and business services that require scale. • Develop long-term business alliances for stronger farmer groups and assist brokers with a long-term vision. • Increase employment opportunities for the poor in new or expanded private

IR	Sub-IR	Key Indicators	Illustrative Activities
		2.2.2-3. Number of jobs attributed to Feed the Future implementation. 2.2.2-4. Number and value of public private alliances established. 2.2.2-5. Number of farmers and other MSMEs) that have entered formal. preferred supplier or contract agreements with brokers 2.2.2-6. Number of kilometers of paved/graded road in targeted departments [GOH funded].	sector business ventures and MSMEs. • Engage municipalities in local economic development planning. • Bring financial services to the poor by promoting financing through non-traditional lenders, and stimulating a market for mobile money transactions.
IR 2.3: Human capital improved, with a focus on children	Sub-IR 2.3.1: Basic education and nutrition service delivery improved	2.3.1-1. Percent of sixth grade students who are able to read at grade level. 2.3.1-2. Percentage of consumers reporting improvement in service delivery. 2.3.1-3. Number of underweight children under five. 2.3.1-4. Proportion of select local-level institutions that improved service provision with USG assistance.	• Train and provide technical assistance to improve coordination and oversight of education provision by local organizations. • Monitor teachers in implementation of best management practices promoted in trainings. • Collect data and analyze special educational considerations for vulnerable populations and propose and provide technical assistance to decrease inequalities for those populations. • Improve the quality of tools and techniques for teaching early grade reading, and build the capacity of teachers to utilize them to increase impact. • Collect, monitor, and evaluate education quality improvements at the local level so that vital trends are taken into account. • Improve awareness and change behaviors to foster improved health and hygiene practices. • Promote sanitary homes and improve community and household sanitation. • Improve access to potable water. • Promote the use of cook-stoves and solar energy systems in nutrition education centers. • Improve household floors with low-cost technologies. • Strengthen referral and counter referral systems and the implementation of counseling and follow-up of undernourished children.

IR	Sub-IR	Key Indicators	Illustrative Activities
			• Promote coordination between community growth monitors and health units to provide a comprehensive approach to families with children with malnutrition.
	Sub-IR 2.3.2: Local service management systems improved	2.3.2-1. Number of municipalities implementing basic good management practices. 2.3.2-2. Number of municipalities with service quality monitoring systems in use and understood by the local population. 2.3.2-3. Number of mechanisms for public dialogue established. 2.3.2-4. Number and percentage of women participating in decision-making processes at the municipal level. 2.3.2-5. Number of public-private partnerships between local businesses and municipalities. 2.3.2-6. Number of municipalities with strategic plans developed and implemented with participation of civil society.	• Train and provide technical assistance to improve local management processes to ensure decentralized service delivery according to the national decentralization policy • Provide technical support to assist municipalities to develop, implement, and monitor strategic plans, for key sectors, including education, agriculture, environment, and health. • Provide technical support to assist municipalities to invest their budgets strategically. • Targeted technical assistance to facilitate dialogue and collaboration between service-delivery institutions and citizen organizations. • Support citizen oversight mechanisms established or enhanced to ensure quality service delivery. • Provide appropriate service monitoring tools to local populations to help them understand and influence decision making. • Identify vulnerable infrastructure that needs strengthening. • Promote private sector engagement in private-public alliances that promote common objectives. • Provide technical assistance to local education commissions, water boards and other local organizations (e.g., patronatos) to monitor education, health and water and sanitation activities (i.e., 200 days of school, teachers in the classrooms, quality of pre-natal care provided, etc. • Provide technical assistance to increase own-source revenue accompanied with an awareness campaign on the importance of paying taxes and the linkage between paying taxes and demanding better public services. • Incentivize local government use of skills acquired through USAID programming. • Training on human resource management, management of financial resources and strategies to obtain funding from government agencies and/or donors. • Provide technical assistance to increasing municipal own-source income.

Appendix D: Feed the Future and other US Government Sponsored Programs Goals and Objectives

ACCESO (USAID)

Project Duration: April 2011 to August 2015

Areas of Assistance: Copán, Santa Bárbara, Ocotepeque, Intibucá, La Paz, Lempira

Goals and Objectives	**Impact:** 1. Bring 30,000 rural households living below the poverty line above the poverty threshold, of which a minimum of 18,000 will be from households living in extreme poverty. 2. Generate $73.95 million in net profits for the client households assisted by the project. 3. Create 10,425 permanent jobs in the assisted communities. 4. Assist at least 31,800 client households in these six departments, distributed as follows: 30,000 households living in poverty of which a minimum of 18,000 households that are living in extreme poverty, 1,000 commercial scale producers of horticultural crops, and 800 off-farm rural MSMEs. **Key Interventions:** • Technical assistance and training to enhance the capacity of Honduras' poorest households in production, postharvest, management, and marketing skills. • Market access focus, linking farmers to market opportunities. • Rural financial services through existing rural financial intermediaries, village banks, commercial banks, and other service and input providers. • Assistance in eliminating policy barriers that impede rural household access to market opportunities. • Malnutrition prevention to enhance the capacity of rural households to improve utilization and consumption of food. • Sound environmental and natural resource management. *Source: USAID, 2015a.*
Activities and Progress to Date	• Number of households living in poverty moved about the poverty line 3,783: 38% of target of 10,000. • Number of rural households living in extreme poverty moved about the poverty line, 2,975; 40% of target of 7,500. • Number of rural households living below $1.25/person/day moved above $1.25/person/day, 6,626: 53% of target of 12,500. • Value of new net income of participant rural farmers and MSMEs ($millions), $40.561: 135% of target of $30. • Number of jobs attributed to Feed the Future implementation (FTE), 2,928: 90% of target of 3,250. • Value of incremental sales attributed to Feed the Future implementation ($millions), $13.179: 19% of target of $68. • As of FY2013, completed 3,287 training events with 50,731 participants (4,409 male; 46,322 female) on improved health and nutrition practices on a wide range

	of topics. • Over 13,000 women participated in agricultural productivity and food security training. • Monitored approximately 4,300 children under two years of age in the communities with the highest malnutrition rates and provided assistance and training to their families to reduce malnutrition. Prevalence of underweight children under two years of age decreased by 34 percent in target communities. *Source: Fintrac, 2015, p 20.; USAID, 2014, p. 3.*
Challenges to Implementation	• USAID-Honduras mission did not collect baseline data in a timely manner. Once baseline data were collected it became evident that the target population was significantly poorer than expected. • Significant declines in coffee production 45% of growers affected by coffee rust affecting half of ACCESO's target households. • Significant decline in coffee prices which fell from $2 per pound to $1 per pound resulting in less income generation than expected. • Contracting and funding delays resulted in implementation delays. • Permanent license plates were not acquired resulting in 3.9% of work time spent renewing vehicle tags. • Lack of key performance indicators in the areas of household income, assets, capacity-building, and leveraged funds from public-private partnerships. • Lack of formal security plan leading to security issues such as stolen motorcycles and laptops, threats against ACCESO staff, and termination of activities in some communities. • Contractor reporting was inadequate to reflect actual performance. *Source: Office of Inspector General, 2015, pp. 4-9*
Key Contacts	**Website:** http://www.usaid-acceso.org/about.aspx **Contacts**: **Senior Staff** • Dr. Andrew Medlicott, Chief-of-Party • Carol Elwin, Deputy Chief-of-Party- Diversification/NRM/Farmer Assoc Specialist • Jorge Soto, Deputy Chief-of-Party - Business/Market/Finance Specialist • Ricardo Lardizabal, Director of On-Farm Productivity **Physical Address** • USAID ACCESO, Oficina 1804, Piso 18, Edificio Torre Alianza Lomas del Guijarro Sur, Tegucigalpa. MDC USAID ACCESO, Instalaciones FHIA, Contiguo Instituto Patria La Lima, Cortes **Phone & Email** • Tel.(504) 2668.1190 • www.usaid-acceso.org • acceso@fintrac.com

Feed the Future Innovation Lab for Collaborative Research on Grain Legumes: Impact Assessment of Dry Grain Pulses

Project Duration: Not given

Areas of Assistance: Not given

Goals and Objectives	**Objectives:** 1. Provide technical leadership in the design, collection and analysis of data for strategic input and impact evaluation. 2. Conduct ex ante and ex post impact assessments. 3. Build institutional capacity and develop human resources in the area of impact assessment research. **Target Outputs:** 1. Completion of one thesis papers on the economics and sustainability of bean seed systems in Central America. 2. Completion of two Impact Briefs 3. Completion of 2 manuscripts for publication in academic journals and/or presentations at professional meetings.
Activities and Progress to Date	Completion of two scholarly publications • Maredia, M., Reyes, B., D. DeYoung. 2014. Farmer perspective on the use of and demand for seeds of improved bean varieties: Results of beneficiary surveys in Guatemala, Honduras and Nicaragua. Staff Paper 2014-04. Department of Agricultural, Food and Resource Economics, Michigan State University, East Lansing. • DeYoung and M. Maredia. 2014. Effectiveness of the bean seed dissemination models implemented under the Bean Technology Dissemination (BTD) Project: Results of key informant interviews in Guatemala, Honduras and Nicaragua. Staff Paper 2014-03. Department of Agricultural, Food and Resource Economics, Michigan State University, East Lansing. *Source: MSU, 2015a*
Challenges to Implementation	• Funding mechanism relies on lead US and HC PIs in implementing work plan including relying on existing contracts, meaning that changes in contract obligations result in delays to implementation.
Key Contacts	**Websites:** • http://legumelab.msu.edu/ • http://legumelab.msu.edu/project/s04_1_msu **Contacts**: **Lead U.S. PI** • Mywish Maredia, Michigan State University, USA **Collaborating Scientists: U.S.** • Eric Crawford (Co-PI), Michigan State University • Byron Reyes (Collaborator), Michigan State University **Collaborating Scientists: International** • US and HC PIs/collaborators of other Legume Innovation Lab Projects

Feed the Future Innovation Lab for Collaborative Research on Grain Legumes: Molecular markers and genetic improvement of common and tepary beans

Project Duration: Not given

Areas of Assistance: Not given

Goals and Objectives	**Objectives:** 1. Genetic improvement of common and tepary beans for Central America and Haiti 2. Develop and implement robust molecular markers for disease resistance genes 3. Strengthen the capacity of bean programs in Central America and the Caribbean to conduct research and to develop, release, and disseminate improved bean cultivars. **Target Outputs:** 1. Release and dissemination in the lowlands of Central America and the Caribbean of black and small red bean cultivars with BGYMV and BCMV (Bean common mosaic virus) resistance and greater tolerance to low soil fertility. 2. Release and dissemination in the lowlands of Central America and the Caribbean black, white, and Andean bean breeding lines with resistance to bruchids, BGYMV, BCMV, and BCMNV. 3. Release and dissemination of lowland black and white bean breeding lines with resistance to BGYMV, BCMV, BCMNV, and rust. 4. Release of yellow and red mottled bean lines with resistance to BGYMV, BCMNV, and BCMV. 5. New bioinformatic-based approach to facilitate marker development. 6. Release of tepary bean lines with virus resistance and improved agronomic traits. 7. Indel markers for traits of economic importance that will facilitate the selection of bean lines with the desired combination of traits. 8. Technical personnel in Central America and the Caribbean with greater capacity to produce reliable and repeatable results from field trials and to develop and release improved cultivars. 9. Graduate degree training in plant breeding of students from Central America and the Caribbean
Activities and Progress to Date	• A workshop was held in Honduras in April 2015 to train technical personnel from Central America and the Caribbean concerning bean research techniques with the goal of improving the quality of field research. • XRAV-40-4, a multiple disease resistant black bean adapted to the humid tropics, was developed and released. • The cultivar "Paraisito Mejorado 2- Don Rey" was released in Honduras. This cultivar has a light red seed color similar to its landrace parent "Paraisito" but carries the BGYMV and BCMV disease resistance and greater adaptation to low soil fertility from its recurrent parent, the improved bean cultivar Carrizalito. • White bean rust resistant lines (DPC-40 and XRAV-40-4) will be screened for resistance for rust in field trials in Honduras. • Pinto bean rust resistant lines will be evaluate in field trials in Honduras. • Determinate black bean lines with resistance to BGYMV, BCMV and BCMNV will be tested in Honduras during the upcoming year.

	• Heat resistant lima beans will be tested in the dry corridor of Honduras. • Drought resistant black bean line (MEN-2201-64ML) will be tested in the dry corridor of Honduras. • Bruchid resistant black bean lines were sent to Honduras, Guatemala and Haiti where they will be evaluated for adaptation and for resistance to local eco-types of bruchids. • Under the Bean Dissemination Project (2010-13) nearly 27,000 farmers received high quality seed of improved bean cultivars in Honduras, and Zamorano provide foundation seed and Rhizobium inoculant to INTA/Nicaragua, ICTA/Guatemala and NSS/Haiti. In Honduras, several Local Agricultural Research Committees (CIALs), which were involved in this project, continue producing seed using registered seed provided by Zamorano. • Under a similar approach, Zamorano continues to provide foundation seed of improved bean cultivars and Rhizobium inoculant to the bean technology dissemination project coordinated by MSU in collaboration with Technoserve and DICTA in Honduras. *MSU, 2015b, p. 1-17*
Challenges to Implementation	• A second year of drought during the first growing season in Central America and the Caribbean significantly reduced bean yield and caused a severe shortage of seed for the second growing season. During the upcoming year, Zamorano and other bean research programs in Central America will need to increase the production of basic seed to replenish stocks for the 2016 growing seasons. • Bean cultivars initially selected for specific traits using marker-assisted selection need to be monitored for genetic purity. It has been necessary to re-select seed of Aifi Wuriti and PR1146-138 to insure the presence of the bgm-1 allele for BGYMV resistance. *MSU, 2015b, p. 18*
Key Contacts	**Websites:** • http://legumelab.msu.edu/ • http://legumelab.msu.edu/project/s01a4_upr **Contacts**: **Lead U.S. PI** • James Beaver, University of Puerto Rico, Mayaguez, Puerto Rico, USA **Collaborating Scientists: U.S.** • Consuelo Estevez de Jensen, University of Puerto Rico, Mayaguez, Puerto Rico, USA • Timothy Porch, USDA/ARS/TARS, Mayaguez, PR, USA **Collaborating Scientists: International** • Phil Miklas, USDA/ARS, Prosser, Washington, USA • Juan Osorno and Phil McClean, North Dakota State University (NDSU), Fargo, North Dakota, USA • Juan Carlos Rosas, Escuela Agrícola Panamericana (Zamorano), Honduras • Julio Cesar Villatoro, Instituto de Ciencia y Tecnología Agrícola (ICTA), Guatemala • Emmanuel Prophete, National Seed Service, Ministry of Agriculture, Haiti

Feed the Future Innovation Lab for Collaborative Research on Horticulture: Regional Center at Zamorano

Project Duration: Not given

Areas of Assistance: Not given

Goals and Objectives	**Objectives:** 1. Enable and promote adoption of horticultural technologies 2. Facilitate human capacity building 3. Undertake appropriate research 4. Encourage entrepreneurs to utilize and manufacture innovative technologies 5. Serve as a knowledge repository and disseminate information 6. Provide training for professionals, on-site and across the region 7. Promote economically and environmentally sustainable agricultural production among small- to medium-sized farms, especially those managed by women
Activities and Progress to Date	• Through the center, more than 160 Zamorano students have worked on adapting new horticultural technologies. • In May 2013, the center hosted a postharvest short course for the region's • producers. • Five cultivars of tomato were evaluated in two environments: mega-tunnel and open field at CEDEH-FHIA in Honduras during the 2012-2013 season. Results indicated that the selected cultivars are well adapted to local conditions, and commercial yield under protected conditions incremented the yield in 29.6%. • Advanced breeding lines provided by AVRDC were evaluated in on-farm field trials in collaboration with local community leaders for resistance to whitefly-transmitted begomoviruses (tomato) and anthracnose (pepper). • Field days were organized at each location with local growers, women's groups, and community leaders A regional science-based workshop was organized at the University of Zamorano in Honduras with participation of cooperators from each country. • Held a Phytophthora diagnostics workshop and deployed a series of technologies including: a protocols book, a Phytophthora Lucid key and molecular tools for identification for use in the diagnostic labs. • Two digital diagnostic camera systems were given to the hub laboratories at FHIA to send diseased plant and pathogen images to North Carolina's Plant Disease and Insect Clinic to improve identification of Phytophthora species on important crops in Central America. • Conducted a regional workshop on the "Deployment of rapid diagnostic tools for Phytophthora on agricultural crops in Central America." *Sources: CEDEH-FIAH, 2013; Diaz & Neinhuis, 2014; HortCRSP, NDa; NDb*
Challenges to Implementation	• Not given
Key Contacts	**Websites:** • http://horticulture.ucdavis.edu/ • http://www.zamorano.edu/ **Contacts**: **Center Director**

	• Julio Lopez, jlopez@zamorano.edu **Technical Assistant** • Patricia Arce, parce@zamorano.edu **Coordinator:** • Britta Hansen, bhansen@ucdavis.edu

GAFSP - Dry Corridor Alliance (Alianza para el Corredor Seco)

Project Duration: 2014-2019
Areas of Assistance: Not given

Goals and Objectives	**Objectives:** 1. Lift 24,000 families (over 140,000 people) from extreme poverty between the years 2014 and 2019. 2. Lay the foundation for sustainable rural growth, through reduced undernutrition and improved rural infrastructure. 3. Raise agricultural productivity. 4. Improve markets. 5. Improve non-farm rural livelihoods. 6. Improve access to affordable financial and risk management services. 7. Improve access to diverse and quality foods and improved nutrition-related behaviors. 8. Improve sanitation and hygiene. 9. Establish PIPSA and ACS agriculture and food security M&E systems. *Source: GOH, 2013, pp. 3-26*
Activities and Progress to Date	• Not given
Challenges to Implementation	• Poorly designed and implemented policies, such as input donations for poor producers and credit forgiveness, erode self- initiative and market orientation. • High vulnerability to negative environmental events. • Diseases and pests can wipe out crops (example: Coffee Rust) • Cultural challenges in moving farmers out of generations-old, basic grain cultivation.
Key Contacts	**Websites:** • http://www.gafspfund.org/content/honduras • http://www.gafspfund.org/gafspmapcountry/hnd

RTMA - Regional Trade and Market Alliances Project

Project Duration: 2013-2016

Areas of Assistance: El Salvador, Guatemala, Honduras, Nicaragua, Costa Rica, Panama

Goals and Objectives	**Goal:** Establish consolidated regional value chains and improve market access for critical commodities through more robust market alliances and increased trade facilitation, regional harmonization and institutional capacity **Objectives:** 1. Develop critical agricultural value chains, link small and medium producers to regional and export markets, and consolidate intraregional value chains to leverage underutilized trade opportunities and open other opportunities in new niche markets. 2. Improve trade facilitation and regional trade capacity by strengthening private sector capacity and regional institutional capacity to advance harmonization of customs procedures, trade administration, border management, transportation, logistics and other trade-related mechanisms *Source: USAID, 2015c*
Activities and Progress to Date	*Regional Activities:* • Awarded grants to 19 organizations worth $5 million to support value chains and to three organizations totaling $1.2 million to support trade facilitation. The value chain recipients are largely producers associations, ten of which are projected to increase exports by an average of 76 percent by the end of the grants period of performance. • The trade facilitation recipients are implementing an online trade facilitation certification and leadership course for both the public and private sectors and helping to implement WTO Trade Facilitation Agreement provisions. • One grantee is creating an ICT platform to publish border time and cost data on web and mobile platforms to improve transparency, accountability, and informed public-private advocacy. • Implemented a proposal of norms for COMEX and five trade-related regulations. • Strengthened SIECA's institutional capacity and helped draft its internal rules and administrative manuals. • Signed memoranda of understanding with 32 organizations supporting trade facilitation and value chain development that will adopt project recommended best practices and computer systems. • Selected 6,265 small producers and 40 producer organizations to participate in the regional and export value chains both directly and through the grants program. • Conducted 52 trainings and events with a total of 15,232 training hours offered to 1,286 participants on trade and investment capacity building. • Launched an online Central American Trade Facilitation Leadership program to be offered by local educational centers in Central America and will train individuals on the trade and investment enabling environment. *Source: USAID, 2015c*

Challenges to Implementation	• Not given
Key Contacts	**Websites:** **Contact**: **USAID-AOR:** • Gabriela Montenegro, gmontenegro@usaid.gov **USAID Alternate:** • Shamenna Gall, sgall@usaid.gov **Chief of Party:** • Carlos Morales, cmorales@prucam.sv **Activity Implementing Partner:** • Nathan Associates Inc. Development Alternatives Inc. (DAI) Trusted Trade Alliance (TTA) Zamorano Pan American Agricultural School

RUTA - Regional Food Security Policy Effectiveness and Sustainable Agriculture Program

Project Duration: September 2012-September 2017
Areas of Assistance: Guatemala, Honduras, El Salvador, Nicaragua

Goals and Objectives	**Goals:** • *Policy Effectiveness*: Support a regional agenda for food security with the political commitment and mandate of the Central America governments, through the CAC, to engage with regional, multilateral organizations and donors in dialogue, accountability and the development of partnerships to formulate and analyze Food and Nutritional Security policies, strategies and programs. • *Sustainable Agriculture Platform*: Consolidate a regional platform for research and innovation of sustainable agriculture practices to support dissemination for farm level application and consolidation of national efforts at a regional level, in partnership with international, regional and local agencies and centers of excellence. **Objectives:** • To increase efficiency and effectiveness of regional food security policies and the promotion of new sustainable agriculture technologies in Central America and the Dominican Republic. *Policy Effectiveness* 1. Initial analysis of the state of the art information of public policies that affect Food Security and its instruments. 2. Analysis of the interrelationships of public policies that affect Food Security. 3. Establishment of the Monitoring and Evaluation System of policies that affect Food Security 4. Support in the formulation of policies, programmatic or regulatory actions that affect Food Security

	Sustainable Agriculture Platform 1. Prioritization of research and innovation. 2. Strengthening and establishment of networks and communities of practice. 3. Establish a training plan. 4. Design and implementation of a plan to promote and publicize the Program. 5. Establishment of an interactive Documentation Center on topics related to the two components. 6. Promote the exchange of experiences. 7. Support in the exchange, interaction and collaborative work of the platform and established networks. *Source: RUTA, 2013*
Activities and Progress to Date	*As of 2013 (most recent report found):* *Policy Effectiveness* • Databases management system and inventory of FNS policies and mapping of key stakeholder. • Different policy prioritization models have been reviewed and analyzed. • Monitoring and Evaluation systems identified. • RUTA is supporting SAG to address some of its core challenges, such as the preparation of an implementation document, the preparation of a progress report, adjustment of indicators, the strengthening of the institutional capacities, facilitating the policy dialogue with the private sector international donors, improving its capacity for policy analysis and monitoring and evaluation. *Sustainable Agriculture Platform* • Proposed a fast track option for the cocoa value chain. • Advanced on the mapping of actors for the cocoa and coffee value chains. The Program has identified 60 actors related to cocoa and 40 to coffee from public institutions, private sector, academic centers and cooperatives, among others. • Established the definition of the mission, vision, objectives, general structure and the conceptualization of the web portal in order to start the bidding process to hire the consulting firm. *Source: RUTA, 2013*
Challenges to Implementation	• Flexibility and effectiveness in responding to the coffee rust problem. • The interaction between national and regional policies and programs. Activities at the country level can enrich the regional knowledge and regional policies and programs can also enrich policy formulation and implementation at the country level. • Policy effectiveness goes beyond the preparation of a technical proposal. It has to do with the institutional capacity of stakeholders to implement policies, and its monitoring and evaluation. • In order to create a solid regional platform on sustainable agriculture, it is necessary to strengthen platforms and networks at the national level, to promote best practices and innovative technologies. Then, it would be appropriate to launch the regional platform.

	• Hiring processes are taking around four weeks, so this is an aspect to be considered into the Program implementation. *Source: RUTA, 2013*
Key Contacts	**Websites:** *None* **Contact**: **USAID-AOR:** • Gabriela Montenegro, gmontenegro@usaid.gov **USAID Alternate:** • Shamenna Gall, sgall@usaid.gov **Director and Chief Technical Advisor:** • Miguel Gomez **Component 1 Coordinator:** • Eduardo Arce **Component 2 Coordinator:** • María Dolores Edeso **Knowledge Management and Communication Specialist:** • Daniela Alvarez **Monitoring and Evaluation Specialist:** • Alexander Herrera **Finance and Administration Coordinator:** • Evangelina Gavarrete **Physical Address:** • USAID El Salvador (Trade and Food Security Specialist, El Salvador-Central America and Mexico Program (E-CAM) Boulevard Santa Elena Sur, Antiguo Cuscatlan, El Salvador

Trilateral Cooperation (Cooperación Trilateral Brasil-Estados Unidos-Honduras)

Project Duration: 2012-2015

Areas of Assistance: Copán, Intibucá, La Paz, Lempira, Ocotepeque, Santa Bárbara, Valle, Choluteca

Goals and Objectives	**Goal:** Cut poverty and hunger in Honduras by improving agricultural productivity, food security, human nutrition, and incomes through the joint efforts of U.S., Brazilian, and national partners in Honduras. **Renewable energy component:** 1. Identify, assess, and facilitate investments in renewable energy applications that help poor rural households improve incomes, health, and nutrition. 2. Provide access to some form of renewable energy for at least 10,000 poor rural households. **Agricultural productivity component:** 1. Assist all partners in Honduras to meet the Feed the Future objectives of (1) increased inclusive agricultural sector growth and (2) improved nutritional status of especially women and children.

	Technical Cooperation Protocols with GOH: 1.1 **Goal**: Diversification of smallholder agriculture with a focus on increasing food security and sustainability of agricultural production systems in the drought-prone regions of southern Honduras. **Objectives**: 1. A cadre of researchers from the Ministry of Agriculture (SAG) trained to investigate agricultural productivity of diverse horticultural crops. 2. Transfer of technologies and management systems for improving smallholder agriculture. 3. Transfer of technologies and management systems that improve productivity in the drier drought-prone regions of southern Honduras. 1.2 **Goal:** Introduction of new varieties and technologies that will improve the productivity and profitability of the sesame value chain in Choluteca and Valle. **Objectives**: 1. Strengthen the human and institutional capacity of SAG to assist farmers in the production and marketing of sesame. 2. Transfer technologies and management systems designed to increase the profitability and employment opportunities for greater sesame production and marketing. 1.3 **Goal:** Contribute to the reduction of poverty through a sustainable cashew value chain for smallholder farmers in the southern region of Honduras. **Objectives:** 1. Strengthen the human and institutional capacity of SAG to assist farmers in the production and marketing of cashew. 2. Transfer technologies and production processes that increase the profitability, employment opportunities, and diversification in the use of cashew. 3. Build capacity of smallholder cashew producers to process the false fruit and add nutritional value. 4. Develop training manuals for cashew for specific technologies such as plant propagation, production systems, pest control, irrigation, postharvest, processing of nuts in small factories, and processing of the false fruit. 1.4 **Goal:** Strengthen the apiculture value chain with a particular focus on increasing its productivity and sustainability in the southern region of Honduras. **Objectives:** 1. Strengthen the human and institutional capacity of SAG to assist farmers in the production and marketing of honey. 2. Strengthen the apiculture value chain in southern Honduras through the transfer of improved technologies.
Activities and Progress to Date	• 10,681 houses with access to renewable energy • 11,095 houses with improved food security • 79 community centers installed with renewable energy • 8,218 persons (33% male, 67% female) trained for the preparation of foods with eco-stoves

	• 851 trainings conducted on apiculture production • 265 trainings conducted on cashew production • 455 trainings conducted on family gardening • 948 trainings conducted on nutrition • 9,537 eco-stoves installed in households
Challenges to Implementation	*Not given*
Key Contacts	**Website:** http://www.usaid-acceso.org/about.aspx **Contacts**: **Chief of Party** • Jamie Chavez, jamesvic@ufl.edu **Administrator** • Alejandro Borjas, aborjas.23@gmail.com **Food Security Specialist** • Jose Obdulio Crozier, crozierflores@yahoo.com

Other USAID and U.S. Government Feed the Future Projects

ACCESS to Markets (MERCADO) – Fintrac	**Project Duration:** 2014-September, 2019 **Areas of Assistance:** Santa Bárbara, Copán, Ocotepeque **Objectives:** 1. Decrease poverty and malnutrition by 20% 2. Provide training and technical assistance to more than 18,000 clients to increase productivity, market access, and employment opportunities. 3. Facilitate access to a diverse and quality diet; promoting improved sanitation and hygiene practices; and working with partners to expand access to maternal and child health services. **Website:** • http://www.fintrac.com/projects#HONDURAS *No other information provided* *Source: Fintrac, 2015b; USAID, 2014*
CGIAR-CCAFS Linking gender equity and low-emission agriculture	**Goals:** 1. Farmer-led innovation. 2. Gender equity. 3. Lower emissions. **Activities:** • A pilot project in Honduras thwarts the recent epidemic of coffee leaf rust while also empowering women and supporting low-emission agriculture. • Women farmers get access to small plots of land to plant with disease resistant coffee and tree crops. The land and seedlings are paired with fuel efficient cookstoves. **Website:**

	• http://ccafs.cgiar.org/themes/low-emissions-agriculture *Source: CGIAR, 2015*
Dry Corridor Alliance (Alianza para el Corredor Seco) - Fintrac	**Areas of Assistance:** Santa Bárbara, Copán, Ocotepeque **Objectives:** 1. Decrease poverty and malnutrition by 20%. 2. Bring 18,000 households above the poverty line through integrated technical assistance, greater access to markets, and increased investment in employment opportunities. 3. Reduce the prevalence of stunting and malnutrition by 20 percent among children under 5 years old by promoting improved sanitation and hygiene, and access to diverse and quality food. **Website:** • http://www.fintrac.com/projects#HONDURAS *No other information provided* *Source: Fintrac, 2015b; USAID, 2014*
USDA-FAS Food for Progress Program	**Objectives:** 1. Improve agricultural productivity. 2. Expand trade of agricultural products. **Websites:** • http://www.fas.usda.gov/programs/food-progress • http://www.fas.usda.gov/regions/honduras *No other information provided*
USDA-FAS McGovern-Dole Food for Education Program	**Objective:** 1. Reduce hunger and improve literacy and primary education, especially for girls. **Websites:** • http://www.fas.usda.gov/programs/food-progress • http://www.fas.usda.gov/regions/honduras *No other information provided*