

## **USI Partnership Project**

Country: Philippines

Reporting Period: July 1-31, 2014

Report by: Edward P. Otico

### **Note (Highlights):**

1. The Associate and NNC met with Family Health Office – DOH head Dr. Anthony Calibo on July 28 and he agreed to refocus the Patak sa Asin to market monitoring instead of household monitoring. Associate prepared the draft guidelines, reporting forms and the allocation list for the DOH procurement of 50,000 RTK. These were submitted to NNC for refinement and submission to DOH. This will help weed out non-iodized salt in the market
2. The 2013 NNS WYD data (by region, wealth quintile and vs. RTK) is expected to be submitted by FNRI by mid-August. The Associate, based on an initial assessment of the data, expects no improvement as against 2008 data. The report from FNRI may show and confirm that the salt producers, despite the training and monitoring visits by DOST, still iodized at below FDA levels, owing to the laxity of regulations and the steep price competition. Associate will request for a conference call with HQ once the official data is received to determine next steps.
3. TAMACO gained approval of a US\$ 400,000 grant from USAID for the original GAIN project. They still expressed interest in the GAIN grant and will send a concept on how they intent to use the GAIN grant against the USAID grant

Key Project Objectives	Key Activities under Objective	Update as of reporting date	Plan for next month
<p>Objective: Sustain and improve the production of adequately iodized salt in 100% of the large importers (Arvin International and Artemis salt Corporation in Batangas, Bicol, Negros Occ., Cebu, Cagayan de Oro, Iligan, Davao and Gen. Santos) and 60% of the large and 40% of medium local salt producers (Occ. Mindoro solar salt producers and Ilocos Region cooked salt producers).</p>			
<p>1) Build QA/QC capacity of the salt producers</p>	<p>a) Training in QA/QC by the ITDI-DOST</p>	<p><b>December</b></p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• Arvin International <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>○ PSTDs were not able to conduct visits with Arvin, for QAQC instructions, because of conflicts in schedule. Cebu PSTD tried to schedule a visit but Arvin was busy unloading salt from Australia. Associate was able to conduct a monitoring visit (see attached travel report) in Bacolod and Batangas and instructed both warehouses on the use of the QAQC software. Associate met with Arvin CEO and IT officers and have agreed to fast track software use among factories. They have discussed with Cebu and Davao factories. Batangas, Cebu and Bacolod had started using the final software version. Bacolod will follow soon. The target is to have all warehouses using the final software by end of January. The PSTDs will provide on-site support in one monitoring visit;</li> <li>○ 2 dosing pumps broke down in Cebu and Batangas. Associate sent 2 service pumps and requested to collect the broken down pumps for inspection by the distributor.</li> </ul> </li> <li>• Artemis – the QAQC/Inventory software testing started in December and is continuing in January. Artemis is still developing a roll-out plan for the QAQC/Inventory software.</li> <li>• Occidental Mindoro – follow-up visit in January is still yet to be scheduled pending confirmation from DOST Occ. Mindoro. This may be moved to February.</li> </ul>	<p><b>January</b></p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• Arvin International – monitor Arvin factories reporting using QAQC software. Follow-up with PSTDs on visit (on-site support) for QAQC instruction.</li> <li>• Artemis – monitor software testing and roll-out plan</li> <li>• Occidental Mindoro – confirm schedule for follow-up visit.</li> <li>• Region I <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>○ develop concept paper and request for cash advance to support the conduct of the regional workshop</li> <li>○ Request quotation from ITDI on the cost of iodization machines (batch and continuous types) for possible deployment as demo units in Region I during</li> </ul> </li> <li>• Salinas – procure smaller pump for Pangasinan factory. Visit Batangas factory on Jan 10 or 17.</li> <li>• PiaoHio – join the assessment and the training of the Malabon factory</li> <li>• Guimaras – Follow-up ITDI on the status of the machine</li> <li>• Pulupandan, Negros Occ. – confirm if salt producers cooperative is willing to undergo QAQC training</li> <li>• Dosing pumps – procurement of additional dosing pumps for Occ. Mindoro and others is being studied against the country project budget allocation.</li> </ul>

		<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• Region I – attended the regional DOH meeting Dec2 (see attached travel report) but Dir. Cabotaje was not able to chair the meeting as she was suddenly called to DOH HQ. Asst Director chaired the meeting but the group failed to develop a plan because of lack of cooperation by the Food and Drug Regulation officers. It was agreed that a draft broad workplan will be developed by Associate and the DOH region focal point. This will be refined in a January 2014 regional workshop to involve key DOH regional officers, other regional agencies and selected local government units. The regional workshop will be held on January 23-24. Concept paper is being developed.</li> <li>• Salinas <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>○ a smaller pump was procured and tested on Dec11 (see attached travel report) in the Pangasinan factory. Iodization homogeneity improved with the use of smaller dosing pump. This was turned over to Salinas officers while the 2 big dosing pumps were pulled out and lent to Arvin Intl as service units for Cebu and Batangas factories. Another small dosing pump will be procured as there are 2 iodization machines in the Pangasinan factory.</li> <li>○ The Pangasinan factory is able to implement QAQC and is using the QAQC software. Arrangement was made for the Batangas factory to send its data to Pangasinan for inputting into the software because Batangas has no computer.</li> </ul> </li> <li>• PiaoHio – Lunedi Lim signed an MOU with ITDI-DOST for the QAQC training of his Malabon factory on Dec20. Assessment is scheduled on Jan14 and training on January 20-22.</li> <li>• Guimaras – no update from ITDI</li> </ul> <p>January</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• Arvin International – PSTDs were able to assist Cebu and Davao. Cebu, Davao and Batangas are regularly inputting monitor data into the software. Other PSTDs</li> </ul>	<p>February</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• Arvin International – Remind PSTDs to visit Arvin. Other actions to be determined based on planned meeting with Arvin.</li> <li>• Artemis –Associate to coordinate with PSTDs to</li> </ul>
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		<p>were reminded. Meeting is being set with Arvin to discuss use of software in other factories.</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• Artemis – testing had finished successfully. Roll-out is planned for February.</li> <li>• Region I <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>○ regional stakeholder meeting to present and finalize a draft regional plan is slated for Feb20-21 (see travel notes)</li> <li>○ Effort started to identify available machines for use in QAQC training</li> <li>○ Training will be limited to Mangaldan and Pasuquin because of budget constraint. DOST and other stakeholder support will be solicited.</li> </ul> </li> <li>• Salinas – a smaller pump had been procured and turned over to Salinas Pangasinan. A monitoring visit to the Salinas Batangas was conducted. The target iodization levels were within FDA standard but the standard deviation was high. Recommendations to improve were given.</li> <li>• PiaoHio – ITDI conducted an assessment and training is slated for Feb10-12 (for confirmation)</li> <li>• Guimaras – iodization machine is still under fabrication. This might be finished within February and shipped by March</li> <li>• Pulpandan, Negros Occ. – there is still no confirmation if salt producers cooperative is willing to undergo QAQC training</li> <li>• Dosing pumps – the proposal to procure additional dosing pumps for Occ. Mindoro will not be pursued because of budget constraint. Instead, focus will be on assisting Mindoro to improve regulations of outgoing salt.</li> </ul> <p><b>February</b>  <b>Arvin International</b></p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• 5 (including 3 of the major warehouses) of 9 have their data inputted into the QAQC software. 4 others still need to do so – 2 had computers recently repaired</li> </ul>	<p>conduct visit for QAQC software instruction of the factory officers in different areas</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• Region I – attend the regional stakeholder meeting on Feb20-21. Next steps to be determined; Identify iodization machine which can be borrowed and arrange for needed repairs, if needed.</li> <li>• Salinas – monitoring will be conducted during the national DOST meeting on Feb 18-19. Get iodization reports.</li> <li>• PiaoHio – provide support needed for the QAQC training.</li> <li>• Guimaras – continue monitoring progress of fabrication of iodization machine. Try to identify training dates</li> <li>• Pulpandan, Negros Occ. – follow-up offer of training</li> </ul> <p><b>March</b>  <b>Arvin International</b></p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• Follow-up on QAQC software for the 4 warehouses</li> </ul> <p><b>Artemis</b></p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• Meet with ITDI and Artemis</li> </ul>
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		<p>while 2 have no valid excuse. This had been discussed with Arvin officers.</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• Average Iodization levels in Batangas (40-50% of total volume), Cebu and Davao in Jan/Feb were 37ppm, 38ppm, 40ppm.</li> <li>• 5 dosing pumps were repaired by the local distributor free of charge. Cause of breakdown was mainly due to seepage of water, corroding the electronic parts. Mishandling and very poor maintenance were the problems (despite instructions and reminders). Also discussed with Arvin officers.</li> </ul> <p><b>Artemis</b></p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• Artemis is unable to provide collected salt testing data. Quality level checks were conducted only during PSTD visits and indicated control of iodization but at levels both below and within FDA standard. Data from warehouses had been requested and will be discussed in a meeting in the week of March 10.</li> </ul> <p><b>Region 1</b></p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• the regional stakeholders' consultative meeting and planning workshop (see travel report) was conducted last February 20-21. The regional plan was approved. Local government units (LGUs) and DOST region agreed to augment budgets and work together. GAIN will sponsor the training for 2 major salt cooking areas while the rest will be covered by DOST region and LGUs. A major issue which is unresolved is the budget for iodization machines as the SET-UP budget of DOST is already committed for 2014. This will be for further exploration. GAIN will provide WYDs for the provinces for use in regulatory monitoring.</li> <li>• As an offshoot of the meeting, WYDs will be turned over to the LGUs and they will be trained in using it by GAIN</li> <li>• It had been agreed with ITDI that the Mangaldan and Pasuquin QAQC trainings will be conducted on May and June as Occidental Mindoro monitoring needs to completed.</li> <li>• Associate visited in Balaoan La Union a ribbon type iodization machine which can be used for the training</li> </ul>	<p><b>Region 1</b></p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• Arrange for the assessment of the Balaoan salt iodization machine by the ITDI and plan for repair by April.</li> <li>• Schedule immediate turn-over and training of DOH Region and LGUs in WYD calibration and use.</li> </ul> <p><b>Salinas</b></p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• Schedule monitoring by April or May</li> </ul> <p><b>Piao Hio</b></p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• Conduct monitoring within March</li> </ul> <p><b>Guimaras</b></p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• Coordinate planning for training</li> </ul> <p><b>Pulupandan, Negros Occ.</b></p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• Follow-up on QAQC training offer</li> </ul>
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		<p>of salt producers.</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• GAIN will introduce UNICEF to the DOH I region to propose the formal organization of a regional Task Force</li> <li>• GAIN is evaluating 5 old WYDs (originally donated by UNICEF to DOH I) if still operational.</li> </ul> <p><b>Salinas</b></p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• monitoring conducted during the farm visit conducted as part of the national DOST training, on Feb19. Average iodization levels was at 50ppm but homogeneity still needs improvement.</li> </ul> <p><b>Piao Hio</b></p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• Training was conducted by ITDI on Feb10-12</li> </ul> <p><b>Guimaras</b></p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• the salt iodization machine will be shipped within March. Training is planned for April.</li> </ul> <p><b>Pulupandan, Negros Occ.</b></p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• no feedback</li> </ul> <p><b>March</b></p> <p><b>Arvin International</b></p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• Associate met with Arvin. Batangas, Cebu, Davao, Bacolod and Cagayan factories testing data are being inputted into the software. Tabaco and GenSan are being followed-up. Zamboanga needs visit as demand for iodized salt is still very low in the region, and is still being discussed with UNICEF.</li> </ul> <p><b>Artemis</b></p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• Meet with ITDI and Artemis conducted last 18 March. Reports of the various warehouses were discussed</li> <li>• Bacolod – No report was presented; testing was reportedly being conducted by Cabo. Confirmed testing was only conducted during DOST visit (Bacolod started generating report after the meeting)</li> <li>• Cebu – no regular recording; compressor, not dosing pump is being used; Warehouse was given 2 weeks to use the dosing pump and do recording (This deficiency was corrected by Cebu with support from DOST;</li> </ul>	<p><b>April</b></p> <p><b>Arvin International</b></p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• Continue follow-up on the reporting by Tabaco and GenSan factories</li> </ul> <p><b>Artemis</b></p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• Follow-up Artemis on the reports and adjustment of iodization in concerned factories</li> <li>• Check if Tabaco and GenSan can already be given QAQC certifications</li> <li>• Verify with Artemis the shipment of the WYD to Davao</li> </ul> <p><b>Region 1</b></p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• Balaoan salt iodization machine – follow-up DOH on its retrieval</li> <li>• Work with ITDI to finalize training dates for Mangaldan and Pasuquin</li> <li>• Follow-up DOH region to conduct activities in the updated regional action plan</li> </ul> <p><b>Salinas</b></p>
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		<p><b>Occidental Mindoro</b></p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>Monitoring visit conducted March 19-21 (see attached mission report). JALD, Arvin and Artemis are able to iodize salt within FDA standards. JALD is able to record data in the QAQC software. Arvin is sending data to head office for QAQC software inputting. Artemis plans to send data to its head office as internet connection is poor. 2 service dosing pumps to be lent to Arvin as they are still trying to procure additional dosing pumps. We also tested using backpack sprayer (as a last resort when dosing pump will still not be available). With Artemis, we tested their dosing pump and also an engine-driven backpack sprayer. Challenges identified is the iodization of very wet salt and use of shovels in salt iodization in hard to reach salt farms. Testing of salt samples showed losses of ½ to 2/3 of the iodine content in salt iodized while wet. This will be taken up in the next TWG meeting, where the salt industry is represented.</li> </ul> <p><b>April</b></p> <p><b>Arvin International</b></p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>Associate conducted monitoring of General Santos and Davao factories (see attached mission report). There are indications that Arvin had issued a company-wide order to lower iodization levels to below 20ppm. This highlights the importance of fast-tracking strengthening of FDA regulations of the salt industry.</li> </ul> <p><b>Artemis</b></p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>Associate conducted monitoring of General Santos and Davao factories (see attached mission report). Discrepancies were noted in QAQC implementation, equipment management and reporting. Iodization levels were below 10ppm and there seem to be no urgent effort to improve. Associate recommended to DOST to suspend QAQC certification of Artemis until the issues are addressed.</li> </ul>	<p><b>May</b></p> <p><b>Arvin International</b></p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>Explore discussion of the issue in the May 28-30 FDA Training</li> </ul> <p><b>Artemis</b></p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>Discuss issues with Artemis Salt Corporation</li> </ul> <p><b>Region 1</b></p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>Continue coordination of Mangaldan and Pasuquin QAQC trainings</li> <li>Conduct May 20 meeting with DOH Region I to update on regional activities planned</li> </ul> <p><b>Salinas</b></p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>Re-install QAQC software on May 13 or 14</li> </ul> <p><b>Piao Hio Malabon</b></p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>Schedule monitoring</li> </ul>
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		<p><b>Artemis</b></p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>Artemis Salt has identified another focal point for the implementation of the QAQC project. A meeting date is still being determined</li> </ul> <p><b>Region 1</b></p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>The QAQC training of Mangaldan salt producers was conducted by the DOST last May 21-22. LGU officers also joined the training. Pasuquin QAQC training is to be held on June 4-5. Burgos and San Vicente cooked salt producers will join the training.</li> <li>DOH I and Associate agreed to prioritize the conduct of echo training on external monitoring by the FDA region for the Sanitary Inspectors with licensing MOU with the FDA.</li> </ul> <p><b>Salinas</b></p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>Re-installed QAQC software on May 14. Monitoring was conducted (see attached travel notes)</li> </ul> <p><b>Piao Hio Malabon</b></p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>No monitoring was conducted because of conflict of schedules</li> </ul> <p><b>Guimaras</b></p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>Guimaras training date had been finalized from June 10-11. Logistics had been and are being prepared.</li> </ul> <p><b>Pulupandan, Negros Occ.</b></p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>The QAQC training for the producers was held last May 14-15. Rivson Commercial was not able to attend – reason was unknown</li> </ul> <p><b>Occidental Mindoro</b></p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>Conducted follow-up monitoring on May 7-8 (see attached travel notes).</li> <li>Associate is set to present the issue of iodization of wet salt in the June 18-19 TWG.</li> <li>Met with ITDI Director on May 27 to discuss among</li> </ul>	<p><b>Region 1</b></p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>Monitor preparation for QAQC training</li> </ul> <p><b>Piao Hio Malabon</b></p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>Schedule monitoring</li> </ul> <p><b>Guimaras</b></p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>Monitor preparation for QAQC training</li> </ul> <p><b>Negros Occ.</b></p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>Explore how Rivson can have QAQC training</li> </ul>
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		<p>others, small capacity iodization machine (500 bags/day) which can access salt farms with poor terrain. She was willing to design only for 250 bags per day to minimize impact of machine breakdowns</p> <p><b>June</b></p> <p><b>QAQC Issues</b></p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>Presented during the June 10-12 TWG meeting critical QAQC issues and these will form part of the next businesses</li> </ul> <p><b>Artemis</b></p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>Meeting is scheduled for July 14 Monday</li> </ul> <p><b>Region 1</b></p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>QAQC training for Pasuquin was conducted last June 4-5</li> </ul> <p><b>Piao Hio Malabon</b></p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>No monitoring was conducted. To be scheduled in July</li> </ul> <p><b>Guimaras</b></p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>Guimaras salt producers training was conducted on June 10-11</li> </ul> <p><b>Negros Occ.</b></p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>Explore how Rivson can have QAQC training – no action done as there are no available options except for another QAQC training which is not budgeted.</li> </ul> <p><b>July</b></p> <p><b>QAQC Issues</b></p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>Discussion held with NNC, UNICEF and FDA on July 11. Nothing significant was achieved except commitment from NNC, UNICEF and FDA to explore opportunities to resolve QAQC issues</li> </ul> <p><b>Artemis</b></p>	<p><b>July</b></p> <p><b>QAQC Issues</b></p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>Follow-up the QAQC issues with NNC (strategize on moves outside of TWG)</li> </ul> <p><b>Artemis</b></p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>Attend July 14 Meeting</li> </ul> <p><b>Region 1</b></p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>Schedule monitoring in July or in August</li> </ul> <p><b>Piao Hio Malabon</b></p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>Visit Malabon plant within July</li> </ul> <p><b>Guimaras</b></p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>Get feedback on LGU and DOST follow-up actions</li> </ul> <p><b>Negros Occ.</b></p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>Follow-up on FDA region action on Rivson training</li> </ul> <p><b>August</b></p> <p><b>QAQC Issues</b></p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>Follow-up QAQC issues in the August 19 TWG Mtg</li> </ul> <p><b>Artemis</b></p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>Follow-up Artemis to submit iodization reports</li> </ul>
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	<p>b) Procurement of WYD Iodine Checkers</p>	<p><b>December</b></p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>Problem encountered on the WYD (12 units) delivery from China as ITDI's Customs accreditation expired. We are waiting for ITDI to renew their accreditation so payment of shipment fee and customs duties can be made.</li> <li>No action taken on WYD reverse engineering.</li> </ul> <p><b>January</b></p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>WYD shipment was declared as abandoned by Customs as ITDI was late in renewing its Customs accreditation. ITDI has written an appeal letter to recover the shipment. There is great probability that it will be approved because it is a government importation.</li> </ul>	<p><b>January</b></p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>Follow-up ITDI on the renewal of its Customs accreditation</li> <li>Write letter to ITDI Dir. Almanzor on the reverse engineering of the WYD</li> <li>Check if country budget can accommodate the acquisition of WYDs for regions I, CAR, III (related to notes no.5)Support to improving regulatory monitoring in selected areas</li> </ul> <p><b>February</b></p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>Follow-up with ITDI recovery of WYD shipment.</li> <li>Determine/finalize the number of WYDs to be provided to regions I and CAR</li> </ul>

		<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>Acquisition of WYDs will only be considered for regions I and CAR, (related to notes no.5)Support to improving regulatory monitoring in selected areas.</li> <li>The idea of bringing in a WYD expert in China to conduct training in WYD repair was approved. This will be put on hold pending finalization of budget with USI Manager</li> </ul> <p><b>February</b></p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>WYD shipment finally cleared by BOC and delivered to ITDI. BOC fees had been paid. Documents are being cleared for payment of shipment fees, penalties and brokerage fees.</li> </ul> <p><b>March</b></p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>WYD Iodine Checkers were checked by ITDI</li> <li>WYD for Region I, VI and CAR scheduled for turn-over in April</li> <li>Firmed up with CSC the costing for the planned training in WYD repair</li> </ul> <p><b>April</b></p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>The additional WYDs for region VI had been turned over. WYDS for Region I scheduled for turn-over (with training) on May 20-21. WYDs for CAR are on hold pending call with CHD CAR</li> <li>CSC clarified that it cannot provide training in WYD repair and troubleshooting.</li> </ul> <p><b>May</b></p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>6 WYDs were turned over to Region I during the region WYD Iodine Checker Training and Monitoring planning workshop</li> <li>Determine dates for WYD turn-over to CAR – to be scheduled in June or July</li> <li>Training in WYD repair will not be conducted as parts need to be replaced when they break down</li> <li>UNICEF agreed to procure additional WYDs for the regional task forces as GAIN budget is not available for additional purchases</li> </ul>	<p><b>March</b></p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>Pay shipment fees, penalties and brokerage fees.</li> <li>Schedule turnover to Region I, VI and CAR.</li> </ul> <p><b>April</b></p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>Send WYDs to Region I, VI and CAR</li> <li>Finalize arrangements for the training and clear with HQ</li> </ul> <p><b>May</b></p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>Turn-over WYD and conduct training for Region I on May 20-21.</li> <li>Determine dates for WYD turn-over to CAR</li> <li>Follow-up CSC on contact for WYD factory who can provide training</li> </ul> <p><b>June</b></p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>Finalize dates for WYD turn-over to CAR</li> </ul>
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		<p><b>June</b></p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>Proposed meeting program for WYD Training and Monitoring planning forwarded to DOH region. Will wait for implementation pending additional WYD allocations from UNICEF</li> </ul> <p><b>July</b></p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>WYD Training for Region CAR set for August 14. 6 WYDs (3 fr GAIN, 3 fr UNICEF) will be provided</li> </ul>	<p><b>July</b></p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>Finalized training dates for Region CAR once UNICEF WYDs become available</li> </ul> <p><b>August</b></p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>Attend the WYD Training for Region CAR</li> </ul>
	c) Deployment of QA/QCC software	<b>See Notes in 1a</b>	
	d) Procurement of Dosing Pumps for salt producers	<b>See Notes in 1a</b>	
	e) Annual technical meetings among ITDI-DOST	<p><b>December</b></p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>Draft program for the national meeting was not prepared. To be done in January. National meeting is slated from Feb17-19 in Pangasinan. Budget estimation has been started with ITDI</li> </ul> <p><b>January</b></p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>The program for the national meeting is finalized and budget had been requested from GAIN HQ.</li> <li>Associate was directed to document the good practices of the QAQC project</li> </ul> <p><b>February</b></p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>National DOST meeting was conducted Feb 18-19 with the Regional Directors. They were appraised of the status of the project.</li> <li>Agreed that annual certification of QAQC and WYD calibration will be part of the services to be provided by the regions in the future (This will be a project of Associate until before the September retirement of ITDI Director Almanzor). DOST Regions will also consider to test FDA salt samples collected as part of their regulatory monitoring "at cost". FDA and the TWG will</li> </ul>	<p><b>January</b></p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>Prepare draft program and finish budget estimate; Request for special cash advance to cover activity</li> </ul> <p><b>February</b></p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>Attend the DOST national meeting Feb 18-19. Next steps to be determined</li> <li>Finish draft of good practices of the QAQC project</li> </ul> <p><b>March</b></p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>Start drafting the mechanics for the annual QAQC certification and WYD calibration</li> </ul>

		<p>be informed of these. DOST regions, in areas where the WYD is used for monitoring by DOH, other stakeholders and LGUs, will calibrate the WYDs. GAIN and ITDI will arrange for their PSTD training in the WYD use.</p> <p><b>March</b></p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>Started drafting the mechanics for the annual QAQC certification and WYD calibration</li> </ul> <p><b>May</b></p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>The mechanics for annual QAQC certification was drafted but needs revision and additions following the May 27 meeting with ITDI Director Nuna Almanzor. An ITDI-GAIN-UNICEF meeting is being set for June 13.</li> </ul> <p><b>June</b></p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>DOST was unable to finalize the MOU with FDA. Associate is following up with DOST</li> </ul> <p><b>July</b></p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>UNICEF followed up with FDA their comments on the proposed FDA-DOST MOU but FDA has yet to respond</li> </ul>	<p><b>April</b></p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>Finish drafting the mechanics for the annual QAQC certification and WYD calibration and send to ITDI Director Nuna Almanzor</li> </ul> <p><b>June</b></p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>Finalize MOU for submission to Director Almanzor and also to FDA.</li> </ul> <p><b>July</b></p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>Follow-up MOU with FDA</li> </ul> <p><b>July</b></p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>Work with UNICEF to follow-up with FDA on the DOST-UNICEF MOU</li> </ul>
	<p>f) Field monitoring, as needed</p>	<p><b>December</b></p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>Monitoring of Arvin and Artemis conducted Dec 4-5, during travel to attend the Region VI regional nutrition meeting Dec 3.</li> </ul> <p><b>January</b></p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>Salinas Batangas factory monitoring was conducted on Jan 17. iodine levels are good: average is about 55ppm but standard deviation is high (around 12, ideal is 4-5 which is achievable). Recommended actions to control SD</li> </ul> <p><b>February</b></p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>Salinas Bolinao was monitored (see notes in 1a). Their average iodization level is above 50ppm but</li> </ul>	<p><b>January</b></p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>Salinas Batangas factory monitoring planned for Jan 10 or 17</li> </ul> <p><b>February</b></p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>To be determined</li> </ul> <p><b>March</b></p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>Occidental Mindoro and Zamboanga monitoring is being planned</li> </ul>

		<p>homogeneity is still a problem</p> <p><b>March</b></p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>Occidental Mindoro monitoring was conducted</li> </ul> <p><b>April</b></p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>Monitoring of Artemis and Arvin International factories in General Santos and Davao conducted April 22-25 (see travel report)</li> </ul> <p><b>June</b></p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>Cebu monitoring coincided during the Associate's attendance in the TWG meeting in Cebu (see attached travel notes)</li> </ul> <p><b>July</b></p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>Zamboanga monitoring to be scheduled in September as NNS data becomes available in August (at least the WYD test results vs. geographic location, wealth quintile).</li> </ul>	<p><b>April</b></p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>Conduct General Santos and Davao Monitoring</li> </ul> <p><b>May</b></p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>Schedule Cebu and Zamboanga monitoring in June</li> </ul> <p><b>July</b></p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>Schedule Zamboanga monitoring in August or September as tactical or strategic moves are not clear. Might wait until the critical 2013 NNS data become available</li> </ul>
2) Ensure sustainability of the QA/QC implementation by the salt producers	a) Provision of start-up fund to the ITDI employees association who will produce and sell WYD reagents		<b>Accomplished</b>
	b) Development of supply system for the procurement of replacement WYDs and Dosing Pumps		<p><b>Partially accomplished.</b> KPS Pumps will continue to supply dosing pumps and will import WYDs when demand comes up. Associate also provides supplier contacts to partners</p> <p><b>Note:</b> Associate had invited KPS pump to try have a distributorship agreement with the China supplier</p>
	c) Support to the ITDI promotion of good salt iodization machine design		Incorporated into QAQC efforts
	d) Support to the ITDI		None planned in the immediate future



	accreditation of salt iodization machine fabricators		
	e) Support to DOST in sharing and deploying the SET-UP program to salt producers in Region I and IVB		<b>See notes in 1a. Part of planned effort for region I</b>
3) Support efforts to increase demand for adequately iodized salt	a) Support efforts to encourage food processors to demand only adequately iodized salt	<p><b>December</b></p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>Survey going on as planned except in 1 area (Iloilo) affected by typhoon Yolanda. This is planned of last week of January. Follow-up and monitor NCP</li> </ul> <p><b>January</b></p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>NCP requested for extension of schedule which was approved. Additional contract for the survey of Tuguegarao City in support of the SIMPLIFY project is undergoing approval in HQ</li> </ul> <p><b>February</b></p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>Additional contract for Tuguegarao City had been pipelined in the contract approval system (Survey started on March 3)</li> </ul> <p><b>March</b></p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>Followed-up contract approval in GAIN HQ. No feedback yet</li> <li>Survey finished last 31 March</li> </ul> <p><b>April</b></p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>Contract had been approved by Geneva and received</li> <li>Survey report expected to be received by mid-May</li> </ul> <p><b>June</b></p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>Reviewed draft tables of the report. Met with NCP on how to prepare tables and report. Expected to be delivered by end of July</li> </ul>	<p><b>January</b></p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>Monitor progress</li> </ul> <p><b>February</b></p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>Follow-up HQ on contract approval</li> </ul> <p><b>March</b></p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>Follow-up contract approval in GAIN HQ.</li> <li>Monitor progress of survey</li> </ul> <p><b>April</b></p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>Follow-up contract approval in GAIN HQ.</li> </ul> <p><b>May</b></p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>Follow-up delivery of the survey report</li> </ul> <p><b>July</b></p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>Continue coordination with NCP on the report preparation</li> </ul> <p><b>See notes in #4</b></p>

	<p>b) Support efforts to encourage salt repackers to demand only adequately iodized salt</p>	<p><b>October</b></p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>UNICEF partnership with SM (largest supermarket chain) has SM requiring its suppliers (repackers) to supply only adequately iodized salt. Repackers are required to submit COA quarterly. SM will announce the program and its initial results after a few months of implementation</li> </ul> <p><b>March</b></p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>Associate attended on March 17 the National FDRO Conference but there was no time for discussion. Associate had discussed this matter with UNICEF. Possibly to be covered in a planned training (undergoing discussion with the FDA) to be funded by UNICEF.</li> </ul> <p><b>April</b></p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>FDA training is set for May 28-20.</li> </ul>	<p><b>November</b></p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>UNICEF will pursue similar effort in other retail associations</li> </ul> <p>This will be part of the discussion with FDA during their training slated in the 3<sup>rd</sup> week of March 2014</p> <p><b>April</b></p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>Continue to coordinate with UNICEF</li> </ul> <p><b>May</b></p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>Work with UNICEF to input into the training program and attend the training</li> </ul> <p><b>June</b></p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>To be included in the presentation of the Associate in the June TWG</li> </ul> <p><b>See notes in #4</b></p>
<p>4) Support to the FDA in improving its external monitoring capacity/ effectiveness</p>	<p>a) Support to the FDA to strictly implement its salt factory licensing checklist and to require updated ITDI-DOST certificate of QA/QC training in LTO applications</p> <p>b) Support to the FDA to implement the inclusion of the use of adequately iodized</p>	<p><b>December</b></p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>FDA apparently is planning for a January capacity building training but their plan is unclear (and so the preparatory work was not defined) and it seems impossible that they can conduct this in January. UNICEF counterpart contract has ended and his extension or renewal is unknown.</li> <li>See related notes in 6</li> </ul> <p><b>January</b></p>	<p><b>January</b></p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>Associate will link up with FDA to try to get involved in the capacity building workshop preparation and conduct.</li> </ul> <p><b>February</b></p>

	<p>salt in new/renewal LTO applications of food processors</p>	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>Associate is working with UNICEF to have involvement in the capacity building training.</li> </ul>	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>Continue work with UNICEF</li> </ul>
	<p>c) Support to the FDA to implement the inclusion of the use of adequately iodized salt in new/renewal LTO applications of salt repackers</p>	<p><b>March</b></p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>See notes in 3b</li> </ul> <p><b>June</b></p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>UNICEF supported the DOH soft launch of the Sangkap Pinoy Seal (food fortification seal) for the adequately iodized salt. This was led by Asst. Secretary Tayag and attended by the UNICEF Deputy Country Representative Alim and FDA Director General Go. UNICEF and GAIN Associate sees this as a unifying strategy for regulatory and promotional activities. The FDA, using the seal guidelines (and the licensing checklist), will conduct inspection of salt factories to see which would be awarded the seal (meaning they have the capacity and are iodizing within FDA standards). A series of information campaigns and or meetings are planned with the big producers and repackers to encourage them to have the seal. The seal project will be promoted to the regional task forces and the LGUs and association of supermarkets so that they will promote availability of only salts with the seal in their markets. The seal will also be promoted to the consumers through mass media and the health system. UNICEF and GAIN will put much effort behind this initiative in the next months.</li> </ul> <p><b>July</b></p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>Attended the seal launch planning meeting (initiated by GAIN and UNICEF) with the DOH and</li> </ul>	<p><b>July</b></p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>Attend the seal launch planning meeting (initiated by GAIN and UNICEF) with the DOH and NNC on July 11.</li> </ul> <p><b>August</b></p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>Continue following up NNC, FDA on the activities in the launch of the SPS seal.</li> </ul>

		<p>NNC on July 11. Associate presented draft plan to launch the SPS seal. Activities agreed upon and launch date was tentatively set on November 7. See attached SPS launch timetable. FDA had missed the deadline for it to finish the revision of the existing SPS guideline and the launch date is expected to move.</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>The draft report of the inventory of food processors and salt repackers will be submitted by Friday, August 8 (originally scheduled by end of July)</li> </ul>	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>Follow-up NCP on the draft report of the inventory of food processors and salt repackers.</li> </ul>
<p>5) Support to improving regulatory monitoring in selected areas</p>	<p>a) Support to Cagayan Valley region to develop a system integrating the WYD Iodine Checker in their checkpoints and/or in their regional regulatory monitoring</p>	<p><b>December</b></p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>No development</li> </ul> <p><b>January</b></p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>NNC reported that they did limited monitoring and feel that use of WYD by the checkpoints are working. Some shipments have been caught passing through the checkpoints. NNC is requesting for reports from the Sanitary Inspectors who coordinate the monitoring.</li> <li>Associate has scheduled monitoring in the 3<sup>rd</sup> week of March and a meeting with NNC Region II is set for March 21.</li> </ul> <p><b>February</b></p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>NNC submitted report from 1 checkpoint showing regular use of WYD. Most shipments were found below standard and trucks were sent back. However, the standard used was wrong (15 ppm which is for household). This will be corrected. Reports of other checkpoints will be followed up.</li> </ul> <p><b>March</b></p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>Reports from Sta. Praxedes and Sta. Fe checkpoints received. Most of the salt were below FDA standards and the trucks used in conveyance were turned back</li> <li>Monitoring visit to Cagayan region set in the week of</li> </ul>	<p><b>January</b></p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>Touch base with NNC on the last week on January to check on status and how to move forward.</li> </ul> <p><b>February</b></p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>Try to get copies of the reports of Sanitary Inspectors</li> </ul> <p><b>March</b></p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>Follow-up copies of the reports of other checkpoints and finalize monitoring visit schedule</li> </ul> <p><b>April</b></p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>Conduct monitoring visit</li> </ul>

		<p>April 7.</p> <p><b>April</b></p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• Associate conducted monitoring visit last April 9-12 (see attached travel notes)</li> <li>• The two most important checkpoints had been verified to be functioning. One LGU has yet to determine the location of its checkpoint among two options. One checkpoint was determined to be as not too critical so WYD be assigned to NNC region to test samples from different locations to validate effectiveness of the checkpoints. Despite being functional (and reports of shipments being turned back), many of salt samples collected by the Associate were below FDA standard. Associate is requesting for a review with NNC region.</li> </ul> <p><b>May</b></p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• No response yet as partner is on extended leave</li> </ul> <p><b>June</b></p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• The checkpoints continue to function. However, there is one checkpoint which had been identified as unnecessary. This extra WYD will either be recalled or re-assigned.</li> </ul> <p><b>July</b></p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• NNC Region gave feedback that monitoring had improved. They are collating reports to send to Associate. There are indications that corruption had rendered the checkpoints ineffective for a period of time. After the local executive called the attention of checkpoint personnel, monitoring was said to have become strict again.</li> </ul>	<p><b>May</b></p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• Schedule follow-up with NNC region on needed actions</li> </ul> <p><b>June</b></p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• Follow up with NNC region</li> </ul> <p><b>July</b></p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• Get updated reports on checkpoint monitoring. Schedule attendance on the 3<sup>rd</sup> quarter regional nutrition meeting</li> </ul> <p><b>August</b></p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• Follow-up to get copies of the monitoring reports. Check if the quarterly regional nutrition meeting had been set and if yes, arrange to attend. Or schedule monitoring if needed</li> </ul>
	<p>b) Support to Occ. Mindoro to develop a system integrating the WYD Iodine Checker in their monitoring of outgoing</p>	<p><b>December</b></p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• No development from provincial government</li> </ul>	<p><b>January</b></p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• Follow-up with provincial planning and development office on their plans and offer appropriate GAIN support.</li> </ul>

	<p>salt from the San Jose ports</p>	<p><b>January</b></p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>The salt industry development plan was shared by Occidental Mindoro. While it covered QAQC, it was not strong on monitoring salt shipments. This plan is to be presented to the provincial task force.</li> <li>The provincial governor expressed interest on the program to the NNC Region and a meeting is being planned</li> </ul> <p><b>February</b></p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>No development/progress</li> </ul> <p><b>March</b></p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>No development. NNC Region IVB gave information that Governor will soon convene a Task Force Meeting which Associate might attend</li> </ul> <p><b>April</b></p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>UNICEF represented the project in the convening of the Occidental Mindoro Task Force which was chaired by the provincial Governor. The Governor committed the continued supply of the inadequately iodized salt.</li> </ul> <p><b>May</b></p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>No development yet.</li> </ul> <p><b>June</b></p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>Associate offered to the Chair of the regional Task Force 1 WYD unit for use to test the outgoing salt shipments from San Jose, Occidental Mindoro.</li> </ul> <p><b>July</b></p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>NNC Region, regional Task Force chair, said Occ. Mindoro Governor is committed to improve the quality of outgoing salt but there is resistance from the salt producers. The strength of the commitment is not clear yet as the Governor is himself a salt producer.</li> </ul>	<p><b>February</b></p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>Continue monitoring development in Occidental Mindoro for opportunities to provide assistance</li> </ul> <p><b>March</b></p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>Continue monitoring development in Occidental Mindoro for opportunities to provide assistance</li> </ul> <p><b>April</b></p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>To be determined</li> </ul> <p><b>May</b></p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>Monitor how the provincial Task Force will proceed forward and provide support if needed.</li> </ul> <p><b>June</b></p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>To be determined</li> </ul> <p><b>July</b></p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>Follow-up offer to the Chair of the task force</li> </ul> <p><b>August</b></p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>Continue monitoring Occ. Mindoro</li> </ul>
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	<p>c) Support to Eastern Visayas Bantay Asin Task Force to develop a system integrating the WYD Iodine Checker in their monitoring of incoming salt in Tacloban City</p>	<p><b>December</b></p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>No work done. Partners busy with rehabilitation</li> </ul> <p><b>January</b></p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>Monitoring visit is being planned for last week of February or 1<sup>st</sup> week of March</li> </ul> <p><b>February</b></p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>Regional NNC is still verifying if visit by March is feasible</li> </ul> <p><b>March</b></p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>Associate conducted monitoring visit from March 13-15 (see attached travel report). Collected salt samples from markets around Tacloban and nearby towns and shipped them to Manila for WYD Testing.</li> <li>Associate met with NNC (Bantay Asin Task Force coordinator), Dept of Science and Technology and the Philippine Ports Authority regarding the testing of incoming salt. Their WYD (damaged from the Typhoon Haiyan) was replaced with a new one).</li> <li>Out of 51 salt samples collected, only 6 were within FDA standard, with 18 above 20ppm. However, average was about 20ppm, which was above the estimated 12ppm iodization (based on the 6ppm median household iodization level). This is indicative that the port monitoring is working but needs to be pursued with much vigor, particularly on filing the cases against violators..</li> <li>It was established that salt (imported from Australia, coming from Cebu City) has started entering through another port, Ormoc.</li> </ul> <p><b>April</b></p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>Associate had introduced self to new NNC regional nutrition program coordinator. A call is yet to be made as he was busy in getting acquainted with the new post.</li> </ul> <p><b>May</b></p>	<p><b>January</b></p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>Check with NNC appropriate time to visit and discuss restoration of port monitoring</li> </ul> <p><b>February</b></p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>Finalize monitoring visit</li> </ul> <p><b>March</b></p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>Regional NNC is still verifying if visit by March is feasible</li> </ul> <p><b>April</b></p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>Write introduction to the new NNC regional program coordinator and request for conduct of the quarterly Task Force Meeting, to discuss pending activities and strengthening action against violators</li> </ul> <p><b>May</b></p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>Schedule call with RNPC within May and a monitoring visit to Ormoc port in June, to try to set-up WYD use in checking incoming salt shipments from Cebu</li> </ul> <p><b>June</b></p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>Schedule visit in June or July</li> </ul>
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	<p>d) Support to the development of a system integrating the WYD Iodine Checker in the monitoring of incoming salt in Pandan/Libertad in Antique and Roxas City in Capiz (revised to Western Visayas)</p>	<p><b>December</b></p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>Associate attended the DOH regional nutrition meeting in December 3 and presented the USI project. Iloilo province agreed to join the regional monitoring network and 1 WYD unit will be allocated to them.</li> </ul> <p><b>January</b></p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>WYDs have not been turned over as they are still in Customs. See related notes in 1b.</li> <li>DOH Region committed to follow-up with the LGUs with WYD. A report on a shipment of poorly iodized salt from Mindoro was received by DOH Region. A monitoring visit is being scheduled in March or April</li> </ul> <p><b>February</b></p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>No reports have been provided by DOH Region VI.</li> </ul> <p><b>March</b></p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>WYD units were scheduled for turn-over in the week of March 31 (during monitoring visit)</li> </ul>	<p><b>January</b></p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>Turn-over remaining balance of WYDs committed to the region.</li> <li>Discuss with DOH region their steps to ensure that the WYDs are used by the LGUs and results coordinated with regional FDRO</li> </ul> <p><b>February</b></p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>Make a follow-up call on DOH Region for additional reports</li> <li>Try to turn-over additional WYD units within the month.</li> </ul> <p><b>March</b></p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>WYD units will be sent by week of March 10</li> <li>Monitoring visit is being scheduled for March or April</li> </ul> <p><b>April</b></p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>Continue monitoring visit (travel report to be submitted as part of April project report)</li> </ul>



		<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>Monitoring visit is on-going as of reporting time. Pulupandan had been using the WYD and alls monitored salt (mostly from Guimaras) passed FDA standards. Another WYD unit was turned over for use by their salt producers for testing salt to be shipped out. Bacolod City WYD had been used sparingly and was pulled out. This will be re-allocated to the Negros Provincial Health Office or to Rivson, an iodized salt producer (another unit will be allocated so that both will be covered)</li> </ul> <p><b>April</b></p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>Monitoring conducted March 31 –April 4 (see attached travel notes). During monitoring, additional WYDs were provided as planned. One area had very good experience using the WYD while two had limited experiences. All areas were instructed to continue using the WYD. A regional meeting to share experiences and plans is scheduled for June 10-12</li> </ul> <p><b>May</b></p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>Preparation done for the June regional meeting</li> </ul> <p><b>June</b></p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>A project review was conducted last June 10-11. See travel notes. Recipients of the WYDs shared their limited experiences on the use of WYD use, action points were identified and commitments were renewed.</li> </ul> <p><b>July</b></p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>Interviews with Culasi, Libertad, Iloilo province indicated improved monitoring of incoming salt. Salt samples and documents are being collected and will be submitted to FDA region. Pulupandan Negros Occidental continue their good monitoring (see attached presentation of Pulupandan during the June regional meet).</li> </ul>	<p><b>May</b></p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>Prepare for the June regional meeting</li> </ul> <p><b>June</b></p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>To be determined based on June regional meeting</li> </ul> <p><b>July</b></p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>Send WYD reagents and conduct follow-ups through telephone</li> </ul> <p><b>August</b></p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>Follow-up with Roxas City, Antique province and Guimaras</li> </ul>
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	e) Support to the development of a system integrating the WYD Iodine Checker in the monitoring of salt in Ilocos Region	<p><b>July</b></p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>Ilocos Norte, Ilocos Sur and La Union provinces had started submitting reports of limited monitoring. Note (The WYDs were turned over in May)</li> </ul>	<p><b>August</b></p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>Conduct monitoring visit to encourage more aggressive monitoring by the provincial health officers</li> </ul>
6) Support to the build the capacity of the FDA to increase its licensing coverage of the salt industry	a) Support to the development of a monitoring software and updated national salt industry database	<p><b>March</b></p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>See Activity 4 notes</li> </ul> <p><b>December</b></p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>Associate (with IT consultant) met with the FDA Dr. Peter Chua and Ryan Deguma on December 13 to get a clarification on their needs with regard to monitoring and database</li> <li>A draft of the FDA need is being develop</li> </ul> <p><b>January</b></p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>Associate had further discussion with FDA on the FDA database project proposal</li> </ul> <p><b>February</b></p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>GAIN HQ provided go signal to proceed developing the proposal with FDA</li> <li>FDA had purchased 100 Samsung Note2 for use by FDA in inspections (to be tied up to the program and database project)</li> </ul> <p><b>March</b></p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>The project proposal had been revised and an internal FDA stakeholder meeting is being set to consult on the provisions of the proposal.</li> </ul>	<p><b>April</b></p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>See Activity 4 notes</li> </ul> <p><b>August</b></p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>See Activity 4 notes</li> </ul> <p><b>See Activity 4 notes</b></p> <p><b>January</b></p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>Finish the draft document of FDA need. Set-up follow-up meetings with FDA to finalize. Note: Target is to have an agreement in place before end of February.</li> </ul> <p><b>February</b></p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>Finish the project proposal by week of Feb 10.</li> </ul> <p><b>March</b></p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>FDA conference call to discuss the project scheduled on March 6.</li> </ul> <p><b>April</b></p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>Try to finalize the proposal</li> </ul> <p><b>May</b></p>

		<p><b>April</b></p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>The proposal had not been finalized as FDA had not provided additional details</li> </ul> <p><b>May</b></p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>Still no response from FDA</li> </ul> <p><b>June</b></p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>FDA confirmed that it is still interested in the database project</li> </ul> <p><b>July</b></p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>Email sent to FDA counterpart about the project. There is an indication that false hope was given by FDA – this project will take a long time to implement, given the historical performance of the agency.</li> </ul>	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>Follow-up FDA</li> </ul> <p><b>June</b></p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>Clarify from Dr. Go, through UNICEF, who will be leading the project as contact is leaving FDA</li> </ul> <p><b>July</b></p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>Reconnect with FDA counterpart and determine next steps</li> </ul> <p><b>August</b></p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>To be determined, and for discussion with HQ.</li> </ul>
	b) Support to the review of the GMP requirements for licensing (conduct of Risk Assessment or alternative activity)		<b>Accomplished</b>
<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>Objective: Expand the production of adequately iodized salt in 100% of the large importers (Arvin International and Artemis salt Corporation in Zamboanga), and 60% of the large and 40% of medium local salt producers (Occ. Mindoro solar salt producers and Ilocos Region cooked salt producers) to increase supply in the focus regions of Central Luzon, CALABARZON, MIMAROPA, Zamboanga Peninsula and ARMM (islands of Basilan, Sulu and Tawi-Tawi)</li> </ul>			
7) Build QA/QC capacity of the salt producers	a) Training in QA/QC by the ITDI-DOST		<b>See notes in 1a</b>
	b) Support to TAMACO	<p><b>December</b></p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>HQ gave go-ahead to the project.</li> </ul> <p><b>January</b></p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>There is an issue on the funding which need to be settled with HQ as available funds based on</li> </ul>	<p><b>January</b></p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>Send draft agreement and revised investment rational to HQ and coordinate to finalize.</li> </ul> <p><b>February</b></p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>Get advice from USI Manager on how to proceed.</li> </ul>

		<p>programming is only around 50,000 but at least 120,000 might be needed.</p> <p><b>February</b></p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>Go signal provided by USI Manager to work with TAMACO on using \$50,000 grant</li> <li>Associate had discussion with potential local equipment fabricator</li> </ul> <p><b>March</b></p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>Meeting with TAMACO conducted last March 13. See travel notes.</li> </ul> <p><b>April</b></p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>Draft proposal is being prepared</li> </ul> <p><b>May</b></p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>TAMACO is not interested to prepare another proposal but requested Associate to do it for them. General plans were discussed to guide Associate. Associate has yet to finalize the plan.</li> <li>TAMACO is busy preparing a final proposal for USAID funding of about US\$500,000, which has a good chance of being approved</li> <li>UNICEF gave feedback that TAMACO members, the April provincial meeting were angry and blamed GAIN for holding back and trimming down offered support.</li> <li>Associate is considering pulling out planned grant and divert it to provide iodization machines in Region I.</li> </ul> <p><b>July</b></p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>No work done. USAID had approved a US\$400,000 grant to TAMACO. Starting June, pending the initial release of PhP250,000 and other releases), all operational expenses of TAMACO are reimbursable with USAID. TAMACO is still interested in the GAIN</li> </ul>	<p><b>March</b></p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>Meeting with TAMACO set for mid-March</li> </ul> <p><b>April</b></p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>Prepare proposal for \$50,000 grant</li> </ul> <p><b>May</b></p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>Meet with TAMACO on May 6 to finalize proposal</li> </ul> <p><b>June</b></p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>To be determined</li> </ul> <p><b>June</b></p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>Submit the final proposal to HQ</li> </ul> <p><b>August</b></p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>To be determined</li> </ul>
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		grant but will have to propose a project for this.	
Objective: Collect indicators to assess program progress and guide program decisions			
14) Regular collection of key indicators	a) Support to the determination of iodine levels in HH salts in the 2013 NNS	<p><b>December</b></p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>Nora Dominguez continued collection of salt from FNRI, their classification as to type and encoding</li> </ul> <p><b>January</b></p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>The 2013 NNS survey is delayed because of the typhoon last year and late funding from the DOH.</li> <li>Associate is working to have an agreement in place for the analysis of the 2013 NNS data</li> <li>Continue coordinating Nora's work with FNRI. There are actually a total of 10,000 samples collected/to be collected by FNRI which need to be classified so this work will be done by July/August (as FNRI will finish salt analysis by May or June.)</li> </ul> <p><b>February</b></p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>FNRI has yet to confirm list of available 2013 NNS salt data (sent by Associate). Follow-ups were made but no feedback</li> </ul> <p><b>March</b></p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>Associate met with FNRI and confirmed all data available except two which is still being verified as of reporting time</li> <li>Survey is delayed and data collection will end by May with the report coming out in August</li> </ul> <p><b>April</b></p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>FNRI had scheduled May 12 meeting to discuss the analyses</li> </ul> <p><b>May</b></p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>Met FNRI on May 12 and FNRI will send dummy tables</li> </ul>	<p><b>January</b></p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>Continue coordinating Nora's work with FNRI. Try to have the work finished by end of January, then send back results to FNRI so they can relate the type of salt to iodization levels on regional and national levels.</li> </ul> <p><b>February</b></p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>Submit list of data, by week of Feb10, which could be included in the FNRI agreement for the 2013 NNS data analyses</li> </ul> <p><b>March</b></p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>Continue follow-up</li> </ul> <p><b>April</b></p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>Follow-up FNRI on the two data and try to draft contract</li> </ul> <p><b>May</b></p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>Meet FNRI on May 12</li> </ul> <p><b>June</b></p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>Follow-up FNRI on dummy tables</li> </ul>

		<p>which shall serve as basis for the agreement</p> <p><b>June</b></p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>No updates from FNRI. Counterpart assured that they have start working on the data analyses even as the contract is yet to be drafted.</li> </ul> <p><b>July</b></p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>The dummy tables is still being finalized by Associate and FNRI. A meeting is set for August 6 to finalize.</li> </ul>	<p><b>July</b></p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>Get the dummy tables from FNRI and send to HQ for comments</li> </ul> <p><b>August</b></p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>Finalize GAIN-FNRI 2013 NNS contract</li> </ul>
	b) End of project evaluation		<p>No plan for the immediate future</p> <p><b>August</b></p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>For discussion with GAIN M&amp;E officer</li> </ul>
15) Special data collection/ analyses of data to guide program management	a) Support to further analyses of 2008 NNS data	<p><b>December</b></p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>FNRI submitted its report and the invoice for last payment. Associate requested for completion of report based on the agreement.</li> <li>Associate also requested for FNRI counterpart to check what is needed to have the contract for the 2013 NNS data analyses prepared. Also requested for copy of the questionnaire.</li> </ul> <p><b>January</b></p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>The 2008 NNS data analyses was submitted but was incomplete. FNRI is still completing the report</li> </ul> <p><b>February</b></p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>FNRI has yet to submit balance of the report</li> </ul> <p><b>April</b></p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>Report has to be revised as per advice of JKnowles. Will be part of the discussion with FNRI scheduled on May 12</li> </ul>	<p><b>January</b></p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>Follow-up FNRI on the 2008 NNS report, and the requirements for 2013 NNS contract</li> </ul> <p><b>February</b></p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>Follow-up report</li> </ul> <p><b>March</b></p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>Follow-up report</li> </ul> <p><b>May</b></p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>Meet FNRI on May 12</li> </ul>

		<p><b>May</b></p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• FNRI committed to deliver revised tables within May but failed</li> </ul> <p><b>June</b></p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• Received revised tables as of reporting time</li> </ul> <p><b>July</b></p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• The final report had been submitted by FNRI and also the final billing statement</li> </ul>	<p><b>June</b></p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• Follow-up</li> </ul> <p><b>July</b></p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• Follow-up final report from FNRI</li> </ul> <p><b>August</b></p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• To forward report to HQ and for final payment</li> </ul>
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Special Project :SIMPLIFY

- December: Associate coordinated with ICCIDD for the testing of salt samples collected from Tugugarao City, identified as study area
- See related notes in 3a
- February: Associate continued coordination with ICCIDD Philippines
- March: Continued coordination with ICCIDD Philippines
- April: Continued coordination with ICCIDD Philippines
- May: Arranging for collection and testing of 30 samples for WYD testing and sending to Zurich (for WYD and Sandell-Kolthoff testing)
- June: Salt samples are being tested and samples to be turned over to ICCIDD Philippines for shipment to Zurich
- July: Salt samples were sent by ICCIDD Philippines to Zurich. Salt testing result in the country via WYD were given to the ICCIDD Philippines