



oundation



### ON THE COVER:

Congratulations to 2018 Annual Report Photo Contest Winner Kiran Shrestha

Happy Days: 1000 days mother and baby during nutritious food demonstration program at Bigu Rural Municipality, Dolakha, Nepal

Left: Mother and baby participate in a presentation of Tostan's work in the village of Keur Simara, Senegal. Photo by Janine Schooley, Project Concern International.

Top of page: In Dolakha, Nepal, a male participant carries Doko to better understand the work and activities that Nepalese women do during pregnancy and neonatal period. Photo by Kiran Shrestha.

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Children from Gumba wash hands before their meal. Thupting Chhyoling Monastery, Solududhkunda Municipality Ward No. 2 Junbesi, Solukhumbu, Nepal, during the campaign of Good Nutrition Program 2018. Photo by Prasadha Pokhrel.

## Letter from the Executive Director and Board Chair

Dear CORE Group members, partners, friends and supporters,

This has been a busy and exciting year for us and we hope you enjoy reading about the highlights in our 2018 Annual Report.

2018 saw continued humanitarian crises around the world that have forced more than 65 million people from their homes, with displacement lasting 17 years on average. Populations in a perpetual state of emergency are significantly more prone to infectious disease and other serious but preventable health complications, and there was widespread recognition that humanitarian and development programming and policy can no longer be separate. Throughout the year, CORE Group convened discussions and led collaborations around the humanitarian-development nexus, highlighting the need for a stronger link between emergency and development response, policy, and community health and nutrition.

The 2018 CORE Group Global Health Practitioner Conference was the world's first global gathering of humanitarian and development actors to prioritize evidence and lessons learned as we work toward collective community health outcomes. At this conference on community health action for the humanitarian development, over 300 participants from nearly 20 countries representing more than 100

organizations came together to formulate new ideas and actions on how to advance evidence-based policies, strategies, partnerships, and practices in a complex and fluid area; to create new partnerships for future collaborations to advance humanitarian and development approaches; and to raise awareness of relevant programmatic and research questions driving this work and identify the remaining gaps in knowledge.

In August 2018, USAID's Office of Foreign Disaster Assistance (USAID/OFDA) USAID/OFDA recognized the value of CORE Group's collaborative model through the initiative, "Increase Global Capacity for Coordinating, Integrating, and Transitioning Community Health and Nutrition in Response to Protracted Crises and in Transition to Recovery," funding research to better understand the data and coordination gaps in community health programming in the dynamic context of protracted crises and transitions into recovery. Through its Humanitarian-Development Task Force (HDTF), CORE Group has partnered with Save the Children and Medair on this USAID/OFDA-funded initiative that aims to address the operational evidence gaps around health and nutrition in the humanitarian-development nexus, research existing interventions, and turn this research into actionable guidelines.

As the knowledge management and learning lead on The TOPS Program, CORE Group coordinated the 2018 TOPS/FSN Network Asia Regional Knowledge Sharing Meeting with over 150 implementers, donors, and researchers from over 21 countries representing more than 40 organizations collaborating in Bangkok, Thailand in October 2018. The conference brought together development and emergency implementers, academics, and donors to share food security and nutrition innovations, emerging topics, promising practices and lessons learned. Attendees engaged in interactive sessions gaining increased awareness of common and unique challenges faced by development and emergency implementers in Asia; explored synergies; and identified ways in which we can all work together on these essential topics.

CORE Group, with partners and member organizations, also helped elevate the World Health Organization's (WHO) #HealthForAll campaign by participating and presenting at global events moving the needle on UHC, highlighting the organization's work and the incredible leadership of its many members on UHC and community health, including at:

- 2018 Prince Mahidol Award Conference (PMAC): Making the World Safe from the Threats of Emerging Infectious Diseases
- 2018 Social and Behavior Change Communications (SBCC) Summit: Shifting Norms, Changing Behavior, Amplifying Voice: What Works?
- UN High-level Political Forum
- UN General Assembly
- 5th Global Symposium on Health Systems Research (HSR2018)
- WHO/UNICEF Global Conference on Primary Health Care in Astana
- 2018 Partners' Forum of The Partnership for Maternal, Newborn & Child Health (PMNCH)

CORE Groups Technical Working Groups and Interest Groups made key achievements in 2018 by continuing to push health for all forward through various specific technical and cross-cutting issues. Highlights are:

- The **Noncommunicable Diseases Interest Group**, in partnership with NCDChild, held a half-day workshop: “Integration of Noncommunicable Diseases into Global Health Programs: The Roadmap to Achieving the Sustainable Development Goals in 2030” that convened 61 attendees from 36 NGO, government, academic, professional, and private sector organizations. The event aimed to assess how existing health platforms can be expanded or modified to integrate approaches to treating NCDs throughout the life course, and to discuss the progress made around NCD prevention and management, particularly in humanitarian settings.
- The **Social and Behavior Change (SBC) Working Group** spearheaded an expert consultation, “Turning the SBC Lens on Ourselves: Implementing as if Context Mattered,” that delved into the emerging issue that a growing body of literature continues to support what most SBC professionals have long known - that effective SBC interventions are those that can quickly adapt to local conditions and shifts in those conditions. However, many on-the-ground practices lag behind in both theory and execution. The discussion was motivated by the broad question: “How do we effect behavior change within the behavior change community, and if it’s not the lack the professional will to do so, what is holding us back?” The workshop culminated with a list small doable actions for members of the Working Group and colleagues.
- **Young Professionals Network (YPN): Pilot Mentorship Program.** Through YPN, CORE Group facilitates a year long mentorship program to further support the career development of our young members in global community health and international development. The program draws on the extensive and far-reaching knowledge and experience of more established CORE Group members who are individually matched with a young member. By doing so, we hope to deepen the collaboration, engagement, and learning among our diverse community.

In 2018, nine inaugural Mentor-Mentee pairs of varying professional levels and backgrounds participated in the program, each creating a flexible workplan with activities such as resume review, guidance on advanced studies, and regular journal discussions.

2018 was also a busy year for the staff, Board of Directors and Members in preparing to open CORE Group to impactful international members making strides in community health around the world, and planning for the 1st Regional CORE Group Global Health Practitioners Meeting in Nairobi, Kenya, which we hope you will all be attending in Fall 2019!

We are grateful for your support and engagement, and look forward to continuing to improve and expand community health practices for underserved populations, especially women and children, through collaborative action and learning.

Best regards,

Lisa Hilmi, Executive Director  
and Erin Stieber, CORE Group Board Chair



Humanitarian and development experts gather at the 2018 TOPS/FSN Network Asia Regional Knowledge Sharing Meeting in Bangkok, Thailand. Photo by Jarek Pajewski

## 2018 HIGHLIGHTS ▶

### Spearheading Discussion around the Humanitarian-Development Nexus

Humanitarian and development programming and policy can no longer be separate. According to the United Nations, the protracted nature of humanitarian action is the new normal. Crises around the world have forced 65 million people from their homes, with displacement lasting 17 years on average. Populations in a perpetual state of emergency are significantly more prone to infectious disease and other serious but preventable health complications.

CORE Group pioneered discussion around the humanitarian-development nexus, highlighting the need for a stronger link between emergency and development response, policy, and collaboration in community health and nutrition.

## 2018 Global Health Practitioner Conference: Community Health Action for the Humanitarian-Development Nexus

June 4-7, 2018 | Bethesda, Maryland, USA

The 2018 Global Health Practitioner Conference was the world's first global gathering of humanitarian and development actors to prioritize evidence and lessons learned as we work toward collective community health outcomes. At this conference on community health action for the humanitarian development nexus, CORE Group brought together over 300 participants from nearly 20 countries representing more than 100 organizations.

Learn more [here](#).



Top left: GHPC18 attendees participate in a New Information Circuit, a trademark of CORE Group's annual conferences.

Top right: GHPC18 welcomed Dr. Paul Spiegel, Director of Johns Hopkins University's Center for Humanitarian Health in the Bloomberg School of Public Health, as its keynote speaker addressing community health in the humanitarian-development nexus.

Below left: Participants listen in to a plenary session at GHPC18.

Photos by CORE Group.



The 2018 TOPS/FSN Network Asia Regional Knowledge Sharing Meeting in Bangkok, Thailand brought together food security experts for knowledge sharing, skills building, and networking. Photo by Jarek Pajewski

## 2018 Asia Regional Knowledge Sharing Meeting: Food Security Resilience at the Intersection of Development and Emergency

October 2-4, 2018 | Bangkok, Thailand

Over 150 implementers, donors, and researchers from over 21 countries representing more than 40 organizations convened for the The TOPS Program/Food Security Network Asia Regional Knowledge Sharing. The conference brought together development and emergency implementers, academics, and donors to share food security and nutrition innovations, emerging topics, promising practices and lessons learned. Attendees engaged in interactive sessions gaining increased awareness of common and unique challenges faced by development and emergency implementers in Asia; explored synergies; and identified ways in which we can all work together.

Learn more [here](#).

## Launch of the USAID's Office of Foreign Disaster Assistance (USAID/OFDA)-funded initiative: Increase Global Capacity for Coordinating, Integrating, and Transitioning Community Health and Nutrition in Response to Protracted Crises and in Transition to Recovery

In 2018, USAID/OFDA recognized the value of CORE Group's collaborative model and funded research to better understand the data and coordination gaps in community health programming in the dynamic context of protracted crises and transitions into recovery. Through its Humanitarian-Development Task Force (HDTF), CORE Group partnered with Save the Children and Medair on this USAID/OFDA-funded initiative that aims to address the operational evidence gaps around health and nutrition in the humanitarian-development nexus, research existing interventions, and turn this research into actionable guidelines.

Learn more [here](#).



A young boy from a batey (shanty village) in the San Pedro district of the Dominican Republic is weighed by the staff of a mobile clinic sponsored by Medicines for Humanity. Photo by Medicines for Humanity.

## Amplifying Support for Universal Health Coverage (UHC) through Our Global Engagements and Partnerships

CORE Group, with partners and member organizations, helped elevate the World Health Organization's (WHO) #HealthForAll campaign by participating and presenting at global events moving the needle on UHC.

### 2018 Prince Mahidol Award Conference (PMAC): Making the World Safe from the Threats of Emerging Infectious Diseases

January 29-February 3, 2018 | Bangkok, Thailand

CORE Group's Executive Director, Lisa M. Hilmi, joined others in the panel session: "Communicating risk during epidemics: Can I trust you?" The panelists shared their knowledge and experiences regarding communication during emergency situations, focusing on epidemics that have ensued over the past few years, namely: MERS (2013), Ebola (2014), and Zika (2016). The session stressed the importance of trust in order to ensure that the appropriate measures are taken to avoid unnecessary death, disease and disability that could cause damage to the social and economic systems of the country in distress.

### 2018 Social and Behavior Change Communications (SBCC) Summit: Shifting Norms, Changing Behavior, Amplifying Voice: What Works?

April 16-20, 2018 | Nusa Dua, Bali, Indonesia

CORE Group supported the coordination of several panels hosted by USAID's flagship Maternal and Child Survival Program (MCSP) and CORE Group Polio Project (CGPP) examining the role of SBCC in polio eradication worldwide. In "Necessary Bedfellows - But How to Connect? Data and SBCC", experts discussed the inter-relationship between data and SBCC through the lessons learned from the polio experience in India, Nigeria, and Pakistan and from a global perspective. In "Polio Communication: What Works in Complex Settings?", experts examined how learnings from polio eradication may be applied to work in other development issues in equally complex settings with low performance against the Sustainable Development Goals.

### 5th Global Symposium on Health Systems Research (HSR2018)

October 8-12, 2018 | Liverpool, United Kingdom

CORE Group in partnership with Save the Children, icddr-b, and contributing colleagues hosted a satellite event: "No longer invisible - finally bridging health care, social and societal engagement to build systems for health." The session showcased evidence and experiences on how lessons from implementation research and program evaluation need to inform the future of a cohesive vision of 'systems for health', bridging health care systems and governance, with social and societal engagement for equity, people-centeredness, accountability and resilience.

### WHO/UNICEF Global Conference on Primary Health Care

October 25-26, 2018 | Astana, Kazakhstan

CORE Group joined the wider global health community at the conference in reaffirming primary health care for all, celebrating 40 years of the Alma Ata Declaration.

CORE Group, in partnership with USAID's flagship Maternal and Child Survival Program (MCSP), ICF, Catholic Relief Services, Concern Worldwide, and many other colleagues, launched the Child Survival and Health Grants Program (CSHGP) Legacy Report titled - "30 Years of USAID's Child Survival and Health Grants Program: Building primary care systems with countries, communities, civil society and governments to save lives and improve equity."

Access the report [here](#).

## 2018 Partners' Forum of The Partnership for Maternal, Newborn & Child Health (PMNCH)

December 12-13, 2018 | New Delhi, India

CORE Group supported the coordination of a side event: "Power of Partnerships Across Countries for Women, Children & Communities: Learning from cross-sector, integrated, and community-based approaches that reach every child and save lives." The event aimed to share experiences and lessons learned from the use of cross-sectoral partnerships, integration, and community approaches to achieve reproductive, maternal, newborn, child, and adolescent health goals. It also provided space to explore effective strategies that may be adapted to other development and humanitarian issues.

CORE Group's Executive Director, Lisa M. Hilmi, who sits on the Board of PMNCH, was in attendance advocating for cross-sectoral partnerships, greater investment in community health workers and the health workforce in general, and stronger support for citizen-led accountability. She served as Co-chair for the Partners' Forum Programme.

Other global engagements included: 73rd UN General Assembly, 2018 High-level Political Forum on Sustainable Development, and USAID's Acting on the Call Report: Preventing Child & Maternal Deaths.



CORE Group's Executive Director Lisa M. Hilmi (2nd from left) attended the Forum advocating for cross-sectoral partnerships, greater investment in community health workers, and stronger support for citizen-led accountability. She sits on the Board of PMNCH and was a Co-Chair for the Partners' Forum Program.



FCHV support to feeding vitamin A during national vitamin A campaign at Jiri Municipality, Dolakha district, Nepal. Photo by Kiran Shrestha.

## MEMBERSHIP ▶

[www.coregroup.org/membership](http://www.coregroup.org/membership)

In 2018, CORE Group welcomed 6 new Members: Advancing Synergy, American Refugee Committee (rejoined), Health Volunteers Overseas, Last Mile Health, Management Sciences for Health, Syntegral. These new Members join our International Community Health Network, with over 145 organizational and individual members and over 9,000 practitioners, private sector, policymakers, health officials, academics, donors, and more committed to improving community health worldwide.

Access our Membership Directory [here](#).

Our members contribute to global community health impact. CORE Group provides an innovative space for them to **lead and influence**; to **collaborate and expand networks**; and to **strengthen technical capacities and skills**. Get more details [here](#).



# TECHNICAL WORKING GROUPS AND INTEREST GROUPS



[www.coregroup.org/working-groups](http://www.coregroup.org/working-groups)

Technical Working Groups and Interest Groups made key achievements in 2018 by continuing to push the field of community health forward through various specific technical and cross-cutting issues. The groups are self-organizing, self-governing, and adaptive entities that transcend organizational boundaries. They are established based on the interest of CORE Group Membership, and often tackle issues at the periphery of the evidence base where the experience of multiple organizations is critical to mainstream best practices. Through the Technical Working Groups and Interest Groups, dedicated professionals bring their individual and organizational resources to bear, to collectively generate ideas, create knowledge and craft responses that can show health impact on a meaningful scale.

Access knowledge sharing webinars [here](#).

Currently, CORE Group has Technical Working Groups on:

**SYSTEMS FOR HEALTH** | Co-chairs: Eric Sarriot, Save the Children; Lauri Winter, Independent

**MONITORING AND EVALUATION** | Co-chairs: Allison Annette Foster, WI-HER; Mai-Anh Hoang, Chemonics; Todd Nitkin, World Vision

**NUTRITION** | Co-chairs: Charlotte Block, NCBA CLUSA; Adriane Seibert, Catholic Relief Services; Shelley Walton, Johns Hopkins Bloomberg School of Public Health

**REPRODUCTIVE, MATERNAL, NEWBORN, CHILD & ADOLESCENT HEALTH** | Co-chairs: Corinne Mazzeo, Save the Children; Mychelle Farmer, Advancing Synergy

**SOCIAL AND BEHAVIOR CHANGE** | Erin Pfeiffer, Food for the Hungry; Joseph Petraglia, Syntegral; Sarah Sahlaney, ACDI/VOCA

And Interest Groups, including:

**DISABILITY-INCLUSIVE HEALTH TECHNICAL ADVISORY GROUP** | Co-chairs: Alessandra Aresu, Humanity & Inclusion; Leia Isanhart, Catholic Relief Services

**NONCOMMUNICABLE DISEASES (NCDs) INTEREST GROUP** | Dr. Arti Varanasi, Advancing Synergy

**HUMANITARIAN-DEVELOPMENT TASK FORCE** | Co-Chairs: Wendy Dymont, Medair; Marielle Snel, Save the Children; Susan Otchere, World Vision

In 2018, these Technical Working Groups and Interest Groups hosted **17 KNOWLEDGE SHARING EVENTS** on a variety of topics reaching over **1,500 PARTICIPANTS GLOBALLY**.



With her baby, a mother collects water at a newly dug borehole funded by Medicines for Humanity in North West Cameroon. Photo by Medicines for Humanity.

Highlights include:

The Noncommunicable Diseases Interest Group, in partnership with NCDChild held a half-day workshop, "Integration of Noncommunicable Diseases into Global Health Programs: The Roadmap to Achieving the Sustainable Development Goals in 2030," that convened 61 attendees from 36 NGO, government, academic, professional, and private sector organizations. The event aimed to assess how existing health platforms can be expanded or modified to integrate approaches to treating NCDs throughout the life course, and to discuss the progress made around NCD prevention and management, particularly in humanitarian settings.

Learn more [here](#).

The Social and Behavior Change (SBC) Working Group spearheaded an expert consultation with 48 attendees representing over 21 organizations, "Turning the SBC Lens on Ourselves: Implementing as if Context Mattered," that delved into the emerging issue that a growing body of literature continues to support what most SBC professionals have long known - that effective SBC interventions are those that can quickly adapt to local conditions and shifts in those conditions. However, many on-the-ground practices lag behind in both theory and execution. The discussion was motivated by the broad question: "How do we effect behavior change within the behavior change community, and if it's not the lack the professional will to do so, what is holding us back?" The workshop culminated with a list small doable actions for members of the Working Group and colleagues.

Learn more [here](#).





CORE Group's Young Professionals Network invites subject matter experts in development to co-host career development workshops. Digital Development Communications was one such partner designing a workshop about the use of video storytelling in development programming. Photo by CORE Group.

## YOUNG PROFESSIONALS NETWORK ▶

[www.coregroup.org/ypn](http://www.coregroup.org/ypn)

CORE Group's Young Professionals Network (YPN) formally engages and supports future innovators of global community health and international development. The Network fosters engagement, collaboration, knowledge sharing, and career development among our young CORE Group members.

Currently, YPN has over 260 members, 21 to 35-year-old students, interns, and early career professionals.

In 2018, YPN hosted several knowledge sharing events and skills building workshops:

- A Conversation With D.C.'s NGO Leadership: On Career Paths and the Future of International Development welcomed a distinguished panel of executives coming from different international development NGOs in Washington, D.C. to share insights about their professions and forecasts to what the future holds, especially for the new generation of policymakers and practitioners.

- Storytelling for International Development: An In-Depth Workshop hosted a storytelling workshop with Digital Development Communications (DDC) focusing on the use of film and video for international development activities, from advocacy to evaluation.
- An Evening with Global Health Corps (GHC) featured GHC fellows and alums to learn more about the GHC Fellowship Program, sharing their successes, challenges, and the valuable learning all within the 13-month program.

## Mentorship Program

Through YPN, CORE Group facilitates a year long mentorship program to further support the career development of our young members in global community health and international development. The program draws on the extensive and far-reaching knowledge and experience of more established CORE Group members who are individually matched with a young member. By doing so, we hope to deepen the collaboration, engagement, and learning among our diverse community.

In 2018, nine inaugural Mentor-Mentee pairs of varying professional levels and backgrounds participated in the program, each creating a flexible workplan with activities such as resume review, guidance on advanced studies, and regular journal discussions.

“It has been a very helpful programme which helped me in my professional work and academic studies. My mentor was a resource to me, reviewing and providing constructive feedback on my academic work, especially my thesis. The programme ended in December but he was willing to work on it with me before submission. In my professional work, he provided reference resources that I used to develop WASH volunteer materials for the a project that I worked on.”

- MENTEE, COHORT 1, 2018

“It was a pleasure to be able to meet a young professional and share about my experience on the global health journey and learn about her goals, objectives and experiences. I think we were able to achieve our original goals. We mostly Skyped once a month and discussed a particular topic related to global nutrition each time. Then we had some sessions around course planning and career planning.”

- MENTOR, COHORT 1, 2018

# PROGRAMS ▶

## CORE Group Polio Project (CGPP)

[www.coregroup.org/cgpp](http://www.coregroup.org/cgpp)

### Polio Eradication Toolkit

In 2018, CORE Group Polio Project published an expansive toolkit that catalogs many of the materials created and used by each CGPP country. The resource contains community mobilization tools, monitoring and evaluation documents, training resources, and materials for a wide range of polio eradication approaches. These tools inform, educate, organize, empower, and promote the work of thousands of community health workers who support vaccination campaigns, conduct community-based Acute Flaccid Paralysis surveillance, promote routine immunization, track the vaccination status of under-fives, newborns, and pregnant women, and mobilize communities to actively participate in immunization services. Some of these resources are technical and organizational in scope; other tools are used to provide instruction or reinforce health information through interactive discussions; while other learning products are tailored to address low literacy and adapted to country or regional contexts.

These tools have been used to lead, support, or coordinate the current eradication and disease surveillance efforts in Ethiopia, India, Kenya, Nigeria, Somalia, and South Sudan. While the tools were originally developed by and for CGPP countries over the years, the content of many of these tools can be adapted for practical application to support other health initiatives that aim at eliminating or reducing vaccine-preventable diseases.

Access the toolkit [here](#).



### Attendance at the 2nd International Social & Behavioral Change Communication (SBCC) Summit

CORE Group supported the coordination of several panels hosted by USAID's flagship Maternal and Child Survival Program (MCSP) and CORE Group Polio Project (CGPP) examining the role of SBCC in polio eradication worldwide. In "Necessary Bedfellows - But How to Connect? Data and SBCC", experts discussed the inter-relationship between data and SBCC through the lessons learned from the polio experience in India, Nigeria, and Pakistan and from a global perspective. In "Polio Communication: What Works in Complex Settings?", experts examined how learnings from polio eradication may be applied to work in other development issues in equally complex settings with low performance against the Sustainable Development Goals.



Mothers and children singing, Sam Ndiaye, Senegal. Photo by Janine Schooley, Project Concern International.

## USAID's Maternal and Child Survival Program

[www.coregroup.org/maternal-and-child-survival-program](http://www.coregroup.org/maternal-and-child-survival-program)

### Round Table on Social Accountability in Malawi

September 6, 2018 | Lilongwe, Malawi

Since 2015, USAID's flagship Maternal and Child Survival Program (MCSP) worked closely with Malawi partners to advance social accountability documentation research. UNICEF, with funding from the Gates Foundation, implemented the project 'Social Accountability for Every Women Every Child' (SAcc EWEC) in Malawi from 2016-2018. The project worked to facilitate community and civil society organization platforms to carry out constructive engagement for social accountability at different levels of the system. This was done through evidence generation, dialogue and debate for responsiveness and quality delivery of reproductive, maternal, newborn, child and adolescent health services based on duty bearers' responsibilities.

On September 6, 2018, CORE Group, as a partner on MCSP, supported USAID and UNICEF in convening a round table meeting in Lilongwe, Malawi, to bring together 52 stakeholders from civil society, government, academia and funding agencies to discuss the work done under the SAcc EWEC project and the broader learning context for social accountability in Malawi.

Read the report [here](#).

Additionally, CORE Group through MCSP was involved in two social accountability case studies in Malawi. The two approaches studied have been used in Malawi for over a decade and have shown success in engaging civil society to strengthen national health systems. The case studies are documented in Two Promising Social Accountability Approaches to Improve Health in Malawi: Community Score Cards, and National Health Budget Consultation, Analysis and Advocacy.

Access the resource [here](#).



## Institutionalizing Community Health Conference: Webinar Series

In March 2017, nearly 400 community health champions from 44 countries, representing multiple sectors, gathered in Johannesburg for the Institutionalizing Community Health Conference (IHC). To ensure that continued discussion and action, MCSP, in collaboration with UNICEF, has since hosted a webinar series as a conference follow-on, critically looking at the key principles that came out of the conference. As a partner on MCSP, CORE Group serves as the main coordinator for these webinars.

Learn more [here](#).

Webinars to date:

### Community Health Information Systems: Success Stories from Rwanda and Mozambique

December 15, 2017

The first session highlighted two country examples of promising health information systems:

- Rwanda's national community health information system
- Mozambique's upSCALE digital health information system

### Digital Tools to Strengthen Community Health Work: India Deep Dive

July 23, 2018

This second session discussed how digital technology can improve mother and child health at the community level, and examined MCSP-supported approaches used in India to strengthen community health work.

## The TOPS Program BRIDGE Award

[www.coregroup.org/the-tops-program](http://www.coregroup.org/the-tops-program)

CORE Group was a part of The TOPS Program BRIDGE Award, which served to continue activity from The TOPS Program and to act as a transition mechanism for the TOPS follow-on program, IDEAL. CORE Group continued to bring its expertise in cultivating collaborative learning environments through facilitation, planning and leading participatory events, and furthering capacity and skills building in order to nurture an open community of practice, the Food Security and Nutrition (FSN) Network.

Highlights:

### 2018 Asia Regional Knowledge Sharing Meeting: Food Security Resilience at the Intersection of Development and Emergency

October 2-4, 2018 | Bangkok, Thailand

Over 150 implementers, donors, and researchers from over 21 countries representing more than 40 organizations convened for the TOPS/FSN Asia Regional Knowledge Sharing. The conference brought together development and emergency implementers, academics, and donors to share food security and nutrition innovations, emerging topics, promising practices and lessons learned. Attendees engaged in interactive sessions gaining increased awareness of common and unique challenges faced by development and emergency implementers in Asia; explored synergies; and identified ways in which we can all work together.

Learn more [here](#).



#KASia18 participants are involved in small group discussions, a trademark element of the TOPS/FSN Network Knowledge Sharing Meeting to encourage peer-to-peer learning.

Photo by Jarek Pajewski.

## KM4Dev-DC Learning Moment

May 2, 2018 | Washington, DC

The TOPS Program's Knowledge Management Team, led by CORE Group, hosted a networking and learning event on the role of knowledge management in project close out, in partnership with colleagues from QED, the KDAD Project, and the World Bank. KM practitioners in attendance shared their experiences with using KM tools and approaches to facilitate effective project close out and documentation.

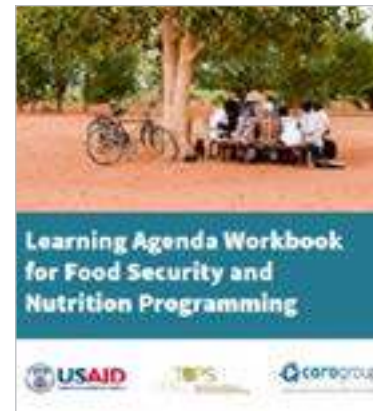
### Resource Publication

The Knowledge Management Team published the Learning Agenda Workbook for Food Security and Nutrition Programming, a step-by-step guide on how to conduct the process of developing and implementing a learning agenda for food security and nutrition programs. Through guidance, discussion questions, worksheets, and case examples, the workbook aims to support in determining the best approach for programming.

View Learning Agenda Workbook [here](#).

The KM Team also updated its guidance resource on webinar production, Learning Online: A TOPS Quick Guide to Webinar Production. The tool presents the accumulation of best practices The TOPS Program adheres to when designing and producing webinars. This document is a step-by-step resource that reviews in turn the critical actions necessary across the three main stages of webinar design and implementation: Pre-Production, Production, and Post-Production.

View Learning Online [here](#).



## USAID/OFDA-HDTF Award

[www.coregroup.org/hdtf](http://www.coregroup.org/hdtf)

CORE Group has partnered with Save the Children and Medair on a USAID/OFDA-funded initiative: Increase Global Capacity for Coordinating, Integrating, and Transitioning Community Health and Nutrition in Response to Protracted Crises and in Transition to Recovery. The project aims to address the operational evidence gaps around health and nutrition in the humanitarian-development nexus, research existing interventions, and turn this research into actionable guidelines.

Learn more about project activities [here](#).

## REAL Award

[www.coregroup.org/the-real-program](http://www.coregroup.org/the-real-program)

CORE Group was a partner on the Resilience Evaluation, Analysis and Learning (REAL) award. REAL is consortium-led effort to synthesize evidence on impact of USAID-funded resilience programming; strengthen the capacity of monitoring and evaluation practitioners to engage in context-specific resilience analysis; and share relevant learning with USAID Missions, host governments, implementing partners, and other key stakeholders. CORE Group worked closely with our consortium partners (Save the Children, TANGO International, Mercy Corps and Food for the Hungry), in collaboration with USAID's Center for Resilience, to share new research on resilience measurement, facilitate knowledge sharing events and trainings, and support dissemination of practical guidance pieces and strategic analysis.

## OPPORTUNITIES FOR 2019 ONWARDS

### Global Membership Engagement

To respond to organizational and individual member needs, CORE Group carried out a revamp of its member benefits and a restructure of membership categories, which will be launched in 2019. CORE Group also undertook a feasibility study to include International Organizations officially in its membership to elevate their work at the country-level in the International Health Community Network. Findings and recommendations of this study will guide the trajectory of membership recruitment 2019 onwards.



A medical officer leads a maternal and child health care training at a primary health care center in Myanmar.

Photo by Myanmar Health Assistant Association.

# AUDITED FINANCIAL STATEMENT

The audit firm, Toal, Murray, Day, and Lalor (TMDL) conducted an audit of compliance in accordance with auditing standards generally accepted in the USA; the standards applicable to financial audits contained in Government Auditing Standards, issued by the Comptroller General of the United States; and OMB Circular A-133, Audits of States, Local Government, and Non-Profit Organizations. The audit firm stated that CORE, Inc. complied, in all material respects, with the requirements referred to above that are applicable to each of its major federal programs for the year ended September 30, 2018.

CORE, Inc. Statement of Activities and Changes in Net Assets

	2018	2017
<b>REVENUE</b>		
Government Grants	\$1,173,526	\$1,837,356
Contributions and Private Grants	\$86,181	\$132,676
Membership	\$206,663	\$191,773
Workshop Fees	\$116,517	\$80,701
Interest Income	\$5,854	\$9,689
Other Income	\$29,191	\$57,005
Net Assets Released from Donor Restrictions	-	-
<b>Total Revenue</b>	<b>\$1,617,932</b>	<b>\$2,309,200</b>
	2018	2017
<b>FUNCTIONAL EXPENSES</b>		
Maternal and Child Health	\$261,232	\$655,408
Nutrition and Food Security	\$794,444	\$893,836
Infectious Disease (Polio)	\$206,991	\$310,768
CORE Member Services	\$31,731	\$99,903
<b>Total Program Services</b>	<b>\$1,249,398</b>	<b>\$1,959,915</b>
Management and General	\$615,715	\$409,911
<b>Total Expenses</b>	<b>\$1,865,113</b>	<b>\$2,369,826</b>
Change in Nets	(247,181)	(60,626)
Net Assets at the Beginning of the Year	\$1,588,545	\$1,649,171
Net Assets End of Year	\$1,341,364	\$1,588,545



Maternal and child health care education sharing by medical officer at primary health care center. Photo by Myanmar Health Assistant Assoc.

## Grantors

World Vision - CORE Group Polio Project

Jhpiego - USAID's flagship Maternal and Child Survival Program

Save the Children - The TOPS Program Bridge Award and REAL Award

Eleanor Crook Foundation

USAID's Office of Foreign Disaster Assistance - Increase Global Capacity for Coordinating, Integrating, and Transitioning Community Health and Nutrition in Response to Protracted Crises and in Transition to Recovery Project

## Individual Donors

Combined Federal Campaign

Thomas Davis

Christine Gavitt

Erin Stieber

Dory Storms

Lisa Hilmi

Scott Jackson

Dennis Cherian

David Pyle

Comfort Siodlarz

Sonya Funna Evelyn

Beth Outtersson

# WHO WE ARE



## CORE Group Staff

Lisa M. Hilmi | Executive Director

Sarah Paige | Senior Advisor, Global Health Security Agenda

Comfort Siodlarz | Director, Finance and Administrations

Zaka Kuawogai | Senior Finance Accountant

Laura Tashjian | Program Manager, Humanitarian-Development Task Force

Adrienne Todela | Knowledge Management and Communications Manager

Avani Duggaraju | Communications and Knowledge Management Associate

Shelby Brown | Operations and Membership Manager

Nicole Stafford | Fellow, Strategic Partnerships

Learn more about our staff [here](#).

## CORE Group Board of Directors

Sarah Ford, Catholic Relief Services | Chair

Jennifer Nielsen, Helen Keller International | Secretary

Erin Stieber, Smile Train | At-Large

Jordan Hatcher, Family Planning 2020 | At-Large

Dick Day, Catholic Medical Missions Board | At-Large

Beth Outterson, Independent | At-Large

Scott Jackson, Global Impact | At-Large

Learn more about our Board of Directors [here](#).

Dennis Cherian, World Vision | Co-Chair

Kote Lomidze, World Learning | Treasurer

Magnus Conteh, Last Mile Health | At-Large

Stephen Rahaim, Resonance | At-Large

David Pyle, Independent | At-Large

Janine Schooley, PCI | At-Large

Sonya Funna Evelyn, ADRA | At-Large



# ENGAGE WITH US



## Join the Membership

CORE Group's Membership is made up of organizations and individual associates committed to advancing community health for underserved people in low- and middle-income countries. Through our International Community Health Network, over 5,000 health and development professionals come together to share ideas, identify gaps and promising innovations, and collaborate to create the next generation of practical tools, guidance and insight. As a member, you have the opportunity to lead and influence global community health impact, collaborate and expand your network, strengthen technical capacities and skills, and access CORE Group resources.

Learn more about membership [here](#).

## Sponsor Our Global Health Practitioner Conferences

By sponsoring CORE Group's Global Health Practitioner Conferences, you are investing in our mission to advance community health. Commit to disseminating your resources and increasing your visibility among global health leaders from cutting-edge organizations working tirelessly to promote healthy communities worldwide.

Learn more about GHPC sponsorship [here](#).

## Make a Donation

Your contribution will enable us to create and disseminate field-relevant tools and materials, strengthen the local capacity of NGOs, governments, health workers and communities, and host and facilitate activities that promote collaboration and coordination, all critical to advance community health, especially for underserved populations worldwide.



Donate online at [www.coregroup.org](http://www.coregroup.org), or send a check made out to "CORE, Inc." to:

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USA



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