Thanks to your generous support, combined with increasingly large orders from our humanitarian partners, in 2014, Edesia produced record supplies of ready-to-use foods (RUFs) to help treat and prevent malnutrition for over 950,000 children living in 21 countries. Edesia provided RUFs to UNICEF, the World Food Programme, SCMS and USAID/USDA, among other humanitarian agencies working to end childhood malnutrition.

In 2014, Edesia began planning a new factory, which will open in the spring of 2016 at Quonset Business Park in North Kingstown, Rhode Island.

In 2014, Edesia shipped its RUFs to 21 countries: Burkina Faso, Cameroon, Central African Republic, Chad, DR Congo, Ethiopia, Guatemala, Honduras, Kenya, Laos, Mali, Mauritania, Mexico, Niger, Senegal, Sierra Leone, South Sudan, UAE, Vietnam, Zambia and Zimbabwe.
Our Mission

Edesia’s mission is to treat and prevent malnutrition for the world’s most vulnerable children; our vision is a world in which all people have access to the basic human right of food and nutrition. We are committed to assuring that vulnerable individuals no longer suffer and die needlessly from malnutrition—a completely preventable condition. We treat all children as our own, and produce for them the lifesaving tools they need to overcome malnutrition and thrive. We act now, because the cost of inaction is too great.

Our Mandates

- Produce high-quality peanut-based, ready-to-use foods for humanitarian and other nongovernmental organizations.
- Collaborate on research and development to improve distribution systems and optimize the use of ready-to-use foods.
- Engage in educational efforts and direct advocacy to raise the public profile of malnutrition affecting more than 220 million children worldwide.

Our Impact

Between 2010-2014, Edesia helped humanitarian agencies reach over 2.6 million malnourished children.

Products Produced and Shipped

- Plumpynut: 26%
- PlumpySup: 37%
- RUTF: 22%
- RUSF: 10%
- Nutributter: 5%

Funding Sources

- USDA/USAID: 29%
- World Food Programme: 18%
- All Others: 25%
- UNICEF: 17%
- Grants & Donations: 11%

Your support is crucial to our mission. You can make a tax deductible gift by visiting our website www.edesiaglobal.org.
At the end of 2013, Edesia's Executive Director and Founder Navyn Salem received an urgent plea from Dr. Tom Catena, an American doctor who runs the Mother of Mary Hospital in the Nuba Mountains of southern Sudan. He was concerned about the number of severely malnourished children he was seeing at the hospital and desperate to find a solution.

A graduate of Brown University in Providence, Rhode Island, Catena, affectionately known as “Dr. Tom,” was already aware that portable and shelf-stable Plumpy’Nut® and Plumpy’Sup™ could “miraculously” reverse acute malnutrition in young children under the age of five in about seven weeks.

A practical solution was needed for treating malnutrition, especially given that Dr. Tom was the only doctor and surgeon at the 300-bed hospital. The facility, which opened in 2008, serves approximately one million people over a large geographic area. Dr. Tom regularly performs surgery, treats illnesses ranging from malaria to leprosy, trains a mostly nonprofessional volunteer staff, and runs the hospital without a reliable supply of vaccines or medicines.

Salem knew that Plumpy’Nut, Plumpy’Sup, and the lifesaving nutrition they provide would be a godsend at the hospital, where an armed conflict between Sudanese Armed Forces and the Sudan People’s Liberation Movement-North had made life very precarious for everyone living there, including Dr. Tom.

Through a generous grant from the Salomon Family Foundation, Edesia responded to Dr. Tom’s request and did what no other humanitarian aid agency had succeeded in doing in the troubled region.

“When we learned of the opportunity to work in partnership with Edesia to provide urgently needed nutritional support to children in a remote part of the world with unimaginable challenges in terms of day to day survival, we had to help,” said Kira Rodriguez, Salomon Family Foundation trustee.

Thanks to the caring support of the Salomon family, in May of 2014, Edesia’s team successfully shipped 593 cartons of Plumpy’Sup and 492 cartons of Plumpy’Nut, enough to help more than 1,800 malnourished children.

Edesia’s team coordination efforts to get the shipment to the Nuba Mountains required much persistence and patience, due to all of the logistical challenges. Since the rainy season began right before the shipment arrived, the boxes had to wait in storage in Lokichoggio. After many other hurdles, the shipment was finally received, safe and sound, in November 2014 and was immediately put to good use.

Dr. Tom reported that the children were enjoying and benefitting from the nutrition of Plumpy’Nut and Plumpy’Sup. He shared photos of the severely malnourished children in his care with sachets of Plumpy’Nut and Plumpy’Sup in their hands.

“As a family, playing a part in helping Dr. Tom and his team alleviate, even a small portion of the suffering these children are experiencing in southern Sudan was truly an honor,” said Rodriguez.

According to Salem, helping Dr. Tom and the patients under his care was one of the most rewarding experiences she could recall during her time at Edesia. “I saw how my team rallied to do something out of the ordinary,” she said, adding “which led to an extraordinary and miraculous outcome for many children, who now have a chance at life.”