



Annual Report:

July 15, 2013 – September 30, 2014

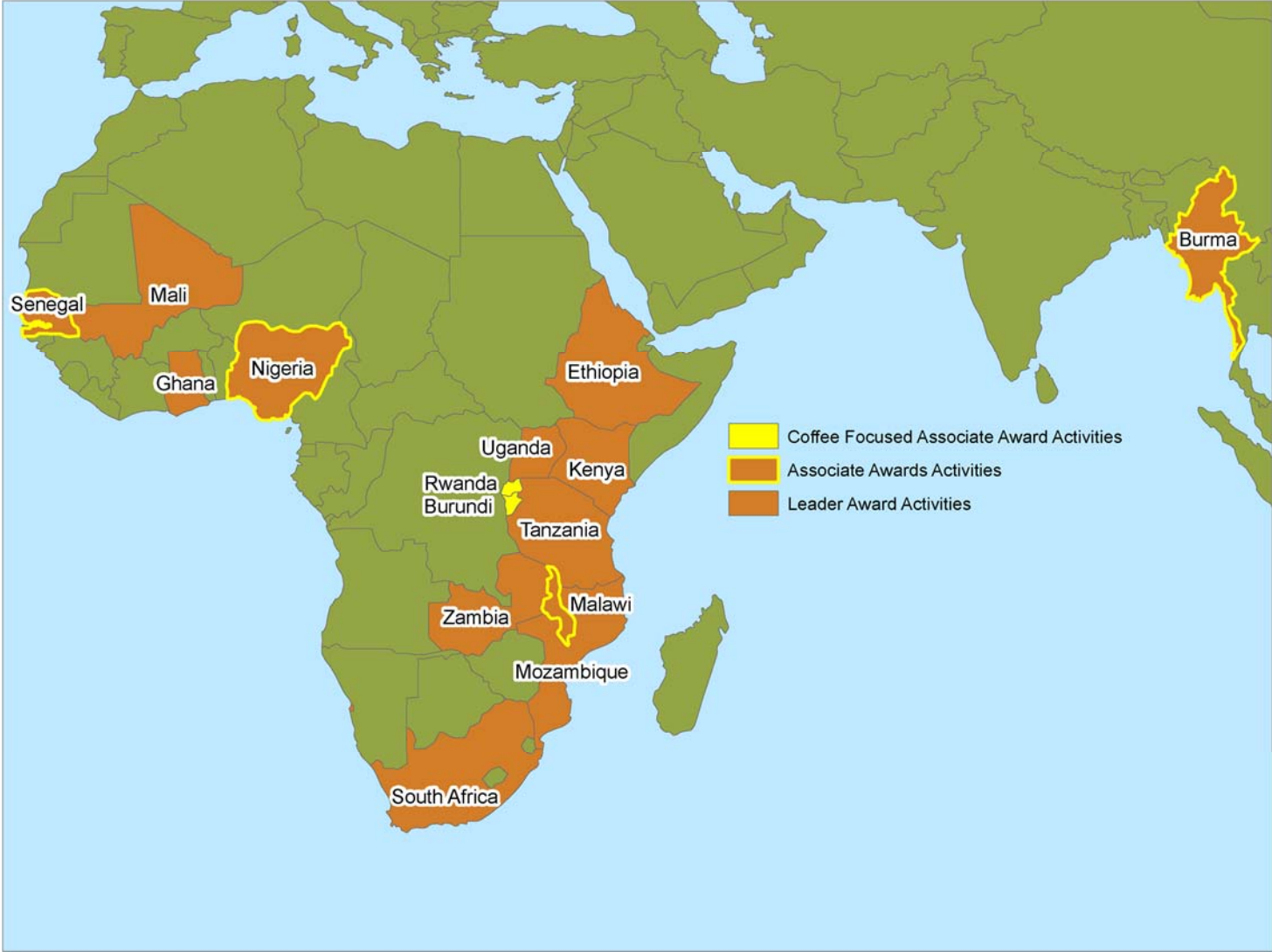
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Lead University: Michigan State University

Consortium Members:

International Food Policy Research Institute, University of Pretoria

Map of Countries Where the Project Works



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List of Acronyms

APES	Agricultural Production Estimate Statistics
CAADP	Comprehensive Africa Agriculture Development Program
CILSS	Permanent Inter-State Committee for Drought Control in the Sahel
DAI	Development Alternatives Incorporated
ECOWAP	Agricultural Policy of the Economic Community of West African States
ECOWAS	Economic Community of West African States
ESA	Eastern and Southern Africa
FAO	Food and Agriculture Organization
FSP	Food Security Program (Feed the Future Innovation Lab)
FTF	Feed the Future
GISAIA	Guiding Investments in Sustainable Agricultural Intensification in Africa
GIZ	German Society for International Cooperation
GoT	Government of Tanzania
HESN	Higher Education Solutions Network
IFPRI	International Food Policy Research Institute
INVC	Integrating Nutrition into Value Chains
JSR	Joint Sector Review
LGA	Local Government Authority
LGAF	Land Governance Accountability Framework
LSMS-ISA	Living Standards Measurement Study-Integrated Surveys on Agriculture
MAFS	Modernizing African Food Systems
MaSSP	Malawi Strategy Support Program
MDG	Millennium Development Goals
MDRI	Myanmar Development Research Institute
MicroCLIR	Micro Commercial Legal and Institutional Reform framework
MLFRD	Ministry of Livestock, Fisheries, and Rural Development (Burma)
MSU	Michigan State University
NEPAD	New Partnership for Africa's Development
ReNAPRI	Regional Network of Agricultural Policy Research Institutes
ReSAKSS	Regional Strategic Analysis and Knowledge Support System
ROPPA	Network of Farmers' and Agricultural Producers' Organizations of West Africa
SAKSS	Strategic Analysis and Knowledge Support System
UP	University of Pretoria
USAID	United States Agency for International Development
WA	West Africa
WAEMU	West African Economic and Monetary Union
YAU	Yezin Agricultural University (Burma)

Introduction

The Feed the Future Innovation Lab for Food Security Policy (FSP) was awarded to a consortium comprised of Michigan State University (MSU), the International Food Policy Research Institute (IFPRI) and the University of Pretoria on July 15, 2013.

FSP Goal and Objectives

The overall goal of the FSP program is to promote inclusive agricultural productivity growth, improved nutritional outcomes, and enhanced livelihood resilience for men and women through improved policy environments. FSP focused on two integrated objectives:

- *Objective 1:* Address critical evidence gaps for informed policy debate and formulation at country, regional and global levels. FSP will generate, synthesize and disseminate new knowledge on targeted policy issues for which the current evidence base is insufficient or inadequately understood to permit confident formulation and implementation of effective policies at country, regional and global levels.
- *Objective 2:* Foster credible, inclusive, transparent and sustainable policy processes at country level. The FSP will strengthen the building blocks for national policy systems in their regional contexts, promote inclusion of and dialogue among all stakeholders around critical policy issues, and disseminate globally sourced examples of successful innovation and best practice in policy system capacity building.

As FSP accomplishes these two complementary objectives, improved policies will accelerate and deepen the FTF-wide intermediate results (IRs) of increased agriculture productivity, improved market access, increased public and private investment, new rural farm and non-farm employment, and improved resilience.

FSP Workplan Structure, Target Geographies and Approach

The FSP workplan is organized into five components developed by blended teams from all three consortium members:

- C1: Field-Level Collaborative Research (on Farms, Firms, and Markets) and Formulation/Analysis of Policy Options
- C2: Capacity-Building for Policy (Data, Analysis, Advocacy, Formulation, Consultation, Coordination, and Implementation)
- C3: Global Collaborative Research on Support to the Policy Process and Policy Capacity
- C4: Engagement in Global Policy Debates on Food and Nutrition Security
- C5: Strategic Analytical Agenda and Support to Donor Policy and Strategy

EXECUTIVE SUMMARY

This report serves the combined function of second six-monthly and annual report, covering the first complete FY in the life of FSP. An extended workplan preparation and contracting process laid a strong foundation for future accomplishments. Significant progress was made across all FSP components, and in developing relationships with several missions that have subsequently expressed interest in associate awards. This section gives a flavor of the “out of the gate” accomplishments of the FSP program during its inception phase. They portend a strong likelihood of major policy and policy system improvements in focus countries. More details can be found on each component in the next chapter.

In **West Africa**, policy for the major urban staple – rice – is a key concern. Led by Ousmane Badiane and the IFPRI team in Dakar simulation analysis of the implications of the regional rice self-sufficiency policy for regional trade is underway. Preliminary results were presented to the ECOWAS task force on rice policy in March, 2014.

A major concern for ECOWAS is to understand reasons for highly variable degrees of implementation of regional harmonization agreements at country level. Following consultations with USAID West Africa partners, including ECOWAS and CORAF, country level implementation of regional seed harmonization agreements has been identified as an important example. We hypothesize that the regional seed regulations require much higher standards and capabilities than many countries in the region are in a position to implement. Further, requirements designed to facilitate regional trade may not be well adapted to, and could potentially impede, development of the domestic seed trade.

In **Mali**, FSP has consulted widely on policy analysis priorities with the government, private sector representatives, and USAID implementing partners involved in scaling up new technologies. FSP will shortly submit a concept note to USAID Mali and GOM partners to review public sector investment priorities, especially the use of farm level subsidies, strategies to promote sustainable intensification, as well as a review of the extent to which seed sector regulation and capacity is well adequate to facilitate both trade and domestic needs.

In **Nigeria**, FSP has consulted with the USAID mission and will soon prepare a proposal to expand the participation of Nigerian university researchers and graduate students in the next phase of policy analysis conducted by IFPRI’s Nigeria Agricultural Support Strategy program. Saweda Liverpool-Tasie, who worked for IFPRI’s program in Nigeria before taking up a faculty position at MSU, will lead the design of the capacity building component.

In Eastern and Southern Africa the project has been active in Malawi and Tanzania. In **Malawi**, led by Todd Benson (IFPRI) with support from the IFPRI country office, FSP has agreed a program of support with the Ministry of Agriculture and Food Security to provide a full time senior policy advisor to support implementation of government commitments to the New Alliance for Food Security and Nutrition, and an analyst to train and work alongside staff of the Department of Planning Services. FSP has also provided input to the National Agricultural Policy draft, as well as an assessment of the government’s proposed contract farming strategy and seed policy.

In **Tanzania**, led by Dave Tschirley and David Nyange, field work and key informant interviews with stakeholders in 6 key agro-ecological zones concerned about the crop cess levied by local government authorities is underway. Outreach on the findings to date have served to 1) increase knowledge and awareness of the cess issue, 2) enhance consensus on the need for fiscal policy reforms, and 3) increased the visibility of stakeholders and policy advocacy organizations.

In **Asia**, led by Tom Reardon (MSU) in collaboration with the Myanmar Development Resource Institute (MDRI), FSP has provided strong outreach to government units and the private sector in **Burma** on a value chain approach to agricultural and rural development. The project has also provided strong support to the USAID mission in Burma. A five year associate award proposal has been submitted to USAID Burma, with additional funding leveraged from the Livelihoods and Food Security trust (LIFT) fund for the first three years.

Component 3, global collaborative research on **policy process and capacity building**, has assembled an exceptionally strong research team led by Suresh Babu (IFPRI), Lorenzo Fioramenti (UP) and Steve Haggblade (MSU) from all three consortium member institutions. The team will meet in Pretoria in April to develop a comprehensive analytical

framework for analyzing policy systems, strongly grounded in political science and political economy concepts summarized in a working document prepared by Danielle Resnick (IFPRI). The framework will be used to undertake contrasting case studies of poor and effective implementation of policies to improve input access and nutrition outcomes, and draw lessons to ensure consistently effective policy implementation. The case studies will have direct application in priority countries as well as generating best practice lessons for FTF missions and the international development community.

Component 4, engagement in global policy debates on food and nutrition security, is focused on three policy themes: input policy, land policy, and value chains/private sector enabling environment. The level of international engagement by Component 4 teams is unprecedented in scope and policy leadership level for a project in its inception phase. The African Union designation of 2014 as the AU Year of Agriculture, coinciding with the 10th anniversary of CAADP, has provided an important target of opportunity.

With leadership from Thom Jayne (MSU) in collaboration with ReNAPRI, AFAP and the USAID FSP activity manager David Atwood, FSP participated in an **input policy** convening of technical experts in Addis Ababa. The key messages were subsequently discussed with the AU commissioner for agriculture and senior officials of COMESA, as well as at the CAADP Partners Meeting in Durban.

An energetic dialog on **land policy** has also taken place, in collaboration with colleagues from USAID's E3 bureau and the LGAF. IFPRI's Hosaena Hagos and MSU's Milu Muyanga have also taken part, drawing on extensive research by MSU and IFPRI colleagues. The Myanmar Development Resource Institute was also represented at the annual land conference organized by the World Bank, with L Seng Kham presenting findings on agribusiness development and smallholder land rights in Burma (for which Derek Byerlee was the lead author).

A high level dialog on how agricultural **value chains** are being transformed in response to changes in diets driven by urbanization and income growth has been led by Dave Tschirley and Tom Reardon (MSU). The findings have been presented to global thought leaders in Addis Ababa at the invitation of AGRA and Gates Foundation, and will also be presented at the World Economic Forum meetings in Manila. In collaboration with colleagues from UP and Makerere University, a one-day session on the implications of these transformations for employment and nutrition will be organized for 900 participants from the private sector at the International Food and Agribusiness Management Association meetings in Cape Town in June.

Under component 5, FSP has been highly responsive to USAID requests for strategic support. FSP has financed the participation of ReNAPRI members in the Addis Ababa convening of input policy experts to ensure broad based participation of African analysts in the formulation of best practice recommendations. ReNAPRI representatives also participated in the AU CAADP partners meeting in Durban in March. The FSP monitoring and evaluation team, led by Mywish Maredea (MSU), prepared a background paper to provide the FTF M&E team with options for improving policy indicators.

Despite a very significant roster of accomplishments during the inception phase there remain challenges to be overcome. Key challenges that the FSP management team are committed to resolve during the coming workplan year include the following:

- More effective integration of UP team members in all components following a significant delay in finalizing their subaward;
- Greater participation of IFPRI and UP colleagues in the global research engagement agenda (C4);
- More effective integration of cross cutting (gender and climate change) considerations across all FSP components;
- Achieving a balance between research and outreach, especially at country level and in component 4, and reconciling the different planning horizons (often very short term for outreach in contrast to research which requires a 2-3 year horizon);

- Timely response and effective implementation of associate awards, especially in West Africa;
- Maintaining communication across components and across team members from different institutions within components: monthly component team calls with FSP management have been difficult to maintain due to intense travel schedules;
- Developing an effective FSP communications strategy. A draft brochure is under preparation but much remains to be done to identify the right mix of products (briefs, working papers, voice over power points, etc.) and a common communications platform for the three consortium institutions.

DETAILED ACTIVITIES AND ACHIEVEMENTS BY COMPONENT

A. Components 1 and 2: Collaborative Policy Research, Analysis and Capacity Building for West Africa

Three key results were worked on under components C1 and C2 for West Africa. First, the case study comparisons of effective and poor implementation of regional agricultural and trade policies led to improved understanding of key factors affecting national implementation of regional policies. From this understanding, the team worked with USAID/WCA to develop tools and approaches for improving regional policy implementation at the national level. Second, the team developed a simulation model for regional rice economy to improve capacity to evaluate the impact of policy and investments on rice production, price, trade, and consumption. Third, the new government in Mali, and the new institutional architecture for food policy, received technical support through FSP during the transition from the now closed MSU associate award (ended November 2013) to a new FSP associate award (still in the works).

Year I Activities, Milestones and Outcomes

Activity 1: Assessing uneven implementation of regional agricultural and trade policies

- Milestones
 - Selection of a few agricultural policies with high potential for regional spillovers but uneven implementation across countries followed by case study field investigations of effective and ineffective policy implementation.
- Milestones status as of Sept 30, 2014
 - Submitted draft TOR and budget to USAID/West Africa for review.
 - We are still waiting for feedback from USAID/West Africa on funding proposal for the West Africa case studies.
 - We held two planning calls to discuss the proposed workplan with USAID/WA. For technical reasons, it was not possible to include ECOWAS in these discussions. For that reason, USAID/WA has not yet approved the workplan. Consequently, we have not begun work on this activity.
- Outcomes
 - Understanding reasons for differential rates of implementation of regional policies. Why have some countries fully implemented regional agreements while others have not?
 - Tools and approaches for improving regional policy implementation at the national level made available to ECOWAS and USAID/WA.
- Outcomes Status as of September 30, 2014
 - We are still awaiting feedback from USAID/WA on our proposed workplan.

Activity 2: Modeling the impact of regional rice policy

- Milestones
 - Develop a regional rice model building on the ECOWAS simulation model
- Milestones status as of Sept 30, 2014
 - Significant progress was made in developing a simulation model for the regional rice policy. In particular, a beta version of the Economic Community of West African States (ECOWAS) Simulation Model—ECOSIM—has been developed. ECOSIM is an economy-wide simulation model for the 15 ECOWAS countries. The model has 3 modules, namely i) national economy modules for the 15 ECOWAS countries; ii) the West African Economic and Monetary Union (WAEMU/UEMOA) module, made up of 8 ECOWAS countries with a

- common currency; and iii) the ECOWAS module which specifies intra-regional trade of goods and services and intra-regional movement of productive factors such as labor and capital.
- The ECOSIM model was customized to the FSP project by highlighting rice sectors and products in the country modules (i.e. supply, demand, trade, and markets). Specifically, the national economies modules were customized by highlighting the rice sectors in the social accounting matrices (SAM). This is done for all countries with the exception of Cape Verde because of limited data on rice trade. However, this is likely not to matter much given the small size of Cape Verde and that the country imports most of its rice from outside the West Africa region and does not produce rice.
 - The customized regional rice model was used to analyze the impact of the regional rice self-sufficiency policy. In particular, the model was used to simulate the impact of the policy on intra- and extra- regional trade (imports and exports), agricultural growth, overall growth, employment, and food security (rice and overall food consumption).
 - In addition, the team conducted a literature review on the methodological aspects of modeling non-tariff barriers. The review will feed into a non-tariff barrier model for agricultural goods, and for rice in particular. The model will be used to assess the trade, growth, poverty, and food security impacts of removing non trade barriers of agricultural commodities in West Africa.
 - In collaboration with a local institution, Groupe de recherche en économie appliquée et théorique (GREAT), the project team is developing a new SAM for Mali that will highlight many agricultural commodities including rice. The new SAM will feed into the ECOSIM model.
 - The regional rice model was refined and its documentation was completed. The regional rice model is based on the ECOWAS Simulation Model - or ECOSIM – and a guidance technical note on the model has been completed.
 - A micro-simulation model to assess the poverty and inequality impacts of the regional rice policy was developed. The model has been calibrated to 9 West African countries.
 - Significant progress was made in developing a gravity model to assess the impact of non-tariff barriers (NTBs) on trade flows in West Africa. The gravity model will be used along with the regional rice simulation model and micro-simulation model to assess the economic and social impact of specific NTBs and other regional integration issues. Thus far the estimation focuses on illegal payments that occur along eleven corridors and use data on interstate road harassment among the 8 West Africa Economic and Monetary Union (WAEMU) countries, plus Ghana. These data have been regularly gathered since 2007 by OPA and the CILSS.
 - A customized ECOWAS simulation model (ECOSIM) was used to forecast rice consumption and estimate the economy-wide impacts of achieving rice self-sufficiency in West Africa.
 - Rice trade information in the ECOSIM model is being updated using countries' agricultural survey data.
 - NTB information in the gravity model was updated using data from OPA and the Permanent Interstate Committee for Drought Control in the Sahel (CILSS). The model will be applied to the model to rice sub-sector.
 - The gravity and the ECOSIM models is being linked to assess the economy-wide implications of NTBs and rice regional trade.
 - Survey data for the remaining 6 ECOWAS countries was are being gathered to complete the, calibration of the micro-simulation model
 - The regional rice policy modeling team focused on building up economic accounts for the agricultural sector using agricultural survey data for Guinea and Senegal. The output, which fed into the regional rice model, was used to disaggregate social accounting matrices for rice activities by ecological zones in Guinea and by region in Senegal. This allowed the regional model to take into account more rice production systems/technologies (8 in Guinea) and (6 in Senegal) on the supply side, and the substitution of other cereals (such as millet, and maize) and other staple crops on the demand side.
 - Outcomes

- Impacts of potential policy measures and investment programs to improve the competitiveness of West African rice sectors identified and disseminated through ECOWAS
- Outcomes Status as of September 30, 2014
 - The simulation results were presented to the ECOWAS Task Force on Rice Policy meeting in Cotonou, Benin, from 24-26, March, 2014. The USAID-West Africa hub has representatives on the Task Force.
 - The research paper has been presented at the **Global Trade Analysis Project (GTAP)** conference in Dakar, Senegal, in June 18-20, 2014.
 - The simulation results were presented at the West and Central African Council for Agricultural Research and Development (WECARD) scientific gathering in Niamey, Niger, on June 16, 2014.
 - A research paper, based on the simulation results, titled “Impact Simulation of the West African Rice Policy” was completed and submitted for publication as IFPRI Discussion Paper Series.

Activity 3: Policy research and analytical support at the country level

- Milestones
 - Demand-driven policy research and analytical support to agricultural policy development in Mali
- Milestones status as of Sept 30, 2014
 - Mali’s Ministry of Agriculture requested input on design options for developing a land grant style agricultural university in Mali. In response, the MSU team visited IPR, prepared a background paper and presented options to the Ministries of Agriculture and Education.
 - In addition, the team supporting Mali received buy-in agreement from USAID/Mali for specific policy research.
 - Farm survey pilot work (Activity 3 of the USAID/Mali buy-in) began in August. Haggblade and Smale visited Mali in August to participate in the first round of field survey pre-testing as well as planning for the fertilizer and seed sector reviews.
- Outcomes
 - Improved empirical and analytical research available for use by policy makers in the new government.
- Outcomes Status as of September 30, 2014
 - Mali’s government is currently considering whether and how to proceed with development of a land grant agricultural university.
 - Round 1 of the farm survey field work has been completed. Preparations for round 2 are under way.

Year 1 Activities Carrying Over to Year 2

- Activity 2: Modeling the impact of regional rice policy. Funding: BFS Core
- Activity 3: Policy research and analytical support at the country level. Funding: BFS Core

Year 1 Activities Dropped and Explanation Why

- Activity 1: Assessing uneven implementation of regional agricultural and trade policies. This work will take place in 2014/15. It will be partly funded by FSP-core and partly by USAID/WA. The core portion of the work can begin in Q4. The portion funded by USAID/WA will have to await mission approval of the workplan.

B. Components 1 and 2: Collaborative Policy Research, Analysis and Capacity Building for Eastern and Southern Africa

FSP focused its country-level collaborative policy research and capacity building in Eastern and Southern Africa on two countries: Malawi and Tanzania. Malawi has seen its economic growth plummet in recent years, undermining incipient attempts at policy reform and greater economic openness. Tanzania is a major population center in the region that has undergone extensive policy change and shows signs of transformation, but continues to suffer from broad and deep poverty. FSP collaborated with local researchers to build capacity, targeting short-term formal training and innovative outreach efforts.

Five activities were carried out: 1) assisted the government of Malawi in achieving the policy objectives under its country cooperation framework for the New Alliance for Food Security and Nutrition, 2) deepened the institutional architecture assessment in Tanzania to focus on policy capacity gaps, 3) initiated a policy study on Tanzania local government revenue options as alternatives to crop levies, 4) trained male and female journalists and their editors to promote informed reporting about agricultural development and policy, and 5) agricultural statistical system strengthening.

Year I Activities, Milestones and Outcomes

Activity 1: Advancing efforts in Malawi to achieve the objectives of its New Alliance country cooperation framework

- Milestones
 - Initial scoping visit and report on placing long-term senior advisor to advance implementation of New Alliance framework policy commitments
 - Revision of IFPRI country program and identification of additional FSP analytical studies in support of New Alliance Framework implementation roadmap
 - Consultation with CARD on capacity building to undertake analytical studies in support of New Alliance Framework implementation roadmap
- Milestones status as of Sept 30, 2014
 - Discussions over first six months of 2014 with the Ministry of Agriculture, Irrigation, and Water Development (MoAIWD), USAID/Malawi, and other potential partners and stakeholders centered on how the FSP project might place two senior advisors within the Department of Agricultural Planning Services of the Ministry to support the Ministry to advance the New Alliance policy reform agenda in Malawi. From the content of these discussions, an application was developed and submitted in late August to USAID/Malawi in response to a Request for Applications for the NAPAS: Malawi activity. We have been informed that the Associate Award from USAID/Malawi to FSP will be made by end-October 2014.
 - FSP staff supported the Ministry with several policy processes over the course of the year. The most significant of these was assisting in drafting a proposed National Agricultural Strategy that is now to undergo broad stakeholder review. Contributions were also made to the Contract Farming Strategy and the draft Warehouse Receipts bill. These efforts involved an FSP staff member, working in the Ministry headquarters over a total of 7 weeks on two assignments, engaging constantly with economists in the Department of Agricultural Planning Services and meeting one or two times a week with senior management of the Ministry to discuss progress being made on the focal policy processes and next steps.
 - FSP staff member, Dr. Todd Benson, participated in a two-day symposium on the Farm Input Subsidy Program in Lilongwe 14 and 15 July, making two presentations, including one on FISP in the context of agricultural transformation in Malawi.
 - Engagement with partner institutions on agricultural policy process strengthening and policy communication in Malawi, such as the Farmers' Union of Malawi and CISANET, on coordinating such efforts. A joint program of workshops for the new members of the Parliamentary Committee on Agriculture and Natural Resources is now in the advanced planning stage.

- Outcomes
 - Agreement by GoM to the roadmap and demonstrated progress on selected items.
 - MaSSP 2013/14 work plan in support of New Alliance approved and operationalized
 - Improved research and writing capacity among selected CARD analysts, greater knowledge among policy makers, and improved quality of NA roadmap execution.
- Outcomes Status as of September 30, 2014
 - We now have in place a framework on how the FSP program will operate with MoAFS in the coming years, with some idea of the content of those operations. However, a more detailed work plan is expected to emerge as we engage closely with the Department of Agricultural Planning Services, in particular, in some initial New Alliance-linked policy reforms.
 - While still early days, the FSP-Malawi work is well positioned to work effectively with MoAFS. As a relationship of trust is built, we expect that creative policy responses to pressing and challenging issues can be developed together by FSP and MoAF.
 - The National Agricultural Policy document that is to be used in forthcoming stakeholder consultations is the result of joint work of Ministry of Agriculture Economists and FSP staff members. The team expects significant engagement in the stakeholder consultation for the National Agricultural Policy in the last quarter of 2014.

Activity 2: Deepen the institutional architecture assessment to focus on policy gaps

- Milestones
 - Review the Institutional Architecture Assessment in Malawi and Tanzania and work with local stakeholders to identify gaps in the policy system and make recommendations on how to address those gaps.
- Milestones status as of Sept 30, 2014
 - While the Institutional Architecture Assessment for Malawi has been closely reviewed, it is expected that the identification of gaps in that architecture and action to address those gaps will follow from the actions that FSP project staff and their partners will take to advance the New Alliance policy commitments. This action will put in clear relief where there are deficiencies in the agricultural policy framework for Malawi and the processes through which that framework is built. Efforts will then be taken to address those deficiencies.
 - Given the need for this deepening study to be grounded in the newly developed C3 conceptual framework for policy change, D.Mather and D.Nyange propose to implement the deepening study in Tanzania only after D.Mather first works with D.Resnick to implement a C3.2 case study (in Nov/Dec 2014) and after interacting with Suresh Babu (IFPRI) who is leading a complementary C3.3 activity that also involves policy process mapping yet whose focus is more on evaluating different institutional and capacity building approaches to improving a given policy process. We therefore propose to implement the IA study for Tanzania in January-February 2014.
- Outcomes
 - Improved definition of roles, responsibilities, and relationships among stakeholders in the policy environment in each country, resulting in improved policy making.
- Outcomes Status as of September 30, 2014

Activity 3: Study of the economics and political economy of local government authority (LGA) levies in Tanzania

- Milestones
 - An assessment of the tax structure of selected crops, their contribution to LGA revenues, the benefits arising from investments made by LGAs, and alternative revenue mechanisms in the event of reduction or elimination of some LGA crop levies.
- Milestones status as of Sept 30, 2014
 - Planning for the study began in Nov/Dec 2013, and D. Tschirley spent two weeks in Tanzania in Jan 2014 to work with D. Nyange on a rapid appraisal of the LGA crop cess to inform the study design. At the end of this

initial appraisal, D. Nyange/ D. Tschirley/ team presented the proposed study sampling and methodology at a meeting of the various stakeholders involved (Prime Minister's Office Ministry of Rural and Local Government (PMO-RLG) (which has resisted abolishing or reforming the LGA crop cess) and the Ministry of Agriculture (MAFC) and private sector actors, which are in favor of abolishing, reforming or reducing the crop cess.

- The LGA study team used a combination of LGA annual financial statements and data from the 2007/08 Agricultural Census to define 6 key agro-ecological zones (that encompass the whole country), and within that, selected multiple LGAs in each zone for in-depth field interviews. The field team included D. Nyange of MSU (team leader/coordinator), two Tanzanian consultants (one a local finance expert, the other an ag economist, both of whom worked on a previous LGA crop cess study a year earlier), two junior staff from the Directorate of Policy and Planning within MAFC, a senior staff member from PMO-RLG and a staff member from the Tanzanian Revenue Authority. Thus, this activity is not simply providing applied policy analysis of great interest to the PMO, MAFC, other ministries, and USAID, it is also serving as an opportunity for capacity building of several government staff members.
- The fieldwork was completed the first week of April. Analysis of the field work data has already begun and the draft report writing is underway. The report will be presented at a stakeholder workshop in late May or early June, and then more presentations will be made in Dodoma for various parliamentary committees. Once the report is finalized, the work will not be finished because a key to achieving a policy change is for the study team to use stakeholder fora to engage the various parties in a policy dialogue with the goal of building consensus from the supporters and opponents of LGA crop cess for alternative ways forward.
- An assessment of the tax structure of selected crops, their contribution to LGA revenues, the benefits arising from investments made by LGAs, and alternative revenue mechanisms in the event of reduction or elimination of some LGA crop levies.
- In Tanzania, the team has settled on October 30th as the date for a major stakeholder outreach event around the LGA cess study. The LGA paper is being revised and now includes a brief summary of findings. The paper and a brief will be completed in time for the October 30th event.
- **Outcomes**
 - Policy decisions by government that reduce the fiscal burden on farmers, traders, and other supply chain participants and improve market integration through more efficient trade; improved fiscal mechanisms implemented at local level, replacing local cess and other taxes.
- **Outcomes Status as of September 30, 2014**
 - A key team member for this study (David Nyange of MSU) is currently engaged in finalizing the LGA crop cess study and in stakeholder-specific policy dialogue efforts related to building consensus for reform of the LGA crop cess issue.
 - Thinking about the produce cess among the wide range of public- and private stakeholders has broadened to consider it in the context of overall taxation and the push for decentralization. As a result, thinking has largely migrated from elimination of the cess to consideration of a range of initiatives to (a) improve its administration, (b) reduce its distortionary effects, and (c) start a process of movement by LGAs to a better mix of taxes in which the produce cess looms less large. This change in thinking bodes well for the prospects of achieving meaningful and useful reform.

Activity 4: Training for male and female journalists to promote informed reporting about agricultural development and policy

- **Milestones**
 - Training of journalists in food, agricultural and nutrition policy issues, with a focus on the New Alliance activities
- **Milestones status as of Sept 30, 2014**

- Concrete discussions have begun among University of Pretoria, MSU, and IFPRI on how to structure the training as contribute to improved and ongoing relationships between policy analysts and their institutions and journalists and their companies, resulting in improved communication on both sides.
- Planning has begun with the University of Pretoria on a short-course for training of journalists in Malawi on reporting on agricultural policy research results and agricultural policy debates. This training will be held before end-2014. An initial visit by the course organizers to Lilongwe is planned for late September.
- The UP team (Julian May and Chris Manyama) travelled to Malawi as planned during September for successful scoping visit regarding the journalists training. Plans now being developed for content, participation in, and timing of training there. Support from in-country IFPRI team was excellent. Initial contacts made with Tanzania in-country team, foreseeing scoping visit early in near year.
- Outcomes
 - Well informed journalists in the two countries reporting on the policy issues in food security, nutrition, agriculture trade and natural resource sectors; training materials that would be available on the web for other journalists to use as self-learning materials.
- Outcomes Status as of September 30, 2014
 - No outcome yet as the training has not yet been conducted

Activity 5: Training and capacity building needs for national statistical agencies.

- Milestones
 - Review of existing Ag Stat reviews followed by training needs assessment for national statistics agencies to improve questionnaire design, survey procedures, data entry and cleaning, and software packages in Malawi and Tanzania
- Milestones status as of Sept 30, 2014
 - IFPRI-Lilongwe worked with the National Statistics Office (NSO) and MoAFS to develop an agricultural statistics strategic master plan for Malawi that was published in the past few months. While this master plan will be the basis of any training that the FSP project will provide, discussions on the content and timing of such training has not yet been held with NSO or MoAFS.
- Outcomes
 - Well informed journalists in the two countries reporting on the policy issues in food security, nutrition, agriculture trade and natural resource sectors; training materials that would be available on the web for other journalists to use as self-learning materials.
- Outcomes Status as of September 30, 2014

Year 1 Activities Carrying Over to Year 2

- Activity 1: Study of the economics and political economy of local government authority (LGA) levies in Tanzania. Funding: BFS Core
- Activity 2: Training for male and female journalists to promote informed reporting about agricultural development and policy. Funding: BFS Core

Year 1 Activities Dropped and Explanation Why

None.

C. Components 1 and 2: Collaborative Policy Research, Analysis and Capacity Building for Asia

Given the urgent needs for agricultural and rural development policy support in Burma, the work of components 1 and 2 on Asia focused on providing immediate assistance in FY 2013-14 on rural development strategy in Burma, drawing on lessons from other countries in the region.

Year I Activities, Milestones and Outcomes

Activity 1: Short-term advisory services

- Milestones
 - Calendar of FSP TDYs for demand-driven policy research and analytical support to agricultural policy development
- Milestones status as of Sept 30, 2014
 - Reardon TDY to Burma 8-13 March to work with MDRI-CESD and USAID on AA (Associate Award) proposal
 - Reardon talk and brief (posted to USAID site and MSU FSP site) “Prospects for Agricultural Value Chains in Myanmar,” presentation for “A Dialogue for Enhancing the Competitiveness of Agribusiness in Myanmar” Organized by: UMFCCI, USAID, and IFC at the UMFCCI Office, Yangon, March 21, 2014
 - FSP-Burma AA proposal submitted to USAID/Bangkok (regional office) on March 28
 - Reardon supports Mission throughout March on Policy Matrix and Vision drafting
 - Presentation: [Prospects for Agricultural Value Chains in Myanmar](#). Thomas Reardon. Talk for “A Dialogue for Enhancing the Competitiveness of Agribusiness in Myanmar”. Organized by: UMFCCI, USAID, & IFC. UMFCCI Office, Yangon. March 21, 2014. [Audio version](#).
 - One week mission of Paul Dorosh/IFPRI for FSP component on policy and current core work; April (joined by TR) and Than Tun and Zaw Oo and Tin Maung Than of MDRI-CESD. Discussions with Ministry of Commerce, Yezin University, Zaw Oo and Tin Maung Than on policy work. A special focus on design of livelihoods/community surveys to feed initial policy work; special focus on relation of local rural development policies with value chain development; and a discussion of the overall policy work and the draft Policy Matrix to inform it.
 - From late June until mid-August Adam Kennedy and Ulrike Nischan (of IFPRI) travelled to Burma to assist Than Thun of MDRI-CESD with the completion of a review of agri-food policies in Myanmar with the goal of having, for the first time, comprehensive documentation of the evolution and implementation of policies that are included in the 2012 Framework for Economic and Social Reforms policy matrix. This document examines these in three broad policy areas:
 - Policy Area 1. Policies on Inputs to Farmers & Post-farmgate supply chain actors, including: Land management, Financial provisions to improve agriculture, Water management, Research, education and extension services, Rural electrification, Seeds, Fertilizer, and Mechanization
 - Policy Area 2. Farmer choice and diversification policies at the Farm production level, including: Rice productivity and crop diversification
 - Policy Area 3. Output policies for post-farmgate supply chain segments to domestic and export markets: Post-farmgate processing, Logistics and transport, Wholesale market, and Macro-economic and trade
 - Revision and finalization of the AA proposal. This 5 year program will be implemented by the Myanmar Development Resource Institute - Centre for Economic and Social Development (MDRI-CESD, a non-profit organization, policy reform “think tank,” research, and advocacy group in Burma), MSU, IFPRI, and WorldFish. The AA is predicated on the assumption that an agriculture and food policy system that brings civil society and the private sector into the debate, and makes decisions based on hard evidence (derived from rigorous field surveys), will help move the sector from a command and control economy to a market-

driven, inclusive economy that benefits the poor. The five year program will include the following series of tasks:

- Analysis of the policy debate and assumptions in order to orient the field research and analysis. This allows the FSP empirical work to be oriented by the needs of the continuously changing policy debate and also anticipated future information needs as the debate unfolds.
- Generation of concrete information and data through a series of detailed field surveys, the first of their kind in Burma on: employment and livelihoods of farm households and the numerous landless; agricultural production technologies and input supply chains; land, water, farm machines, fertilizer, seed, and credit markets; and value chains from farms to wholesalers to processors to retailers and export markets;
- Generation of capacity for using evidence-based analysis for developing rural development strategies, value chain related commerce policies, agricultural value-added industry/services policies, and agricultural policies among (1) government offices and ministries (2) civil society; (such as the Food Security Working Group, a group of 140 NGOs and advocacy groups); (3) universities and other research institutions; and (4) the private sector.
- Engagement and participation in and promotion of an inclusive, transparent policy debate fed by hard evidence, international comparisons, and lessons concerning best practices in small farm modernization, livelihood development, and rural-urban value chain promotion.
- Linking of the integrated set of FSP activities with other USAID activities.
- Rollout in July/August of fish value chain rapid reconnaissance in Mon and TNT.

Year 1 Activities Carrying Over to Year 2

- Activity 1: Short-term advisory services. Funding: BFS Core

Year 1 Activities Dropped and Explanation Why

None.

D. Component 3: Global Collaborative Research on Policy Process and Capacity

This component addressed issues, constraints and challenges faced by policy makers and stakeholders in the private sector and civil society in translating research and evidence into effective agriculture, food security, and nutrition policies. The primary objective of this component is to understand policy processes and policy systems that lead to effective policy change, the nature of capacity required for generating evidence, effective policy advocacy and the institutional architecture which enables transparent and inclusive policy changes. The early outputs from this component were fed into the AU effort on the policy institutions and the phase II of the Africa LEAD.

These efforts drew on and contributed to a rich body of past and ongoing work on policy systems by IFPRI, MSU, Africa-LEAD, USAID, AGRA, other donors and a wide range of academics studying public policy, public administration and political science. Effective ongoing communication with these key partners was critical to FSP's effectiveness, efficiency and impact. Within the broader FSP team, Component 3 contributes a conceptual framework and research findings that helps to refine and inform the activities under Components 1 & 2, especially beyond year 1. Multidisciplinary research teams ranging from political scientists to nutritionists were assembled from MSU, IFPRI and UP to implement the activities under Component 3.

Year I Activities, Milestones and Outcomes

Activity 1: Develop a conceptual framework for studying policy process and change

- Milestones
 - Development of a framework that defines key actors, behavioral assumptions, environmental factors affecting policy debate and formulation, key triggers enabling policy change.
- Milestones status as of Sept 30, 2014
 - In order to develop basic foundations for the conceptual framework, initial ideas of drivers of policy process were presented in November 2013 to a CGIAR- wide workshop on policy process and a side consultation among the partners and collaborators were held. MSU, IFPRI, and AfricaLead participated in the exercise.
 - A collaborative workshop to develop a conceptual framework for studying policy process was organized in April at the University of Pretoria (UP). IFPRI, MSU, UP collaborators participated. A preliminary paper was developed to guide the workshop discussions. A tentative framework was developed and the collaborators have been assigned to work on various aspects of the framework paper. Based on discussions at the workshop the conceptual paper was revised and presented at the USAID review meeting in June.
 - Based on the feedback received from the USAID meeting, collaborators further worked on the conceptual framework and a draft paper was developed.
- Outcomes
 - The conceptual framework will help to guide policy system research of the activities A2 and A3 in C3 and further will help in the understanding of the policy systems and the processes of the C1 and C2 activities as they engage with the policy systems in the study countries.
- Outcomes Status as of September 30, 2014
 - The outcomes of the discussions that lead to the development of the conceptual framework has been fed in to CAADP PP discussion in March 2014
 - A full draft of the conceptual paper has now been completed and will be further discussed in a workshop in October for application within C3 and other components of FSP. These discussions will further help in the identification of the case studies of policy processes and the policy systems.

Activity 2: Conduct case studies of policy process and change

- Milestones
 - Selection of four case study countries to identify systemic weaknesses in policy processes and measures to strengthen them. Possible candidates include Senegal (West Africa), Malawi (East Africa), Cambodia/Burma (Southeast Asia), and Bangladesh (South Asia)

- Completion of case studies in four countries to identify systemic weaknesses in policy processes and measures to strengthen them.
- Milestones status as of Sept 30, 2014
 - Identification of case studies will depend on the conceptual framework and needs to take into consideration the associate awards received for other components. Discussion to choose the country case studies continued. Discussion on the criteria for selection of the case studies continued with several rounds of skype calls among the collaborators.
 - Following the workshop, a template for documenting policy episodes in food subsidies and fertilizer subsidies was developed for the collecting information on policy changes since 2000. Policy inventories in food subsidies, fertilizer subsidies, and micronutrient interventions were undertaken by the team.
 - UP completed an inventory of micronutrient supplementation programs in 77 countries (Africa, Asia and Latin America). The inventory includes amongst others, triggers for establishing the program, implementing partners, the effectiveness of the program and significant changes/reforms to the program design. The tools considered for this inventory are fortification, bio-fortification breeding, supplementation and Scaling Up Nutrition (SUN) initiatives. UP has also prepared a literature review on global and national micronutrient supplementation policies and programs. The literature review looks at advocacy and coordination globally and nationally. It will also consider the use of evidence in policymaking and multi-sectoral coordination.
 - IFPRI completed an inventory of fertilizer subsidy programs in approximately 25 countries. As with the micronutrient inventory, this inventory drew on secondary resources to include information on why subsidies emerged on the agenda, implementing partners, the effectiveness of the program and significant changes/reforms to the program design.
- Outcomes
 - Improved knowledge about how policies change and what actions might improve the structure, responsiveness and effectiveness of policy systems.
- Outcomes Status as of September 30, 2014
 - In order to guide the choice of the case study countries, two sets of inventories were developed. First set relates to the micronutrient interventions and the second set relates to the fertilizer subsidy policies.
 - Based on these inventories, 6 countries were initially selected for further in-depth case study research for Activity 2. For fertilizer subsidies, these include Ghana, Tanzania, and Zambia. For micronutrients, these include Malawi, South Africa, and Zambia. These will be presented at the October workshop to obtain feedback on the selection from colleagues from MSU, IFPRI, UP, USAID, and DAI.

Activity 3: Innovative approaches to capacity development and policy systems

- Milestones
 - Review current approaches to studying policy systems and institutional architecture, and conduct 3 country-specific studies (Ghana, Tanzania & Ethiopia)
 - Review of past policy capacity interventions; identification of best practices to improve policy system capacity
- Milestones status as of Sept 30, 2014
 - The choice of case studies for Activity 3 has been broadly discussed and the emphasis has expanded from not only understanding capacity building in the policy process but also broader elements of the policy system, including stability, inclusivity, transparency, and accountability.
- Outcomes
 - A common set of simple indicators will enable governments, civil society and development partners to more easily and effectively track the performance of policy systems.
 - Improved knowledge about the effectiveness of past interventions in policy systems and lessons learned about how best to support effective policy systems going forward.
- Outcomes Status as of September 30, 2014

- The exact case studies for Activity 3 will be discussed at the October 2014 workshop in order to receive feedback from colleagues about the specific features of the policy system to analyze. Consideration will be given to how policy systems, and changes within the policy system, are influenced by both domestic and external factors.

Year 1 Activities Carrying Over to Year 2

- Activity 1: Develop a conceptual framework for studying policy process and change. Funding: BFS Core
- Activity 2 Conduct case studies of policy process and change. Funding: BFS Core
- Activity 3: Innovative approaches to capacity development and policy systems. Funding: BFS Core
 - Milestones
 - Added for Year II: 3 planned studies in 2014 and 3 new planned for 2015 will all be implemented in 2014-15;
 - A half day workshop is planned for October 2014 for refining the conceptualization and methodology for these activities. Will be completed in the 2014-15

Year 1 Activities Dropped and Explanation Why

None.

E. Component 4: Engagement on Global Policy Debates on Food Security

Providing solid evidence in the global discourse and influence policy is the goal of this component. Component 4 activities contributed to the debate with rigorous research and engagement at global and regional levels with policymakers, researchers, and development experts.

Research and engagement focused on three major FTF policy themes (1) sustainable agricultural intensification and input policy, (2) land dynamics in transformation and land governance/policy, and (3) value chains in food system dynamics and the enabling environment for the private sector. Work was designed to provide concrete guidance for ongoing CAADP activities and other national policy initiatives.

Year I Activities, Milestones and Outcomes

Activity 1: Sustainable agricultural intensification and input policy

- Milestones
 - Regional consultations/policy engagement completed in West Africa and East Africa on the theme of sustainable intensification and agricultural input policy
- Milestones status as of Sept 30, 2014
 - Presentation: [How do fertilizer subsidy programs affect total fertilizer use in sub-Saharan Africa? Crowding out, diversion, & benefit/cost assessments](#). Nicole M. Mason on behalf of co-authors T.S. Jayne, David Mather, and Jacob Ricker-Gilbert. Centre for the Study of African Economies (CSAE) conference on Economic Development in Africa. St. Catherine's College, University of Oxford. Oxford, UK. March 24, 2014.
 - Presentation: [Kenya Fertilizer Policy "Success Story": 1990 to 2008](#). T.S. Jayne and Joshua Ariga. CAADP / African Union Partnership Platform Meeting. Durban, South Africa. 19 March 2014.
 - Presentation: [Implications of Increasing Population Densities on Farm Intensification and Poverty Reduction Strategies in Kenya](#). Milu Muyanga & TS Jayne. Presentation at the USAID-Kenya, Nairobi, November 26th, 2013.
 - Regional consultations held through CAADP Partnership Platform meeting March 16-20, Durban, South Africa. MSU, IFPRI and ReNAPRI researchers participated actively in these meetings. ReNAPRI researchers held dedicated meetings with Africa Union representatives to discuss inputs policy options and potential collaboration between AU and ReNAPRI on specific activities.
 - Worked with Sieg Snapp, Todd Benson, Jake Ricker-Gilbert, Wezi Mhango and others during the month of June to prepare a study and ppt presentation on concrete steps for policy makers to help smallholder farmers raise the efficiency with which they use fertilizer. This study will be presented to Malawian policy makers and analysts at the National Symposium entitled "Eight Years of FISP – Impact and What Next?" Bingu International Conference Centre, Lilongwe, Malawi, 14 – 15 July 2014.
 - Similar work on inputs policies from the Inputs Technical Committee was presented in Zambia and Kenya informally to Ministry of Agriculture officials in June, jointly executed under GISAIA.
- Outcomes
 - The AU commission and country leaders will have a greater understanding of the policy options and implementation mechanisms available to improve input policies.
 - (1) a set of practical solutions and implementation mechanisms to be vetted with, and considered by, national governments in at least 6 countries in East/Southern Africa.
 - (2) general consensus on major trends and drivers of inputs policies affecting food security and economic transformations for feeding into the Global Foresighting Conference in October 2014
- Outcomes Status as of September 30, 2014
 - Outcome (1) partially achieved. The FSP activity has supported actions leading to the briefing of AU Commission representatives about policy options and implementation approaches for improving inputs policies. Practical policy proposals have also been vetted with national governments in Zambia, Kenya

- Outcome (2) not achieved – there is not yet any indication of a general consensus of the way forward. FSP will continue to promote policy dialogue with African governments on these issues.
- FSG/Jayne was invited to review the Africa Union input policy draft papers to be presented at a forthcoming Africa Union-sponsored event later in 2014. Jayne and Muyanga are in the process of completing the review.
- Jayne

Activity 3: Food systems dynamics in Africa and Asia: Implications for FTF policy and value chain investments

- Milestones
 - Synthesis of current work on food system transformation drivers to assess implications for forward-looking FTF investments
- Milestones status as of Sept 30, 2014
 - In collaboration with GCFSI, we have now produced a paper on food system transformation in Asia, mirroring the work done on East and Southern Africa. Tschirley, in the context of a request for foresighting assistance from the EC Joint Research Center for an EC Global Food Security Foresighting exercise, has begun to compare Africa to Asia. This work will continue, resulting in a synthesis across the two regions of the world.
 - Africa and Asia papers have been produced through combination of FSP and GCFSI funding. Work currently going on to distill results from each and generate Africa-Asia comparative piece.
 - The food systems dynamics in Asia paper completed and widely distributed
 - The paper on the implications for agrifood system structure of the rise of an African middle class linked to urbanization and income growth was finalized, published as WIDER working paper, and submitted for special issue of Journal of International Development.
 - Drafts nearly completed for two submissions to Food Policy, one focused on Africa and one on Asia.
 - Paper begun on implications of urbanization and income growth for structure of employment in- and out of agrifood system. Results presented at well-attended presentations at USAID and IFPRI
 - Final agreement obtained from in-country teams for Senegal, Ethiopia, Tanzania, and Mozambique to be the focus of the studies, and initial planning begun
- Outcomes
 - Contribution toward improved knowledge among development partners (USAID, multilaterals, national governments, private sector, NGOs) of dynamics of change in these food systems, resulting in improved design of policies and programs for this changing environment.
- Outcomes Status as of September 30, 2014
 - Both papers have been very well received by a wide audience, including USAID, and have resulted in several invitations for presentation to audiences beyond USAID (Reardon at AU in Addis, Tschirley at EC in Brussels, Reardon and Tschirley this Fall at World Bank and USAID in Washington). Reality of growing urban food market dominance and resulting centrality of rural-urban food chains for poverty reduction has begun to be appreciated in some circles.

Activity 4: Global Foresighting Conference (with associate award)

- Milestones
 - Global conference and related outreach presenting research findings and engaging experts on the future for agriculture and food security
- Milestones status as of Sept 30, 2014
 - This activity has been cancelled by agreement of GDL, BFS, and FSP
- Outcomes
 - Improved knowledge among development partners (USAID, multilaterals, national governments, private sector, NGOs) of dynamics of change in these food systems, resulting in improved design of policies and programs for this changing environment.
- Outcomes Status as of September 30, 2014

- This activity has been cancelled by agreement of GDL, BFS, and FSP

Year 1 Activities Carrying Over to Year 2

- Theme 1: Sustainable agricultural intensification and input policy
- Theme 2: Land tenure, land dynamics and structural transformation
- Theme 3: Food systems dynamics in Africa and Asia: Implications for FTF policy and value chain investments

Year 1 Activities Dropped and Explanation Why

- Global Foresighting Conference: This conference was dropped because funding from GDL fell to \$150,000 from the anticipated \$300,000, making it impossible to carry out the scope of work and achieve the outcomes that had been anticipated. MSU and IFPRI continue to strengthen the foresighting content of their work and will be sharing output on a regular basis with USAID and others.

E. Component 5: Strategic Analytical Agenda and Support to Donor Policy and Strategy

This component provided a synthesis of research findings from FSP activities or customized on-demand technical support through analytics, dialogue, in-country consultation, and training drawing from the wealth of research outputs produced by the FSP team member institutions.

Year I Activities, Milestones and Outcomes

- Milestones
 - Data analytics, research result highlights or summaries, slides, figures or tables on data trends, technical review, and advice provided to USAID on demand and at short notice
 - Preparation of policy briefs, presentations, co-organizing consultative meetings with USAID staff, and participation at global research forums upon request
- Milestones status as of Sept 30, 2014
 - Assistance to USAID/BFS to identify a more practical and robust set of monitoring indicators on policy processes that could be used within the Feed the Future initiative to measure progress of FTF policy projects. This exercise was motivated by two concerns: 1) to bring cohesion across countries and regions in tracking and monitoring investments in policy change and their results; and 2) to promote dialogue and mutual learning among multiple partners and stakeholders involved in policy change agenda.
 - Support to AUC “Evidence Summit” in April 2014, including provision of policy briefs, outcomes of recent or ongoing relevant studies, implications and findings of recent research in order to identify the key constraints and the value-added outcomes from addressing these constraints in the next series of CAADP investment plans.
 - Support from Mywish Maredia on assessment of the impact of policies on NAIPs, efficiency, poverty reduction, and hunger reduction.
 - FSP organized the Technical Dialogue on “African Agriculture in 2025: Futures Analyses Informing the African Union Malabo Declaration on Accelerated Growth and Transformation” held at IFPRI on October 1, 2014. The event discussed whether the AU vision of African agriculture by the year 2025 is achievable given Africa’s past sources of growth and the current trends, drivers and challenges in African agrifood systems. The event was moderated by Ousmane Badiane with presentations by:
 - Thom Jayne- “Africa’s Evolving Food Systems: Drivers of change and the scope for influencing them”
 - David Tschirley- “Insights from Recent Research on the Emerging “Quiet Revolution” in African Agrifood Systems”
 - Xinshen Diao- “Africa’s Recent Growth and Implications for the Future”There was a very positive response to the event and it was suggested that we continue and to bring these dialogues to Africa together with the AU.
- Outcomes
 - USAID, their partners and policy makers have access to FSP research results and expertise
 - Communication of the current state of knowledge and FSP research results on key FSP themes to USAID, their partners and policy makers
- Outcomes Status as of September 30, 2014
 - A set of indicators was developed and shared to inform FTF policy program monitoring processes.
 - FSP research results were brought to bear on the AUC meetings to inform CAADP strategies.
 - There was a very positive response to the event and it was suggested that we continue and to bring these dialogues to Africa together with the AU.

Year 1 Activities Carrying Over to Year 2

None.

Year 1 Activities Dropped and Explanation Why

None.

List of Ongoing and Prospective Buy Ins and Associate Awards

Description	Dates	Amount	Status (as of 3 Oct 14)
Modification Buy-In:			
USAID/Mali	Signed: 9/8/2014	\$900,000	Operational
USAID/Tanzania	Signed: 9/8/2014	\$300,000	Operational
USAID/West Africa	Signed: 9/8/2014	\$300,000	Operational
Associate Award:			
Myanmar	10/24/2014-10/23/2019	\$7,718,509 Obligated: \$1,443,307	Signature Process
Malawi	10/1/2014-9/31/2017	Anticipated: \$3,138,470	Submitted: 9/16/2014
Nigeria	Anticipated 5 year	Anticipated: \$12,500,000	RFA Anticipated in October 2014
Tanzania	To Be Determined	To Be Determined	To Be Determined
Mali	To Be Determined	To Be Determined	To Be Determined
Foresighting			Not going forward

Country by activity matrix

Matrix of Country Level Activities Funded Under the FTF Innovation Lab for Food Security Policy Research as of January 2014					
Country	Research Component and Topic	Lead researcher/ Component	In-Country Mission Contact (if any)	Collaborating in-country partner (if any)	Short description for BFS to share with Mission in requesting concurrence (2-3 sentences or short paragraph, including possible utility to mission)
Africa	Develop a conceptual framework for studying policy process and change	Suresh Babu and Steve Haggblade: C3			The objective of this activity is to develop a conceptual framework for the analysis of policy processes for agricultural and rural development, food security, and nutritional improvement.
Africa	Conduct case studies of policy process and change	Suresh Babu and Steve Haggblade: C3			the team will select 3-4 case studies showcasing a range of policy processes. This comparative analysis of policy processes aims to help understand how policy change occurs in different component areas of agricultural production, food security and nutrition and what conditions shape outcomes that prove more inclusive, gender-responsive, and transparent. In the long-term, we expect that lessons from the case studies will help to produce better policy systems that, in turn, improve food security policy making in developing countries, particularly the FTF countries.

Africa	Innovative approaches to capacity development and policy systems	Suresh Babu and Paul Dorosh: C3			This activity will review past policy capacity interventions, outlining major categories of intervention, the implicit hypotheses they embody, and identifying archetype examples of each set of innovations. This review will highlight current knowledge about best practices and assessment tools for evaluating and enhancing the effectiveness of capacity development efforts.
Africa	Sustainable agricultural intensification and input policy	Thom Jayne: C4			This activity will build on recent reviews of the micro-level evidence on input subsidy programs undertaken since the mid-2000s. These reviews examine the characteristics of subsidy beneficiaries, maize response rates to fertilizer application in Africa and rice in Asia, and their influence on the performance of subsidy programs, the impacts of subsidy programs on national fertilizer use, the development of commercial input distribution systems, food price levels, and poverty rates in selected countries both in Africa and Asia.
Africa	Land tenure, land dynamics and structural transformation	Thom Jayne: C4			Research for this theme aims to anticipate the future challenges facing such areas and to identify and communicate the policy implications for national agricultural development and poverty reduction strategies
Africa	Food systems dynamics in Africa and Asia: Implications for FTF policy and value chain investments	Thom Jayne: C4			The dynamics of food system change intersect with all seven FTF policy areas and have major implications for the agency's value chain investments. Our research under this theme will highlight all of these linkages while prioritizing implications for two FTF policy areas.
Africa	Providing technical support on a demand basis	Boughton and Diao. C5			The technical support will provide data analytics, and research result highlights or summaries, slides, figures or tables on data trends, technical review, and advice to USAID on demand and at short notice.

Africa	Providing technical support on a demand basis.	Boughton and Diao. C5			FSP communications and outreach efforts will consist of the preparation of policy briefs, presentations, co-organizing consultative meetings with USAID staff, and participation at global research forums upon request. We will provide technical input into USAID-sponsored events/round tables on policy issues relevant to FTF, including implementation of the CAADP investment plans.
Asia	Food systems dynamics in Africa and Asia: Implications for FTF policy and value chain investments	Thom Jayne: C4			The dynamics of food system change intersect with all seven FtF policy areas and have major implications for the agency's value chain investments. Our research under this theme will highlight all of these linkages while prioritizing implications for two FTF policy areas.
Burma	Short-term advisory services	Duncan Boughton: C1/C2 Asia	Dan Swift, Leslie Marbury	MDRI-CESD	To support the USAID Mission and the Government of Burma in developing rural development strategies and agricultural and food policies that provide broad-based growth, poverty alleviation, and competitiveness, using the general approach of market liberalization, technology development, and promotion of community institutions, the FSP team will undertake a series of short-term activities in 2013/14.
Malawi	Advancing efforts in Malawi to achieve the objectives of its New Alliance country cooperation framework	Benson: C1/C2 East and Southern Africa		New Alliance, Centre for Agricultural Research and Development	FSP researchers will work in collaboration with local researchers, potentially with the Centre for Agricultural Research and Development (CARD), a research and training institution affiliated with Bunda College of Agriculture of the Lilongwe University of Agriculture and Natural Resources. As part of a broader in-country FSP communication strategy, the outputs from this policy research will be discussed in dissemination and other outreach events targeted at participants in the policy processes linked to the implementation of the New Alliance Framework.

Malawi	Deepen the institutional architecture assessment to focus on policy gaps	David Mather: C1/C2 Eastern and Southern Africa			An assessment will be undertaken focusing on policy advocacy gaps and the extent to which training for journalists would be relevant.
Malawi	Training for male and female journalists to promote informed reporting about agricultural development and policy	Sheryl Hendricks: C1/C2 Eastern and Southern Africa	John Edgar	Ministry of Agriculture	This project activity aims to build stronger professional relationships between policy analysts and journalists reporting on agriculture and agricultural policy. The objective is to create an environment of on-going interaction among technical and media personnel on important agricultural and food system policy matters that results in better-informed reporting and, eventually, improved policies. To identify the journalists of focus, editors of leading public and private news agencies (radio, television and print) will be invited to identify their lead writers, commentators and reporters on agriculture and poverty-related issues in the core countries.
Mali	Support to national programs: Mali	Steve Haggblade: C1/C2 West Africa	Halima Ouattara-Ayanou; David Yanggen		To support the new leadership in Mali, the FSP will conduct demand-driven analysis which will directly support formulation of new agriculture policy. During initial discussions, the ministry has requested assistance in preparing a concept note on prospects for introducing a Land Grant model integrating agricultural education, extension and research in Mali. Ongoing consultations will identify further areas for long-term policy research.

Tanzania	Deepen the institutional architecture assessment to focus on policy gaps	David Mather C1/C2 Eastern and Southern Africa			At the request of the USAID mission in Tanzania a blended FSP team will first review in detail the current institutional architecture assessment and then undertake field visits to local organizations and stakeholders to identify capacity gaps in the policy system in more depth and make recommendations on how to address those gaps. This activity will be undertaken in conjunction with FSP team members from component 3.
Tanzania	Study of the economics and political economy of local government authority (LGA) levies in Tanzania	David Nyange: C1/C2 Eastern and Southern Africa		Permanent Secretary in the Ministry of Agriculture, Director of Planning and Policy	This activity aims to highlight the fiscal benefits and the market performance costs of the system of local government levies that have been present in Tanzania's domestic trading environment for many years, and to provide feasible alternatives for generating the fiscal revenue while improving market performance.
Tanzania	Training and capacity building needs for national statistical agencies.	David Nyange: C1/C2 Eastern and Southern Africa		National Bureau of Statistics	FSP will coordinate closely with USDA, FAO, the USAID Mission and other actors involved in improving agricultural statistics in these two countries, and will tailor specific FSP inputs accordingly and in consultation with these other actors. In doing so, FSP will collaborate with the Gender, Assets and Agriculture Program to better integrate the gender dimension.

Tanzania	Training for male and female journalists to promote informed reporting about agricultural development and policy	Sheryl Hendricks: C1/C2 Eastern and Southern Africa		Ministry of Agriculture	This project activity aims to build stronger professional relationships between policy analysts and journalists reporting on agriculture and agricultural policy. The objective is to create an environment of on-going interaction among technical and media personnel on important agricultural and food system policy matters that results in better-informed reporting and, eventually, improved policies. To identify the journalists of focus, editors of leading public and private news agencies (radio, television and print) will be invited to identify their lead writers, commentators and reporters on agriculture and poverty-related issues in the core countries.
West Africa	Assessing uneven implementation of regional agricultural and trade policies	Steven Haggblade: C1/C2 West Africa		ECOWAS	The research under this activity will provide empirical evidence on comparative implementation of specific regional policies to inform and influence the following carrier policy processes: CAADP/ECOWAP Regional and country investment plans; Food Crisis Prevention and Management Charter; Zero Hunger Program; Global Alliance for Resilience in the Sahel; and New Alliance cooperation frameworks.
West Africa	Modeling the impact of regional rice policy.	Ousmane Badiane: C1/C2 West Africa		ECOWAS	the IFPRI modeling team in Dakar will develop a regional rice model building on the ECOWAS simulation model. IFPRI's modeling team will work closely with ECOWAS counterparts in identifying key policy changes, key investments, key parameters and key outcomes of importance to regional policy makers. The team will consult to identify key simulation scenarios of interest and develop a simulation model that can help to inform ongoing policy and investment decisions.

West Africa	Policy research and analytical support at the country level	Ousmane Badiane: C1/C2 West Africa		ECOWAS	Activity 3 of Components 1 and 2 in West Africa will provide policy research and analytical support to specific countries. This work will initially start with Mali and will be expanded to other countries as associate awards permit. Ousmane Badiane (IFPRI) will provide overall coordination for this theme, while the in-country work in Mali will be led by Boubacar Diallo and Steven Haggblade (MSU).
C1:	Country-Level Collaborative Research (on Farms, Firms, and Markets) and Formulation/Analysis of Policy Options				
C2:	Country-Level Capacity-Building for Policy (Data, Analysis, Advocacy, Formulation, Consultation, Coordination, and Implementation)				
C3:	Global Collaborative Research on Support to the Policy Process and Policy Capacity				
C4:	Agrifood System Transformation				
C5:	Strategic Analytical Agenda and Support to Donor Policy and Strategy				