

FEED THE FUTURE NIGERIA AGRICULTURAL POLICY PROJECT

Quarterly Report

First Quarter: October 1- December 31, 2017

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Associate Cooperative Agreement Number: AID-620-LA-15-00001

Activity Start Date and End Date: July 1, 2015 to June 30, 2020

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ACRONYMS

ABU	Ahmadu Bello University
ADP	Agricultural Development Programs
APP	Agricultural Promotion Policy
ARCN	Agriculture Research Council of Nigeria
CAADP	Comprehensive Africa Agriculture Development Program
DC	District of Columbia
DFID	UK Department for International Development
FCT	Federal Capital Territory
FMARD	Federal Ministry of Agriculture and Rural Development
FtF	Feed the Future
FY	Fiscal Year
JSR	Joint Sector Review
IFPRI	International Food Policy Research Institute
LSMS	Living Standards Measurement Survey
LSMS-ISA	Living Standards Measurement Survey-Integrated Surveys on Agriculture
MSU	Michigan State University
NA	Not Applicable
NAAE	Nigerian Association of Agricultural Economics
NAERLS	National Agriculture and Extension Research Liaison Services
NAIP	National Agriculture Investment Plan
NGO	Non-Governmental Organization
NSSP	Nigeria Strategy Support Program
USAID	United States Agency for International Development
USG	United States Government

Table of Contents

ACRONYMS	2
1. PROGRAM OVERVIEW / SUMMARY	4
1.1 Summary of Results to Date	5
2. ACTIVITY IMPLEMENTATION PROGRESS	6
2.1 Progress Narrative	6
2.2 Implementation Status.....	7
2.3 M&E Plan Update	19
3. INTEGRATION OF CROSSCUTTING ISSUES AND USAID FORWARD PRIORITIES.....	20
3.1 Gender Equality and Female Empowerment	20
4. STAKEHOLDER PARTICIPATION AND INVOLVEMENT	21
5. MANAGEMENT AND ADMINISTRATIVE ISSUES.....	22
6. LESSONS LEARNED	23
7. PLANNED ACTIVITIES FOR NEXT QUARTER/UPCOMING EVENTS	24
8. WHAT DOES USAID NOT KNOW THAT IT NEEDS TO?	27
9. HOW IMPLEMENTING PARTNER HAS ADDRESSED AOR COMMENTS FROM THE LAST QUARTERLY REPORT.	27
ANNEX A: PROGRESS SUMMARY	28
ANNEX B: NUMBER OF HIGH QUALITY RESEARCH REPORTS PUBLISHED (Indicator 1)	31
ANNEX C: NUMBER OF PARTICIPANTS ATTENDING PROJECT ORGANIZED RESEARCH AND POLICY EVENTS (Indicator 2).....	32
ANNEX D: NUMBER OF INDIVIDUALS WHO HAVE RECEIVED USG SUPPORTED SHORT-TERM AGRICULTURAL SECTOR PRODUCTIVITY OR FOOD SECURITY TRAINING (Indicator 5)	33
ANNEX E: NUMBER OF AGRICULTURE POLICY COMMUNICATIONS DEVELOPED AND/OR WRITTEN FOR STAKEHOLDER CONSUMPTION (Indicator 8).....	34

1. PROGRAM OVERVIEW / SUMMARY

Program Name:	Feed the Future Nigeria Agricultural Policy Project
Activity Start Date and End Date:	July 1, 2015 – June 30, 2020
Name of Prime Implementing:	Michigan State University (MSU)
[Contract/Agreement] Number:	AID-620-LA-15-00001
Name of Subcontractors/Sub-awardees:	International Food Policy Research Institute (IFPRI)
Major Counterpart Organizations:	Federal Ministry of Agriculture and Rural Development (FMARD)
Geographic Coverage (cities and or countries):	Nigeria
Reporting Period:	October 1, 2017 – December 31, 2017
Project personnel mentioned in this report and their project role:	<p>Dr. Channing Arndt (Senior Research Fellow) Dr. Mulubrhan Amare (Associate Research Fellow, IFPRI) Dr. Olivier Ecker (Senior Research Fellow, IFPRI) Dr. Hosaena Ghebru (Research Fellow, IFPRI) Dr. Patrick Hatzenbuehler (Associate Research Fellow, IFPRI) Dr. Saweda Liverpool-Tasie (Principal Investigator, MSU) Mr. Steve Longabaugh (Specialist, MSU) Dr. George Mavrotas (Chief of Party, IFPRI) Mr. John Mazunda (Country Program Manager, IFPRI) Dr. Tewodaj Mogues (Senior Research Fellow, IFPRI) Dr. Danielle Resnick (Senior Research Fellow, IFPRI) Dr. Laura Schmitt Olabisi (Associate Professor, MSU) Dr. Hiroyuki Takeshima (Research Fellow, IFPRI) Dr. Oyinkan Tasie (Assistant Professor, MSU)</p>

This progress report summarizes the key activities undertaken by the Feed the Future Nigeria Agricultural Policy Project for the first quarter (October-December) of fiscal year 2017/18.

1.1 Summary of Results to Date

Project Indicator Title	Annual Target	Q1 October - December 2017	Annual Performance Achieved to the End of Reporting Period (%)	On Target Y/N
1) Number of high quality research reports published	11	5	45	
2) Number of participants attending project organized research and policy events	680	438	64	
3) Number of agricultural and nutritional enabling environment policies analyzed, consulted on, drafted or revised, approved and implemented with USG assistance (RAA) completing the following processes/steps of development as a result of USG assistance in each case: 1. Underwent analysis; 2. Underwent public debate and/or consultation with stakeholders on the proposed new or revised policy; 3. Were newly drafted or revised;	3	0	0	
4) Number of collaborative policy research work and analysis completed jointly with local partner.	7	3	43	
5) Number of individuals who have received USG supported short-term technical training in agricultural sector productivity or food security policy analysis training.	850	187	22	
6) Number of individuals who have received USG supported degree-granting agricultural sector productivity or food security training.	8	2	25	

7) Number of government units or divisions that have received short-term training (USG assistance)	11	1	9	
8) Number of agriculture policy communications developed and/or written for stakeholder consumption	18	9	50	
9) Number of public private advocacy dialogues focused on policy that supports private sector investment	4	0	0	
10) Number of for profit private enterprises, producers' organizations, water users' associations, women's groups, trade and business associations, and community-based organizations (CBOs) receiving USG food security related organizational development assistance	30	2	7	
11) Index (or scorecard) of quality of agriculture and food security policy processes in Nigeria, as measured by stakeholder evaluation to capture level of satisfaction and confidence	1.326	NA	NA	
12) Index (or scorecard) of quality of the institutional architecture for agriculture and food security policy processes in Nigeria, as measured by stakeholder evaluation survey to capture level of satisfaction and confidence	1.476	NA	NA	

2. ACTIVITY IMPLEMENTATION PROGRESS

2.1 Progress Narrative

This narrative will highlight progress made on the Feed the Future Nigeria Agricultural Policy Project Year 3 revised work plan, which was submitted to United States Agency for International Development (USAID)/Nigeria on October 31, 2017, and finally approved by USAID/Nigeria on November 13, 2017. The work plan is broken down into three main components: 1) Activities to enhance skills, provide training, and build institutional capacity; 2) Activities to promote policy driven collaborative research and analysis; and 3) activities to promote evidence-based policy process and impact through improved dialogue, engagement and outreach strategy.

2.2 Implementation Status

Component 1: Activities to enhance skills, training, and institutional capacity

1. Capacity building-training courses organized

The training courses organized by the Nigeria Agricultural Policy Project are demand driven. Consequently, participants for organized training courses are selected by Project partners requesting the training course. The Project encourages particular emphasis on young researchers and gender balance wherever possible. In some cases, training courses are organized to facilitate data collection activities for research work being undertaken by the Project. The training courses can benefit the Project in a number of ways. On one hand, they directly address capacity building needs. However, they also gradually provide the base to build a sustainable development process in this area by eventually having the current trainees becoming the trainers in the long term (thus, contributing to the sustainability of the Project activities beyond its life).

Table 1: List of Training Courses

Date	Location	Topic	Participants		
			Type	Male	Female
Oct 1-7, 2018 and Nov 12-18, 2018	Diplomat Hotel, Lagos	Access to land for agriculture focusing on understanding the growth of medium and large scale farmers in Nigeria and its effects on small scale holders.	Ministry personnel	9	-
Oct 1-7, 2018 and Nov 12-18, 2018	Stanzel Hotel, Abuja	Access to land for agriculture focusing on understanding the growth of medium and large scale farmers in Nigeria and its effects on small scale holders.	Graduates/Graduate Students	30	10
November 7-9, 2017	Federal University of Technology, Minna (Niger state)	Econometrics for Policy Analysis using Stata: manage, analyze, and report findings	Faculty and Undergraduate Students	41	17
November 27-28, 2017	Agricultural Research Council of Nigeria	Introductory Policy Communications	Staff of the Agricultural Research Council of Nigeria	17	9
November 28-30, 2017	University of Ibadan (Oyo State)	Econometrics for Policy Analysis using Stata: manage, analyze, and report findings	Graduate Students	31	23

The state level trainings on introduction to STATA contribute to the Project's objectives in several ways. The trainings were designed to teach participants how to manage, analyze, and report findings from various types of economic data. Participants gained insights on how to handle data for evidence-based decision making. The training courses were well received and appreciated with

participants expressing satisfaction for both course content and delivery. In addition to providing additional skills for data analysis to faculty and students, this training activity (and approach) demonstrates how the Project contributes to future capacity development. Faculty trained in Stata will also incorporate the training as part of their teaching curriculum so as to benefit more students in the future. This approach expands the domestic capacity within Nigeria to use the software and to train others.

The objective of the Introductory Policy Communications training course delivered at the Agricultural Research Council of Nigeria (ARCN) was to enhance the skills, knowledge, and understanding of course participants to engage in policy communications. The training began with a broad overview of what Policy Communications means conceptually, and why it is important in both programmatic and national contexts. Other topics included an overview of key Policy Communications terminology, methods, and frameworks frequently used in programs. This overview provide participants with a common set vocabulary, tools (such as social media and policy briefs), and approaches used to plan and implement Policy Communications activities for programs or policies they manage and support. The training emphasized on developing participants' knowledge and skills through a combination of presentations and group exercises to effectively communicate program and policy data that can be used to support decision-making within the context of the country's national development agendas. Following the training, senior members of the ARCN management made a commitment that the skills and knowledge developed by the trained staff would be shared across the Council as the newly trained members would provide trainings for their other colleagues within the organization. They were also enthusiastic about the quality of the course and requested another follow up and more advanced course on Policy Communications to be delivered during the year. The Project plans to deliver this course in line with the follow up and more advanced request during Year 3.

Three scheduled courses planned in Q1 did not take place and will be scheduled for delivery in the remaining three quarters of implementation of Project activities. Regarding the first course, Policy Analysis using Stata/Excel, the Project was notified, following a number of meetings and discussions with Mr. Baye of FMARD, that the timing for the course was not convenient for the Ministry due to their other commitments in Q1. For this reason, and following discussions with the ARCN senior management (which is under FMARD), the Project finally organized a very successful course on Policy Communications in Q1 for ARCN following strong demand for this particular course from ARCN senior management. This postponed Policy Analysis training course has now been scheduled for Q2. The second course, Computer Assisted Personal Interviews (CAPI) initially scheduled in Q1 for Ahmadu Bello University (ABU), was postponed due to a nationwide strike by universities. Talks are currently underway with ABU to re-schedule the training course in the second quarter of Year 3. The third course, Economy-wide modelling and macroeconomic adjustment, also scheduled in Q1 was finally postponed due to other unexpected travel commitments from the Team Lead (based at IFPRI HQs in Washington DC) leading this particular training activity.

2. Capacity building of Nigerian students

The Feed the Future Nigeria Agricultural Policy Project launched its second year of the Visiting Scholars' Program in 2017, with its first two students enrolled at MSU in the fall semester (August 2017-December 2017). The remaining 3 visiting scholars will attend MSU in the spring and fall semesters of 2018. One of the goals of the scholars program is to strengthen food security policy expertise in Nigeria. Consequently, the program seeks to organize and institute direct training collaborations between project researchers and Nigerian scholars. For example, Nigerian graduate

students, their research advisors and project researchers constitute research teams to work on specific topics.

In the first quarter of year 3, Ms. Oluwatoyin Motunrayo Ademola (MSc. Student, Federal University of Agriculture, Abeokuta) and Mr. Monday Ufedo Shaibu, (MSc. Student, Kogi State University, Anyigba), were awarded the fourth and fifth Nigeria Agricultural Policy Project scholarships based on their academic standing, research impact potential, and the imperative to maintain gender balance in offering this opportunity. They took classes in statistics, econometrics and agricultural development at MSU.

The remaining three students for this academic year (due to arrive in January 2018) are:

- Mrs. Blessing Agada (PhD Student, Federal University of Agriculture and Technology, Makurdi)
- Mrs. Stella Chude (PhD student, University of Nigeria, Nsukka)
-
- Mr. Osayanmon Wellington Osawe (PhD student, University of Ibadan)

Ms. Ademola was the first project scholar that is not an Agricultural Economics student. Her degree programme is in Food Microbiology and Biotechnology, with a special interest in Aflatoxins. Her departmental presentation was entitled: "Effect of Processing Steps on Microbial Population and Mycotoxin Profile of *OGIRI*". Given that maize is a focus crop of USAID Nigeria, Ms Ademola worked with MSU faculty (Dr. Saweda Liverpool-Tasie) and her advisor in Nigeria (Prof. Wale Obadina) on the issue of aflatoxins along the maize value chain in Nigeria. This culminated in a project research paper on "Food Safety in the Rapid Transformation of Food Systems in Africa: Aflatoxins along the Maize Value Chain in Nigeria.

In addition, the project facilitated a visit for Ms. Ademola to the MSU toxicology lab to observe and participate in aflatoxin testing. This testing was done on several maize based cereal samples collected in Nigeria. The samples were analyzed for aflatoxin presence and levels. Based on the lab and research experience here at MSU, Ms. Ademola produced a project highlight and a research paper. She has also developed a research program for identifying how to prevent the growth of aflatoxins in maize along the maize value chain in Nigeria. She will continue to do this work in Nigeria in collaboration with MSU faculty alongside her supervising professors Dr. Saweda Liverpool-Tasie (MSU) and Prof. Adewale Obadina (FUNAAB).

- [**Food Safety in the Rapid Transformation of Food Systems in Africa: Aflatoxins along the Maize Value.**](#) Research Paper 90. Oluwatoyin Ademola, Saweda Liverpool-Tasie and Adewale Obadina. December 2017
- [**Visiting Scholar at MSU Toxicology Laboratory - A Dream Come True.**](#) Highlights 13, Oluwatoyin Ademola, December 2017

Mr. Shaibu's research interest is in agricultural insurance programs. On November 21, 2017, Mr. Shaibu gave a presentation on his ongoing research "The Impact of the Nigeria Agricultural Insurance Scheme as a Risk Management Strategy for Farmers in Kogi State". Following the presentation on his proposed conceptual framework, empirical strategy and upcoming field work, Mr. Ufedo received feedback from nine faculty and graduate students that attended (5 males and 4 females). This feedback (alongside feedback from his interaction with 9 other faculty during his time on the MSU campus) will be incorporated into his Master's Thesis that will be completed upon his return to Nigeria. He returned home in December 2017. Participants at the presentation gained

insights into some of the challenges faced in developing countries as they try to develop agricultural insurance programs.

Based on his experience as a Nigerian scholar taking classes at MSU, Mr. Shaibu wrote the following Highlight.

- [Professors Are also Humans - Perspective of a 2017 Project Scholar](#). Highlights 12, Ufedo Monday Shaibu, December 2017

During his time on campus, Mr. Shaibu visited farmers in Michigan to discuss their use and experience with insurance programs. During that visit, Mr. Shaibu interacted with dairy farmers and was intrigued by the nature of land access and use for cattle rearing in Michigan. This spurred Mr. Shaibu's interest in the topic which he felt was closely related to the ongoing conflict in Nigeria between herdsmen and farmers. Consequently, Mr. Shaibu worked with Dr. Saweda Liverpool-Tasie on a piece to document the experience of the USA with regards to land access and use for cattle rearing. He received additional input from other MSU faculty working on extension and produced a draft policy note called "**The Tragedy of the commons – A historical phenomenon and Nigeria's current reality**". The draft document was completed before Mr. Shaibu's return to Nigeria and will be finalized and distributed with support from the project during quarter 2. This demonstrates how the experience of the scholars during the project scholar program can be leveraged to the benefit project stakeholders.

Scholars' contribution to the agricultural subsector in Nigeria

As another example of how the benefit of participating in the project scholar program extends beyond the scholars and their institutions of learning, the two scholars, at MSU in this quarter, spent the semester doing research on how to develop and finance a sustainable agricultural extension service in Nigeria. This research involved a literature review alongside interviews with those involved with agricultural extension at MSU and in the state of Michigan. The goal was to learn how local governments and states in the USA collect and present information on agriculture and how they disseminate research findings to stakeholders. The request for this work came from interactions on the WhatsApp group formed following the project training activity that brought together representatives from state ministries in 34 out of Nigeria's 36 states in March 2017. This activity of the scholars produced a draft paper on extension services and what we can learn from the U.S. Agricultural data collection system. It is believed that lessons can be learned from how the system developed over time and also how the design and funding of this system evolved. Final papers from these studies are expected in Q2.

Both of these project scholars returned to Nigeria in December 2017 and are expected to share their experiences and the insights that they have learned and continue to be active in the project scholar program.

The Scholars Program supports professional development and research collaboration for Nigerian Faculty

During the reporting period, specifically from November 26 to December 8, 2017, the Policy project supported a visit by two Nigerian faculty to Michigan State University. The two professors, Dr. Mohammed Ibrahim (Kogi State University, Anyigba) and Dr. Adewale Olusegun Obadina (Federal University of Agriculture, Abeokuta) are the academic supervisors of the 2 Nigerian graduate students that studied at MSU for the fall 2017 semester under the Policy Project Scholars Program.

The primary objectives of the professors' visit were to monitor the progress of their students and to interact with MSU faculty in areas of mutual interest. During their visit, the professors met with over 15 MSU professors in varying fields related to agriculture and food safety. Though Dr. Obadina

and his student (food scientists) were the first non-Agricultural Economists to participate in the scholars program, their participation revealed strong synergies between their work on food safety and the policy project's ongoing work on the maize value chain. Consequently, a draft project research report on aflatoxins along the maize value chain in Nigeria was produced.

Beyond consultation and exchanges with MSU faculty the Nigerian professors pursued additional opportunities such as visiting MSU farms and food labs, participating in an aflatoxin analysis, and learning how extension services are supplied in Michigan.

As indicated by one of the professors –

“On a personal note, the visit provided me the opportunity to interact and gain new insights in teaching and research activities within the University System. It also provided the opportunity to network and establish useful connections...”

The scholars program facilitates knowledge sharing and dialogue

During their visit, Drs Ibrahim Kebiru (from Kogi State University) and Professor Adewale Obadina (from Federal University of Agriculture Abeokuta) presented a joint seminar on December 7th titled: *Linking Research to Action*. Dr. Ibrahim discussed the rising incidence of being overweight and obese in rural Nigeria while Prof. Obadina discussed the safety status of locally processed foods in Nigeria. Through the presentation and lively discussions that followed, participants were exposed to how the transformation of food systems in Nigeria is translating to important health and safety considerations that are not well understood. Beyond presentation of their recent findings, the professors discussed strategies they are using to translate their research to practical outcomes. These include using existing platforms for disseminating new agricultural technologies to elicit research needs of stakeholders and consequently foster improved interaction. The discussions enlightened those in attendance of creative ways that institutions of learning could ensure their research output and its impact reach beneficiaries. The seminar had 13 participants (8 Men and 5 women).

The scholar program contributes to national conference on agriculture

During this quarter, the Feed the Future Nigeria Agricultural Policy Project and the Nigerian Association of Agricultural Economists (NAAE) jointly hosted the 18th Conference of the Nigerian Association of Agricultural Economists which took place in Abeokuta, Ogun State from October 16 - 19, 2017. During the conference, the three Policy Project scholars who were in residence at Michigan State University in the 2016/2017 academic year presented their research findings. The findings presented were very much in tune with the conference theme on Agribusiness and are outputs of project supported activities. Ms. Aisha Lawal presented on Agglomeration of agro industries and its potential to boost agricultural productivity in Nigeria. Mr. Wale Ogunleye talked about the potential of the rapidly transforming poultry and maize value chain in Nigeria. Ms. Charity Ekerebi spoke on the need for gender consideration in resource access for agricultural activities in Nigeria. More information on the research methodology of scholars was requested and provided. In particular, reference was made to the methodology used by Ms. Ekerebi as a possible alternative approach for other studies on gender issues presented during the conference.

The Policy Project support to young scholars extends beyond those directly in the scholars program

During the first quarter, the Policy Project partnered with the Nigerian Association of Agricultural Economics to support 18 young Nigerian scholars. These eighteen young Nigerian scholars from institutions of higher learning across the country were sponsored to attend the 18th annual NAAE

conference. Majority of the young scholars were from the 7 USAID Nigeria FtF focus states. The remaining were previous scholars who had been highly ranked in the earlier round of scholar selection for 2017/2018 but had not made the final cut.

In addition to attending the conference (and seeing some of their colleagues including the Project Scholars present) the team of 18, had a 2-hour meeting on October 17 with senior scholars. During the meeting, the young scholars presented their current research questions and methodology. Dr. Saweda Liverpool-Tasie and other senior Nigerian Scholars (Prof. Bola Okuneye- the president of the association, Prof. Bayo Aromolaran – A professor of economics and Dr. Bukola Osuntade, a lecturer in agricultural extension) provided feedback to the scholars on ways to improve their proposed methodology and how to appropriately articulate their research questions. Scholars expressed appreciation for the session, and indicated they found it novel, profound and useful.

Two selected scholar responses

“... You gave us an avenue to share summaries of our research works and you suggested ways of improving them based on your expertise. I remain grateful Ma...”

“... I appreciate your comments and suggestions on my research proposal especially on the food security aspect. That has really got me thinking, net surfing and reading for better approaches and options. ... Thank you so much!”

The Land research team of the policy project supports the training of young Nigerian scholars

In a jointly funded research on land in Nigeria (partners are the Gates foundation and the Department for International Development), the land team trained over 40 young Nigerian scholars during this quarter. Those trained included postgraduate students at Master and PhD levels, most of who have basic background in agriculture but lack the practical skills to conduct empirical research. In line with the project practice used in other research activities, the scholars were trained and then subsequently recruited to work on data collection and potentially analysis. This particular training provided participants an opportunity to learn research skills in a practical hands on manner. Participants observed that the skills acquired in the training were skills not taught in school. One participant noted that “...there is often a disconnect between what is really being done out there and what is taught in class rooms...” The training was well received and featured in one of Nigeria’s leading newspapers, the Daily trust. See (<https://www.dailytrust.com.ng/agriculture-msu-builds-capacity-of-nigerian-scholars.html>)

The competitive selection of the next set of scholars to visit MSU under the scholars program

A Call for Applications for the 2018 Short-Term Visiting Scholars Program was distributed in October and was limited to considering only graduate students in the seven FTF Focus States. The submission deadline is January 10, 2018. The Call for Application can be accessed through the following link: http://foodsecuritypolicy.msu.edu/countries/nigeria/visiting_scholar_program.

Component 2: Activities to promote policy driven collaborative research and analysis

The policy driven collaborative research and analysis component in Year 3 will continue to directly support the knowledge needs of the policy process at the federal and state level. Particular

emphasis will be placed this year on selected FTF focus states, FMARD and the FCT. The following research topics have been approved for Year 3 work plan, classified under the following thematic areas:

1. Leveraging the principal drivers of agricultural transformation and rural incomes

Agricultural mechanization

This research seeks to investigate the determinants of adoption of agricultural mechanization, interactions between various agricultural mechanization technologies (for example, tractors and intermediate tools like draft animals), the impacts of mechanization adoption on agricultural and rural sector transformation in Nigeria, and the extent to which transaction costs inhibit credit provision and mechanization adoption from reaching a socially optimal level there.

The main objectives for the first quarter (Q1) of fiscal year 2017-18 were to conduct literature reviews on: 1) the linkages between demand for agricultural mechanization and agroecological conditions, farming systems, and complementary technologies generally; and, 2) experiences in other countries in stimulating agricultural mechanization growth in the context of farm household liquidity constraints and poorly developed credit markets; as well as to develop small surveys for farmers and retailers that focus on the adoption and dissemination of mechanization technologies in Nigeria, respectively. Both literature reviews have been completed, and the farmer and retailer survey draft questions have been developed. The farmer survey questions were encompassed into an ongoing survey implemented by the International Institute of Tropical Agriculture (IITA) that includes the FtF focus states of Kaduna and Benue, and a draft of the retailer survey has been completed and is being prepared for submission to the IFPRI Institutional Review Board in line with the standard approval process for conducting surveys. The project is on track to meet the targets for the year. Additionally, a research team including local researchers was formed to help with implementation of the retailer surveys. The members of the research team include Amina Shehu, NAERLS staff in the Agricultural Engineering Department at ABU and Dr. T.D. Bidoli, Associate Professor of Agricultural Economics and Extension at Ahmadu Bello University.

Assessment of agricultural storage infrastructure and market characteristics in Nigeria

The Nigerian Federal Ministry of Agriculture and Rural Development (FMARD)'s Agricultural Promotion Policy 2016-20 outlines a series of proposed policy interventions to *inter alia* increase domestic production, enhance linkages between farmers and markets, and reduce post-harvest losses through supply chain and storage facility development (FMARD 2016). However, these goals cannot be achieved in isolation. Accomplishment of the productivity enhancement goal will be difficult unless simultaneous efforts are made to improve farmer access to markets and/or commercial and on-farm storage infrastructure. This research work seeks to better understand the specific rural markets that are most isolated, and thus, are most at risk of steep price declines caused by a supply glut. The research will also explore the commercial and on farm storage infrastructure characteristics in Nigerian agricultural markets, and how these characteristics vary in rural, isolated markets relative to those in more interconnected markets.

The primary objectives for the first quarter (Q1) of fiscal year 2017-18 were to form a research team including local researchers, obtain a dataset on disaggregated prices for Kebbi State, and develop a market characteristics survey. All objectives have been achieved, and the project is on progress for the year and Q1. The local researchers are Dr. Abubakar Maikasuwa, Associate Professor of Agricultural Economics in the Department of Agricultural Economics & Extension at Kebbi State University of Science & Technology – Aliero and Mr. Abdulrahman Aliyu, M.Sc. student

in the same department. Price data were also obtained from the National Bureau of Statistics (NBS) in Abuja. These are monthly prices for maize (white and yellow), millet, rice (imported and local), and sorghum for 2000-16 for 15 spatially separated markets (both urban and rural) throughout Kebbi State. A draft of the market characteristics survey has been developed, and is being edited for submission to the IFPRI Institutional Review Board in line with the standard approval process for conducting surveys.

Monitoring and evaluating the agricultural sector's role in macroeconomic adjustment

This research activity seeks to support, monitor, and evaluate the ongoing process of restructuring the Nigerian economy (in relative terms) towards the production of tradeable goods and away from the production of non-tradeable goods. This process is national in nature; however, it can be expected to play out differently across sectors and across states. The research will emphasize (i) the response of the agricultural sector, including upstream elements, such as fertilizer provision, and downstream elements, such as food processing and (ii) the welfare implications of the process. It will also focus on seven key states: Benue, Cross River, Delta, Ebonyi, Kaduna, Kebbi, and Niger (see the seven Feed the Future focus states of USAID/Nigeria) allowing for comparison of national level trends with trends in these key states.

The major objectives under this research work in Q1 of Year 3 Project activities were the formulation of a study team and construction of a national level social accounting matrix. Identification of national partners is an ongoing process and will be finalized in the second quarter (in line with the approved work plan). By the end of the first quarter, the lead researcher on the topic had already held discussions with potential partners in Abuja (see Centre of the Study of Economies of Africa) as well as with the faculty at the University of Ibadan. These discussions will be finalized during the visit of the research lead in the first part of the second quarter. Principal effort has also been directed towards the microsimulation module. Data from the recent household consumption survey were accessed and processed to conform to the existing social accounting matrix for Nigeria. Finally, a short paper has been outlined but not completed at this stage.

Research to support the promotion of key priority crops/industries in selected FtF states

During the first quarter of year 3 the project team interacted with the state ministry of agriculture in Kebbi State in this regard. Following this interaction, the project will be working on promoting aquaculture and rice production in the state as part of the support to the state on its agricultural policy. During the first quarter of year 1, an analysis of fish demand in Nigeria was conducted using the nationally representative World Bank/National Bureau of Statistics the LSMS panel dataset. This study revealed the significant differences in fish consumption and prices between northern and southern Nigeria and also between northern states in Nigeria. The results have been published in an MSU staff paper and are being incorporated into the projects state policy support activities for Kebbi.

2. Land governance and institutional strengthening for agricultural transformation

Understanding the landscape for land access and its relation to food security

The two core research activities under this theme are: 1) Access to land for agriculture vis a vis herder/farmer clashes continued from Year 2, and 2) Land Access in relation to agricultural commercialization, smallholder farmers and emergent investor farmers. Activity 1 is a collaborative research with relevant faculty of Nigerian Universities, and Planning Research and Statistics Units of State Ministries of Agriculture. Activity 2 is a collaborative study leveraging on funds from several sources including the Gates Foundation and the UK Department for International Development (DFID). The study, amongst several things, seeks to understand the extent to which

changing land ownership structure i.e. rise in medium and large-scale farms are beneficial to small holder farmers.

In the first quarter of year 3, under activity 1, Focus Group Discussions in the 3 remaining states (Ebonyi, Delta and Cross River) were conducted in conjunction with the respective State Ministries of Agriculture and Agricultural Development Programmes. Participants were purposely selected and were drawn from 3 Local Government Areas in each of the 3 States. With the conclusion of the Focus Group Discussion in the first quarter of year 3, data entry, cleaning and analysis commenced and would continue in the second quarter.

Under Activity 2, progress on the research activity was made. Development of the listing instrument, selection and training of the enumeration team, and listing of households in the selected study areas was completed in the first quarter of year 3. Following this, the development of the sample frame and actual survey instruments commenced in the later part of the first quarter and would be completed in the second quarter. The launch of the administration of the actual survey is planned for the second quarter of year 3.

Land access, migration decisions and youth employment in the Nigerian agricultural sector

By controlling for other socioeconomic factors that pertain to rural-urban migration, the objective of this study is to test the hypothesis that access to land and tenure security is an important push-factor that drives youth in the rural Nigeria to migrate and look for non-agricultural livelihood options. The study will specifically test whether access to land and tenure security may have an impact on youth's decision on spatial and occupational mobility in Nigeria with a particular focus on the 7 FtF focus states (see Benue, Cross River, Delta, Ebonyi, Kaduna, Kebbi and Niger). The study will also build on IFPRI's recent work on the youth employment and agricultural transformation nexus in Nigeria (see Adesugba and Mavrotas 2016a, 2016b) which has attracted among others the attention of the Vice President of the country in connection with the preparation of the new Agriculture Promotion Policy (APP) of the Buhari Administration (FMARD 2016).

The planning for the study of land access, migration decisions and youth employment in the Nigerian agricultural sector began with discussions among the research team in the first quarter of Project implementation. The team also discussed and refined the conceptual framework and started cleaning the LSMS panel data on migration and access to farm and non-farm employment opportunities. Following the initial data cleaning exercise, the team of researchers will identify a local research partner/collaborator to fill the data limitation using the LSMS data set. In preparation for the fieldwork for this study in February, a series of preliminary quantitative analyses on the land access, migration decisions and youth employment linkages will be conducted using the LSMS panel data set. In addition, a thorough review of the research literature on land access, migration decisions and youth employment linkages in developing countries will be undertaken.

Subnational panel data analysis of public investment's agricultural welfare effects

Despite the potentially high weight of subnational in total spending in Nigeria, no rigorously derived evidence exists to date on the impacts that subnational expenditures in agriculture have on agricultural and economic performance, and how these returns compare to those from expenditures in health, education, infrastructure, and other sectors. Recent studies, including Olomola et al. (2014) and Mogue et al. (2012), have provided quantitative albeit only descriptive trends and patterns in public expenditures in agriculture at the federal, state, and local government levels. However, detailed trends are produced at the subnational level only in a case-study approach, i.e. for a small sample of three states and three LGAs, albeit from diverse zones of the

country. Two recent studies also conducted qualitative analyses on the political economy drivers of public expenditure decision-making in support of agriculture, based on key informant interviews in case study LGAs and states (Mogues and Olofinbiyi, 2016; and Olofinbiyi and Mogues, 2016). The current research work therefore addresses this knowledge gap by conducting econometric analysis of the impacts of subnational (state and local government) public expenditures on agricultural productivity and economic welfare indicators.

The key objectives in the first quarter for this study were the formation of the research team (to take place in the course of Q1 and Q2 in line with the approved work plan), and the finalization of the study's conceptual framework (to take place in the course of Q1). Formulation of the research team is well underway, although not yet completed: confirmed team members include three IFPRI staff, of which two are based in Nigeria. It is anticipated that two additional researchers will join the team. Of these, one has already preliminarily been identified, a Masters student who is seeking additional external funds to enable his placement in the IFPRI-Abuja office for a six-month period. The second has not yet been identified, but will be a researcher from one of the 7 focus states of USAID-Nigeria identified in Q2. The second objective is complete since the conceptual framework has been drafted. With this strong start of the year, the team is well on track for progress for the rest of the year. In addition to achieving the specific goals mentioned, agricultural and other public expenditures data disaggregated at states and local government level have been gathered from the Ministry of Finance, the Central Bank of Nigeria, and other sources. Furthermore, state level agricultural public expenditure and social statistics data were gathered from National Bureau of Statistics and the World Bank. Also, during the first quarter, preliminary data cleaning was carried out for most of the data collected.

3. Agriculture transformation and nutrition

Leveraging agriculture transformation for improving food and nutrition security in rural Nigeria

To identify effective policy instruments along the APP's principles and corresponding to the AFSNS's priorities, a good understanding of the linkages between farming systems, rural market integration, household food consumption, and nutritional outcomes as well as of the potential impacts of available policy options on this nexus is beneficial. However, research-based evidence in this direction is missing in the context of Nigeria. The goal of the proposed study is to provide such demand-driven, rigorous research and hence to contribute to improved, evidence-based decision making in the ongoing agricultural reform process. The study has two objectives: First, it will provide a regional overview of household food and nutrition security across Nigeria, seasonal differences in this situation, and changes over time. Second, the study will econometrically explore the (causal) effects of agricultural production patterns on food and nutrition security indicators among farm households.

This research activity is on track and in line with the planned timeline for Q1 of Year 3 planned Project activities. All tasks of Q1 as defined in the Activity's timeframe in the Year-3 work plan of the Nigeria Agricultural Policy Project (NAPP) were completed. Three activities were planned in Q1 of Year 3 including formation of the study's research team, request access to survey data, and review of relevant literature. By the end of Q1, a core research team was formed consisting of Dr. Olivier Ecker and Dr. Patrick Hatzenbuehler. If needed, research assistance (especially in data processing and analysis) will be provided by IFPRI's NSSP office on a demand basis. Support by local researchers will also be discussed by the research team. Access to a number of surveys was requested, and the original data files were received for the following:

- a. Nigeria General Household Survey Panel (GHS-Panel)
 - i. Year 2 (2012-13): Post-planting survey and post-harvest survey
 - ii. Year 3 (2015-16): Post-planting survey and post-harvest survey
- b. Nigeria Demographic and Health Survey (DHS) 2013
- c. Nigeria Malaria Indicator Survey (MIS) 2016

In addition to the above activities, an internet search for relevant publications was conducted and requested publication were received. A library was compiled of the requested publications and a literature review of the compiled publications was undertaken.

4. Climate change and agricultural resilience

Environment and agricultural resilience

The impacts of climate change on the agricultural sector in Nigeria going forward are expected to be severe, but so far, there is a dearth of systemic analysis of how these impacts would develop over time, or how they would interact with other drivers impacting Nigerian agriculture. A systemic analysis could contribute to adaptation efforts by identifying policy mechanisms that serve as system ‘levers’ to effect change given the considerable uncertainty associated with both the socio-economic and ecological aspects of climate change.

In Quarter 1 of Year 3, the climate change work under NAPP focused on refining a system dynamics model of maize production for Kaduna state, under varying climatic conditions and testing different policy responses. This system dynamics model was informed by stakeholder workshops that took place in June 2016 and March 2017 and parameterized by data specific to Kaduna where available. The model results revealed that a hotter climate with longer periods of drought during the maize growing season could negatively impact maize production, even under optimal fertilizer application rates, unless early maturing varieties of maize are more widely adopted. The report on this modeling work has been drafted, and is undergoing final edits for a publication as a project report of early February 2018. A peer reviewed journal article will also be prepared from this work in 2018. In addition to the Kaduna modeling work, a system dynamics model of rice production in Ebonyi state under variable climatic conditions also began. This work is expected to be complete by Quarter 2 of year 3.

The following journal article was published in Q1Y3: Schmitt Olabisi, L., Liverpool-Tasie, S., Rivers III, L., Ligmann-Zielinska, A., Du, J., Denny, R., Marquart-Pyatt, S., and Sidibé, A. 2017. Using participatory modeling processes to identify sources of climate risk in West Africa. *Environment Systems & Decisions* 1-10¹.

5. Political economy of policy making in Nigeria

The political economy of informal food retail trade: The case of Nigeria’s secondary cities

This research aims to address the role of informal food vendors in secondary cities as a key component of agricultural transformation and food security while also examining how their treatment by government officials affects their own food security and their ability to facilitate agricultural transformation. More specifically, the research seeks to explore 1) the institutional

¹ Though this journal article was mentioned in the report for year 2 Q 4 (after it had been accepted for publication by the peer reviewed journal), it was not counted in quarter 4 of year 2. Thus this journal article is being counted in this quarter (Year 3, Q1) when it was actually published.

relationships and regulatory environment underlying governance of informal food vending in Nigeria's secondary cities, 2) the impact of harassment on food security, growth and employment, and 3) the policy options available for improving governance of informal vendors in a way that promotes their livelihood options while contributing to clean, livable cities.

Progress on the new area of the Political Economy of Informal Food Retail Trade is on track vis-à-vis the original modest goals for the first quarter of FY3. Specifically, contact has been made with two survey companies in Nigeria (CLEEN and Population Services International (PSI)) to find out about their costings for survey implementation. The two companies are well-regarded and constitute the Nigeria team for the well-known Afrobarometer public opinion surveys. In addition, some initial contacts were made with academics at the University of Calabar to find out if there may be one or more suitable partners to work with in Cross Rivers State. These partnerships are still being finalized. Finally, the literature review on the political economy of informal retail trade in Africa in general and Nigeria in particular is progressing well and should be finalized by the next quarter to inform the relevant survey questionnaires.

Component 3: Strengthening evidence-based policy process and promoting impact

1. Strengthening policy process by bridging the gap between “knowledge providers” and “knowledge users”

Under this component, the Nigeria Agricultural Policy Project seeks to systematically bring together various stakeholders and actors in the policy process to share knowledge that can contribute to improved policy processes.

Dr. George Mavrotas was invited by the senior management of the Agricultural Research Council of Nigeria (ARCN) to deliver a policy seminar on the role of the agricultural research system in Nigeria on 5 October 2017. This high-profile event organized by ARCN was chaired by the Executive Secretary of ARCN, Prof. A.A. Voh (Jr) and was attended by the entire senior management of ARCN along with 70 participants (50 males and 20 females). Dr. George Mavrotas stressed in his presentation the centrality of ARCN as the key platform of FMARD for enhancing academically rigorous and policy relevant agricultural research in the country and he also mentioned that IFPRI is prepared on behalf of the USAID funded Feed the Future Nigeria Agricultural Policy project to continue working together with ARCN in order to strengthen further the excellent partnership between the two institutes so far.

On November 15, 2017, Dr. Patrick Hatzenbuehler, Associate Research Fellow at IFPRI-NSSP Abuja, presented a seminar on “How Macroeconomic Factors May Influence Agricultural Program Sustainability: Evidence from Cross River State, Nigeria” as part of the Department of Agricultural Economics Seminar Series at the University of Calabar, Cross River State. The seminar was attended by twenty people (7 females, and 13 males), including members of the Department of Agricultural Economics and Department of Economics faculty, graduate students from each department, staff from the Cross River Agricultural Development Programme (ADP), and a representative of a Calabar-based microfinance bank. The presentation was organized to share findings and recommendations from the above study which explored how macroeconomic factors may influence agricultural program sustainability. By focusing on Cross River state in the South-South geopolitical zone of Nigeria, the large gap in recent years between agricultural expenditure shares and the CAADP obligation is understood on a more detailed basis through examination of fiscal data from the state. The Cross River government has lower agriculture expenditure shares

than the average for all states in aggregate. The research recommends a policy mechanism for the FMARD of providing temporary funding during periods of negative fiscal shocks appears plausible, especially for states such as Cross River that currently have low expenditure levels, based on the observed FMARD budgetary autonomy and the size of the FMARD budget relative to the aggregate state Ministry of Agriculture budgets.

Dr. Patrick Hatzenbuehler, Associate Research Fellow at IFPRI-Abuja, presented a research seminar on “Macroeconomic Factor Influence on Agricultural Program Sustainability in Kaduna State, Nigeria” at the National Agricultural Extension and Research Liaison Service (NAERLS) at Ahmadu Bello University (ABU), Zaria, Nigeria on December 12, 2017. The seminar was attended by twenty-two people (3 females and 19 males), including faculty members and graduate students in the ABU Department of Agricultural Economics, NAERLS staff, and NAERLS senior management. This seminar continues an ongoing tradition of support and collaboration between NAERLS/ABU and IFPRI-Abuja to produce research that helps achieve the goals of greater agricultural development, sustainable poverty reduction, and ending hunger and malnutrition in Nigeria. The presentation was based on research that focuses on the linkages between government institutions in Nigeria with a specific focus on those that implement agricultural programs. Since the NAERLS at ABU has a rich history of cooperation with state level Agricultural Development Programs (ADPs), it is important to have NAERLS researchers and staff consider their past and present experiences in sharing resources and knowledge across institutions in order to identify challenges in facilitating closer agricultural program coordination across federal and state levels. Attendees at the seminar were broadly supportive of efforts to increase cooperation between federal and state level agricultural program implementing institutions, but noted several inhibiting factors such as lack of data and information on ongoing projects.

Policy communication and outreach

During the first quarter in Year 3, further progress was made on the Project’s website which was successfully launched in Year 2 of Project implementation. The Project’s Policy Communications Unit continued to update the website to ensure that all Project outputs and related activities are disseminated in a timely manner to all Project stakeholders. During the reporting period, the Policy Communications Unit also delivered a Policy Communications training course at ARCN as part of the Project’s further support to efforts by the Nigerian government to enhance capacity to plan and implement agricultural policy and programming (see Table 1 in Component 1).

Strengthening contacts and interacting more with the media

On December 7, 2017, Dr. George Mavrotas held a meeting with the Distinguished Senator Abdullahi and Dr. Nasir Mohammed (ARCN) at the National Assembly to discuss plans for the provision of a training for media practitioners in the National Assembly (and in line with earlier discussions on this with Senator Abdullahi in the previous quarter). Following successful discussions, it was agreed that a training course would be organized for the members of the media at the National Assembly in the second quarter of Project activity implementation (end of January 2018).

2.3 M&E Plan Update

By the end of the implementation activities in Year 2, the Nigeria Agricultural Policy Project had achieved or surpassed its performance targets in 10 out of 11 indicators. These included number of stakeholder learning forums where findings/best practices are presented (370%), number of participants attending project organized events (210%), number of collaborative research teams involving local partners formed and undertaking policy research and analysis (111%), number of

individuals who have received short-term technical training (461%), number of individuals who have received USG supported degree-granting training (100), and number of organizations/entities assisted to participate in various roundtable and stakeholder meetings, seminars and conferences focused on agricultural policy issues (850%). It had been explained in the annual report (see Year 2 annual report) that level of performance achieved by the end of the year does not mean that the Project's indicator targets were not realistically targeted for. The targets, per the approved Year 2 work plan considered the number of institutions that the Project planned to work with as approved in the Award Agreement. USAID/Nigeria notified the Feed the Future Nigeria Agricultural Policy Project of its new 7 USAID Feed the Future focused states (see Benue, Cross River, Delta, Ebonyi, Kaduna, Kebbi, and Niger) and the need for the Agricultural Policy Project to work more closely with institutions in the new identified states which led to an increase in Project activities across three of its approved components. Such performance was taken into account in the setup of indicators and targets for the approved Year 3 work plan. This followed a meeting between USAID and the Project Management team (see meeting on October 6, 2017 at the IFPRI Abuja Office) organized to make suggestions with regards to Project indicators to ensure that Project activities are implemented in an effective and efficient manner as well as to ensure that targets were set realistically in order to avoid huge variances in achievements. A number of changes were made to indicators including introduction of new indicators and removal of other indicators that the Project was reporting on in Year 2. An updated Monitoring and Evaluation Plan was shared for approval with USAID Nigeria on December 21, 2017. Please see Table 1 in Annex A for approved indicators in Year 3.

Regarding M&E processes, plans are underway to launch the midline survey on the Nigeria Agriculture Food Security Policy Processes Survey as a follow up to the baseline survey that was undertaken in Year 1 of Project implementation. As part of the monitoring and evaluation framework of FSP, the project has proposed two qualitative indicators to assess and track the institutional architecture and quality of policy processes on agriculture and food security in FTF countries where the project has major country level activities either through mission buy-ins or associate awards. Nigeria is one of the countries where the FSP project has proposed to assess and monitor the following two qualitative indicators as part of the Nigerian Agriculture Policy Project, which is an associate award to FSP implemented by MSU and IFPRI (See indicators 11 and 12 in Annex A). The Project intends to follow up on participants that were interviewed in the baseline to assess any changes in the institutional architecture or in the quality of policy processes on agriculture and food security in Nigeria. It is anticipated that the mid-line survey will be launched following IRB approval in the second quarter of Year 3.

3. INTEGRATION OF CROSSCUTTING ISSUES AND USAID FORWARD PRIORITIES

3.1 Gender Equality and Female Empowerment

Gender is a critical issue and this is reflected in research activities as well as capacity building initiatives undertaken by the Project. Research topics approved in the Year 3 work plan continue to consider gender as an important element in the development of research questions and in analysis. The majority of the research work has been deliberately designed to use data that has enough gender information to enable analysis at the gender disaggregated level. Furthermore, the composition of research teams (where possible) is undertaken in such a way that gender is considered. Under activities to promote policy driven collaborative research and analysis, the Nigeria Agriculture Policy Project Research teams are composed with particular attention to gender

balance and where possible the Project makes a deliberate attempt to ensure that there is equal participation of both males and females ensuring that both gender groups are represented and appropriately contribute to the research activities.

When recruiting individuals to be trained or to participate in relevant activities, the Project strives to achieve gender balance in participants. Where recruitment is done by our partners, we inform them of our strong interest in gender balance. With regards to training courses, courses organized by the Nigeria Agricultural Policy Project are demand driven by the Project's partners. Consequently, participants for organized trainings are selected by Project partners requesting the training course with the Project encouraging emphasis on young researchers and gender balance wherever possible.

4. STAKEHOLDER PARTICIPATION AND INVOLVEMENT

The Nigeria Agricultural Policy Project has continued to engage actively with various stakeholders in Nigeria. To date, a cumulative 22% of the annual target on the number of individuals who have received USG supported short-term technical training in agricultural sector productivity or food security policy analysis training (EG.3.2-1) has been achieved. Similar achievements were made regarding number of collaborative policy research work and analysis completed jointly with a local partner (43%) and the number of participants attending project organized research and policy events (57%). In addition, all research activities involved a range of stakeholders in the agricultural sector and several research teams have either held meetings or conducted interviews with a range of key informants from various stakeholder groupings for their respective research topics. Please see below a summary of activities undertaken during the third quarter.

Support to FMARD

Support to FMARD remains a key objective of the Project. The Project has continuously strengthened the good partnership with FMARD since inception. FMARD has two representatives on the Policy Project's National Advisory Committee and the Project has regular meetings with FMARD management and senior advisors to the HMA, among others. Following the approval of the Honorable Minister of Agriculture and Rural Development, Chief Audu I. Ogbeh, for the conduct of a Joint Sector Review (JSR) and the formulation of a National Agriculture Investment Plan (NAIP), a multi-stakeholders Steering Committee for Joint Sector was constituted in February 2017. Dr. Mavrotas on behalf of the Project serves on that committee (following a nomination by FMARD) and has so far very actively participated in various high-level consultation meetings organized by FMARD on the JSR process. He has also provided the two lead authors of the final JSR process report to be prepared by FMARD detailed comments on the draft JSR report. Currently and continuing in year 3, the Project is expected to be instrumental in actively advising the Ministry on this important policy front.

i. Support to the Joint Sector Review (JSR) process

On 30 November, 2017, Dr. George Mavrotas participated on behalf of the Nigeria Agricultural Policy Project in a JSR-Steering Committee meeting at the ECOWAS Commission in Abuja. The meeting was organized by FMARD in order to inform the members of the JSR Steering Committee on the progress made so far towards the preparation of the final JSR report. Dr. Mavrotas stressed at the meeting the need for FMARD to move faster with the completion of the final JSR report and its subsequent implementation in view of its great relevance to the overall CAADP process but also the APP.

ii. Support to State Ministries of Agriculture

Towards the end of the second year, Four FTF Focus States (Cross River, Delta, Ebonyi and Kebbi) approached the Feed the Future Nigeria Agricultural Policy Project to support their effort at state agricultural policy formulation/review. In some states, prior to reaching out to the policy project, the intention was to merely adopt the Agriculture Promotion Policy (APP) as a state policy without any further input. Not even capturing the areas of agriculture where the state had comparative advantage. Per the approved work plan in Year 3, the project would focus its attention on two states (Kebbi and Cross River States) to address the demand for a holistic state agricultural policy in tandem with the APP.

During the first quarter, a scheduled visit to Cross River State in early December by Mr. John Mazunda to discuss support to state agricultural policy development with ministry officials was postponed due to family bereavement. The above visit to Cross River State is scheduled for the second quarter.

In Kebbi State, discussions on the project's support for the state agricultural policy development commenced. The project, through the Honorable Commissioner for Agriculture, has engaged the Executive Governor to determine the political will for the priority areas captured in the now outdated agricultural blue print of the state shared with the Project on the instruction of the Executive Governor. In the meantime, preliminary work on aquaculture and rice production in Kebbi State has commenced.

iii. Support to APRNet

As part of efforts towards promoting agricultural policy research and communication in Nigeria, the Nigeria Agricultural Policy Project supports APRNet to ensure that its mandate is met in Nigeria. During the first quarter, the Permanent Secretary (FMARD) nominated Mr. Auwal Maidabino Ahmed (Director, Planning and Policy Coordination Department, FMARD) to serve as the second National Vice President in the Executive Council of APRNet. Such an appointment ensures that FMARD is actively involved in APRNet's mission and key objectives regarding the Nigeria agricultural sector. This development will also enhance FMARD's interaction with the country's think tanks and research networks.

Support to the Nigerian Association of Agricultural Economists

During this quarter, the Feed the Future Nigeria Agricultural Policy Project supported the Nigerian Association of Agricultural Economists to host the 18th Conference of the Nigerian Association of Agricultural Economists that took place in Abeokuta, Ogun State from October 16 -19, 2017. This event brought together participants from universities, other research institutes and institutions of higher learning, industry, donor agencies and government to discuss issues relating to the importance of Agribusiness in promoting economic growth and development in Nigeria. At the meeting Dr. Saweda Liverpool-Tasie talked about the shared vision of the association and the project on the importance of improving the quality of research being conducted by Nigerian scholars and ensuring that this research is appropriately packaged and disseminated to stakeholders for their use. The support of the project was well received, and the association has reaffirmed its commitment to work with the policy project going forward.

5. MANAGEMENT AND ADMINISTRATIVE ISSUES

Staff Developments

At the end of this quarter:

- The IFPRI Abuja Office recruited an M&E Specialist (local appointment) to assist in Project related M&E issues. Ms. Medinah Ayuba started her assignment on December 18, 2017.
- The staff at the IFPRI Office in Abuja includes: a Senior Research Fellow & Program Leader (Chief of Party), 2 Associate Research Fellows, a Country Program Manager, a Research Analyst, 3 Senior Research Assistants, a Senior Program Assistant, a Program Assistant, a Communications Specialist, a Communications Assistant, an M&E Specialist and 2 drivers.
- The staff at MSU associated with this project includes: Assistant professor (Principal investigator), 1 Professor, 1 Associate Professor, 1 Assistant Professor, 1 Specialist, 2 Graduate Research Assistants, an Accountant, and a Travel Coordinator.

6. LESSONS LEARNED

A number of lessons were learned during the implementation of Project activities in the first quarter. Some lessons were learned from implementation of research activities. For instance, the team working on agricultural mechanization focusing on Kaduna State learnt that there are no existing business registries currently that would help facilitate tracking of business establishment records and patterns, as well as formation of a retailer population on which to form a random sample for the research work. The best identified strategy had been to rely on experts in the Ministry of Agriculture and Forestry or similar institutions. Since the Ministry is now trying to facilitate coordination between retailers and farmers within the state (which requires retailers to be registered with the Ministry), it is plausible that the Ministry may have some records that contain contact information for retailers in the state which can be built upon to create state-level business registries. From the public expenditure research, the Project learnt that sustained engagement with government officials, including not only requesting datasets but also closely paying attention to the aspects of the research most relevant to government needs makes the research more relevant to these stakeholders, and builds a foundation of trust and respect between public officials and researchers. The Project will continue to engage with Nigerian stakeholders based on the principles that are implied by this lesson.

During the first quarter, Dr. George Mavrotas accompanied Dr. Charles Iyangbe (USAID) on a USAID organized field visit in Oyo and Ogun States (November 27-29, 2017) to monitor the performance of the Feed the Future Nigeria Agricultural Policy Project through meetings with stakeholders and beneficiaries, and to determine how well these stakeholders have incorporated the learning in their various institutions.

Dr. Iyangbe was impressed with the activities delivered by the Project in the two states visited. It was particularly pleasing to see how participants were making use of the information gained from training courses and the policy drafting process. For example, one of the benefitting students of the visiting scholars program at Michigan State University articulated how he had become proficient in data analysis, and he is well positioned to be able to produce policy briefs after his research work. Dr. Iyangbe encouraged the Project to keep up with the good work. Some recommendations emanating from the field visit included the following:

- Having those trained by the project become trainers and contribute to the overall capacity building process in the Nigerian agricultural sector during the rest of the life of the Agricultural Policy Project (and beyond).
- Consider facilitating a workshop in the focus states on bridging the policy research gap.
- Continue to explore creative and sustainable solution that will make available perpetual software licenses for key institutions.

- Consider providing a training course in basic statistics to facilitate easy understanding of Stata.
Related to the capacity building of Nigerian Graduate Students under the scholars program:
- The project has learned that it needs to ensure that visiting scholars are able to communicate with others at all times. This might include providing SIM cards for the visiting professors so that they can readily communicate with their students and other project team members; especially in case there is an urgent need of some kind.
- There was a strong sense among the students and professors that the call for application should be open to all Nigerians.
- Adjustments to the current payment methods for project scholars are necessary. The current procedure requires tax deductions and other formalities

7. PLANNED ACTIVITIES FOR NEXT QUARTER/UPCOMING EVENTS

Component 1: Activities to enhance skills, training, and institutional capacity

- Training on Econometrics for Policy Analysis Using Stata delivered at the Federal University Ndufu Alike Ikwo (FUNAI), Ebonyi State
 - 23-25 January, 2018
 - Training delivery: 2 parallel sessions over 3 days delivered to 25 participants
- Training on Econometrics for Policy Analysis Using Stata for FMARD staff in Abuja.
 - First half of February, 2018
 - Training delivery: One session over 3 days delivered to 25 participants
- Training on Extension Policy reforms.
 - Second half of February, 2018
 - Training delivery: One sessions over 2 days delivered to 30 participants
- Training on Econometrics for Policy Analysis Using Stata at the University of Calabar, Cross River.
 - First half of March, 2018
 - Training delivery: 2 parallel sessions over 3 days delivered to 60 participants
- Advanced Policy Communications training course organized for ARCN staff in Abuja.
 - Dates: TBC
 - Training Delivery: one session over 2 days
- Value chain concepts and analysis
 - Dates: TBC
 - Training Delivery: one session over 2 days
- Scholars program:
 - Three Project scholars, all PhD students arrive at MSU during Q2. They will take courses and be engaged in project activities.
 - During Q2, the selection of the five Project Scholars for the 2018-2019 academic year will begin following the end of the current call on January 10, 2018.
 - Arrangements for the visit of the advisors of the 3 scholars to be on MSU campus starting Spring 2018 will also be made.

Component 2: Activities to promote policy driven collaborative research and analysis

1. Leveraging the principle drivers of agricultural transformation and rural incomes

Agricultural Mechanization

The main activities for the next quarter are to develop the conceptual and empirical framework for estimation of the degree to which agrological conditions, farming systems, and complementary technologies determine mechanization demand; and, to implement the retailer surveys in Kaduna and Benue states. Data from these retailer surveys will also be processed and analyzed.

Assessment of agricultural storage infrastructure and market characteristics in Nigeria

The market characteristics survey will be finalized and implemented in Kebbi State. Processing of the data obtained from this survey will also occur. A review of the survey instrument and implementation plan efficacy will be done. Any needed changes to both the instrument and the implementation plan will be made for implementation of an additional survey in the third quarter. Review of the literature on price seasonality and rural and urban food market linkages will be ongoing.

Monitoring and evaluating the agricultural sector's role in macroeconomic adjustment

In the next quarter, the plan under this research activity is to disaggregate the SAM and linked microsimulation model for the 7 FtF states as well as to finalize the formulation of the research team.

Research to support the promotion of key priority crops/industries in selected FtF states

In the next quarter the research team to study the aquaculture subsector in Kebbi state specifically will begin work on domestic fish production in Kebbi, leveraging on what was learned in the study produced on fish demand in Northern Nigeria. Work on other topics (likely rice) will also begin

2. Land governance and institutional strengthening for agricultural transformation and investment

Understanding the landscape for land access and its relation to food security

Data cleaning and analysis under Activity 1 - Access to land for agriculture vis a vis herder/farmer clashes - will continue in the second quarter. Under Activity 2 - Land Access in relation to agricultural commercialization, smallholder farmers and emergent investor farmers - the development of the sample frame and actual survey instruments would be completed in the second quarter. The launch of the administration of the actual survey is also planned for the second quarter of year 3.

Land access, migration decisions and youth employment in the Nigerian agricultural sector

The main activities for the second quarter are to conduct thorough review of the research literature on land access, migration decisions and youth employment linkages in developing countries; identify local research partner/collaborator to fill the data limitation using LSMS data set; and commence analysis using LSMS panel data for Nigeria to examine the land access, migration decisions, and youth employment linkages.

Subnational panel data analysis of public investment's agricultural welfare effects

The plans for the second quarter under this research area are to complete the process of research team formation. Furthermore, the lead researcher, Dr. Tewodaj Mogues, will travel to Nigeria in Q2 to engage in person with the other identified team members on the work

together, to help identify and interview an additional Nigerian team member, and to interact with the relevant Nigerian stakeholders to build a foundation for future uptake or use of the research. Besides finalizing the research team, work will continue to finalize data collection, cleaning, and organization.

3. Agriculture transformation and nutrition

Leveraging agriculture transformation for improving food and nutrition security in rural Nigeria

Per the timeframe of this research activity, the major activities planned for the second quarter are cleaning of survey data and compilation of datasets for analysis. In addition to these activities, methods for data analysis will be specified and a detailed work plan redefined together with colleagues working on this research in the IFPRI Abuja Office. The research lead for this activity will also visit Nigeria in Q2 (Jan. 2018) to coordinate research on this topic and have meetings with FMARD and other stakeholders.

4. Climate change and agricultural resilience

5. Environment and agricultural resilience

In Quarter 2 of Year 3, we anticipate completing the system dynamics modeling work on rice in Ebonyi state, and integrating both the rice and maize modeling work (from Kaduna) with data collected from Ghana and Mali under parallel projects funded through NSF IBSSR and ASSAR. This is expected to yield two journal articles later in 2018. In addition, we will finalize and publish the project report on maize modeling in Kaduna state. We will begin the planning for and possibly data collection on community-scale climate adaptation strategies in Kaduna state, using a mental modeling approach which has been used for similar work in Mali and Ghana.

6. Political economy of policy making in Nigeria

The political economy of informal food retail trade: The case of Nigeria's secondary cities

In the next quarter, the research team lead will finalize the contracting process of one of the two survey companies (CLEEN or PSI) as well as design the survey questionnaire and submit to IFPRI's Institutional Review Board for ethics approval, in line with the standard approval process for conducting surveys. In addition, the team lead will have identified a few individuals for semi-structured interviews in the relevant states (Niger and Cross Rivers) as well as the necessary research assistance to carry out those interviews.

Component 3: Strengthening evidence-based policy process and promoting impact

Strengthening policy process by bridging the gap between “knowledge providers” and “knowledge users”

- Presentation on “Leveraging Agriculture Transformation for Improving Rural Food and Nutrition Security in Nigeria” by Dr. Olivier Ecker on behalf of the Nigeria Agricultural Policy Project at the Methodology Workshop for the national Food Consumption and Nutrition Survey 2018 jointly organized by the Federal Ministries of Health, Agriculture and Rural Development, and the Budget and National planning.
 - Date: 23-25 January, 2018

Strengthening contacts and interacting more with the media

- Policy Communications training course organized for the National Assembly Senate Media Correspondents with selected Committee Secretariat staff in Abuja.
 - Dates: 26 and 29 January, 2018
 - Training Delivery: one session over 2 days to be delivered to 31 participants

8. WHAT DOES USAID NOT KNOW THAT IT NEEDS TO?

9. HOW IMPLEMENTING PARTNER HAS ADDRESSED AOR COMMENTS FROM THE LAST QUARTERLY REPORT.

Comments were received from USAID-Nigeria relating to clarification of information under some components of the Q4/Year 2 Annual report. The Nigeria Agricultural Policy Project management team responded to the comments and a revised report was submitted to USAID/Nigeria on December 7, 2017.

ANNEX A: PROGRESS SUMMARY

NOTE: Revisions to the MEP plan were made taking into account USAID/Nigeria's comments and the MEP was resubmitted to USAID/Nigeria on December 4, 2015. The Feed the Future Nigeria Agricultural Policy Project on January 18, 2016 received approval of the MEP.

Achieved progress versus planned for the period disaggregated by gender, geographic area and other relevant factors (use table below).

Table 1: PMP Indicator progress - USAID Standard Indicators and Project Custom Indicators ^a

[Strategic Objective]											
Indicator	Data Source	Baseline data		FY 2018		Quarterly Status - FY 2018				Annual Performance Achieved to Date (in %)	Comment(s)
		Year	Value	Annual Cumulative Planned target	Annual Cumulative Actual	Q1	Q2	Q3	Q4		
Intermediate Result (IR):											
1.1. Increased agricultural competitiveness											
1.2 Improved business environment											
3.2 Improved responsiveness of targeted government institutions											
3.3 Increased capacity for civic advocacy, monitoring, and engagement											
Sub-IR: 1.3 Improved agricultural policy environment											
1. Number of high quality research reports published	Project Records	NA	NA	11	5	5				45	
2. Number of participants attending project organized research and policy events	Project Records	NA	NA	680	438	438				64	

3. Number of agricultural and nutritional enabling environment policies analyzed, consulted on, drafted or revised, approved and implemented with USG assistance (RAA) completing the following processes/steps of development as a result of USG assistance in each case: 1. Underwent analysis; 2. Underwent public debate and/or consultation with stakeholders on the proposed new or revised policy; 3. Were newly drafted or revised;	Project Records	NA	NA	3	0	0				0	
4. Number of collaborative policy research work and analysis completed jointly with local partner.	Project Records	NA	NA	7	3	3				43	
5. Number of individuals who have received USG supported short-term technical training in agricultural sector productivity or food security policy analysis training.	Project Records	NA	NA	850	187	187				22	
6. Number of individuals who have received USG supported degree-granting agricultural sector productivity or food security training.	Project Records	NA	NA	8	2	2				25	
7. Number of government units or divisions that have received short-term training (USG assistance)	Project Records	NA	NA	11	1	1				9	
8. Number of agriculture policy communications developed and/or written for stakeholder consumption	Project records	NA	NA	18	9	9				50	
9. Number of public private advocacy dialogues focused on policy that supports private sector investment	Project records	NA	NA	4	0	0				0	

10. Number of for profit private enterprises, producers' organizations, water users associations, women's groups, trade and business associations, and community-based organizations (CBOs) receiving USG food security related organizational development assistance	Project Records	NA	NA	30	2	2				7	
11. Index (or scorecard) of quality of agriculture and food security policy processes in Nigeria, as measured by stakeholder evaluation to capture level of satisfaction and confidence	Project Records	2016	1.206	1.326	NA	NA				NA	
12. Index (or scorecard) of quality of the institutional architecture for agriculture and food security policy processes in Nigeria, as measured by stakeholder evaluation survey to capture level of satisfaction and confidence	Baseline, mid-term and end-line	2016	1.342	1.476	NA	NA				NA	

ANNEX B: NUMBER OF HIGH QUALITY RESEARCH REPORTS PUBLISHED (Indicator 1)

Paper description
1. Hatzenbuehler, Patrick L.; and Mavrotas, George. 2017. How Macroeconomic Factors May Influence Agricultural Program Sustainability: Evidence from Cross River State, Nigeria. NSSP Working Paper 50. Washington D.C.: International Food Policy Research Institute (IFPRI).
2. Liverpool-Tasie, L. S.O., B. Omonona, A. Sanou, W. Ogunleye, S. Padilla, and T. Reardon. 2017. Growth and transformation of chicken and eggs value chains in Nigeria. <i>Nigerian Journal of Agricultural Economics</i> 7(1):1-15
3. Liverpool-Tasie, L. S.O, Sanou, A. & Reardon, T. 2017. Demand for Imported-Frozen versus Domestic-Traditionally Processed Fish in Africa: Panel Data Evidence from Nigeria. MSU Staff Paper 2017-09. December. Sanou, A., Osuntade, B.,
4. Liverpool-Tasie, L.S.O. and Reardon, T. 2017. Climate Change and the Poultry Value Chain in Nigeria: Issues, Emerging Evidence, and Hypotheses. <i>Nigerian Journal of Agricultural Economics</i> , 7(1):45-53
5. Schmitt Olabisi, L. K., Liverpool-Tasie, L.S.O., Rivers, L., Ligmann-Zielinska, A., Du, J. Denny, R., Li, J. Marquart-Pyatt, S. & Sidibe, A. 2017. Using Participatory Modeling Processes to Identify Sources of Climate Risk in West Africa. <i>Environment Systems and Decisions</i> . https://doi.org/10.1007/s10669-017-9653-6

ANNEX C: NUMBER OF PARTICIPANTS ATTENDING PROJECT ORGANIZED RESEARCH AND POLICY EVENTS (Indicator 2)

Learning Forum	Location	Participants
1. Focus Group Discussions	Cross River State	Attended by 36 people. 8 from the Private Sector (5 females and 3 males), 22 from Civil society (6 females and 16 males), 3 from research institutions (1 female and 2 males), and 3 others (males)
2. Focus Group Discussions	Delta State	Attended by 37 people. 17 from the Private Sector (5 females and 11 males), Gov't sector (4 males), 9 from Civil society (3 females and 6 males), research institutions (1 male), and 6 others (males)
3. Focus Group Discussions	Ebonyi State	Attended by 36 people. 14 from the Private Sector (4 females and 10 males), 3 from the Gov't sector (1 female and 2 males), 13 from Civil society (3 females and 10 males), 3 males from research institutions, and 3 others (1 female and 2 males)
4. Food Safety in the Rapid Transformation of Food Systems in Africa: Aflatoxins along the Maize Value Chain in Nigeria.	East Lansing MI. MSU	Attended by 19 people (9 females and 10 males), including faculty members and graduate students in the MSU Department of Agricultural Food and Resource Economics,
5. Impact of Nigeria Agricultural Insurance Scheme as a Risk Management Strategy among Farmers in Kogi State, Nigeria	East Lansing MI. MSU	Attended by nine people (4 females and 5 males), including faculty members and graduate students in the MSU Department of Agricultural Food and Resource Economics,
6. Linking Research to Action: The experience of 2 Nigerian Scientists	East Lansing MI. MSU	Attended by thirteen people (5 females and 8 males), including faculty members and graduate students in the MSU Department of Agricultural Food and Resource Economics,
7. Macroeconomic Factor Influence on Agricultural Program Sustainability in Kaduna State, Nigeria	NAERLS/ABU, Kaduna	Attended by twenty-two people (3 females and 19 males), including faculty members and graduate students in the ABU Department of Agricultural Economics, NAERLS staff, and NAERLS senior management.
8. Nigerian Association of Agricultural Economics	Federal University of Agriculture, Abeokuta, Ogun State	Attended by 176 people. Gov't sector (2 males), Civil society (7 males), 167 from research institutions (60 females, 107 males)

ANNEX D: NUMBER OF INDIVIDUALS WHO HAVE RECEIVED USG SUPPORTED SHORT-TERM AGRICULTURAL SECTOR PRODUCTIVITY OR FOOD SECURITY TRAINING (Indicator 5)

Course details	Participants
1. Econometrics for Policy Analysis using Stata organized at the Federal University of Technology, Minna (Niger state), November 7-9, 2017	Attended by 58 participants (41 males and 17 females) including faculty and undergraduate students
2. Econometrics for Policy Analysis using Stata organized at the University of Ibadan, Ibadan (Oyo state), November 28-30, 2017	Attended by 54 graduate students (31 males and 23 females)
3. Introductory Policy Communications organized for the Agricultural Research Council of Nigeria in Abuja, November 27-28, 2017	Attended by 26 ARCN members of staff (17 males and 9 females)
4. Land training session in Lagos. Revolved around access to land for agriculture focusing on understanding the growth of medium and large scale farmers in Nigeria and its effects on small scale holders. Oct 1-7 and Nov 12-18	Attended by 49 people. Government: 9 males Civil Society: 40 (30 Males and 10 Females)

ANNEX E: NUMBER OF AGRICULTURE POLICY COMMUNICATIONS DEVELOPED AND/OR WRITTEN FOR STAKEHOLDER CONSUMPTION (Indicator 8)

Paper description
Ademola, Oluwatoyin; Liverpool-Tasie, S.L.O.; and Obadina, A. 2017 Food Safety in the Rapid Transformation Of Food Systems In Africa: Aflatoxins Along The Maize Value Chain In Nigeria – Concepts And Future Research Directions . Nigeria Agricultural Policy Project. Research Paper 90.
Amare, Mulubrhan; Benson, Todd; Fadare, Olusegun; and Oyeyemi, Motunrayo. 2017. Synopsis: Study of the determinants of chronic malnutrition in northern Nigeria: Quantitative evidence from the Nigeria Demographic and Health Surveys . NSSP Policy Note 44. Washington, D.C.: International Food Policy Research Institute (IFPRI).
Benson, Todd; Amare, Mulubrhan; Oyeyemi, Motunrayo; and Fadare, Olusegun. 2017. Synopsis: Study of the determinants of chronic malnutrition in northern Nigeria: Qualitative evidence from Kebbi and Bauchi states . NSSP Policy Note 43. Washington, D.C.: International Food Policy Research Institute (IFPRI).
Ghebru, Hosaena; and Girmachew, Fikirte. 2017. Synopsis: Scrutinizing the status quo: Rural transformation and land tenure security in Nigeria . NSSP Policy Note 45. Washington, D.C.: International Food Policy Research Institute (IFPRI).
Hatzenbuehler, Patrick L.; and Mavrotas, George. 2017. Synopsis: How macroeconomic factors may influence agricultural program sustainability: Evidence from Cross River state, Nigeria . NSSP Policy Note 46. Washington, D.C.: International Food Policy Research Institute (IFPRI).
Hatzenbuehler, Patrick L.; and Mavrotas, George. 2017. Synopsis: Macroeconomic factor influence on agricultural program sustainability in Kaduna state , Nigeria. NSSP Policy Note 41. Washington, D.C.: International Food Policy Research Institute (IFPRI).
Liverpool-Tasie S.L.O.; Reardon, T.; Sanou, A.; Ogunleye, Wale.; Ogunbayo, I.; and Omonona, B.T. 2017. The Transformation of Value Chains in Africa: Evidence from the First Large Survey of Maize Traders in Nigeria . Research Paper 91.
Resnick, Danielle; and Okumo, Austen. 2017. Synopsis: Subnational variation in policy implementation: The case of Nigerian land governance reform . NSSP Policy Note 40. Washington, D.C.: International Food Policy Research Institute (IFPRI).
Takeshima, Hiroyuki; and Edeh, Hyacinth. 2017. Synopsis: Constraints for small-scale private irrigation systems in the North Central zone of Nigeria . NSSP Policy Note 42. Washington, D.C.: International Food Policy Research Institute (IFPRI).