

FEED THE FUTURE NIGERIA AGRICULTURAL POLICY PROJECT

Quarterly Report – Year 4

Second Quarter: January 1- March 31, 2019

Associate Cooperative Agreement Number AID-620-LA-15-00001
Activity Period: July 1, 2015 to June 30, 2020
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Submitted April 30, 2019

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ACRONYMS

| | |
|-----------|--|
| ADAN | Association of Deans of Agricultural Universities |
| AFAN | All Farmers Association of Nigeria |
| APP | Agricultural Promotion Policy |
| ARCN | Agriculture Research Council of Nigeria |
| ASA | Agronomy Society of America |
| ATA | Agricultural Transformation Agenda |
| BSU | Benue State University |
| CAADP | Comprehensive Africa Agriculture Development Program |
| CAPI | Computer Assisted Personal Interviews |
| CSPPro | Census and Survey Processing System |
| CSSA | Crop Science Society of America |
| DC | District of Columbia |
| EBSU | Ebonyi State University |
| EOS | Economies of scope |
| ERGP | Economic Growth Recovery Plan |
| FCT | Federal Capital Territory |
| FG | Federal Government |
| FMARD | Federal Ministry of Agriculture and Rural Development |
| FTF | Feed the Future |
| FUT Minna | Federal University of Technology, Minna |
| FY | Fiscal Year |
| GFSS | Global Food Security Strategy |
| HMA | Honorable Minister of Agriculture |
| IBB | Ibrahim Badamosi Babangida University Lapai |
| IFPRI | International Food Policy Research Institute |
| KARDA | Kebbi Agricultural and Rural Development Authority |
| KBTv | Kebbi State-owned television station |
| LGA | Local Government Area |
| M&E | Monitoring and Evaluation |
| MELP | Monitoring, Evaluation & Learning Plan |
| MSU | Michigan State University |
| NAAE | Nigerian Association of Agricultural Economists |
| NAERLS | National Agriculture and Extension Research Liaison Services |
| NAIDA | Nigeria Agro-Input Dealers Association |
| NAPP | Nigerian Agricultural Policy Project |
| NASS | National Assembly |
| NBS | National Bureau of Statistics |
| NFCMS | National Food Consumption and Micronutrient Survey |
| NGO | Non-Governmental Organization |
| NJAE | Nigerian Journal of Agricultural Economics |
| NSSP | Nigeria Strategy Support Program |
| PMP | Performance Management Plan |
| PCU | Project Coordinating Unit |
| SOPs | Standard operating procedures |

| | |
|-------|--|
| SOW | Scope of work |
| UAM | University of Agriculture, Makurdi |
| US | United States |
| USAID | United States Agency for International Development |
| USG | United States Government |

Contents

| | |
|---|----|
| 1. PROGRAM OVERVIEW / SUMMARY..... | 5 |
| 1.1 Summary of Results to Date | 7 |
| 2. ACTIVITY IMPLEMENTATION PROGRESS..... | 10 |
| 2.1 Progress Narrative | 10 |
| 2.2 Implementation Status | 10 |
| Component 1: A Strategy for Enhancing National Agriculture and Food Security Policy Capacity | 10 |
| Component 2: Policy driven collaborative research and analysis..... | 26 |
| Component 3: Strengthening evidence-based policy process and promoting impact.... | 26 |
| 3. INTEGRATION OF CROSSCUTTING ISSUES AND USAID FORWARD PRIORITIES..... | 29 |
| 4. M&E PLAN UPDATE..... | 30 |
| 5. LESSONS LEARNED | 30 |
| 6. WHAT DOES USAID NOT KNOW THAT IT NEEDS TO? | 31 |
| ANNEX A: NUMBER OF RESEARCH REPORTS PUBLISHED (Indicator 1)..... | 33 |
| ANNEX B: NUMBER OF PARTICIPANTS ATTENDING PROJECT ORGANIZED RESEARCH AND POLICY EVENTS (Indicator 2)..... | 34 |
| ANNEX C: NUMBER OF INDIVIDUALS PARTICIPATING IN USG FOOD SECURITY PROGRAMS (Indicator 4)..... | 36 |
| ANNEX D(a): NUMBER OF INDIVIDUALS WHO HAVE RECEIVED USG SUPPORTED DEGREE-GRANTING NON-NUTRITION-RELATED FOOD SECURITY TRAINING IN FY 2019. (Indicator 5).... | 39 |
| ANNEX D(b): NUMBER OF INDIVIDUALS WHO HAVE RECEIVED USG SUPPORTED DEGREE-GRANTING NON-NUTRITION-RELATED FOOD SECURITY TRAINING REPORTED IN FYs 2015-2016, 2016-2017, 2017-2018, 2018-2019. | 39 |
| ANNEX E: NUMBER OF AGRICULTURE POLICY COMMUNICATIONS DEVELOPED AND/OR WRITTEN FOR STAKEHOLDER CONSUMPTION (Indicator 7)..... | 41 |
| ANNEX F: PROJECT SUCCESS STORIES | 42 |
| ANNEX H: POLICY COMMUNICATIONS TRAINING FOR MEDIA | 50 |

1. PROGRAM OVERVIEW / SUMMARY

| | |
|---|---|
| Program Name: | Feed the Future Nigeria Agricultural Policy Project |
| Activity Start Date and End | July 1, 2015 – June 30, 2020 |
| Name of Prime Implementing Partner: | 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: | January 1, 2019 – March 31, 2019 |
| Project personnel mentioned in this report and their project role: | <p>Dr. Mulubrhan Amare (Associate Research Fellow, IFPRI)</p> <p>Dr. Bedru Balana (Research Fellow & Acting Chief of Party, IFPRI)</p> <p>Mr. Hyacinth Edeh (Research Analyst II, IFPRI)</p> <p>Dr. Hosaena Ghebru (Research Fellow, IFPRI)</p> <p>Dr. Saweda Liverpool-Tasie (Principal Investigator, MSU)</p> <p>Mr. Steve Longabaugh (Specialist, MSU)</p> <p>Dr. George Mavrotas (Former Chief of Party, IFPRI)</p> <p>Dr. Tewodaj Mogues (Senior Research Fellow, IFPRI)</p> <p>Dr. Michael Olabisi (Assistant Professor, MSU)</p> <p>Dr. Tom Reardon (Distinguished Professor, MSU)</p> <p>Dr. Laura Schmitt Olabisi (Associate Professor, MSU)</p> <p>Dr. Hiroyuki Takeshima (Senior Research Fellow, IFPRI)</p> <p>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 second quarter (January-March 2019) of fiscal year 2019.

1.1 Summary of Results to Date

Table 1 for the current project year:

| Project Indicator Title | Baseline Data | Project Annual Target | Project Annual Actual at Q1+Q2 | Comment If yearly actual is 10% more or less than target | Annual Performance Achieved to End of Reporting Period (%) | Project Target ¹ | Project Actual ² | LOP Performance achievement (%) |
|---|---------------|-----------------------|--------------------------------|---|--|-----------------------------|-----------------------------|---------------------------------|
| 1. Number of papers (e.g., monographs, discussion papers, white papers, research reports, journal articles) completed as a result of FTF Nigerian Agricultural Policy Project activities that embody new information, knowledge and best practices in guiding food security policies. (Annex A). Custom Indicator | N/A | 6 | 7 | A number of these were based on research conducted in FY3 and are being published in FY4, reason for the increased number of papers | 116 | 43 | 63 | 147 |
| 2. Number of participants attending project organized | N/A | 1830 | 623 (M=442, | Ok | 35 | | | |

¹ Project Target: These are numbers or percentages targeted for each indicator from Y1 – Y5 i.e. (Y1+Y2+Y3+Y4+Y5). It is important to note that some of the project indicators have been changed over the years, where some indicators were being dropped some were added in year 3 (indicator 6, 7&8 and Year 4 (indicator 3). This accounts for the significant increase in the target set for Y4.

² Project Actual: These are the actual numbers achieved for each indicator from Y1- Y4 (Q1) i.e (Y1+Y2+Y3+Y4 (Q1, Q2). Actual data for indicators 6, 7 & 8 are from Y3 & Y4 (Q1) while actual for indicator 3 is from Y4 which is an annual indicator, the reason for the zero number.

| | | | | | | | | |
|---|-----|------|------------------|----|-----|------|-----------|-----------|
| research and policy events. (Annex B). Custom Indicator | | | F=181) | | | 3683 | 3222 | 87 |
| 3. Number of milestones in improved institutional architecture for food security policy achieved with USG support. Standard Feed the Future Indicator (FTF) EG.3.1-d | N/A | 6 | Annual indicator | | NA | 8 | | |
| 4. Number of individuals participating in USG food security programs. (Annex C) Standard Feed the Future (FTF) Indicator EG.3.2 | N/A | 2805 | Annual indicator | | NA | 4077 | | |
| 5. Number of individuals who have received USG supported degree-granting non-nutrition-related food security training. (Annex D). Standard Feed the Future Indicator (FTF) EG.3.2-2 | N/A | 7 | 7 (M-4, F-3) | OK | 100 | 13 | 13 | 100 |
| 6. Number of organizations with increased performance improvement with USG assistance Standard Feed the Future (FTF) indicator 3.2-29 | N/A | 40 | Annual indicator | | NA | 63 | | |
| 7. Number of agriculture policy communications developed and/or written for stakeholder consumption. (Annex E). Custom Indicator | N/A | 30 | 33 | OK | 110 | 66 | 82 | 124 |
| 8. Number of public private advocacy dialogues focused on policy that supports private | N/A | 4 | 2 | OK | 50 | 10 | 5 | 50 |

| | | | | | | | | |
|---|-------|----|---|---|--|-------------|--|--|
| sector investment. Custom Indicator | | | | | | | | |
| 9. 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. Custom Indicator | 1.206 | NA | Semi Annual Indicator Biennial indicator | Semi Annual Indicator Biennial indicator | 30% positive change from baseline result | 1.44 | | |
| 10. 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. Custom Indicator | 1.342 | NA | Semi Annual Indicator Biennial indicator | Semi Annual Indicator Biennial indicator | 30% positive change from baseline result | 1.74 | | |

2. ACTIVITY IMPLEMENTATION PROGRESS

2.1 Progress Narrative

This narrative will highlight progress made by the Feed the Future Nigeria Agricultural Policy Project in the implementation of the Year 4 work plan, which was submitted to United States Agency for International Development (USAID)/Nigeria on August 31, 2018, and finally approved by USAID/Nigeria on October 19, 2018. The Year 4 work plan is broken down into two main components: 1) Activities to enhance skills, training, and institutional capacity; and 2) Strengthening evidence-based policy process and promoting impact. The component on Policy driven collaborative research and analysis is not part of Year 4 workplan following clear instructions from USAID to drop this component in Year 4.

2.2 Implementation Status

Component 1: A Strategy for Enhancing National Agriculture and Food Security Policy 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.

Table 2: Indicator 4. Number of individuals participating in USG food security programs

| Date | Location | Topic | Participants | | | | |
|--|---|--|--------------|------|--------|-------|-----|
| | | | Type | Male | Female | 15-29 | 30+ |
| 1.1.1 FMARD/National Capacity Building and Mentoring Activities | | | | | | | |
| February 11-14, 2019 | Abuja | Econometrics for Policy Analysis using Stata | NBS | 11 | 14 | 0 | 25 |
| February 12-13, 2019 | Abuja | Agricultural Policy Issues (APP, ATA, CAADP) | FMARD | 18 | 5 | 0 | 23 |
| March 4-7, 2019 | Abuja | Econometrics for Policy Analysis using Stata | ARCN | 20 | 7 | 0 | 27 |
| 1.1.2 Universities | | | | | | | |
| January 14 -16, 2019 | University of Calabar | Issues in Agriculture and Development | Academia | 15 | 5 | 0 | 20 |
| January 14 -16, 2019 | Delta State University | Issues in Agriculture and Development | Academia | 16 | 8 | 1 | 23 |
| January 21-25, 2019 | Ibrahim Babangida University, Lapai | Econometrics for Policy Analysis using Stata | Academia | 20 | 5 | 0 | 25 |
| January 21-25, 2019 | Ebonyi State University | Econometrics for Policy Analysis using Stata | Academia | 13 | 9 | 3 | 19 |
| March 18 - 19, 2019 | University of Ibadan | Policy Communications | Academia | 17 | 6 | 0 | 23 |
| March 18 - 19, 2019 | Federal University of Technology, Minna | Issues in Agriculture and Development | Academia | 15 | 12 | 0 | 27 |

| Date | Location | Topic | Participants | | | | |
|---|---|--|---|------|--------|-------|-----|
| | | | Type | Male | Female | 15-29 | 30+ |
| March 18 – 22, 2019 | Niger State College of Agriculture, Mokwa | Econometrics for Policy Analysis using Stata | Academia | 20 | 5 | 0 | 25 |
| March 25 – 29, 2019 | University of Calabar | Econometrics for Policy Analysis using Stata | Academia | 14 | 6 | 0 | 20 |
| March 28, 2019 | University of Ibadan | Workshop on Journal Article Writing | Academia | 11 | 12 | 0 | 23 |
| 1.2. State trainings and capacity building efforts | | | | | | | |
| January 17-18, 2019 | Cross River | Issues in Agriculture and Development | State Ministry of Agriculture and natural Resources | 17 | 8 | 0 | 25 |
| January 17-18, 2019 | Delta | Issues in Agriculture and Development | State Ministry of Agriculture | 17 | 10 | 0 | 27 |
| January 28 -29, 2019 | Kebbi | Group Dynamics | Private Sector | 25 | 10 | 0 | 35 |
| March 18 – 20, 2019 | Oyo | Group Dynamics | Private Sector | 25 | 6 | 0 | 31 |
| March 21 – 22, 2019 | Niger | Issues in Agriculture and Development | State Ministry of Agriculture | 22 | 5 | 0 | 27 |
| March 25 – 27 2019 | Benue | Group Dynamics | Private Sector | 18 | 11 | 1 | 28 |

| Date | Location | Topic | Participants | | | | |
|--|----------|-----------------------|-------------------------------|------|--------|-------|-----|
| | | | Type | Male | Female | 15-29 | 30+ |
| 3.3.1 Media engagement and training (federal Level) | | | | | | | |
| February 13-14, 2019 | Abuja | Policy Communications | NBS | 17 | 8 | 0 | 25 |
| March 12 - 13, 2019 | Abuja | Policy Communications | National Assembly | 20 | 2 | 1 | 21 |
| 3.3.2 Media engagement and training (state level) | | | | | | | |
| January 21-22, 2019 | Ebonyi | Policy Communications | Ebonyi state journalists | 20 | 15 | 2 | 33 |
| January 23-24, 2019 | Ebonyi | Policy Communications | Farmer Groups | 5 | 10 | 1 | 14 |
| January 28-29, 2019 | Kebbi | Policy Communications | State Ministry of Agriculture | 23 | 2 | 0 | 25 |
| January 30-31, 2019 | Kebbi | Policy Communications | Farmer Groups | 27 | 8 | 17 | 18 |
| March 20 - 21, 2019 | Oyo | Policy Communications | Oyo state journalists | 13 | 10 | 0 | 23 |
| March 25 - 26, 2019 | Benue | Policy Communications | Farmer Groups | 20 | 7 | 0 | 27 |
| March 27 - 28, 2019 | Benue | Policy Communications | Private Sector | 20 | 7 | 4 | 23 |

Activity 1.1 FMARD/National Trainings

1.1.1 FMARD/National Capacity Building and Mentoring Activities

i. Support to the National Bureau of Statistics (NBS)

As part of efforts towards strengthening the capacity of Nigerian analysts to generate evidence that can guide sound policymaking in the country's agricultural sector, the Project delivered a training course to a team of NBS staff in Abuja on Econometrics for Policy Analysis Using Stata (February 11-14,2019). The 25 participants (11 male, 14 female) were all familiarized with the STATA software and shown how to make use of it in analyzing survey data. As a result of the training, it is expected that participants will utilize what was learnt in their place of work for better data analysis.

ii. Support to FMARD

Support to FMARD remains one of the Project's key activities. During the second quarter, the Project delivered a training course on 12-13 February 2019, to 23 (18 male, five female) senior staff (Assistant Director level) of the Federal Ministry of Agriculture and Rural Development in Abuja on Nigeria's national and regional agricultural policy framework for the period spanning 2007 to the present. The training, which was facilitated by Dr. George Mavrotas and Hyacinth Edeh took participants on a journey across policies relevant to Nigeria's agricultural sector, with an aim of providing participants with a better understanding of how these policies have shaped the role of agriculture in present-day Nigeria. The training looked at the Agricultural Transformation Agenda, the Comprehensive Africa Agricultural Development Programme (CAADP) driven by the African Union, as well as the Agriculture Promotion Policy (APP) and the Economic Recovery and Growth Plan (ERGP) of the Muhammadu Buhari-led government, among others. It is expected that the innovative training course will further enhance the capacity of Nigeria's policy analysts to produce and make widely available evidence that is required for sound decision-making on agricultural policy. This new course introduced in Year 4 has already been very popular within FMARD and another course is planned for FMARD Directors in May 2019, following a request by FMARD's senior management.

iii. Support to the Agricultural Research Council of Nigeria (ARCN)

During March 4 to 7 2019, the project delivered a training course to 27 staff members (20 male, 7 female) of the Agricultural Research Council of Nigeria (ARCN) on "Econometrics for Policy Analysis Using Stata" in Abuja. The training, which focused on concepts around statistical data analysis and introduced participants to the STATA application, was geared at further enabling agricultural researchers to more effectively analyze data and make widely available quality evidence for policymakers.

1.1.2 National Trainings (universities, think tanks, research institutions, CBO's NGOs, farmer groups)

On March 28, 2019, the Policy project jointly organized a digital training on journal article writing with the University of Ibadan. This training was facilitated by a Policy Project scholar and attended by 24 young Nigerian scholars (13 female and 11 male). The day long training workshop was based on a digital training prepared by the project in Quarter 1 of year 4. It uses a series of videos including a formal lecture and a series of short discussions on specific topics related to journal article preparation and is facilitated by Nigerian collaborators and/or a Project scholar. In this case, the training was facilitated by Project scholar Osawe Wellington (of University of Ibadan). In several instances, Mr. Osawe used examples from his own research to clarify key concepts taught during the training. By doing this, he illustrated how project scholars remain engaged in project activities (upon their return home from Michigan State University) and how they are applying lessons learned from their experience in the program to train others. This activity also demonstrates how the policy project, innovatively working with Nigerian partners is leveraging on digital technology to provide training in Nigeria. Following the training and in line with the project's emphasis on capacity strengthening through mentoring, participants trained will be engaging with the project to build on principles learned during the training.

As part of efforts towards broadening knowledge on the linkages between agriculture and development, the project delivered a training course on "Issues in Agriculture and Development" in Cross River state for researchers from the University of Port Harcourt, the University of Calabar, the Niger Delta University and Cross River University of Technology from (14 -16 January 2019) comprising of 20 participants (15 male and 5 female). The participants were taken through the various issues relevant to Nigeria's agricultural policy space (i.e. Land Governance and Tenure Security, Climate Change and Variability, Food and Nutrition Security, Agricultural Project Impact Evaluation). During the same period, the project delivered a similar training for 24 academics and researchers at Delta State University, Delta State (16 male, 8 female). The training course was geared at providing some of Nigeria's researchers with an understanding of the contemporary issues confronting the country's agricultural sector. Having such understanding would mean an increase in the overall capacity of the country's analysts to provide the evidence needed for effective decision-making on agriculture.

The project delivered a training on "Econometrics for Policy Analysis Using Stata" for academics and researchers on 21-25 January 2019 in Minna, Niger State. The 25 participants (20 male, five female) were all lecturers and researchers from the Federal University of Technology Minna, Ibrahim Badamasi Babangida University and Niger State College of Education Minna. During the same period, the Project also delivered a similar course for 22 participants (13 males and 9 females) lecturers and researchers from Ebonyi State University, Alex Ekwueme Federal University and the University of Nigeria Nsukka. As was the case for Niger State, it is expected that this training course would enhance the capacity of participants to undertake and make widely available relevant evidence-based policy analysis, as the training was geared at equipping Nigeria's analysts and researchers with knowledge and developing the skills required to analyse data and make available the evidence required by decision makers in the formulation of policy for country's agricultural sector.

On March 18 and 19, 2019, the Policy project delivered a training on policy communications to lecturers and researchers of the University of Ibadan in Oyo state. The training, which was attended by 23 participants (17 male, 6 female), provided the researchers with an introduction to the concepts of policy communications and publicly available and accessible sources of information related to agricultural policy related to Nigeria. Participants also got the opportunity to work on converting policy-relevant agricultural research into policy briefs. It is expected that following this training the capacity of researchers in generating useful evidence in the formulation of agricultural policies in Nigeria would be enhanced, as one of the participants, Prof. Dayo Ajayi, expressed commitment to step down the knowledge and skills gained from the training to other faculty members.

During the same period (March 18 and 19, 2019), the project delivered a training course on “Issues in Agriculture and Development” academics and researchers from the Federal University of Technology Minna. The training course was attended by 27 participants (15 male, 12 female) and provided them with an overview of contemporary issues in agricultural policy, particularly for Nigeria. Topics covered included Land Governance, Climate Change, Nutrition and Food Systems among others. As a result of this training, it is expected that participants will have a better understanding of emerging issues in the agricultural sector.

From March 18 – 22 2019, a team of two (2) Project trainers facilitated a training course on “Econometrics for Policy Analysis using Stata” for 25 (20 male and 5 female) lecturers and researchers of Niger State College of Agriculture, Mokwa. The training included presentations and practical exercises aimed at increasing the familiarity of the researchers at COE Mokwa with STATA as a tool for data analysis. It is expected that as a result of this training, participants’ capacity in handling data for evidence-based decision making would be enhanced.

As part of efforts towards strengthening Nigeria’s capacity for greater evidence-based policy processes in agriculture through relevant evidence-based policy analysis, a team of two (2) trainers from the project facilitated a training course on “Introduction to Survey Data Analysis using Stata” from 25 – 29 March 2019 for 20 (14 male and 6 female) researchers and faculty members the of University of Calabar, Cross River State. As a result of this training, participants’ capacity in handling data for evidence-based decision making was enhanced. Participants were also introduced to the World Bank’s Nigeria Living Standards Measurement Study data which is representative at the national level and can be used to inform various policies in the agricultural sector.

Activity 1.2 State Trainings and Capacity Building Efforts

1.2.1 Policy analysis, group dynamics, and issues in agriculture and development training/workshop for ministry staff and academics in the 7 FTF states and Policy Analysis for Priority areas

On 17 and 18 January 2019 the project delivered a training course on “Issues in Agriculture and Development” to policy analysts from the Ministry of Agriculture and Natural Resources in Calabar, Cross River State. The training was attended by 25 participants (17 male and 8 female). The participants were taken through the various issues relevant to Nigeria’s agricultural policy space (i.e. Land Governance and Tenure Security, Climate Change and Variability, Food and Nutrition Security, Agricultural Project Impact Evaluation). During the same period, the Project also delivered a similar course for 27 staff (17 males and 10 females) of the Ministry of Agriculture and Natural resources, the State Agricultural and Rural Development Authority and Fadama III in Delta State. The aim of the training was to build the national capacity of Nigeria’s policy analysts to provide and make available evidence that would ensure sound policymaking for the country’s agricultural sector.

To better equip agro-dealers in the private sector with adequate skills to manage their groups, the project delivered a training course on group dynamics for agro-dealers in Kebbi State on 28 - 29 January 2019. The 35 participants (25 male, 10 female) represented various groups and were exposed to knowledge and skills related to conflict resolution, working as a team, communication and record keeping. The project also delivered a similar course to 31 agro-dealers (25 male, 6 female) in Oyo State on 18 - 20 January 2019 and also to 29 agro-dealers (18 male, 11 female) in Benue state between 25 and 27 March 2019. The training was geared towards training group leaders within the private sector on group dynamics thereby strengthening their capacity to strengthen their local formal and informal groups’ ability to manage their assets, make strategic group decisions and create a balanced level of participation. It is expected that such trainings would enhance the capacity of various players in Nigeria’s agricultural sector to engage more effectively on policy discussions and implementation.

On March 21 and 22, 2019, a training course on “Issues in Agriculture and Development” was delivered by the project for the staff of Niger State Ministry of Agriculture. The training course, which was attended by 27 participants (22 male, 5 female), provided them with an overview of contemporary issues in agricultural policy, particularly for Nigeria. Topics covered included Land Governance, Climate Change, Nutrition and Food Systems among others. As a result of this training, it is expected that participants will have a better understanding of emerging issues in the agricultural sector.

Activity 1.3: Nigerian Graduate Student Capacity Building

1.3.1 Project scholars

In this quarter, three project scholars (PhD candidates) started their first of two semesters of study at Michigan State University (MSU). In line with the structure of the project scholars’ program, each of the 3 scholar’s program activities were developed individually based on the scholar’s level and needs and in conjunction with their Nigerian academic advisor and their MSU mentor. During quarter 2 of year 4, each of the 3 scholars developed a scope of work with the active participation of all these stakeholders and all 3 of them are taking courses at MSU to strengthen their identified knowledge and research gaps.

During this quarter, the three scholars engaged with the MSU community in several ways beyond their classes and interaction with their mentors. Each scholar presented their work at 2 different campus events. These presentations provided the students opportunities to practice communicating their research to technical audiences while getting feedback on their work. In addition to sharing knowledge about Nigerian issues, these presentations also created opportunities for the project and USAID investments in Nigeria to be shared with faculty and students.

Presentations made by the Project Scholars.

- Mrs. Balaraba Abubakar Sule (Federal University of Technology Minna):
 - **Effects of Agricultural Policies on Rice Production Systems in Kebbi State, Northwest Nigeria.** *Brown Bag presentation in the Department of Food, Agricultural, and Resource Economics, Michigan State University. 26 March 2019. 15 Attendees (9 Male and 9 Female)*
 - **Effects of Agricultural Policies on Rice Production Systems in Nigeria.** *Presentation at the 11th Annual Graduate Academic Conference. Michigan State University. 29 March, 2019*
- Mrs. Hephzibah Onyeje Obekpa (University of Agriculture Makurdi)
 - **Dietary Diversity and nutritional outcomes of children in Nigeria.** *Brown Bag presentation in the Department of Food, Agricultural, and Resource Economics, Michigan State University. 26 March 2019. Jointly with Mrs. Sule so no more attendees to mention.*
 - **Growing You Own Food and Nutrition; Dietary Evidence from Nigeria.** *Presentation at the 11th Annual Graduate Academic Conference. Michigan State University. 29 March, 2019*
- Mr. Charles Olumba Chukwudi (Ebonyi State University)
 - **Urban Agriculture, Land Access and Household Food Security in South-East Nigeria.** *Brown Bag presentation in the Department of Food, Agricultural, and Resource Economics, Michigan State University. 12 March 2019. 21 Attendees (9 Male, 12 Female).*
 - **Gendered Food Security in Urban Nigeria: Does Household Headship Matter?** *Presentation at the 11th Annual Graduate Academic Conference. Michigan State University. 29 March, 2019*

Outreach Pamphlet for dissemination to households and communities produced by a project scholar.

The project continues to strive to ensure that research output translates to relevant practical output for Nigerians in addition to (but beyond policy makers). In this regard a project scholar, working alongside their MSU mentor and home institution supervisor has developed a new pamphlet, based on her research for dissemination to the Nigerian public, particularly maize farmers. This pamphlet on the importance of soil physical properties in fertilizer application for maize production (which was initially only in English) has now

been translated into one Nigerian Languages (Tiv) with the expectation that it can be further translated to other languages.

Guide on how to account for soil physical properties and fertilizer use in Maize based systems. Blessing Iveren Agada. March 2019.

https://www.canr.msu.edu/fsp/countries/nigeria/farmer_fertilizer_manual-finalized.pdf

Program Highlights produced by Project scholar documenting their experiences (research and personal) as project scholars

- 1) My Experience at the Communication Art Building – MSU. Highlights 34, Choko, Onyinye Prince, March 2019.
<https://www.canr.msu.edu/resources/my-experience-at-the-communication-art-building-msu>
- 2) Excellent Transportation System. Highlights 35. Hephzibah Onyeje Obekpa. March 2019.
<https://www.canr.msu.edu/resources/excellent-transportation-system>
- 3) The “R” Lunch! Highlights 36. Abubakar Sule Balaraba. March 2019.
<https://www.canr.msu.edu/resources/the-r-lunch>
- 4) The Brown Bag Seminar. Highlights 37. Abubakar Sule Balaraba. March 2019.
<https://www.canr.msu.edu/resources/the-brown-bag-seminar>
- 5) Graduate Students Organization (GSO): Home Away From Home. Highlights 38. Hephzibah Onyeje Obekpa. March 2019.
<https://www.canr.msu.edu/resources/graduate-students-organization-gso-home-away-from-home>
- 6) Attending My First Brown Bag Seminar at Michigan State University (MSU). Highlights 39. Hephzibah Onyeje Obekpa. March 2019.
<https://www.canr.msu.edu/resources/attending-my-first-brown-bag-seminar-at-michigan-state-university>
- 7) Africa on the Move. Highlights 40. Philip Hegarty James. March 2019.
- 8) A Walk with President Hannah! Highlights 41. Abubakar Sule Balaraba. 2019.
- 9) My First Snow Adventure. Highlights 42. Chukwudi Charles Olumba. 2019.

Other research output produced by Project Scholars and project research teams composed of young Nigerian scholars with the deliberate objective of capacity strengthening through collaborative research and mentoring.

- 1) Nutrition and growing your own food: Dietary Diversity Evidence from North Central Nigeria. Hephzibah Onyeje Obekpa, Michael Olabisi, 2019. FSP Policy Research Brief 82. East Lansing: Michigan State University.
- 2) Community-Scale Climate Adaptation: Evidence from Ebonyi State, Nigeria. Choko, Schmitt Olabisi, Onyeneke, Nwawulu Chiemela, Liverpool-Tasie and Rivers III, 2019. FSP Policy Research Brief 81. East Lansing: Michigan State University.

Training facilitated by Project Scholars

Maximizing the project's training reach by leveraging the use of digital technologies, the policy project conducted a 2nd Article Writing training session facilitated by a project scholar. The training was conducted at the University of Ibadan on 28 March 2019 (and will continue to be offered across various institutions of higher learning in the FtF focus states and beyond). This demonstrates how high quality training can be delivered through joint collaboration between scholars on different parts of the globe. It also demonstrates how the policy project tries to maximize the benefits of training at minimal costs. Here at the video segments.

1. The Art of Research Discovery and Writing Good Articles. How to get published in peer-reviewed journals, a lecture by T. Reardon for the FSP Nigeria Agricultural Policy Project, October 12, 2018 (1:17) <https://www.canr.msu.edu/resources/the-art-of-research-discovery-and-writing-good-articles-video>
2. How Could You Sell a Research Idea about Nigeria to a Non-Nigerian Reviewer (9'53"). Tom Reardon and Saweda Liverpool Tasié. October 13, 2018. <https://www.canr.msu.edu/resources/how-could-you-sell-a-research-idea-about-nigeria-to-a-non-nigerian-reviewer>
3. What Are Some Ways to Make the Case for your Work's Contributions to the Literature based off of Conventional Wisdoms and Using Factual Questions? Tom Reardon and Saweda Liverpool Tasié. October 13, 2018. <https://www.canr.msu.edu/resources/what-are-some-ways-to-make-the-case-for-your-work-s-contributions-to-the-literature>
4. What Are Some Ways to Apply the Toggle Switch Idea of Shock-Behavior-Outcome to Determine a Good Hypothesis to Test (9'34"). This discussion video is No. 3. Tom Reardon and Saweda Liverpool Tasié. October 13, 2018. <https://www.canr.msu.edu/resources/what-are-some-ways-to-apply-the-toggle-switch-idea>
5. How to Get Published in a Peer Reviewed Journal. Tom Reardon and Saweda Liverpool Tasié. October 13, 2018. <https://www.canr.msu.edu/resources/5-key-points-to-write-for-a-peer-reviewed-journal>

Blog Content Supplied by the Project Scholars

In this quarter, the NAPP Scholars produced blog submissions as means for enhancing discussions around agricultural policy issues. For the quarter under review, each NAPP Scholar at MSU authored blog pieces on an agricultural issue drawn from their research area and relevant to several states. These pieces appear on the project website and continue to receive wide readership.

Returns to training conducted by Project Scholars

Project scholar Mr. Wellington Osawe worked with the editorial board of the **Nigerian Journal of Agricultural Economics** to get the entire 2018 publication online. This continued the project tradition of supporting the Nigerian Association of Agricultural Economists (NAAE) in this regard. The project had assisted the association to put its journal online for the first time in 2017. The difference this year was that the project worked with

the association to train some of its members to take on the activity of uploading the documents. This ensures that this activity can be sustainably continued even after the policy project is completed. In this regard, Mr. Wellington trained 2 members of the association (selected by the association leadership) on processes that guide effective article submission by AgEconSearch to ensure that the association will independently be able to upload future editions of the journal. One aspect was ensuring that submitted articles are formatted according to the AgEconSearch website guidelines. This eases online accessibility of the articles. Getting the Nigerian Journal of Agricultural Economics online will significantly increase global awareness about research conducted in Nigeria. The instrumental role of Mr. Osawe demonstrates how the project's scholars program is not only supporting domestic research but building capacity of Nigerians to independently disseminate it, as well. Recently, AgEcon SEARCH announced that 79 papers from the Nigerian Journal of Agricultural Economics (NJAE) (which the policy project supported to put online) were downloaded from its site 10,676 times in 2018. This is a practical example of how the policy project, through its scholars program, is supporting domestic research and building capacity of Nigerians to independently disseminate such research. It also confirms the project's experience that it takes time and patience to develop and nurture strong and fruitful relationships.

Activity 1.4: Media engagement and Training at Federal and the State Level (Agricultural Communication and Policy Advocacy)

Media engagement (Federal and State Levels)

During the second quarter, the project delivered a training on policy communications to 25 staff members (17 male, 8 female) of the National Bureau of Statistics (NBS) on the 13 and 14 February, 2019. The training introduced the participants to basic concepts around policy communications, as long as more contemporary tools, such as policy briefs/notes and social media, which are used for communicating and disseminating evidence and promoting engagement on policy issues. The training was geared at boosting the ability of Nigeria's researchers and policy analysts to make widely available the evidence required for effective policymaking for Nigeria's agricultural sector. Especially for NBS, which is a major supplier of statistical data for government and other stakeholders, the ability to analyze and make more data available for policy dialogue and decision-making is crucial.

On March 12 and 13, 2019, the Project delivered a Policy Communications training course for journalists from the National Assembly (NASS) Press Corps in Nigeria's capital, Abuja. The 22 journalists (20 male and 2 female) represented diverse news media firms, all united in their shared focus on the activities of the country's federal legislature. The training exposed them to the basic principles of Policy Communications, publicly available and accessible sources of information relevant to agricultural policy, other tools for policy engagement such as policy briefs or policy notes, and of course, social media as a tool for effective reporting on policy issues. Following the training, members of the NASS Press Corps now have a WhatsApp group the project helped them set up, for the purposes of sharing information, articles and for reaching out to the project for data needed for preparing stories related to agricultural policy. An immediate outcome of the training is that a member of the

Whatsapp group, Mr. Solomon Salako, a reporter with Television Nigeria, has reported that he is currently working on a programme synopsis for his TV station, so that they could begin to report more intensively on issues related to agriculture. It is expected that following this training the capacity of journalists in generating useful evidence in the formulation of agricultural policies in Nigeria would be enhanced.

In two trainings organized between 21 and 24 January 2019, the project trained 35 journalists (21-22 January 2019) and 15 farmers (21-22 January 2019) in Ebonyi State on Policy Communications. The 50 (25 male and 25 female) participants were introduced to basic concepts of policy communications, the use of social media for both disseminating and tracking policy communications effectively and publicly available sources of information related to agricultural policy in the Nigerian context. The training is part of efforts by the project to enhance Nigeria's agricultural policy environment. It is expected that trainings such as these equip stakeholders and players in the agricultural sector to share and use evidence to drive sound policymaking and implementation in the country.

Between 28 and 31 January 2019, the project delivered two policy communications training courses for a total of 60 government officials (28-29 January) and farmers (30 - 31 January) in Kebbi State. The 25 government officials (23 male, 2 female) work at the Kebbi State Ministry of Agriculture and Natural Resources and the Kebbi State Agricultural Development Programme. On the other hand, the 35 participants (27 male, 8 female) represented various farmer groups in Kebbi State. In the two trainings, participants were introduced to basic concepts of Policy Communications, the use of social media for disseminating information and engaging in policy discussions and sources of information relevant to agriculture. Government officials were also introduced to policy notes, an effective contemporary tool for informing, educating and persuading on policy issues.

Due to the significant role journalists play in any country's policy space, it is essential that journalists are well equipped to effectively drive public conversations around policy issues. In recognition of this fact, the Project facilitated a policy communications training course for journalists in Oyo state on 20 and 21 March 2019. The training course was attended by 23 participants (13 male and 10 female) from various media houses. Recognizing the importance of media in shaping the social narratives on agriculture, this training was organized to enhance media involvement in the agricultural policy process. The training was very educative and inspiring for the journalists in the state who will use the knowledge gained to successfully disseminate emerging agricultural policy issues to stakeholders in Oyo state. As a result of this training, journalists in Oyo state have promised to be more active on social media as well as to dedicate more resources to covering agricultural policy issues.

Between 25 and 28 March 2019, the project delivered two policy communications training courses for 27 farmer groups (20 male, 7 female) on 25-26 March 2019, and the private sector comprised of 27 agro-dealers (20 male, 7 female) on 27 -28 March 2019 in Benue state. In the two trainings, participants were introduced to basic concepts of Policy Communications, the use of social media for disseminating information and engaging in policy discussions and sources of information relevant to agriculture. It is expected that

following this training the capacity of the agro-dealers in the private sector and farmer groups in disseminating useful information and policy discussions within their formal and informal groups in the formulation of agricultural policies in Nigeria would be enhanced.

Activity 1.5: Engagement with non-government stakeholders (e.g. civil society, NGOs, and think tanks) with particular focus on FTF states #1

- i. Interactions with the National Agro-Inputs Dealers Association (NAIDA)
During the second quarter, the Project continued to interact with Senior Management of the National Agro-Inputs Dealers Association towards the delivery of capacity building initiatives for various agro-inputs dealers in the FTF states. Agro-inputs dealers who are members of the association at the regional level were selected to benefit from the capacity building initiative of the project. To this regard, a training course on Group Dynamics and Policy communications was organized in Oyo, Kebbi and Benue states. Please see Activity 1.2.1 and 1.4 for further details.
- ii. Interactions with the Association of Deans of Agricultural Universities (ADAN) in Nigeria
The Project has continuously worked closely and guided by ADAN this quarter towards the delivery of capacity building initiatives for universities in the 7 FtF focus states. The project has also been in touch on a weekly basis with ADAN Senior Management to ensure that training courses take place as planned and targeted for ADAN members particularly in the FtF focus states. Researchers from different universities within the relevant states were selected by ADAN to participate in the trainings. Please activity 1.12 for further details on this.
- iii. Interactions with the Agricultural Donor Working Group (ADWG)
Following a request by the Agricultural Donor Working Group (ADWG) a sub-committee of the ADWG was formed in early 2019 chaired by Dr. George Mavrotas and with IITA, IFAD, FAO and Global Affairs Canada as members of the committee, to prepare an ADWG Policy Brief for the Government of Nigeria on the key priorities and challenges in the Nigerian agricultural sector in the next few years, following the presidential elections in February 2019. A meeting of the sub-committee was organized by the project on Jan. 24, 2019 at the IFPRI Abuja Office to discuss the preparation of the Policy Brief. Following that, Dr. Mavrotas has prepared on behalf of the sub-committee members a draft Policy Brief which following feedback and further discussion with the members of the committee was submitted to ADWG members in March 2019 for a brief discussion at the ADWG meeting of March 20, 2019. At the ADWG meeting of March 20, 2019, the ADWG members thanked the project and the rest of the Policy Brief Committee members for their work on this important task for the ADWG and it was agreed that the ADWG members need to send their feedback to the ADWG Policy Brief sub-committee, so the sub-committee finalize the Policy Brief by the end of May 2019 to be delivered by the ADWG to the Government of Nigeria for further action.
- iv. Interaction with the All Farmers Association of Nigeria (AFAN)

During the second quarter, the Project continued to interact with the Senior Management of the All Farmers Association of Nigeria towards the delivery of capacity building initiatives for various farmer groups in the FTF states. To this regard, a training course on Group Dynamics was organized for farmer groups under AFAN in Kebbi and Ebonyi state in January 2019 and Benue state in March 2019. Please see Activity 1.4 for further details.

v. Meeting organized by the Project on March 26, 2019 with the Project's National Advisory Committee (NAC)

A NAC meeting was organized by the Project at the IFPRI Abuja Office on March 26, 2019 in line with the workplan for Year 4. The meeting was attended by 3 members of the NAC available to attend the meeting (Prof. Olu Ajakaiye, Alhaji Abba A. Auchan, Mrs Lizzy Igbine), and the Project Management Team (in the case of MSU via Zoom meeting). At the meeting the Project Management Team updated the NAC members about the project developments, achievements and challenges since the last NAC meeting of August 2018. The NAC members unanimously congratulated the Project team for “a wonderful job done by the project” on many fronts so far, particularly in view of recent constraints and challenges associated with academic strikes, postponement of presidential elections, security concerns etc. beyond the project's own control.

vi. Presentation by the Project in the USAID-GFSS organized workshop at Chelsea Hotel (Abuja) on March 21, 2019

Dr. George Mavrotas on behalf of the Project Management Team delivered a detailed presentation at the above workshop on achievements and outcomes of the Project since its inception, including challenges and constraints faced by the Project during implementation so far, important lessons learned, and actions taken by the Project on the basis of lessons learned. Mr. Wellington Osawe, a PhD student and Visiting Scholar in the Project's Visiting Scholars Program, also presented at the above meeting a mentee's perspective of the above Visiting Scholars Program at MSU. Both presentations were received extremely well by the many participants and beneficiaries attending the event and a substantial number of Project's beneficiaries attending the meeting congratulated the Project during Q&A session for an excellent job done so far.

vii. Meetings in Q2 with other FtF Implementing Partners (IPs) for coordination and collaboration among FtF projects.

Following discussions with USAID and FtF IPs in Q1 of Year 4 to work together on coordination and collaboration among FtF projects, on January 28, 2019, the Project, represented by Dr. G. Mavrotas, participated in a meeting with the other two FtF projects at that time (see AGRA-PIATA and CNFA directed FtF projects) and the 3 IPs expressed a strong interest in collaborating on project activities. At the meeting, five main activities emerged based on the various stages of project implementation:

1. Institutionalize joint-IP policy dialogues with selected stakeholders to enhance upscaling of project interventions. This can be done quarterly.

2. Build synergies on common capacity building initiatives to assure effective use of resources.
3. Institute joint action to support Federal and State Ministries on implementation challenges.
4. Ensure availability of good quality seeds and improve farmer awareness through joint crop demonstrations.
5. Develop grades and standards to enhance grain qualities and use of price premiums to boost farmers' incomes.

In a follow up meeting organized by USAID on March 25, 2019, the above 3 IPs along with the Chief of Party of a recently awarded by USAID FtF Project (the Agribusiness Investment Activity) agreed to move on in the coming months with further steps toward collaboration and coordination. The following action points were agreed at the above meeting:

- Each FtF IP to develop details on the areas of collaboration; with whom to collaborate; on which project; etc. and send to USAID on May 10, 2019.
- IPs to have a follow up meeting with USAID on May 16, 2019 to discuss and streamline areas of collaboration among FtF IPs and potentially other donor-funded projects.

viii. Joint capacity building activities conducted by the Policy Project and the Nigerian Association of Agricultural Economists (NAAE)

The Nigerian Association of Agricultural Economists (NAAE) held their annual meeting between **October 15 and 18, 2018**. As part of the policy project's support for capacity strengthening, a training workshop on Journal Article writing for 20 young Nigerian scholars was jointly organized. The two-day training workshop, led by Profs. Thomas Reardon and Liverpool-Tasie of Michigan State University was delivered digitally using a series of videos and facilitated by Nigerian collaborators and project scholars <http://www.canr.msu.edu/fsp/countries/nigeria/featured-stories>. This activity demonstrates how the policy project, innovatively working with Nigerian partners, leverages on digital technology to provide training in Nigeria. In addition, participants trained are being mentored over the next year on applying concepts learned in the training. More specifically, following the training, participants were invited to submit journal article introductions applying the principles from the training.

In Quarter 2 of year four, 2 MSU faculty and 2 NAAE senior Nigerian scholars reviewed the submissions and provided detailed comments on the introductions. Each participant received 2 sets of comments; one from MSU faculty and another from the senior NAAE Nigerian scholars. The 3 best submissions were shortlisted and the project, alongside the NAAE, will work with these young scholars on their entire papers towards eventual publication in a peer reviewed journal. This demonstrates how the policy project is working with local senior scholars to support the next generation of Nigerian scholars to be able to produce research output of high quality

for publication in peer reviewed journals and acceptable to Nigerian policy makers and other stakeholders.

Component 2: Policy driven collaborative research and analysis.

Following a meeting with USAID at the US Embassy on July 26, the Project was requested to focus on using the findings and recommendations from the over 26 research studies to implement Components 1 and 3 in Year 4 of the Project implementation, and not to undertake further research in Year 4. This should be geared towards capacity building and dissemination and for promoting policy dialogue efforts. Thus, in year 4, the project is not engaging in any research beyond support offered to the project scholars. The project is focusing on capacity building and dissemination of the research output that emanated from years 1-3.

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

Activity 3.1: Strengthening Policy Process by bridging the gap between “knowledge providers” and “knowledge users”: Outreach, engagement and Dissemination of Results from component 2

3.1.1 A. National Level Dissemination

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. An important contribution to the policy process by the Project was a presentation delivered on 1 February 2019, by Dr. Hiroyuki Takeshima, , on irrigation, seed varieties and mechanization issues to 25 high-ranking staff of Nigeria’s Federal Ministry of Agriculture and Rural Development (FMARD) at the FMARD conference room in Abuja as part of project’s commitment towards disseminating evidence needed for sound policymaking and increasing the ability of Nigeria’s government to demand and absorb information relevant to agricultural policy. Present at this seminar, was Dr. Aisha Ndyako-Mohammed of the Projects Coordinating Unit (PCU) at FMARD along with Assistant Directors of the various divisions within FMARD. In the two-hour seminar, Dr Takeshima presented the key findings of three studies carried out between 2016 and 2018 in Nigeria within the framework of the Feed the Future Nigeria Agricultural Policy Project. Specifically, the research findings highlighted the following policy messages:

- (1) Increasing plant-breeding locations can raise overall agricultural productivity cost-effectively, and is a good way to increase support for agricultural R&D in Nigeria;
- (2) Large irrigation dams have spillover effects which extending beyond command areas and across hydrological basins, especially benefiting down-stream basins by shielding farmers from the effects of droughts;
- (3) Tractor-owners in the informal sector exhibit significant efficiency and skills in tractor use, which should be studied and transferred to tractor owners in the formal sector (those receiving government tractors);

(4) Used-tractor sellers, again in the informal sector, complement new-tractor sellers in the formal sector by matching geographically scattered supply and demand for tractors.

Dr. Takeshima recommended that providing information of typical business characteristics in tractor markets, especially on informal tractor ownership and trade, can reduce learning costs for new-business entrants and facilitate the private-sector growth in tractor markets. It is notable that following the seminar by Dr. Takeshima, the Honorable Minister of Agriculture and Rural Development Chief Audu Ogbeh requested a meeting with Dr. Takeshima to receive further feedback on the policy lessons emanating from this research work conducted by the FtF Nigeria Agricultural Policy Project. Following that request, Dr. Takeshima attended a meeting with the Honorable Minister (organized by the Head of PCU) the same day and had a detailed discussion with the HMA on policy issues emerging from this work with a particular focus on agricultural mechanization issues. This clearly demonstrates the policy outreach of this Project at this very high ministerial level, following academically rigorous and highly policy relevant research work conducted by the Project since its inception.

B. State Level Dissemination of Research Findings:

- i. In two research seminars held in Cross River (21 January 2019) and Ebonyi states (23 January 2019), the project engaged 212 researchers and policy analysts, including key government officials (116 male, 96 female) on issues related to policies around child nutrition in Nigeria. In the seminar presentations titled “Urbanization, Child Undernutrition and Public Health in Nigeria” Dr. Mulubhran Amare, presented the key research findings from three studies completed by the International Food Policy Research Institute under the Feed the Future Nigeria Agricultural Policy Project between 2016 and 2018. Specifically, the research findings highlighted the following:
 - The burden of chronic malnutrition – in particular, undernutrition – in northern Nigeria is one of the heaviest globally. Close to half of all children under five years of age in the Northeast and Northwest geopolitical zones were estimated to be stunted in their growth for their age in 2013, compared to 22 percent in the rest of Nigeria;
 - Accelerated progress on all the factors that contribute to improved child nutritional status will be needed in northern Nigeria if young children in coming generations there are to realize their physical growth potential to the same degree as young children in other areas of the country;
 - Strong evidence of the need to treat the nutritional challenges of northern Nigeria quite differently than how nutritional challenges are addressed in other areas of Nigeria;
 - Higher light intensity tended to match with lower rates of stunting among children;
 - At higher levels of light and urbanization, stunting figures rise—indicating that as cities grow bigger the benefits of urban life brings for reducing undernutrition may become less accessible;

- Doubling the average level of night light intensity results in a 10 percent increase in the probability of overweight women;
 - Expanding towns can be more effective in reducing poverty levels than the expansion of mega cities; and
 - Understanding the complex dynamics of urbanization and the resulting nutrition transition highlights the need to tailor efforts to reduce negative health impacts like child stunting and women’s overweight in developing countries, while emphasizing context specific solutions.
- ii. Between 21- 24 January 2019, Dr. Hiroyuki Takeshima, delivered three research seminars titled “Recent research findings on seed varieties, irrigation, and agricultural mechanization in Nigeria” in the states of Niger on 21 January 2019 to 91 participants (79 male, 12 female), Benue on 22 January 2019 to 78 participants (64 male, 14 female) and Kaduna on 24 January 2019 to 62 participants (53 male and 9 female). The audience represented a mixture of academics, researchers, policy analysts, farmer groups and the private sector in each of the 3 states.

The seminars presented the key research findings of three studies carried out between 2016 and 2018 in Nigeria within the framework of the [Feed the Future Nigeria Agricultural Policy Project](#).

- Takeshima H. & A. Nasir (2017). [The role of the locations of public sector varietal development activities on agricultural productivity: Evidence from northern Nigeria](#). IFPRI NSSP Working Paper 42.
- Takeshima H., A. Adeoti & O Popoola (2016). [The impact on farm household welfare of large irrigation dams and its distributions across hydrological basins: Insights from northern Nigeria](#). IFPRI NSSP Working Paper 35.
- Hatzenbuehler P., H. Takeshima, H. Edeh & A. Lawal (2018). [Cost and policy determinants of features of tractor markets in Nigeria](#). IFPRI NSSP Working Paper 55.

3.1.2 Support to FMARD policy processes

Support to FMARD remains a key objective of the Project. The Project has continuously strengthened the good partnership with FMARD since inception. FMARD has a representative on the Policy Project’s National Advisory Committee and the Project had regular meetings with FMARD senior management during the quarter to discuss the implementation of project activities, including capacity-building ones, in order to fill important capacity gaps within the Ministry for the successful implementation of FMARD’s Agriculture Promotion Policy (APP). Please see component 1.1.1 for further details on training courses delivered for FMARD.

Support to the Joint Sector Review (JSR) process

The JSR is a platform through which FMARD addresses issues related to several policies and frameworks including the Agriculture Promotion Policy (APP), National Agricultural Investment Plan (NAIP), the Comprehensive Africa Agriculture

Development Program (CAADP), and the Country Agribusiness Partnerships Framework (CAP-F). During the second quarter, at the ADWG meeting of January 30, 2019, Mr. Baye Sylvester of FMARD during his presentation to the ADWG thanked IFPRI, Dr. George Mavrotas (in his capacity as member of the JSR Steering Committee) and the Project for their very active involvement in 2018 in the JSR process and for the capacity building activities organized by the Project to enhance the skills of FMARD staff of great relevance to the JSR process.

Activity 3.2 Support for state agricultural policy development (or review) for FTF states

3.2.1 Support for State Agricultural Policy Development (or review) Ebonyi State and Delta State (FTF states)

During the second quarter, the project had further consultations with relevant stakeholders and senior officials of State Ministry of Agriculture in both Delta and Ebonyi states to make further progress on the development/review of the current agriculture policy documents in the above two states with support from the Feed the Future Nigeria Agricultural Policy Project. In the case of Delta state a current draft 0 of the agriculture policy document was shared by the State Ministry of Agriculture so with support by the Project is further developed and finalized in quarters 3 and 4 in line with the workplan for Year 4. In the case of Ebonyi state, the Project has already requested the most recent version of the policy document to be shared with the Project for further development and review. Visits by the Project to the two states are planned in Q3 to make further progress on this front.

3.2.2 Support for Kebbi State Policy Development Completion and Implementation

The project team continued engagements with the Kebbi State Ministries of Agriculture & Natural Resources and the Animal Health, Fisheries and Husbandry. Collaborators from the Kebbi State University of Science & Technology Aliero succeeded in securing a date to hold a Ministry wide interaction on the reviewed Policy to secure input and validation. The proposed scheduled date is April 23, 2019. The delay in holding this meeting in the first and second quarter was due to the involvement of the Commissioners in the political process which ended on March 3, 2019. During this quarter, the project continued with the coordination of the discussions on developing a state government programme to be driven by the private sector for entrepreneurs and young people in the state. The proposed programme will provide practical training of the state selected beneficiaries along the entire value chain, and thereafter establish them in clusters supported by the State government in any of the four agricultural development zones.

3. INTEGRATION OF CROSSCUTTING ISSUES AND USAID FORWARD PRIORITIES

Gender Equality and Female Empowerment

Gender is a critical issue, and this is reflected in capacity building initiatives undertaken by the Project. Capacity building activities in the second quarter continue to consider gender as an important element in the selection of beneficiaries for Project activities. Where possible, the Project makes a deliberate attempt to ensure that there is as equal participation of both males and females (as possible) ensuring that both gender groups are represented and appropriately benefit from capacity building 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. In this second quarter, 43 percent of the total participants trained by the project are female while 57 percent are male. The project will continue to ensure increase in female participation in the project activities to ensure gender balance.

4. M&E PLAN UPDATE

The Project Monitoring, Evaluation and Learning Plan (MELP) was revised to update indicators based on Year 4 Work Plan and performance monitoring result frame work and submitted to USAID on January 31, 2019. A few changes were made to indicators including introduction of new indicators and removal of other indicators that the Project was reporting on in Year 3. The Project also continued to sharing capacity building activities conducted in focus FTF states in the second quarter with USAID in a dedicated online folder.

Staff Developments

At the end of this quarter:

- The staff at the IFPRI Office in Abuja includes: A Senior Research Fellow & Program Leader (Chief of Party), a Research Fellow, an Associate Research Fellow, a Research Analyst II, 3 Research Analysts I, a Senior Program Assistant, a Program Assistant, a Communications Specialist, a Communications Assistant, an M&E Specialist, an M&E and Policy Communications Assistant and 2 drivers.
- The staff at MSU associated with this project includes: 1 Associate Professor (Principal Investigator), 1 Distinguished Professor, 1 Associate Professor, 2 Assistant Professors, 1 Specialist, 1 Graduate Research Assistant, an Accountant, and a Travel Coordinator.

5. LESSONS LEARNED

A number of lessons were learnt during a capacity building activity for assistant directors at the Federal Ministry of Agriculture and Rural Development in Abuja on Nigeria's national

and regional agricultural policy framework, it was learnt that the ministry was implementing some policy plans such as the Economic Recovery Growth Plan (ERGP) which were not made available to other stakeholders within the ministry as a result making its implementation slow. Also, it was learnt that there is no much synergy among the different agencies within the ministry, and the participants appreciated the opportunity to have been trained collectively alongside the different departments and agencies within the ministry, such a set up allows for synergy and effective collaboration among various departments and agencies in the Federal Ministry of Agriculture and Rural Development.

Due to the perceived benefits of the Policy Project Scholars program approach, the Policy project principal investigator has been invited to several national and international fora to share this experience. In April, the keynote address at the International food security symposium at University of Illinois, Urbana Champaign will feature the Policy Project's scholars program and how it contributes to addressing food security through research, one scholar at a time. Two other invitations to share similar experiences are scheduled for May and September, 2019.

From the feedback on the project's capacity building initiative on "Issues in Agriculture and Development" for policy analysts from the Ministry of Agriculture and Natural Resources as well as researchers in Cross River and neighboring states, it was learnt the training would enhance the synergy between the state policy analyst and researchers to ensure sound policymaking for the state's agricultural sector. According to Mr. Marcel U. Agim, the State Project Coordinator for the World Bank Assisted APPEALS Project in Cross River State had this to say: "This training workshop really came at the right time. As a Project Coordinator of a World Bank Assisted Project, every bit of the training (i.e. Land Governance and Tenure Security, Climate Change and Variability, Food and Nutrition Security, Agricultural Project Impact Evaluation) was very key and necessary in aiding me carry out my duties....". He went further to say, "I wish to solicit that this type of workshop trainings should be regular as we fight for a zero-hunger world."

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

Mr. John Mazunda, Country Program Manager at the IFPRI Abuja Office for 3 years (2016-2018) resigned from IFPRI with effect from January 1, 2019, in order to take up a new appointment at the World Food Program in Rome. Following this development, the IFPRI Office is currently finalizing the recruitment process for a new Country Program Manager at the IFPRI Abuja Office to replace Mr. Mazunda.

Dr. Bedru Balana, IFPRI Research Fellow at the IFPRI Abuja Office took up his appointment in February 2019.

In the second quarter, seven collaborators were recruited by the project to support the project activities in the seven FtF focus states. Please see below for details:

- 1. Professor Godwin Anjeinu Abu, Benue State**
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ANNEX A: NUMBER OF RESEARCH REPORTS PUBLISHED (Indicator 1)

Paper description

IFPRI/MSU Internal Publications

1. Takeshima, Hiroyuki. 2019. Geography of plant breeding systems, agroclimatic similarity, and agricultural productivity: Evidence from Nigeria. *Agricultural Economics* 50(1): 67-78. <https://doi.org/10.1111/agec.12466>
2. Choko, O., Schmitt Olabisi, L., Onyeneke, R., Chimela, S.N., Liverpool-Tasie, L.S., & Rivers, L. 2019. Community-Scale Climate Adaptation. *Sustainability*. Forthcoming

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

| Event | Location | Participants |
|--|--|---|
| 1. Urbanization, child nutritional outcomes and public health in Nigeria | Channel View Hotels, Calabar, Cross River State. 21 January 2019 | Government, Research/ Academic, NGO. 86 Participants (Male-48, Female-38) |
| 2. Recent research findings on seed varieties, irrigation, and agricultural mechanization in Nigeria | College of Education (CoE) Minna, Niger State. 21 January 2019 | Government, Farmers, Research/ Academic. 91 Participants (Male-79, Female- 12) |
| 3. Recent research findings on seed varieties, irrigation, and agricultural mechanization in Nigeria | HallyDays Hotel and Resort, Makurdi, Benue State. 22 January 2019 | Government, Farmers, Research/ Academic. 15 Participants (Male-11, Female- 4) |
| 4. Urbanization, child nutritional outcomes and public health in Nigeria | Conference Hall, Local Government Service Commission, Abakaliki, Ebonyi State. 23 January 2019 | Government, Private Sector, Research/ Academic, NGO 126 Participants (Male-68, Female-58) |
| 5. Recent research findings on seed varieties, irrigation, and agricultural mechanization in Nigeria | Kaduna State Ministry of Agriculture and Natural Resources, Kaduna State. 24 January 2019 | Farmers, Government, Private Sector, Research/ Academic, NGO 62 Participants (Male-53, Female-9) |
| 6. Recent research findings on seed varieties, irrigation, and agricultural mechanization in Nigeria | HMA's Conference Hall, FMARD, Abuja. 01 February 2019 | Government. 25 Participants (Male-16, Female- 9) |
| 7. Urban Agriculture, Land Access and Household Food Security in South-East Nigeria", Charles Olumba | MSU, 12 March 2019 | 21 Participants, all Academic ³ Male-9 Female-12 |
| 8. Effects of Agricultural Policies on Rice Production Systems in Kebbi State, Northwest Nigeria by Balaraba Abubakar Sule and Dietary Diversity and | MSU, 26 March 2019 | 18 Participants, all Academic ⁴ Male-9 Female-9 |

³ Some of these participants have attended earlier events. Here is the data for people who have not previously been to an event this fiscal year: 13 participants (6 Male, 7 Female)

⁴ Some of these participants have attended earlier events. Here is the data for people who have not previously been to an event this fiscal year: 6 participants (4 Male, 2 Female)

| | | |
|---|--|--|
| nutritional outcomes of children in Nigeria by Hephzibah Onyeje Obekpa | | |
|---|--|--|

ANNEX C: NUMBER OF INDIVIDUALS PARTICIPATING IN USG FOOD SECURITY PROGRAMS (Indicator 4)

| Date | Location | Topic | Participants | | | | |
|--|---|--|--------------|------|--------|-------|-----|
| | | | Type | Male | Female | 15-29 | 30+ |
| 1.1.1 FMARD/National Capacity Building and Mentoring Activities | | | | | | | |
| February 11-14, 2019 | Abuja | Econometrics for Policy Analysis using Stata | NBS | 11 | 14 | 0 | 25 |
| February 12-13, 2019 | Abuja | Agricultural Policy Issues (APP, ATA, CAADP) | FMARD | 18 | 5 | 0 | 23 |
| March 4 – 7, 2019 | Abuja | Econometrics for Policy Analysis using Stata | ARCN | 20 | 7 | 0 | 27 |
| 1.1.2 Universities | | | | | | | |
| January 14 -16, 2019 | University of Calabar | Issues in Agriculture and Development | Academia | 15 | 5 | 0 | 20 |
| January 14 -16, 2019 | Delta State University | Issues in Agriculture and Development | Academia | 16 | 8 | 1 | 23 |
| January 21-25, 2019 | Ibrahim Babangida University, Lapai | Econometrics for Policy Analysis using Stata | Academia | 20 | 5 | 0 | 25 |
| January 21-25, 2019 | Ebonyi State University | Econometrics for Policy Analysis using Stata | Academia | 13 | 9 | 3 | 19 |
| March 18 – 19, 2019 | University of Ibadan | Policy Communications | Academia | 17 | 6 | 0 | 23 |
| March 18 – 19, 2019 | Federal University of Technology, Minna | Issues in Agriculture and Development | Academia | 15 | 12 | 0 | 27 |

| Date | Location | Topic | Participants | | | | |
|--|---|--|---|------|--------|-------|-----|
| | | | Type | Male | Female | 15-29 | 30+ |
| March 18 – 22, 2019 | Niger State College of Agriculture, Mokwa | Econometrics for Policy Analysis using Stata | Academia | 20 | 5 | 0 | 25 |
| March 25 – 29, 2019 | University of Calabar | Econometrics for Policy Analysis using Stata | Academia | 14 | 6 | 0 | 20 |
| March 28, 2019 | University of Ibadan | Workshop on Journal Article Writing | Academia | 11 | 12 | 0 | 23 |
| 1.2. State trainings and capacity building efforts | | | | | | | |
| January 17 -18, 2019 | Cross River | Issues in Agriculture and Development | State Ministry of Agriculture and natural Resources | 17 | 8 | 0 | 25 |
| January 17 -18, 2019 | Delta | Issues in Agriculture and Development | State Ministry of Agriculture | 17 | 10 | 0 | 27 |
| January 28 -29, 2019 | Kebbi | Group Dynamics | Private Sector | 25 | 10 | 0 | 35 |
| March 18 – 20, 2019 | Oyo | Group Dynamics | Private Sector | 25 | 6 | 0 | 31 |
| March 21 – 22, 2019 | Niger | Issues in Agriculture and Development | State Ministry of Agriculture | 22 | 5 | 0 | 27 |
| March 25 – 27 2019 | Benue | Group Dynamics | Private Sector | 18 | 11 | 1 | 28 |
| 3.3.1 Media engagement and training (federal Level) | | | | | | | |

| Date | Location | Topic | Participants | | | | | |
|--|----------|-----------------------|-------------------------------|------|--------|-------|-----|--|
| | | | Type | Male | Female | 15-29 | 30+ | |
| February 13-14, 2019 | Abuja | Policy Communications | NBS | 17 | 8 | 0 | 25 | |
| March 12 – 13, 2019 | Abuja | Policy Communications | National Assembly | 20 | 2 | 1 | 21 | |
| 3.3.2 Media engagement and training (state level) | | | | | | | | |
| January 21-22, 2019 | Ebonyi | Policy Communications | Ebonyi state journalists | 20 | 15 | 2 | 33 | |
| January 23-24, 2019 | Ebonyi | Policy Communications | Farmer Groups | 5 | 10 | 1 | 14 | |
| January 28-29, 2019 | Kebbi | Policy Communications | State Ministry of Agriculture | 23 | 2 | 0 | 25 | |
| January 30-31, 2019 | Kebbi | Policy Communications | Farmer Groups | 27 | 8 | 17 | 18 | |
| March 20 – 21, 2019 | Oyo | Policy Communications | Oyo state journalists | 13 | 10 | 0 | 23 | |
| March 25 – 26 2019 | Benue | Policy Communications | Farmer Groups | 20 | 7 | 0 | 27 | |
| March 27 – 28 2019 | Benue | Policy Communications | Private Sector | 20 | 7 | 4 | 23 | |

ANNEX D(a): NUMBER OF INDIVIDUALS WHO HAVE RECEIVED USG SUPPORTED DEGREE-GRANTING NON-NUTRITION-RELATED FOOD SECURITY TRAINING IN FY 2019. (Indicator 5)

| Name | Institution | Degree Level | Semesters at MSU |
|--------------------------|--|---------------------|-------------------------|
| Balaraba, Abubakar Sule | Federal University of Technology Minna | PhD | Spring 2019 |
| Chukwudi, Charles Olumba | Ebonyi State University, Abakaliki, Ebonyi | PhD | Spring 2019 |
| Obekpa, Hephzibah Onyeje | University of Agriculture Makurdi | PhD | Spring 2019 |

ANNEX D(b): NUMBER OF INDIVIDUALS WHO HAVE RECEIVED USG SUPPORTED DEGREE-GRANTING NON-NUTRITION-RELATED FOOD SECURITY TRAINING REPORTED IN FYs 2015-2016, 2016-2017, 2017-2018, 2018-2019.

| Name | Institution | Degree Level | Semesters at MSU |
|------------------------------|---|---------------------|-------------------------|
| Charity Ekerebi | University of Ibadan, Nigeria | MS | Fall 2016 |
| Aisha Ibrahim | Ahmadu Bello University, Zaria | MS | Spring 2017 |
| Wale Ogunleye | University of Ibadan, Nigeria | PhD | Fall 2016, Spring 2017 |
| Ufedo Monday Shaibu | Kogi State University Anyigba | MS | Fall 2017 |
| Oluwatoyin Motunrayo Ademola | University of Agriculture, Abeokuta | MS | Fall 2017 |
| Stella Nwawulu Chiemela | University of Nigeria, Nsukka, Enugu State, Nigeria | PhD | Spring 2018 |
| Osayanmon Wellington, Osawe | University of Ibadan, Nigeria | PhD | Spring/Fall 2018 |
| Blessing, Agada | Federal University of Agriculture Makurdi | PhD | Spring/Fall 2018 |
| Choko, Onyinye Prince | University of Port Harcourt | MS | Fall 2018 |
| Philip, Hegarty James | Federal University of Agriculture Makurdi | MS | Fall 2018 |

| | | | |
|-----------------------------|---|-----|-------------|
| Balaraba, Abubakar Sule | Federal University of Technology Minna | PhD | Spring 2019 |
| Chukwudi, Charles Olumba | Ebonyi State University, Abakaliki, Ebonyi | PhD | Spring 2019 |
| Obekpa, Hephzibah Onyeje | University of Agriculture Makurdi | PhD | Spring 2019 |

ANNEX E: NUMBER OF AGRICULTURE POLICY COMMUNICATIONS DEVELOPED AND/OR WRITTEN FOR STAKEHOLDER CONSUMPTION (Indicator 7)

| Paper description |
|---|
| Policy Briefs |
| 1) Nutrition and growing your own food: Dietary Diversity Evidence from North Central Nigeria. Hephzibah Onyeje Obekpa, Michael Olabisi, 2019. FSP Policy Research Brief 82. East Lansing: Michigan State University. |
| 2) Community-Scale Climate Adaptation: Evidence from Ebonyi State, Nigeria. Choko, Schmitt Olabisi, Onyeneke, Nwawulu Chiemela, Liverpool-Tasie and Rivers III, 2019. FSP Policy Research Brief 81. East Lansing: Michigan State University. |
| 3) Nigeria Agricultural Policy Project Agriculture, Land Access and Economic Growth in Africa: An Instrumental Variable Approach. Chukwudi Charles Olumba. Policy Research Brief 86 March 2019. |
| White/Research Papers |
| 1) George Mavrotas, Tewodaj Mogues, Motunrayo Oyeyemi, Jennifer Smart and Zhe Xiong, 2019. Agricultural public expenditures, sector performance, and welfare in Nigeria. <i>NSSP Working Paper 60</i> . Washington, DC: International Food Policy Research Institute (IFPRI). http://nssp.ifpri.info/2019/01/09/new-publication-ifpri-nssp-working-paper-no-60/ |
| Other |
| 1) My Experience at the Communication Art Building – MSU. Highlights 34, Choko, Onyinye Prince, March 29 |
| 2) Excellent Transportation System. Highlights 35. Hephzibah Onyeje Obekpa. March 2019. |
| 3) The “R” Lunch! Highlights 36. Abubakar Sule Balaraba. March 2019. |
| 4) The Brown Bag Seminar. Highlights 37. Abubakar Sule Balaraba. March 2019. |
| 5) Graduate Students Organization (GSO): Home Away From Home. Highlights 38. Hephzibah Onyeje Obekpa. March 2019. |
| 6) Attending My First Brown Bag Seminar at Michigan State University (MSU). Highlights 39. Hephzibah Onyeje Obekpa. March 2019. |
| 7) Africa on the Move. Highlights 40. Philip Hegarty James. March 2019. |
| 8) A Walk with President Hannah! Highlights 41. Abubakar Sule Balaraba. 2019. |
| 9) My First Snow Adventure. Highlights 42. Chukwudi Charles Olumba. 2019. |
| 10) Guide on how to account for soil physical properties and fertilizer use in Maize based systems. Blessing Iveren Agada. Federal University of Agriculture, Makurdi, Benue State |

ANNEX F: PROJECT SUCCESS STORIES

1) Policy project delivers training towards a stronger policymaking environment for agriculture in Cross River State

Over the five-day period covering 14-18 January 2019, the International Food Policy Research Institute (IFPRI) delivered on behalf of the FTF Nigeria Agricultural Policy Project, a training course on “Issues in Agriculture and Development” for policy analysts from the Ministry of



Agriculture and Natural Resources as well as researchers from the University of Port Harcourt, the University of Calabar, the Niger Delta University and Cross River University of Technology in Calabar, Cross River State.

The 47 participants (34 male and 13 female) were taken through the various issues relevant to Nigeria’s agricultural policy space. The aim of the training was to build the national capacity of Nigeria’s policy analysts and researchers to provide and make available evidence that would ensure sound policymaking for the country’s agricultural sector.

2) FTF Nigeria Agricultural Policy Project Trains Academics, Researchers on STATA in Ebonyi.



From 21-25 January 2019, the International Food Policy Research Institute (IFPRI), delivered another training on “Econometrics for Policy Analysis using STATA” as part of activities under the Feed the Future Nigeria Agricultural Policy Project in Ebonyi State. The 27 participants (16 male, 11 female) were lecturers and researchers from Ebonyi State University, Alex Ekwueme Federal University and the University of Nigeria Nsukka.

The training was geared at equipping Nigeria’s analysts and researchers with knowledge and developing the skills required to analyse data and make available the

evidence required by decision makers in the formulation of policy for country's agricultural sector.

3) Feed the Future Nigeria Agricultural Policy Project trains Ebonyian journalists, and farmers on Policy Communications

In two trainings organized between 21 and 24 January 2019, the International Food Policy Research Institute (IFPRI) trained 35 journalists (21-22 January 2019) and 15 farmers (21-22 January 2019) in Ebonyi State on Policy Communications. The 50 (25 male and 25 female) participants were introduced to basic concepts of policy communications, the use of social media for both disseminating and tracking policy communications effectively and



publicly available sources of information related to agricultural policy in the Nigerian context.

In his closing remarks on behalf of the journalists, Eze Nnaji, who works with Ebonyi Broadcast Corporation (EBBC) asserted, "We want to thank Feed the Future [Nigeria Agricultural Policy Project] and all its partners. Tell them

Ebonyians love them. Journalists have captured the message and by your next coming to this State, the results will be very clear."

4) The FTF Nigeria Agricultural Policy Project delivers seminars on Irrigation, Mechanization and Seed Varieties in Abuja and 3 FTF states

Between 21- 24 January 2019, Dr Hiroyuki Takeshima, Senior Research Fellow with the International Food Policy Research Institute (IFPRI) delivered three research seminars titled "Recent research findings on seed varieties, irrigation, and agricultural mechanization in Nigeria" at the Federal Ministry of Agriculture and Rural Development (FMARD) and the states of Niger (21 January), Benue (22 January) and Kaduna (24 January) to 231 people (196 male and 35 female). The audience represents a mixture of academics, researchers and policy analysts in each of the 3 states.

The seminars presented the key research findings of three studies carried out between 2016 and 2018 in Nigeria within the framework of the [Feed the Future Nigeria Agricultural Policy Project](#).

- Takeshima H. & A. Nasir (2017). [The role of the locations of public sector varietal development activities on agricultural productivity: Evidence from northern Nigeria](#). IFPRI NSSP Working Paper 42.

- Takeshima H., A. Adeoti & O Popoola (2016). [*The impact on farm household welfare of large irrigation dams and its distributions across hydrological basins: Insights from northern Nigeria*](#). IFPRI NSSP Working Paper 35.
- Hatzenbuehler P., H. Takeshima, H. Edeh & A. Lawal (2018). [*Cost and policy determinants of features of tractor markets in Nigeria*](#). IFPRI NSSP Working Paper 55.



Specifically, the research findings highlighted the following policy messages emanating from this work:

(1) Increasing plant-breeding locations can raise overall agricultural productivity cost-effectively, and is a good way to increase support for agricultural R&D in Nigeria; (2) Large irrigation dams have spillover effects which extending beyond command areas and across hydrological basins, especially benefiting down-stream basins by shielding farmers from the effects of droughts; (3) Tractor-owners in the informal sector exhibit significant efficiency and skills in tractor use, which should be studied and transferred to tractor owners in the formal sector (those receiving government tractors); (4) Used-tractor sellers, again in the informal sector, complement new-tractor sellers in the formal sector by matching geographically scattered supply and demand for tractors.

Dr. Takeshima recommended that “For (3) and (4), providing information of typical business characteristics in tractor markets can reduce learning costs for new-business entrants and facilitate the private-sector growth in tractor markets.”

It is notable that following the seminar by Dr. Takeshima, the Honorable Minister of Agriculture and Rural Development Chief Audu Ogbeh requested a meeting with Dr. Takeshima to receive further feedback on the policy lessons emanating from this research work conducted by the FtF Nigeria Agricultural Policy Project. Following that request, Dr. Takeshima attended a meeting with the Honorable Minister (organized by the Head of PCU) the same day and had a detailed discussion with the HMA on policy issues emerging from this work with a particular focus on agricultural mechanization issues. This clearly demonstrates the policy outreach of this Project at this very high ministerial level, following academically rigorous and highly policy relevant research work conducted by the Project since its inception.

5) TOWARDS A BETTER UNDERSTANDING OF NIGERIA’S AGRICULTURAL POLICY ENVIRONMENT

On 12-13 February 2019, the International Food Policy Research Institute (IFPRI) on behalf of the FtF Nigeria Agricultural Policy Project trained 23 (18 male, five female) senior staff (Assistant Director level) of the Federal Ministry of Agriculture and Rural Development in Abuja on Nigeria's national and regional agricultural policy framework for the period spanning 2007 to the present. The training, which was facilitated by Dr. George Mavrotas, Head of IFPRI's Nigeria Strategy Support Program (IFPRI-NSSP) and Hyacinth Edeh, a Research Analyst II with IFPRI-NSSP, took participants on a journey across policies relevant to Nigeria's agricultural sector, with an aim of providing participants with a better understanding of how these policies have shaped the role of agriculture in present-day Nigeria. The training looked at the Agricultural Transformation



Agenda, the Comprehensive Africa Agricultural Development Programme (CAADP) driven by the African Union, as well as the Agriculture Promotion Policy (APP) and the Economic Recovery and Growth Plan (ERGP) of the Muhammadu Buhari-led government, among others.

This new course introduced in Year 4 has already been very popular within FMARD and another course is planned for FMARD

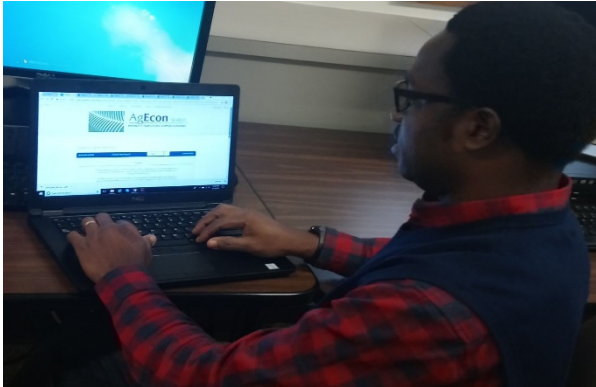
Directors in May 2019, following request by FMARD's senior management.

6) Enhancing the exposure of Nigerian research through on-line access to the NAAE Journal. 79 papers downloaded 10,676 times

AgEcon SEARCH has announced that 79 papers from the Nigerian Journal of Agricultural Economics (NJAE) were downloaded from its site 10,676 times in 2018.

The Feed the Future Nigeria Agricultural Policy Project scholar Mr. Wellington Osawe worked with the journal editorial board to upload the flagship journal of the Nigerian Association of Agricultural Economists (NAAE) to AgEcon SEARCH in 2018. He trained 3 others, selected by the association leadership, on processes that guide effective article submission by AgEcon SEARCH. The NAAE can therefore independently upload all future editions of the journal. The online NAAE journal is now significantly increasing global awareness about research conducted in Nigeria as confirmed by download data above. AgEcon SEARCH is a non-profit subject repository (co-sponsored by University of Minnesota, USA) that indexes, and electronically

distributes full text copies of scholarly research on issues related to agriculture and economic development



The instrumental role of Mr. Osawe demonstrates how the project's scholars program is supporting domestic research and building capacity of Nigerians to independently disseminate such research. This is a follow up on the project's support for NAAE annual conferences and confirms project's experience that it takes time and patience to develop and nurture strong and fruitful relationships.

7) New Project Scholars Give Presentations in 2 Different Venues.

When NAPP Project Scholars come to MSU an individualized Scope of Work (SOW) is developed with them in conjunction with them, their Nigerian faculty advisor and their MSU advisor. An important part of the SOW is requiring the scholars to make presentations in at least two different venues. Many scholars (especially PhD candidates) exceed these requirements.

The purpose of this requirement is multifaceted. 1) It provides invaluable experience presenting research findings to well informed and interested professionals (faculty and grad students mainly). 2) They receive helpful comments from the participants. These comments might deal with research methodology, policy suggestions, presentation delivery improvements, etc.. and 3) makes known to a wider audience the type of initiatives that USAID/Nigeria is funding.

In the case of the three current scholars (see details 1.3.1 Project scholars. Presentations made by the Project Scholars.) the 2 venues that they all presented at were:

- 1) Brown Bag Seminar in the Department of Food, Agricultural, and Resource Economics, Michigan State University.
- 2) 11th Annual Graduate Academic Conference. Michigan State University



Mr. Olumba at his brown bag presentation on 12 March 2019

Presentation at the 1) provided invaluable scrutiny of the research theoretical and methodological angles; helping to ensure the validity of the findings. Presentation at 2) provided an ideal opportunity to reach a multi-disciplinary audience and to receive feedback from diverse disciplines; from people who know Africa. The value of this diverse audience provides a broader context to view the research. More than presenting to a group of only Agricultural Economists!



Some of the participants from Mrs. Sule's Brown Bag Presentation

8) Policy project works with the Nigerian Association of Agricultural Economists to mentor young Nigerian scholars on journal article writing

The Nigerian Association of Agricultural Economists (NAAE) held their annual meeting between **October 15 and 18, 2018**. As part of the policy project's support for capacity strengthening, a training workshop on Journal Article writing for 20 young Nigerian scholars was jointly organized. The two-day training workshop, led by Profs. Thomas Reardon and Liverpool-Tasie of Michigan State University was delivered digitally using a series of videos and facilitated by Nigerian collaborators and project scholars

<http://www.canr.msu.edu/fsp/countries/nigeria/featured-stories>.

This activity demonstrates how the policy project, innovatively working with Nigerian partners, leverages on digital technology to provide training in Nigeria. In addition, participants trained are being mentored over the next year on applying concepts learned in the training. Following the training, participants were invited to submit journal article introductions applying the principles from the training.

In Quarter 2 of year one, 2 MSU faculty and 2 NAAE senior scholars reviewed the submissions and provided detailed comments on the introductions. Each participant received 2 sets of comments; one from MSU faculty and another from the senior NAAE scholars. The 3 best submissions were shortlisted and the project alongside the NAAE will work with these young scholars on their entire papers towards eventual publication in a peer reviewed journal. This demonstrates how the policy project is working with local senior scholars to support the next generation of Nigerian scholars to be able to produce research output of the high quality for publication in international peer reviewed journals and acceptable to Nigerian policy makers and other stakeholders

9) Training Workshop on “Article Writing” at the Department of Agricultural Economics, University of Ibadan, Nigeria.

On March 28, 2019, the Policy project jointly organized a digital training on journal article writing with the University of Ibadan. This training was facilitated by a project scholar and attended by 24 young Nigerian scholars ((13 female and 11 male) at different phases of their PhD Thesis. The two-day training workshop was based on a digital training prepared by the project in Quarter 1 of year 4. It uses a series of videos and facilitated by Nigerian collaborators and a Project scholar. This session was facilitated by Project scholar Osawe Wellington (of University of Ibadan). Prof. S.A. Yusuf (Head of Department of Agricultural Economics, University of Ibadan) started with an opening remark.

In several instances, Mr. Osawe used examples from his own research to clarify key concepts taught during the training. By doing this, he illustrated how project scholars remain engaged in project activities (upon their return home from Michigan State University) and how they are applying lessons learned from their experience in the program to train others. This activity also demonstrates how the policy project, innovatively working with Nigerian partners, is leveraging digital technology to provide training in Nigeria. Following the training and in line with the project’s emphasis on capacity strengthening through mentoring, participants trained will be engaging with the project to build on principles learned during the training.

The main highlight from the workshop? The participants were divided into five groups to come up with a research idea and develop a concept notes on their ideas based on the knowledge gained from the workshop sessions.



Why is this training important? Academia must be known as competent and neutral providers of empirical information in order to play a significant role in the policy development process. Additionally, providing their research findings to an international audience will be of net benefit to the research community.

ANNEX H: POLICY COMMUNICATIONS TRAINING FOR MEDIA

| | FCT | Ebonyi State | Oyo State |
|-----|-------------------|--------------------------|---------------------------------|
| S/N | | | |
| 1 | Hot FM | Extra Choice Express | 32 FM |
| 2 | Gotel | People's Leader | Daily post |
| 3 | Champion | Platforms | NAN |
| 4 | Galaxy | Citizens' Advocate Press | Beat Naija |
| 5 | TVC | FRCN | Fresh FM |
| 6 | Channels | Fast Link Media | Jamz |
| 7 | People's Daily | Business Day | ThisDay |
| 8 | Aso Radio | Peoples Guide | Premier FM (Radio Nigeria) |
| 9 | Core TV | NTA | Min. Of Info, Culture & Tourism |
| 10 | Lagos TV | Nigerian Tribune | AIT |
| 11 | NTA | National Guide | Daily Trust |
| 12 | Authority | Voice Newspaper | Nigerian Tribune |
| 13 | MITV | Blaze FM | Vanguard |
| 14 | FRCN | Daily Times | The Herald |
| 15 | NAN | Patriot | Space FM |
| 16 | Observer | Guidepost News | Punch |
| 17 | ONTV | NAN | Splash FM |
| 18 | ITV | NOA | Lagelu FM |
| 19 | Daily Independent | The Punch | BCOS |
| 20 | Punch | EBBC | New Nigerian |
| 21 | BEN TV | National Issue | Oyo Insight |
| 22 | Telegraph | The Voice | Parrotxra |
| 23 | Core TV | Min. of Information | Amuludun |
| 24 | Beat FM | | |
| 25 | Arise TV | | |
| 26 | Leadership | | |
| 27 | WAZOBIA | | |