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<td>AA</td>
<td>Associate Award</td>
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<tr>
<td>AFAP</td>
<td>African Fertilizer and Agribusiness Partnership</td>
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<td>AFDB</td>
<td>African Development Bank</td>
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<td>AGRA</td>
<td>Alliance for a Green Revolution in Africa</td>
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<td>AU</td>
<td>Africa Union</td>
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<td>BFS</td>
<td>Bureau for Food Security (USAID)</td>
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<td>C1, C2, C3, C4, C5</td>
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<tr>
<td>CAADP</td>
<td>Comprehensive Africa Agriculture Development Programme</td>
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<td>CAADP PP</td>
<td>Comprehensive Africa Agriculture Development Programme Partnership Platform</td>
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<tr>
<td>CARD</td>
<td>The Centre for Agricultural Research and Development (CARD), Bunda College, Malawi</td>
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<td>CESD</td>
<td>Centre for Economic and Social Development, Burma</td>
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<td>CILSS</td>
<td>Permanent Interstate Committee for Drought Control in the Sahel</td>
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<td>DAPS</td>
<td>Department of Agricultural Planning Services (Malawi)</td>
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<td>EC</td>
<td>European Commission</td>
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<tr>
<td>ECOSIM</td>
<td>Economic Community of West African States Simulation Model</td>
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<td>ECOWAS</td>
<td>Economic Community of West African States</td>
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<td>FSP</td>
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<td>FTF</td>
<td>Feed the Future</td>
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<td>GCFSI</td>
<td>Global Center for Food Systems Innovation</td>
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<td>GREAT</td>
<td>Groupe de recherche en économie appliquée et théorique</td>
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<td>GTAP</td>
<td>Global Trade Analysis Project</td>
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<td>IFC</td>
<td>International Finance Corporation</td>
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<td>IFPRI</td>
<td>International Food Policy Research Institute</td>
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<td>IP</td>
<td>Intellectual Property</td>
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<td>LGA</td>
<td>Local Government Authority</td>
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<td>MAFC</td>
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<td>MaSSP</td>
<td>Malawi Strategy Support Program</td>
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<td>MDG</td>
<td>Millennium Development Goals</td>
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<td>MDRI</td>
<td>Myanmar Development Research Institute</td>
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<td>MSU</td>
<td>Michigan State University</td>
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<td>M&amp;E</td>
<td>Monitoring and Evaluation</td>
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<td>NA</td>
<td>New Alliance</td>
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<td>NAIIP</td>
<td>National Agricultural Innovation Project</td>
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<tr>
<td>NGO</td>
<td>Non-Governmental Organization</td>
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<tr>
<td>Abbreviation</td>
<td>Full Name</td>
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<td>NSO</td>
<td>National Statistics Office</td>
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<td>UMFCCI</td>
<td>Union of Myanmar Federation of Chambers of Commerce and Industry</td>
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<td>PMO-RLG</td>
<td>Prime Minister’s Office Ministry of Rural and Local Government, Malawi</td>
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<td>ReNAPRI</td>
<td>Regional Network of Agricultural Policy Research Institutes</td>
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<td>SAM</td>
<td>Social Accounting Matrix</td>
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<td>UP</td>
<td>University of Pretoria</td>
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<td>USAID</td>
<td>United States Agency for International Development</td>
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<td>WA</td>
<td>West Africa</td>
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<td>WAEMU/UEMOA</td>
<td>West African Economic and Monetary Union</td>
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1. INTRODUCTION

The Feed the Future Innovation Lab for Food Security Policy (FSP) Leader with Associates (LWA) cooperative agreement was awarded by USAID’s Bureau of Food Security (BFS) to a consortium comprised of Michigan State University (MSU), the International Food Policy Research Institute (IFPRI) and the University of Pretoria (UP) on July 15, 2013. The consortium members bring tremendous depth in terms of analytical and capacity building expertise and, through their extensive networks of policy makers and analysts, tremendous breadth of influence at national, regional and international levels. Representatives of all three institutions met together with representatives of USAID’s Bureau of Food Security at IFPRI headquarters in Washington DC July 22-23 to establish a common understanding of the project’s goals and to discuss geographic and thematic priorities for the new program.

1.1 FSP goal and objectives

Policies at national and regional level have major implications on both the level and effectiveness of public and private sector investments on food security outcomes. The overall goal of the FSP program, therefore, is to promote inclusive agricultural productivity growth, improved nutritional outcomes, and enhanced livelihood resilience for men and women through improved policy environments. Taking a broad view of agriculture, including the farm and off-farm parts of the food system, this goal will be achieved through increased capacity to generate policy-relevant evidence and gender-sensitive analysis that is utilized by stakeholders throughout the food system to improve policy formulation and implementation. This overall goal for the FSP program will be achieved by focusing on two integrated objectives:

- **Objective 1:** Address critical evidence gaps for informed policy debate and formulation at country, regional and global levels. FSP will generate, synthesize and disseminate new knowledge on targeted policy issues for which the current evidence base is insufficient or inadequately understood to permit confident formulation and implementation of effective policies at country, regional and global levels.

- **Objective 2:** Foster credible, inclusive, transparent and sustainable policy processes at country level. The FSP will strengthen the building blocks for national policy systems in their regional contexts, promote inclusion of and dialogue among all stakeholders around critical policy issues, and disseminate globally sourced examples of successful innovation and best practice in policy system capacity building.
1.2 **FSP workplan structure, target geographies and approach**

The FSP workplan is organized into five components. Country-level activities to address these two objectives (components C1 and C2) are developed jointly and organized by region. All components are developed by blended teams from all three consortium members:

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

The approach to core workplan development involves blended design teams with representatives of all three consortium members. Learning synergies between country-level and global countries are actively sought to ensure that country-level work is informed by international best practice, and the body of global knowledge on best practice is informed by cutting edge innovation and experience at country level. Each component seeks to identify national and regional partners who can be effective partners in policy analysis and capacity building. For example, FSP has worked closely with the Regional Network of Agricultural Policy Research Institutes (ReNAPRI) to ensure that African policy analysts are strongly represented at continental policy fora. Each component also seeks to integrate gender and climate change as cross-cutting issues that must be effectively addressed to achieve sustainable improvements in food security and nutrition outcomes.

The Leader With Associate (LWA) Award allows for USAID country and regional missions, and USAID Washington units, to develop dedicated scopes of work to address policy issues and/or policy system capacity building needs to serve the goals of their respective programs. Target geographies were therefore chosen at country level to coincide with likely interest in the development of associate awards. Current focus countries in each region include:

Asia: Burma

West Africa: Mali, Nigeria, Senegal and Regional

East and Southern Africa: Malawi and Tanzania

1.3 **Workplan development and consortium subawards**

The FSP workplan is framed by the FTF Interagency food security policy guide that identifies seven key policy areas and endorses a systems approach to capacity building. An initial draft workplan describing a set of activities to respond to the priorities identified at this planning meeting was submitted September
10, 2013. In response to comments from USAID, additional consultations on country-level and regional components were conducted with priority USAID missions in West Africa and Eastern and Southern Africa in September/October, and consultations on global components were held with USAID Bureaus in Washington DC October 22-24, 2013. Workplan implementation for approved components began concurrently with the revision process, including support to USAID Burma on the government’s new rural development strategy, preparations for an input sector reform technical convening in Addis Ababa, and preparation of a draft FTF Policy Agenda monitoring and evaluation plan.

To offset the longer than anticipated time requirement for workplan preparation the year 1 workplan will run through 31 December, 2014. Results accomplished will be reported for the period ending September 30, 2013.

With approval of the FSP year 1 workplan by USAID each consortium member proceeded to develop detailed budgets for their respective scopes of work. These could not be completed prior to the end of calendar year holiday season. A subaward with IFPRI was fully signed by March 21, 2014. Extensive revisions to the agreement with UP, especially concerning IP language, resulted in further delays. A mutually agreeable subaward was sent May 20, 2014 and a fully signed agreement with UP was in place May 25, 2014. The subawards make provision for all allowable project expenditures incurred since the initial award date to be reimbursed. IFPRI had, however, closed their books for 2013 by the time the agreement was signed, while University of Pretoria has no internal mechanisms for pre-financing project activities. With hindsight (i.e., if the delays in completing the workplan process and the University of Pretoria subaward could have been anticipated) MSU could have entered into subawards to cover the planning phase. Although frustrating and costly in terms of program implementation delays, the good news is that subsequent subaward updates over the life of FSP will only require modifications to reflect USAID annual workplan and budget approvals.
2. KEY ACCOMPLISHMENTS AND CHALLENGES

Despite a lengthy workplan preparation and contracting process, significant progress has been made with all FSP components, and in developing relationships with missions that have expressed interest in associate awards. This section gives a flavor of the “out of the gate” accomplishments of the FSP program during its inception phase. More details can be found on each component in the next chapter.

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

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

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

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

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

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

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

Component 3, global collaborative research on policy process and capacity building, has assembled an exceptionally strong research team led by Suresh Babu (IFPRI), Lorenzo Fioramenti (UP) and Steve Haggblade (MSU) from all three consortium member institutions. The team will meet in Pretoria in April to develop a comprehensive analytical framework for analyzing policy systems, strongly grounded in political science and political economy concepts summarized in a working document prepared by Danielle Resnick (IFPRI). The framework will be used to undertake contrasting case studies of poor and effective implementation of policies to improve input access and nutrition outcomes, and draw lessons to ensure consistently effective policy implementation. The case studies will have direct application in priority countries as well as generating best practice lessons for FTF missions and the international development community.

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

With leadership from Thom Jayne (MSU) in collaboration with ReNAPRI, AFAP and the USAID FSP activity manager David Atwood, FSP participated in an input policy convening of technical experts in Addis Ababa. The key messages were subsequently discussed with the AU commissioner for agriculture and senior officials of COMESA, as well as at the CAADP Partners Meeting in Durban.
An energetic dialog on land policy has also taken place, in collaboration with colleagues from USAID’s E3 bureau and the LGAF. IFPRI’s Hosaena Hagos and MSU’s Milu Muyanga have also taken part, drawing on extensive research by MSU and IFPRI colleagues. The Myanmar Development Resource Institute was also represented at the annual land conference organized by the World Bank, with L Seng Kham presenting findings on agribusiness development and smallholder land rights in Burma (for which Derek Byerlee was the lead author).

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

Many of the issues addressed by the study of value chain transformations are germane to the set of analytical approaches referred to in foresighting analysis. Led by Tschirley (MSU) and Thurlow (IFPRI), FSP is developing an associate award to identify and interact with USAID on missions to incorporated foresighting analysis into mission country strategies so that they correctly anticipate major changes that affect the relevance and effectiveness of different development approaches and program investments to achieve development goals.

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

Despite a very significant roster of accomplishments during the inception phase there remain challenges to be overcome. Key challenges that the FSP management team would like to resolve include the following:

- More effective integration of UP team members in all components following a significant delay in finalizing their subaward;
- Greater participation of IFPRI and UP colleagues in the global research engagement agenda (C4);
• More effective integration of cross cutting (gender and climate change) considerations across all FSP components;

• Achieving a balance between research and outreach, especially at country level and in component 4, and reconciling the different planning horizons (often very short term for outreach in contrast to research which requires a 2-3 year horizon);

• Timely response and effective implementation of associate awards, especially in West Africa;

• Maintaining communication across components and across team members from different institutions within components: monthly component team calls with FSP management have been difficult to maintain due to intense travel schedules;

• Developing an effective FSP communications strategy. A draft brochure is under preparation but much remains to be done to identify the right mix of products (briefs, working papers, voice over powerpoints, etc.) and a common communications platform for the three consortium institutions.
3. DETAILED ACTIVITIES AND ACHIEVEMENTS BY COMPONENT


Three key results are to be achieved under components C1 and C2 for West Africa. First, the case study comparisons of effective and poor implementation of regional agricultural and trade policies will lead to improved understanding of key factors affecting national implementation of regional policies. Second, the team will develop a simulation model for regional rice economy that will improve capacity to evaluate the impact of policy and investments on rice production, price, trade, and consumption. Third, the new government in Mali, and the new institutional architecture for food policy, will receive technical support through FSP during the transition from the existing MSU associate award (ending November 2013) to a new FSP associate award.

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

- Milestones:
  - Selection of a few agricultural policies with high potential for regional spillovers but uneven implementation across countries followed by case study field investigations of effective and ineffective policy implementation.

- Milestones Status as of March 30, 2014:
  - Boughton and Badiane to consult with regional partners at the Accra meetings in April to identify: a) key regional policies agreed to by ECOWAS states; b) inventory instances of good and bad country implementation of agreed-upon policies; and c) priorities for policies to assess by comparing uneven implementation using the C3 framework

- Outcomes
  - Tools and approaches for improving regional policy implementation at the national level made available to ECOWAS and USAID/WA

- Outcomes Status as of March 30, 2014:
  - None

Activity 2. Modeling the impact of regional rice policy

- Milestones:
  - Develop a regional rice model building on the ECOWAS simulation model

- Milestones Status as of March 30, 2014:
  - The team made significant progress in developing a simulation model for the regional rice economy. In particular, it developed a beta version of the Economic Community of West African States (ECOWAS) Simulation Model—ECOSIM— an economy-wide
simulation model for all 15 ECOWAS countries. ECOSIM has 3 modules, namely i) national based modules for the 15 ECOWAS countries; ii) the West African Economic and Monetary Union (WAEMU/UEMOA) module, made up of 8 ECOWAS countries with a common currency and macro-closures, such as one external current account; and iii) the regional ECOWAS module which specifies intra-regional trade of goods and services and intra-regional movement of productive factors such as labor and capital.

- The ECOSIM model was customized to the FSP project by highlighting rice sectors and products in the country modules (i.e. supply, demand, trade, and markets). Specifically, the national based modules and WAEMU modules were customized by highlighting the rice sectors in social accounting matrices (SAM) for countries. This was done for all countries with the exception of Cape Verde because of limited data on rice trade. However, this is likely not to matter much given that small size of Cape Verde and that the country imports most of its rice from outside the West Africa region and does not produce rice. The customized regional rice model was used to analyze the impact of the regional self-sufficiency policy on rice. In particular, the model was used to simulate the impact of the policy on regional trade (imports and exports), agricultural growth, overall growth, impact on unemployment, and food security (rice and overall food consumption).

- In addition, the team conducted a literature review to better understand non-tariff barriers and methodological aspects of how to model non-tariff barriers. The review will feed into a non-tariff barrier model on rice, based on the gravity model that will be used to assess the impact of not having non-tariff barriers on trade, growth, poverty reduction, and food security.

- In collaboration with a local institution, Groupe de recherche en économie appliquée et théorique (GREAT), the project team is developing a new SAM for Mali that will highlight many agricultural commodities including rice. The new SAM will feed into the ECOSIM model.

**Outcomes:**

- Impacts of potential policy measures and investment programs to improve the competitiveness of West African rice sectors identified and disseminated through ECOWAS

**Outcomes Status as of March 30, 2014:**

- Simulation results were presented to the ECOWAS Task Force on Rice Policy meeting in Cotonou, Benin, from 24-26, March, 2014. The USAID-West Africa hub has representatives on the Task Force. Moreover, the research paper has been accepted to be presented at the upcoming Global Trade Analysis Project (GTAP) conference in Dakar, Senegal, in June.

- The team will work on updating rice trade information in the ECOSIM model with data from the Permanent Interstate Committee for Drought Control in the Sahel (CILSS).
Activity 3: Policy research and analytical support at the country level

- Milestones:
  - Demand-driven policy research and analytical support to agricultural policy development in Mali
- Milestones Status as of March 30, 2014:
  - USAID/Mali has expressed interest in FSP policy work there. The team has conducted an initial phone conference with the Mali mission and will follow up with field interviews in Mali at the end of April and a proposal at the end of May.
- Outcomes:
  - Improved empirical and analytical research available for use by policy makers in the new government.
- Outcomes Status as of March 30, 2014:
  - No policy research has yet begun. This will follow after policy priorities, scope of work and funding details have been finalized.


FSP proposes to focus its country-level collaborative policy research and capacity building in Eastern and Southern Africa on two countries: Malawi and Tanzania. Five activities in the region are planned under C1 and C2 in the first year of the FSP Project: 1) dedicated assistance to the government of Malawi in developing an action plan for achieving the policy objectives under its country cooperation framework for the New Alliance for Food Security and Nutrition; 2) a deepening of the institutional architecture assessment in Tanzania to focus on policy capacity gaps; 3) initiate a policy study in Tanzania on local government revenue options as alternatives to crop levies; 4) innovative training of male and female journalists and their editors to promote informed reporting about agricultural development and policy; and 5) agricultural statistical system strengthening.

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

- Milestones:
  - Initial scoping visit and report on placing long-term senior advisor to advance implementation of New Alliance framework policy commitments
  - Revision of IFPRI country program and identification of additional FSP analytical studies in support of New Alliance Framework implementation roadmap
  - Consultation with CARD on capacity building to undertake analytical studies in support of New Alliance Framework implementation roadmap
- Milestones Status as of March 30, 2014:
Over the last week of January, consultations were held in Lilongwe with a wide range of government, donors, and other agricultural sector stakeholders on how the FSP project might most effectively assist the government in meeting the policy commitments that it made in late 2013 under the cooperation framework for the G8 New Alliance for Food Security and Nutrition in Malawi. The discussions centered around how one or two senior advisors placed through the FSP project within the Department of Agricultural Planning Services of the Ministry of Agriculture and Food Security (MoAFS) could best engage to advance this policy reform agenda. From these consultations, a draft project design was developed in which it was proposed that two senior advisors be placed within the Ministry – an experienced senior agricultural policy advisor to work closely with senior management of the Ministry and a policy analyst to manage the analytical components and technical capacity building components of the program of advisory support to the Ministry. This design was widely circulated among agricultural sector stakeholders in Lilongwe and received general endorsement. A detailed proposal for the program of advisory support to the Ministry was presented to the Principal Secretary in mid-March. (The PS endorsed the proposal in a letter sent to USAID/Malawi in early-May.) Recruitment has now begun for the two positions, with a candidate identified for the Policy Analyst position. USAID/Malawi has indicated that in July, when administratively the mission will be in a position to do so, they will consider the FSP Malawi proposal for funding under an Associate Award mechanism.

In the interim, FSP staff are already engaging with the Ministry on selected policy reform initiatives. To date, this has involved providing comments on the draft Seed Act and the National Contract Farming Strategy. FSP staff are working with staff of the Department of Agricultural Planning Services of the Ministry to draft a National Agricultural Policy, with a target formal endorsement and launch date of end-August. We expect to provide similar input in the coming months on the draft Warehouse Receipts Act and on the design of an Inorganic Fertilizer Policy.

The analytical content of the FSP Malawi work is still to be determined, as it will be driven by the policy reform agenda of MoAFS and any knowledge gaps constraining action on advancing any reforms. Discussions are on-going with MoAFS to develop a detailed work plan for the program of advisory support to the Ministry, including any analytical studies needed. We anticipate that these analyses will emerge from the work the FSP staff are doing on the various sectoral and sub-sectoral policy documents and strategies. At that point, we will engage with CARD to determine how best we can be mutually supportive to jointly successfully complete these studies.

- Outcomes
  - Agreement by GoM to the roadmap and demonstrated progress on selected items.
  - MaSSP 2013/14 work plan in support of New Alliance approved and operationalized
Improved research and writing capacity among selected CARD analysts, greater knowledge among policy makers, and improved quality of NA roadmap execution.

Outcomes Status as of March 30, 2014:

- The Malawi FSP project is in its formulation stage, although nearing the end of that stage. A detailed proposal is with MoAFS for their review and endorsement.
- On the assumption that the Ministry approves the proposal in coming days, in mid-May FSP staff will meet with MoAFS senior managers to devise a work plan in which will be specified the New Alliance policy commitments on which project staff will focus their efforts over the coming year.
- Engagement with CARD under the FSP project has not begun, as the proper sequencing of the steps to formulate the project requires that we obtain full MoAFS support before reaching out to implementation partners.

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

Milestones:
- Review the Institutional Architecture Assessment in Malawi and Tanzania and work with local stakeholders to identify gaps in the policy system and make recommendations on how to address those gaps.

Milestones as of March 30, 2014:
- While the Institutional Architecture Assessment for Malawi has been closely reviewed, it is expected that the identification of gaps in that architecture and action to address those gaps will follow from the actions that FSP project staff and their partners will take to advance the New Alliance policy commitments. This action will put in clear relief where there are deficiencies in the agricultural policy framework for Malawi and the processes through which that framework is built. Efforts will then be taken to address those deficiencies.

Outcomes:
- Improved definition of roles, responsibilities, and relationships among stakeholders in the policy environment in each country, resulting in improved policy making.

Outcomes as of March 30, 2014:
- “These outcomes will only be obtained after work on the New Alliance policy commitments is well advanced and, through those efforts, the deficiencies in the agricultural policy environment in Malawi are more clearly defined.

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

Milestones
An assessment of the tax structure of selected crops, their contribution to LGA revenues, the benefits arising from investments made by LGAs, and alternative revenue mechanisms in the event of reduction or elimination of some LGA crop levies.

**Milestones as of March 30, 2014:**

- Planning for the study began in Nov/Dec 2013, and D. Tschirley spent two weeks in Tanzania in Jan 2014 to work with D. Nyange on a rapid appraisal of the LGA crop cess to inform the study design. At the end of this initial appraisal, D. Nyange/ D. Tschirley/ team presented the proposed study sampling and methodology at a meeting of the various stakeholders involved (Prime Minister’s Office Ministry of Rural and Local Government (PMO-RLG) (which has resisted abolishing or reforming the LGA crop cess) and the Ministry of Agriculture (MAFC) and private sector actors, which are in favor of abolishing, reforming or reducing the crop cess.

- The LGA study team used a combination of LGA annual financial statements and data from the 2007/08 Agricultural Census to define 6 key agro-ecological zones (that encompass the whole country), and within that, selected multiple LGAs in each zone for in-depth field interviews. The field team included D. Nyange of MSU (team leader/coordinator), two Tanzanian consultants (one a local finance expert, the other an ag economist, both of whom worked on a previous LGA crop cess study a year earlier), two junior staff from the Directorate of Policy and Planning within MAFC, a senior staff member from PMO-RLG and a staff member from the Tanzanian Revenue Authority. Thus, this activity is not simply providing applied policy analysis of great interest to the PMO, MAFC, other ministries, and USAID, it is also serving as an opportunity for capacity building of several government staff members.

- The fieldwork was completed the first week of April. Analysis of the field work data has already begun and the draft report writing is underway. The report will be presented at a stakeholder workshop in late May or early June, and then more presentations will be made in Dodoma for various parliamentary committees. Once the report is finalized, the work will not be finished because a key to achieving a policy change is for the study team to use stakeholder fora to engage the various parties in a policy dialogue with the goal of building consensus from the supporters and opponents of LGA crop cess for alternative ways forward.

**Outcomes**

- Policy decisions by government that reduce the fiscal burden on farmers, traders, and other supply chain participants and improve market integration through more efficient trade; improved fiscal mechanisms implemented at local level, replacing local cess and other taxes.

**Outcomes as of March 30, 2014:**

- TBD after LGA crop cess report is completed and presented at stakeholder workshops, in which we aim to find consensus between the Prime Minister’s Office Ministry of Rural
and Local Government (which has resisted abolishing or reforming the LGA crop cess) and the Ministry of Agriculture and private sector actors, which are in favor of abolishing, reforming or reducing the crop cess.

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

- Milestones
  - Training of journalists in food, agricultural and nutrition policy issues, with a focus on the New Alliance activities

- Milestones as of March 30, 2014:
  - Nothing to report (June 2014 workshops planned for Tanzania and Malawai)

- Outcomes
  - Well informed journalists in the two countries reporting on the policy issues in food security, nutrition, agriculture trade and natural resource sectors; training materials that would be available on the web for other journalists to use as self-learning materials.

- Outcomes as of March 30, 2014:
  - Not yet started. (June 2014 workshops planned for Tanzania and Malawai)

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

- Milestones
  - Review of existing Ag Stat reviews followed by training needs assessment for national statistics agencies to improve questionnaire design, survey procedures, data entry and cleaning, and software packages in Malawai and Tanzania

- Milestones as of March 30, 2014:
  - IFPRI-Lilongwe worked with the National Statistics Office (NSO) and MoAFS to develop an agricultural statistics strategic master plan for Malawai that was published in the past few months. While this master plan will be the basis of any training that the FSP project will provide, discussions on the content and timing of such training has not yet been held with NSO or MoAFS.


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

- Milestones:
  - Calendar of FSP TDYs for demand-driven policy research and analytical support to agricultural policy development

- Milestones as of March 30, 2014:
  - Reardon TDY to Burma 8-13 March to work with MDRI-CESD and USAID on AA (Associate Award) proposal
  - Reardon talk and brief (posted to USAID site and MSU FSP site) “Prospects for Agricultural Value Chains in Myanmar,” presentation for “A Dialogue for Enhancing the Competitiveness of Agribusiness in Myanmar” Organized by: UMFCCI, USAID, and IFC at the UMFCCI Office, Yangon, March 21, 2014
  - FSP-Burma AA proposal submitted to USAID/Bangkok (regional office) on March 28
  - Reardon supports Mission throughout March on Policy Matrix and Vision drafting

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

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

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

- Milestones
  - Development of a framework that defines key actors, behavioral assumptions, environmental factors affecting policy debate and formulation, key triggers enabling policy change.

- Milestones as of March 30, 2014:
  - The C3 team has prepared a draft conceptual note building on several rounds of discussions among the collaborating partners. The C3 team, together with Africa LEAD, will further discuss and develop the conceptual framework during a 2-day workshop in Pretoria in April 2014.

- Outcomes
  - The conceptual framework will help to guide policy system research.
Outcomes as of March 30, 2014:
  o The outcomes of the discussions that lead to the development of the conceptual framework has been fed in to CAADP PP discussion in March 2014

Activity 2 Conduct case studies of policy process and change

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

Milestones as of March 30, 2014:
  o During the April conceptual framework workshop, the team will assign responsibilities for conducting inventories of policy change episodes.

Outcomes
  o Improved knowledge about how policies change and what actions might improve the structure, responsiveness and effectiveness of policy systems.

Outcomes as of March 30, 2014:
  o None. This work will follow development of the conceptual framework and the policy change inventories.

Activity 3: Innovative approaches to capacity development and policy systems

Milestones
  o Review current approaches to studying policy systems and institutional architecture, and conduct 3 country-specific studies (Ghana, Tanzania & Ethiopia)
  o Review of past policy capacity interventions; identification of best practices to improve policy system capacity

Milestones as of March 30, 2014:
  o No action to date. Anticipate first consultations November 2014 at ReSAKSS annual conference.

Outcomes
  o A common set of simple indicators will enable governments, civil society and development partners to more easily and effectively track the performance of policy systems.
  o Improved knowledge about the effectiveness of past interventions in policy systems and lessons learned about how best to support effective policy systems going forward.

Outcomes as of March 30, 2014:
  o None. (Not yet started.)
**Component 4: Engagement on Global Policy Debates on Food Security**

What role will agriculture play in future development paths? How will agriculture evolve over time in Africa and Asia and what will be the role of smallholder farmers, notably women, in this process? How will globalization, climate change, and agrifood system transformation affect future agriculture and food security outcomes at national and household levels? What will be the impacts of alternative government policies and expenditure patterns on the pathways and speed of transformation of agricultural and food systems, poverty reduction and food security outcomes? What are the implications of these kinds of changes in programming for future Feed the Future and CAADP national and regional agricultural investment plans (and similar investment plans in Asia or Central American FTF country)?

To address the above questions, research and engagement under C4 will focus on three major FTF policy themes in year 1. The objective will be to provide and effectively communicate concrete guidance at the country and regional level on how investment programs and policies may need to adapt in order to manage the potential impacts of drivers of transformation, and how international partners can support those investments and policies. This research will also support the preparation of an activity to develop approaches to mainstream foresighting in USAID mission programming, to be funded through an associate award from USAID’s Development Innovation Lab (formerly Office of Science and Technology). In addition, these C4 activities for Year 1 have been conceived within a long-term global research engagement vision that identifies emerging priority issues for subsequent years of the FSP.

**Theme 1: Sustainable agricultural intensification and input policy**

- **Milestones**
  - Regional consultations/policy engagement completed in West Africa and East Africa on the theme of sustainable intensification and agricultural input policy

- **Milestones as of March 30, 2014:**

- **Outcomes**
  - The AU commission and country leaders will have a greater understanding of the policy options and implementation mechanisms available to improve input policies.
(1) a set of practical solutions and implementation mechanisms to be vetted with, and considered by, national governments in at least 6 countries in East/Southern Africa. (2) general consensus on major trends and drivers of inputs policies affecting food security and economic transformations for feeding into the Global Foresighting Conference in October 2014

Outcomes as of March 30, 2014:
- no outcomes yet

Theme 2: Land tenure, land dynamics and structural transformation

Milestones
- Reviews and consultations completed on land tenure, land dynamics and structural transformation

Milestones as of March 30, 2014:
- **Presentation:** Land constraints in Africa and their implications for development. Derek Headey, Thom Jayne, and Jordan Chamberlin. University of California, Davis, October 14, 2013.

• Outcomes
  o Process and methods for quantitative indicators to monitor progress in land governance overtime agreed upon;
  o AU/ECA/AFDB Land Policy Initiative adopt the quantitative monitoring indicators in its regular reporting on land governance to the African Heads of States;
  o Through FSP research and engagement the AU commission, country leaders, and development partners will have a greater understanding of the policy options and implementation mechanisms available to improve land governance and policy framework.

• Outcomes as of March 30, 2014:
  o Most of meetings that the outcomes are dependent on will be help mid to late 2014

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

Reported By: Dave Tschirley

• Milestones
  o Synthesis of current work on food system transformation drivers to assess implications for forward-looking FTF investments

• Milestones as of March 30, 2014:
  o In collaboration with GCFSI, we have now produced a paper on food system transformation in Asia, mirroring the work done on East and Southern Africa. Tschirley, in the context of a request for foresighting assistance from the EC Joint Research Center for an EC Global Food Security Foresighting exercise, has begun to compare Africa to Asia. This work will continue, resulting in a synthesis across the two regions of the world.

• Outcomes
  o Contribution toward improved knowledge among development partners (USAID, multilaterals, national governments, private sector, NGOs) of dynamics of change in these food systems, resulting in improved design of policies and programs for this changing environment.
• Outcomes as of March 30, 2014:
  o Process has begun through sharing initial insights with EC (upon their invitation) in
    Brussels in March, and with USAID and other stakeholders in Maputo in April. Outreach
    will be ongoing

Global Foresighting Conference (with associate award)

• Milestones
  o Global conference and related outreach presenting research findings and engaging
    experts on the future for agriculture and food security

• Milestones as of March 30, 2014:
  o Draft proposal has been submitted, feedback has been received, conference call with
    OST and BFS has been held, and MSU is now waiting for further guidance on next steps.
    We anticipate that an award that will be less focused on a large conference and more
    focused on raising stakeholder awareness of and USAID mission ability to use
    foresighting analysis.

• Outcomes
  o Improved knowledge among development partners (USAID, multilaterals, national
    governments, private sector, NGOs) of dynamics of change in these food systems,
    resulting in improved design of policies and programs for this changing environment.

• Outcomes as of March 30, 2014:
  o None yet as activity is still in development stage

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

FSP informs USAID strategy and policy deliberations by providing strong, timely strategy advice and
empirically-based policy recommendations. In order to best do this, the FSP will establish a rapid
response team of researchers capable of addressing the needs of the USAID in each of the FTF policy
areas. This team will be able to directly assist USAID to assess trends and evaluate options on
prominent policy issues having a critical bearing on the achievement of shared FTF, MDG and CAADP
goals. This component will provide a synthesis of research findings from FSP activities or customized on-
demand technical support through analytics, dialogue, in-country consultation, and training drawing
from the wealth of research outputs produced by the FSP team member institutions.

• Milestones
  o Data analytics, research result highlights or summaries, slides, figures or tables on data
    trends, technical review, and advice provided to USAID on demand and at short notice
  o Preparation of policy briefs, presentations, co-organizing consultative meetings with
    USAID staff, and participation at global research forums upon request

• Milestones as of March 30, 2014:
o Assistance to USAID/BFS to identify a more practical and robust set of monitoring indicators on policy processes that could be used within the Feed the Future initiative to measure progress of FTF policy projects. This exercise was motivated by the need to 1) bring cohesion across countries and regions in tracking and monitoring investments in policy change and their results; and 2) to promote dialogue and mutual learning among multiple partners and stakeholders involved in policy change agenda.

o Support to AUC “Evidence Summit” in April 2014, including provision of policy briefs, outcomes of recent or ongoing relevant studies, implications and findings of recent research in order to identify the key constraints and the value-added outcomes from addressing these constraints in the next series of CAADP investment plans.

o Support from Mywish Maredia on assessment of the impact of policies on NAIPs, efficiency, poverty reduction, and hunger reduction.

• Outcomes
  o USAID, their partners and policy makers have access to FSP research results and expertise
  o Communication of the current state of knowledge and FSP research results on key FSP themes to USAID, their partners and policy makers

• Outcomes as of March 30, 2014:
  o A set of indicators was developed and shared to inform FTF policy program monitoring processes.
  o FSP research results were brought to bear on the AUC meetings to inform CAADP strategies.
APPENDIX A. DRAFT FSP WEB SITE

Feed the Future Innovation Lab for Food Security Policy (FSP)

The mission of the Feed the Future Innovation Lab for Food Security Policy is to help USAID-supported countries in Africa, Asia, and Latin America to fight hunger, reduce poverty and improve nutritional outcomes through better food policy. The FSP Innovation Lab is funded by a grant from the U.S. Agency for International Development as part of the U.S. Government’s Feed the Future (FTF) Initiative.

MSU’s Food Security Group will lead implementation, partnering with the International Food Policy Research Institute in Washington, D.C., and the University of Pretoria in South Africa. Additional FTF funding could also be made available for more intensive country-level programs throughout the next five years.

Together, the consortium will work with governments, researchers and private sector stakeholders in as many as 19 FTF focus countries in Africa, Asia and Latin America to increase agricultural productivity, improve dietary diversity and build greater resilience to challenges, like climate change, that affect livelihoods. The final result sought is higher incomes for farmers, higher quality diets at lower cost for consumers, and greater stability in food markets.

Project Overview

- Objectives
- Work Plan (February 14, 2014)
- Contact Information

Policy Syntheses

Policy Presentations


Professional Publications


Survey Research Training Materials

Self-Tutorial Sample Session for STATA

  - Tutorial
  - Data

Administrative Reports

For MSU and USAID management purposes. Requires ID to enter
APPENDIX B: TRAVEL

MSU PERSONNEL

- Margaret Beaver
  - East Lansing, MI (from Laporte, Colorado) January 5, 2014 through January 12, 2014
- Duncan Boughton
  - Durban, South Africa March 17-24, 2014
  - Lilongwe, Malawi January 26-February 1, 2014
  - Pretoria, South Africa February 2-5, 2014
  - Addis Ababa, Ethiopia December 1-8, 2013
  - Maputo, Mozambique December 8-13, 2013
  - Dakar, Senegal November 10-16, 2013
  - Bamako, Mali November 16-22, 2013
  - Washington, DC October 21-25, 2013
  - Des Moines, Iowa October 13-16, 2013
  - Yangon, Burma September 21-24, 2013
  - Siem Reap, Cambodia September 24-27, 2013
  - Amsterdam, Netherlands September 28-October 2, 2013
  - Nairobi, Kenya, June 8-13, 2013
- Boubacar Diallo
  - Cotonou, Benin March 22-27, 2014
- Steve Haggblade
  - Dakar, Senegal November 11-15, 2013
- Thom Jayne
  - Durban, South Africa March 17-21, 2014
  - Addis Ababa, Ethiopia December 1-9, 2013
  - Washington, DC October 22-23, 2013
- Steve Longabaugh
- Mywish Maredia
  - Bangkok, Thailand January 5-10, 2014
  - Washington D.C. November 18-20, 2013
- David Mather
  - Dar es Salaam Tanzania. March 27-April 14, 2014
  - Pretoria South Africa, April 14-18, 2014

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• Isaac Minde  
  o Durban, South Africa March 18-22, 2014  
• Milu Muyanga  
  o Addis Ababa, Ethiopia December 4-8, 2013  
  o Washington, DC October 22-23, 2013  
• David Nyange  
  o Tanzania, March 2-23, 2014  
• Tom Reardon  
  o Yangon, Burma January 19-February 20, 2014  
  o Bangkok, Thailand January 6-10, 2014  
  o Yangon, Burma December 11-26, 2013  
  o Burma November 13-17, 2013  
  o Yangon, Burma October 26-November 6, 2013  
  o Washington, DC October 22-23, 2013  
• Veronique Theriault,  
  o Dakar, Senegal November 11-15, 2013  
• Abdrahmane Traoré  
  o Dakar, Senegal November 10-16, 2013  
• David Tschirley  
  o Dar es Salaam, Tanzania January 18-February 1, 2014  
  o Lilongwe, Malawi, October 6-9, 2013  

**IFPRI PERSONNEL**  

• Todd Benson  
  o Lilongwe, Malawi January 26-February 1, 2014  
• Nick Minot  
  o Ethiopia December 4-7, 2013  

**UNIVERSITY OF PRETORIA PERSONNEL**  

• Sheryl Hendricks  

**PARTNER INSTITUTION COLLABORATORS**  

• Alexander Archippius  
  o Durban, South Africa March 19-21, 2013  
• Adam Meshack Akyoo
- Brain Chisanga
  - Durban, South Africa March 19-21, 2013
- Philip Damas
  - Durban, South Africa March 19-21, 2013
- Heavenor
  - Addis Ababa, Ethiopia December 4-8, 2013
- Chance Kabaghe
  - Durban, South Africa March 19-21, 2013
  - Addis Ababa, Ethiopia December 4-8, 2013
- Richard Kachule
  - Durban, South Africa March 19-21, 2013
- L Seng Kham
- Madeleine Lukanda
  - Durban, South Africa March 19-21, 2013
- Mary Mathenge
  - Durban, South Africa March 19-21, 2013
- Fred Msiska Ethiopia
  - Addis Ababa, Ethiopia December 4-8, 2013
- Emilio Tostao
  - Durban, South Africa March 19-21, 2013
- Lulama Traub
  - Durban, South Africa March 19-21, 2013
  - Ethiopia 12/03-12/09/13
APPENDIX C: MEETINGS

- Cotonou, Benin March 22-27, 2014. ECOWAS Rice meeting
- Durban, South Africa March 17-24, 2014. 2014 CAADP meetings and special session on input policies
- Maputo, Mozambique December 8-13, 2013. Joint FPRI-MSU workshop on smallholder transformation
- Addis Ababa, Ethiopia December 4-8, 2013. USAID Scaling up Technologies in Africa GLEE and input policy convening
- Dakar, Senegal November 11-15, 2013. West Africa Re-SAKSS conference
- Washington, DC October 22-23, 2013. Policy Process Workshop
- Washington, DC October 21-25, 2013. Workplan consultations with USAID/BFS and FSP consortium members
- Des Moines, Iowa October 13-16, 2013. USAID Feed The Future Innovation Lab meeting
- Siem Reap, Cambodia September 24-27, 2013. RI/CDRI SAKSS Asia Conference