The Feed the Future Innovation Lab for Food Security Policy (FSP) is funded by the U.S. Agency for International Development (USAID).

### Feed the Future Policy Priority Areas

1. Institutional Architecture for Improved Policy Formulation
2. Enabling Environment for Private Sector Investment
3. Agricultural Trade Policy
4. Agricultural Inputs Policy
5. Land and Natural Resources Tenure, Rights, and Policy
6. Resilience and Agricultural Risk Management Policy
7. Nutrition Policy

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**Project web site:**
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Challenge

With rapid growth in global food demand, and new challenges arising from climate change, effective policies are essential to ensure food security for all without degrading scarce natural resources.

Goal

The overall goal of the Food Security Policy program is to promote gender and youth inclusive agricultural productivity growth, improved nutritional outcomes, and enhanced livelihood resilience through improved policy environments.

Objectives

1. **Address critical evidence gaps for informed policy debate and formulation at country, regional and global levels.**
   
   The existing evidence on food security policy is insufficient or inadequately understood. The Food Security Policy program generates, synthesizes and disseminates new knowledge on targeted policy issues to inform policy planning and implementation at country, regional and global levels.

2. **Foster credible, inclusive, transparent and sustainable policy processes at country level.**
   
   The Food Security Policy program strengthens national policy systems in their regional contexts, promotes dialogue among all stakeholders around critical policy issues and disseminates globally stories of successful innovation and best practice in policy capacity building.

Examples of FSP Activities

**GLOBAL**

- Inform and engage in global debate on food security policy and food system dynamics
- Develop a conceptual framework and practical recommendations for improving the policy process
- Conduct case studies to identify successful policy process and change
- Develop innovative approaches to capacity building for policy systems
- Lay out major components of holistic and sustainable agricultural intensification strategy and policy
- Support USAID in Feed the Future policy areas

**REGIONAL**

- Assess uneven implementation of regional agricultural and trade policies
- Model impact of regional rice policy in West Africa
- Train journalists in agricultural development and policy
- Implement agricultural development strategies that address rural poverty and food insecurity
- Examine value chain and food system dynamics
- Current focus on regional policy: West Africa

**NATIONAL**

- Support implementation of the New Alliance for Food Security and Nutrition Cooperation Frameworks
- County level policy research and analytical support
- Identify alternative agricultural and rural local government tax policy options
- Current focus countries: Burma, Malawi, Mali, Nigeria, Senegal and Tanzania

FSP Approach

FSP seeks to build capacity for policy formulation and implementation that is transparent, inclusive and evidence-based. Collaboration with host country researcher organizations, advocacy networks, private sector, farmers’ groups, media and policymakers is therefore crucial. Awareness of how policies improve or hinder opportunities for women, and the interaction between climate change and resilience, are key cross-cutting concerns.

Implementation Team

**Michigan State University** (MSU); Department of Agricultural, Food and Resource Economics, Food Security Group (FSG) is experienced in country-level and cross-cutting policy research, outreach and capacity building.

**International Food Policy Research Institute** (IFPRI) is well known for identifying and analyzing national and international strategies and policies to achieve food security in the developing African, Asian and Latin American countries.

**University of Pretoria** Institute for Food, Nutrition and Well-being and the Department of Agricultural Economics, Extension and Rural Development is well recognized for its agriculture and food security research and post graduate training programs and co-hosts the DST/NRF Centre of Excellence in Food Security.