PROMISAM

PROJECT TO MOBILIZE FOOD SECURITY INITIATIVES IN MALI

(Projet de Mobilisation des Initiatives en Matière de Sécurité Alimentaire)

http://www.aec.msu.edu/agecon/fs2/mali_fd_strtgy/index.htm

Quarterly Activity Report
April – June, 2007

May 2007

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Introduction

PROMISAM’s goal is to help Mali in the implementation of its national food security strategy, or SNSA, through collaborative efforts with the Commissariat à la sécurité alimentaire (CSA, or Food Security Commission) in the Office of the President. The 2006/07 PROMISAM work plan focuses on:

1. Helping local communities (communes, circles, and regions) develop their own local-level food security plans. This objective is achieved through training of trainers (mayors, NGO members, other members of civil society) in concepts of food security and in food security planning. They in turn return to their home communities and work to complete these plans with the local population and with technical assistance from the circle-level advisory services (CCC). In addition, PROMISAM is working with the CSA to develop the tools to implement these local-level plans through the National Food Security Program (PNSA).
2. Continue to strengthen the CSA’s Communication and Information Service’s outreach efforts, particularly with local journalists.
3. Work with the OMA to assure timely market monitoring and food security outlook bulletins (Bulletins de conjuncture).

Achievements during the Period April 1 – June 30, 2007

Work during this quarter focused primarily on (a) completing the training of trainers (mayors, local leaders of civil society organizations, etc.) from the remaining communes, circles, and regions of the country that had not had such training sessions earlier in the project and (b) supporting the completion of local-level plans for those communes, circles, and regions that had begun those activities in preceding months. Activities with local officials were slowed during this quarter because most local officials were involved in the presidential and legislative election campaigns. Activities and achievements for the quarter are described below in terms of the objectives and intermediate results listed in PROMISAM’s 2006/07 work plan (available at: http://www.aec.msu.edu/agecon/fs2/mali_fd_strtgy/PROMISAM_WorkPlan_yr3_07_06_fin.pdf).

Objective 1: Support the Development of Local-Level Food Security Programs in the Regions of Koulikoro, Kayes and Kidal

Result 1.1: Training of Trainers (who then help develop the local plans)

Activities undertaken:

- Training sessions for trainers took place in three circles in the region of Koulikoro. There remains just one more circle in the entire country, Koulikoro, which has yet to have its training-of-trainers workshop. That workshop was scheduled for the third week of June, but had to be rescheduled for the following quarter because local authorities were tied up in other training activities. The training activities carried out during this quarter included:
  - Dioila, May 15-17, 2007;
  - Kangaba, May 19-21, 2007;
Reports on these training sessions are available on the PROMISAM website at: 
http://aec.msu.edu/fs2/mali_fd_strtgy/plans/index.htm#trip

Intermediate results obtained:

During the quarter, 287 local trainers, including 50 women and 237 men (mayors, CCC members, civil society leaders, local journalists) were trained via PROMISAM/CSA workshops about how to use food security concepts to develop local food security plans. These included:

• 102 trainers in the circle of Dioila (21 women and 81 men) from 23 communes;
• 51 trainers in the circle of Kangaba (9 women and 42 men) from 11 communes;
• 134 trainers in the circle of Kati (20 women and 114 men) from 37 communes;

Result 1.2: Development of Food Security Plans at the Commune, Circle, and Regional Levels

Activities undertaken:

• Provided technical support for the ongoing development of the local food security plans for the communes and the circles of Kidal and Kayes;
• Provided technical support for the ongoing development of the local food security plans of the communes, circles and regions of Ségou and Koulikoro.

Intermediate results obtained:

• Development of 5 (out of a total of 11) communal plans for the region of Kidal.
• Development of 96 (out of a total of 129) communal plans and 4 (out of a total of 7) circle-level syntheses for the region of Kayes.

Copies of the completed plans are available at: 
http://www.aec.msu.edu/fs2/mali_fd_strtgy/plans/index.htm#plans

Result 1.3: Information is available to the various participants in the food security planning process in Mali to facilitate the articulation between the local and national food security programs.

Activities undertaken:

• Information was provided during the training of trainers sessions to the local-level participants about the National Food Security Program (PNSA) and how it will be linked to the local plans currently being developed.

Intermediate results obtained:

• Participants in the planning processes obtained, via the training courses, a better understanding of the various food security programs being designed and implemented at different levels in the country.
Result 1.4: The capacity of the CSA to manage and implement the decentralized SNSA is strengthened.

Activities undertaken:

- Participation, on June 15, 2007, in the quarterly review of the CSA’s action plan and in the development of the work plan for the following quarter.

Objective 2: Strengthening the CSA’s Communication and Information Service’s Outreach Efforts

Result 2.2.1: The personnel of the local radio stations and local journalists are trained in concepts of food security

Activities undertaken:

- Planning of the training workshops for the circles of Dioila, Kangaba, and Kati
- Carrying out of the training workshops.

Intermediate results obtained:

- 19 people in charge of programming for local radio stations participated in the local food security training programs in the circles of Dioila, Kangaba, and Kati, distributed as follows:
  - 7 in Dioila
  - 2 in Kangaba
  - 10 in Kati

Result 2.2: The timeliness of OMA’s publications is improved

Activities undertaken:

- Participation with the OMA in the market reconnaissance surveys of Sikasso, Koutiala, Bla, Niono, San, and Segou, June 9-12, 2007.

Intermediate results obtained:

- Publication of 2 monthly bulletins of the 2 planned for the quarter.
- Publication of 13 weekly bulletins of the 13 planned for the quarter.

Other Observations

As noted in the previous quarterly report, the pace of local-level food security planning activities slowed substantially beginning in March, and this continued throughout the second
quarter, due to the participation of local officials in the presidential and legislative election campaigns. Although there remains only one more circle-level training-of-trainers session to carry out, PROMISAM still has considerable work to complete in aiding localities in many of the regions to complete their commune-level plans and circle- and regional synthesizes. This will be the focus of the coming quarter’s work. We anticipate, however, the need to request a no-cost extension (from September 30 to December 31, 2007) to permit the orderly completion of the program of work, due to the delays resulting from the national elections.