

<p>Présidence de la République Commissariat à la Sécurité Alimentaire</p> 		<p>APCAM/MSU/USAID Projet de Mobilisation des Initiatives en matière de Sécurité Alimentaire au Mali – Phase II (PROMISAM - II)</p> <p>MICHIGAN STATE UNIVERSITY</p>
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PROMISAM - II

PROJECT TO MOBILIZE FOOD SECURITY INITIATIVES IN MALI – Phase II

(Projet de Mobilisation des Initiatives en Matière de Sécurité Alimentaire –
Phase II)

Annual Report:
December, 2008 –
September, 2009

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Project to Mobilize Food Security Initiatives in Mali—Phase II (PROMISAM II)
[Projet de Mobilisation des Initiatives en Matière de Sécurité Alimentaire au Mali]

Annual Activity Report, December, 2008-September, 2009

Strengthening the Capacity of the Malian Government to Develop Analytical and Market-Based Food Security Responses

PROJECT SUMMARY AND 2009 HIGHLIGHTS

The second phase of PROMISAM began on December 4, 2008, and is scheduled to run through November 30, 2011. This first annual report summarizes the project's activities and achievements during its first 10 months, from its inception through the end of FY 2009 (Sept. 30, 2009). Annex 1 presents the project's progress in achieving the impact indicators laid out in PROMISAM's approved Performance Management Plan.

PROMISAM II has four objectives: (i) Further enhance and develop the technical and analytical skills for the Malian food security commission (CSA) and related support agencies; (ii) assist Mali in implementing food security plans country-wide through the developing and testing of methods for monitoring plan implementation; (iii) help IPR/IFRA de Katibougou to develop an academic and practical curriculum in support of Malian educated analysts in a range of components to ensure continuing food security; and (iv) provide technical support to Mali's national team developing Mali's NEPAD/CAADP report and national compact.

MSU implements the PROMISAM II project in partnership with the Malian Food Security Commission (CSA) and the Permanent Assembly of the Malian Chambers of Agriculture (APCAM). Other key collaborators include the Institut Polytechnique Rural de Formation et de Recherche Appliquée (IPR/IFRA) de Katibougou and the Institut d'Economie Rurale (IER). PROMISAM II represents part of a larger portfolio of applied research, outreach and capacity-strengthening activities on food security implemented by MSU in Mali with funding from an array of sources, including USAID/Mali, USAID/WA, the Syngenta Foundation for Sustainable Agriculture, the William and Flora Hewlett Foundation, the Bill and Melinda Gates foundation, and ECOWAS. The non-USAID-funded work is complementary to that of PROMISAM II, thus leveraging USAID/Mali's funding.

Key achievements of the project during FY 2009 included:

- Laying the groundwork for Mali's completion of its CAADP Compact (which was signed early in FY 2010)

- Developing, with IPR/IFRA colleagues, a detailed plan for beginning degree programs in agricultural economics and food policy analysis. This plan was endorsed by all stakeholders and subsequently (early in FY 2010) officially approved by the Malian government; it is scheduled to launch in November 2009.
- Strengthening the analytic capacities of the CSA and its affiliated agencies through:
 - Organization, at the request of the Food Security Commissioner, of a retreat among Malian experts to develop a new national cereals marketing strategy. The report that emerged from this process was transmitted by the Commissioner to the Prime Minister for implementation.
 - Developing with CSA staff, at the request of the Presidency of Mali, scenarios to deal with possible food crises during the 2009 “hungry season” (*soudure*).
 - Working jointly with the agricultural market information system (OMA) to produce an outlook bulletin (*Bulletin de conjuncture*) that is widely used by the government for contingency planning for policy during the hungry season.
- Developing a strategy for developing and testing methods for local community organizations to monitor the implementation of commune-level local food security plans. The testing of the methods will be done jointly with the USAID/Mali-funded Shared Governance Program (PGP2) and the Peace Corps.

ANNUAL REPORT, FY 2009

The following sections describe PROMISAM II's major activities and accomplishments from December 3, 2008, when it began, through September 30, 2009. The activities and achievements are listed first for cross-cutting management, administrative, and outreach functions and then for each of the four project objectives. These achievements are compared with the targets set out in the project's 2009 Annual Work Plan. The report concludes with a few reflections on the year's work and implications for the FY 2010 work plan.

Copies of all the project's written outputs are available on the project website, http://aec.msu.edu/fs2/promisam_2/index.htm

Cross-cutting outreach and administrative activities

The most important cross-cutting activities and achievements included:

1. ***Project launch activities:*** Beginning in December, 2008, the project undertook a number of activities to translate the program laid out in the project proposal into a concrete set of actions. The key project launch activities included:
 - a. Completion and submission to USAID/Mali of the 2009 Annual Work Plan and the Performance Management Plan, both of which were approved.
 - b. Development of French descriptions of the project to share with Malian partners.
 - c. Recruitment of additional Bamako-based staff to implement the project as well as other non-USAID/Mali funded food security work that was also beginning at the same time. Key hires included the following people, most of whom are supported by both PROMISAM II and MSU's other Mali-based programs, which are funded by the William and Flora Hewlett Foundation, Syntenta Foundation for Sustainable Agriculture, Bill and Melinda Gates foundation, and others:
 - i. Boubacar Diallo, a Ph.D. agricultural economist and former food security program coordinator at CILSS/Institut du Sahel, who was hired in April. USAID/Mali-PROMISAM III funding is initially covering 20% of his salary, with the remainder covered by non-USAID/Mali funded activities that are complementary to the objectives of PROMISAM II. Within the PROMISAM portfolio, Dr. Diallo helps lead the studies of farmers' cereals marketing strategies and supports other capacity building activities at the CSA and IPR. His non-USAID supported activities focus primarily on regional trade, which will help put the PROMISAM-supported applied marketing studies in a broader West African context.
 - ii. Sidibé Thiam, a data management and website specialist, helps coordinate all database and website issues for the MSU team in Mali. Among her PROMISAM II-supported activities will be creation and management of a database for the applied marketing studies being carried out jointly with the Institut d'Economie Rurale and CSA, advising IPR/IFRA on computer networking and IT issues, and helping strengthen the CSA's capacity in information management.

- iii. Hamsatou Diallo, an administrative and financial assistant, who works with Maimouna Traoré, MSU's in-country chief administrative assistant.
 - d. Development, on campus, of a database program for use in Mali to track project activities and outputs in order to ensure accurate reporting.
 - e. Acquisition of project vehicles (a Toyota Land Cruiser and a Toyota Corolla) and office equipment for the expanded staff.
- 2. ***Support of USAID/Mali's and the USG's broader agricultural development agenda.*** During FY 2009, PROMISAM II staff:
 - a. Prepared briefing notes in French and English for U.S. Ambassador Gillian A. Milovanovic in preparation for her audience with Malian President Amadou Tourmani Touré (“Some Thoughts on the Strong Increases in the Prices of Cereals and the Measures Taken by Malian Authorities”).
 - b. Met with various consultants referred by USAID to discuss issues related to food security in Mali (e.g., Ndeye Fatoumata Ba from the Alliance for a Green Revolution in Africa and Florence Lasbennes from the Secretariat of the UN Special High-Level Task Force on the World Food Crisis).
 - c. Participated in a USAID/EGAT-sponsored study of the rice value chain study in Mali in June and July, and took part in a subsequent on-line forum on West African rice value chains, organized by EGAT/AG in August. Boubacar Diallo, Ramziath Adjao, Nango Dembélé, and John Staatz all made substantive contributions to the Mali study (“Global Food Security Response Case Study: Mali” by Tom Lenaghan and Salifou B. Diarra), which the authors noted in the acknowledgements.¹ The report was submitted to USAID in July. We anticipate providing continued input into a revision of this report in FY 2010.
 - d. Helped design a new approach for the Peace Corps Master's in International Development (MID) Program. MSU, like several other US universities, participates in this program in which volunteers can first enroll in a year of graduate work, then leave for their Peace Corps service and use data collected during their two years of service as a basis for their master's degree when they return to the university. One problem that universities have experienced with this program is that the volunteers cannot choose the country in which they will be placed; and this lack of prior knowledge and control about placement often makes it hard for volunteers to plan their research in advance or for their professors to obtain funds to visit the student while she/he was a volunteer in order to advise them on their study. In collaboration with Peace Corps headquarters in Washington and Peace Corps/Mali, MSU professors Eric Crawford, John Staatz, and Nango Dembélé agreed to participate in a pilot program in which MSU students in the MID program can request to be placed in Mali, where they will work with the joint PROMISAM-Peace Corps-PGP2 Food Security program described below. If this model proves successful, Peace Corps will consider

¹ “This study would not have been possible without the active participation of Michigan State University staff from the West Africa Food Security Capacity Strengthening and Research Program. In particular, Boubacar Diallo and Ramziath Adjao contributed important research on productive systems and food security. In addition, Michigan State's Nango Dembele and John Staatz provided comments and suggestions that were invaluable to the team both during the field work and in drafting stages.”

extending it to other universities that have USAID-affiliated applied research programs.

3. *Cross-cutting outreach and institutional strengthening activities:*

- a. Throughout the year, Nango Dembélé served on the Scientific Commission of the Mali's National Council of Agricultural Research, which reviews the proposals submitted by researchers at Mali's national agricultural research institute (IER) and IPR/IFRA for competitive research funding. This activity makes an important contribution to strengthening the capacity and quality of the Malian agricultural research system.
- b. Dr. Dembélé was interviewed on Dec. 8, 2008, by Radio France International and by ECOWAS TV on the food crisis in West Africa and national governments' response to it.
- c. Nango Dembélé served as a discussant at a World Bank workshop in Bamako in January, 2009, on the impact of the food crisis on poverty in Africa.

4. *TDYs to support project objectives:* During the year, MSU campus-based and Bamako-based faculty and staff undertook 14 TDYs in support of the project. Annex 2 provides details. Many of these trips were jointly funded by PROMISAM and MSU's other non-USAID/Mali food security projects.

Objective 1: Enhancing the technical and analytical skills of the CSA and related support agencies

The 2009 work plan called for PROMISAM to carry out seven activities in support of objective 1 (see Table 1).² Major progress was made on six of the seven activities; the one exception was the holding of the methodological workshop on food security analysis with the CSA staff. This workshop has been deferred until 2010. The delay came about because other components of PROMISAM II's program, particularly the CAADP component (described under objective 4 below) required more time and effort than originally anticipated.

Key achievements under objective 1 included the following:

Targets 1.1 and 1.2: Strengthening the analytic capacity and providing training to the CSA and its collaborating agencies:

1. **Ongoing analytic support and advice to the CSA.** Although not listed as one of the 7 specific targets in Table 1, one of the most important contributions of PROMISAM II has been its ongoing interaction with the CSA's leadership and staff. PROMISAM II staff and campus-based faculty have participated with CSA colleagues in major debates regarding food policy in Mali and, in the process, worked with them to craft policy options. These activities strengthened the CSA's analytic capacity through a "learning by doing" process. The most important project contributions in this area included:

² The 2009 approved work plan for 2009 covers the entire calendar year 2009. At the request of USAID/Mali, in October, 2009, PROMISAM II shifted its reporting to a fiscal year (October-September) basis. Thus, not all of the activities laid out in the 2009 work plan were scheduled to be completed by September 2009. Table 1 shows the activities programmed through the end of September 2009.

Table 1. Progress in Achieving 2009 Work Plan Targets, Objective 1

Work Plan Target	2009									Progress as of 9/30/09	
	Jan	Feb	Mar	Apr	May	Jun	Jul	Aug	Sep		
I. Further Enhance and Develop Technical and Analytical Skills for the CSA and related support agencies.											
1.1 Strengthening analysis and planning capacity within the CSA											
1.A1: Needs assessment	■	■									Completed
1.A2: Training module development		■	■	■							Draft completed; being revised in early FY 2010
1.A3: Training planned and carried out				■	■	■	■	■	■	■	Completed for communication staff, deferred for the rest of CSA for FY10
1.A4: Workshop for Commissioner & key advisors			■								Marketing Retreat completed; other training to continue in 2010
1.A5: Study tour for Commissioner and key advisors							■				Postponed until April 2010
1.2 CSA collaborating agencies trained											
1.A6: Needs assessment		■	■								Completed
1.A7: Training materials developed				■	■	■					Completed for OMA; further work planned with SAP and CT-CPSA for 2010
1.A8: Training planned and carried out				■	■	■	■	■	■	■	Completed for OMA; further work planned with SAP and CT-CPA for 2010
1.3 Methodology workshop											
1.A9: Training materials developed				■	■	■					Deferred until FY 2010
1.A10: Identify participants								■	■		Deferred until FY 2010
1.A11: Workshop organized and held									■	■	Deferred until FY 2010
1.4 Identify economists to work with the CSA											
1.A12: Identify economists	■	■									Completed
1.A13: Economists' computers/office furniture provided			■	■	■						Had offices and computers; will provide additional software
1.A14: Involvement of Economists in CSA studies			■	■	■	■	■	■	■	■	Begun
1.5 Marketing studies											
1.A15: Study topics identified			■								Completed
1.A16: Planning and implementation											
- Study 1:	■	■	■	■	■	■	■	■	■	■	Begun
- Study 2:	■	■	■	■	■	■	■	■	■	■	Begun
- Study 3:											Planned for FY10
1.6 Equipment updates											
1.A17: Needs assessment	■	■									Completed
1.A18: Purchase and installation			■	■	■	■	■	■	■	■	Completed
1.7 SNSA awareness campaign											
1.A19: Identify themes		■	■								Begun during Segou retreat and modified to include upgrade of website, which was completed; further work deferred to 2010
1.A20: Campaign plans developed				■	■						
1.A21: Campaign plans implemented						■	■	■	■	■	

- a. Participation of Dembélé, Traoré, and Staatz in a February 13 meeting in Bamako to validate the SAP's report on the outcome of the 2008/09 agricultural production year. The meeting was chaired by the Food Security Commissioner, with the participation of the national WFP director, coordinator of the donors' group on food security. The discussions focused on the factors that explained the high staple food prices (particularly for rice) in spite of the high level of production announced by the government. The debate was fundamental in changing the Commissioner's views about the causes of the high prices and the nature of the food security challenges facing Mali.
 - b. Participation in meetings of the statutory bodies in charge of establishing food security policy for Mali. PROMISAM II's contributions included Abdramane Traoré's participation in the annual meeting of the Comité de Coordination et de Suivi des Programmes de Sécurité Alimentaire on March 25, 2009 and Nango Dembélé's assistance to the CSA in the preparation of the meeting of National Food Security Council, which he also subsequently attended (on May 28). The meeting was chaired by the Minister of Agriculture on behalf of the Prime Minister.
 - c. In July, 2009, Nango Dembélé carried out, with the Observatoire du Marché Agricole (OMA), a rapid reconnaissance study of cereal markets in the main surplus-producing areas. The results were used to produce the joint PROMISAM II -OMA *Bulletin de conjuncture*, which is a key document used by the CSA and the Cabinet to analyze the current food situation and make policy decisions regarding food marketing and trade during the hungry season (the *soudure*).
 - d. In July, in response to a request to the CSA from the Presidency of Mali, Nango Dembélé, Salif Diarra of the OMA and Mme. Dicko Bassa Diané (head of the CSA's marketing unit) carried out scenario analyses of possible market trends that could emerge during the annual hungry season (soudure) and policy options under the different scenarios.
 - e. PROMISAM II/MSU staff provided ongoing advice to the Commissioner on management of the cereals market situation in Mali, including import policy.
2. **Needs assessments and subsequent training/workshops:**
- a. A very important PROMISAM activity, which combined both analytic support to the CSA and a training component, was the organization on April 1 of a one-day retreat to identify elements that should go into a new national cereals marketing strategy for Mali. The retreat was organized at the request of the Food Security Commissioner. It brought together over 30 Malian experts and stakeholders from the public and private sectors to identify key constraints and opportunities in the cereals marketing system in Mali, with the objective of developing proposals for improvements to be implemented during the 2009/10 marketing system. The retreat developed a draft report, and PROMISAM identified and hired two Malian consultants who finalized the strategy document over the following two weeks, collaborating with a small committee of workshop participants. The report was submitted to the CSA in mid-April, and the Commissioner subsequently submitted the document to the Prime Minister's office in May. The retreat documents are available at: http://aec.msu.edu/fs2/promisam_2/index.htm#conference

- b. In the first quarter of 2009, the project carried out a training needs assessment of the CSA and its affiliated organizations (OMA, SAP, and CT-CSPA).
- c. The training requested by the OMA for its enumerators on use of programmable mobile phones for market data transmission was carried out in August and September. This involved teaching the enumerators techniques developed under a related MSU market information project funded by the Hewlett Foundation. The first training session took place in Mopti on August 10-14 for enumerators from northern and eastern Mali, and the second (for enumerators from other regions of Mali) took place in Segou on September 9-13.
- d. Initial training of CSA staff in policy analysis took place through the participation of Mme. Dicko Bassa Diané (the head of the CSA's Département Promotion des Échanges) and Mr. Boh Koné (the economist at the PRMC—one of the two economists in the CSA system) in the June 17-18 methodological workshop on price transmission and calculation of import and export parity prices that MSU organized in Bamako under its Syngenta Foundation project. Mme. Dicko and Mr. Koné are now also part of the network of national researchers (from Guinea, Mali, Senegal, Côte d'Ivoire and Niger) who attended the workshop and are carrying out price analysis studies, and hence they will be seeing/reviewing those studies and “learning while doing” food policy analysis. Additional training sessions for the CSA staff (including the methodological workshop) and for the SAP and the CT-CPSA will take place in FY 2010.
- e. On the MSU campus, John Staatz worked with a Hubert Humphrey Fellow from Haiti, Jean Claude Cenatus, to prepare a first draft of training materials in French on food policy analysis for use in training sessions with the CSA staff. These materials will be finalized in FY 2010.

Target 1.3: Methodology workshop. This activity has been deferred until FY 2010. A first draft of some of the training material has been developed.

Target 1.4: Identify economists to work with the CSA

When the project was designed, MSU anticipated that it would be necessary to recruit economists from other structures to work with the CSA. However, early in the implementation, PROMISAM II identified three economists working within the CSA system, obviating the need for the Commission to hire additional staff. The individuals identified are Tagalfi Maïga, who works in the CSA's Département Promotion des Echanges; Boh Koné, who works for the PRMC, and Bakary Sékou Coulibaly, who manages IFAD-funded projects with the CSA. Two of the economists, Maïga and Koné, were available to work with PROMISAM II and have been and will continue to be involved in many of the project's activities, including the marketing studies discussed below. Since they already had offices and computers, the project did not need to provide these, but will provide them with additional software and training in its use as needed.

Target 1.5: Marketing studies

The proposed marketing studies have two objectives: to improve the empirical basis for grain marketing policy formulation by the CSA and to provide in-service training for CSA colleagues, particularly the two economists, in carrying out market analysis. Important achievements during FY 2009 included:

1. In partnership with the CSA and the Institut d'Economie Rurale (IER – Mali's national agricultural research institute), PROMISAM II began two major studies on cereals marketing in Mali. During the year, the first round of a major study of farmers' grain production and marketing strategies in three regions of the country (Koutiala, Tominian, and Macina) was undertaken in collaboration with IER. This study, which is jointly financed by PROMISAM II and a grant to MSU from the Bill and Melinda Gates Foundation, aims at updating information from the 1980s (when the last comprehensive studies of this type were done in Mali) on farmers' marketing and household food security strategies. The study, which will involve four rounds of surveys of 450 households through June, 2010, began in May in the Koutiala zone and was launched in the other two zones in June. By the end of September, the first round of data collection was completed and data were being entered and cleaned. MSU data management specialist Margaret Beaver traveled to Mali in August to work with the PROMISAM and IER team in designing improved data entry and cleaning procedures and training the team in their use.
2. From April through September, 2009, PROMISAM II hosted a guest graduate student, Nadège Mbomi, from the Institut des Régions Chaudes in Montpellier, France, whose thesis topic analyzes the performance and impact of CSA's cereals banks. In August and September, she carried out her field research. The study will contribute to a better understanding of how the cereal banks affect market performance in selected rural areas.

Target 1.6: Provision of computer equipment to the CSA and affiliated services

During the first two quarters of the project, PROMISAM II carried out a study of the computer and related equipment needs of the CSA and three of its affiliated services: the market information system (OMA), the early warning system (SAP), and the Technical Committee for the Coordination of Food Security Policies (CT-CSPA). In response to the identified needs, the project acquired the needed equipment, and on June 18, in a ceremony at the CSA attended by representatives of USAID and by the Food Security Commissioner, the equipment was officially turned over to the CSA. The equipment included 22 desktop and 37 notebook computers, 10 printers, and assorted other equipment. Malian press and television covered the ceremony.

Just one month after the ceremony, on July 19, the CSA reported the theft of 18 of the notebook computers and one multifunctional printer from a room in the CSA headquarters where the equipment had been stored. The Malian police have undertaken an investigation (which has been covered extensively by the Malian press). To date, there have been three arrests, but none of the stolen equipment has been recovered. The Commissioner has written both to USAID/Mali and to the Presidency reporting on efforts to identify those responsible and to recover the equipment.

Target 1.7: Support the CSA's SNSA Awareness Campaign

This activity involves helping the CSA improve the public's knowledge of Mali's National Food Security Strategy in order to build support for its implementation. During the year, PROMISAM II carried out two activities in support of this target:

1. Abdramane Traoré participated in a CSA workshop held in Segou on April 28-29 to develop improvements to the Commission's communication and information strategy.
2. PROMISAM II provided support for the redesign of the CSA's website and the training of staff in the CSA's Communication Department to manage and update it. The new website will launch early in FY 2010, and CSA is now capable of maintaining and updating the site in-house.

Objective 2: Helping develop methods for monitoring the implementation of local food security plans

The development of tools to monitor the implementation of the commune-level food security plans is designed to be a joint activity between PROMISAM II, the CSA, the USAID/Mali-funded PGP2 (Shared Governance Program) and the new Peace Corps/Mali Food Security Program. MSU/PROMISAM II team will work with the PGP2 team to train local officials and affiliated NGOs and Peace Corps volunteers in monitoring the implementation of the local plans using a set of tools and associated materials developed by PROMISAM II. Once the plans have been tested and refined by the PROMISAM II–CSA team in an initial set of 30 communes, PGP2 and Peace Corps will extend the techniques to the all 80 communes where PGP2 plans to work. Specific 2009 targets for work in support of this objective, from the annual work plan, are shown in table 2.

Carrying out the training of local communities in the monitoring of the local plan implementation during FY 2009 was delayed by three factors: the need to wait for the new PGP2 team to be selected by USAID/Mali and be put in place, the need for Peace Corps to receive and train its new cohort of volunteers who will work on the program, and the holding of local elections in Mali in April and May. It made little sense to carry out the training of local officials before the elections, as most were busy with their electoral campaign and because some of them were likely to be replaced as a result of the elections, leading to the need to then train a new group of local elected officials. Nonetheless, PROMISAM II undertook a number of actions during the year that laid the groundwork for effective implementation of the training in FY 2010:

Table 2. Progress in Achieving 2009 Work Plan Targets, Objective 2

	2009									Progress as of 9/30/09
	Jan	Feb	Mar	Apr	May	Jun	Jul	Aug	Sep	
2. Assistance in Implementing Food Security Plans Country-wide.										Sub-components of this activity were deferred because of the election
2.1 Evaluate current status of plan implementation										
2.A1: Evaluation method developed		■	■							Completed
2.A2: Information, planning and training missions			■	■	■					Planning in progress
2.A3: Training sessions						■	■	■		Deferred until FY 2010
2.A4: Signed contracts for evaluation work								■		Deferred until FY 2010
2.A5: Contract monitoring and followup								■	■	Deferred until FY 2010
2.2 Planning of joint MSU and USAID/Decentralization Team activities										
2.A6: Meeting calendar set up		■	■							Begun and on-going
2.A7: Planning and carrying joint activities out.				■	■	■	■	■	■	Begun and on-going
2.A8: Identification of performance indicators for plan implementation					■	■				Completed -see training material
2.A9: Data, frequency and methods identified						■	■	■		Deferred until FY 2010

1. PROMISAM II hired Harouna Koné, of the *Direction Nationale de la Statistique et de l'Informatique* (DNSI), a highly experienced evaluation specialist, as a local consultant to develop training materials for use with local communities on how to carry out program implementation monitoring. The materials (a training manual and PowerPoint presentation) were developed incorporating comments from PROMISAM II staff and will be used in the collaborative program involving PROMISAM, the CSA, PGP2, and the Peace Corps.
2. PROMISAM II staff participated in numerous meetings with the USAID/Mali governance team, Peace Corps, and PGP2 staff in order to design an approach to carry out the work together and to identify the communes where the methods would be tested. A list of 30 communes in Gao, Tomboctou, Mopti, Kayes, Sikasso, Segou, and Koulikoro regions were selected in for the initial work (see Annex 3). Twenty of the 30 communes are among the 166 communes classified by the CSA as “most vulnerable.” The Millennium Village Program (MVP) is planning to use the 166 most vulnerable communes to scale up its pilot efforts in Mali. We anticipate that the MVP will base its food-security related initiatives in these communes on the local plans, as the MVP scale-up, known in Mali as the “Initiative 166”, is being implemented through the CSA. Thus, the monitoring methods developed by PROMISAM II, PGP2, and Peace Corps will likely also be incorporated into the Initiative 166.

Objective 3: Helping IPR/IFRA de Katibougou develop an academic and practical curriculum in Agricultural Economics and Food Policy Analysis

During the year, PROMISAM II and IPR/IFRA colleagues made major progress in translating into reality the desire of Malian leaders to create a university-level program in agricultural economics and food policy analysis (see table 3). The country has a strong need for graduates in these areas if it is to realize its ambitions of becoming an agricultural powerhouse in West Africa by 2012. Key achievements during the year included:

1. Agreement with IPR/IFRA to merge what had heretofore been two separate IPR/IFRA initiatives (plans to create a program in agricultural policy analysis and plans to create a major in Agricultural Economics) into a single initiative. This initiative planned an academic program in Agricultural Economics, with specializations in policy analysis and agribusiness. The aims of this merger were to concentrate resources and create a firmer analytic base for work at IPR/IFRA in policy analysis as well as produce graduates that have the skills to needed by Mali's growing agribusiness sector.
2. Carrying out a study of the demand for and supply of agricultural economists in Mali. Such a study was necessary in order to determine the level of demand for potential graduates of the program and the skill sets needed by employers. The study was also needed in order to identify potential teachers and guest lecturers for the program. PROMISAM II contracted a team of three Malian consultants (two faculty members from IPR/IFRA and one independent specialist in Education) to carry out the study. Their draft report was extensively reviewed by Bamako-based and campus-based MSU faculty, and those comments were incorporated in the revised report.
3. The consultant team also produced a draft curricular plan, and that plan and the revised "Demand and Supply" study became the main background documents for a stakeholder workshop held in Katibougou in July to review the proposed program.
4. The holding of a program validation workshop in Katibougou in July, 2009. MSU faculty members Brent Ross and Scott Loveridge and graduate assistant Amadou Diallo traveled to Mali to help prepare and participate in the workshop, which was held to discuss, amend, and validate the proposed program. They also participated in follow-up discussions and helped revise the proposed program so that it focuses more on key skills, orients it more towards the needs of the private sector, and delivers the material at roughly 2/3 the cost of the original design. Diallo also carried out further follow-up interviews with several agricultural and food processing firms in Bamako to assess their potential demand for graduates of the program.
5. The program that emerged from the validation workshop was officially approved and authorized by the Malian government in early October, 2009, and the first class of 30 undergraduates in the agricultural economics major will begin classes at Katibougou in November.
6. Several of the targets listed in the second half of table 3 have been deferred to FY2010. It was felt by both IPR/IFRA and MSU that priority needed to be given to planning the curriculum and launching the program in FY 2009. We anticipate major progress with respect to these other targets in 2010, and MSU will send a team of three campus-based faculty to Mali in early December to work with IPR colleagues on many of these issues.

Table 3. Progress in Achieving 2009 Work Plan Targets, Objective 3										
Work Plan Target	2009									Progress as of 9/30/09
	Jan	Feb	Mar	Apr	May	Jun	Jul	Aug	Sep	
3. Development of an Academic and Practical Curriculum for the University of Bamako/ IPR Katibougou										Courses in economics will start in FY10
3.A1: Analysis of needed skill sets		■	■	■						Completed
3.A2: Carrying out an inventory/census of human resources in Mali		■	■	■	■	■	■	■	■	Completed
3.A3: Workshop to validate study of demand and supply of ag. economists in Mali & its implications for program design					■					Completed
3.A4: External advisory panel					■	■	■			To be carried out in FY2010
3.A35: Development of a curriculum			■	■	■	■	■	■	■	Begun; in progress
3.A6: Upgrading computer equipment/systems			■	■	■	■	■	■		To be carried out in FY2010
3.A7: Plan for additional training/recruitment									■	To be carried out in FY2010
3.A8: Faculty/graduate student exchanges							■	■	■	To be carried out in FY2010
3.A9: IPR/IFRA faculty member to study at MSU is identified and begins program at MSU			■						■	To be carried out in FY2010
3.A10: Development of a guest lecture series								■	■	To be carried out in FY2010

Objective 4: Providing technical support to Mali's NEPAD/CAADP team

Given the importance of the CAADP process to both Mali and to USAID (as part of the USG's Global Food Security Response) and the tight deadlines involved to complete the national roundtable by the end of 2009, PROMISAM II devoted much of its energy in FY 2009 to supporting Mali's CAADP process. This set of work took more time than originally anticipated, but it was also the area in which the project achieved its most complete success, with all the targets set in the 2009 work plan met (table 4). MSU's ability to support the CAADP process was enhanced by the participation of faculty members Nango Dembélé, Boubacar Diallo, and John Staatz in an international team that was also helping ECOWAS, under non-USAID/Mali funding, to design its West African regional CAADP plan. This participation enabled MSU to help streamline the national CAADP process in Mali and ensure that the Malian plan was consistent with the principles laid out in the regional CAADP/ECOWAP plan.

In addition to providing technical support to the Malian analysts developing the plan, PROMISAM II expended considerable efforts in order to ensure that administratively and substantively the Mali CAADP effort proceeded in a coordinated way, both on the Malian and the donor side. Among the project's key concerns were assuring that: (a) administrative processes of the two Malian ministries most directly involved (the Ministry of African Integration and of Malians Abroad, and the Ministry of Agriculture) were working smoothly so that the national consultants were not delayed in carrying out their work and (b) representatives of Mali's technical and financial partners (PTF) and key decision makers within the Malian government were fully informed about the CAADP process. The latter concern arose in part because the PTF, in conjunction with the Planning and Statistics Unit (CPS) for rural development, were also strongly involved in a second process, Mali's Sectoral Review of Rural Development, which had at its aim the development of a national agricultural investment strategy—the same objective as the CAADP process. PROMISAM shared information about the two processes so as to try to avoid duplication of effort and the creation of two parallel agricultural strategy development processes within Malian government. In order to address these as well as the technical needs of the Malian CAADP team, PROMISAM II undertook the following activities:

1. **Technical support to the national team** in carrying out its diagnostic and prospective studies, including Computable General Equilibrium (CGE) modeling of the impacts of different investment and agricultural growth scenarios on the achievement of the Millennium Development Goal of halving poverty by 2015. This support included:
 - a. Providing the modeler with a social accounting matrix for Mali, which he needed to carry out the modeling.
 - b. Working with the Ministries of Agriculture and of African Integration to arrange for the Malian CAADP consultant, Mr. Abdrahmane Berthé, to attend a workshop in Dakar in April on simulation modeling techniques. The workshop was hosted by IFPRI and was aimed at helping the local consultants from the various countries to carry out computable general equilibrium simulations of various agricultural investment options.
 - c. Providing numerous reviews of draft reports.

- d. Dembélé and Staatz participated in numerous meetings with the national team, other national teams, IFPRI, and ReSAKSS (in Bamako, Dakar, and Accra) to plan the implementation of the CAADP process leading up to the national roundtable and its coordination with the regional ECOWAS CAADP process.
 - e. Nango Dembélé participated in the national CAADP retreat, held in Segou in August on 14-19. He provided substantial review and feedback of the draft documents. The Segou retreat/workshop produced first drafts of a consolidated diagnostic report (that merged elements of the Sectoral Review studies and an earlier CAADP/Mali diagnostic report), reviewed the first simulation study of the impact of different investments and agricultural growth rates on attaining the Millennium Development Goals, and drafted the brochures and briefs to be presented at the CAADP national roundtable.
2. **Facilitated coordination within the Malian government and with the PTF on the CAADP process.** These activities included:
- a. Nango Dembélé and Aliou Konaté (CPS of Rural Development and part of the national CAADP team) briefed the PTF on March 12 about the CAADP process. The meeting led to agreement by the PTF for the need to harmonize the CAADP and Sectoral Review processes.
 - b. In March, John Staatz and Nango Dembélé briefed the Minister of African Integration and of Africans Abroad on progress achieved thus far by the CAADP technical team in developing Mali's CAADP plan. The minister pledged his strong support of the process.
 - c. In June, Nango Dembélé and John Staatz met with the Prime Minister and his main agricultural advisors to brief them on the two parallel processes and to urge that the two efforts be harmonized. Subsequent action by the Prime Minister's office was instrumental in leading to the development of a consolidated national agricultural investment plan, which combined the best elements of the CAADP program and the Sectoral Review.
 - d. MSU worked with USAID/Mali to arrange an invitation for Fousseyni Mariko, the director of the Cellule de Planification et de Statistique (CPS) of Rural Development, and a key supervisor of both the CAADP and Sectoral Review processes, to attend a USAID/AFR meeting in early September in Addis Ababa to discuss the CAADP process. His participation helped to further consolidate Mali's planning for the national compact.
3. **Participation in the final preparations for the national CAADP roundtable.** In anticipation of the national CAADP roundtable (which was held on October 12-13, 2009), PROMISAM II staff participated in the following final preparatory meetings:
- a. Meeting with national stakeholders in Bamako on September 24, which led to national approval of the roundtable documents.
 - b. Meeting with the PTF in Bamako on September 30, where the draft documents were discussed and comments received for revision prior to the roundtable.

Now that Mali has signed its CAADP Compact, MSU and USAID/Mali anticipate developing, in next year's work plan, further PROMISAM II analytic efforts to support the implementation of the program.

Table 4. Progress in Achieving 2009 Work Plan Targets, Objective 4										
Work Plan Target	2009									Progress as of 9/30/09
	Jan	Feb	Mar	Apr	May	Jun	Jul	Aug	Sep	
4. Completion of the Mali Round Table through support to the committee on the development of the CAADP Program										
4.A1: Help organize periodic consultations										Completed
4.A2: Technical support to compact development										Completed
4.A3: Help the Malian secretariat in its coordination role										Completed
4.A4: Participate in national and regional meetings related to the development and implementation of the CAADP compact										Completed

Concluding Remarks

PROMISAM II achieved notable successes in FY 2009, particularly with respect to CAADP and the launching of the agricultural economics program at IPR/IFRA. Nonetheless, not all the targets of the ambitious 2009 Annual Work Plan were met. In part, this reflected unexpected delays in hiring additional staff in early 2009 to implement the program. PROMISAM II is now fully staffed in Bamako and more campus-based faculty members are now engaged in the program, so we anticipate making up these delays in FY 2010.

As we go forward, two additional areas of work are likely to emerge in FY 2010 that were not anticipated in the original project design:

- Additional analytic work to lay the groundwork for the implementation of the programs covered in Mali's signed national CAADP Compact.
- Facilitating greater regional exports of Mali's agricultural products (particularly grains and livestock), especially through the organization of a Senegal-Mali border conference, to be co-financed with the Economic Growth Project supported by USAID/Senegal.

Early in FY 2010, MSU will be working with USAID/Mali to include these activities in the 2010 work plan.

**Annex 1. PROMISAM II's 2009 Impact Indicator Performance
(Indicators taken from PROMISAM II's Approved Management Performance Plan)**

Program Element and Indicator	Number achieved in 2009	IEHA Indicator Compatibility	Description
Program Support/Program Design and Learning Indicators			
1. Number of Baseline or Feasibility Studies	1		Study of demand and supply of ag economists in Mali and feasibility of launching an ag econ program at IPR
2. Number of Evaluations	0		Evaluations of the state of implementation of local food security plans - <i>Planned for FY 2010</i>
3. Number of Information Gathering or Research Activities	2		Applied marketing and production studies; Participation in "Bulletin de conjuncture" rapid reconnaissance missions
4. Number of Monitoring Plans	0		Local food security plan monitoring plans developed – <i>Planned for FY 2010</i>
5. Number of People Trained in Monitoring and Evaluation	0		Number of local officials, CSA staff, and Peace Corps volunteers trained in food security plan monitoring and evaluation- <i>Planned for FY 2010</i>
6. Number of Sector Assessments	1		CAADP Diagnostic study

Annex 1 (continued)

Program Element and Indicator	Number achieved in 2009	IEHA Indicator Compatibility	Description
EG 2.1: Trade and Investment Enabling Environment			
7. Number of Consultative Processes with Private Sector as a Result of USG Assistance	1	IR3	Marketing Strategy Retreat organized with CSA
8. Number of USG Supported Training Events Held That Related to Improving the Trade and Investment Environment	1	IR3	1. Training of OMA enumerators in data transmission with cell phones
9. Number of Participants in Trade and Investment Environment Trainings	38 (37 men and 1 woman)	IR3	OMA enumerators trained in data transmission via cell phones
EG 5.1 Agriculture Enabling Environment			
10. Number of Institutions/organizations Undergoing Capacity/Competency Assessments as a Result of USG Assistance	4	IR 2	Training needs assessment of CSA and affiliated agencies (OMA, SAP, CT-CSPA)
11. Number of Institutions/organizations Making Significant Improvements Based on Recommendations Made via USG Supported Assessment	2	IR 2	Improved CSA web page design and improved data transmission via SMS at OMA
12. Number of Individuals Who Have Received USG Supported Short-term Agricultural Enabling Environment Training (Disaggregated by Gender)	4 (2 women and 2 men)	Output indicator	1. CSA Communications staff trained in Web Page Design. 2. Two CSA analysts trained in parity price analysis

Annex 1 (continued)

Program Element and Indicator	Number achieved in 2009	IEHA Indicator Compatibility	Description
13. Number of Individuals Who Have Received USG Supported Long Term Agricultural Enabling Environment Training (Disaggregated by Gender)	3 (one man and two women)	Output indicator	Two Malian graduate research assistants at MSU (Amadou Diallo and Mariam Sako), plus one long-term intern from Cameroon hosted by the project (e.g., Nadège Mbomi)
14. Number of Policies/regulations/administrative Procedures Analyzed as a Result of USG Assistance	2	IR2	1. CAADP diagnostic document 2. Marketing strategy document
15. Number of Policy Reforms/regulations/administrative Procedures Drafted and Presented for Public/stakeholder Consultation as a Result of USG Assistance	2	IR2	1. CAADP Compact. 2. Marketing reforms presented in draft report to Prime Minister from CSA
16. Number of Policy Reforms/regulations/administrative Procedures Prepared with USG Assistance Passed/approved	P1	IR2	CAADP compact signed
17. Number of Institutions/organizations Undergoing Capacity/competency Assessments as a Result of USG Assistance	4	IR2	CSA and affiliated agencies (OMA, SAP, CT-CSPA)
18. Number of Institutions/organizations Mature/viable in the Competency Areas Strengthened as a Result of USG Assistance	2	IR2	1. OMA: data transmission via SMS 2. CSA communication staff capacity to update the web page

Annex 1 (continued)

Program Element and Indicator	Number achieved in 2009	IEHA Indicator Compatibility	Description
EG 5.2 Agricultural Sector Productivity			
19. Number of New Technologies or Management Practices under Research as a Result of USG Assistance	1	IR1	Improved MIS technology for data transmission
20. Number of New Technologies or Management Practices under Field Testing as a Result of USG Assistance	1	IR1	Improved MIS technology for data transmission
21. Number of New Technologies or Management Practices Made Available for Transfer as a Result of USG Assistance	1	IR1	Improved MIS technology for data transmission
22. Number of Vulnerable Households Benefitting Directly from USG Assistance	0	IR1	Number of vulnerable households in the 30 communes where the food security local plan monitoring is developed and tested. - <i>Planned for FY 2010</i>
24. Number of Rural Households Benefitting Directly from USG Interventions	0	IR1	Number of total households in the 30 communes where the food security local plan monitoring is developed and tested. - <i>Planned for FY 2010</i>
25. Number of Individuals Who Have Received USG Supported Short Term Agricultural Sector Productivity Training	0	Output indicator	IPR faculty members who do short-term training at MSU on course development.- <i>Planned for FY 2010</i>

Annex 1 (continued)

Program Element and Indicator	Number achieved in 2009	IEHA Indicator Compatibility	Description
26. Number of Individuals Who Have Received USG Supported Long Term Agricultural Sector Productivity Training	0	Output indicator	Graduate students (mainly Malian) trained at MSU in agricultural technology under project; Number of IPR students enrolled in ag econ/policy analysis program. - <i>Planned for FY 2010</i> Need to coordinate measurement of this indicator with indicator 13 to avoid double counting.

Annex 2. PROMISAM II TDYs during FY 2009

The following TDYs were carried out in support of the project objectives during the quarter. Many of the TDYs were co-financed by MSU's non-USAID/Mali food security projects in Mali, as the MSU staff frequently combined trips to work on more than one project.

Jan. 31-Feb. 14, 2009: Duncan Boughton from East Lansing to Mali. Worked on project administrative issues, design of survey instruments, and review of IPR/IFRA activities.

Jan. 31-Feb. 21, 2009: John Staatz from East Lansing to Mali and Senegal. Worked on project administrative issues, meetings with CSA on food pricing issues, research design, design of IPR/IFRA program and study of demand and supply of agricultural economists, and support of the CAADP process (including participation in the Dakar meetings).

March 23-April 2, 2009. John Staatz from East Lansing to Mali. Helped organize and participated in the CSA retreat on developing a new national cereals marketing strategy, interviewed prospective new staff members (Diallo and Thiam), consulted with IPR/IFRA staff on the design of the study of the demand and supply of agricultural economists in Mali and plans for the July workshop, briefed the Minister of African Integration and of Africans Abroad on progress with the CAADP process, and handled project administrative issues.

March 23-March 30, 2009. Duncan Boughton from East Lansing to Mali. Worked on project administrative issues, design of survey instruments, and review of IPR/IFRA activities. TDY ended earlier than expected due to a family medical emergency.

June 4-27, 2009. Ramziath Adjao (Graduate Research Assistant)- (Trip funded 50% PROMISAM II; 50% Syngenta Foundation project): PROMISAM II component involved working with the MSU Bamako-based team (especially Boubacar Diallo) and the DAI and Abt-Associates teams that were carrying out the EGAT/GFSR funded study on the rice value chain study for Mali.

June 9-13, 2009. Nango Dembele and John Staatz (MSU faculty members) – to Dakar on to participate, with the Mali CAADP team, in a regional meeting organized by ECOWAS and IFPRI to develop and adopt a new timetable of activities leading to the national CAADP roundtables.

June 13-20, 2009. John Staatz to Bamako. Trip co-financed by PROMISAM II (30%) and Syngenta Foundation project on West African agricultural integration (70%). PROMISAM activities included: (a) Working with MSU team that participated in the rice value-chain study; (b) consulting with IPR/IFRA colleagues on progress to date in preparing the July workshop on the agricultural economics program, (c) discussing with the CSA colleagues how to advance the proposed new national cereals marketing strategy, (d) working with CSA colleagues who participated in Syngenta-funded workshop on developing their skills in price analysis and calculation of import- and export-parity prices.

June 20, 2009 through July 1, 2009. Eric Crawford (MSU faculty member) (1/3 PROMISAM; 2/3 Syngenta): PROMISAM activities included: (a) working with the MSU team that participated in the rice value-chain study; (b) consulting with IPR/IFRA colleagues on progress to date in preparing the planned July workshop on the agricultural economics program, (c) helping to define the Agricultural Economics training model needed by IPR. The French model emphasizes first a general training in agriculture and then amends to it some economics courses, while the US model puts more emphasis on economics, and then adds applications to agriculture. It was agreed that the model needed at IPR will be a hybrid of the two.

July 11-August, 25, 2009. Amadou Diallo (MSU graduate research assistant). Trip jointly financed by PROMISAM II (1/3) Syngenta-Foundation funded project on regional agricultural integration (1/3) and the Bill and Melinda Gates foundation funded study of cereals marketing in West Africa (1/3). PROMISAM II activities involved working with Mali-based staff, IPR/IFRA staff, and MSU faculty (Loveridge and Ross) in preparing for, carrying out and following up the IPR workshop to validate plans for the new Agricultural Economics program and in carrying out follow-up interviews with private-sector firms about their potential demands for graduates from the program. Mr. Diallo has an undergraduate degree in agribusiness management from MSU and hence is well placed to help evaluate content for similar courses in Mali.

July 16-23, 2009. Brent Ross (MSU faculty member). Participated in the IPR/IFRA workshop to review its proposed degree programs in agricultural economics and follow-up discussions after the workshop with IPR/IFRA colleagues on next steps to implement the program, including strengthening of IPR/IFRA faculty skills in agricultural economics.

July 16-28, 2009. Scott Loveridge (MSU faculty member and director of the graduate program in agricultural, food and resource economics at MSU). Dr. Loveridge participated in the IPR/IFRA workshop to review the proposed degree programs in agricultural economics and worked with IPR/IFRA colleagues after the workshop to refine the design of the proposed program in light of comments received.

August 9-19, 2009. Margaret Beaver (MSU programmer and data management specialist). Trip jointly financed (50/50) by PROMISAM II and the Gates-foundation funded project on cereals marketing. She worked with the project data management and research personnel to launch the data entry activities for the joint PROMISAM II-Gates foundation funded panel study of farmers' marketing strategies. Her activities included: a) training project staff and IER collaborators in the use of the data entry template she designed, b) making modifications to the template as needed during the initial data entry process and training project staff to make future modifications, c) developing initial data cleaning routines that can be implemented by the project staff; and d) training project staff in procedures for data management, data base documentation, and data cleaning used by MSU in similar types of surveys.

August 21-September 13 (including personal leave time). **Nango Dembele to East Lansing for annual food security planning retreat** . 39% of costs covered by PROMISAM II; the rest was covered by MSU food security projects funded by non- USAID sources. He participated in the MSU food security team retreat for annual program planning and also met with campus-

based faculty and administrative staff to plan specific activities, administrative support and analyses for the West Africa work.

**Annex 3 – List of Communes Selected Jointly with PGP2 and Peace Corps Mali for
Development and Testing of System for Monitoring the Implementation of Local
Food Security Plans**

N°	REGION	CERCLE	COMMUNE
1	Gao	Gao	Gabéro
2	Gao	Gao	Soni-Aliber
3	Koulikoro	Kati	Bougoula
4	Koulikoro	Kati	Sanankoro-Djitoumou
5	Koulikoro	Kati	Diogare
6	Koulikoro	Dioila	Massigui
7	Koulikoro	Dioila	Benko
8	Mopti	Bandiagara	Dandoli
9	Mopti	Djenne	Madiama
10	Mopti	Mopti	Fatoma
11	Mopti	Mopti	Konna
12	Mopti	Mopti	Korombana
13	Ségou	Niono	Diabaly
14	Ségou	Niono	Dogofry
15	Ségou	Niono	Siribala
16	Ségou	Niono	Sirifila-Boundy
17	Ségou	Ségou	Boussin
18	Ségou	Ségou	Cinzana
19	Sikasso	Bougouni	Domba
20	Sikasso	Kadiolo	Loulouni
21	Sikasso	Koutiala	Zangasso
22	Sikasso	Sikasso	Farakala
23	Sikasso	Sikasso	Kléla
24	Tombouctou	Goundam	Tonka
25	Tombouctou	Tombouctou	Bourem-inaly
26	Kayes	Diéma	Bema
27	Kayes	Diéma	Gomitradougou
28	Kayes	Nioro	Troungoumbé
29	Kayes	Yélimané	Kremis
30	Kayes	Kita	Djidian