

<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 for FY 2011: October 2010 –September 2011

Project lifespan: October 1, 2009 – May 31, 2012

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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: October 2010-September 2011

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

Project Summary and FY 2011 Highlights

PROMISAM II was originally funded for the period October 1, 2009 - September 30, 2011, but in July, 2011 was granted a no-cost extension through May 31, 2012. The project originally had 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 local (commune-level) 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 agricultural economics and food policy analysis; and (iv) provide technical support to Mali's national team developing the country's NEPAD/CAADP report and national compact. The FY 2010 (October 2009-September 2010) work plan added a fifth objective, helping to organize a border conference between Senegal and Mali in order to facilitate smoother cross-border trade in agricultural products. A further modification implemented in May 2010 established a sixth objective by calling on PROMISAM II to carry out a number of background studies on agricultural development/food security challenges facing Mali over the coming 5-10 years in order to assist USAID/Mali in its strategic planning of future investments and activities. A seventh objective covers cross-cutting activities that were implicit in this project and that support the overall project as well as the broader economic growth objective of USAID/Mali-AEG. (The FY2 011 and FY 2012 work plan is available at: http://www.aec.msu.edu/fs2/mgt/3160-Mali/2011_2012_Annual_Work_Plan_MSU_PROMISAM_II_final_May_6_2011.pdf)

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/Mali-funded work is complementary to that of PROMISAM II, thus leveraging USAID/Mali's funding.

This report presents the major activities and achievements of PROMISAM II during fiscal year (FY) 2011—the period from October 1, 2010 through September 30, 2011. The results are presented below by strategic objective and summarized in tables that show progress relative to goals set out in the project’s annual work plan. Appendix 1 shows quantitative performance relative to the indicators laid out in PROMSAM II’s approved PMP performance indicators. Appendix 2 provides information on TDYs from campus-based staff in support of project activities, and Appendix 3 lists additions to the project’s website, where all major project outputs are posted, during the reporting year.

Key highlights of PROMISAM II during FY 2011 included:

- The successful holding of the national CAADP Business Meeting at which the Malian government presented its National Priority Investment Plan for the Agricultural Sector to various stakeholders for their input, followed by PROMISAM’s support for subsequent revisions of the document.
- The successful implementation of the CSA’s national information campaign on food security through a series of radio and television programs, including production of 50 video cassettes for use around the country, 11 television broadcasts, and 1830 radio broadcasts.
- Completion of the evaluation of the implementation progress of commune-level food security plans in the 30 test communes covered by the project. These evaluations were carried out by local stakeholders in conjunction with local agents of the national planning and statistics agency and summarized in 5 regional workshops carried out across the country in December 2010 and January 2011.
- The training of 186 leaders of rural women’s organizations in key concepts in food security.
- The continued implementation of the undergraduate degree program in agricultural economics program at IPR/IFRA de Katibougou, with the admission of the second cohort of 35 students.
- Data collection completed for all marketing studies and interim analyses discussed with collaborators on an ongoing basis.
- The successful holding of the Mali-Senegal border conference to promote regional agricultural trade. The conference was held in May, 2011, and was jointly chaired by the Prime Ministers of Mali and Senegal. The meeting has resulted already in a number of administrative actions aimed at reducing the number of road control points between Bamako and Dakar from over 20 to 3.
- The completion of the *Mali Agricultural Sector Assessment 2011*, a comprehensive analysis of Mali’s agricultural development opportunities and challenges, and its translation into French. This document served as an important input into USAID/Mali’s Feed the Future (FTF) planning and will serve as the basis for a number of policy outreach efforts in the coming fiscal year.
- The carrying out, at the request of USAID/Mali, of an indicative benefit-cost analysis of alternative FTF investments by the mission.

Key achievements of the project during FY 2011 by Objective

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

In June, 2011, Mme. Lansry Nana Haidara stepped down as Food Security Commissioner and was replaced by her Deputy, Mr. Yaya Tamboura. The change in leadership has not affected PROMISAM's capacity to carry out its work, as the project has very good relations with the new Commissioner, as it had with Mme. Lansry. During the period September 31, 2010-October, 2011, PROMISAM pursued its objective of enhancing the technical and analytic skills of the CSA and its affiliated agencies (*service rattachés*) through the activities summarized in in table 1. This work included:

Formal Training Activities

- In August, 2011, PROMISAM arranged and supported SPSS training to five Bamako-based SAP staff members in order to help them carry out more detailed and accurate analysis of their early-warning data.
- In August, the project also arranged and supported training for newly hired agricultural market information system (OMA) enumerators and refresher training of OMA enumerators on use of smart-phones for data entry and transmission from the markets they cover as well as in the preparation of local market reports. A total of 43 OMA enumerators participated in this training.
- The formal training in gender analysis planned for both the CSA staff and the SAP regional staff, originally planned for the last quarter of this FY have been rescheduled for the first quarter of calendar year 2012.

In-service Training

- Follow-up discussions with CSA staff concerning points examined during the April 2011 study tour to the US, particularly the need to target CSA interventions more clearly.
- Involvement of the CSA economists in the design and implementation of the three marketing studies discussed below. One member of the SAP was also involved in the design of the study of the role of the market in helping ensure food security in the most vulnerable zones of Mali and in the testing of the questionnaire in Fallou and N'Tomodo in the cercle of Nara on April 26-30, 2011.
- In addition, throughout the year, the CSA economists and staff involved from the Trade Promotion Department participated in numerous seminars and discussions organized by PROMISAM and other MSU food-security related programs in Mali supported by other funders (such as the Syngenta Foundation).

Marketing Studies

In order to strengthen the empirical base for food policy design and implementation and at the request of the CSA, PROMISAM has undertaken 3 major cereals marketing studies: one focused on farmers' cereal marketing strategies; one focused on traders' strategies and the evolution of

the location of major supply and consumption basins in the country, and one focused on the role of the market in helping ensure food security in vulnerable zones. All 3 studies are undertaken in partnership with Malian organizations and involve key CSA staff as a form of in-service training. During FY 2011, the following was achieved with respect to these studies.

- *Farmer-level study.* This study, implemented in partnership with the CSA and the Institut d'Economie Rurale (IER), covers 450 households in 3 zones of Mali. This work is jointly funded by PROMISAM II and the Bill and Melinda Gates foundation-funded GISAMA project, also implemented by MSU. During FY 2011:
 - The final round of data collection was completed, and data entry and preliminary cleaning of all 3 rounds of the surveys was completed.
 - In February, 2011, preliminary results, based on the analysis of the first round data, were discussed with focus groups of farmers in the cotton zone to obtain feedback on factors driving the patterns found in the data. These results were also presented to researchers at IER and to students of the new program of agricultural economics and policy analysis at IPR/IFRA Katibougou.
 - In April, 2011, IER and PROMISAM II finalized the descriptive analysis of data on cereal crops from the three rounds combined of the farm-level production and agricultural marketing survey and shared these results with PROMISAM II partners in Bamako/Mali;
 - Data analysis is continuing, both in Mali and on campus (including involvement of the graduate research assistants working on the projects). Among the topics receiving special attention are an analysis of the sources of women's income and of off-farm income, factors affecting rice sales in the Office du Niger, the impact of different farm practices on farm income, and an analysis of the factors affecting farmers' income diversification strategies in the cotton zone.
 - Outlines have been prepared for the following papers that will be completed in FY 2012 based on the survey data:
 - Cereal markets dynamics: changes in market organization and structure and farmers involvement in the markets;
 - Agricultural diversification in Mali: the case of the cotton zone of Koutiala;
 - Effects of household participation in the cotton value chain on coarse grain productivity and food security in Mali.
- *Trader-level/production basin studies.* These rapid-reconnaissance studies aim at documenting the evolving location and structure of major grain production basins and trade flows in Mali and the forces driving their evolution. These studies are jointly undertaken by PROMISAM II, the OMA, INSTAT, and the CSA. Among other things, the results will help the OMA determine how it should reconfigure the location and number of grain markets it should monitor throughout the country. During FY 2011, the studies were designed and implemented, with the preliminary regional reports produced:
 - A workshop was held in Segou on the 11th and 12th November 2010, to discuss the methodology for surveys. This workshop brought together the Regional Directors of Planning and Statistics, who coordinated the field surveys; CSA representatives and PROMISAM II staff. The participants reviewed and amended the draft terms of reference and survey plans. Following the workshop, the interview guide was developed as well as the sample frame.

- In March, contracts were signed with the Regional directors of planning and statistics of Kayes, Koulikoro, Sikasso, Segou, Mopti, Gao and Tombouctou to implement the study.
- In May through July, the fieldwork was carried out in these seven regions.
- By September 30, draft reports for each of the regions had been completed. These are now serving as input into a synthesis document and the development of maps illustrating regional production patterns and trade flows. These will be completed by January 2012.
- *Study of the role of the market in contributing to food security in vulnerable zones.* This study aims to understand the contributions and limits of the market in supplying zones that are chronically food-deficit. A better understanding of this issue is critical to the design of government interventions to help the food insecure that do not at the same time disrupt the ability of the market to serve these zones. The study is based on rapid assessments in two areas of the country: the area around Tominian in the east (near the Burkina Faso border) and the area around Nara in the northwest (near the Mauritanian border). The original plan called for an additional study area around Gao, but the deteriorating security situation and the conflict in Libya made this impractical. During FY 2011, preliminary surveys were completed in one area and partially completed in another (an accident with a stray animal made it impossible to complete the trader component of the survey). The studies will be completed in early 2012.
 - In March, 2011, the research team developed the methodology and interview guides, and identified the sites for implementing the study.
 - The survey instruments along with the enumerator's guide and synthesis sheets were finalized after the completion of the pre-testing in the villages of Yasso and Koura in the commune of Tominian and the villages of Fallou and N'Tomodo in the commune of Nara during the period April 26 to June 11, 2011.
 - In September, the outline of the report was developed.

Bulletins de Conjoncture

During the year, MSU coordinator Nango Dembélé collaborated with the OMA in the production of two numbers of the semiannual agricultural market outlook publication, *Bulletin de conjuncture*. This document is widely used by Malian government officials and agencies like FEWSNET in assessing the upcoming production and marketing seasons and in making plans for needed actions.

Provision of equipment

In November, 2010, PROMISAM provided 10 new notebook computers for the OMA for its decentralized offices along with new smartphones for use by the enumerators. This hardware was complemented by the enumerator training described above.

Support of the CSA public awareness campaign

In order to help inform the Malian public about key issues related to food security and the role of the CSA and to improve the level of public debate regarding food policy issues, PROMISAM II supported the CSA in developing a public awareness campaign about basic concepts of food

security and the role of the CSA. This included developing a contract with a local communications firm to work with the CSA's communication department on the development of radio and television skits illustrating the key points. Results included:

- In December, 2010, a 3.45 minute skit (in the national language Bamanan) was produced and aired 10 times on national television during the month of December 2010. Fifty copies of the video cassette were also produced for use throughout the country at later times.
- In March, 2011, a 5 minute audio skit (in the national language Bamanan) was produced and aired on 30 local radio stations and the regional stations of the national radio during the month of March 2011. The program was aired a total of 1830 times—1,500 times on local rural radio stations (*radios de proximité*) and 330 times by regional stations of ORTM and on the ORTM2 network.
- In September 2011, a debate on the national TV was organized to discuss the concepts of food security and their policy implications. The debate was animated by:
 - Mrs Dicko Bastan, the current Deputy Food Security Commissioner
 - Souleymane Ouattara from CPS, Ministry of Agriculture
 - Mary Diallo, head of SAP, the Malian Early Warning System,
 - Keffing Cissoko, from CILSS

Table 1. Project Objective 1: Achievements in FY 2011 compared to targets set out in the FY 2011 work plan

	2010			2011												2012					Status as of Sept. 30, 2010
	Oct	Nov	Dec	Jan	Feb	Mar	Apr	May	June	July	Aug	Sept	Oct	Nov	Dec	Jan	Feb	Mar	Apr	May	
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																					
A1.1: Follow-up activities to study tour																				Completed	
1.2 CSA collaborating agencies trained																					
A1.2.1: SPSS Training SAP planned and carried out																				Completed in August	
A1.2.2: OMA enumerators training																				Completed in August	
1.3 Strengthen gender analysis skills of CSA and related agencies																					
1.3.1 Gender analysis training for SAP regional staff																				Rescheduled for the January - March, 2012	
1.3.2 Gender analysis training for CSA core staff																				Rescheduled for the January - March, 2012	
1.4 Strengthen skills of CSA economists																					
A1.4: Involvement of Economists in CSA studies																				Ongoing through end of project	
1.5 Marketing studies																					
A1.5: Implementation																					
- Study 1: Farm level																				All 3 rounds of data collection completed; afurther nalysis under way	
- Study 2: Markets and trader levels																				Production and market basin surveys completed; further analysis and synthesis underway	
- Study 3: Role of the market in chronically deficit zones																				Rapid reconnaissance completed in 2 regions; one remaining.	
1.6 Equipment updates																					
A1.6: Purchase laptops and cell phones for OMA																				Completed	
1.7 SNSA awareness campaign																					
A1.7: Campaign plans implemented																				Completed; radio and television programs developed and broadcast.	

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

This strategic objective aims at developing and testing methods for local stakeholders at the commune and cercle levels to monitor the implementation of the commune-level food security plans. During FY 2010, in conjunction with the USAID/Mali funded PGP2 governance project, Peace Corps/Mali, and local agents of the national statistics and planning agency, PROMISAM II organized training sessions for local stakeholders for 30 rural test communes on how to carry out such evaluations. The intent is to develop and test methods that can then be scaled up to other communes across the country, as well as to gain insights into the factors that determine a commune's degree of success in implementing its plan. Because women's participation in some regions was low during these training sessions, in FY 2011 PROMISAM also organized special training sessions for women's organizations on concepts of food security and on the local food security plans. During 2011, the local stakeholders, working with the local planning agency personnel, completed the evaluations of the plans, and PROMISAM II held regional workshops to discuss the results with the local stakeholders. The achievements in FY 2011 for this strategic objective are summarized in table 2. The key achievements included:

Implementation of the local plan evaluations and regional workshops

The work by the local stakeholders with the local planning agents to evaluate the implementation of the local plans began in FY2010 and continued through December 2010 (although some communes and regions finished before then. Beginning in December, PROMISAM II organized regional workshops with the stakeholders and local officials to review the results of their evaluations. These workshops provided valuable insights into what factors affected whether a commune implemented a significant portion of its plan and revisions that need to be made as the local plans go forward. The meetings were typically attended by representatives from the regional assemblies, sous-préfets of the test communes, presidents of the advisory councils of the cercles involved, representatives of the municipal governments—including the mayors and general secretaries, and representatives of women's groups. The regional workshops were held on the following dates. The key outcomes of the meetings are summarized in PROMISAM II's quarterly reports (available at http://aec.msu.edu/fs2/promisam_2/index.htm#progress) and the results are presented in detail in the meeting reports, which are available on the PROMISAM II website at http://aec.msu.edu/fs2/promisam_2/index.htm#fsp:

- December 6, 2010 in Kayes, covering the test communes of Bema, Gomitradougou, Djidian, Troungoumbe, and Krems. The implementation rate, in terms of budgeted resources for the plan, averaged 34% across the test communes, but ranged from 10% to 142%.
- December 21 in Mopti, covering the Mopti test communes of Dandoli, Madiama, Fatoma, Konna, and Korombana. Here, the average rate of implementation (in terms of the local plans' budget) was 74%, ranging from a low of 59.6% to a high of 127.9%. The high rates of implementation recorded were due to large investments made from outside of the programs (i.e., externally funded development projects).
- December 22, 2010, in Mopti, covering the test communes in the Timbuktu and Gao regions. These included Gabero (cercle de Gao), Soni Alibert (cercle de Gao), Tonka (cercle de Goundam), and Bourem Inaly (cercle de Tombouctou). For these communes,

the rate of achievement of the planned (budgeted) investments was very low, ranging from 8% to 44%.

- January 10, 2011, in Segou, covering the test communes of Boussin, Cinzana, Diabaly, Dogofry, Sirabala, and Sirifila Boundy. The average rate of execution across the test communes was 38%, but ranged from 16% to 55%.
- January 31, 2011, in Koulikoro, covering the test communes of Bougoula, Dio – Gare, Banco, Benko, Massigui, and Sanakoro –Djitoumouto. Rates of implementation averaged only 23% across these communes, but had the highest variation among communes, ranging from a low of 3% in Benko to a high of 130% in Banco.

The discussions in the workshops revealed several features of the plan design and implementation process that affected the degree to which the plans had been implemented. These included:

- The degree to which the mayor and the local populations were aware of and felt ownership of the plans. In many instances where the implementation rate had been low, the plans had been designed by a mayor and his team who subsequently was not re-elected, and the new mayor and municipal leadership either did not know much about the plan or felt that it did not reflect their priorities. In other cases, the plans had not been widely publicized to the local population; hence, there was little public knowledge of the plans. Thus, a recommendation of all the workshops was that the plans should be much more widely publicized to the local populations (e.g., through programs on rural radio).
- The realism of the goals set out in the plans. In several instances, participants recognized that the objectives set out in some of the plans were too ambitious or were not obtainable at the local level but needed to be addressed at a higher level (such as reducing price volatility, which requires national and regional initiatives).
- The degree to which women were involved in the efforts. In general, activities involving a large proportion of women (for example, efforts to improve food utilization through improved nutrition education and food preparation) had a higher rate of success than other efforts. This finding underscored the importance of having a strong gender perspective in the plans.
- Changes in local circumstances (physical and socio-economic environment). Many of the participants noted that the preparation of local food security plans should not be viewed as a one-time event but rather an on-going process. They thus called for the preparation of a new generation of plans or an updating of the existing plans every few years.

A national workshop to pull together the lessons from the regional workshops, to draw conclusions regarding the evaluation methods developed, and to make recommendations for a national scaling up of the effort is scheduled for December, 2011.

Training sessions for women's organizations in concepts of food security

In light of the low rate of participation of women in the plan evaluation efforts in some regions of the country and the workshops' finding of the importance of women's involvement in plan

implementation for the plans' success, PROMISAM II organized a five workshops around the country for leaders of women's groups on concepts of food security and on the local food security plans. A total of 183 women participated in the training sessions (table 3). Two among the key recommendations emerging from these workshops were the extension of such workshops to include all local elected women's officials in the country (mayors, MPs...) and the development of outreach materials with a stronger gender component targeted to men.

Planning for Pilot Study of the Monitoring of Inventories of Local Cereal Banks

During their TDY's to Mali in February, 2011, MSU professors Mark Skidmore and John Staatz met with Mme. Bassa Diané of the CSA, Nango Dembélé, and Salif Diarra of the OMA to design a pilot study to monitor the inventory levels in CSA-supported cereal banks. The Malian government considers the lack of such information on a regular constraint to food security planning and to the transparent management of the local stocks. Based on a concept note developed by Skidmore and subsequent discussions, Diarra and Diané produced a proposal for a pilot study to test the methods for monitoring, using agents from the OMA. The test was initially proposed for the soudure period (June-August) 2011, but changes in the leadership of the CSA that intervened in July 2011 and some reluctance on the part of local officials to participate forced cancellation of this test effort.

Table 2. Project Objective 2: Achievements in FY 2011 compared to targets set out in the FY 2011 work plan

2. Assistance in Implementing Food Security Plans Country-wide																		
2.1 Evaluate current status of plan implementation																		
A2.1.1: Special training for women and youth																		Special training sessions for women's groups completed in July.
A2.1.2: Contract monitoring and followup on the evaluation of the status of the local plans' implementation																		Completed
A2.1.3: Planning and holding regional workshops on evaluation results																		Completed
A2.1.4: Planning and holding national workshop to validate methodology																		Scheduled for December
A2.1.5: Development and testing of cell-phone-based system to report on local-level grain inventory levels																		Cancelled

Table 3. Participation of Leaders of Women's Groups in Training Workshops on Food Security

Region(s)	Date	Number of Participants
Segou	Jan. 11, 2011	22
Koulikoro	Feb. 1, 2011	27
Kayes	Apr. 11, 2011	33
Mopti, Gao and Timbuktu	Jun. 23, 2011	64
Sikasso	Jul. 20, 2011	40
Total		186

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

Progress in achieving all the planned activities with IPR/IFRA during FY 2011 was seriously hindered by: (a) a prolonged strike of university faculty in Mali; (b) the departure of the coordinator of the Agricultural Economics program, Dr. Souleymane Kouyaté, who was named vice-rector of the new Université de Ségou; and (c) delays in obtaining USAID/Mali's administrative approval for the purchase of busses and for classroom and coordinator's office renovations for the program. In spite of these constraints, important achievements were made:

Student recruitment and selection of the second pool of first year students

Student interest in the agricultural economics program at IPR/IFRA de Katibougou is evident. Applications rose from 40 in 2009/10 school year to 143 in 2010/11 academic year. This represents a 257% increase. Applications were reviewed by a team composed of IPR faculty and administrators and MSU. The team developed guidelines for selection of applicants to the program, with a particular attention to gender balance. The initial class for the 2009/10 school year included 7 women out of a total of 30 students (23%). The class admitted for the 2010/11 school year is 37% female.

Organization and carrying out of the stakeholder curriculum workshop held early November 2010 in Bamako

The main goal of the workshop was to obtain from potential employers of graduates of the IPR program inputs on priority skill sets they seek among graduates. With assistance from IPR administration, USAID/Mali program and PROMISAM staff, forty stakeholders were drawn from private agricultural enterprises, NGOs, project staff, government organizations, and policy analysis organizations. A full report of the workshop can be found at:

http://www.aec.msu.edu/fs2/promisam_2/index.htm#trip

Curriculum revision and implementation of the IPR "License Program" in agricultural economics

- After receiving inputs from the stakeholder workshop, the entire curriculum of the "License Program" was reviewed to determine which courses would fulfill high priority employer needs and gap areas inventoried during the workshop. A review of the current version of the curriculum revealed 29% of the credits in business and economics, 33% in agricultural techniques, and 37% in other skills (e.g., English, Extension, Sociology, athletics). New courses were identified to fill gap areas. The revised curriculum is 43% business and economics, 28% agricultural technology, and 29% other skills.
- MSU also completed the content development of economics, business and agricultural economics courses of the revised curriculum.
- As part of the implementation of the revised curriculum, Abdoul Murekezi, an MSU faculty member, taught the first part of the course of principles of microeconomics in February 2011. The course was given to the first year and second year students of the agricultural economics and policy analysis program at IPR/IFRA Katibougou. IPR has subsequently hired its own instructor who taught the remaining content of that course.

- Students from this program have started and continued three courses from the revised curriculum: Principles of Microeconomics, Principles of Macroeconomics, and General Accounting. The students also took Introduction to Food Systems Analysis, which was initially taught in July 2010 by MSU graduate student Amadou Diallo (who at the time was a graduate research assistant under the project). Mr. Diallo subsequently completed his Master's degree at MSU and has returned to Mali, where he heads the local office of the UK-based NGO Partnership for Child Development, and was hired by IPR/IFRA in July 2011 to teach the course again. This is an example of how PROMISAM II's investment in graduate training of Malian students has contributed to the local sustainability of the IPR/IFRA program.

Progress in identifying new program staff

- There is a shortage of qualified agricultural economics instructors among the IPR faculty. Temporary and visiting faculty can be obtained through existing channels, but the location in Katibougou presents a particular challenge in using this type of instructors. During the year, MSU faculty member Abdoul Murekezi worked with IPR colleagues to identify agricultural economists who live in Mali and who can provide teaching at the IPR Annex in Bamako once a bus is obtained to transport Katibougou students to the Annex for classes. Similar contacts were conducted with Professor Abdrahmane Sanogo, the dean of the faculty of economics and management of the University of Bamako to discuss the possibility of some faculty members under his leadership to teach economic courses in the agricultural economics program of IPR/IFRA Katibougou.
- Initiation of the process of replacing the program coordinator, Souleymane Kouyate, who was named vice rector of the University of Ségou. The plan is to hire a local consultant to work with IPR to develop a 5-year development plan for the program, in consultation with a new IPR staff member who will serve as program coordinator. MSU has identified the local consultant, who holds a US PhD in education, and who is familiar with IPR and with both the Malian and US education systems, and he will be hired in November, 2011. Identification of the new program coordinator is currently underway with IPR. The shortage of senior agricultural economists on the IPR faculty makes the identification of a suitable coordinator difficult.

Establishing an advisory panel of the new program of agricultural economics and policy analysis

The main responsibility of the panel will be to provide ongoing input by potential employers of graduates from the new program concerning the skills the program needs to provide the students. The panel will be useful not only in advising on program content but also in developing links with external stakeholders to facilitate the creation of internship opportunities for students, job search networking for graduates, and general support for the program.

During the year, MSU, working with IPR, developed a list of 8 suggested members for the advisory panel and developed draft terms of reference for the panel, which were shared with the IPR leadership team and the proposed chair of the panel, Dr. Bino Témé, Director General of

Institut d'Economie Rurale. Official establishment of the panel is awaiting final action by IPR/IFRA.

Acquisition of teaching equipment and library resources

During the year, PROMISAM provided a scanner, projector, photocopier, and numerous books on agricultural economics, agribusiness, food policy, statistics and research methods to the Katibougou library (in both hard-copy and electronic forms).

Graduate training of two IPR staff members at MSU

During the year, two IPR junior staff faculty members (Jacob Coulibaly and Abdrahmane Berthé) completed their full-time English training at MSU and began their graduate academic courses in agricultural, food and resource economics at MSU. Because it took longer than anticipated for these students to achieve full competency in English, they will not be able to finish their degree programs by the scheduled end of PROMISAM II in May, 2012. MSU will therefore request that arrangements be made with USAID/Mali so that they can complete their programs, which will allow them to return and contribute to the long-term success of the IPR program.

Table 4 summarizes progress in achieving the FY 2011 work plan objectives with respect to the IPR strategic objective.

Table 4. Project Objective 3: Achievements in FY 2011 compared to targets set out in the FY 2011 work plan

3. Development of an Academic and Practical Curriculum for the University of Bamako/ IPR Katibougou in Agricultural Economics/Food Policy Analysis																			
A3.1 Set up and carry out an investment budget for the program																			On going: some equipment (computers, photocopies) and books for IPR was acquired. Development of investment plan rescheduled for Nov. 2011-January 2012. Consultant identified to work with IPR/IFRA on this task
A3.2: Equipping and functioning of the program's coordination office and renovating of classroom at IPR annex in Bamako.																			Not yet done; waiting for USAID approval. Approval received in November, and bids being obtained.
A3.3 Workshop to review and revise the undergraduate curriculum																			Completed in November 2010
A3.4: Establish the external advisory panel																			Terms of reference developed and members identified. Awaiting IPR/IFRA's official naming of panel
A3.5: Support study design for the setting up of the data base on farm enterprises around Katibougou																			Not completed
A3.6: Development of a business plan for the professional masters' program																			Re scheduled for first quarter of calendar year 2012
A3.7: Implementation of the program's communication/advertising program																			Design completed and is implemented. Implementation will continue through end of project
A3.8: Graduate training at MS of two IPR/IFRA junior faculty members																			Ongoing through end of project
A3.9: Faculty/graduate student exchanges																			One MSU faculty gave a two week lecture and presented results to IPR students
A3.10: Development of a guest lecture series																			Not completed due to strike.

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

Key achievements under this strategic objective are summarized in table 5. The pace of implementation is not entirely within the control of PROMISAM II, as the support is to a national team that sets its own schedule taking into account the multiple demands on the key personnel involved. The main achievements during FY 2011 included:

Successful holding of National CAADP Business Meeting

PROMISAM provided logistical and technical support to the CPS/Rural Development for the organization of the Mali Business meeting; MSU in-country coordinator served as a member of the technical committee for the organization of the meeting. PROMISAM coordinated its support with that provided by the World Bank and ECOWAS. The Business Meeting on the financing of the national priority investment in the agricultural sector was held in Bamako on Nov. 4-5, 2010, chaired by the Prime Minister. It brought together Mali’s technical and financial partners (PTF), bilateral and multilateral donors, representatives of producer organizations, local authorities, civil society organizations, private sector, and regional technical cooperation institutions.

The announced objectives of the Business Meeting were to (a) enable the Government of Mali to present its National Agricultural Sector Priority Investment Plan (PNIP - SA) and (b) provide a venue for the PTF to make funding announcements related to PINP – SA. Although no funding pledges were made, the session provided very valuable feedback on the PNIP-SA. Key suggestions included particularly the need to improve the indicative budgeting of certain parts of the plan and to improve communications; strengthening the communication among the various partners that will be involved in supporting the implementation of the PNIP-SA and the longer-term National Investment Plan for the Agricultural Sector (PNISA); and establishing a PINP-SA steering committee, predominantly composed of non-state actors (agricultural professionals, the private sector, civil society, the High Collective Advisors, de-centralized collectives) and representatives of concerned ministries and PTF.

Refining the PNIP-SA and helping prepare the request to the GAFSP

As a follow-up to the business meeting and as part of PROMISAM II’s ongoing support of the CAADP process, the project undertook the following actions:

- The PROMISAM team produced a note on progress and roadmap on the Malian CAADP process at the request from USAID/Mali
- In collaboration with the CPS for Rural Development, PROMISAM staff drafted talking points for the Minister of Agriculture of Mali for his participation in the Food Security Plenary at the AGOA Forum held in Lusaka, Zambia, June 9-10, which he co-chaired with Julie Howard, Deputy Coordinator for Feed the Future.
- Provided technical and financial support to the CSA-led national CAADP team in developing a revised proposal for funding to the Global Agricultural and Food Security Program (GAFSP) global fund, housed at the World Bank. This requested funding would help finance implementation of certain elements of the PNIP-SA.

Table 5. Project Objective 4: Achievements in FY 2011 compared to targets set out in the FY 2011 work plan

4. Technical Support to Mali's Team Developing the Country's NEPAD/CAADP Program																		
A4.1: Technical support for the holding of Mali business meeting on PNIP-SA																		Completed
A4.2: Finalizing PNIP-SA																		Being done through PROMISAM's support of the development of the GAFSP proposal
A4.3: Engaging the private sector in the PNIP-SA																		Private sector (including farmers' groups) involved in development of GAFSP proposal. Further work in this area to be rescheduled for January, 2012
A4.4: Establishing clear indicators																		Being done as part of revisions to PNIP-SA and preparatiion of GAFSP proposal
A4.5 Participation in discussions to elaborate and validate full PNISA																		Ongoing through end of project

Objective 5: Mali-Senegal Border Conference to Facilitate Agricultural Trade

During this reporting year, the final preparations were made for the border conference to facilitate agricultural trade between the two countries, and the conference was held in May, co-chaired by the Prime Ministers of Mali and Senegal. PROMISAM II provided technical support to the planning and holding of the conference in partnership with the USAID/Mali-funded IICEM project, the USAID/Senegal funded PCE project, and the Malian Chambers of Agriculture (APCAM). Table 6 summarizes the key activities under this objective, which included the following:

- Participation in the organization of a December 7-8, 2010, meeting of the Malian and Senegalese organizing committees, held in Kayes. This meeting examined the reports produced by the thematic groups of the two countries on observed constraints, proposed solutions and agreed on the conference time schedule.
- A Senegalese delegation visited Bamako from March 10 to March 12, 2011. The delegation which comprised two technical advisors of the Prime Minister and one staff of PCE/USAID held working sessions with the Malian committee in charge of the preparation of the border conference in order to finalize the list of potential participants, the report of the meeting held in Kayes, and the final communiqué.
- On May 21, the Mali-Senegal Border Conference took place in Kayes, presided by the Prime Ministers of the two countries and attended by several ministers from each country and their advisors, the national directors of police, customs, gendarmerie, trade and regulation; regional directors from Tambacounda (Sénégal) and Kayes (Mali) of the police, gendarmerie, customs and trade; the directors of USAID/Mali and USAID/Senegal, accompanied by the directors of their economic growth programs; private-sector actors, political and administrative authorities of the regions of Kayes and Tambacounda; and the Malian and Senegalese organization committees for the conference. The meeting on the 21st was preceded on May 20th by an expert-group meeting (co-chaired by the Malian Minister of Industry, Investment, and Trade and the Senegalese Minister of Trade) to prepare the final technical documents of the meeting. The conference identified the full range of barriers to trade between the two countries and formulated concrete proposals to reduce them (for example, reducing the number of control point/roadblocks between Bamako and Dakar from over 20 to 3). The participation of the two prime ministers will help with the implementation of the conference recommendations. The conference represented the culmination of over 2 years of work to design conference and bring the parties together. The Conference communiqué and final report are available on the PROMISAM website.

PROMISAM II will participate, on an as-needed basis, in follow-on activities to monitor the implementation of the agreements reached at the conference during the final year of the project.

Objective 6: Provide Analyses to Assist USAID/Mali-AEG in Planning its Future Investments

During the reporting year, MSU supported USAID/Mali in planning its future Feed the Future (FTF) investments through the finalization of the agricultural sector assessment and its translation into French, assisting the mission in assessing returns to potential FTF investments, and ongoing policy discussions with mission personnel (table 7).

- The 230-page *Mali Sector Assessment 2011* was finalized in April, incorporating responses to comments on earlier versions received from USAID/Mali and other stakeholders. The document was then translated into French. (The final French version was delivered to USAID/Mali in early November 2011.) The study analyzes Mali's agricultural performance since 1990 and lays out major challenges and opportunities for the sector (and for USAID/Mali's support of it) in the future. Both the English and French versions are available on the PROMISAM II website.
- USAID/Mali distributed the English version of the report to other donors, and the Danish Embassy used the document in July, 2011 to help design its new five-year assistance program to the Malian agricultural sector. MSU graduate research assistants Sonja Perakis and Ramziath Adjao, under Danish funding, provided material from the assessment that fed into the Danish Embassy's planning process, and Perakis helped lead a priority setting exercise with the Danish embassy and Malian stakeholders to help design the new assistance plan. Nango Dembélé also participated in this workshop as a resource person. Thus, the sector assessment is already contributing to greater donor coordination in assistance to Mali.
- At the request of the AEG team, MSU faculty member Steve Miller and Graduate Research Assistant Ramzi Adjao traveled to Mali in February and March, 2011, to develop an initial benefit-cost analysis (CBA) of priority value chains (i.e., coarse grains, rice, and livestock) in three regions (i.e., Sikasso, Mopti, and Timbuktu) in order to help the mission develop its Feed the Future plan. The initial CBA used a scenario analysis to estimate potential marginal benefits of improving productivity in production and marketing systems for each of the selected value chains in the three regions, and the impact of these increases in productivity on economic growth and food availability. The analysis was based on a spreadsheet tool for evaluating the potential economic impacts of alternative program investment options that was developed to carry out the analysis. This decision support tool, which was provided to USAID/Mali, allows the user to assign the anticipated productivity impacts at the farm level and the reach of the program in terms of percent of total farmers impacted directly by varying key parameters, in order to estimate gross returns to the potential investments. The tool was developed with the dual goal of being useful for program administrators for planning as well as for evaluators to gauge ex-ante the outcomes.
- As they have throughout the project, PROMISAM II staff continued to provide reviews of documents (e.g., the draft new Malian government growth and poverty reduction strategy document [CSCLP]) for USAID/Mali and interact with mission staff on a number of agricultural policy issues.

Cross-cutting outreach and administrative activities

In addition to work on the project's work on the six preceding strategic objectives, PROMISAM undertook a number of cross-cutting activities, which are summarized in table 8. Key among these were the following:

- Finalizing the English and French versions of the report prepared by Deborah Rubin and MSU Graduate Assistant Nathalie Me-Nsopé assessing how well USAID/Mali's AEG partners are incorporating a gender perspective in their work and providing suggestions for improvement. These documents were delivered to USAID/Mali in January, 2011.
- Developing a proposal to the Mission, which was approved, for a six-month no-cost extension of PROMISAM II, through May, 2012.
- Ongoing contributions of the in-country project coordinator, Nango Dembélé, to agricultural research in Mali through his participation in the National Agricultural Research Council (CNRA). The CNRA reviews and decides on all competitive research funding in agriculture allocated by the Malian government. In that role and as one of only two economists on the panel, he plays a key role in improving the quality of agricultural research in the country. During the fiscal year, he was the lead reviewer for 47 research proposals, which focused on value chains, the management of natural resources, the resilience of production systems to climate change, the development of drought-resistant varieties and improved management techniques, and conservation of rainwater and soil fertility.

Table 6. Project Objective 5: Achievements in FY 2011 compared to targets set out in the FY 2011 work plan

5. Mali-Senegal Border Conference to Facilitate Agricultural Trade	
A5.1 Preparatory meetings with Senegalese and Malian delegates to finalize agenda	Completed
A5.2 Holding of Conference	Conference held in May 2011
A5.3 Follow-up actions	Ongoing through end of project

Table 7. Project Objective 6: Achievements in FY 2011 compared to targets set out in the FY 2011 work plan

6. Provide Analyses to Assist USAID/Mali-AEG in Planning its Future Investments	
A6.1 Preparation of briefs for Partners' Meeting	Completed last year
A6.2 Update Agricultural Sector Study, including translation	English version finalized in April. Translation nearly finalized (delivered in Nov. 2011)
A.6.3 Preliminary Assessment of payoffs to USAID/Mali's proposed FTF investments	Completed as scheduled
A6.4 Ongoing interaction with AEG staff	Ongoing through end of project

Table 6. Cross-cutting activities: Achievements in FY 2011 compared to targets set out in the FY 2011 work plan

Cross-cutting Activities	
A7.1: Work with AEG partners to improve inclusion of gender perspective in their work	Completed
A7.2: Dembele's participation to the sessions of the CNRA-IER	Ongoing through end of project
A7.3 :Staff interaction with USAID consultants and missions	Ongoing through end of project
A7.4: Ongoing reporting and consultation with USAID/Mali	Ongoing through end of project
A7.5: Ongoing graduate education of non-Katibougou students at MSU focused on Mali	Ongoing through end of project

Looking Forward

Remaining months of the project

The funding for PROMISAM II is scheduled to end on May 31, 2012. In the remaining months of the project, the team will emphasize consolidating results, with particular attention on the following:

Enhancing the technical and analytical skills of the CSA and related support agencies

- Carrying out outreach on the key food policy and food security challenges and opportunities facing Mali, drawing on the results of the Agricultural Sector Assessment completed in the 2011. The calendar year 2012 will be a crucial period for policy outreach in Mali, as both Presidential and Parliamentary elections are scheduled and a new presidential administration will take office in June, 2012 (as President Touré is prevented by term limits from serving a third term).
- Pushing forward the analysis from the 3 marketing studies and publishing the results in the forms of reports and policy syntheses, which will serve a key input into the design of the PNIP-SA and PNISA programs.
- Continuing to work collaboratively with CSA-affiliated staff in the CSA, OMA, and the SAP to provide in-service training and support.

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

- Based on the results from the regional workshops, hold the national workshop to evaluate and finalize the methods to monitor the implementation of local food security plans and make recommendations regarding scaling up the approach.

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

- Implement the remaining investments mentioned in the original proposal (library resources, bus, remaining computer and other teaching equipment) and improvement of classrooms in the Annex that will support the agricultural economics program;
- Finalize the establishment of an external advisory panel that will provide ongoing inputs by potential employers of graduates from the program;
- Inventory the farm enterprises in the area immediately around the IPR school to establish a database on these farms (on a sex-disaggregated basis) that can serve as a source of data for student research and for identifying key constraints that IPR's faculty can address through research and outreach.
- Hire a local consultant to work with IPR to develop the business plan for the planned professional master's program in Agricultural Economics, to be taught initially at the Bamako Annex. IPR/IFRA foresees this program as a potential moneymaker for the school as significant tuition fees will be charged. This consultant will also work with IPR/IFRA to produce a long-term plan for the program, which will include a human resource development plan and an estimate of the cost of implementation of the revised curriculum and other supporting activities that can sustain the program in the long run.

Providing technical support to Mali's NEPAD/CAADP team

- Continue to work with the national team to finalize the PNIP/SA and establish clear performance indicators, as well as participate in discussions to finalize the long-term investment program (PNISA).

The Mali-Senegal Border Conference to Facilitate Agricultural Trade

- Participate in the meetings of the committee in charge of monitoring the implementation of the recommendations of the border conference.

2012 and beyond

During its three years of existence, PROMISAM II has made impressive achievements in building evidence-based policy analysis and strengthening analytic capacity in food policy in Mali. Yet the building of such capacity is a long-term process and will need to be sustained beyond May 2012, particularly in the areas of food policy reform and the strengthening of the agricultural economics program at IPR/IFRA.

Policy reforms

The remainder of calendar year 2011 and the upcoming year of 2012 will be critical for most of the market reforms initiated in Mali in the 1980s by the cereals market reform program (PRMC). Harvests have been poor in many parts of the Sahel (e.g., in Niger), signaling the likelihood of another food crisis and high food prices. In addition, Mali elects a new president in April-May, 2012. In this context, facts-based policy advice is going to be critical to save the hard-won market reforms of the early 1980s. Thanks to USAID support over the years, MSU has developed trusted relations with key food policy brokers within the CSA and the Ministry of agriculture. Thus, MSU is well placed to help both USAID and the Malian administration along with the upcoming new president get through the coming food crisis (as it did during the 2004/05 crisis). The ending of the current phase of PROMISAM in May (one month before the new President takes office) raises the question of if and how such support will be extended to Malian policy makers during this period.

IPR/IFRA program

Building a solid academic program requires more than 3 years, particularly in a context of turmoil in the academic system. Important progress has been made in launching the agricultural economics and food policy undergraduate degree program at IPR/IFRA, but if this program is to grow into a self-sustaining effort and be broadened to a Master's program, as IPR/IFRA and the Malian government desire, support will be needed beyond May 2012. In the immediate term, arrangements need to be made so that the two IPR/IFRA faculty members currently pursuing graduate degrees at MSU can complete their programs after the end of PROMISAM II funding. But other programmatic support will also be needed. The Canadian embassy in Mali has indicated its desire to contribute to a three-way partnership between IPR/IFRA, Université Laval in Québec, and MSU to support the program, and MSU would be very open to discussing with USAID its interest in supporting such a partnership.

Appendix 1. PROMISAM II FY 2010 Achievements Relative to PMP Performance Indicators

Indicator number	Program Elements and Indicators	Targets vs. actuals				Comments	FY 2011 activities contributing to FY 2011 Target
		Target for 9/30/2010	Actual for 9/30/10	Target for 9/30/2011	Actual for 9/30/11		
	Program Element numbers are taken from the EG Handbook and page numbers below refer to the page in the EG Handbook where the indicator is defined.						
	Program Element: Program Support/Program Design and Learning Indicators						
1.1	Number of Evaluations (p.18)	10	19	11	11	Evaluation of local plans	A2.1.1 - A2.1.4
1.2	Number of Information Gathering or Research Activities (p.19)						
	- Total	3	2	4	5	3 marketing studies + 2 Bulletins de conjoncture	A1.5; A2.1.5
	- Of which CSA economists are co-authors	0	0	4	3		A1.5; A2.1.5
1.3	Number of People Trained in Monitoring and Evaluation (p.20)	130	164	0	0	Training completed in FY 2010	A2.1.1-A2.1.2; A6.1-A6.3
	- Men		152	0	0		A2.1.1-A2.1.2; A6.1-A6.3
	- Women		12	0	0		A2.1.1-A2.1.2; A6.1-A6.3
	Program Element: 2.1 Trade and Investment Enabling Environment						
2.1	Number of consultative processes with private sector as a result of USG assistance. (p. 31)	2	1	0	1	CAADP Business meeting	A4.1-A4.6; A5.1-A5.3
2.2	Number of USG supported training events held relating to the trade and investment environment (p. 36)	1	1	0	0		A4.1-A4.5; A5.1-A5.3
2.3	Number of participants in trade and investment trainings (SD) (p. 36)	10	10	0	0		A4.1-A4.5; A5.1-A5.3
	- Men	6	6	0	0		A4.1-A4.5; A5.1-A5.3
	- Women	4	4	0	0		A4.1-A4.5; A5.1-A5.3

Appendix 1. PROMISAM II FY 2010 Achievements Relative to PMP Performance Indicators (cont'd.)

Indicator number	Program Element numbers are taken from the EG Handbook and page numbers below refer to the page in the EG Handbook where the indicator is defined.	Target for 9/30/2010	Actual for 9/30/10	Target for 9/30/2011	Actual for 9/30/11		
	Program Element: 5.1 Agriculture Enabling Environment						
3.1	Number of individuals who have received USG supported short-term agricultural enabling environment training (Disaggregated by gender) (p. 82)	14	8	10	290	Training of commune-level stakeholders in food security concepts; training provided to OMA enumerators and SAP agents	A1.1; A1.-A1.5
	- Men	8	5	6	103		A1.1; A1.3-A1.5
	- Women	6	3	4	187		A1.1; A1.3-A1.5
3.2	Number of individuals who have received USG supported long-term agricultural enabling environment training(Disaggregated by gender) (p. 82)	7	5	5	5	Graduate students at MSU supported as graduate assistants	A3.8; A7.3
	- Men	2	1	1	1		A3.8; A7.3
	- Women	5	4	4	4		A3.8; A7.3
3.3	Number of policies/regulations/administrative procedures analyzed with USG assistance (p. 83)	2	1	1	1	Border conference	A5.1
3.4	Number of policies/regulations/administrative procedures drafted and presented for public/stakeholder consultation as a result of USG assistance (p.84)	2	0	0	0		A3.1
3.5	Number of Institutions/organizations undergoing capacity/competency assessments as a result of USG assistance (p. 88)	1	1	0	0		A1.1-A1.7
3.6	Number of institutions/organizations mature/viable in the competency areas strengthened as a result of USG assistance (p. 91)	1	1	1	1	CSA	A1.1-A1.7

Appendix 1. PROMISAM II FY 2010 Achievements Relative to PMP Performance Indicators (cont'd.)

Indicator number	Program Element numbers are taken from the EG Handbook and page numbers below refer to the page in the EG Handbook where the indicator is defined.	Target for 9/30/2010	Actual for 9/30/10	Target for 9/30/2011	Actual for 9/30/11		
	Program Element: 5.2 Agricultural Sector Productivity						
4.1	Number of individuals who have received USG-supported long-term agricultural sector productivity training (p. 103)	30	35	65	65	Includes students in degree programs at IPR + 1 Malian grad student at MSU	A3.1-A3.10
	- Men	20	22	45	45		A3.1-A3.10
	- Women	10	13	20	20		A3.1-A3.10
	Custom Indicators for PROMISAM II						
Custom 1	Fully implemented public information campaign on food security: Number of campaign broadcasts and publications			8	1830		A1.7
Custom 2	Number of new electronic (cell phone) reporting systems of critical decentralized food security information implemented			2	1		A1.2.1-A1.2.2
Custom 3	Existence of proven method for monitoring implementation of local food security plans			1	0		A2.1.1-A2.1.5
Custom 4	Number of degree curricula developed in agricultural economics, agribusiness and food policy			1	1		A3.1-A3.10
Custom 5	National agricultural development investment plan developed and adopted			1	1		A4.1-A4.5
Custom 6	Number of internal project memos documenting finding and implications gender-focused constraint identification activities			3	1	Rubin and MeNsope report	A6.1

Appendix 2. TDYs during the Reporting Period

The following TDYs were carried out in support of the project objectives during the year.

Ramziath Adjao, Graduate Research Assistant, Dept. of Agricultural, Food and Resource Economics, Michigan State University. **February 11 through March 13, 2011.** The trip focused on the following activities: 1) Work with MSU professors Nango Dembele and Steven Miller, and USAID/Mali-AEG staff to develop more detailed terms of reference for an initial benefit-cost analysis of priority value chains; 2) In collaboration with MSU professor Steven Miller and local PROMISAM partners, collect and organize information needed to undertake the initial analysis.

Duncan Boughton Associate Professor, International Development. Department of Agricultural, Food & Resource Economics, MSU and Co-Director, Food Security III Cooperative Agreement.

- **November 8 – 17, 2010.** PROMISAM II-funded portion of the trip focused on the following activities: (a) working with CSA and PROMISAM staff, as well as other Malian statistics agencies, to prepare and undertake a workshop to plan a rapid appraisal of changes in coarse grain production and marketing flows in one or more major cereal production regions; (b) developing an analysis and report writing plan with IER colleagues on farmer cereal production and marketing strategies. Trip co-financed by PROMISAM II (75%) and MSU's grant from the Bill and Melinda Gates (25%).
- **March 7, 2011 through March 25, 2011.** This trip was funded by multiple projects. The PROMISAM II work focused on the following activities: 1) Finalize TORs for the DRSPIAP to implement a study of changes in coarse grain production and marketing flows in major cereal production regions consistent with the outcome of the November planning workshop. 2) Develop a methods for a study of the role of the market in food security in vulnerable areas. 3) Consult with IER, World Bank and others on possible expansion of Ruralstruc panel survey. 4) Participate, as needed, with USAID/Mali mission concerning analysis of intermediate analysis of Feed the Future Plan.
- **April 23, 2011 through May 5, 2011.** The trip focused on the following activities: 1. Test fieldwork methods for a study of the role of the market in food security in vulnerable areas. 2. Participate, as needed, with USAID/Mali mission concerning follow up analysis of for Feed the Future Plan.

Jacob Coulibaly, faculty member at IPR/IFRA and visiting scholar at MSU. **June 10, 2011 through June 18, 2011.** The trip focused on the following activities: Mr. Coulibaly had spent the last year at MSU as a visiting scholar, learning about the organization of MSU's teaching and research program in agricultural economics and taking English courses. He had applied to and was provisionally accepted into MSU's Master's program in the Department of Agricultural, Food and Resource Economics. He traveled to Mali to share some of what he had learned with his IPR/IFRA colleagues and to change his visa status from J-1 (Exchange visitor) to student (F-1) so that he could begin his full academic program. MSU proposed that he return by early July so that he could take a statistics and intermediate-level economics course during the second summer term before beginning his masters-level courses in September.

Niama Nango Dembélé, Assistant Professor of International Development, Dept. of Agricultural, Food and Resource Economics, Michigan State University, and Bamako-based coordinator of MSU's West Africa food security research and outreach programs.

- Lomé, Togo. **July 3-9**. ECOWAS regional Workshop on the design of the monitoring and evaluation system for the regional agricultural development plans. MSU helped develop the M&E framework and is still involved in its implementation.
- East Lansing, Michigan. **September 6- 28**. Sept. 7-10 and Sept. 18-27 personal leave. Sept. 12-16 participated in MSU West Africa food security group retreat for annual program planning and met with campus-based faculty and administrative staff to plan specific activities, administrative support and analyses for the West Africa work.

Boubacar Diallo, Assistant Professor, International Development, Michigan State University and deputy in-country coordinator for the MSU Mali Food Security projects. East Lansing, Michigan. **September 9-19**. Participated in MSU West Africa food security group retreat for annual program planning and met with campus-based faculty and administrative staff to plan specific activities, administrative support and analyses for the West Africa work.

Scott Loveridge, Professor and Director of Graduate Studies, Department of Agricultural, Food & Resource Economics, Michigan State University. **October 30 - November 6, 2010**. The trip focused on the following activities: (a) curriculum review and revision for IPR/IFRA's new programs in agribusiness and agricultural economics under the USAID/Mali Associate Award (b) participation in workshops with faculty, administrators, and stakeholders on curriculum implementation. Trip entirely financed by PROMISAM II.

Nathalie Me-Nsope, Graduate Research Assistant. Department of Agricultural, Food and Resource Economics, Michigan State University. **October 3 - 26, 2010**. The trip focused on the following activities (in collaboration with consultant Dr. Deborah Rubin): (a) reviewed current USAID/Mali guidance to partners on incorporating gender considerations into their work; (b) reviewed the activities and impact indicators of USAID/AEG partners, as expressed through annual work plans, annual reports, Performance Monitoring Plans (PMPs), and direct discussions with partner staff, to assess how well the partners' are incorporating gender perspectives into their projects and programs. In particular, the team assessed whether the partners' programs comply with the ADS guidance that require that any gender analysis include the following two questions:

- How will the different roles of status of women and men affect the work to be undertaken?
- How will the anticipated results of the work affect men and women differently?

In the context of Mali, these questions should be broadened to include youth in addition to men and women and should be examined in the context of current barriers to gender equality in the country; (c) Provided recommendations to USAID/Mali-AEG regarding whether additional gender sensitive indicators are needed to monitor and evaluate partners' programs; (d) provided debriefing to USAID/Mali and partners on key findings/results of TDY and left with the mission preliminary report of findings. Trip entirely financed by PROMISAM II.

Steven Miller, Assistant Professor and Head, Center for Economic Analysis, Dept. of

Agricultural, Food and Resource Economics, Michigan State University. **February 15 through March 6, 2011.** The trip focused on the following activities: 1) Work with MSU professor Nango Dembele and graduate research assistant Ramzi Adjao, and USAID/Mali-AEG staff to develop a more detailed terms of reference for an initial benefit-cost analysis of priority value chains; 2) In collaboration with MSU professor Nango Dembele, graduate research assistant Ramzi Adjao and local PROMISAM partners, identify information needed to undertake the initial analysis; 3) Prepare initial benefit-costs analysis.

Abdoul Karim Murekezi, Assistant Professor International Development. Department of Agricultural, Food and Resource Economics, Michigan State University.

- **October 13 - November 6, 2010 (Personal travel Oct 13 – 16, 2010).** PROMISAM II-funded portion of the trip focused on the following activities: (a) working with Dr. Souleymane Kouyate, the coordinator of agricultural economics and policy analysis program at IPR/IFRA Katibougou and MSU faculty, Dr. Scott Loveridge to organize and carry out a curriculum workshop to be held during the first week of November, 2010; (b) meeting stakeholders from the private sector, agricultural development projects and ministerial agencies/institutes and involve them in the organization of the workshop; (c) gave an agricultural policy seminar based on findings from the first round of household level cereal production and marketing data at IPR/IFRA Katibougou; (d) continued analyzing the first round of household level cereal production and marketing data. Trip co-financed by PROMISAM II (80%) and MSU's grant from the Bill and Melinda Gates (20%).
- **February 5, 2011 through February 27, 2011.** This trip was funded by multiple projects. The PROMISAM II work focused on the following activities: 1) Teach "Principles of Economics" course to the first year and second year students of the of agricultural economics and policy analysis program at IPR/IFRA Katibougou as part of the implementation of the revised curriculum that was generated after the stakeholder curriculum workshop held in November 2010 in Bamako; 2) Discuss with IPR leadership and PROMISAM team the plans for program coordination with IPR in light of Dr. Kouyaté's new assignment as vice rector of the University of Segou; 3) Meet some participants of the workshop mentioned above and the leadership of IPR/IFRA atibougou in the prospect of establishing an external advisory panel of the new program of agricultural economics and policy analysis; 4) Continue with analyzing the second and the third round of household level cereal production and marketing data; 5) Review preliminary results from the first round of household level cereal production and marketing data with IER colleagues involved in the study and the CSA economists; 6) Visit the Koutiala circle in collaboration with IER in order to get a better understanding of the farming systems that can help in the interpretation of the survey results.
- **Bamako, Mali July 4, 2011 through July 13, 2011.** The trip focused on the following activities: the development of the agricultural economics and policy analysis program at IPR/IFRA Katibougou in Mali and engaging PROMISAM partners, CSA and IER, and other Malian researchers involved in cereal markets studies as part of approved work-plans for the FSIII Associate Award and Gates funded projects. Specific activities included: 1. Evaluate the progress of identifying instructors who can teach some of the courses of the revised curriculum of agricultural economics and policy analysis at IPR; 2. Discuss with IPR leadership and draft terms of reference of the suggested external

advisory panel of the program of agricultural economics and policy analysis; 3. Share results of household level cereal production and marketing data with PROMISAM partners, CSA and IER, and other Malian researchers involved in cereal markets studies in order to get their reactions and feedback; 4. Visit the Macina zone in collaboration with IER in order to get a better understanding of the farming systems that can help in the interpretation of the survey results.

Sonja Perakis, Graduate Research Assistant, Department of Agricultural, Food and Resource Economics, MSU. **April 22, 2011 through July 3, 2011.** The trip focused on the following activities: Work with PROMISAM team and CSA and OMA colleagues, in carrying out her dissertation research on the impact of the market information system on market integration in Mali; work with OMA and RESIMAO colleagues in carrying out her dissertation research on the role of regional economic integration and grain market integration in West Africa; survey instrument design and two tests (Tominian and Nara) in collaboration with colleagues at IER and the SAP to evaluate the role of the market in assuring food security in Mali's vulnerable zones for the CSA. Each analysis contributes to the study of the role of the market in contributing to food security in vulnerable areas in Mali and more generally in West Africa. In addition, Sonja mentored one of the PROMISAM interns, Daouda Bouaré and will continue to be in communication with him over the course of the next year as he completes his assignment. April 22-June 21 of this trip was jointly funded by PROMISAM II and the Syngenta-foundation-supported SRAI project. During the final two weeks of her stay in Mali Sonja took on a short-term consulting assignment. Consulting fees paid by the Danish Cooperation in Bamako financed the final portion of Sonja's trip (June 22-July 3).

Deborah Rubin, Consultant (Cultural Practice, LLC). **October 3 - 23, 2010.** The trip focused on the following activities (in collaboration with MSU graduate research assistant Nathalie Me-Nsope): (a) reviewed current USAID/Mali guidance to partners on incorporating gender considerations into their work; (b) reviewed the activities and impact indicators of USAID/AEG partners, as expressed through annual work plans, annual reports, Performance Monitoring Plans (PMPs), and direct discussions with partner staff, to assess how well the partners' are incorporating gender perspectives into their projects and programs. In particular, the team assessed whether the partners' programs comply with the ADS guidance that require that any gender analysis include the following two questions:

- How will the different roles of status of women and men affect the work to be undertaken?
- How will the anticipated results of the work affect men and women differently?

In the context of Mali, these questions should be broadened to include youth in addition to men and women and should be examined in the context of current barriers to gender equality in the country; (c) Provided recommendations to USAID/Mali-AEG regarding whether additional gender sensitive indicators are needed to monitor and evaluate partners' programs. Trip entirely financed by PROMISAM II.

Mark Skidmore, Professor, Department of Agricultural, Food and Resource Economics, Michigan State University. **February 19 through February 27, 2011.** The trip focused on the following activities: 1) Collect information on local cereal bank inventories so that decision makers have more information on when and where critical food security concerns are emerging

across the country; 2) Plan for the implementation of the pilot study; 3) Meet with key partners, particularly Observatoire du Marche Agricole (OMA), to conduct the planning session and organize activities.

Juha Sohlberg, Statistical Specialist, Department of Agricultural Food and Resource Economics, Michigan State University.

- **November 5 - December 9, 2010.** PROMISAM II-funded portion of the trip focused on the following activities: (a) worked with PROMISAM II's data management specialist Sidibé Thiam to ensure continuity in the implementation of cleaning routines for the round 2 of the farm-level survey and develop cleaning techniques for round 3 of the survey during her absence (maternity leave); (b) consulted with SAP on their analytical support and training needs. Trip co-financed by PROMISAM II (50%) and MSU's grant from the Bill and Melinda Gates (50%).
- **January 29, 2011 through March 2, 2011.** This trip was funded by multiple projects. The PROMISAM II work focused on the following activities: 1) Support of farm-level marketing study included in the workplan; 2) In collaboration with IER survey field supervisors, ensure timely implementation of cleaning routines for the final round (round 3) of the farm-level survey and develop cleaning techniques for round 3 of the survey during her absence.

John Staatz, Professor Emeritus, Dept. of Agricultural, Food and Resource Economics, Michigan State University.

- **February 19 through March 5, 2011.** This trip was funded by multiple projects. The PROMISAM II work focused on the following activities: 1) Support effort to design and test a pilot system for reporting on local-level cereal stocks; 2) support to USAID/Mali in preparing analytic materials for its Feed the Future strategy; 3) work on design and implementation of cereals marketing strategies; 4) support of overall project management.
- **April 1, 2011 through April 14, 2011.** The trip focused on the following activities : 1. Work with PROMISAM team and with MSU graduate research assistant Sonja Perakis, who was in Mali at the same time, in carrying out research on the impact of the market information system on market integration in Mali and on an institutional analysis of local cereal banks (alternative management models). Both analyses contribute to the study of the role of the market in contributing to food security in vulnerable areas. 2. Work with PROMISAM staff on various project planning and management issues.
- **September 20-October 9.** Travel supported project outreach related to the agricultural sector assessment, work with IPR/IFRA on the agricultural economics teaching program, and project administration/planning.

Appendix 3. Content added to the project website

Local Food Security Plans: Evaluation Reports

- [Rapport general de l'atelier de formation dans les concepts de sécurité alimentaire et de validation des resultats du suivi – evaluation des PSA de 6 communes de la région de Koulikoro](#). Février 2011.
- [Rapport général de l'atelier de formation des femmes dans les concepts de sécurité alimentaire et de restitution des résultats de l'exercice de suivi – évaluation des plans de sécurité alimentaire des communes tests de la région de Ségou](#). Ségou. 10-11 janvier 2011.
- [Région de Tombouctou. Rapport d'évaluation des plans de sécurité alimentaire 2006-2010 des communes de Bourem Inaly \(cercle de Tombouctou\) et de Tonka \(cercle de Goundam\)](#). Décembre 2010.
- [Région de Mopti. Rapport d'évaluation des plans de sécurité alimentaire 2006-2010 des communes de: Dandoli \(cercle de Bandiagara\), Madiama \(cercle de Jenne\), Fatoma, Konna et Krombana \(cercle de Mopti\)](#). Décembre 2010.
- [Region de Koulikoro. Rapport d'évaluation des plans de securite alimentaire 2008 - 2012 des communes de: Bougoula \(cercle de Kati\), Banco \(cercle de Dioila\), Binko \(cercle de Dioila\), Dio –Gare \(cercle de Kati\), Sanankoro – Djitoumou \(cercle de Kati\), Massigui \(cercle de Dioila\)](#). Novembre 2010
- [Région de Kayes. Rapport d'évaluation Synthese des plans de securite alimentaire des communes \(PSA\): Bema, Djidian, Gomitradougou, Kremis, Trougoumbe. PSA 2007-2011](#). Octobre 2010.
- [Region de Sikasso. Rapport d'Evaluation des Plans de Securite Alimentaire 2006-2010 des Communes de : Loulouni \(Cercle de Kadiolo\), Zangasso \(Cercle de Koutiala\), Domba \(Cercle de Bougouni\), Farakala et Klela \(Cercle de Sikasso\)](#). Septembre 2010.
- [Region de Segou. Rapport evaluation du plan de securite alimentaire des communes de : Boussin \(cercle de Ségou\), Cinzana \(cercle de Ségou\), Diabaly \(cercle de Niono\), Dogofry \(cercle de Niono\), Sirabala \(cercle de Niono\), Sirifila Boundy \(cercle de Niono\)](#). Septembre 2010.
- [Région de Gao cercle de Gao rapport d'évaluation du plan de sécurité alimentaire \(2005-2009\) des communes de Soni Ali Ber et de Gabero](#). Septembre 2010.

Research Papers

- [Mali Agricultural Sector Assessment 2011](#). Michigan State University Food Security Team. April, 2011.

Workshop/Conference Reports

- Mali-Senegal Border Conference on Facilitating Trade between the Two Countries, May 20-21, 2011.
 - [Conference Communiqué](#)
 - [Conference Report](#)

Presentations

- [Tendances de production et de commercialisation des céréales au Mali: Implications pour les politiques agricoles](#) (Household cereal production and marketing patterns in Mali: Implications for policy). Abdoul Murekezi, Valerie Kelly, Niama Dembelé et Duncan Boughton. Presentation to the Institute of Rural Economy (IER/ECOFIL), Bamako, Mali, July 13, 2011.

Key Trip Reports

- [IPR Agricultural Economics Program Technical Assistance Trip report](#). Scott Loveridge and Abdoul Murekezi. 18 November 2010

Project Progress Reports

- Annual Report
 - [October, 2009 – September, 2010](#)
- Quarterly Activity Report
 - [April - June, 2011](#)
 - [January - March, 2011](#)
 - [October - December, 2010](#)