

<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)

## Quarterly Activity Report April – June 2011

July 2011

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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]**

**Quarterly Activity Report, April – June 2011**

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

PROMISAM II, initially funded for the period December 2008-November 2011, 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 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 Mali'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. MSU implements PROMISAM II 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, 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.

This report summarizes the activities and achievements of the project during the period April-June 2011, by objective as well as by cross-cutting management, administrative, and outreach functions.

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

During the period April-June, 2011, PROMISAM pursued this project objective through the following activities:

### **A. Analytic support to the CSA and its affiliated agencies (*service rattachés*):**

One person from SAP participated with the PROMISAM II team in the testing of the questionnaire of the study on the performance of the cereals market in supplying the deficit zones of Mali. The testing took place in Fallou and N'Tomodo in the cercle of Nara on April 26-30, 2011.

### **B. Marketing studies:**

In partnership with the CSA and the Institut d'Economie Rurale (IER), PROMISAM II continued the implementation of its farm-level agricultural marketing study, covering 450 households in 3 zones of Mali. This work is jointly funded by PROMISAM and the Bill and Melinda Gates foundation-funded GISAMA project, also implemented by MSU. PROMISAM pursued this project objective through the following activities:

- 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;
- The preliminary results based on data analysis of the combined three rounds of the survey were shared with PROMISAM II partners in Bamako/Mali;
- MSU faculty member Abdoul Murekezi, who is helping analyze the data, visited the Macina zone in collaboration with IER in order to get a better understanding of factors driving the patterns found in preliminary results;
- The on-campus team continued to create farm and non-farm income variables using data from the three rounds of the survey. These variables will be used in the subsequent analysis to look at the impact of different practices on farm income.

The study on the evolution of the production basins and the main cereals marketing circuits in Mali was launched in the regions of Kayes, Koulikoro, Sikasso, Segou, Mopti, Gao and Tombouctou. This study will help to update the marketing studies of the 1980s which are the main sources of information for the formulation of agricultural marketing policies in Mali.

The different instruments for the study on the performance of the cereals market in the deficit zones, 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.

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

With the end of the activities of monitoring and evaluation of the local food security plans in the test communes during the last quarter, this activity moved on to holding training sessions on the concepts of food security for the leaders of women organizations. Achievements during this quarter included:

- Training of 33 women leaders from the communes of the region of Kayes on April 11, 2011.
- Training of 64 women leaders from the communes of the regions of Mopti, Gao and Tombouctou on June 23, 2011.

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

Major achievements and activities in support of this objective included:

- Continued the acquisition of books related to agricultural economics to support the program;
- Curriculum implementation
- Students from this program have started and continued three courses from the revised curriculum: Principles of Microeconomics, Principles of Macroeconomics, and General Accounting;
- On-going English training at MSU of two IPR junior staff faculty members (Jacob Coulibaly and Abdrahmane Berthé). They continued to take English courses in preparation of beginning their graduate programs in agricultural economics at MSU in Fall 2011;
- Helping Jacob Coulibaly submit his application package for a master's degree in agricultural, food and resource economics and change his visa status from J-1 (Exchange visitor) to student (J-1) so that he could begin his full academic program. His application was accepted conditional upon his obtaining sufficient scores on his English Language proficiency exam and Graduate Record Exam, to be taken in the fall of 2011.

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

- 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.

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

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.

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

In April the PROMISAM/MSU team completed the final English version of the *Mali Agricultural Sector Assessment 2011* (available at [http://aec.msu.edu/fs2/promisam\\_2/MSU\\_Mali\\_Ag\\_Sector\\_Assessment\\_Apr25\\_final.pdf](http://aec.msu.edu/fs2/promisam_2/MSU_Mali_Ag_Sector_Assessment_Apr25_final.pdf)). This version took account of comments received earlier from USAID/Mali staff. 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. A French translation is being prepared and should be available in August, 2011.

USAID/Mali has distributed the English version of the report to other donors, and the Danish Embassy is using it to help design its new five-year assistance program to the Malian agricultural sector. MSU graduate research assistants Sonja Perakis and Ramziath Adjao are also providing (under Danish funding) material from the assessment that will feed into the Danish Embassy's planning process.

### **Cross-cutting outreach and administrative activities**

The major cross-cutting administrative action taken during the quarter was the development of a proposal for a six-month no-cost extension of the project through May 2012 and the development of revised budgets to support that request. The proposal also requested some budget line-item adjustments to allow (at no increase in the total budget) some unanticipated expenditures that will allow for the upgrading of teaching facilities and student transport in the IPR/IFRA agricultural economics program that the project is supporting. PROMISAM is waiting for USAID/Mali's response to these requests.

## **Anticipated Focus of the Work for the Coming Quarter**

### **With respect to enhancing the technical and analytical skills of the CSA and related support agencies:**

- Plan and hold the discussion of food security concepts and policies in Mali on the national TV with communication department of the CSA.
- Plan and hold the training sessions for OMA enumerators on the management of databases, the new questionnaires, and the use of cellphones to transmit price data. This training has become necessary because OMA has renewed its pool of enumerators, as many have retired or died during the last 2 years.
- Finalize the descriptive analysis of income data from the three rounds of data from the household-level survey mentioned above;
- Using data from the household-level survey, carry out extensive data analysis on the integration of the cereals and cotton sectors in Koutiala and the determinants of cereal market participation.
- Continue to implement the study of the the role of the market in assuring food security in Mali's vulnerable zones.

### **With respect to analytic support to the CSA and its affiliated agencies (services rattachés):**

- Continuation of the training of the leaders of women organizations in the region of Sikasso.

### **With respect to 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 2011 PROMISAM II work plan (bus, remaining library resources, setting up of the program coordinator's office and classroom at IPR Annex in Bamako, etc.), once authorization for such expenditures is received from USAID/Mali;
- Hire a consultant 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.

### **With respect to providing technical support to Mali's NEPAD/CAADP team:**

- Work with CPS to re-energize the CAADP process in Mali, including continued work on the long-term investment program (PNISA).

### **With respect to the Mali-Senegal Border Conference to Facilitate Agricultural Trade:**

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

**With respect to providing Analyses to Assist USAID/Mali-AEG in Planning its Future Investments**

- Completion of the translation into French of the Mali Agricultural Sector Assessment
- Development of policy outreach materials and activities built around the Agricultural Sector Assessment document

**With respect to cross-cutting outreach and administrative activities:**

- The on-campus team is in the process of redesigning the project website. We hope to have a version ready to test by September, 2011. This new version will make accessing project outputs more user-friendly and have options for users to comment directly on draft documents.

**TDYs during the Reporting Period**

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

**Duncan Boughton**, Associate Professor, International Development, Department of Agricultural, Food & Resource Economics, Michigan State University. **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.

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

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

**Content added to the project website ([http://www.aec.msu.edu/fs2/promisam\\_2/index.htm](http://www.aec.msu.edu/fs2/promisam_2/index.htm)) during the Reporting Period**

Mali Agricultural Sector Assessment 2011. Michigan State University Food Security Team. April, 2011.